

FINAL STUDY NOTES – 2 Samuel Chapters 11-12 11/3-4/2025

CLASSROOM LOCATION AND ZOOM – SIGN IN INFORMATION:

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NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM PACIFIC STANDARD Time (US and Canada)
THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING ON ZOOM ONLY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!

MEETING ID - 878 5864 4763 Passcode: 087484

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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM PACIFIC STANDARD Time (US and Canada).

TUES MORNING MTG PLACE: 1201 KEY WEST, CORONA DEL MAR (shown as 1201 KW, Corona del Mar, CA 92625) on Global Positioning System (GPS) in automobiles. For driving directions, suggest using (waze.com/live map) or *MapQuest* (mapquest.com), **AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!**

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OPENING PRAYER

2 SAMUEL – Chapter 11 – David, Bathsheba, and Uriah – (vs. 1-27); Chapter 12 – Nathan’s Parable and David’s Confession – (vs. 1-15); The Death of David’s Son – (vs. 16-23); Solomon is Born - (vs. 24-25); Rabbah is Captured – (vs. 26-31)

- **We have come to about the peak of the strength of the nation.** God has subdued their enemies round about. They are strong, they are powerful. It is noteworthy that at the time of the great strength, was the time of David’s fall. The bible warns us **(1Co 10:12) Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.**

David and Bathsheba

2Sa 11:1 It happened in the spring of the year, at the time when kings go out to battle, that David sent Joab and his servants with him, and all Israel; and they destroyed the people of Ammon and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem.

- **They had subdued their enemies.** They are in great strength. They have not thoroughly put down the Ammonites.
- **Up until this point, David had led the troops, year by year, in their conquest of the nations.** But now that things are pretty well settled, he sends Joab on with the troops, over to completely subdue the

uprising of the Ammonites, against Israel. They had gained victory over them the year before, they had not totally destroyed them. Now they are going to bring them into complete subjection.

2Sa 11:2-3 Then it happened one evening that David arose from his bed and walked on the roof of the king's house. And from the roof he saw a woman bathing, and the woman was very beautiful to behold. [3] So David sent and inquired about the woman. And someone said, "Is this not Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?"

- **That should have ended it for David completely right there.** She is a married woman. Being the daughter of Eliam, who was the son of Ahithophel, a close friend of David. In fact, he was one of David's counselors. A close friend, we see in (**Psa 55:12-14**) For it is not an enemy who reproaches me; Then I could bear it. Nor is it one who hates me who has exalted himself against me; Then I could hide from him. [13] But it was you, a man my equal, My companion and my acquaintance. [14] We took sweet counsel together. And walked to the house of God in the throng.
- **When David's son, Absalom rebelled against his father,** and drove his father out of the kingdom, Ahithophel became a counselor to Absalom. He turned against David. Bathsheba was the granddaughter of Ahithophel, who turned and sided with Absalom, in the rebellion against David. He gave counsel to Absalom. David had a friend, Husham, who also counseled Absalom, and the counsel that he gave to David was different from that from Ahithophel. When Absalom took the counsel of Husham, it made Ahithophel so mad, he went out and killed himself!

2Sa 11:4 Then David sent messengers, and took her; and she came to him, and he lay with her, for she was cleansed from her impurity; and she returned to her house.

- **David sent messengers.** David should have just stopped when they said, "The wife of Uriah." Uriah was one of David's mighty men. He was one of the captains of David's army.
- **David took her; and she came in unto him, and he lay with her.** So David called her, and had an adulteress relationship.

2Sa 11:5 And the woman conceived; so she sent and told David, and said, "I am with child."

