

26. Did Uriah refuse any other pleasures of the king's court? Do you think it was possible that Uriah had heard some palace gossip? Why wasn't Uriah punished for not obeying the king? (Read 2 Samuel 11:13)

Note: Uriah and Bathsheba had never had any children. Evidently it was the fault of Uriah.

27. What terrible scheme did David set in motion next? (Read 2 Samuel 11:14-15)
28. Did this plan work? (Read 2 Samuel 11:16-17)
29. Do you think Joab was suspicious of what David was up to? (Unlike the death of Saul and Abner, David's enemies, David showed no remorse over the death of Uriah, a loyal soldier.) How do you think this affected Joab's relationship with David? (Read 2 Samuel 11:25)
30. What do you think Bathsheba was feeling at this time? (Read 2 Samuel 11:26)
31. How did David further try to cover up his sin with Bathsheba? (Read 2 Samuel 11:27)

Note: The speed of the marriage would look bad in our day, but in David's day, it was not thought unusual for a king to quickly take as his wife the woman whose husband had just recently died. It was looked at as a charitable act of providing her provisions and protection. So David thought he had really taken care of things pretty well except.....

32. What was God's opinion about the whole matter? (Read 2 Samuel 11:27)

Some further biographical study:

33. Whose daughter was Bathsheba? (2 Samuel 11:3)
34. What is another way to spell Bathsheba's father's name? (Read 1 Chronicles 3:5)

Second Baptist Church
Sunday School Lessons
Week 14 out of 18

THE TENDER WARRIOR, THE LIFE OF DAVID

2 Samuel 11

DAVID AND BATHSHEBA

God is a very realistic author. While He praises men and women for their faithfulness to Him, He never ignores, denies or overlooks their sin. Many great men of God sinned, and they had to live with sin's consequences. Yes, David sinned, but his sin was no greater than your sin or mine; ours simply have not been recorded for all to read. This is a good time to remember that God said David was a man after His [God's] own heart. No other person has been given that description. We're not justifying what David did, but just trying to put it in the proper perspective. The Bible tells us that we who are standing should take heed lest we also fall. We need to take heed on a regular basis or we too will fall. David's flesh and our flesh are equally weak, and unless we take heed our flesh will be overcome with the same temptations. With this in mind, let's see what we can learn from this man's tragic failure. Also, you will probably discover some interesting facts about this story that are often overlooked.

1. What great sin did Noah commit? (Read Genesis 9:21)
2. What great sin did Abraham commit? (Read Genesis 12:11-13)
3. Were Noah and Abraham also great men of faith? How do you know? (Hebrews 11:7-8)

I. THE FAILURE. In ancient times, war was limited by weather so there were certain times of the year that war was not possible. This particular war was a continuation of the previous warring season with the Ammonites. (See chapter 10)

4. What great duty did David neglect? Who took over his duty for him? (Read 2 Samuel 11:1)
5. What was God's command to the king about wives? (Read Deuteronomy 17:17)

6. Did David obey that command? (Read 2 Samuel 3:2-5 and 5:13)
7. In your opinion, did having more and more wives satisfy David's fleshly desire or increase it?
8. Can you satisfy a sinful desire by indulging it or by avoiding it?
9. What is better than conquering a city?(Read Proverbs 16:32)
10. When did the actual seed for the sin with Bathsheba begin – that night or years before?
11. When we are out of God's will, can we expect His protection?

II. THE FALL. David is now approximately 50 years old. He has been on the throne for some twenty years. While thinking about David's harem, who in his kingdom would accuse him of disobeying God? He had a humble beginning. He was a giant killer. He had put the choices of men in the right places of leadership to combine with his great leadership for a wonderful twenty-year reign. He had a military force that every foe respected. Israel's territory now reached 60,000 square miles. There was great wealth and plans for a beautiful new temple. Nothing but a success story. So what's a few wives? For one, they begin to turn his heart from the Lord, and two, David is not vulnerable. He is beginning to think more highly of himself than he ought. It is sometimes more difficult to handle success than failure. His fall was gradual, but steady.

12. Instead of being in the battle with his men, where was David? (Read 2 Samuel 11:2)
13. When David went for a walk about his bedchamber, what did he see? Do you think he just glimpsed or did he take a long look? (Read 2 Samuel 11:2)
14. How did the Bible describe the way Bathsheba looked?

15. What did Jesus say about this matter? (Read Matthew 5:28)
 16. What advice does Paul give us about this situation? (Read 2 Timothy 2:22)
 17. What was the next step David took towards sin? (Read 2 Samuel 11:3)
 18. What words of wisdom and warning did David's servant give him? (Read 2 Samuel 11:3)
 19. What happened next? (Read 2 Samuel 11:4)
 20. Is there pleasure in sin? If so, for how long? (Read Hebrews 11:25)
 21. What about Bathsheba's responsibility? Was she forced into committing adultery? Was she a loyal subject of the king? What happened to people who disobeyed the king? Did she ask David to call for her? Does the Bible indict her?
- III. THE FALLOUT. Satan never tells you the whole story when he entices you into sin. He waits until the deed is done and then he shows the reverse side of the coin. How many people had traded one night of pleasure, one moment of indulgence to suffer the consequences for the rest of their lives?**
22. What devastating news did David receive? (Read 2 Samuel 11: 5)
 23. What was David's first plan to cover up his sin? (Read 2 Samuel 11:6-8)
 24. Did it work? Why? (Read 2 Samuel 11:9)
 25. What reason did Uriah give to David for not going home? (Read 2 Samuel 11:10-11)

35. What great status did Bathsheba's father hold in David's army? (Read 2 Samuel 23:8-38)
36. Who was Eliam's (Ammiel's) father? Who was Bathsheba's grandfather? (Read 2 Samuel 23:34)
37. Who was one of David's counselors? (Read 2 Samuel 15:12)

Conclusion: We come to the end of this sad, dark chapter in David's life. Or have we? He is now trapped in a swirl of misery, which he describes in detail in Psalm 32:3-4 and Psalm 51:3-4. He lost sleep, lost his appetite, carried tremendous guilt, and worst of all, felt terribly alone. The cost of sin is always greater than we ever want to bear. No, the story isn't over. David's going to have a visit he'll never forget.

Lesson 14 Lessons on David.

35. What great status did Bathsheba's father hold in David's army? (Read 2 Samuel 23:8-38)
36. Who was Eliam's (Ammiel's) father? Who was Bathsheba's grandfather? (Read 2 Samuel 23:34)
37. Who was one of David's counselors? (Read 2 Samuel 15:12)

Conclusion: We come to the end of this sad, dark chapter in David's life. Or have we? He is now trapped in a swirl of misery, which he describes in detail in Psalm 32:3-4 and Psalm 51:3-4. He lost sleep, lost his appetite, carried tremendous guilt, and worst of all, felt terribly alone. The cost of sin is always greater than we ever want to bear. No, the story isn't over. David's going to have a visit he'll never forget.

Lesson 14 Lessons on David.