

“Lessons from the Life of David” – Pastor Jim Ruddy

Study # 36 – David and God – 2 Samuel 11:1-12:14; Psalm 51:1-19

I. KING-SIZED FAILURE 2 Sam. 11:1 – 12:14

A. THE CRIMES OF GOD’S KING

- David’s sins included covetousness, adultery and murder.
 - cf. 2 Sam. 11:1-14; Ex. 20:13,14,17
- David was successful in concealing his sin from man.
 - cf. Prov. 28:13; Josh. 7:1,11,20-22; Num. 32:23; Heb. 11:25

B. THE CONVICTION OF GOD’S SPIRIT

- David’s cover-up may have lasted as long as a year, during which he lived under great conviction. cf. Ps. 32:3-4; 38:1-17
- In His mercy, God refrains from swift judgment in order to grant man “space to repent.” cf. Rev. 2:21; Rom. 2:4; 2 Pet. 3:9

C. THE CONFRONTATION BY GOD’S PROPHET

- Nathan calls David back to his senses and onward to repentance.
 - cf. 2 Sam. 12:13; Lu. 15:17-19

II. KING-SIZED FORGIVENESS Psalm 51

A. DAVID’S APPROACH TO GOD

- David does not come to The LORD on the basis of Law or sacrifice, but in full reliance upon God’s mercy and loyal love. cf. v1, 16
- Our approach to God must be on the same basis.
 - cf. Matt. 18:21-27; Ps. 78:38; 1 Jn. 1:9

B. DAVID’S APPRAISAL OF SIN

1. ITS DESCRIPTION

a) Transgression v1, 3

- A willful overstepping; i.e. to break away from; to rebel.

b) Iniquity v2, 9

- Inequity; i.e. involving injustice; crooked dealings

c) Sin v2, 3, 9

- Missing the mark; i.e. falling short. cf. Rom. 3:23

2. ITS LOCATION

a) The Outward Acts

- David acknowledges his rebellion toward God and accepts full responsibility for his sin. v3, 4; cf. 2 Sam. 12:13
- We do not sin casually, so we should not confess casually.
 - Ps. 32:5; 38:18; Jer. 3:13; 14:20; Hos. 5:15; Lu 15:21

b) The Inward Facts

- David realized that his outward behavior was the result of his faulted, inward belief. v5, 6; Note “heart” and “spirit” = v10, 17

C. DAVID'S APPEAL TO GOD

If you are going to use David's sin as an example, you should use his repentance as well.

1. Wash Me, Cleanse Me, Purge Me v2, 7

- David desires to be totally washed (as a garment) and to be ceremonially cleansed for service to The LORD.
- "Hyssop" – the application of the blood of the lamb. cf. Ex. 12:22

2. Make Me, Uphold Me, Deliver Me v8, 12, 14

- David must rely totally upon The LORD, for only He can bring full restoration and renewal.
- We should not only seek to be forgiven, but to be made whole!

3. Create In Me v6, 10

- David realized that he must be changed within, seeing his breakdown had been one of inner faithlessness.

4. Restore To Me v8, 12

- David had known the heaviness of God's hand for far too long and now sought for a renewed joy in God.

III. KING-SIZED FALLOUT 2 Sam. 12:10-14

A. THE SURETY OF FORGIVENESS v13

- David's contempt for The LORD placed him in the company of Eli's reprobate sons. cf. 1 Sam 2:17; 3:13; 2 Sam. 12:9-10
- Whereas David had awarded the death penalty to the man in Nathan's story, The LORD extends mercy to the King.
 - cf. Eze. 18:20; Rom. 6:23; Ps. 103:10; Ezra 9:13

B. THE SEVERITY OF CONSEQUENCE v10-14

- Although David is immediately forgiven of his sins, and his fellowship with God is fully restored, his actions have set in motion consequences that even the King cannot escape.

1. The Devastation of David's Kingdom v10-11

- The sword of which David often spoke will now recoil upon his own house. cf. 2 Sam 11:25; 3:28-29 - Joab

2. The Defiling of David's Wives v11-12

- As David "took" Bathsheba, his wives will now be "taken" and "given" to another! cf. 1 Sam. 15:28; 28:17
- That which David had sown in secret will grow in the sight of all!
 - cf. Gal. 6:7-10; Hos. 8:7; Rom. 6:1; Prov. 6:27-29

3. The Death of David's Son v14

- David's life will not be enriched through his sin, but instead, the consequences of his actions will mark his kingdom for generations to come. cf. Ex. 34:7