- **So, David sinned against the LORD.** He violated the commandment of God. He went into another man's wife. As a consequence, she became pregnant and sent the message to David. Now David's first attempt was to cover his sin. A very natural characteristic of man, starting in the garden of Eden, where Adam and Eve, after they sinned, conscious of their nakedness, sewed together fig leaves, to hide their nakedness, their guilt, their sin.
- **David here in his single greatest failure** has modeled for us how not to handle temptation. David is at a crossroads that all of us find ourselves in when we have sinned. We are either going to handle that sin biblically, or handle it unbiblically, which is to cover it up. David is going to choose to cover it up, and it is going to become an invaluable instruction for us.
- **Biblically, the first thing we need to do is to go to God and confess the wrong that we have done in this sin** and ask for His forgiveness. The word confess means to see it as God sees it, to really be broken over the sin, and to be impacted by the failure.
- **The second thing that we need to do is to confess our sin to significant others** against which we have sinned. He has sinned against Bathsheba. He has sinned against Uriah on top of sinning against God.
- **This is not an easy thing to do, not at all.** But there is something harder, and that is to begin to do a cover-up and then be like what David is trying to cover up his sin, which is going to lead to even greater sin in his life!
- **Here is why it is so important.** Because however difficult it is to come clean, however hard, **there is something that is yet harder than making things right, and that is leaving things wrong!**
- **No matter how hard it would have been for David to make things right** at this point in time, what God shows us that it was way harder to leave them the way they were! He now begins a process of lying and deception.
- **So, David had a choice, just like we have a choice.** Maybe some of us, right now, are at this point. There is a way that it is supposed to be handled, and yes, it is so hard, and it requires a lot of us, a lot of brokenness, a lot of humility, a lot of eating crow, a lot of being put down to do it. But in the long run, **it is the best way and the easiest way to handle our sin.** David is going to endeavor to cover up his sin, which will lead to even greater sin!

- **Is it really clear in my mind that quick and early confession is so vitally important? That however difficult it is to come clean, there is something that is yet harder than making things right, and that is leaving things wrong! Will I now determine to do that whenever needed in the future?**

2Sa 11:6-9 Then David sent to Joab, saying, "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent Uriah to David. [7] When Uriah (means Yahweh is my light) had come to him, David asked how Joab was doing, and how the people were doing, and how the war prospered. [8] And David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house and wash your feet." So Uriah departed from the king's house, and a gift of food from the king followed him. [9] 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.

- David sent him a present of good food. you know, telling him to go to his own house. But Uriah did not. He slept in the guard house, with David's bodyguards.
- David in trying to cover his guilt! He thought I will bring Uriah home from battle for a couple of days and let him go home with his wife. He will no doubt have relations with her, so later on, when he finds out she is pregnant, he will just figure, "Well, it was when I was home on leave that it happened." Uriah is thwarting David's plan. He stayed in the guard house. He did not go home.

2Sa 11:10-11 So when they told David, saying, "Uriah did not go down to his house," David said to Uriah, "Did you not come from a journey? Why did you not go down to your house?" [11] And Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah are dwelling in tents, and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are encamped in the open fields. Shall I then go to my house to eat and drink, and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do this thing."

- Uriah is a very honorable guy. He was thinking about how that, the troops are living in tents. Joab and all of the troops are out there on the open ground at night sleeping. I cannot do that. Not when my friends are all out there suffering the discomforts of war. At this moment of time, Uriah demonstrates his character of being way beyond that of David!

2Sa 11:12-14 Then David said to Uriah, "Wait here today also, and tomorrow I will let you depart." So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day and the next. [13] Now when David called him, he ate and drank before him; and he made him drunk. And at evening he went out to lie on his bed with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house. [14] In the morning it happened that David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it by the hand of Uriah.

- David is faced with a dilemma. This first ploy is not going to work. Uriah is not going to go home. Even drunk, he has greater character than David at this point in time.

2Sa 11:15 And he wrote in the letter, saying, "Set Uriah in the forefront of the hottest battle, and retreat from him, that he may be struck down and die."

