

## Command to **TURN FROM EVIL**

Proverbs 1:10-16 NAS95 My son, **if sinners entice you, Do not consent.** (11) If they say, "Come with us, Let us lie in wait for blood, Let us ambush the innocent without cause; (12) Let us swallow them alive like Sheol, Even whole, as those who go down to the pit; (13) We will find all kinds of precious wealth, We will fill our houses with spoil; (14) Throw in your lot with us, We shall all have one purse," (15) **My son, do not walk in the way with them. Keep your feet from their path,** (16) For their feet run to evil And they hasten to shed blood.

Proverbs 3:5-8 NAS95 Trust in the LORD with all your heart And do not lean on your own understanding. (6) In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight. (7) Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD **and turn away from evil.** (8) It will be healing to your body And refreshment to your bones.

Proverbs 3:29 NAS95 **Do not devise harm** against your neighbor, While he lives securely beside you.

Proverbs 4:14-15 NAS95 **Do not enter the path of the wicked And do not proceed in the way of evil men.** (15) **Avoid it, do not pass by it; Turn away from it and pass on.**

Proverbs 4:27 NAS95 Do not turn to the right nor to the left; **Turn your foot from evil.**

### Who

- everyone

### What

- Turn from evil
- Do not go along with people who devise evil
- Do not cause harm for people who trust you.
- Do not start down the evil path
- Do not "proceed" on a way with evil people
- Avoid the path of evil
- Actively, purposefully turn your foot away from evil.

### When

- Now
- When enticed / invited

### Where

### Why

- You will get involved in evil
- You will get involved in bloodshot (1.16)
- Avoiding is healing and refreshing (3.8)
- It destroys trust / security

### Which

How

Moses knew the children would do evil.

Deuteronomy 31:29 NAS95 "For I know that after my death you will act corruptly and turn from the way which I have commanded you; and evil will befall you in the latter days, for you will do that which is evil in the sight of the LORD, provoking Him to anger with the work of your hands."

God and Samuel saw the people asking for a King as evil. They were told to stop and go back to doing good.

1 Samuel 12:17-21 NAS95 "Is it not the wheat harvest today? I will call to the LORD, that He may send thunder and rain. Then you will know and see that your wickedness is great which you have done in the sight of the LORD by asking for yourselves a king." (18) So Samuel called to the LORD, and the LORD sent thunder and rain that day; and all the people greatly feared the LORD and Samuel. (19) Then all the people said to Samuel, "Pray for your servants to the LORD your God, so that we may not die, for we have added to all our sins this evil by asking for ourselves a king." (20) Samuel said to the people, "Do not fear. **You have committed all this evil, yet do not turn aside from following the LORD, but serve the LORD with all your heart.** (21) "You must not turn aside, for then you would go after futile things which can not profit or deliver, because they are futile.

2 Kings 17:13-14 NAS95 Yet the LORD warned Israel and Judah through all His prophets and every seer, saying, "Turn from your evil ways and keep My commandments, My statutes according to all the law which I commanded your fathers, and which I sent to you through My servants the prophets." (14) However, they did not listen, but stiffened their neck like their fathers, who did not believe in the LORD their God.

Nehemiah 9:33-35 NAS95 "However, You are just in all that has come upon us; For You have dealt faithfully, but we have acted wickedly. (34) "For our kings, our leaders, our priests and our fathers have not kept Your law Or paid attention to Your commandments and Your admonitions with which You have admonished them. (35) "But they, in their own kingdom, With Your great goodness which You gave them, With the broad and rich land which You set before them, **Did not serve You or turn from their evil deeds.**

Jeremiah 18:11 NAS95 "So now then, speak to the men of Judah and against the inhabitants of Jerusalem saying, 'Thus says the LORD, "Behold, I am fashioning calamity against you and devising a plan against you. **Oh turn back, each of you from his evil way, and reform your ways and your deeds.**"

Jeremiah 25:5 NAS95 saying, '**Turn now everyone from his evil way and from the evil of your deeds**, and dwell on the land which the LORD has given to you and your forefathers forever and ever;

Jeremiah 26:2-3 NAS95 "Thus says the LORD, 'Stand in the court of the LORD'S house, and speak to all the cities of Judah who have come to worship in the LORD'S house all the words that I have commanded you to speak to them. Do not omit a word! (3) '**Perhaps they will listen and everyone will turn from his evil way**, that I may repent of the calamity which I am planning to do to them because of the evil of their deeds.'

Jeremiah 35:15 NAS95 "Also I have sent to you all My servants the prophets, sending them again and again, saying: '**Turn now every man from his evil way and amend your deeds**, and do not go after other gods to worship them. Then you will dwell in the land which I have given to you and to your forefathers; but you have not inclined your ear or listened to Me.

Jeremiah 36:3 NAS95 "Perhaps the house of Judah will hear all the calamity which I plan to bring on them, **in order that every man will turn from his evil way**; then I will forgive their iniquity and their sin."

Jeremiah 36:7 NAS95 "Perhaps their supplication will come before the LORD, **and everyone will turn from his evil way**, for great is the anger and the wrath that the LORD has pronounced against this people."

1 Peter 3:11 NAS95 "**HE MUST TURN AWAY FROM EVIL AND DO GOOD; HE MUST SEEK PEACE AND PURSUE IT.**

Psalms 34:14 NAS95 **Depart from evil** and do good; Seek peace and pursue it.

The society of the wicked (way or path) is dangerous. **Avoid the beginnings of sin**

Psalms 1:1-2 NAS95 How blessed is the man **who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, Nor stand in the path of sinners, Nor sit in the seat of scoffers!** (2) But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night.

Psalms 119:101 NAS95 I have restrained my feet from every evil way, That I may keep Your word.

