

Chosen: Lessons from the Life of David

Week 4 – The Wicked King – 2 Samuel 11:1 – 12:13

Weekly Summary: When David fell, he fell hard. One of the Bible's wickedest and most twisted stories has David as its chief bad guy. So how is it that someone like David could still be called a "man after God's own heart?" Because David was also chosen to be an object and example of God's unfathomable mercy.

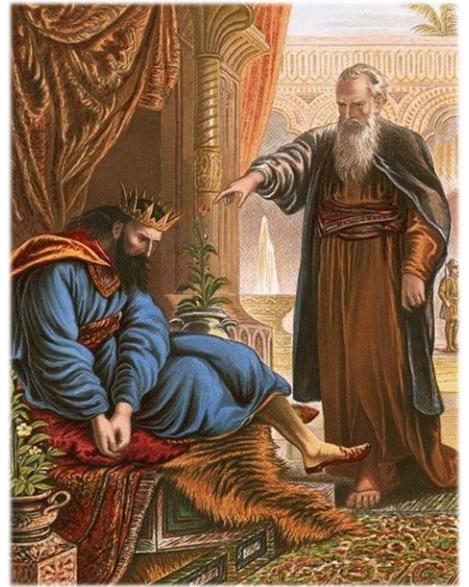
- ❖ **2 Samuel 11:1-5** – In the spring, at the time when kings go off to war, David sent Joab out with the king's men and the whole Israelite army. They destroyed the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David remained in Jerusalem. ²One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, ³and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, "She is Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite." ⁴Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her. (Now she was purifying herself from her monthly uncleanness.) Then she went back home. ⁵The woman conceived and sent word to David, saying, "I am pregnant."
- ❖ **2 Samuel 11:14-17** – In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it with Uriah. ¹⁵In it he wrote, "Put Uriah out in front where the fighting is fiercest. Then withdraw from him so he will be struck down and die." ¹⁶So while Joab had the city under siege, he put Uriah at a place where he knew the strongest defenders were. ¹⁷When the men of the city came out and fought against Joab, some of the men in David's army fell; moreover, Uriah the Hittite died.
- ❖ **2 Samuel 11:26-27** – When Uriah's wife heard that her husband was dead, she mourned for him. ²⁷After the time of mourning was over, David had her brought to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But the thing David had done displeased the LORD.
- ❖ **2 Samuel 12:1-3** – The LORD sent Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, "There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor. ²The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle, ³but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children. It shared his food, drank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him."

❖ **2 Samuel 12:4-6** – “Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one who had come to him.” ⁵ David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, “As surely as the LORD lives, the man who did this must die! ⁶ He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity.”

❖ **2 Samuel 12:7a** – Then Nathan said to David, “You are the man!”

❖ **2 Samuel 12:13a** – Then David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the LORD.”

❖ **2 Samuel 12:13b** – Nathan replied, “The LORD has taken away your sin. You are not going to die.”



➤ God provides the _____ to save you from _____.

➤ The Bible is the story of _____ grace for _____ people.

Digging Deeper

1. Why is it so difficult to admit our evil? Why is it so much easier to try covering it up as David did?
2. Have shame or embarrassment ever made you feel like there was no coming back from what you did?
3. Have you ever sacrificed something to try dealing with your sin? What did you sacrifice? Why did that cause even more damage than you had already done?
4. If a “man after God’s own heart” could fail so spectacularly, what are the implications for people who love God today?
5. Are God’s grace and promises based on our performance? What would change in your life if you fully believed this?
6. David did receive consequences for his sin. Why does God often give us consequences? How should we receive those consequences?
7. Read 1 Timothy 1:12-17. How do these verses reinforce what we learned in today’s message?
8. **Challenge:** Are you holding onto any sin in your life? Confess it to God, bask in his forgiveness, and leave the sin and the guilt behind you!
9. **Homework:** Read Psalm 103 to prepare for the final message in our Chosen series.