

The Sins of David

I. Introduction

A. 2 Samuel records the reign of King David of Israel, whose lifestyle was generally characterized by righteousness. David was far from perfect, though, and the 11th chapter of the book contains a series of despicable sins committed by David against a man named Uriah. These sins and the LORD's response well exemplify several principles of sin that are relevant to us today.

II. No One is Immune to Sin

A. God affirmed the fact that David was a "man after [God's] own heart." The faith David demonstrated toward Goliath exemplifies this. **1 Samuel 13:14; Acts 13:22; 1 Samuel 17:46**

B. Yet, David was not immune to sinning in the most unthinkable of ways. His sins exemplify the fact that no matter how faithful one has been to God in the past, there's a constant need to "take heed lest we fall." **2 Samuel 11:2-4; 1 Corinthians 10:12**

III. Sin is Always Seen by God

A. After David's initial sin, he could (and should) have acknowledged his sin and repented. Instead, he tried to "cover up" what he had done. **2 Samuel 11:12-15**

B. David saw, and his example shows us, that sin is never hidden from God. **2 Samuel 11:27; Proverbs 15:3; Hebrews 4:13**

IV. Sin is Never Overcome by *More Sin*

A. In his attempts to hide his initial sin, David sinned even more. Instead of digging himself out of a hole, David was actually digging himself a deeper and deeper hole. This is what happens anytime we respond to evil (whether our own or someone else's) with more evil. **2 Samuel 11:15; Romans 12:21**

V. Sin is Often Hardest to See in Self

A. God sent Nathan the prophet to David to make him see what he had done. Nathan told David a story of a rich man oppressing a poor man, which symbolized the way David had mistreated Uriah. **2 Samuel 12:1-4**

B. David recognized the fault of the man in the story. Yet, he failed to acknowledge his own fault until Nathan the prophet bluntly told him that he was the man whose sin the story symbolized. **2 Samuel 12:5-6, 7**

C. David's pitfalls demonstrate how easy it is to be hypocritical when judging and how important it is to avoid this. **Matthew 7:5**

VI. Sin is Foremost Against God...

A. After David was confronted by Nathan, David repented. When he acknowledged his sin, he demonstrated how grossly one mistreats God any time we sin. **2 Samuel 12:13; Psalm 51:4**

VII. ...Yet God Wants to Forgive Sin

A. As horribly as David treated God, it's striking how quickly God was willing to "put away" David's sin when David did what He required. **2 Samuel 12:13**

B. This exemplifies God's eagerness to forgive the sins of those who "come home" to Him. **Luke 15:21-24**

VIII. Sin's Pleasure is Deceitful

A. Though David was forgiven, he still had to face harsh consequences for his sin. **2 Samuel 12:14 (v. 10-12)**

B. To say that whatever "gratification" David got from his sin wasn't worth it would be an understatement. Such imbalance between the consequences of sin and the "pleasure" sin yields demonstrates how deceitful sin is. **Hebrews 11:25**