
SG021003
For Week – 6/01 – 6/7
The Whole Counsel of God –II Samuel 11-15
(Questions about this week's study?
Email Pastor Jason at Jasonduff@calvaryvista.com)

Introduction

II Samuel is really about the Rise, (II Samuel 1-10), Reduction (II Samuel 11-15) and Restoration of David's throne. (II Samuel 16-24). In our study last time we considered the highlight years of David as King over Israel. God did many wonderful things during those 13 to 15 years of David's kingship covered in II Samuel 5-10, but at the same time trouble was brewing. David kept compromising in the area of adding wives and concubines and it was not that God didn't care. God was giving David time to repent and get right but that event never came, so instead we have the sad sin of chapter 11 and the results of that sin in chapters 12-15 which is the focus of our study tonight.

Overview of the Section – II Samuel 11-15

David – His Sin and Consequences – II Samuel 11-15

David's Sin (II Samuel 11:1-12:13)

David did not "fall" into sin, but like is always the case in our lives, there was a progression that led to David's great fall. The groundwork was laid years before in David's many compromises in adding wives and concubines. This gave David an entitled mentality which when he was not where he was suppose to be, ('at the time when the kings go out to battle" – II Samuel 11:1) led to David seeing, and desiring and then taking Bathsheba for himself. David may have thought that night's mistake would be forgotten, but then Bathsheba ends up pregnant. Instead of openly repenting, David has Uriah, Bathsheba's husband killed and then marries Bathsheba. Things were not covered up though as David hoped, God saw it all, and David would have to deal with the consequences of his sin for the next 10 years.

David's Consequences (II Samuel 12:14-15:37)

#1 – David loses his baby (II Samuel 12:14-31)

The 10 years of consequences begins with the death of the child David and Bathsheba had together. We can think God is being unfair to the baby who had done nothing wrong, but think of the life that child would have had being the result of David's great sin. We do have one amazing truth from this story and that is in verse 23, we have great hope that babies that die young go right into the presence of God. God then gives Bathsheba and David another son, Solomon.

David's Consequences (II Samuel 12:14-15:37)

#2 – David loses his kids (II Samuel 13:1-14:33)

Chapters 13-14 tell the sad story of what happens when because of our own sin we fail to discipline our children when they commit similar sins. David's son Amnon rapes his half-sister Tamar and David does nothing about it. This inaction causes Absalom to kill Amnon and he is then banished to Geshur. After two years David brings Absalom home but continues to ignore him, setting up the events in chapter 15.

David's Consequences (II Samuel 12:14-15:37)

#3 – David loses his Kingdom (II Samuel 15:1-37)

In chapter 15 Absalom plots the takeover of the nation of Israel. Some people he needs to trick by lying about the character of his father, but some need no deceiving, as Ahithophel has been waiting for this moment, since he is the grandfather of Bathsheba. For a time David loses his kingdom and all these problems can be traced back to his great sin.

Overview of I Chronicles – I Chronicles 20

I Chronicles 20 – More details from the battle at Rabbah, (the battle David wasn't at when he sinned with Bathsheba) and other war campaigns of David

Comparison to I Chronicles – I Chronicles 20

It is not so much what Chronicles adds that is interesting to this section as much as what Chronicles skips. There is no mention of David's sin with Bathsheba, nor any of the consequences of David's sin. The purpose for this is to show us the other side of God's heart concerning our sin. II Samuel records all the gory details because God wants us to know sin stinks and will hurt us, but Chronicles shows the other side of God's heart and that is once our sin is repented of, our sin is gone. Not only does Chronicles not cover the sin, but Jesus doesn't make reference to David's sin, Paul doesn't teach on it. Truly our sin has horrible consequences for us in the here and now, but praise God in the view of eternity, our sin is gone!

Going Deeper (think it over or discuss with your family or Home group)

#1 –David's sin was not sudden but had been building over time. Take an honest look into your own heart. What time bombs do you see that need to be dealt with openly and honestly before they destroy something wonderful in your life?

