

January 17, 2021

Olney Church of Christ

220 North Van Street
P.O. Box 683
Olney, IL 62450
217-218-0803
www.olneychurchofchrist.org

Services

Sunday

Bible Study	9:30 am
A.M. Worship	10:20 am
P.M. Worship	2:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Class	7:00 pm
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Elders: Mike Gerber, Travis Hall

Deacons: John Frost, Dave Goff, Roger Sholders

Visitors are welcome

We offer Bible classes for all ages

We also offer in-home Bible studies

We have Bible lessons on the radio
(92.9 FM) Sundays from 8:00-8:30 a.m.

What David Learned About Sin

By Michael Hickox

King David, “*a man after [God’s] own heart*” (1 Sam. 13:14; Acts 13:22), lived a life full of commendable actions. Yet, David did not *always* act or think like a man after God’s own heart. 2 Samuel 11 records one of the most selfish and hypocritical series of actions in the Bible. The man responsible for these actions was none other than David.

In the chapter, David lusted after a woman named Bathsheba. He sent a servant to ask about her and, upon finding out she was Uriah’s husband (**verse 3**), David sent for her to commit adultery with her (**verse 4**). Bathsheba became pregnant after this (**verse 5**). David then tried to deceive Uriah to make it look like Uriah was the father. When David’s deceitful plans failed, he wrote a letter to Joab saying, “**Set ye Uriah in the forefront of the hottest battle, and retire ye from him, that he may be smitten, and die**” (**verse 15**). Joab did as David requested, and Uriah died.

Instead of being sorrowful for how he treated Uriah, David tried to justify his actions by treating Uriah’s death as if it were by chance (**verse 25**). Bathsheba mourned the death of Uriah, but once her “**mourning was past, David sent and fetched her to his house, and she became his wife, and bare him a son**” (**verse 27**).

God was displeased (**verse 27**), and sent Nathan the prophet to David to help David see what he had done. Nathan told a story of a rich man who oppressed his poor neighbor (2 Sam. 12:2-4). David became angry with the man in the story (**verse 5-6**).

What David Learned About Sin

(Continued)

Nathan then told David, “***Thou art the man***” (verse 7). What the rich man did to the poor man symbolized what David had done to Uriah. This story caused David to finally acknowledge his sin, as he said, “***I have sinned against the Lord***” (verse 13).

David’s sins in this passage illustrate numerous principles taught in Scripture about sin. For instance:

Sin is Not Hidden from God - After David committed adultery, instead of seeking God’s forgiveness, David tried to “sweep it under the rug.” He told lies and eventually ordered an innocent man to be put to death, all in an attempt to “hide” sin that was *never* hidden from the One whose judgment matters most.

After detailing David’s attempts, the end of **2 Samuel 11** states “***the thing that David had done displeased the Lord***” (verse 27). God was never fooled. He sees *all* (**Heb. 4:13**).

David’s thought process seems similar to the mindset of, “as long as people who would give me a hard time about my sin don’t know about it, it’s OK.” Such hypocrisy is short-sighted, and misses what serving God is about.

While trying to hide his sin, David made his situation worse than it needed to be. He “threw fire on the fire” by responding to his sin with *more* sin, instead of repenting from the start.

One’s Own Sin Can Be the Hardest to See - David saw the selfishness and greed of the rich man in Nathan’s story. Yet, he failed to realize the rich man was symbolic of himself until Nathan told him “***Thou art the man.***”

The hardest sin to spot can often be one’s own (cf. **Matt. 23:4**). Jesus taught that it’s

sometimes necessary to point out sins in others, but He also taught “***first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother’s eye***” (**Matt. 7:5**).

Sin is Foremost Against God - When David did recognize his sin, the words he spoke were “***I have sinned against the Lord***” (**2 Sam. 12:13**). There may not be a clearer example in the Bible of one man treating another man horribly than David’s treatment of Uriah. Yet, the One who David wronged foremost was *God*.

Looking at this from another angle, consider that no one has ever mistreated any of us as much as any one of us as has mistreated God. This shows the seriousness of sin, and how proper it is to have godly sorrow when sin is in one’s life.

God is Willing to Forgive Sin - God was not bitter against David for treating Him so horribly. Instead, when David did what was needed to receive forgiveness, Nathan told him, “***The Lord also hath put away thy sin; thou shall not die***” (**2 Sam. 12:13b**).

This statement had some unique application to David as one who was subject to the Old Law (cf. **Lev. 20:10**), but the principle of God’s mercy applies to people in every dispensation. Though God punishes sin severely, He offers forgiveness to those who are willing to submit to His terms. This does not give us a “license” to sin in the future, but it should encourage us to seek forgiveness of past sins, instead of allowing them to tear us down.

Area Gospel Meetings

Hazel Dell Church of Christ:

Jan. 29 – 31 (with Matt Hodge)

Fri-Sat: 7:00 PM; Sun: 9:00; 10:00; 5:00

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God’s Plan for Saving Man

God’s Grace	Ephesians 2:8
Christ’s Blood	Romans 5:9
The Holy Spirit’s Gospel	Romans 1:16
Sinner’s Faith	Acts 16:31
Sinner’s Repentance	Luke 13:3
Sinner’s Confession	Romans 10:10
Sinner’s Baptism	1 Peter 3:21
Christian’s Work	James 2:24
Christian’s Hope	Romans 8:24
Christian’s Endurance	Revelation 2:10

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Words to Consider

“Put them in mind to be in subjection to rulers, to authorities, to be obedient, to be ready unto every good work, to speak evil of no man, not to be contentious, to be gentle, showing all meekness toward all men.” – Titus 3:1-2

Prayer List

- Holly G
- Sandy S
- Mabel H
- Cheryl S
- Norma C
- Raymond & Maxine
- Barbara G (Cancer)
- June H
- Lyla B (Leukemia recovery)
- Roger S
- Jeanette’s Grandson, Oliver
- L.A. S (COVID)

Daily Bible Reading

- January 17 – Jeremiah 51-52; Hebrews 9
- January 18 – Lam. 1-2; Hebrews 10:1-18
- January 19 – Lam. 3-5; Hebrews 10:19-39
- January 20 – Ezekiel 1-2; Hebrews 11:1-19
- January 21 – Ezekiel 3-4; Hebrews 11:20-40
- January 22 – Ezekiel 5-7; Hebrews 12
- January 23 – Ezekiel 8-10; Hebrews 13

“Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly...” – Colossians 3:16

Prayer Leaders

Sunday, January 17, 2021

Bible Study: Mark

Worship: Roger

Evening:

Wednesday, January 20, 2021

Assignments

Sunday, January 24, 2021

Reading: Steve

Announcements: Dan D

Table: Harold

Serve: Dave

Jim

Clean Building

Jeanette

Prepare Communion

Jeanette

Wednesday, January 27, 2021

Invitation:

Upcoming Reminders

**Sunday afternoon services and Wednesday*

evening Bible classes are temporarily

suspended, due to effects of COVID

Anniversaries

Birthdays

January 17 – Raymond

February 2 – Travis

February 13 – Darrell

February 15 – Dan D

February 20 – Jeff

February 23 – Larry

February 28 – Donna G

February 28 – Sandy