- David is conspiring to murder Uriah. Sin has an interesting way of compounding. You get involved in something and it is not very serious maybe, at first. You know you should not. It was wrong. But then things start piling up. You try to cover it, and it gets deeper, and deeper, until you are so embroiled that you are doing abhorrent things that you never dreamed you would ever do! It is tragic how that sin, like leaven has a way of just permeating through the whole loaf. A little bit of tolerated sin in your life will permeate until it fills your entire life.
- Leprosy, another type of sin, slowly spreads through the body, beginning at the extremities, in the fingers or toes. Leprosy first deadens the nerves, so leprosy is painless. But because you cannot feel pain, if you put your hand down on a hot plate, and not even know it until you smell the seared flesh.
- So David, infected with sin, finds the thing growing. He had already committed the capital crime of adultery. Now he is planning and plotting another capital crime, that of murder! He finds it compounding, until he is sending a note to Joab with Uriah, which is the death sentence for Uriah. David is in a conspiracy to murder him!

2Sa 11:16-20 So it was, while Joab besieged the city, that he assigned Uriah to a place where he knew there were valiant men. [17] Then the men of the city came out and fought with Joab. And some of the people of the servants of David fell; and Uriah the Hittite died also. [18] Then Joab sent and told David all the things concerning the war, [19] and charged the messenger, saying, "When you have finished telling the matters of the war to the king, [20] if it happens that the king's wrath rises, and he says to you: 'Why did you approach so near to the city when you fought? Did you not know that they would shoot from the wall?'"

- He makes reference to a case in the book of Judges, which shows that the book of Judges was written by then, they had their history recorded by this point.

2Sa 11:21-23 Who struck Abimelech the son of Jerubbesheth? Was it not a woman who cast a piece of a millstone on him from the wall, so that he died in Thebez? Why did you go near the wall?'—then you shall say, 'Your servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also.' " [22] So the messenger went, and came and told David all that Joab had sent by him. [23] And the messenger said to David, "Surely the men prevailed against us and came out to us in the field; then we drove them back as far as the entrance of the gate.

- That is, “We pursued them right back to the gate,” which was a poor battle strategy.

2Sa 11:24-25 The archers shot from the wall at your servants; and some of the king's servants are dead, and your servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also." [25] Then David said to the messenger, "Thus you shall say to Joab: 'Do not let this thing displease you, for the sword devours one as well as another. Strengthen your attack against the city, and overthrow it.' So encourage him."

- So rather than sending back a message that would castigate him for this poor strategy. Just go back and tell him, “Well, it cannot be helped. The sword is going to cause some to fall, and shame.”

2Sa 11:26 When the wife of Uriah heard that Uriah her husband was dead, she mourned for her husband.

- Now the general period of mourning was for seven days. It could not be too long of a length of time. because she has to get into David's household for the cover-up to continue.

2Sa 11:27 And when her 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.

- Now David really thought, “That takes care of it. It is all over,” and was probably just congratulating himself on his clever treachery. But he does not know that his troubles are just beginning.

Nathan Rebukes David (about a year after chapter 11 – David has had at least nine months without confessing.) We see what he was going through as we read *Psalms 51 and 32*.

2Sa 12:1-2 Then the LORD sent Nathan to David. And he came to him, and said to him: "There were two men in one city, one rich and the other poor. [2] The rich man had exceedingly many flocks and herds.

- One rich. David is represented here, having many wives!

2Sa 12:3 But the poor man had nothing, except one little ewe lamb which he had bought and nourished; and it grew up together with him and with his children. It ate of his own food and drank from his own cup and lay in his bosom; and it was like a daughter to him.

- It was just a family pet, which we love. There seems to be a hint there of how Uriah loved Bathsheba.

2Sa 12:4 And a traveler came to the rich man, who refused to take from his own flock and from his own herd to prepare one for the wayfaring man who had come to him; but he took the poor man's lamb and prepared it for the man who had come to him."

2Sa 12:5 So David's anger was greatly aroused against the man, and he said to Nathan, "As the LORD lives, the man who has done this shall surely die!"

