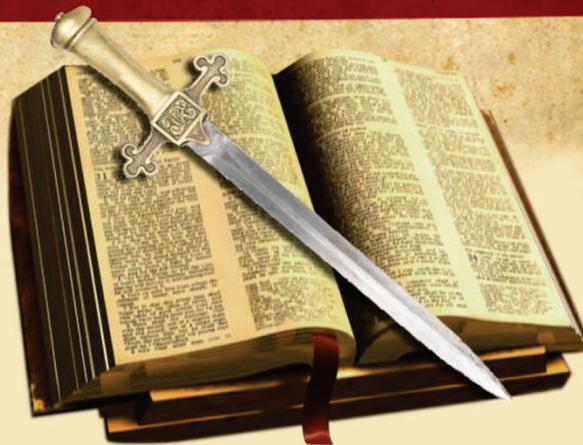


Setting Your Heart

on the

Kingdom



SONG OF SOLOMON

Catching Little Foxes

(The Principle of Distraction)

Song of Solomon 2:13-15

The air is crisp and still. Darkness is being transformed into pastel pinks and yellows as the sun's rays caress the morning sky. Quietly you sip a hot cup of fresh coffee as you prepare for the day. As your thoughts reflect on the goodness of God, you turn to one of your favorite scriptures and begin to read. Suddenly your heart senses His gentle presence. Your eyes begin to well up with tears of worship recalling His gracious hand that has led you across the years. He seems so close that you could just reach out and touch Him. Then it happens...the phone rings! ***Brutally, you're snatched out of His loving presence into a world that jealously screams for your attention.*** "Next time," you say to yourself as you rush out the door, "I'll take the phone off the hook!"

It wasn't a ringing phone that Solomon wrote about 3000 years ago...but it certainly was a destructive force in the relationship between the king and his bride. ***"Catch the little foxes that are ruining the vineyards while they are in blossom,"*** was the cry of the hour. The blossoming vineyard is a place of fragrance and fruitfulness...the place of your secret rendezvous with the King of Glory. ***Foxes are all the things that distract you from His presence and destroy your fruitful work in His Kingdom.***

What are the foxes in your life? In our modern world of cell phones and instant e-mails, perhaps you've become too available. Your fox may be a tendency to pack your schedule from daybreak to dawn...leaving no place for God. Even pastors have to fight against substituting ministry for personal time with the Lord. Solomon calls them "little" foxes...***small irritations*** that can lead to major attitude problems distracting you from God's agenda. Even ***negative personal habits***, like procrastination, can be a destructive fox. And don't forget...your fox may be a ***person!*** Some people have the ability to discourage you from your divine destiny. ***Whatever your foxes are...they must be caught before your vineyard is ruined.*** And remember that you're engaged in a Kingdom battle. While most foxes are just the daily annoyances in life, some are demonic forces whose mission is to divert your calling and stifle your anointing.

Next: The Kingdom of God in Isaiah...What Stuns God?

