James 1:13-14(NLT)

And remember, when you are being tempted, do not say, God is tempting me. God is never tempted to do wrong, and He never tempts anyone else. ¹⁴ Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away.

James 1:15 (NLT)

15 These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death.

Matthew 5:27-28 (NIV)

You have heard that it was said,
'Do not commit adultery. ²⁸ But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Hebrews 4:15 (NIV)

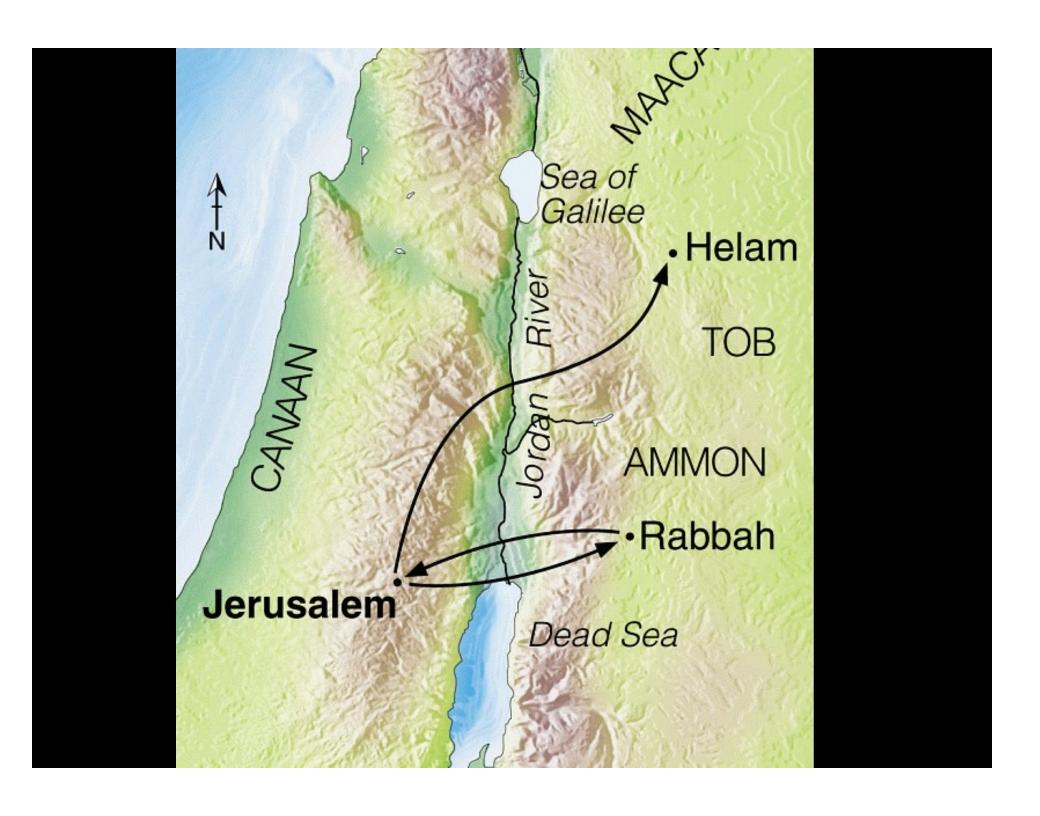
For we do not have a High Priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are - yet was without sin.

Hebrews 4:16 (NIV)

Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Anatomy of a FALL

2 Samuel 11



The Biblical author puts ALL the BLAME on David: David was the king, and was acting in a very high-handed fashion, abusing his power and position.

In the Ancient Near East it was improper for a neighbor to look down into the inner court of another dwelling.

Inner courtyards were regarded as **perfectly secluded**, Bathsheba would never have suspected that what went on there could be observed from the roof of the king's palace.

Since no Israelite house had running water at that time, bathing often was done privately in the enclosed courtyard that was a part of many Israelite houses.

There is NO indication in the text that the woman deliberately positioned herself so as to entice David.

David's **temptation** followed an age-old pattern:

he SAW, he DESIRED, and he TOOK.

Constable

The actions that followed were inexcusable. Bathsheba was a MARRIED woman, and David KNEW IT.

In a world dominated by men, it may not have been possible for Bathsheba to **REFUSE** the most **POWERFUL man** in the kingdom.

⁴ ...he SLEPT with her. She had just completed the purification rites after having her menstrual period.

Then she returned home.

David BROKE Three of the Ten Commandments

- > You shall not **COVET** your neighbor's wife
- > You shall not commit ADULTERY
- > You shall not MURDER

→ Take the ESCAPE God Provides

²...From the roof he SAW a woman bathing.

Numbers 15:38-39 (NIV)

³⁸ ...Throughout the generations to come you are **to make tassels** on the corners of your garments, with a blue cord on each tassel.





you will have these tassels
to LOOK AT and so you will REMEMBER
ALL the Commands of the LORD,
that you may OBEY them
and not PROSTITUTE yourselves
by going after the LUSTS of your
own HEARTS and EYES.

Matthew 5:27-28 (NIV)
You have heard that it was said,
Do not **commit ADULTERY**.

²⁸ But I tell you that anyone who

LOOKS at a woman LUSTFULLY

has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

1 Corinthians 10:13 (NIV)
No temptation has seized you except what is common to man.

And God is FAITHFUL;

He will **NOT** let you be **tempted** beyond what **you can bear**. But **when** you are **tempted**, **He** will also **provide a WAY OUT** so that you can stand up under it.

→ Giving IN to Temptation IS SIN

³ He sent someone to find out who she was, and he was told, She is **Bathsheba**, the **daughter** of **Eliam** and the **WIFE of Uriah** the Hittite. (NLT)

James 1:13-15 (NLT)
And remember, WHEN you are being tempted, do NOT say, God is tempting me.
God is never tempted to do wrong, and HE never tempts anyone else.

Temptation comes from OUR own DESIRES, which entice us and drag us away.
 These DESIRES give birth to SINFUL ACTIONS. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to DEATH.

A Perfect Description of David's sin...

- his desires were INFLAMED by prolonged looking
- desire CONCEIVED the sin in his imagination
- > he Surrendered his WILL and CHOSE sin
- his actions led to DEATH

Hebrews 4:15 (NIV)

For we do not have a **High Priest** who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but **we have ONE** who has been **TEMPTED** in every way, just as we are - yet was WITHOUT sin.

Hebrews 4:16 (NIV)

Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, SO THAT we may receive MERCY and find GRACE to HELP us in our time of NEED

Uriah drunk is more pious than David sober.

²⁶ When the WIFE of Uriah heard that Uriah her HUSBAND was DEAD, she LAMENTED over her HUSBAND.

(ESV)

When the time of mourning ended,
David had her brought to his house.
She became his wife and bore him a son.
However, the LORD considered what
David had DONE to be EVIL.

Several Thoughts to bring Perspective...

- being godly does not make a person IMMUNE from Temptation
- > it is Impossible to HIDE one sin with ANOTHER
- > Every sin IS Committed IN God's PRESENCE
- NEGATIVE consequences of sin overwhelmingly OUTWEIGH any pleasure
- > God will FORGIVE confessed sin
- We must Fully EMBRACE God's answer to our prayers

1 John 1:9 (NIV)

If we CONFESS our sins, He is faithful and just and will FORGIVE us our sins and

PURIFY us from all unrighteousness.