#2 –David loses control of his children because he refuses to discipline them in issues he has struggled with himself. Do you find the same thing true in your own life at times? What does the story of David teach you concerning this?

#3 –II Samuel records all the gory details of sin, I Chronicles doesn't even mention David's sin. What lessons can you learn from II Samuel's handling of sin? What lessons can you learn from I Chronicles?

Comparison Reading for Next Week

Covering Next Wednesday Night – II Samuel 16-19

Parallel Passage in I Chronicles – None

II Samuel 11-15

“David’s Sin and Consequences”

Introduction

- Tonight we are going to continue our study in II Samuel
 - And yet remember at the same time we are looking at I Chronicles as well, these two books side by side
- And the reason we are tackling these books in this way is they basically cover the same time period and material
 - The only difference is the perspective

II Samuel was written by prophets

- **Samuel, Nathan and Gad**
- **Written from the perspective of the trenches**
- **Written near the time of the events**

I and II Chronicles was written by priests

- **Ezra during the time of Nehemiah**
- **Written from the perspective of history**
- **Does not include the major failings**

II Samuel is written by prophets

- Written by those who were there and lived it, written from the trenches so to speak and again from a prophets perspective - so all the gory details are included – David’s sin, Solomon’s sin (I Kings) all the details are there and the prophets want us to see the effects of sin in people’s lives and turn from it ourselves

I and II Chronicles is written by priests

- Written not in the trenches but in a library years later with the perspective of history
 - And with the priests we also have the other side of God’s heart toward our sin
 - Like the prophets God wants us to know sin will cost you and make your life hard
- But like the priests He also wants you to consider that although there are consequences from sin there is no condemnation to those of us who are in a relationship with God, and from the view of history from the view of eternity, your sin will be gone

So same story, different emphasis and different perspectives and as we go through II Samuel chapter by chapter I will point out what details Chronicles adds to the story

- But here in our Wednesday Night Bible study and in your study guide
 - It compares the two books and also gives you the section we are going to cover next week and the corresponding section in I Chronicles
- But we are looking primary at II Samuel so as we do, please remember II Samuel divides into 3 parts

The Rise of David’s Throne – II Samuel 1-10

The Reduction of David’s Throne – II Samuel 11-15

The Restoration of David’s Throne – II Samuel 16-24, I Chronicles 22-29

- Summarize the above content
 - And tonight we have come to the sad portion of the book of II Samuel – the reduction of David’s throne
 - And as we do this will be the outline we will follow tonight for you note takers

David – His Sin and Consequences – II Samuel 11-15

David’s Sin – II Samuel 11:1-12:13

David’s Consequences – II Samuel 12:14 – 15:37

#1 – David loses his baby– II Samuel 12:14-31

#2 – David loses his kids – II Samuel 13:1 – 14:33

#3 – David loses his kingdom – II Samuel 15:1-37

- and we will look at these one at a time tonight

David – His Sin and Consequences – II Samuel 11-15

David's Sin – II Samuel 11:1-12:13

- read chapter 11
 - Now Pastor Rob covered this chapter last weekend and that study was an important reminder of how little compromises lead to big sins

I find chapter 11 very important first of all because it is honest about the sin of David

- One of the things that blesses me about the Word of God is it records the faults of its hero's
 - In Genesis we read that Noah, after all of his faith, still got drunk and made a fool of himself
 - Abraham lied about his wife
- And now we have one of the greatest examples of a leader of God's falling big time

And this blesses me because number one it is a great evidence that this book was not written by man

- I would not want my faults recorded if I was writing the Bible
 - I would focus on Goliath and other great military victories
 - But this is the inspired Word of God

- I love it for that reason and because it encourages me that I am not alone

I don't know about you but I sin – and to see the great men and women of the Bible doing the same there is a little bit of encouragement strangely in that

- you need to pray for me

But I also believe the Bible records these things not just for us to feel better about ourselves or to feel more comfortable with the authenticity of the scripture

