

**“A woman
of Samaria
came to
draw
water”**

John 4:7



Fleeing: Virtue or Vice



I. Fleeing as a Vice



1. Fleeing from God

- Adam and his hiding from God because of his shame
- Jonah and his narrow scope of love
- Atheism and fleeing the light



2. Fleeing responsibility

- Responsibility for my choices:
Adam and Eve and blaming each other
- Responsibility to trade and profit: the steward with one talent



3. Fleeing confrontation

- Fleeing the real reason:
King Saul and listening to music to calm his heart
- Confronting myself:
King David and his sin with Bathsheba



4. Fleeing from reality

- Living in a virtual or fantasy world
- Middle age crisis
- Searching for security in possessions

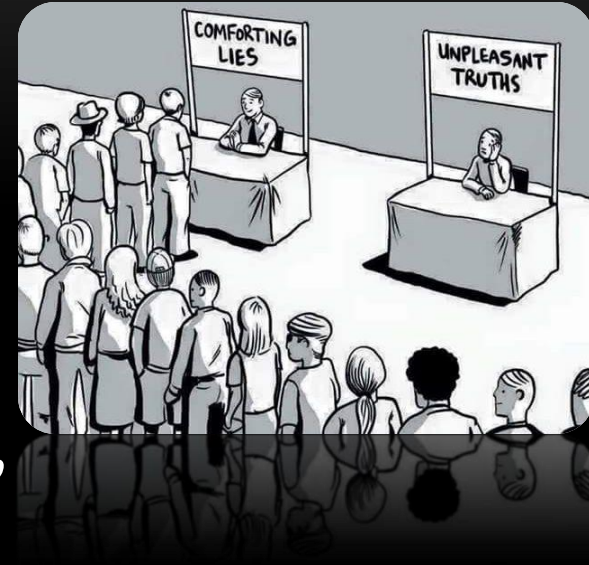


5. Fleeing from Truth

- “But outside *are* dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie”

Revelation 22:15

- King Ahab and his hatred toward Michaiah



II. Fleeing as a Virtue



1. Fleeing to God ⁽¹⁾

- “When I realize my many wicked deeds, and the thought of that awesome judgment comes to my heart, a tremble takes hold of me, and I take refuge in You, O God, the Lover of mankind”

--Litany of the 2nd Watch of the Midnight Prayer



1. Fleeing to God ⁽²⁾

- My prayer room, sitting at the Lord's feet and listening to Him talking in the Holy Bible, the liturgy, and the spiritual retreats



2. Fleeing from evil



- The Holy Family fleeing to Egypt
- Lot and his fleeing to the mountain
- Joseph and his master's wife
- Fleeing offenses in inappropriate places, company, actions and discussions

3. Keeping a safe distance with others

- Allows us to serve and love without being entangled with too many relationships
- Applying discernment while choosing a close friend