# TITLE: Get Out of the Ditch!

**Intro:** Would you get out of the ditch?

When my daughter was small we lived in a house with a ditch right next to the road. She remembers me yelling at her get out of that ditch before a car comes along and hits you and squashes you.

Was I trying to hurt her, or deprive her of the stuff in the ditch? NO! But I was trying to move her away from danger.

So many of the commands of the Lord are to keep us from harm, and to test out faith by doing what he says. He wants us to get out of the ditch.

Proverbs several times tell us to STAY AWAY from evil.

Proverbs 1:10, My son, if sinners entice you, DO NOT CONSENT. Later, beginning in verse 15 My son, DO NOT WALK in the way WITH THEM. KEEP YOUR FEET FROM THEIR PATH, (16) For their feet run to evil And they hasten to shed blood.

Proverbs 3:7 ... Fear the LORD and TURN AWAY from evil. (8) It will be HEALING to your body And REFRESHMENT to your bones.

Proverbs 3:29 DO NOT DEVISE HARM against your neighbor, While he lives securely beside you.

Proverbs 4:14-15 Do not ENTER THE PATH of the wicked And DO NOT PROCEED in the way of evil men. (15) AVOID IT, DO NOT PASS BY IT; TURN AWAY FROM IT and pass on.

Proverbs 4:27 Do not turn to the right nor to the left; TURN YOUR FOOT FROM EVIL.

How do you stay away from evil? How do we get out of the ditch?

1 Method is to not THINK EVIL in your heart.

You WON'T do it until after you THINK it.

Jesus said, "For out of the heart come evil THOUGHTS, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders.

But God gives us ANOTHER BETTER METHOD that really works.

STAY AWAY FROM IT.

How do you stop adultery? Put some distance between yourself and the person you are attracted to.

How do prevent being a thief? Get away from people who talk about stealing.

How do you stop murder? By walking away from the person making you so mad. You heard God. Turn your feet.

How do you turn from sorcery, those illegal mind-altering drugs? You stay away from everyone who does illegal drugs or sells them.

How do you stop drunkenness? Walk away from everyone who drinks. You turn your feet away from places that sell alcohol.

In these few moments we can clearly see that God's command to stay away from evil will PREVENT families from being destroyed. They will get you out of the ditch! You won't do hard-time for being a thief. You did not kill anyone and suffer with guilt. You maintained a mind that functions correctly and dependably. You stayed away from alcohol and you still had fun, but you didn't look so stupid, you didn't tell any secrets; you didn't lose control and hit someone; you were not abusive to your wife or kids; you didn't have a car wreck that ended someone else life and carry the guilt of their death.

God's commands in Proverbs to STAY AWAY from evil are for OUR GOOD, OUR PROTECTION. They are not intended to deprive us.

Take a moment to think about how God has been protecting you through his commands? It is worth your time.

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We are grateful for your time, your thoughts, your support and your prayer.

We are always glad when you stop by and visit with us

Come back tomorrow. We will drink some coffee and visit.

Until then, goodbye for now.

## **Key Words**

Hurt

Deprive

Test faith

Obedying

Turn from evil

Evil

Stay away from evil.

Thief

Murder

Drugs

Alcohol

Drinking

## **Additional Resources**

GBN

- The Devil is a Liar
  - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cUGe3UDpDs4&t=64s&ab\\_channel=GospelBroadcastingNetwork](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cUGe3UDpDs4&t=64s&ab_channel=GospelBroadcastingNetwork)
- Social Drinking
  - <https://youtu.be/1N5SMVTT-TU>
  -

## Online Academy of Biblical Studies

### WVBS

- Smoking, Drinking and Drugs
  - <https://video.wvbs.org/video/fundamentals-of-the-faith-lesson-72-smoking-drinking-and-drugs/>
- But Everyone is Going (by women for women)
  - <https://video.wvbs.org/video/everyday-princess-5-but-everyones-going/>

### Search

- What Matters
  - <https://youtu.be/HxfIh7KOpNQ>
  - Transcript (downloaded 3-2-22)
- Me, Too?
  - <https://youtu.be/AVkP99z0B-8>
  - Transcript (downloaded 3-2-22)

### We See Jesus, by John Ratliff

- Numb
  - <https://weseesus.wordpress.com/2011/11/10/numb/>
- Nor Did They Know How to Blush
  - <https://weseesus.wordpress.com/2016/09/21/nor-did-they-know-how-to-blush/>
  -

### La Vista Church of Christ

- The Cost of Drinking Alcohol
  - <https://www.lavistachurchofchrist.org/cms/the-cost-of-drinking-alcohol/>
- The Use of Alcohol
  - <https://www.lavistachurchofchrist.org/cms/bible-studies/genesis-a-study-of-the-beginning/the-world-after-the-flood/the-use-of-alcohol/>
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### WordPoints

- Sobriety
  - <https://wordpoints.com/sobriety-october-23/>
- Repentance is Something That Everyone Needs to do.

- <https://wordpoints.com/daily-family-bible-studies-209/>

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## The Gospel Message

- Be Sober
  - <https://www.gospelmessage.net/2017/02/be-sober/>
- Satan: The Great Liar
  - <https://www.gospelmessage.net/2016/01/satan-the-great-liar/>
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## TimelessTalks.net or my other files.

- Three Danger of Anger
  - <https://timelesstalks.net/3-dangers-of-anger/>
  - Script
    - <https://timelesstalks.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/3-Dangers-of-Anger-script.pdf>
- Heaven
  - <https://timelesstalks.net/heaven-2/>
- Who is Satan?
  - <https://timelesstalks.net/who-is-satan/>
- Addiction
  - <https://timelesstalks.net/addiction/>
- Notes for Finding Yourself
  - <https://timelesstalks.net/notes-for-finding-yourself/>
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