

David, Shepherd and King
#20 David's Great Consequences & Conviction,
2 Samuel 12 (7/25/10 AM)

The laws of the harvest are universal, Galatians 6:7. There are absolutely no exceptions. Not for David, not for me, and not for you.

The Birth of the Child Connects Chapters 11 & 12

1. The Confrontation of David's Sin (1-9)

An Example of Biblical Confrontation

Possibly Nathan was sent to David the day the child was born.

- **The right timing**

Nathan, the prophet, was a trusted advisor to David. God used a person who was close to David to confront him about his sin.

Nathan Came Armed with the Truth

- **The right approach**

Nathan approached David with wisdom. He used a parable to show David his own sin. Nathan allowed David to condemn himself.

(5) "So David's anger was greatly aroused against the man..."

Sinning Christians can be very self-righteous. Nathan was very direct. (7) "You are the man!" Today we would use the written Word of God

in the same manner that Nathan used the revealed Word of God. Nathan laid out the facts of David's sin beginning with a convicting question.

(9) "Why have you despised the commandment of the LORD..."

Confrontation Must Always Be Done Prayerfully and Carefully

2. The Consequences of David's Sin (10-15)

Suffering Always Follows Sinning

- **Personal sorrow**

(10) "Now therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house because you have despised me".

David's sin had violated his relationship with God. He had caused the sorrow of others whose loved ones had died. David will see the premature death of four of his sons. He had pronounced his own judgment. (6) "And he shall restore fourfold for the lamb."

To Disobey God's Word Is To Despise God's Person

- **Public humiliation**

(11-12) "For you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel, before the sun."

What we try to hide, God uncovers. What we uncover, God delights to cover. Proverbs 28:13. Nothing is hidden from God. Not all sin needs to be confessed publically, but it needs to be confessed, Ecclesiastes 12:14.

Christians Are No Longer Under Condemnation, but Will

Face Examination

- **Private conviction**

David confessed without denial and without excuse, Psalm 51:4.

His confession was the result of months of intense conviction. This is

the reason David reacted so strongly to Nathan's report. David had projected his own repressed guilt and anxiety upon the man in the

story. David wrote about his conviction, Psalm 32:3-4.

Psalm 51:3, "My sin is always before me...(12) Restore to me the joy of Your salvation...(14) Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God."

David Daily Suffered the Guilt of His Sin

3. The Forgiveness of David's Sin (13-25)

Judgment Mingled with Grace

- **Confession brings forgiveness**

Psalm 32:5, “I acknowledged my sin to You, and my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, ‘I will confess my transgressions to the Lord’, and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.”

This promise is repeated in the New Testament, 1 John 1:9. Why did God not require David’s life, my life, or your life?

The Only Answer Is His Great Mercy and Compassion

- **Confession does not cancel all consequences**

There was one more heart wrenching consequence that David and Bathsheba would suffer. (14)

“However, because by this deed you

have given great occasion to the enemies of the Lord to blaspheme,

the child also who is born to you shall surely die.”

Nathan departed and the LORD struck the child. For seven days

David fasted and “pleaded” (16) that God would spare his son. David’s fasting certainly involved his own sorrow and repentance for his sins.

(18) “Then on the seventh day it came to pass that the child died.”

The seven day time frame is significant. Jewish children were not

named and circumcised until the eighth day. Circumcision was a

physical sign of identification with God’s covenant with Israel. David

had shown contempt for the Lord’s covenant therefore, the child was exempted from it. This does not mean that the child did not go to

heaven. David’s actions indicate he believed he would see the child again.

(23) “But now he is dead; why should I fast? Can I bring him back again?

I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.”

David Responded to God’s Discipline with Worship

(20) “So David arose from the ground, washed and anointed himself,

and changed his clothes; and he went into the house of the Lord and worshiped. Then he went to his

own house; and when he requested,

they set food before him, and he ate.”

The Biblical Response to Sin:

- **Confess and forsake my sin**
- **Receive God’s forgiveness**
- **Accept the consequences**
- **Sow righteousness**
- **Private conviction**

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