- I believe God puts these things in the word so we will learn
 - So that we will learn the lesson of sin without having to fall into its horrible grasp
 - And again that is why I think Sunday was a very important study by Pastor Rob

You see the progression in David's sin

- First there was idleness – in a time when Kings were to go to war, David stayed back in Jerusalem
 - And though rest is key in the Christian life, idleness is different – rest is inactivity when there needs to be inactivity – idleness is inactivity when you have something to do
 - And idleness is always when the enemy begins to creep in

And as Pastor Rob pointed out – David was not a young man at this time - he was in his early 50's

- and it's amazing to consider that of all the stories of men and women giving into sin, 2/3 of them were in the later third of their lives
 - please consider that church – we think sin is something the youth need to get a handle on, and they do
- But this is such an important lesson to those of you in the last third of your life as well
 - And the reason for that is because so often as we age we begin to think – well I don't need to be as serious about being in the Word, or prayer

We think, well I have done that, I have studied that book, I have read the Bible many times through, I have attended prayer meetings and after glows

- let the next generation have their turn

- and its one thing if God leads you that way – but it something totally different when God is saying to your heart – I still have things for you – and you still need to be fervent in your prayers
- again - rest is inactivity when there needs to be inactivity – idleness is inactivity when the Lord is calling you to keep going

There was idleness for David, and then there was imagination

- Because he is idle, he finds himself walking on the roof and then he sees her and his imagination starts to take hold
 - Instead of taking every thought captive as we are told to do in II Cor. 10,

“bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,” – II Corinthians 10:5

- David began to think about and dwell on this woman
 - Temptations will come our way, but temptation isn’t sin – Jesus was tempted, yet without sin
 - sin happens when we allow those temptations to be mulled over in our mind and not done away with right away
- You think about how Satan got to Adam and Eve – first they saw, then they desired and then sin took root
 - It was the same way with Achan back in the book of Joshua – he saw, he desired, sinned
 - David saw this woman and his imagination begins to run wild

Now a word to you ladies on this – as Pastor Rob said on Sunday, the Word in no way comes down on Bathsheba in any way for this sin

- there is certainly speculation on many fronts on what was going on in her heart, but the scripture is silent and so it is best if I am as well
 - however there is a lesson to be learned here

You precious ladies need to understand that men are very visual

- A couple of years ago I took our tax return and bought a high definition TV – and when football came around again my mother-in-law was in town and I said, do you see how good that picture is – she said no - they just look smaller – smaller, I was offended – they look sharp, you can see the sweat – and I switched it back and forth, from Standard def, to Hi-Def, and she said, I can’t tell the difference – well her husband came in, praise the Lord, and said – oh look at that picture – thank you – but it shows guys are visual

And ladies I really believe you need to keep that in mind in how you present yourself

- Now you can argue - well they should look on me as a spiritual sister, God looks on the inward me – so true, but man is not the Lord and what did God tell Samuel in I Samuel

“The LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.” – I Samuel 16:7

- that is just the truth – be careful, be wise – we are commanded in I Corinthians 8 - not to put anything before another brother or sister that would cause them to stumble
 - pray that in if it applies

But for you guys – listen that is not an excuse – as Pastor Rob said the Word does not publicly fault Bathsheba, and she will suffer greatly

- Men we are commanded to take every thought captive
 - That is your part
 - David was letting his imagination run wild
 - And it will cost him

- But first there was another step in his sin

The last step in his walking into sin was investigating

- I will just look into who she is, I will just discover a little bit

- And our sin takes root when we begin to investigate - I wonder if she will flirt back you think about that girl at work – I wonder if there is anything good on after 10 pm tonight – I wonder if the internet has anything of value to offer while I am alone – you know just to check some scores – I wonder how this chocolate chip cookie will taste if I take one bite if you are pastor Rob.– I wonder if I can resist being at the bar but not getting drunk - it is not just sensual issues this applies to
- And you would think once David began to find out who she was he would have backed off
 - This was the wife of one of his mighty men
 - This was the granddaughter of one of his best friends and trusty advisor Ahithophel
 - You would think once David heard that he would have backed off – but there is no end to the depravity of our hearts once we let sin take root
- So much better if caught off early – oh Lord I repent of that thought, that idea, I am not going to dwell on it, plan for it – I am going to put it to death

