

9-17-2025 – Journey with King David – Week 11 – Blessings & Abuse

Intro: David is King; kingdom established in Jerusalem; reigned over all Israel. He “did what was just and right for all his people.” – **2 Sam. 8:15.**

He is successful in all his military conquests. “The Lord made David victorious wherever he went” – **2 Sam. 8:6, 14.**

Background. **1 Samuel 20.** David & Jonathan’s vow:

13 ... May the LORD be with you as he used to be with my father. ¹⁴ And may you treat me with the faithful love of the LORD as long as I live. But if I die, ¹⁵ treat my family with this faithful love, even when the LORD destroys all your enemies from the face of the earth.” ¹⁶ So Jonathan made a solemn pact with David, saying, “May the Lord destroy all your enemies!” ¹⁷ And Jonathan made David reaffirm his vow of friendship again, for Jonathan loved David as he loved himself.

2 Samuel 9 – David asks whether anyone in Saul’s family is still alive.

David Summoned **Ziba**, a former servant of Saul.

- **Mephibosheth** (Jonathan’s son), crippled, in Lo-debar.
 - David sent for him.
 - Gives M all the property that belonged to Saul; eat at King’s table
 - Directed Ziba & family to farm the land for M; produce food.
 - From then on, Mephibosheth ate regularly at David’s table
 - From then on, Ziba’s household were servants to M.
- ⁸ Mephibosheth bowed respectfully and exclaimed, “Who is your servant, that you should show such kindness to a dead dog like me?”
 - **Too many people think the same . . .** don’t deserve kindness.
 - This was unheard of. But **David shows** us the **heart of God**.
 - God knows how to **bless us . . .** it may come out of the blue.
 - **Mephibosheth** was crippled - not his fault; Saul’s dynasty is gone; not his fault. **God is good. Merciful. Restores.**
 - God **shows mercy** when life is unfair. **We’re crippled sinners.**
- **David’s success happens in part so David could be good to others**
 - **David was true to his promise.** Did not forget it. Or Jonathan.

David has a good heart; it’s in right place. But none of us are perfect. Sides.

2 Samuel 11 – David & Bathsheba.

11 In the spring of the year, when kings normally go out to war, David sent Joab and the Israelite army to fight the Ammonites. They destroyed the Ammonite army and laid siege to the city of Rabbah. However, David stayed behind in Jerusalem.

- It's often when we're not doing what we ought to be doing that **temptation arises**.
- For unknown reasons, David stays home... enjoying power/privilege.

² Late one afternoon, after his midday rest, David got out of bed and was walking on the roof of the palace. As he looked out over the city, he noticed a woman of unusual beauty taking a bath. ³ He sent someone to find out who she was, and he was told, "She is Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite." ⁴ Then David sent messengers to get her; and when she came to the palace, he slept with her. She had just completed the purification rites after having her menstrual period. Then she returned home.

- Most of the time, our failures can be suppressed. Hidden.
 - This story is not hidden; **reminder: Nothing is hidden from God**.
 - This story serves as a **warning** to us – none are perfect. . . nobody is above sin/temptation.
- **David was king**. His **commands** are **obeyed**. **He sent folks to get her**.
 - Bathsheba wasn't seducing anyone; minding her business. Lev. 15
 - **David** stayed behind . . . **he** shouldn't have been there. **He** went to the rooftop. **He** had B. brought to him. **He** knew she was married. **He** slept w/her. **This isn't adultery/affair. Rape /Abuse-authority.**
 - He used his power & position to have her brought to him.
 - **Bathsheba** later sends 2-word message: "**I'm pregnant.**"
- David now **compounds** his sin. He's about to make things worse.
 - Ever get upset w/ your child b/c they lied?
 - David plans a cover-up. Not paying hush \$. Different plan.
 - **Plan A**. Bring Uriah back home... he comes to palace, David asks about the war, then says: "Go home & relax".... Sent a gift.
 - **Plan**: Uriah will sleep with this wife. David will be off/hook.

- ⁹ But Uriah didn't go home. He slept that night at the palace entrance with the king's palace guard.
- ¹⁰ When David heard that Uriah had not gone home, he summoned him and asked, "What's the matter? Why didn't you go home last night after being away for so long?"
- ¹¹ Uriah replied, "The Ark and the armies of Israel and Judah are living in tents, and Joab and my master's men are camping in the open fields. How could I go home to wine and dine and sleep with my wife? I swear that I would never do such a thing."
 - Uriah has open integrity... loyal... devoted.
 - David shows secret plotting... devious... selfish.
 - Uriah is the **employee you want**; David is the **boss u don't**.

