

The Stain on David's Legacy
2 Samuel 11-12
Life of David Series
(David: After God's Own Heart)

Intro: If you were to ask most people to name an event in the life of David there are 2 events that immediately come to most minds

A)One is his Heroic Victory over the Philistine Giant – Goliath which occurred almost 15 yrs before he became King over Israel

B)The other event that comes to people's minds – is David's sin of Adultery w/ BATHSHEBA –
1)which occurred after he had been king for 20 yrs

C)The First was a high point in David's celebrated life –

D)It was a bold symbol of his Faith in God & love for God – Dependency upon the Lord

E)The 2nd is a horrible reminder of how Far someone can fall –
1)how easy it can be to give into to temptation.

The first could have been the DEFINING MARK of Israel's greatest King

A)A great testimony to any unbeliever – of the Power of God working in the life of Someone who is completely yielded to the Lord

B)But instead the 2nd would instead be the Stain upon his life/ - remembered for the most – 3000 yrs ...

C)I have even had Christians who have been the victim of Adultery in their marriage –
1)struggle with how David is presented as this great man of God – when he committed adultery and murder.

D)Too be honest – I get that sentiment completely.

So this morning as we unpack this story- I want to see the steps that led to David's sin

A)Because some of these are steps that can lead to us sinning in many areas not just the sin of Adultery

B)Read V.1-5

It happened in the spring of the year, at the time when kings go out to battle, that David sent Joab and his servants with him, and all Israel; and they destroyed the people of Ammon and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem.

2 Then it happened one evening that David arose from his bed and walked on the roof of the king's house. And from the roof he saw a woman bathing, and the woman was very beautiful to behold. 3 So David sent and inquired about the woman. And someone said, "Is this not Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?" 4 Then David sent messengers, and took her; and she came to him, and he lay with her, for she was cleansed from her impurity; and she returned to her house. 5 And the woman conceived; so she sent and told David, and said, "I am with child."

Steps that led to David's Sin

A)#1 David Disengaged from the Battle.

B)In that part of the world, wars were not normally fought during the winter months
1)because rains and cold weather

C)The winter conditions made travel and campaigning difficult.
1)So In the spring, fighting would resume

D)So it was time for Kings to go out to war but David stays home /
1)this was a time when David should have been fighting – instead taking a break

David is 50 years old at this time. Maybe his energy was slowing down?

A)His thinking probably went something like this,

B)"I have fought my battles, I have won my victories, I have been warrior from my youth up,

C)it's time for someone else to take my place. Let the young guys do that
1)There are more important things for the king to do."

Warning to you older men here –

A)I have seen quite a few guys in their 50-60's get themselves into trouble in sin and compromise –

B)Because they disengaged from the battle.
1)They start taking it easy.

C)David should be at War – but he is left hanging around the palace with nothing to do!

D)You have heard the old proverb, Idol hands, are what? The devil’s workshop.

1)Another way to put this is Idol minds, are the devils canvas.

E)And that is absolutely true, too much free time, allows temptation to come in and set up shop.

1)We set ourselves up for a fall.

Last week – I mentioned that in January I am stepping down from my role as the lead Pastor here –

A)Pastor Jason Duff will assume role of our new Lead Pastor

B)I might be stepping down from that role – but I am not slowing down.

C)I am stepping into a New Role – Executive Pastor of Discipleship and Ministry

D)Only thing that is going to change in my life is for the first time in 41 years of ministry

1)Most weeks I will only be working 5 days a week instead of the 6 I have done for 41 yrs

E)Actually have Saturdays off Now – always worked final 6 hrs of my sermon prep

Not slowing down – My schedule is packed – Busy here busy in this role –

A)Busy sharing once a month at other churches – ministering to pastors and leaders.

B)Guys 50’s 60’s 70’s are not times for kicking back

C)But for ramping up – less energy but more time – use it well – Finish strong

D)You want to know how? Come talk to me – I have a growing list of how you can be used around here

E)Active in Kingdom work

David gets himself into trouble because he disengaged from the battle.

A)Here is something we need to understand – our most VULNERABLE times ARE NOT

B)When we are going hard – not when things are tough in our lives.

C)Those times keep us close to God – dependent on God

D)The times when we are most Vulnerable to temptation is when things are going well.

