



**HE**

**BRINGS  
LOW**



**EXALTS**

HOW THE LORD MAKES HIS GLORY KNOWN

**What keeps us from a close relationship with the LORD?**

**How did King David end “Eden” in Israel?**

In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab, and his servants with him, and all Israel. And they ravaged the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem.

2 Samuel 11:1 ESV

But the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel. And they said, "No! But there shall be a king over us, that we also may be like all the nations, and that our king may judge us and **go out before us and fight our battles.**"

1 Samuel 8:19-20 ESV

Then all the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said, "Behold, we are your bone and flesh. In times past, when Saul was king over us, it was you who led out and brought in Israel. And the LORD said to you, 'You shall be shepherd of my people Israel, and you shall be prince over Israel.' "

2 Samuel 5:1-2 ESV

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2 Samuel 11:1 ESV

## How did King David end “Eden” in Israel?

- He was passive in his primary responsibilities



It happened, late one afternoon, when David arose from his couch and was walking on the roof of the king's house, that **he saw** from the roof a woman bathing; and the woman was **very beautiful**.

2 Samuel 11:2-4 ESV

It happened, late one afternoon, when David arose from his couch and was walking on the roof of the king's house, that **he saw** from the roof a woman bathing; and the woman was **delightful to the eye.**

2 Samuel 11:2-4 ESV

It is uncertain whether her intent in bathing on the roof was simply to use the air to help dry herself or whether she used the opportunity to bring herself to the attention of the king.

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Before we go any further...

- This is not a passage focused on Bathsheeba at all
- This is not a passage focused on Bathsheeba's sin
- This is not a passage about Bathsheeba the temptress
- This is not a passage about Bathsheeba the ambitious
- This is not a passage about Bathsheeba the wicked
- This is a passage about David turning his subjects into objects

It happened, late one afternoon, when David arose from his couch and was walking on the roof of the king's house, that **he saw** from the roof a woman bathing; and the woman was **delightful to the eye**. And David **sent** and **inquired** about the woman. And one said, "Is not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?" So David **sent** messengers and **took her**, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she had been purifying herself from her uncleanness.) Then she returned to her house.

2 Samuel 11:2-4 ESV

So when **the woman saw** that the tree was good for food, and that it was a **delight to the eyes**, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, **she took** of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

Genesis 3:6 ESV



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2 Samuel 11:2-4 ESV

## **How did King David end “Eden” in Israel?**

- He was passive in his primary responsibilities

He saw, desired, and took what he knew he should not take

And the woman conceived, and she sent and told David, "I am pregnant."

2 Samuel 11:5 ESV

So David sent word to Joab, "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent Uriah to David. When Uriah came to him, David asked how Joab was doing and how the people were doing and how the war was going.

2 Samuel 11:6-7 ESV

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## How did King David end “Eden” in Israel?

He was passive in his primary responsibilities

He saw, desired, and took what he knew he should not take

He sought to cover his sin

He enlisted others to help him cover his sin

Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house and wash your feet." And Uriah went out of the king's house, and there followed him a present from the king. But Uriah slept at the door of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and did not go down to his house.

2 Samuel 11:8-9 ESV

When they **told** David, "Uriah did not go down to his house," David said to Uriah, "Have you not come from a journey? Why did you not go down to your house?" Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah dwell in booths, and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are camping in the open field. Shall I then go to my house, to eat and to drink and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do this thing."

2 Samuel 11:10-11 ESV



Uriah's refusal to have sexual contact with his wife at this time was clearly an expression of his devotion to the Lord: all sanctioned military activity was a form of service to the Lord, and it required the Lord's blessing for success... If Uriah had had sexual relations with Bathsheba, he would have rendered himself temporarily unfit for military service (cf. Lev 15:18) and thus unfit for service to the Lord.

Bergen, *NAC: 1, 2 Samuel*

Then David said to Uriah, "Remain here today also, and tomorrow I will send you back." So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day and the next. And David invited him, and he ate in his presence and drank, so that he made him drunk. And in the evening he went out to lie on his couch with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house.

2 Samuel 11:12-13 ESV

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He was passive in his primary responsibilities

He saw, desired, and took what he knew he should not take

He sought to cover his sin

He enlisted others to help him cover his sin

He caused Uriah to sin to cover his sin

In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it by the hand of Uriah. In the letter he wrote, "Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, that he may be struck down, and die."

2 Samuel 11:14-15 ESV

And as Joab was besieging the city, he assigned Uriah to the place where he knew there were valiant men. And the men of the city came out and fought with Joab, and some of the servants of David among the people fell. Uriah the Hittite also died.

2 Samuel 11:16-17 ESV

Then Joab sent and told David all the news about the fighting. And he instructed the messenger, "When you have finished telling all the news about the fighting to the king, then, if the king's anger rises, and if he says to you, 'Why did you go so near the city to fight? Did you not know that they would shoot from the wall? Who killed Abimelech the son of Jerubbesheth? Did not a woman cast an upper millstone on him from the wall, so that he died at Thebez? Why did you go so near the wall?' then you shall say, 'Your servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also.' "

2 Samuel 11:18-21 ESV

So the messenger went and came and told David all that Joab had sent him to tell. The messenger said to David, "The men gained an advantage over us and came out against us in the field, but we drove them back to the entrance of the gate. Then the archers shot at your servants from the wall. Some of the king's servants are dead, and your servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also."

2 Samuel 11:22-24 ESV

David said to the messenger, "Thus shall you say to Joab, 'Do not let this matter displease you, for the sword devours now one and now another. Strengthen your attack against the city and overthrow it.' And encourage him."

2 Samuel 11:25 ESV



## How did King David end "Eden" in Israel?

He was passive in his primary responsibilities

He saw, desired, and took what he knew he should not take

He sought to cover his sin

He enlisted others to help him cover his sin

He caused Uriah to sin to cover his sin

He commanded and approved of deaths to cover his sin

When the wife of Uriah heard that Uriah her husband was dead, she lamented over her husband. And when the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD.

2 Samuel 11:26-27 ESV

How is the LORD's *glory* displayed through this passage?

Who does the LORD exalt?

Who does the LORD bring low?



How is the LORD's *glory* displayed through this passage?

**Who does the LORD exalt?**

Uriah shows himself to be a man who has faithfully followed David and learned how to glorify the LORD

**Who does the LORD bring low?**



**What keeps us from a close relationship with the LORD?**

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When I reject what I am called to do I begin walking alone and feel far from the LORD

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When I try to manipulate sinful situations, I find myself contending against righteousness



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