David did not and he sins

- and then Bathsheba comes up pregnant, David tries to cover it up with plan number one
 - I will bring Uriah home from the battle field and when he comes home of course he is going to go into his wife and then they will think the baby is theirs – how sad it is that David is willing to let another man raise his son to cover his sin
 - Oh but it gets worse
- Because Uriah won't go be with his wife while the other men are on the battlefield
 - David tries cover up number two and gets Uriah drunk and then sends him home and that doesn't work either
 - Uriah while drunk has more integrity in this story than the King of Israel

So David sends Uriah the Hittite with his own death sentence

- and when Joab reads it, he doesn't know what has happened in the capital – he must of thought Uriah had done something worthy of death
 - but if you noticed while we were reading, Joab doesn't go with David's plan, "put him out front and pull back," that would be too obvious
 - so he puts Uriah in the hottest part of fighting and he and others died
- Can you image when Joab found out the real reason Uriah was to be put to death
 - Well as Pastor Rob taught this past weekend – David then marries the widow Bathsheba and he looks like a hero – he thought it was all covered up but what he had done, displeased the Lord
- Let go to chapter 12 read 12:1-13

There is about a year gap between chapter 11 and chapter 12 and David has been stewing, Psalm 32 records his feelings, but he is still has not repented

- you think about the place of entitlement David has himself in – I can have any woman I want, I can kill whoever I want to get what I want – and he is not repenting
 - and the Lord no doubt tried to keep this between Him and David, but because David would not repent – now it becomes open and God tells Nathan the prophet

Nathan comes to David with a story, a case he needed David's help with

- it was normal for a man like Nathan to handle many of the simple cases but if they became too difficult he would bring the situation to David and that is the ploy he is using
 - So Nathan tells David about this poor man who loves his little lamb and a rich man who has flocks but can't be bothered to take a sheep from his own flock, no – He steals and kills and eats this man's only little lamb

David is enraged – and he goes way beyond the law when he tells Nathan to have this man killed

- the law said he would have to restore fourfold, but not death David
 - and yet why is David reacting so harshly

- because our sin always looks so much worse on other people
- if there is something about somebody else that really bothers you, you need to take a hard look within and see, do I struggle with some of the same things they do
 - and that is when it is time to deal with the plank in your own eye, before dealing with the speck in your brothers

Nathan calls David out and David repents

- He truly does and you see it in the area that David never again adds another wife, never adds another concubine – He has seen how sick his sin can get, he is finally seeing it as God does
 - And this is an important thing for everyone of us – to stop seeing our sin through our eyes of excuses and toleration – but we need to see our sin like the Lord does – sick and harmful
 - We need to see it that way before we destroy everything good around us by it

David repents, so important, and also is the truth that God forgives him

- Remember there is no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus Romans chapter 8 tells us – the enemy will try to condemn
 - But God does not condemn you – how do you know
- Because I find it very interesting that Chronicles does even mention this story nor the 10 years of consequences,
 - On top of that Jesus never uses it as an illustration, Paul never teaches on it, why?– because once we repent, our sin is gone
 - That is a wonderful truth
- However please do not misunderstand grace, that your sin is gone to mean that there are not consequences – for David there will be 10 years of consequences, starting with verse 14 of chapter 12

David – His Sin and Consequences – II Samuel 11-15

David's Sin – II Samuel 11:1-12:13

David's Consequences – II Samuel 12:14 – 15:37

#1 – David loses his baby– II Samuel 12:14-31

- [Read 12:14-25](#)

David gets the word the child is going to die, and I love what David does, he begins to fast and pray for the child

