



THE BOOK OF

2 SAMUEL



Sermon Series Notes

“The Story of David & Bathsheeba” (II Samuel 11:1-12:25)

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DAVID’S FALL

Review last week’s message...how does hell get at a man like this?

It is the one area that men fall faster than I think any other. Why is that? Because sexual desire is a God-given desire. And hell knows that. That is why, when Satan could not curse the Israelites through Balaam the sorcerer, he used the Moabite women to seduce thousands of Israel’s men.

Deut.17:17 He must not take many wives, or his heart will be led astray.

II Sam.5: 13 After he left Hebron, David took more concubines and wives in Jerusalem, and more sons and daughters were born to him.

It’s easy to miss the above verse in the context of all that is happening in David’s life at this point. See II Sam.5:12, 7:18, 8:6b, 14b. Though God is blessing David abundantly, and though David is for the most part walking in humility and obedience, this one area is not being kept in check. David had many strengths, but he had one weakness, and that was a weakness for the opposite sex. It is a problem for almost all men, and one that must be dealt with, or we will fall just as David did!

I Cor.10: 12 So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! 13 No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.

I have a very simple three point reminder to help me not to fall to sexual temptation. It goes like this:

- Flee
 - I Cor.6:18 Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body.
 - Joseph ran from the seducing arms of Potiphar’s wife. And then he made a decision to stay as far away from temptation as possible; Gen.39:10 And though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or even be with her.

- Fortify
 - My mind (Rom.12:2, etc.)

- My will (I Cor.9:27)
- Fight the battle daily
 - Every day has enough evil...
 - This is where David failed here. He was not in the battle, and just like many others, he fell to sexual sin during “spring break.” Song by Orleans called “Spring Fever.”

DAVID’S ATTEMPTED COVER UP (11:6-27)

It is our natural inclination to try and cover our sin; Adam and Eve; John 3:19-20. The unending irony is that while man has a natural inclination to hide his sin, his sin is nevertheless never hidden from God.

Heb.4: 13 Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Luke 12:1b-3 "Be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy. There is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known. 3 What you have said in the dark will be heard in the daylight, and what you have whispered in the ear in the inner rooms will be proclaimed from the roofs.

Numbers 32:23...you may be sure that your sin will find you out.

NATHAN’S CONFRONTATION OF DAVID (12:1-9)

vv.5-6 Isn't it interesting how David burns with anger against the sin of someone else, yet he is guilty of an even greater sin? See Matthew 7:3-5.

Please note with me the opening line of chapter 12, “The Lord sent Nathan to David.”

Rev.3:19 Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline...

This is not some warm and cozy conversation, this is an in your face confrontation! Have you ever read Matthew 23? See Matthew 23:13-15, 23-34. Have you ever thought of how unpleasant the scene when Jesus overthrew the tables of the moneychangers in the temple?

As unpleasant a scene as this is, it is an act of love (Rev.3:19).

II Tim.3:16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, **rebuking**, correcting...

Have you ever thought of the courage it took for Nathan to confront David? Do you know what happened to most of the prophets when they confronted sin in their world? They were ignored, insulted, flogged, thrown in prison, and sometimes executed.

I wonder why none of David’s servants confronted David? Why didn’t Joab confront David?

The Lord sent Balaam a donkey, his own donkey; The Lord sent Eli Samuel, and King Saul Samuel; He sent Uzziah 81 **courageous** priests (II Chron.26:17).

It is a loving and gracious thing for the Lord to send someone to confront us in our sin. But unfortunately many people who are confronted do not react or respond in the way God desires.

II Chron.24:19 Although the Lord sent prophets to the people to bring them back to him, and though they testified against them, they would not listen. See also Neh.9:26, 30.

One of the challenges in the culture we live in is in the growing failure to acknowledge sin as sin, especially sexual sin.

The principal of a small middle school had a problem with a few of the older girls starting to use lipstick. When applying it in the bathroom they would then press their lips to the mirror and thus leave lip prints. Before it got out of hand he thought of a way to stop it. He gathered all the girls together that wore lipstick and told them he wanted to meet them in the ladies room at 2 pm. When they arrived the principal and the school custodian were waiting for them. The principal explained that it was becoming a problem for the custodian to clean the mirror every night. He said he felt the ladies did not fully understand just how much of a problem it was and he wanted them to witness just how hard it was to clean. The custodian then demonstrated. He took a long brush on a handle, dipped the brush into the nearest toilet, then moved to the mirror and proceeded to remove the lipstick. That was the last day the girls pressed their lips against the mirror.

See Proverbs 30:20 This is the way of an adulterous: She eats and wipes her mouth and says, "I've done nothing wrong."

We live in an adulterous culture.

DAVID'S CONFESSION

This confession is one filled with a heart of genuine repentance (see Psalm 51:3-6).

Some people confess, but never repent (King Saul, I Sam.15; Balaam, Num.22; Judas).

II Cor.7: 10 Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.

THE CONSEQUENCES OF DAVID'S SIN

He does not get what he deserves. God shows David tremendous mercy.

Prov.28:13 He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

Though David was forgiven, there were consequences for his failure, some that would last the rest of his life.

God took the child conceived in adultery, because the public needed to see some kind of discipline from the Lord for David's failure (12:14). When you really think about it, it was gracious of the Lord to take this child, because it would be spared the lingering consequences of David's sin.

12:10a This is a mysterious consequence of David's sin. It is mysterious because it means that, had David not failed the way he did, his family would not have ended up in turmoil. Part of this mystery for me is the impact our lives have on others, for good or for bad. On the way back from Guatemala I listened to a testimony that Christian Coy recently shared at Calvary Chapel Philadelphia's high school chapel service. Christian is the son of former Pastor Bob Coy of CC Ft. Lauderdale. He shared how his father's failure affected him personally. Thank the Lord that Christian has not allowed the enemy to take him down a path of further turmoil as a result of wrong decisions his father made. Many of David's family members will not be as wise as Christian Coy, and the following chapters will reveal the fulfillment of this prophetic prediction in verse 10. And there lies more of the mystery, because God does not cause these family members to make the decisions that fulfill this prophecy, and yet had David not failed, his sin would not have had the influence in the family that it did.

See also Gen.18:19

CONCLUSION

"Give up money, give up fame, give up science, give the earth itself and all it contains rather than to do an immoral act. And never suppose that in any possible situation, or under any circumstances, it is best for you to do a dishonorable thing, however slightly so it may appear to you...From the practice of the purest virtue, you may be assured you will derive the most sublime comforts in every moment of life, and in the moment of death." (Thomas Jefferson, excerpts of a letter written August 19, 1785 to Peter Carr, his nephew).

Proverbs 2:1-2, 12-16a; 4:6-7