



THE BOOK OF

2 SAMUEL



Sermon Series Notes

“The Seduction of a Great King” (II Samuel 8:1-11:5)

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II Samuel 8

v.2a The Moabites were the product of an incestuous relationship between Lot and his oldest daughter after both daughters got dad so drunk he didn't even know what had happened (Gen.19:33, 35). Lot, though referred to in II Peter 2:7 as a “righteous man” who “was distressed by the filthy lives of lawless men,” was a compromising believer who was about as immature as any believer in Scripture.

The Moabites were utterly corrupt. It was the Moabites who seduced Israel by having their women invite the Israelite men to their church services, then committing sexual immorality with them (Numbers 25). “The apple don't fall far from the tree.”

v.2b Allowing *any* of the Moabites to live was a gracious thing. For those who have a hard time with what David does here, we must keep in mind that this is war against a very evil enemy. Do we want our country to cease the war against ISIS, etc.?

v.3 Hadadezer = “Hadad is my help.” Hadad was the storm and rain god, one of the deities of ancient Mesopotamia. The worship of Hadad was originally introduced by the Amorites, a godless enemy of Israel.

v.4 Hamstring: To cut the sinew (tendon, ligament) in the back legs to render the animal incapable of speed.

See Deut.17:16; Psalm 33:16-17

Ps.20:7 Some trust in chariots and some in horses. But we trust in the name of the Lord our God.

See Joshua 11:4-6; Judges 7:2-8 (Gideon's army)

America has never been powerful because of its guns (military might), but because of its God.

Note v.6b

v.11 David burned their gods, and dedicated their gold to God

vv.13-14 Though David became famous, he was always careful to give the glory to the Lord. It was around this time that David wrote Psalm 2, and Psalm 60. Read Psalm 2.

Psalm 60:11-12 Give us aid against the enemy, for the help of man is worthless. With God we will gain the victory, and he will trample down our enemies.

The Philistines lived in the west, the Moabites east of the Dead Sea, the Arameans (present day Syria) were to the north, and the Edomites were south and east of the Dead Sea. David went after the enemies of Israel in every direction, and God gave him victory in every direction.

II Samuel 9

vv.1-3 His name was Mephibosheth, and he would have been the heir to Saul's throne. But everyone, including Saul, knew that God had chosen David to be king, so Mephibosheth would have been thought to be in great danger, because usually the first thing a new king would do would be to eliminate any potential rivals for his throne. Mephibosheth was 5 years old when his dad died on the battlefield, and after hearing the news, his nurse picked him up to flee, but in her haste, Mephibosheth fell and became crippled (II Samuel 4).

vv.4-6 Mephibosheth would have been afraid to appear before David, thinking that surely David would look to take vengeance on any of Saul's family that he could. That's what pretty much any other king would have done. But Mephibosheth did not know the heart of this king! David, though king, served a greater King, a gracious and merciful King!

vv.7-13

II Samuel 10

vv.1-2a It could be that Hanun's father was kind to David when David was running from King Saul.

vv.2b-6ff God gives David another victory.

David, a warrior for God, but a unique warrior. On the one hand he would fearlessly face the enemy on every side. As a young man he had faced Goliath, and now he had faced many Goliaths. But as much of a warrior as he was, he was also a gracious king, seeking out those who have been crippled by life's circumstances, and showering them with abundant grace. He was gracious, merciful, and kind. Sounds a lot like Jesus.

How does hell defeat a man like this? Fear has not worked. Trying to get him to doubt the goodness of God as a result of all the injustice he suffered at the hands of King Saul has not worked. Tempting him to cop an attitude of bitterness and hatred against those who have wronged him has not worked. The devil must find another way. Read II Samuel 11:1-5.

This was a turning point in David's life that would bring about negative consequences for the rest of his life. And the Lord has recorded it for us that we might learn from it, and by God's grace not make the same mistakes that David made.

Why did David fail here? He had more than one beautiful wife.

Prov.27:20 Death and destruction are never satisfied, and neither are the eyes of man.

See Gen.3:6; The lust of the eyes is a problem for both men and women, it just varies as to the object of our lust.

Allowing our eyes to gaze leads to letting our flesh get in on the action. This is of course called the lust of the flesh.

And then there is the very practical aspect of where David is, and why he is there. He has taken a break from the battle. There is NEVER a time to let your guard down!

Uncle Holland – WWII, “When I could go under, I went under...”

He committed adultery in his heart first. This is where the battle is won or lost (Rom.8:5-8; Phil.4:8-9)

Victory over sexual sin:

- If married, by faithful
- Develop and maintain self-control (I Thess.4:3-5)
 - Practice looking away
 - Stop watching the movies, TV programs, etc.
 - Practice fasting

- Exercise
- Feed your mind with things that are pure (Phil.4:8)
- Be accountable to other godly friends
 - Be accountable on the computer
- Break off the relationship (Gen.39:10; Mark 9:43-47)
- Openly confess failure

As we wrap this up, I have some closing thoughts regarding Bathsheeba.

What is she doing bathing in full view of the king's balcony? No grown woman is that naïve. I have little doubt that she knew exactly what she was doing. There is no record of resistance to David's invitation in any way, and later when David offers her hand in marriage, she without hesitation accepts. If I were a betting man, I would bet she planned this seductive move carefully. And if I am right, it worked just as she had planned.

I Tim.2: 9 I also want women to dress modestly, with decency and propriety, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or expensive clothes, 10 but with good deeds, appropriate for women who profess to worship God.

What is it that could take you down? What was it that took you down?

- Entice with natural appetites
- Appeal to pride (Uzziah, etc.)
- Indulgence in freedom (Gal.5:13)
 - Perry Nobles, Newspring Church, Anderson; Perry's posture towards his marriage, increased reliance on alcohol & other behaviors, were of continual concern.
 - Statement by Nobles: "In my opinion, the Bible does not prohibit the use of alcohol, but it does prohibit drunkenness and intoxication. I never had a problem drinking alcohol socially, but in the past year or so I have allowed myself to slide into, in my opinion, the overuse of alcohol. This was a spiritual and moral mistake on my part as I began to depend on alcohol for my refuge instead of Jesus and others. I have no excuse - this was wrong, sinful and I am truly sorry."
 - I Cor.6:12...I will not be mastered by anything (context is sexual immorality).
 - II Peter 2:19...People are slaves to whatever has mastered them.

Conclusion

The Moabites got to Israel through sexual seduction, Samson fell because of a weakness for women and romantic relationships out of the will of God. And David, the greatest warrior, the greatest king in Israel's history, was taken down through a one night stand with another man's wife.