- How could this man do this? Who does he think he is that he could do this? What sense of self-entitlement, pride and arrogance does a man possess to think that he can come in and take the one lamb? He is very upset. It is amazing how terrible our sin looks on others!
- David is absolutely outraged here. Notice his sentence. *He said to Nathan, as the LORD lives, the man who has done this shall surely die.* Now he is going way beyond the law of Moses. He wants this guy dead. So he is pretty excited and upset here! There was a law for theft, but it was not death. It was to restore four-fold.
- It is interesting how horrible our sins look when someone else is committing them. When I am doing them, I can always give an excuse. There is a reason. But if you are doing it, “Oh how could you! Shame! I cannot believe you would do such a thing!” Let someone else do it, man I am quick to judge. I am ready to sentence them to death. I am very generous and gracious to myself. David pronounced the death sentence upon a man for such actions!
- **“That man shall surely die!” How guilty am I in always seeing how terrible my sin looks on others; that my sin is just a little one, and theirs is so huge?**

2Sa 12:6 And he shall restore fourfold for the lamb, because he did this thing and because he had no pity."

- **Our Lord talked a lot about forgiveness.** He gave interesting parables concerning forgiveness. He realized that we have a tendency to hold grudges against people. But really the things for which we often hold grudges are far less than our own offenses against others. (*Mat 6:12*) *Forgive us our sins, just as we also have forgiven those who sin against us.*
- **It is so important that we have a forgiving spirit!** God has forgiven us so much, we need to forgive others. We have a tendency to forgive ourselves, very readily, very easily. But to forgive others is something else again. David was judging himself. "That man shall surely be put to death, as the *LORD* lives!" Nathan said, "David, **You're the man!**"
- **How much of a forgiving spirit to I have? Do I really demonstrate forgiveness? Can it be said of me, "he had no pity?"**

*2Sa 12:7 Then Nathan said to David, "You are the man!" Thus says the *LORD* God of Israel: 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul.*

- **You are the man!** "You are guilty David! You are the one who did it."
- **David, a man who had experienced the anointing of God** upon his life, who had known God's deliverance. David's jaw just dropped open. David's done killing guys now. *You are the man!*
- **David, you are the man that had no pity.** You are the man that not only took the lamb, but you killed the one who owned the lamb! David, you are the one! *You are the man!*
- ***LORD* help me to quickly confess every sin. May I never hear those words, "You are the man!"**

2Sa 12:8 I gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your keeping, and gave you the house of Israel and Judah. And if that had been too little, I also would have given you much more!

- **David, I have given you power and position!** I would have given you whatever you needed! Notice, "I anointed you! I delivered you! I gave it to you!" So we have been anointed of God. We have been delivered by God, and oh the gifts of God to us, and yet, in spite of all of this, David went out and coveted more, lusting for more.
- **How satisfied am I with all that He has given me?**

2Sa 12:9 Why have you despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in His sight? You have killed (murdered) Uriah the Hittite with the sword; you have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the people of Ammon.

- **David, you hid it from man, but you did not hide it from God!** He was watching that whole nefarious affair. God was watching. You did it in His sight! Remember that, whenever you sin, that you are doing it in His sight. "Why would you do this to violate the commandment of God and do this in His sight?" You are guilty, you killed him. Just as if you had run the sword through him yourself, David. You are guilty!
- **You have despised Me!** (*Num 15:31*) *Because he has despised the word of the LORD, and has broken His commandment, that person shall be completely cut off; his guilt shall be upon him.*
- **Do I think of "despising the word of my Lord" whenever I am disobedient to His word?**

2Sa 12:10 Now therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised Me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.'

- **David's oldest son, Amnon, was killed by his brother, Absalom.** David's second son, Absalom, was killed in his rebellion against his father, in the battle. David's third son, Adonijah, was killed by Solomon, when Solomon took the throne. Also Bathsheba's child. The sword did not depart from his house. David experienced the grief (*fourfold*) of the sword coming to his own house. "You are guilty David; **You are the man!** You have done it."