1)Times of smooth sailing – because that is when we can have a tendency to drop our guard

David Disengages from the battle – he isolates himself –

A)And listen the Devil loves to see Christians isolate themselves

B)I think when we have walked with the Lord for a while there is a temptation to disengage spiritually-

C)We know the Bible – heard studies / led studies –

1)I don’t need to be as involved as I did when I was younger

This Fall Men’s and Women’s groups on Wednesday night

A)Pastor Jason and myself are going to be teaching a study for the men in the book of Joshua –really excited

B)But the temptation for some of you guys will be to say: Joshua again ?

1)I have studied the book of Joshua several times

C)I was here Sunday night Men’s group went through Joshua – I don’t need to go to that

D)Listen: I have been studying the Bible for 42 years – been teaching it for 39 years

1)I am always learning new things – So much in here for us to glean and learn.

E)Plus the fellowship is amazing!!

You know after I had been a SR pastor for 20 yrs

A) I used to think that I didn’t need to attend Pastor Conferences any more.

B)I didn’t feel like I was hearing anything new or relevant to me

C)And so many of the messages seemed like they were being aimed at guys

1)who were just getting started in ministry

But one of my mentors challenged me to go thinking not what I could glean but how I could give –

A)He said if you show up with that mentality –

B)God is going to give you many divine appointments for guys you can minister to.

C)That is exactly what happened – guys I am still involved in their lives today.

D)But you know what else happened – I started getting ministered to by the sessions again –

1)That simple shift in my heart made all the difference

So I don't care how long you have been walking with the Lord – how much you think you know –

A)Don't isolate yourself – Disengage from the battle

B)God still wants to speak to you – work in you and He wants to work through you in the lives of others

C)That is not going to happen if you are sitting at home watching TV –

1)or out playing pickleball or something

D)Stay engaged – Don't disengage from the battle – don't isolate yourself by disengaging from fellowship

Steps that led to David's Sin

#2 David puts himself in a place where he could easily be tempted?

v.2 Then it happened one evening that David arose from his bed and walked on the roof of the king's house. And from the roof he saw a woman bathing, and the woman was very beautiful to behold.

If David is out in the battle – this is not happening – He might be seeing some bare naked dudes bathing

A)But not a beautiful bare naked women!

B)Notice it was evening time - & David was in bed –

1)but he couldn't sleep so arose from his bed – took a stroll on rooftop patio { Houses

C)But that is when this temptation is put in his path.

Can I just say this: What you do and where you go when you can't sleep can be very dangerous

A)Probably not going to see some woman in a backyard taking a bath – that is not the world we live in

B)Common in that world – no indoor plumbing – often bathed like this

C)So you are not going to see a naked women bathing in her backyard –

1)but you might see a naked woman on the computer

D)When you can't sleep be smart – keep your guard up.

Now David's sin was not in *seeing* Bathsheba but in *choosing* to take a 2nd look

A)Our text says – the woman was very beautiful to behold.

B)Behold means to take a good long look – to Gaze longing at something

C)He is giving into the temptation that was put before him – He is entertaining it

D)James shares some insight on this James 1:12-15 Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.13 Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone.

Here is how temptation works

14 But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.15 Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.

A)The word Enticed = being caught in a lure or a baited hook !

B)If you are a fisherman, you know exactly what this is talking about.

C)When you fish, you figure out the bait that the fish that you are going after really likes/

1)Then you figure out how to take that bait and hide a hook in it.

Then you drag that bait in front of your prey,
knowing that if they see it,

A)They will not be able to resist it and they will bite.
When they do, you have got them.

B)The Devil loves to do that – he knows where each
one of us is Vulnerable

C)He knows what Buttons to push – where we are
easily tempted

1) He will seek to bait you

D)He knows where you are weak - He knows what
you like – Dangle that bait in front of you.

Lev 11 – Stay away from eating pelicans / and Bats –
NO PROBLEM – no temptation at all.

A)But I can't tell you how many times I have decided
– go on a diet – I am going to start eating better

B)Even Been times even felt motivated by the Lord
to eat more healthy – Bodily exercise.....