- Why this encourages me is because of the reasoning David gives in verse 22, “who can tell if the Lord would have been gracious”
 - David realizes that even in consequences to sin, God can so often be gracious
 - I think of the story of Jonah, once Jonah finally obeys he goes to Ninevah and preaches a pretty none friendly sermon – his message, 40 days and there will be destruction – no hope, just a proclamation
 - And yet the people of Nineveh repent and say let's morn and grieve and maybe God will be gracious
 - And He was

So David fasts and prays and yet the child dies

- now some see this as God being cruel for the child didn't do anything wrong and I agree with that
 - but think of the grace of God for this child – he would have grown up forever known as the product of David's greatest sin
 - and instead that baby grew up in the perfect world of heaven in the presence of the Lord
- God in His wisdom takes the little one to heaven

- By the way, before we leave this text, I think verse 23 is one of the best verses in the Bible to answer the question of where babies go when they die, they never have asked forgiveness for sin, so what about them???
- David states with confidence I will go to him
 - And in this statement we learn the baby is not gone forever, it did not cease to exist, and David would be with that one someday

For those of you who have lost children, for those who you who have been involved with abortion, I have shared this verse so many times with grieving parents, or guilty parents later in life

- The child is not gone, and you, as long as you know the Lord, will be with them one day
 - Some question that – some say it depends on the faith of the parents – but knowing the Character of God, I don't see how He sends a little one to Hell because his momma didn't believe in God
 - David says, the child can not come to me, but one day, I will go to Him – great encouragement from the Lord for grieving parents
- Anyway – Consequence number one – David loses the child
 - But then once again we see the grace of God
 - For David and Bathsheba have another son that they name Solomon

And God names him “Jedidiah” – which means “Beloved of the Lord”

- God was saying to David and Bathsheba, I will not let the last word on your relationship be adultery, sin and death
 - You are going to have a son, who will one day be King and I love that kid – the Lord is so gracious and merciful
 - But the effects of sin linger on in chapter 13

David – His Sin and Consequences – II Samuel 11-15

David's Sin – II Samuel 11:1-12:13

David's Consequences – II Samuel 12:14 – 15:37

#1 – David loses his baby– II Samuel 12:14-31

#2 – David loses his kids – II Samuel 13:1 – 14:33

- [Read 13:1-21](#)

We see in chapter 13 the horrible fruit of David multiplying wives

- His oldest son, and heir to the throne at this time is a young man by the name of Amnon
 - He was the son of Ahinoam whom David married first in the wilderness – he was married to Michal – but then Saul gave her to someone else when David left Saul's house
 - So David marries a wilderness girl by the name of Ahinoam

Now years later while he is ruling in Hebron, those 7 and half years when he was just king over Judah, David was already making political marriages

- he married a princess from Geshur which is near modern day Syria
 - and this princess was very beautiful
 - and that is where you get Absalom and Tamar who were also very good looking
- And it makes sense – you put two really good looking people together, they have some babies and you get Hally Duff, Jonathan Duff and Aleah Duff
 - Oh I mean Absalom and Tamar
 - They were very good looking
- But you also get the hint in the text that they knew it as well
 - In chapter 14, verse 25-26 the Bible gives a physical description of Absalom – that there was no blemish from head to toe, this guy was amazing
 - And he had to get a hair cut every year just because his hair got so heavy and then he weight it and that's where I have a problem
- I got no problem with him being good looking, some of us just have it

- I am a little jealous of his thick hair

But no dude should be weighing hair – that just shows Absalom is a little into himself

- but we see the problem of multiple wives
 - Amnon is the oldest – he is used to getting whatever he wants
 - Tamar is the daughter of not a wilderness woman but a princess and she is a princess and Amnon wants her
- But she is his half-sister and that of course is forbidden by the Law of God

Amnon says he is in love but in reality he is in lust and is moping and not eating because he wants his half-sister so bad and then he decides to go totally against God's law because he has a "friend" in verse 3 of chapter 13 who encourages him

