

10/18/09

2Sam. 11-12

David had defeated the Syrians who came to the aid of the Ammonites, so they made peace with Israel and were afraid to help Ammon anymore.

So the war against Ammon was still active and in the midst of it, we are given tragic story of David, as he falls into the sin of adultery.

* Indicating that his life had to have become a religious formality and thought himself above the law, for quite some time.

Chapter ten is the height of the reign of David, in the very next chapter he is brought low, never to be the same.

* This does not happen all of a sudden, there is always and long period of time of compromise, rebellion and being self-willed!

His personal life and kingdom will suffer tremendously, never to rise to what he was or could have been.

Chapter 11-20 mark the troubles of David, a very sad time for David.

11:1-27 **The fall of David into Adultery.**

11:1-2 The setting for David's sin.

- 1) The time frame is when kings go out to war, the spring. vs. 1a-b
 - a) The spring, between April and June, when the rains ceased and crops were available, the best time to fight wars. March is named after Mars, the god of war.
 - b) David should have been with his men, out in battle.
- 2) David sent Joab and his servants and all Israel, to destroy the people of Ammon and besieged Rabbah. vs. 1c-e
 - a) Job is his general, his servants, probably mercenary officers and all the worriers of Israel.
 - b) The war against the Ammonites was due to David attempting to comfort, Hanun, son of the king of Ammon, who had died. 2Sam. 10:1-14
 - 1)) The princes told Hunun that David was sending men to spy out the land. 2Sam. 10:3
 - 2)) So they humiliated them by shaving half their beards and cutting their garments up to their buttocks. 2Sam. 10:4
- 3) David tarried at Jerusalem. vs. 1f
 - a) David had always led his men into battle and known for fighting the battle of the Lord.

- b) David was probably in his 50's, but he could have helped to strategize.
 - c) Job will be calling David to come and take the Ammonite royal city of Rabbah, for himself. 2Sam. 12:27
 - d) David was where he shouldn't have been, being idle.
- 4) The temptation of David began very innocently. vs. 2
- a) David happened to rise from his bed and walked out on the roof of his house, in the evening. vs. 2a
 - 1)) The roof were flat and still are in the middle east.
 - a)) They are used for entertaining, drying clothes and other things.
 - b)) They are considered part of the house, enclosed at times, they even slept on the roofs. 1Sam. 9:25
 - 2) The reason is not stated, probably to enjoy the view and fresh air, on a warm evening.
 - a)) David was now enjoying absolute wealth, fame and power, as king, but he was idle, perhaps even bored.
 - b)) David's relationship with God must of become formal and cold for some time, for this kind of sin those not happen in one day!

- b) David saw a very beautiful woman bathing from his rooftop. vs. 2b-c
 - 1)) The word beautiful "towb" refers to physical appearance, not her face.
 - 2)) There was nothing wrong or evil, if it was by accident, this was David's first check by the Spirit of God.
 - 3)) What is wrong is what he did with the impermissible or evil, after being confronted with it.
 - 4)) David already had many wives.
 - a) "David had Ahinoam of Jezreel, and Abigail the Carmelite as wives" 1Sam. 25:43
 - b) And David took more concubines and wives from Jerusalem, after Hebron. 2Sam. 5:13
 - c) David had seven, with Michal at this point, plus concubines.
 - * The interesting thing about sexual desire is that, the more you are involved, the more it intensifies, rather diminishing.
 - 5)) David had a crisis, a crucial point where he was either going to resist the sin or run with it.
 - a) We are to resist the devil. Ja. 4:7

- b) We are to bring our thoughts into captivity. 2Cor. 10:5
- c) Jesus said “But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed **adultery** with her in his heart.” Matt. 5:28

11:3-5 The sin of adultery.

- 1) David enquired about the woman, lets take this as the second check. vs. 3a
 - a) He did not resist his sin nature and yielded to ongoing lust.
 - b) The word “sent” is key, appearing ten times. vs. 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 14, 18, 22, 27
- 2) David ignored the check by the nameless servant. vs. 3b-d
 - a) She was the daughter of Eliam, son of Ahithophel and one of David’s honorable thirty mighty men, which made her the granddaughter of Ahithophel, David’s friend and adviser. 2Sam. 23:34
 - * Which could be one big reason for Ahithophel siding with Absalom!
 - b) She was the wife of Uriah the Hittite, another one of David’s thirty, mighty men. 2Sam. 23:29
 - 1) Uriah could be a convert to Judaism.