C)It never fails I will come home – those times

D)I walk in the door of my house to the amazing
smell of fresh baked Chocolate chip cookies

1)Or my wife's amazing Cherry Cobbler –

E)The Bait is set – I am hooked – and when the Lord
says – Rob what are you doing –

1)I answer it is the woman you gave me Lord

The problem was -I failed to communicate to Denise

A)Trying to eat healthy – no baking for a while

B)Not saying my wife was being used as an
instrument of the Devil to tempt me

C)But you get my point – The Devil knows where we
are all Vulnerable - He will bait us

1)Hard to resist –

Maybe you are Feeling lonely in your marriage – or
lonely in your singleness

A)Co-worker starts showing you attention – invites
you out to lunch to discuss a project

B)Pretty soon you are laughing enjoying each other's
company – getting comfortable –

1)happens a couple of more times more comfortable

C)Now you are sharing personal things

D)Something going on in your heart –

1)because you are getting attention you aren't getting
from your spouse

E)Or Single – getting attention you feel you are
lacking from Christian men or women

Pretty soon – you are crossing lines you never
thought you would cross

A)A lot of times, we use passive-tense verbs to
explain our active sinful choices.

B)I was tempted; I got carried away; I got caught in a
bad place at the wrong time.

C)But here's the thing--you put yourself in those
situation you wanted to be tempted.

1)So don't use passive tense verbs to excuse your
ACTIVE TENSE CHOICES

D)Listen It is usually not I was tempted but I chose to
be tempted.

**E)Write this down: It is easier to avoid temptation
than it is to resist it.**

Wisdom from MR Miagi – Karate Kid 2

A)The best way to avoid a punch, Daniel-son, is to
stay out of places where you are likely to get into a
fight.

B)It is easier to avoid temptation than to resist it!

C)Don't play with fire because you are going to get ?
Burned

D)You know that is a Biblical statement:

Can a man take fire to his bosom and not get
burned?" from Proverbs 6:27

E)Rhetorical Question and the answer is no.

Flee youthful lust – FUGO – Fool GO!!!

A)Get out of there –

B)David is disengaged from the battle – #2 put
himself in a place where he could be tempted.

**C)#3 David ignores the Warnings of the Holy
Spirit**

V.3 David asks – Who is that woman?

A)Answer That is Bathsheba

B)Notice the first thing he is told – She has a name – she is a person

C)David is Objectifying this woman

1)She is just an attractive body for him to please himself with

Next he is told - Not only that – she is someone’s daughter – Eliam –

A)Now David should have put this together too – Because Bathsheba the daughter of Eliam

B)That means she was the granddaughter of one of David’s most trusted advisers

1)a guy named Ahithophel –

C)David probably watched her grow up

D)David she has a name – she is a daughter – she is a granddaughter –

E)I wonder how many guys who engage in porn ever think – this is someone’s daughter –

1)granddaughter looking at

For David - Then Comes the BIGGEST ONE – She is someone’s wife – not just anyone

A)She is the Wife of Uriah the Hittite –

B)Mentioned last week in 2 Samuel 23 – he is one of David’s mighty men

C)Here is the message and warning that David is getting – She is off limits

D)This woman is not available – She is out of bounds

E)This message from his servants had, "don't go there" written all over it.

1)God was faithful to warn David of his folly.

Here is what I have always found to be true,

A)The road to sin is always marked with stop signs and warning signs and off ramps.

B)When someone tells me that they got sucked into sin and never saw it coming,

1)I will always challenge them on that.

C)"So there were no warning signals, no checks in your spirit,

1)no surprise visits by people who warned you that you were going to the wrong way,

D)Holy Spirit gut checks that told you that this was sin?"

A Word for someone here – You are in the early stages of a temptation

A)God has been warning you – you have been ignoring –

B)He is once again saying today – FOOL GO!!! RUN!!! Get away from that!

C)So the steps that led to David’s sin – He disengaged from the battle

D)He puts himself in a place to be tempted

1)#3 He ignores the warning signals from the Holy Spirit

#4 David uses his power to abuse rather than to serve.

He completely abuses his power – V.4 4 Then David sent messengers, and took her

A)Not even adultery – more of a rape

B)Bathsheba is a victim here – yes she could have resisted – but in that culture – demeaned women – 1)you didn't do that

C)David is abusing his power here –

D)Leaders are meant to use their positions to serve people – not abuse people

E)To Give and not take – that the model that Jesus set for us

V.5 She ends up pregnant

A)Now what is David going to do?

B)David had two Choices at this moment – he could confess & repent

1)or he could seek to cover up his Sin – He chose the Latter

⁶ Then David sent to Joab, *saying*, “Send me Uriah the Hittite.” And Joab sent Uriah to David. ⁷ When Uriah had come to him, David asked how Joab was doing, and how the people were doing, and how the

war prospered. ⁸ And David said to Uriah, “Go down to your house and wash your feet.” So Uriah departed from the king’s house, and a gift *of food* from the king followed him. ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ So when they told 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?”

