

The United Kingdom (10)

David – the Imperfect Man of God

2 Samuel 9-12
1 Chronicles 19

The United Kingdom

- We are continuing the 9th of 17 time periods of Bible history – the United Kingdom. This was a period where Israel is governed by a king.
- Currently we are studying the life of David as king.
- In our last lesson we noted how his throne was established forever – ultimately fulfilled in Christ.
- Today, we want to notice a dark event in his life – his sin with Bathsheba & its consequences.

Concerning our text

- **2 Samuel 9-12**
- **9:1-13** – David shows kindness to Mephibosheth. Recall that David made a covenant with Jonathan (**1 Samuel 20:12-17**)
He consults with Ziba, a servant of king Saul who tells him about Mephibosheth, Jonathan's son. He was unable to walk because of injury at age 5.
- David calls for him – gives him all of Saul's properties and instructs Ziba and his family to manage the property. He also invites Mephibosheth to eat at his table and David takes care of him.
- Mephibosheth also has a son – Micha, which implies this is several years later.

- **2 Samuel 9-12**
- **10:1-19** – David subdues the Ammonites and Syrians (**1 Chronicles 19**)
David hears of the death of the king of Ammon (Descendants of Lot – **Gen. 19:38**).
To show kindness he sends comfort to Hanun his son by servants. But Hanun's advisors interpret the act of an attempt to spy.
Hanun humiliates David's servants and sends them home.
Realizing they had insulted David and Israel, they hire the Syrians (Aram) to help defend them.

- **2 Samuel 9-12**
- **10:1-19** – David subdues the Ammonites and Syrians (**1 Chronicles 19**)
They confront Joab and Abishai his brother thinking they will win, but they are defeated and the Syrians flee. NOTE **vs. 12**
- The Syrians gather east of the Jordan – David's army crosses over and soundly defeats them killing more than 40,000 & 700 charioteers. The Syrians surrendered and served Israel. They did not help the Ammonites anymore.

- **2 Samuel 9-12**
- **11** – David and Bathsheba
- In the spring when kings went to war, David stays behind in Jerusalem and sends Joab to destroy Ammon at Rabbah.
- One evening David goes on his roof and sees a woman bathing. He inquires and finds out she is the wife of Uriah the Hittite. NOTE: He was one of David's loyal leaders (**2 Sam. 23:39**)
- He sends for her and she comes. They commit adultery. As a result, she conceives.

- **2 Samuel 9-12**
- **11** – David and Bathsheba
- To cover up the affair, David has Uriah come home to report. He hopes that he will go to his wife, but Uriah, BECAUSE OF LOYALTY, refuses to go home.
- Days later, David sends a letter to Joab by Uriah ordering his death at the hands of their enemies. It works and several other men die (needlessly)

- **2 Samuel 9-12**
- **11** – David and Bathsheba
- Joab sends a messenger to David to report the defeat and instructs him that if David becomes upset to tell him Uriah is also dead.
- The messenger reports to David including details about Uriah. David dismisses it as what happens in war and returns a message for Joab to finish the battle and defeat the city.

- **2 Samuel 9-12**
- **11** – David and Bathsheba
- After Bathsheba mourns the death of her husband (she is NOT innocent in this), David takes her as wife.
- “But this thing displeased the LORD” (**11:27**)

- **2 Samuel 9-12**
- **12** – Nathan is sent to David
- The LORD sends Nathan to confront David. He tells the story of 2 men – 1 rich and 1 poor.
- David is angered and declares the rich man should be put to death and restore what he took 4-fold (**cf. Exodus 22:1**).
- David declared, “You are the man” and exposed his sins against Uriah and others.

- **2 Samuel 9-12**
- **12** – Nathan is sent to David
- **12:10ff** – Punishment is announced
 - The sword would not depart from his house
 - Adversity would arise from within his house
 - His wives would be violated in public
 - It would be declared openly though what David die (so he thought) was in secret.

- **2 Samuel 9-12**
- **12** – Nathan is sent to David
- **12:13** – David says, “I have sinned”. He is READY to accept his fate!
(**Cf. Leviticus 20:10, Exodus 20:14**)
- But Nathan says he would not die and the LORD had put away his sin.
- However, the child was going to die.

- **2 Samuel 9-12**
- **12** – Nathan is sent to David
- **12:15ff** – The child becomes ill. While dying, David pleads with God and prays all night long. He refuses to eat.
- After 7 days the child dies and when David observes his servants talking, he verifies it.
- He then gets up, washes himself and worships God. He then goes home and eats.
- Note **vs. 21-23** when they ask why David acted like this. It shows his character.