2Sa 12:11-12 Thus says the LORD: 'Behold, I will raise up adversity against you from your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this sun. [12] For you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel, before the sun.' "

- **Now when Absalom rebelled against David, and was coming from Hebron with an army, David fled from Jerusalem.** He did not want to fight against Absalom. So rather than fight, David fled from Jerusalem, and said, "We will let the *LORD* take care of it. If the *LORD* wants to give the throne to Absalom, fine." He just committed the whole thing to the *LORD*.
- **Absalom came, and took Jerusalem, this fellow Ahithophel,** his counselor said, "No. You want to really establish yourself in the eyes of the people as the king? Go on top of the palace, there on the

roof, put a little tent, and put David's concubines there in the tent. And then, in the sight of all of the people, you go into that tent to David's concubines." It was signifying, "Hey, I'm the new boss around here."

- **So, Absalom in the sight of all of Israel, would openly go into the tent** of the concubines. Thus David was disgraced and humiliated by his own son, as his wives were used by Absalom in the sight of all the people. "You did it secretly David, it is going to happen to you *before the sun*."
- **Now, at this point, let us turn to Psalm fifty-one**, and read the response of David, to this news from God. Notice his brokenness in this Psalm!
- **You see we have the problem that God said that** "*David was a man after His own heart.*" When we read these kinds of activities, we say, "Wait a minute! How could David be a man after God's heart, and do these horrible things?"

PSALM 51:

- **Psalm fifty-one will give you the insight.** David, having heard, composes this Psalm (KJV). Notice the title; *The Chief Musician, A Psalm of David, when Nathan the prophet came unto him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba.* David's been faced with his guilt. "*You are the man!*"
- **David has prayed unto the LORD, [1] Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. [2] Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.** David is crying out unto the LORD, crying for mercy, crying that he might be washed and cleansed.
- **[3] For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me.** Man, it has been on my conscience. I could not escape it! I acknowledge my transgressions. Let the wicked forsake his ways! The unrighteous, his thoughts, and let him return to the LORD. For he will abundantly pardon. David is acknowledging, confessing.
- **Then he said, [4] Against thee, and thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight:** What we need to realize is that all sin is against God! It may affect other people, but the sin is against God because it is God's command that I am violating. So every sin is against God, and God sees, God knows! There is no secret sin.
- **[5] Behold I was shapen in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.** I confessed to my nature of sin. My fallen nature.
- **[6-8] But behold, you desire truth in the inward parts: and in the inward, in the hidden part you shall make me to know wisdom.** Now [7] purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. [8] Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which you have broken may rejoice. Remember he talked about his bones being weary within him, and like an old man.
- **[9-10] Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquity. [10] Create in me a clean heart, O LORD; and renew a right spirit within me.** Give me a clean heart God, let me start over again.
- **[11-12] Cast me not away from thy presence, take not your holy spirit from me. [12] And restore to me the joy of thy salvation;** That is the thing that David had lost. The joy of walking with the LORD. The joy of fellowship with God, it was gone, and that is always the consequence of sin; that of broken fellowship with God, and the joy of that fellowship.
- **David is saying, [12] Restore to me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with your free spirit.** [13] Then I will teach transgressors your ways; and sinners shall be converted to you. [14] Deliver me from the bloodguiltiness, O God, for thou art the God of my salvation: and my tongue shall sing aloud of your righteousness. [15] O LORD, open your lips, or open my lips; and my mouth shall show forth thy praise.
- **How much of the "joy of thy salvation," is reflected in my life? Is it much more obvious than my murmuring and complaining? Is my tongue constantly singing aloud of Your righteousness? Showing forth Thy praise?**
- **[16-19] For you do not desire the sacrifice; else I would give it: you do not delight in burnt offerings.** But [17] the sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: and a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. [18] Do good in your good pleasure unto Zion: build up the walls of Jerusalem. And [19] then you shall be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, the burnt offering the whole burnt offerings: they shall offer the bullocks upon thine altar."
- **So David's prayer unto the LORD, at this time** when he is facing the awareness of his guilt. David prayed unto the LORD.