¹¹ And Uriah said to David, “The ark and Israel and Judah are dwelling in tents, and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are encamped in the open fields. Shall I then go to my house to eat and drink, and to lie with my wife? *As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do this thing.*”

A man with convictions and standards can really be a bummer,

A) To those trying to cover up or get away with sin !

B) Uriah’s this must have stabbed David in the heart.

C) I wonder if he thought : "I used to be like that, I used to stick with my convictions,

D) I used to live my life according to godly standards, that used to be me"

This is another problem with unconfessed sin

A) Unconfessed Sin moves us away from being the person that we know that we are in Christ,

B) Unconfessed Sin turns us into becoming the person that we never wanted to be.

1) Lying to cover up our compromise

C) Heart starts to become hard and calloused – because we are ignoring the voice of the HS

Now David could have repented right here.

A) He could have heard these righteous words,

B) He could have come under the conviction of the Spirit, and turned from his wicked deeds.

C) But he didn’t, he launched right into plan B.

¹² Then David said to Uriah, “Wait here today also, and tomorrow I will let you depart.” So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day and the next. ¹³ Now when David called him, he ate and drank before him; and he made him drunk. And at evening he went out

to lie on his bed with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house.

D) Plan B was to get Uriah drunk, maybe a drunk Uriah would have lower standards/ convictions.

E) But it doesn’t work because even a drunk Uriah is more Noble than a sober DAVID in this moment

So when that Doesn’t work David moves to plan C –

¹⁴ In the morning it happened that David wrote a letter to Joab and sent *it* by the hand of Uriah. {trusted Loyal ¹⁵ And he wrote in the letter, saying, “Set Uriah in the forefront of the hottest battle, and retreat from him, that he may be struck down and die.”

A) Oh the lengths that some people will go to cover up their sin! – Now David has resorted to Murder.

¹⁶ So it was, while Joab besieged the city, that he assigned Uriah to a place where he knew there *were* valiant men. ¹⁷ Then the men of the city came out and fought with Joab. And *some* of the people of the servants of David fell; and Uriah the Hittite died also.

B) Notice – other men died as well – David is thinking problem solved –

1) but it resulted in several soldiers losing their lives

C) Always collateral damage to sin!

D) Joab sends a messenger to give David the report of the battle – and says if David questions the strategy

1) V.21 Just tell him your servant Uriah dead also

Maybe Joab was taking a Jab at David here – not sure
A) But David is oblivious to it – He is just thinking – problem solved

²⁶ When the wife of Uriah heard that Uriah her husband was dead, she mourned for her husband.

C) She mourned for her husband – I wonder how much is hidden in that statement.

One thing this story illustrates for us is Sin hurts people

A) Bathsheba is mourning – Her family is mourning –

B) Other Soldiers were killed so those families are mourning

C) Sin Devastates families

D) The Lord gave me a strong visual of this 25 years ago – when my kids

1) Were younger – Aaron was 11. Amy 10, Amanda 5
Toby

Listen, I'm not trying to drive some of you who have committed sexual sin to despair—

A) We will see in Chapter 12 there is forgiveness for sexual sin- after confession and repentance

B) God doesn't cancel David from being a son – God doesn't even remove him from being the King

C) But we will see there are also consequences – there are always consequences to sin.

Chapter 11 marks a turning point in David's own life.

A) From this point on, David's family, life and kingdom start to unravel. Big time.

B) All connected to this sin – that will be the focus of our study next week.

C) But Today let's see how this story ends

²⁷ And when her mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. –

A) David comes off looking like a hero – what a great King – he Weds the poor pregnant wife of one of his mighty men. -

B) But did David get away with it? - Notice the last line in Ch. 11

But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD.

C) This hurt David's relationship with God.