- 2) The name Uriah “Uwriyah” means Yahweh is the light.
- 3) Bathsheba means “daughter of an oath”.
- 3) David should of stopped at this point and asked God forgiveness for his lust and he would have been alright.
 - a) But David persisted to feed his lust and abusing his power.
 - b) Sometimes the only thing may be able to do, is to run like Joseph!
- 4) He laid with her, she had just purified herself from her monthly cycle, when David first saw her bathing, indicating she was not pregnant at the time and she returned home. vs. 4d-e
- 6) Bathsheba becomes pregnant, she conceived. vs. 5a
 - a) Bathsheba is not without fault, give her the benefit of the doubt, that she was ignorant about he exposure on the rooftop, though I doubt it!
 - b) Bathsheba did not resist or ask David to stop and not do such a thing, she was permissive and a party to the sin.
- 7) Bathsheba sent and told David, “I am with child.” vs. 5b-d
 - a) These are the only words on record of Bathsheba.
 - b) Both had ignored the check points.

- c) Both committed adultery, which has to be the most selfish of all sins.

11:6-13 The attempt of David to cover his sin of adultery.

- 1) David sent a message to his general Joab to send Uriah back from battle. vs. 6
- 2) David asks Uriah about Joab, the people and the war. vs. 7
 - * This was the first check to David to tell the truth.
- 3) David was hoping Uriah sleep with his wife to cover-up her pregnancy. vs. 8
 - a) The expression implies rest and enjoying his wife sexually.
 - b) Another indication that David did not have marriage in mind at first.
 - c) Uriah departed from the king, a gift of food was sent to Uriah. vs. 8c-d
 - * David's guilt offering!
- 4) Uriah slept at the door of the King's house with the servants of his lord and did not go down to his house. vs. 9
 - * Uriah proved to be more righteous and faithful than David, which I believe convicted David more so.
- 5) David questioned Uriah why he did not go to his house, when he received the report. vs. 10

- a) David was encouraging Uriah to break a discipline of soldiers in battle to refrain from women.
- b) Remember when David ran away from Saul and went to Nob asking for bread, the priest asked him if the men had kept themselves from women. 1Sam. 21:4-5
- 6) Uriah's answer marked his integrity. vs. 11
 - * It was a mild rebuke to David, for suggesting that Uriah put his personal pleasure before his duty as a soldier!
 - a) He pledged his devotion to God first. vs. 11a-b
 - * David was dwelling in the king's house!
 - b) He pledged his loyalty to his commanding general and fellow-soldier, second. vs. 11c
 - * David had not gone out to war but remained in Jerusalem!
 - c) He pledged his faithfulness in character. vs. 11d-e
 - * David had laid with his wife!
 - d) He pledged a vow before David by David. vs. 11f-h
 - * David deserved death!
 - 1) Uriah again proved to be more righteous and faithful than David, which had to convicted David.

- 2)) I believe this was the second check David had to tell the truth to Uriah, having ignored the first, when he brought him from the battle field.
- 7) David gave Uriah two more days' leave. vs. 12
- 8) David attempted to get Uriah drunk, that he might lower his inhibitions and sleep with his wife. vs. 13
- a) David was reproved by Uriah's character.
- b) Uriah proved to be more honorable drunk, than David sober!
- c) David broke two more Commandment, he lied and bore false witness.

11:14-21 The desperation of David ordered the death of Uriah.

- 1) He involves Joab by writing a letter , sending it by the hand of Uriah. vs. 14
* Uriah was carrying his own death orders!
- 2) The content of the letter was specific, "Set Uriah in the forefront of the hottest battle, and retreat from him, that he may be struck down and die." vs. 15
* Joab gained power over David, knowing his little secret!

