2Thess #130

The Spiritual Maturity of Uriah

Be prepared to partake of the LORD’s Supper at the end of this message.

Open back up in 2Samuel chapter 11.

We looked at Abraham and Sarah last lesson and how they became apathetic and frustrated with the plan of God and the timing of GOD last lesson.

So much so, they brought forth the Arab and Israeli conflict we see playing out throughout history, even today in the middle east.

Now we began to note the fall from grace from King David, who had hit a height of maturity and blessings. Then became apathetic and allowed lust patterns to run his life.

We looked at the rape of Bathsheba and now let us pick-up in the cover-up stage.

/[2Sa 11:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2sa/11/6/s_278006) Then **David sent *word* to Joab**: “**Send me Uriah the Hittite**.” So Joab sent Uriah to David.

Because of apathy which ignited lust patterns, David has now raped a woman. Involved his trusted inner circle. Now he will betray one of his closest friends even further then what he did to Bathsheba.\

Integrity and character always suffer when sin begins to gain momentum.

Sin brings different forms of death; it always brings darkness and death.

In a case, like what we see with King David, who gave way to apathy which in turn caused him to peel away from God and fall from Spiritual Maturity.

His authority and integrity were now in a death spiral.

We noted last lesson, how he lusted after Bathsheba and forcefully had her brought into his bedroom.

David had to cover up his sins and crime.

[2Sa 11:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2sa/11/7/s_278007) When Uriah came to him, David asked about Joab’s well-being and that of the people, and the condition of the war.

Now begins the cover-up, which always involves lies and deception. It is usually the cover-up that causes the final fall.

[2Sa 11:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2sa/11/8/s_278008) Then David said to Uriah, “Go down to your house, and wash your feet.” So Uriah left the king’s house, and a gift from the king was sent after him.

King David had hoped Uriah was tired and weak enough to take the bait.

/[2Sa 11:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2sa/11/9/s_278009) 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.

True leadership and integrity are not a show for public display, it is a lifestyle of walking in Bible Doctrine.\

Uriah was a military leader, a trusted warrior and friend. Part of David’s original mighty men, who helped David in most of his victories.

Uriah was a Hittite by bloodline and a Believer by choice. Showing us GOD accepts anyone with the proper faith.

Most of David’s 37, were given higher rank then average foot soldiers on the battlefield. They had proven to not only be loyal, but brave and serious Believers who walked the walk of integrity.

The majority of these men were there when David was still considered a random outlaw, struggling to survive against enemies all around him, including King Saul.

They are mentioned in the last words of David as seen in 2Samuel 23.

[2Sa 11:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2sa/11/10/s_278010) Now when they informed 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?”

/[2Sa 11:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2sa/11/11/s_278011) And 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.** Should I then go to my house to eat and drink and to sleep with my wife? By your life and the life of your soul, **I will not do this thing**.”

Notice the priority and respect for the chain of command, Uriah displays. This is the kind of solider you want in the fox hole with you – a true ‘*band of brothers’* attitude.\

Folks, you can not put a price tag on true character and integrity, especially within your closest circle of family and friends.

/Many times, as part of self-induced misery and God knocking to get our attention. HE places painful lessons from people and circumstances in front of us, that shows us true humility and truth in action. Nothing is more humbling, then having a person operating in integrity and character, after you know you have mistreated them. Uriah is a shining example of a Bel with immense integrity, and operational decisions that uphold the doctrine of authority and leadership.\

All the exact opposite of how David had been handling his life at this point.

[2Sa 11:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2sa/11/12/s_278012) Then David said to Uriah, “Stay here today also, and tomorrow I will let you go *back.*” So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day and the day after.

/[2Sa 11:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2sa/11/13/s_278013) Now David summoned Uriah, and **he ate and drank in his presence, and he made Uriah drunk**; and in the evening *Uriah* went out to lie on his bed with his lord’s servants, and **he *still* did not go down to his house**.

There is no greater story of a Believer walking in true integrity then Uriah. Just as there may be no greater story for the Mature Bel falling into rapid reversionism then David seen in this chapter.\

This is a true fall from grace!

All started with apathy toward BD.

[2Sa 11:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2sa/11/14/s_278014) So in the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent *it* by the hand of Uriah.

This deception and cover-up, just keep getting more stench attached to it.

It begins to have an open sewer smell to the whole scenario. Because David is scrambling with human viewpoint and cosmic ideology to cover his sins.

Interesting that David is referenced as a man after God’s own heart…isn’t it?

Your life is not judged on one bad stretch or a handful of bad decisions.

 REPEAT

David was a positive Bel much more often than a negative Bel – so David’s whole life needs to be studied, not just one chapter of it.

Giving us the lesson, never judge another person’s failures as the only description on who they are.

Many times, evil people appear heroic or kind, while good, doctrinal people can fail miserably.

God looks at the heart – we are completely incapable, of knowing every finite detail of any circumstance and everyone’s personal walk.

 REPEAT

Until you walk in the shoes of another person - keep your nose to yourself!

/[2Sa 11:15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2sa/11/15/s_278015) He had written in the letter the following: “**Station Uriah on the front line of the fiercest battle** and **pull back from him**, so that **he may be struck and killed.”**

This in our day and age, is known as a precise mafia hit on a loyal soldier.\

King David was given the throne, given blessings and authority by the hand of GOD. David had hit a high-capacity level of maturity. Yet the deceptive, little cancer - called apathy, had set into motion a series of sins that brought rape, death and lies and deception from the hand of King David.

 REPEAT

Because super-grace maturity is completely different from reversionism, Believers under the discipline of reversionism sometimes have the feeling that in reversionism God doesn’t love them anymore.