This Wednesday Pastor Mike V will be teaching from Psalm 32 – the Psalm David writes after 9 months of hiding this sin

A) He knows he may have fooled many people but he didn't fool God

When I refused to confess my sin, I was weak and miserable and I groaned all day long. Day and night your hand of discipline was heavy on me. My

strength evaporated like water in the summer heat. PSA 32:3-4 NLT

B) David is plagued by the guilt of his sin & he can't escape it – for 9 long mths he is living in agony internally

1) Time of great drought spiritually –

C) One puritan commentator put it this way – “*All the moisture of heaven had lapsed into drought Everything was dry & barren in his soul*”

D) That is the problem w/ unconfessed sin – it takes the life / the Vitality right out of You

1) David's secret sin was killing him / *Whom the Lord loves He chastens* & he wasn't going to let David rest until this was dealt w/

Chapter 12 Summarize After 9 months pass – baby has been born

Then the Lord sent Nathan to David. And he came to him, and said to him: “There were two men in one city, one rich and the other poor. 2 The rich man had exceedingly many flocks and herds. 3 But the poor man had nothing, except one little ewe lamb which he had bought and nourished; and it grew up together with him and with his children. It ate of his own food and drank from his own cup and lay in his bosom; and it was like a daughter to him. 4 And a traveler came to the rich man, who refused to take from his own flock and from his own herd to prepare one for the wayfaring man who had come to him; but he took the poor man's lamb and prepared it for the man who had come to him.”

5 So David's anger was greatly aroused against the man, and he said to Nathan, “As the Lord lives, the man who has done this shall surely die! 6 And he shall restore fourfold for the lamb, because he did this thing and because he had no pity.”

David's over reaction – way overblown punishment for this type of an offense.

Guilt causes us to Over-react

7 Then Nathan said to David, “You are the man!

Thus says the Lord God of Israel:

David you are the man! — caught – exposed- Broken

Skip to V. 13 Confession:

13 So David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the Lord.”

With that confession comes forgiveness –
And Nathan said to David, “The Lord also has put away your sin; you shall not die.

How joyful is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered! ²How joyful is a person whom the LORD does not charge with iniquity and in whose spirit is no deceit! Psalm 32:1-2

David experienced the joy of forgiveness – the Joy and the relief of guilt being removed

But there were also consequences

- V. 10, “...the sword shall never depart from your house.”

- V. 11, “I will take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this sun”

- V. 14, “The son born to you (from this incident) will die.”

There is always consequences to sin!

A)Oh David – You let us down. David we had such high hopes for you.

B)Another fallen HUMAN Leader. –

C)David’s sin reminds us today of how we long for a different kind of leader a different King

1)a King greater than David.

D)And--this is the beautiful part of the story—

E)this other King that we long for is strangely pre-figured in this story not by David,

1)but by... URIAH.

Think about Uriah for a minute:

A)Uriah was innocent and selfless. - Uriah was loyal to David to the very end.

B)He can’t even bring himself to enjoy a night of legitimate pleasure when his countrymen were in harm’s way.

C)And when Uriah was placed on the front lines of the fiercest part of the battle

1)and told to charge into the face of death, he did so without hesitating or complaining.

D)In the end, he dies--not because of his sin, but for David’s.

Who does all that remind you of?

A)Jesus was the true Mighty Man of God loyal to the end,

B)who refused to partake of pleasure when we were in harm’s way

C)He left heaven and rushed into battle on our behalf even when it was certain that he would die.

D)In the end he died, like Uriah, not for his sins but for our sins.

And yet—there’s one crucial difference between Uriah and Jesus.

A)Uriah went to his death unaware of how David had betrayed him and manipulated him.

B)Jesus approached death fully aware of our betrayal, and yet he went to the cross eagerly.

1)Jesus died to pay for all the sins you and I did against him.

C)Jesus is the righteous King we are all looking for.

Which leads me to the last thing that I want us to consider today before we leave.

A)The way we overcome sin and temptation is by being captivated by the beauty of Jesus – the true King

B)How do we resist temptation? What will cause us to flee instead of linger?

C)It is only when we realize how amazing Jesus is and how much he loves us

The Puritan Thomas Chalmers said this that you can only bring certain desires in your heart under control by replacing them with a stronger desire

A)The Bible says: We love him because he first loved us

B)When we realize how greatly we are loved by Jesus – the more we will love him in return

C)Purity is not programs- it is not trying harder,

D)purity comes when we understand how much God loves us and respond to that love.

Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.

E)There is something so profoundly different about the person who's life has been touched by the Love of Jesus

2 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. 3 And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.
1 John 3:1-3

David was Beholding Bathsheba – took a long look at her.

A)We are invited to Behold the Love that God has for us.

B)That love includes the plan to transform us into the image of Jesus

C)That Love that plan that Hope – will motivate us to walk in Purity- AMEN!!