- 3) Joab besieged the city and assigned Uriah to a place where he knew there were valiant men. vs. 16
* Joab was an accomplice to murder and covering up adultery by ordering the suicide mission!
- 4) The men of the city came out and fought with Joab and some of the servants of David fell, Uriah the Hittite died also. vs. 17
- a) Joab knew that a brave and loyal soldier had died to hide David's sin!
- b) Joab knew other honorable men had died to cover David's sin.
- 5) Joab sends a war update to David. vs. 18-21
- a) Joab expected David to question his wisdom for such an attack, vs. 18-20
- b) Joab reproved David by the historical example, vs. 21a-d
* The reference. Judges 9:50-54
- 1)) Interesting, it was David who was brought down by a woman, within the wall of the city. Bathsheba.
- 2)) David was the casualty by his own doing!
- c) Joab appeased David by providing the answer David was waiting to hear, "then you shall say, 'Your servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also.'" vs. 21e

11:22-27 The news of Uriah's death in battle.

- 1) David thought he had covered his sin. vs. 22-24
 - a) David must have been relieved, thinking, "It over, I am safe!"
 - b) David's plot to cover his sin had caused the death of many others courageous soldiers!
- 2) David thought he could shrug off his evil deed. vs. 25
 - a) He sent word back to Joab to not consider it evil in his eyes, "Thus you shall say to Joab. vs. 25a-c
 - b) He sent orders to Joab, to overthrow the city. vs. 25d-e
 - c) He told the messenger to encourage Joab in this way. vs. 25f
- 3) David thought convincingly, he had gotten away with his sin. vs. 26-27

* Bathsheba mourned for her husband, usually 7 days. vs. 26
- 4) David thought he would appear compassionate and benevolent before all. vs. 27
 - a) David married Bathsheba, she became his wife and bore a son. vs. 27c
 - b) David's deed was evil in the sight of the Lord, "But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD..

- 1)) "There is no creature hidden from His sight." Heb. 4:13a
- 2)) Let me say that adultery does not have to be the end of the marriage, if there is true repentance and forgiveness.

12:1-14 **The confrontation and consequences of David's sin of adultery.**

12:1-6 The confrontation and reaction of David.

12:1-4 *The medium was a parable of injustice declared to David by Nathan.*

- 1) The instrument sent by God was Nathan the prophet. vs. 1a
- 2) The parable marked a parallel to David's sin of adultery. vs. 1b-4
 - a) And he came to him, and said to him: "There were two men in one city, one rich and the other poor.
 - b) David represented the rich man. vs. 2
 - c) Uriah represented the poor man. vs. 3
 - d) The sin of David is represented by the rich man who took the poor man's one little lamb. vs. 4

12:5-6 *The outrage of David over the injustice.*

- 1) David pronounced the judgment of death over the man, for his injustice. vs. 5
 - a) David exploded anger against the man.
 - b) David swore by the LORD who lived, the man would certainly die!
 - 1) Our sin always looks much worst on others!
 - 2) Jesus spoke of taking the plank out of our own eye before we try to take out the speck out of our brothers' eye. Matt. 7:5
 - 3) Yet those who are sinning rebuke in the presence of all, that the rest also may fear. 1Tim. 5:20
- 2) David pronounce a judgment of restoration. vs. 6
 - a) He was to give four lambs, for the one. vs. 6a
 - * The Law stated double only. Ex. 22:9-11
 - b) For his guilt and no pity. vs. 6b

12:7-14 The personal charge to David of adultery.

- 1) Nathan points his prophetic finger at David accuses him of being the culprit. vs. 7a-b
 - * Open rebuke is better Than love carefully concealed. Faithful are the

- wounds of a friend, But the kisses of an enemy are deceitful. Prov. 27:5-6
- 2) Nathan reminds David of God's goodness to David, speaking in the first person. vs. 7c-8
 - a) The prophetic formula preceded the proclamation, "Thus says the LORD God of Israel." vs. 7c
 - b) God had anointed him king over Israel, and delivered him from the hand of Saul. vs. 7d-e
 - c) God had given to David Saul's house and wives, the house of Israel and Judah. vs. 8a-b
 - d) God would of given David more, if he thought that was not enough. vs. 8c-d
 - 3) Nathan confronted David with direct questions, regarding his guilt. vs. 9
 - a) He asked the reason for his rebellion, "Why have you despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in His sight?" vs. 9a-b
 - * David came to the place where he though he was above the law.
 - b) He charged David with the two-fold crime, murder and adultery. vs. 9c-d
 - 4) Nathan declared the consequences of to the house of David. vs. 10
 - a) The sword would never depart from his house, because he had despised Yahweh. vs. 10a-b

