

A photograph of a two-lane asphalt road stretching into the distance, flanked by tall, dry grass and trees. The scene is shrouded in a thick, golden-brown fog or mist, creating a somber and mysterious atmosphere. The road has a double yellow line down the center. The text "HOW DID IT COME TO THIS?" is overlaid in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters on the left side of the image.

**HOW DID IT COME TO
THIS?**

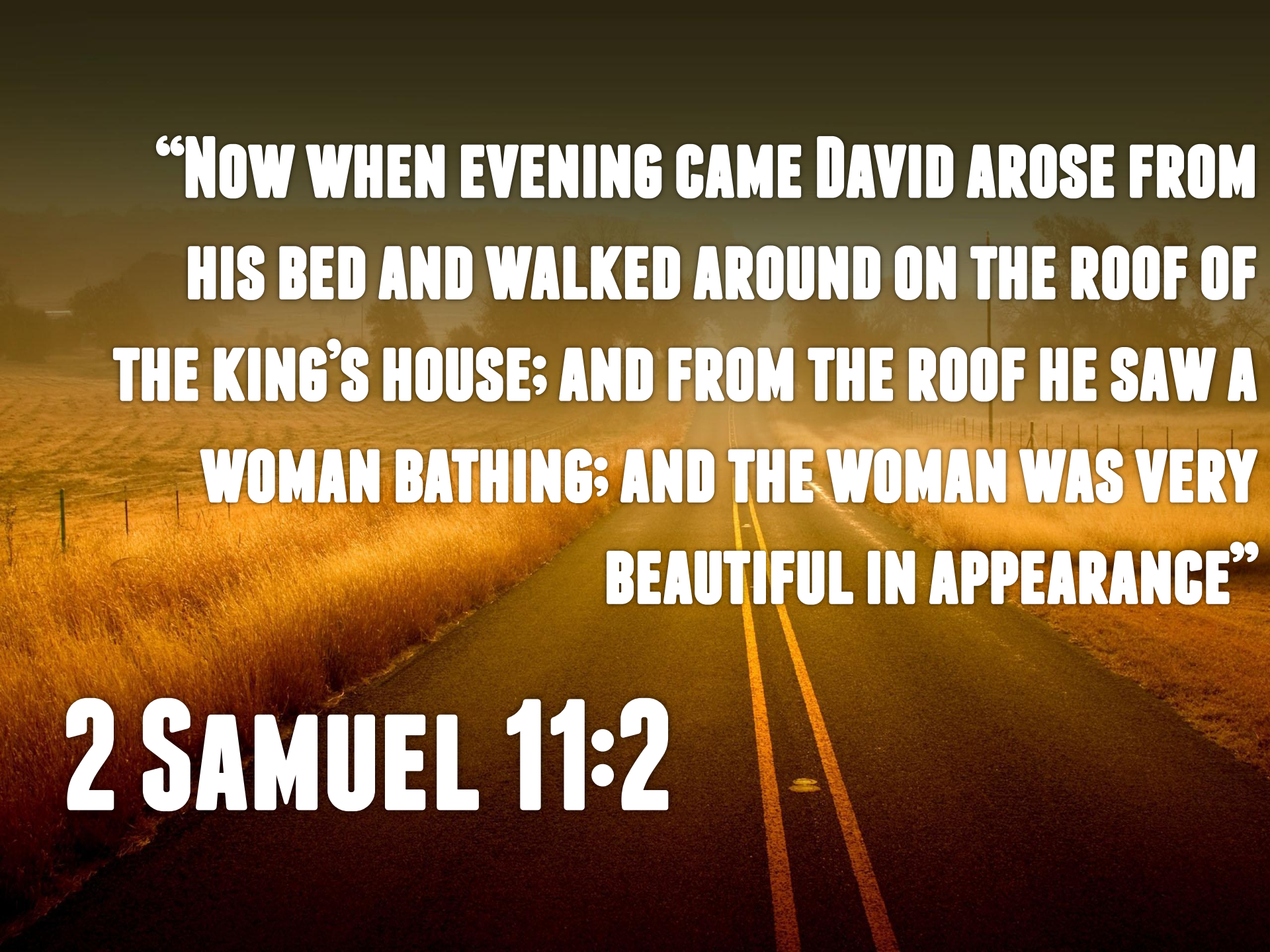
“The greatest victories are sometimes annulled by foolish mistakes. David’s unparalleled success had made it possible for him to enjoy all the comforts of royal life. No longer did he need to be in the field of combat since Joab provided capable leadership and there were no more immediate serious threats to the kingdom. It was in these circumstances that David’s greatest failure occurred. It was tragic indeed that such a brilliant career should be marred in this manner; however, it is well known that Satan is most effective in his approaches when the believer is comfortable and successful”