This is a gross misconception of BD.

/When a Believer is carnal Christ still indwells them, as does the TRINITY. Salvation is one and done, never to be lost. It is only when a Bel goes into reversionism that Christ goes outside the door and starts knocking —

Rev 3:20 ‘Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, **I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me**.\

This scripture is often misconstrued as a salvation scripture and it is not!

The issue here is, does God love the negative Bel…the reversionistic Christian, the apostate? YES!

Unequivocally yes.

/Rev 3:19 ‘Those whom I love, I rebuke and discipline; therefore be zealous and repent.

Deu 8:5 “So you are to know in your heart that the LORD your God was disciplining you just as a man disciplines his son.\

There are a vast number of scriptures to describe self-induced misery and discipline for a Bel who pulls to far away from the plan of GOD.

A good study may be seen in Proverbs chapter 15, for your own personal study.

/Prov 3:12 For whom the LORD loves He disciplines, *Just* as a father *disciplines* the son in whom he delights.

Heb 12:5 and you have forgotten the exhortation which is addressed to you as sons, “MY SON, DO NOT REGARD LIGHTLY THE DISCIPLINE OF THE LORD, NOR FAINT WHEN YOU ARE PUNISHED BY HIM;\

Christians can not base every event good or bad, that unfolds in their life on the happiness of GOD or the wrath of GOD. that is a sign of immaturity.

GOD is not reacting in an emotional wave, every time you fail, or every time you make a positive choice in the new nature.

 REPEAT

Without SM – most Bels are tossed about by every event - good or bad, every circumstance - difficult or pleasant, by assuming GOD is rewarding or punishing them.

God is long suffering and filled with mercy and love so never forget that.

Spiritual Maturity will make clear the discernment you need to understand when GOD is reprimanding you and when GOD is blessing you.

As we prepare for the LORD’s Supper, let us look at what transpired for David in reference to discipline for all that he had done.

You can follow along in the next chapter 2Samuel chapter 12.

The prophet Nathan had come to King David and used a parable to wake him up to the damage he had done.

Nathan was from the tribe of Judah just like TLJC, very interesting.

/2Sam 12:13 Then David said to Nathan, **“I have sinned against the LORD.”** And Nathan said to David, “The LORD also has allowed your sin to pass; you shall not die. 14 “However, since by this deed **you have shown utter disrespect for the LORD**, the **child himself who is born to you shall certainly die**.”\

David recognized the sin is always against the LORD first.

That is why adjusting to the justice of GOD must happen before you can even reconcile with others.

GOD gives greater discipline to those whom have greater authority. Just like those Bels, who have involved others in their sins often see a much more severe set of consequences.

David is now in recovery and heading back into maturity;

/2Sa 12:22 And he said, “While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept; for I said, ‘**Who knows, the LORD may be gracious to me, and the child may live.’** 23 “But now he has died; why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? **I am going to him, but he will not return to me**.”\

King David had a lot of doctrine in the soul – this is a true statement.

All innocent people are brought to heaven – by that I mean any child before the age of accountability. Or anyone with a mental disability who has no concept of the gospel.

There is no such thing as GOD condemning innocence to the Lake of Fire.

 REPEAT

In closing today, we will read from Luke 22 as the last supper is viewed by Dr. Luke.

We are about to partake in the only ritual commanded for the Church Age Believer. To remember our LORD until HE returns.

Jesus Christ, the unique GOD-man came to save this lost and dying world. Anyone claiming that GOD is wicked or cruel, is then claiming Jesus Christ is evil - which is blasphemy of the highest order.

There is no definition…no vision or explanation of true love, more than the person and work of Jesus Christ.

/Jhn 15:13 Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

Rom 5:8 But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.\

Even as Unbels, HE loved us and called us toward HIM! TLJC laid HIMSELF down to pay for the sins of the whole world.

Yet all God asks from us, is a mustard seed of faith in HIS only begotten SON.

/1Jhn 4:19 We love because he first loved us.

Jhn 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.\

We are blessed beyond belief… all of humanity has access to eternity through Jesus Christ – not because we earn or deserve it. But because HE loved us so much in eternity past, that HE sacrificed HIMSELF for everyone.

Let us bring our Lord into remembrance;

Luk 22:15 And He said to them, “I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; 16 for I say to you, I shall not eat it *again* until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.”

Jesus will eat with them "again" next in "the kingdom," specifically at the messianic banquet at the beginning of the kingdom.

Most scholars believe this happens during the 1,000 years of Christ on earth as many traditions and feasts are re-ignited.

Possibly the apostles will be active in leadership roles during the 2nd Advent.

There is also the wedding feast after the Rapture where there will be a massive banquet.

[Luk 22:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/luk/22/17/s_995017) And when He had taken a cup *and* given thanks, He said, “Take this and share it among yourselves;

[Luk 22:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/luk/22/18/s_995018) for I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine from now on until the kingdom of GOD comes.”

There were four traditional drinking calls from the cup at Passover. The first was at the beginning while giving thanks.

The second cup you would partake during the meal of the lamb and unleavened bread.

The third began at the singing of the Psalms (115-118) and then the fourth cup at the end.

Jesus does several things in this Passover that were very unique. Meaning something new was beginning.

[Luk 22:19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/luk/22/19/s_995019) And when He had taken *some* bread *and* given thanks, He broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is My body, which is being given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.”

In remembrance of our Lord Jesus Christ let us eat the bread.

[Luk 22:20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/luk/22/20/s_995020) And in the same way *He took* the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup, which is poured out for you, is the new covenant in My blood.

In remembrance of our Lord Jesus Christ let us drink the cup.

Let us pray….amen.