- 1)) His son Amnon would rape his daughter Tamar.
- 2)) His Son Absalom would kill Amnon for raping his sister Tamar.
- 3)) Absalom would attempt to overthrow David.
- b) He had taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be his wife. vs. 10c-d
 - 1)) Though adultery and murder.
 - 2)) By lying, deceiving and bearing false witness.
- c) Nathan using the prophetic formula, “Thus says the LORD”, declared in the first person that God would raise up adversity against him from his own house, who would defile his wives before all sexually. vs. 11
 - * This would be Absalom, as he set up a tent on the roof-top and sexually humbled all of David’s concubines, before all of Israel. 2Sam. 16:22
- 5) The reason was clear, “For you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel, before the sun.” vs. 12
- 6) David confessed his sin. vs. 13
 - a) He acknowledged his sin against God, “I have sinned against the LORD.” vs. 13a-c

- 1)) David expresses his confession and repentance of this sin in the Psalm, against God. Ps. 51:3-5
- 2)) David expressed the joy of forgiveness. Ps. 32:3-4
- b) He was assured by Nathan the Lord had forgiven him and he would not die. vs. 13d-f
 - 1)) This is called godly repentance, distinct from regret merely for the consequences Godly repentance is never repented of. 2Cor. 7:9-10
 - 2)) The sin of adultery gives a person the Biblical privilege of divorce, it is an option but not a command! Matt. 5:32, 19:9
 - * Whenever there is godly and genuine repentance, reconciliation is the best but the person is the one who must make that decision, and once made it and forgive their mate, they can not go back on it later on, it is as if it never happened!
- 7) The result of David’s sin was two-fold. vs. 14
 - a) By his adulterous deed he had given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme. vs. 14a
 - b) The child conceived would die. vs. 14b

12:15-25 The judgment of God on the child conceived by adultery.

12:15-19 *The plead of David for the child before God.*

- 1) When Nathan left David's house, the LORD struck the child and it became ill. vs. 15
- 2) David therefore pleaded with God, in intercession for the child, as he fasted and laid all night on the ground. vs. 16
- 3) David refused his servants attempt to rise and eat. vs. 17
- 4) The seventh day the child died and the servants were afraid of telling David, fearing what he might do to himself. vs. 18
- 5) David seeing his servants were whispering, understood the child was dead and they affirmed it. vs. 19

12:20-25 *The acceptance of God's judgment by David.*

- 1) David got up from the ground bathed and changed, then and he went into the house of the LORD and worshiped. vs. 20a-d
- 2) David returned to his own house to eat. vs. 20e-g
- 3) David's servants puzzled by his behavior over the child, questioned him. vs. 21

- 4) David explained himself to his servants. vs. 22-23
 - a) He was interceding, while the child was alive, in hope of God's grace. vs. 22
 - b) Now the child being dead, nothing can be done but he would go to the child. vs. 23
 - * David believed in life after death, the immortality of man!
- 5) David continued on with his life. vs. 24-25
 - a) He comforted Bathsheba his wife, she conceived and bore a son, Solomon, meaning "peace", and the LORD loved him. vs. 24
 - b) God gave another name through Nathan, Jedidiah, "beloved of Yahewh". vs. 25

12:26-31 The conquest of Rabbah of the Ammonites.

- 1) Joab continued his war against Rabbah of the people of Ammon, and took the royal city. vs. 26
 - a) Remember, the war started in chapter ten. 2Sam. 10:1-14
 - b) Now spring was here, the time when kings went out to war. 2Sam. 11:1
 - c) The parallel passage. 1Chron. 20:1-3

- 2) Joab sent a message to David from the battle-field. vs. 27-28
- a) The messengers told David that he had taken the city's water supply. vs. 27
 - b) He told David to gather the rest of the people to encamp against the city and take it, otherwise he would do it and name it after him. vs. 28
- 3) David complied with the message. vs. 29-31
- a) He did gather the people and took the city. vs. 29
 - b) He took their king's crown of gold and precious stones, placed it on his own head and brought out the much spoil of the city. vs. 30
 - c) He brought out the people and put them to labor in his works, including all the cities of Ammon, then returned to Jerusalem. vs. 31