- If this guy was a real friend, he should have said, what's matter with you? – You can marry any pretty girl you want, and you should consider yourself lucky to do that, son of mountain woman, forget this Tamar stuff
 - But his friend does not encourage him to obey the Lord
- Please listen church family - If you have a friend or a family member who loves you more than God in that they provide excuses for your sin and tell you its okay to violate God's word, you need to examine that relationship for what it is – a danger to you
 - This advice from a "friend" will cost Amnon everything

Amnon has his Dad make Tamar come and make him food and when he has her all alone he grabs her and tells her to lie with him

- And Tamar, this precious girl is not at fault in any way – she tries to get Amnon to see what he is giving up by taking part in this sin

This is what his "friend" should have done

- you will never be King, you will never be who you want to be if you give into this, she tries to reason with him
 - but he doesn't want to hear that at all

By the way, I think it is great thing for us when we are of a sober mind, not in the heat of temptation, but way before, make a list of everything you would lose if you gave into a certain sin

- for you that are married, what would you lose if you cheated on your spouse, it is good to write down a list
 - when I started to become a Semi popular guest speaker, I spoke at probably 10 to 15 camps or retreats a year, and it involves a lot of travel, well a wise pastor friend of mine in Texas, called me up and he said, I want you to make a list of everything you would lose if you cheated on your wife
 - I still have that and read it all the time and when crazy sinful thoughts come into my head, all it takes is a few minutes to check over that list and it brings instant perspective – I would encourage every one of you to make up such a list

Amnon won't listen and gives into his sin and then I find it so interesting – then the word says Amnon hates Tamar

- what is up with this guy – he loves her and now he hates her
 - you girls just need to know there are guys like this out there
 - again – Tamar did nothing to put herself in this situation – she is his sister
 - but you girls need to know – there are guys like this out there and you need to be careful

So after all this sin, verse 21, David's reaction is to get mad, but do nothing about it

- oh David
 - you see the law was clear, if someone, even the son of a King raped another person, that person was to be put to death
- Now in our world that is not the penalty for rape anymore

- And so we can look at that and think, wow that is a little harsh – of course if you have had a family member raped, which I have, or if you have been raped, you view that a little differently
- But our society says, that is a bit much and that is just crazy to think David would order that done to his own son
- Well before this story is over, David is going to lose two sons because of this
 - Absalom in the rest of chapter 13, which I will leave you to read, gives his Dad two years to do the right thing and bring Amnon to justice, but David does nothing, so Absalom kills Amnon for raping his sister
 - And we will see next week that eventually Absalom who raises up against David and takes his kingdom for a time, is killed by Joab, David's general
 - And so David loses two sons instead of the one
 - Friends – God knows what He is doing and wise is the man or woman or parent that says – Lord how do you want me to live, how do you want me to raise and deal with my kids

David won't deal with Amnon and it was another consequence of David's sin – I think he is thinking how can I punish him for doing something I did?

There is a great temptation as a parent to think that right or wrong is based on what you did when you were your kid's age

- But that is not true – right and wrong isn't based on what you did when you were your kids age – right and wrong is based on the unchanging Word of God
 - If we don't see that – each generation will be a little worse than the last which is exactly what we have in this country

Now I understand the temptation - you see your kids failing in an area morally and you think, well I did the exact same thing, so how can I say anything about it

- Isn't that the height of hypocrisy, I have no room to talk
 - but friend that is not true – that is the enemy ripping you off
 - the truth is – you have more right than most to talk
- Have you seen those disturbing anti-smoking commercials – where the guy has a tracheotomy because of smoking and he is still smoking through the hole in his neck
 - Do you see that commercial and think, “what right does he have to tell me to not smoke” – I would rather hear from Pastor Jason who has never smoked a cigarette to explain to me the dangers of smoking – really?
 - I want to hear from the dude with the tracheotomy – He seems like he might have some wisdom on the depth of addiction?
- And listen – you may not want your kids to know you are a sinner, but let me clue you in, they already know you are – and if you can stand for God's word even if you failed, it can be powerful

The opposite, to just be silent or angry, but never discipline can be absolutely destructive

