

LITTLE FOXES THAT DESTROY THE VINE



BY: PASTOR ISAAC T. ADEOLA

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By

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INTRODUCTION

The phrase “Little Foxes” refers to the little things that we do that erode our salvation, holiness, and relationship with God. Little foxes are like the dead flies that cause the ointment of the apothecary to send forth a stinking savour – Ecclesiastes 10:1. They are little evils (secret sin) that cause great damages.

Bible Text: Song of Solomon 2:15

STUDY OUTLINE

- Compromise and worldliness
- Prayerlessness and carelessness
- Talkativeness and lack of sobriety

1. COMPROMISE AND WORLDLINESS

Compromise and worldliness are, perhaps, the greatest dangers confronting every heaven-bound Christian. They are the lethal weapons in the hand of Satan to hinder and stop the Christian's journey on the way to the Promised Land.

Factors that trigger compromise and worldliness include the following:

- When we begin to set our affections on things on earth rather than on things above (Colossians 3:2). Demas was a classical example in this regard. Paul said of him, "For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica" – 2 Timothy 4:10; James 5:5.
- When we give ourselves to pleasures with little or no consciousness of eternity: "For as in the days that were before the flood, they were eating and drinking,

marrying and giving in marriage, until the flood came, and took them all away” – Matthew 24:38–39.

- When we devote our entire life seeking for the friendship of the world as opposed to cultivating friendship with God – James 4:4.
- When we begin to intensively pursue riches, wealth, and prosperity on earth and not riches towards God – Matthew 16:26; 13:22.

e. When we begin to follow the multitude to do evil, which the Scripture expressly forbids – Exodus 23:2.

f. When we gradually get involved in the false worship of strange gods. The Scripture warns – Deuteronomy 12:30; 1 Kings 17:15.

g. When we are overwhelmed by divers lusts – 1 John 2:16–17.

2. PRAYERLESSNESS AND WORLDLINESS

When one does not pray without ceasing and does not study the Word of God regularly, then a sure journey to backsliding has commenced. Laziness and indolence are the cause of prayerlessness and worldliness.

“Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: so shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man.” – Proverbs 6:10–11.

A prayerless believer can easily fall into diverse temptations and snares of the devil. And a believer who does not take quality time to read, study, meditate on, and pray in the Word of God cannot lead a successful, victorious Christian life, for the Scripture says – Joshua 1:8.

3. TALKATIVENESS AND LACK OF SOBRIETY

Excessive talking often leads to sin, for in the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise – Proverbs 10:19.

Talking too much is a little fox that drains spiritual life and power. God's eternal counsel is:

“Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter anything before God: for God is in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few.” – Ecclesiastes 5:2.

The book of Proverbs says:

“Seest thou a man that is hasty in his words? there is more hope of a fool than of him.” – Proverbs 29:20.

Therefore,


“Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile.” – Psalm 34:13.

“Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from troubles.” – Proverbs 21:23.

About the Author

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