

II Samuel 10:1-11:27

Lesson #12, David's Tragic Sin, Pt 2

“There is an aspect of scripture that is most unpleasant for Christians to read and contemplate. When God by His prophets has recorded the biographies of great men and women of faith, He has ordained that in most cases their most shameful sins be catalogued. It's painful to meditate on these accounts. We would rather not know the details of their moral derelictions.” . . . “Also at work within our hearts is the longing to have human heroes to admire and follow. Although the history of the church, as recorded by man alone, repeatedly turns to the adulation and veneration of certain men and women, the scripture is ruthlessly iconoclastic”.¹

iconoclastic, 1: destroys religious images or opposes their veneration, 2: attacks settled beliefs or institutions. Webster's 11th Collegiate Dictionary

11:2 Now when evening came David arose from his bed and walked around on the roof of the king's house, and from the roof he saw a woman bathing; and the woman was very beautiful in appearance. 3 So David sent and inquired about the woman. And one said, "Is this not Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?" 4 David sent messengers and took her, and when she came to him, he lay with her; and when she had purified herself from her uncleanness, she returned to her house. 5 The woman conceived; and she sent and told David, and said, "I am pregnant."

[1.] v:2, Was it the woman's fault that she was very beautiful in appearance ?

[2.] v:3, Knowing David as you do, did he really care whose wife she was?

[3.] When a male looks at another female does he consider to whom she might belong?

I am pregnant

The next verses will reveal David's elaborate "cover up". For the sake of discussion, what was his motive or motives? We know that David had an extensive collection of wives & concubines that were kept for him alone. So why want another? Did he have a problem taking another man's wife? Remembering Paltiel we know that he had already "been there-done that". There is one thing! In II Sam 7:12, God promised that a kingdom would be established from David's seed! David knew that Bathsheba's child was from him but, would Israel believe it. Was it better to cover up the whole mess and try again later? You be the judge!

[4.] v:4, What might have happened to Bathsheba had she refused David's summons and desires?

6 Then David sent to Joab, saying, "Send me Uriah the Hittite." So Joab sent Uriah to David. 7 When Uriah came to him, David asked concerning the welfare of Joab and the people and the state of the war.

[5.] v:6-7, So where was Uriah and Joab and to what war is it referring?

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8 Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house, and wash your feet." And Uriah went out of the king's house, and a present from the king was sent out after 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. 10 Now when they told David, saying, "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?" 11 Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah are staying in temporary shelters, 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? By your life and the life of your soul, I will not do this thing."

12 Then David said to Uriah, "Stay here today also, and tomorrow I will let you go." So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day and the next. 13 Now David called him, and he ate and drank before him, and he made him drunk; and in the evening he went out to lie on his bed with his lord's servants, but he did not go down to his house.

14 Now in the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it by the hand of Uriah. 15 He had written in the letter, saying, "Place Uriah in the front line of the fiercest battle and withdraw from him, so that he may be struck down and die."

[6.] v:8, wash your feet, a present from the king. Why the feet thing & why the present?

[7.] Look up the word, **premeditated**, and write down the definition.

[8.] v:11, In what way was the task of a committed soldier clearly defined in Uriah's life?

[9.] What is the meaning of II Timothy 2:1-4?

[10.] v:11, List Uriah's reasons for not going home.

[11.] v:14, sent it by the hand of Uriah. Uriah carried his own "death _____"?

[12.] v:15, What order did the message contain?

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16 So it was as Joab kept watch on the city, that he put Uriah at the place where he knew there were valiant men. 17 The men of the city went out and fought against Joab, and some of the people among David's servants fell; and Uriah the Hittite also died.

18 Then Joab sent and reported to David all the events of the war. 19 He charged the messenger, saying, "When you have finished telling all the events of the war to the king, 20 and if it happens that the king's wrath rises and he says to you, 'Why did you go so near to the city to fight? Did you not know that they would shoot from the wall? 21' Who struck down Abimelech the son of Jerubbesheth? Did not a woman throw 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.'"

22 So the messenger departed and came and reported to David all that Joab had sent him to tell. 23 The messenger said to David, "The men prevailed against us and came out against us in the field, but we pressed them as far as the entrance of the gate. 24 "Moreover, the archers shot at your servants from the wall; so some of the king's servants are dead, and your servant Uriah the Hittite is also dead." 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; make your battle against the city stronger and overthrow it'; and so encourage him."

[14.] Why would it have been important for David to consult the Lord on this matter?

[15.] v:16-17, Write down why Uriah was a either a "fool" or on the other hand some one you would want on your side.

[16.] v:18-20, What do these instructions Joab gave the messenger tell us about what Joab knew about David?

[17.] v:22-24, Write down what the messenger told David.

[18.] v:25, Who really ordered Uriah's death?

[19.] v:25, How does it seem David is trying to put Uriah's death on Joab?

[20.] v:25, the sword devours one as well as another; Is this David's encouragement or hypocrisy?

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26 Now when the wife of Uriah heard that Uriah her husband was dead, she mourned for her husband.

27 When the time of mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house and she became his wife; then she bore him a son.

But the thing that David had done was evil in the sight of the Lord.

[21.] v:26, she mourned for her husband. Do you think Bathsheba ever found out what really happened to her husband?

[22.] v:26, What thoughts probably plagued her for the rest of her life?

[23.] If we, as a Christian leaders, fall into adultery, is it ever going to go away?

[24.] v:27a, Is this a "happily ever after" statement?

[25.] v:27b, Why do we cringe at this phrase and know for sure that, "it aint over til it's over"?

I Cor 6:9-11, Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, 10 nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 **Such were some of you ; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.**

Chantry, Walter J, David *man of prayer man of war*; 1 page 191