

If I seek to satisfy my sinful appetite for escape from the ugliness, unhappiness, deadening sameness and boredom of much of life through drugs or alcohol, or my sinful appetite for power through the pursuit of wealth, or my sinful appetite for prestige through clothes or jewelry or the accumulation of material things, or my sinful appetite for pleasure through food or forbidden sex; and if I give my time, my energies, my body, and my possessions in pursuit of these things; do they not tend to become idols to me?

If I love them, bow down to them, serve them, and trust in them, are they not gods to me? And will not such idolatry inevitably draw me away from the true God?

Could we ever come to the place where our desire to gratify our sinful appetites grows so strong that we begin to think we know more than God or better than God, so that although God has forbidden a thing, we think it's O.K.?

Could we come to the place where we become convinced that we are God's favorites, and that we can disobey Him and get away with it?

If it was possible for one of the wisest persons who ever lived to gradually turn away from the Lord, could this happen to us?

If it could, then let us take warning from the example of Solomon's decline from great wisdom to great foolishness, from God-devotedness to practical idolatry.