

Apply The Word

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KINGS & KINGDOMS

Message Info

Title:

The Slippery Slope of Sin

Speaker:

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Date:

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Scriptures:

1 Kings 15:25-16:28

Theme: Turn to Christ now because sin's slippery slope accelerates and intensifies destruction.

Introduction: A novice skier can easily underestimate the danger of a black diamond slope, and he may not discover his error until he's partway down the hill and out-of-control. So, too, we can easily minimize the danger of sin and its ongoing effects on our lives. In this section of Kings, we witness the destructive effects of sin in the lives of 5 kings of Israel.

Each king demonstrates different and deepening sins:

1. Inconsequential king (15:25-32)

Nadab, the son of Jeroboam, makes no mark on the kingdom, other than being the recipient of God's wrath for the sins of his father. He continued in his father's sins and did not repent, and Baasha killed him and all his house.

2. Boring king (15:33-16:7)

Baasha reigned 24 years, but he did not turn from the sinful ways of his predecessors. He continued in rebellion against the Lord—just like Nadab—and was judged by the Lord. He shows the stupefying effects of sin.

3. Drunk king (16:8-14)

Baasha's son, Elah, succeeded him. He was not humbled by his father's failure, but persisted in rebellion and was also a drunk. Even though his family was under judgment, he was not sobered by the Lord's wrath. Zimri arose and killed his entire household.

4. Doomed king (16:15-20)

Zimri may have anticipated gratitude for what he'd done; but instead the people raised up Omri, the commander of the army, to be king. Omri attacked Tirzah, which led to Zimri's death after reigning only 7 days. He committed suicide by fire within the king's palace, rebellious to the end.

3. Evil king (16:21-28)

Israel was then divided, with half following Omri and the other half following Tibni. A civil war had begun. Tibni was killed and Omri prevailed. Omri built Samaraia and fortified, and then led Israel into even greater sin.

Questions:

1. Is your life marked by humility and repentance? Do you know the love and grace of God?
2. Are you explaining away your sin(s)?
3. Where can you identify pride in your life?