2Thess #92

The age of accountability

Pick it back up in the OT -2Samuel chapter 12 RF, where we left off.

Just a reminder, the first week of July I will be travelling up north to do a wedding. I will probably take that week off.

I’ll announce that again in the next few weeks, once I have my travel times figured out.

Our current study is in relation to the innocence and how Satan destroys and perverts those who are innocent.

Now in 2Samuel we already realize King David had basically raped his friend’s wife Bathsheba.

Then because the guilt of her pregnancy was so overwhelming for David, he had Uriah her husband killed – almost like a mafia contract, hit job!

Nathan the spiritual counsel and prophet of Israel comes to confront David.

2Sa 12:11 “Thus says the LORD, ‘Behold, I will raise up evil against you from your own household; I will even take your wives before your eyes and give *them* to your companion, and he will lie with your wives in broad daylight.

This is why you hear a pastor like myself or many others remind you – no one gets away with anything.

Davd’s house would be very tumultuous especially with his favorite son, Absalom.

God has His own way of spanking us and redirecting us, or teaching us the hard lessons in life.

Don’t worry who did you wrong RF, stand back and watch God deliver the justice!

[2Sa 12:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2sa/12/12/s_279012) ‘Indeed you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel, and under the sun.’”

[/2Sa 12:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2sa/12/13/s_279013) Then David said to Nathan**, “I have sinned against the LORD.**” And Nathan said to David, “The LORD also has taken away your sin; you shall not die.

David knows the sin is against the Lord first and recognition of that clears the way to get back in the plan of God.\

Go to God first – after that HE will show you who you need to make amends too.

David will still face problems and discipline from his bad decisions. It is a ripple effect many Bels do not like to recognize.

God forgives all sins when they are properly presented in the justice system of GOD – that does not always mean removal of every problem you created in your sin.

In fact, David’s household would be in disarray in a very painful fashion on more than one occasion because of some of his foolish mistakes.

[/2Sa 12:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2sa/12/14/s_279014) “However, because by this deed you have given occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, **the child also that is born to you shall surely die.”\**

Notice God is going to take that child conceived from David and Bathsheba’s sexual encounter.

God is going to bring that baby home to be with HIM.

Unbelievers love to point out how cruel and unjust God is, which is the accusation of Satan himself. So, they cling onto certain scriptures like this… they do not fully understand or want to study the accuracy of the WORD.

Bels need to be enlightened and be able to defend what they believe.

[2Sa 12:15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2sa/12/15/s_279015) So Nathan went to his house. Then the LORD struck the child that Uriah’s widow bore to David, so that he was *very* sick.

The LORD gives and the LORD takes away – blessed be the name of the LORD.

HE created and HE can bring HIS creation to an end or bring that person back home whenever HE decides.

God is sovereign, we are not.

We do not know the future nor do we know all the details to the plan of God.

2Sa 12:16 David therefore inquired of God for the child; and David fasted and went and lay all night on the ground.

[2Sa 12:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2sa/12/17/s_279017) The elders of his household stood beside him in order to raise him up from the ground, but he was unwilling and would not eat food with them.

/David is in mourning which is normal – all parents, friends and family members who deal with death have to at least have sufficient time to mourn and gather themselves… that is normal. Praying for someone to come out of sickness is also normal and needed. What happens to many immature Christians, is bitterness when the result of prayer does not fall in their favor.\

God’s will and HIS plan may not align with your will and your plan.

[2Sa 12:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2sa/12/18/s_279018) Then it happened on the seventh day that the child died. And the servants of David were afraid to tell him that the child was dead, for they said, “Behold, while the child was *still* alive, we spoke to him and he did not listen to our voice. How then can we tell him that the child is dead, since he might do *himself* harm!”

David’s grief was very deep, so profound and deep his servants feared he would commit suicide. Again… this is normal.

We have emotions that respond which is normal – it comes down to what you do with those emotions that matters.

But notice what King David did;

[2Sa 12:19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2sa/12/19/s_279019) But when David saw that his servants were whispering together, David perceived that the child was dead; so David said to his servants, “Is the child dead?” And they said, “He is dead.”

/Remember, I have told you several times in the past…you have to look at the problem or tragedy in the eye and acknowledge it and deal with it before you can begin to recover from it. The emotional wave will wash over you, yet it cannot be allowed to wash you away. Your level of maturity is revealed in how you handle tragedy and adversity.\

[2Sa 12:20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2sa/12/20/s_279020) So David arose from the ground, washed, anointed *himself,* and changed his clothes; and he came into the house of the LORD and worshiped. Then he came to his own house, and when he requested, they set food before him and he ate.

That is how a SM Bel handles death in the family or the death of a friend, a divorce or betrayal, any adversity. They have an appropriate time to grieve and then it becomes time to gather yourself and get back to your life.

[2Sa 12:21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2sa/12/21/s_279021) Then his servants said to him, “What is this thing that you have done? While the child was alive, you fasted and wept; but when the child died, you arose and ate food.”

[/2Sa 12:22](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/2sa/12/22/s_279022) He said, “While the child was *still* alive, I fasted and wept; for I said, ‘**Who knows, the LORD may be gracious to me**, that the child may live.’ 23 “But now **he has died**; why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? **I will go to him, but he will not return to me.”\**

What a great comeback from David, completely doctrinal in his words and actions.

King David knew his BD – he knew the principle that God will not punish the innocent.

David knew that new born baby went home to be with the Lord.

The Bible has some pretty clear statements that God will protect the innocent children and those who are not able to come to the knowledge of TLJC.