2Sa 12:13 So David said to Nathan, ***"I have sinned against the LORD."*** And Nathan said to David, ***"The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die."***

- **Forgiveness is as close as confession.** As soon as you confess your sins, there is forgiveness. "If we confess our sin," (1Jn 1:9) *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.* God cannot forgive and cleanse, apart from confession. That would be unrighteous. But God will cleanse and pardon, the moment there is that confession of guilt! "God, I have sinned."

NOW, IN PSALM THIRTY-TWO (KJV). *The joy of forgiveness. Psa 32:1-5, 8-9 A Psalm of David, Maschil.*

[1] Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. [2] Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile. [3] When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long.

- **When he was trying to hide this thing**, when he was trying to cover this thing. When he thought that no one knew, he had gotten by with it, as far as man was concerned, there was just this inner turmoil that would not let him rest.

[4] For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me: my moisture is turned into the drought of summer. Selah.

- **The heavy hand of God** was upon him.
- **Man, I became so spiritually dry.** I lost my fellowship with God."

[5] I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgave the iniquity of my sin. Selah.

- **That is when he said**, "I have sinned."
- **I have sinned.** "*You are forgiven; you will not die.*" Just that quickly!

[8-9] I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye. [9] Be ye not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding: whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee.

- **What the LORD is saying is**, "Look, I want to guide your life, but I want to guide you the easy way. I just want to guide you with my eye." Keep your eyes on the LORD, and He will direct you.
- **You are forgiven; you will not die.** "Just that quickly!" "*Thou art my hiding place, you will preserve me from trouble, you will surround me with songs of deliverance.*"
- **Now, notice God then responded to David. This is God's response to David's declaration** of the joy, the blessing of the sins forgiven! God said, "I will instruct you and teach you in the way which you shall go, and I will guide you with my eye (closeness, to know well). *But do not be stubborn, like a horse or a mule, who have no understanding, who must have a bit and a bridle in their mouth, lest they trample on you.*" What the LORD is saying is, "Look, I want to guide your life, but I want to guide you the easy way. I just want to guide you with my eye." Keep your eyes on the LORD, and He will direct you.
- **With David, his stubbornness led to the painful processes.** God dealt with him, but it was painful. "David, *the sword shall never depart from your house!* You are going to experience the pain of the sword in your own house. You shamed your neighbor's wife; you are going to be shamed in the sight of all the people. The child that is born, David, is going to die. You are going to feel the pain; I have got to put the bit, and the bridle in your mouth. Do not be that way. Do not be stubborn."
- **Now God loves you, and He loves you so much that if it is necessary to keep you** on the right path. He will use painful processes. He will take someone very close and dear to you. He is not adverse to that if it means your salvation. God will allow you to go through painful experiences to guide you, but God says, "I don't want to do that!"
- **So "David said, I have sinned against the LORD**, Nathan said to David, *The LORD also has put away your sin,*" Oh glory, glory, wow! Forgiven! The LORD has put away your sin, and gives grace, "*You will not die.*" Though he had pronounced death upon himself. "*That man shall surely be put to death.*" "David, you are the man." "God is more gracious than you David, you won't die."

2Sa 12:14 However, because by this deed you have given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also who is born to you shall surely die."

- **Now the enemies of God were blaspheming.** "Yes, well I look at David. He is supposed to be a man of God, but look what he has done. Why would God allow him to get by with it? You can sin and get by with it." And God says, "It was *because by this deed you have given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme...the child...shall surely die!* God will have to be just in this thing. People will have to see that you just cannot sin, and get by with it. There is a price.
- **It has been said that when a man of God sins, they are like an eagle that has its wings clipped.** They may fly again, but never as high, never as far. David has many failings. They come into view relative to his transgression. What he will do for us is to becomes a much greater student of the grace of God, the forgiveness of God, and the love of God.
- **The Psalms that are born out of his brokenness have ministered to all of us!** We have come to love them deeply! Remember, we are looking at a man here. David is a great human, forgiven now, but reaping the consequence of his sowing. We are going to see him go through these difficulties. Yet, he is right with God vertically. He has repented. God has received it! There is forgiveness; but on the horizontal, there are always consequences that are never removed.