Concerning our text

- **2 Samuel 9-12**
- **12:24-25** – Solomon (peaceful) is born. Nathan is told his name was to be Jedidiah (Beloved of YHWH).
- **12:26-31, 1 Chronicles 20:1-3** – Joab fought against Rabbah (Ammon) and took the city. He calls for David to come finish the attack so that David could be given credit. He wears the king's crown (declaring himself king there) which weighed a talent of God & precious stones. The people of the city became servants. David and Joab subdue the Ammonites.

Lessons to consider

- Concerning David's sin with Bathsheba
- There are several **psalms** that are related to David's repentance. With these we can see David's heart and WHY YHWH would forgive him.
- **Psalms 51** – the most prominent of these psalms. David pleads for mercy. He had sinned against God. God demands a broken and contrite heart.
- **Psalms 6** – Do not rebuke me in Your anger. His soul was greatly troubled and he groaned all night.
- **Psalms 38** – Pleading for mercy. My iniquities are too heavy for me. He was consumed by his sins (and guilt)
- **Psalms 32** – Blessed is the man whose sin is forgiven. He could not remain silent. When he confessed to the LORD he was forgiven. Note: **Romans 4:7-8**

Lessons to consider

- Textual note:
- Everything associated with David & Bathsheba is only recorded in 2 Samuel.
1 Chronicles does not address this. While reason is not given – this illustrates that some histories were “sanitized” to leave out negative events that tainted a nation, city or king.
- - Some Bible critics argue that because a specific event, place or person is not recorded in secular historical records they did not exist. But silence does NOT prove that!

- Remembering your promises
- David remembered his promise to Jonathan and thus showed kindness to Mephibosheth.
- When we make promises, we ought to keep them – **Matthew 5:37, Psalm 15:5, etc.**
- Showing kindness
This was the character of David. We ought to be kind – **1 Corinthians 13:4** – *love is kind.*

- Humility demonstrated again.
- David showed humility in the way he treated Mephibosheth (remember how Saul treated him).
- Mephibosheth showed humility before David.
- **James 4:10**
- Be careful where you get your advice!
Hanun listened to his advisors and acted foolishly. **Cf. 1 Corinthians 6:5**

- Where is your trust in battle?
- Joab, to his credit, trusts in YHWH.
 - The Ammonites trusted in other armies.
- In our spiritual battles who will we turn to?
Ephesians 6:10, Romans 8:37-39
- The danger of idleness
David was at home when kings went to war.
Idleness can lead to sinful actions
Cf. 2 Thessalonians 3:10-12

- The power of temptation
- David was tempted and gave in. Never underestimate what Satan will use to lure you into sin – **James 1:14-16, 2 Timothy 2:22**
- Sin often leads to more sin
Look where David's lust led him.
"Sin will take you further than you wanted to go; Keep you longer than you wanted to stay; and cost you more than you wanted to pay."

- You cannot hide from God
- David was confronted by Nathan & YHWH.
When we sin, it is FIRST against God. He knows.
Psalm 139:7-12
- The weight of sin and its results
Sin can be a heavy burden. It will torment you until you adequately and fully deal with it. Often your dealings must be not only with the sin (which is often a symptom) but the root leading to that sin.
What is in your heart?
Repentance must be real!

Lessons to consider

- When you sin, own it!
- David said “I have sinned.” So did Saul (**1 Samuel 15:24**). What was the difference? David did not make excuses. Saul’s behavior demonstrated he was not genuinely penitent.
- Sin has serious consequences.
Even if God forgives you (and He can), there are still consequences you have to deal with. In our next lesson we will see David’s consequences unfold

Lessons to consider

- Appreciate the power of prayer
- David did pray for forgiveness.
He also prayed for his dying son. While not answered as he wanted, he understood the power of prayer. **1 John 5:14-15**
- NO matter the sin, God can and will forgive!
There is great comfort in this!

Concluding thoughts

- Yes, we see sin in David's life. It was very serious, but God's grace IS greater when your heart is right – **cf. Romans 5:20-21**
- David's failings did not change that he was "a man after God's own heart" (**Acts 13:22, 1 Samuel 13:14**). David's overall life and character demonstrate that.

Concluding thoughts

- We ALL sin from time to time. But where is your heart?
- David's failure was not a totally hopeless ending. There were consequences, but there was also forgiveness in his genuine repentance.
- That applies to us too. If you have sin in your life, go to God and take care of it!
- Do not let that sin define who you are!

How does God see you today?