THE BIRTH OF A KINGDOM, DAVIS, P. 141



**“AT A TIME WHEN KINGS GO OUT TO BATTLE...
DAVID STAYED IN JERUSALEM”**

2 SAMUEL 11



**“NOW WHEN EVENING CAME DAVID AROSE FROM
HIS BED AND WALKED AROUND ON THE ROOF OF
THE KING’S HOUSE; AND FROM THE ROOF HE SAW A
WOMAN BATHING; AND THE WOMAN WAS VERY
BEAUTIFUL IN APPEARANCE”**

2 SAMUEL 11:2

SMALL STEPS

- David certainly did not begin his day thinking it would turn out the way it did. His downfall, like ours, came because of a series of small, progressively more severe steps.
- Matthew 5:27-28, James 1:14-15 – It is not the first look that is sinful. It is also not natural attraction that is the problem. Purposeful pursuit of sin is the next step, however, when human will loses control of natural desires.
- It starts with the heart (Hebrews 3:12).

A photograph of a two-lane asphalt road stretching into the distance, flanked by tall, dry grass. The scene is shrouded in a thick, golden-brown fog or mist, creating a somber and atmospheric mood. In the background, silhouettes of trees and a distant building are visible through the haze. A semi-transparent dark horizontal band is overlaid across the middle of the image, serving as a background for the text.

“BUT I’M ONLY HUMAN!”

A photograph of a two-lane asphalt road stretching into the distance, flanked by tall, dry grass. A double yellow line runs down the center of the road. The scene is shrouded in a thick, golden-brown fog or mist, with trees and hills visible in the background. The text "WARNING SIGNS" is overlaid in the center of the image in a large, white, italicized, sans-serif font.

WARNING SIGNS

WATCH OUT FOR COMPLIMENTS

- One woman writes, “When I was in a loving marriage relationship, I could not understand what drove believers to immorality. Now that I have spent years alone, I better understand what it means to be famished. What we must recognize is that selling our birthright (soul) for mere stew (the false intimacy of immorality) is not the answer” (The Snare, Lois Mowday Rabey p. 181). See Proverbs 27:7
- Be careful around someone who “says all the right things.”

THE PROLONGED STARE

- “Do not desire her beauty in your heart, nor let her capture you with her eyelids” (Proverbs 6:25).
- “If your right eye causes you to stumble, tear it out of you...” (Matthew 5:30).
- 1 Timothy 6:11, Job 31:1 – The best way to do this is to be intentional and obvious. One victory breeds another, so focus on turning away from the temptations that are in front of you right then and there. Don't be anxious about tomorrow's battles.

BEING NAIVE ABOUT YOUR SPOUSE

- When marriage becomes boring, we get used to our spouse. We assume everybody sees him/her the way we do.
- Don't forget about all the predators out there who see your spouse as a potential meal. Do not allow your spouse to be victimized, but be proactive, engaging – essentially, never stop vying for your mate's affection.
- Ecclesiastes 9:9 – Enjoy each other “all your days” and never stop cherishing your “reward.”