DAVID'S CHILD DIES

2Sa 12:15-16 Then Nathan departed to his house. And the LORD struck the child that Uriah's wife bore to David, and it became ill. [16] David therefore pleaded with God for the child, and David fasted and went in and lay all night on the ground.

- **Just right there, his face in the ground.** David is just pleading with the LORD. I have sinned; I have done this. For me God, is there any way that the child could be spared? The child was precious to him.

2Sa 12:17 So the elders of his house arose and went to him, to raise him up from the ground. But he would not, nor did he eat food with them.

- **Just lying there on his face, before God, praying, fasting.**
- **Sometimes we get in those places where there is no human consolation that matters.** There are times when the only way God can get done the work He wants to get done in our lives and our hearts is if He removes every human counselor. David is in that place, and those who loved him, those who would gather around him here to get him back on his feet, he will have none of it. He is aware of God's grace. He has been allowed to live.

2Sa 12:18 Then on the seventh day it came to pass that the child died. And the servants of David were afraid to tell him that the child was dead. For they said, "Indeed, while the child was alive, we spoke to him, and he would not heed our voice. How can we tell him that the child is dead? He may do some harm!"

- **What is going to happen?** It may send him over the edge.

2Sa 12:19-20 When David saw that his servants were whispering, David perceived that the child was dead. Therefore David said to his servants, "Is the child dead?" And they said, "He is dead." [20] So David arose from the ground, washed and anointed himself, and changed his clothes; and he went into the house of the LORD and worshiped. Then he went to his own house; and when he requested, they set food before him, and he ate.

- **An interesting response of David, now that the child is dead.** He gets up, washes himself, anoints himself, goes into the house of God, and he worships the LORD. He acknowledges that God is righteous, and God is just. Acknowledging the justice of God. Such an important example for us!

2Sa 12:21 Then his servants said to him, "What is this that you have done? You fasted and wept for the child while he was alive, but when the child died, you arose and ate food."

- **I do not understand you man!**

2Sa 12:22 And he said, "While the child was alive, I fasted and wept; for I said, 'Who can tell whether the LORD will be gracious to me, that the child may live?'"

- **"Do you not know God might be gracious? God might change; the child might live. Who can tell?"**

2Sa 12:23 But now he is dead; why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me."

- **David had a consciousness of life after death.** "As long as the child was alive, I fasted. Maybe God will change, who can tell. Maybe God would be gracious and spare the child. Now that its dead, why

should I fast? There is no way that I can bring the child back. ***I shall go to be where the child is***, but it cannot return to me.”

- **Our children who die are with the LORD in heaven!** We shall go to be where they are, they cannot return to us. The awareness of the resurrection. Life after death!
- **This is an important verse to remember!** Will I remember it?

SOLOMON'S BIRTH

2Sa 12:24 Then David comforted Bathsheba his wife, and went in to her and lay with her. So she bore a son, and he called his name Solomon (peaceable). *Now the LORD loved him,*

- **Now that's grace!** Bathsheba, the same wife. Punishment was meted out upon the first born, but God gives to them now, another child. There will be three more sons born to Bathsheba. God is gracious. David calls Solomon “peaceable,” and the *LORD* loved him.

2Sa 12:25 and He sent word by the hand of Nathan the prophet: So he called his name Jedidiah, because of the LORD.

- **Oh the grace of God is something that is beyond my capacity to really grasp.** How gracious is God. In the forgiveness, in the cleansing, in the pardon. The word “justification,” means, “just as though you’ve never done it.” God does not go on holding it against you forever. You pick up the pieces, you say, “I’ve sinned God, I’m sorry,” and God says, “Okay let’s go from here now.” And he starts a new life! It is a new walk. The old things have passed away. Everything becomes new!