God called Jonah to evangelize to the enemies of Israel and Jonah fought back but as is always the case – God won that battle.

Jonah was delivered on the shores of Nineveh through the belly of a sea monster and most of you know that story.

Jonah did not want to evangelize to enemies of Israel.

God’s compassion extends to everyone.

/Jonah 4:11 “Should I not have compassion on Nineveh, the great city in which **there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know *the difference* between their right and left hand, as well as many animals?”\**

Most historians believe there were about 600,000 people living in Nineveh around this historic point.

God is telling Jonah the innocent children and those with no knowledge of HIM as well as even animals will be spared.

This is a clear call that God knew the innocent people in that area needed to be taken into account.

There is an age of accountability on God’s divine time table.

And I realize there are several scriptures in the OT that shows us God completely destroying a whole region…women and children, people of all ages - wiped off the face of the earth.

Just know this, every time God does this, we see a deep seated, generational issue that is plaguing a certain region or group of people. Often times it was a satanic presence embedded in the culture.

Think about Sodom and Gomorrah, there were 5 cities in that region yet the whole area was infiltrated with pagan worship and sexual illicit lifestyles.

 REPEAT

In other words when God did this throughout history it was because the whole generation and next generation to come were poisoned and corrupt.

We see the same from the early Egyptian empire who viewed the Jews as nothing more than cattle and slaves.

How many chances did God give the Pharaoh?

/Exo 11:4 Moses said, “Thus says the LORD, ‘About midnight I am going out into the midst of Egypt, 5 and **all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die**, from the firstborn of the Pharaoh who sits on his throne, even to the firstborn of the slave girl who is behind the millstones; all the firstborn of the cattle as well.\

The nation of Egypt would still go on to be a thorn in the side of Israel later on in history.

For that matter think about the flood in Genesis –

/God gave the people 120 years to remove themselves from the worship of fallen angels and their offspring. God is long-suffering, it is the arrogance of people, who consider themselves above HIS commands and above HIS time table. The word of GOD has always gone forward and come to fruition and what hasn’t happened yet, will in the future.\

Remember a basic authority principle – when you give a command or warning from a position of authority, be prepared to follow through, or that authority will never be respected.

 REPEAT

King Saul was commanded to wipe out enemies as was King David;

/1Sa 15:3 “Now go and **strike Amalek and utterly destroy all that he has**, and do not spare him; but **put to death both man and woman, child and infant**, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.’”\

These were descendants of Esau who rejected everything about the God of Israel. The descendants of Esau were BAAL worshippers.

God knows in eternity past when a nation or a group of people or even a single person, will continue to reject and rebel against HIM.

HE knows the time to put an end to their misery and destruction.

The capital city of the northern tribe of Israel rebelled and began worshipping BAAL and got involved in human sacrifice and satanic worship – God stepped in there and wiped the slate clean.

/Hos 13:16 Samaria will be held guilty,
For **she has rebelled against her God**.
They will fall by the sword,
**Their little ones will be dashed in pieces, And their pregnant women will be ripped open.**\

Remember this about Israel - both the northern and southern regions had prophets and warnings from God continually. They were the client nation unto GOD…HE does not take that lightly.

This is considered the sin unto death for the apostate Believer. Which probably means they were all brought to heaven and missed out on all blessings and rewards in the temporal and eternal state.

A brutal description, but the fact is once God steps back and allows enemies to overthrow a nation or even a person, it is then part of HIS plan for that enemy or event to play out without HIS interference.

In my closing set of statements it revolves around this scripture in Revelation chapter 21;

/Rev 21:4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and **there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain**: for the former things are passed away.\

This comes down to what you think about heaven.

Is heaven a horrible place – a place of confusion, pain and satanic influence like this cosmic system can be?

Because if that is what you believe – that this cosmic system right now is better than eternity, better than heaven…than I suggest to study your Bible longer and harder, because you are completely confused about heaven and eternity.

 REPEAT

Many people – some Bels even, cling to the world and things of this world like it is a form of heaven for them.

/God has established an age accountability of (God consciousness) for all mankind, which differs for each of us. He will not bring condemnation upon an innocent baby, child or even adult with mental disabilities. Therefore, we can assume any child, baby or adult who falls under this umbrella of innocence is brought home to be with the Lord.\

Any innocent person swept up in destruction will pass through the justice system of GOD unscathed, I believe that is very apparent.

/Prov 24:11 Rescue those who are being taken away to death, And those who are staggering to the slaughter, Oh hold *them* back! 12 If you say, “See, we did not know this,” Does He who weighs the hearts not consider *it?* And does He who watches over your soul not know *it?* And will He not repay a person according to his work?\

God know everything before it happens, HE knows the right way to handle all situations.

/If the Bel has a concept of heaven as a myth or that this cosmic system is our heaven they are sadly mistaken. This explains many forms of depression, fear and long-term grief in Bel’s lives. This type of Bel who does not embrace the vast difference between temporal and eternal will always struggle with the finality of death and what on the surface may appear as injustice as well.\

/God knew everything in eternity past. God laid out the plan (Divine Decree) so that every confusing event, fatality, accident or even destruction of nations or lives reaches a goal HE pre-designed. In doing so, HE protects the innocent and achieves HIS purpose all in an uninterrupted and perfect method that mere man may never fully grasp.\

/Ezk 18:23 “Do I take any pleasure in the death of the wicked,” declares the Lord GOD, “rather than that he would turn from his ways and live?

2Pet 3:9 The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not willing for any to perish, but for all to come to repentance.\