Plan B. David tells Uriah, stay here today, tomorrow you'll return to the army. David invites Uriah to dinner, "got him drunk." Uriah still didn't go home.

- Uriah slept at palace entrance w/ king's palace guard.
 - **Sin** will **take** u down **dark road**. It deals w/ us if we don't deal w/it.

Plan C. Sends Uriah back to battle w/note - Joab. Front lines/pull back/killed. Uriah was killed along with several other Israelite soldiers.

- Joab sends battle report – David responds: don't be discouraged . . . "Sword devours this one today, that one tomorrow. Fight harder & conquer the city."
 - David's life shows what sin does to us – **it blinds us to truth, destroys the heart.** David's heart has become calloused, cold.
 - David goes from lust – rape – deceit – murder.
- **Desire to bury the truth** & hide sin, leads to a decision to **bury Uriah**.
 - Sin ... guilt ... fear **can't be buried**. Life will spiral. Stays.

3 facts/truth:

- **(1)** There is a **certainty of accountability**. Nothing is hidden from God.
 - "Be sure your sin will find you out." – **Num. 32:23**.

- [Hebrews 4:13](#) – “Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight; everything is uncovered and exposed before the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.”
- Sin in our lives isn’t private; it effects relationship w/ God & others
- (2) The [Enemy knows our weakness](#); will use it against you.
 - David struggled w/ **lust**. We may struggle: Fear. Anger. Greed. Pride.
 - **1 Peter 5:8** – “Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.”
 - Put on the armor of God; be vigilant.
- (3) “People who conceal their sins will not prosper, but if they confess and turn from them, they will receive mercy.” – **Prov. 28:13**
 - When we confess our sins, God is faithful to forgive us. – **1 John 1:9**
 - [Do it early, do it often](#). **Choice**: life w/ guilt & fear or live w/ peace.

Bathsheba mourns for Uriah, and when period of mourning was over, David sends for her - brings her to the palace – she became another wife.

- Bathsheba gives birth to a son.
- **Ch. 11** ends: “**But the Lord was displeased with what David had done.**”
- David likely assumes it’s the end of the matter.
- But in God’s eyes – it’s the beginning of David’s struggle.

God sends Nathan to David. – 2 Samuel **Chapter 12**

Nathan tells David a story of a rich man & poor man.

David is furious. But - “You are that man!”

Consequence – “from this time on, your family will live by the sword”

“This is what the LORD says: Because of what you have done, I will cause your own household to rebel against you. I will give your wives to another man before your very eyes, and he will go to bed with them in public view. ¹² You did it secretly, but I will make this happen to you openly in the sight of all Israel.” – **2 Sam. 12:11-12**

- Our sin has consequences.
 - David set events in motion by his actions.
 - The child would die.
- But when David confessed his sin to Nathan, hear the reply: “But the Lord has forgiven you, and you won’t die for this sin.”

The Bible tells us truth... guidance for our lives if we live out what we know.

- **God is displeased w/ our sin . . . but God doesn’t stop loving us.** He loves us so much that He **forgives us**.
- **God is all knowing... omnipotent.**
 - Knew all David would do, yet he’s given kingdom, palace, dynasty.
- **God is merciful.** The story of David’s sin is given to us – NOT to look down on David, but to **look up & see God’s mercy**.
 - **David** is still God’s beloved. Name means: “beloved one”
 - David – a man after God’s own heart – is not perfect; neither are we. We are good/bad; strong/weak.
 - **Bathsheba is also honored by God.** Another son: Solomon.
 - She is **1 of only 5** women mentioned in the geneology of Jesus:
 - **Matthew 1:6-7** – “Jesse the father of King David. David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah’s wife ...”

Our sin ... our mistakes & failures ... don’t discount us from God’s blessings. Through our sin we are able to experience God’s mercy.

Sept. **24** – David’s failure as a father

Oct. **1** – Absalom’s conspiracy

Oct. **8** – David’s sin & atonement – 2 Sam. 24

Oct. **15** - Final Week of David – New King Solomon.

Oct. 22 - Oct. 29 – Balam the talking donkey