RABBAH IS CAPTURED

2Sa 12:26 Now Joab fought against Rabbah of the people of Ammon, and took the royal city.

- **Joab saw the city is ready to fall.** The people are ready to give up.

2Sa 12:27 And Joab sent messengers to David, and said, "I have fought against Rabbah, and I have taken the city's water supply.

- **Rabbah was on the river of Jabbok**, and it was thus called, the city of waters, because of the river Jabbok, upon which the city was built.

2Sa 12:28 Now therefore, gather the rest of the people together and encamp against the city and take it, lest I take the city and it be called after my name."

- **Okay David, Rabbah is ready to fall.** Just get the men and come on out, so that you can take the city, you become the hero in the thing.

2Sa 12:29-30 So David gathered all the people together and went to Rabbah, fought against it, and took it. [30] Then he took their king's crown from his head. Its weight was a talent of gold, with precious stones. And it was set on David's head. Also he brought out the spoil of the city in great abundance.

- **A talent of gold** (about 75 pounds) at the present price of gold of \$4,000 per ounce, the crown would be worth almost five million dollars!

2Sa 12:31 And he brought out the people who were in it, and put them to work with saws and iron picks and iron axes, and made them cross over to the brick works. So he did to all the cities of the people of Ammon. Then David and all the people returned to Jerusalem.

- **Put them to work with saws and iron picks and iron axes.** (1Ch 20:3)
- **Made them cross over to the brick works.** This phrase, not included in the Chronicles account, is difficult to translate. Scholars differ widely as to what it may mean.
- **God offers forgiveness, pardon, cleansing, a new life, to all who will confess their sins and seek His forgiveness.** Sin alienates you from God, and some of you may have been alienated from the life of God, because of your sins. You know exactly what David was talking about when he said, “My bones wax old, through my groaning all day long.”
- **There has been just that inner turmoil, day and night**, God’s hand has been heavy upon you. You have not been able to sleep. Just a sense of guilt. It is just hounding you! You have been trying to hide it; you have been trying to cover it. You are only getting deeper, and deeper all the time. It is time to confess! It is the time to come to the Lord and say, “God, I’ve sinned,” and hear those glorious words, “Your sins have been forgiven! You shall not die!” (Psa 32:2) Blessed (Oh how happy) is the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity. And in whose spirit there is no deceit.
- **May I always be quick to confess my sin in the way You see them? Create in me a clean heart, Oh God!**

SUMMARY

- **Is it really clear in my mind that quick and early confession is so vitally important? That however difficult it is to come clean, there is something that is yet harder than making things right, and that is leaving things wrong! Will I now determine to do that whenever needed in the future?** (2Sa 11:5)
- **“That man shall surely die!” How guilty am I in always seeing how terrible my sin looks on others; that my sin is just a little one, and theirs is so huge?** (2Sa 12:5)
- **How much of a forgiving spirit to I have? Do I really demonstrate forgiveness? Can it be said of me, “he had no pity?”** (2Sa 12:6)
- **LORD help me to quickly confess every sin. May I never hear those words, “You are the man!”** (2Sa 12:7)
- **How satisfied am I with all that He has given me?** (2Sa 12:8)
- **Do I think of “despising the word of my Lord” whenever I am disobedient to His word?** (2Sa 12:9)
- **How much is the “joy of thy salvation” reflected in my life? Is it much more obvious than my murmuring and complaining? Is my tongue constantly singing aloud of Your righteousness? Showing forth Thy praise?** (2Sa 12:12)

(Psa 51:10-11) Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me. [11] Do not cast me away from Your presence, And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART Maranatha (2:40/2:43)

*Create in me a clean heart, Oh God and renew a right Spirit within me
Create in me a clean heart, Oh God and renew a right Spirit within me
Cast me not away from Thy presence Oh Lord and take not thy Holy Spirit from me
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation And renew a right Spirit within me (2x)
And renew a right Spirit within me*

CLOSING PRAYER

NEXT WEEK: Study 2 Samuel, Chapters 13-14!