- Absalom gives his Dad two years to do the right thing and then he steps in and kills his half-brother Amnon
 - Then Absalom flees to his grandpa's kingdom of Geshur, again up to the North of the Sea of Galilee, where Syria is today
 - And Absalom is there 3 full years

Now in interest of time we are not going to read chapter 14, I encourage you to, but it sums up this section on David losing control of his kids

- after years of Absalom in exile, Joab comes up with a plan to get him back to the Kings house
 - he has a wise woman from Tekoa, a little farm village not far from Bethlehem
 - this wise women comes and lays a case before David

- you see in those days, the king was like the supreme court
 - She comes before David and lays out that she is a widow which puts her in a tough place and her son killed her other son and now the family wants to put that son to death and she will then have no family and no one to take care of her, can you help me David?
 - And David says I will spare your surviving son

The wise women then turns the tables on David and tells him that this is what he has done in keeping his son from Israel, Absalom is now the heir of the throne and if you send him away who will be king

- of course the answer is one of David's other many sons, but that is not the point
 - and then verse 14 of chapter 14 she lays out that David is not misrepresenting God's heart by forgiving his son

Her point is that forgiving sinners is what God does and no one should have known that better than David

- Absalom was guilty of murder, but it was also a murder required by the law of God and so in no way was David misrepresenting God's heart in bringing Absalom home
 - So David does but again a great failure as a parent, he won't see Absalom's face for two years
 - And that leads to the rebellion we see in chapter 15, look at it with me and we will be done.

David – His Sin and Consequences – II Samuel 11-15

David's Sin – II Samuel 11:1-12:13

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#1 – David loses his baby – II Samuel 12:14-31

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#3 – David loses his kingdom – II Samuel 15:1-37

- Read the whole chapter – As you read...(After this, after what – after David had ignored Absalom for years and then even in restoring him it was purely ceremonial, Absalom decides to rebel)

The final consequence that we will see, traces exactly back to David's sin with Bathsheba, is his lost for a time of the kingdom of Israel

- Absalom is bitter at his Dad and so he plots a rebellion
 - Some people Absalom has to trick – this thing he is saying about David not having time to meet with people is not true – last chapter we saw David meeting with a woman who was there to ask for her son's life – David didn't know it was a setup – He was just taking time for his people
 - But this accusing David of not caring is to steal the hearts of people

Some people Absalom has to trick, others he doesn't

- We read in verse 12 of chapter 15 that Ahithophel, who has been away from the capital for some time can't wait to join Absalom's rebellion – why?
 - Well if you put two scriptures together

“Is this not Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam,” – II Samuel 11:3

“Eliam the son of Ahithophel the Gilonite,” – II Samuel 23:34

- What you discover is Bathsheba was Ahithophel's granddaughter
 - That understanding adds so much to the story
 - You that are grandparents can image – one of your best friends, takes your granddaughter into his bed and then kills her husband to cover it up, that would be a hard one to get over
 - And Ahithophel did not

For almost 10 years he has been absent from the capital, no longer advising David, because of David's sin against his granddaughter

- and no doubt in that time he has been stewing, full of bitterness
 - and when he hears Absalom is rebelling – well here is his chance to get back at David – so Ahithophel needs no convincing – He's in

Absalom goes to Hebron, and who knows, maybe that city was still upset that David moved the capital from there to Jerusalem – but Absalom is playing on everyone's emotions to bring about this uprising

- and I want you to notice two things – one this all can be traced back to that night on the roof top for David – all the deaths, rapes, murder and betrayal – all lead back to that one sin
 - God had forgiven totally but there are still consequences

But even though this is all David's fault – please don't miss the fact that Absalom, though justified, is going to end up dead because of his bitterness

- Ahithophel, though totally justified in his bitterness, will end up dead because of his bitterness
 - And friends – though your bitterness may have every acceptable cause in the world
 - If you don't take those feelings of bitterness to the cross and forgive those that have wronged you
 - You don't need to have a relationship with them if they are not willing to repent – but you do need to let it go
- Or – your bitterness will do you in as well
 - Learn these important lessons tonight