

DAVID'S SIN AND ITS CONSEQUENCES

Quote:

"I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto Yahweh; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah."

Psalms 32:5

The Lust of the Flesh, The Lust of the Eye, and the Pride of Life (1 John 2:16) Claim David. (Mark at the top and/or bottom of 2 Samuel 11)

How can Yahweh's estimate of David be justified in the light of this incident? (cp 1 Sam 13:14; Acts 13:22; cp 2 Sam 12:14).

- David's life must be viewed as a whole, and not by this one incident. His moral uprightness, generous heartedness, his ardent spiritual service, his usual faith and obedience must all be brought into consideration. David committed adultery - so do many secretly (cp Matt 5:28), he committed murder - so do many others (cp 1 John 3:15). Without defending David, or condoning his sin, we must accept the estimate of Yahweh (John 2:25), and be careful that we do not cast the first stone and thus condemn ourselves. David's sin should cause the righteous to fear, and sinners to hope.
- He acted entirely out of character and was truly repentant (cp Psalms 51; Matt 12:31). A general may lose a battle and yet win a campaign. David did that morally.

Colour the way in which David fell in 2 Samuel 11:1-4

(Mark at the top and/or bottom of 2 Samuel 11)

Highlight the following words with a RED pencil and mark the comment in your margin:

V1 - "**But David tarried still at Jerusalem**" - David was **not doing the very thing he was made king to do** (1 Sam 9:16; 2 Sam 5:2).

v2 - "**saw**"

v3 - "**sent and enquired**" - a deliberate action. By contrast, on most other occasions David enquired of Yahweh before acting - eg. 2 Sam 2:1. He could have stopped here. Note how Joseph acted when placed in temptation - he fled from the source of temptation - Gen 39:7-12; see also 2 Tim 2:22.

2 Samuel 12

Key Passages. (Mark the following above 2 Samuel 12)

Proverbs 28:13 - "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy."

See also: Psalms 32:5; 2 Sam 12:9,13; Psalms 51:3-5; 1 John 1:8-9.

The Consequences of David's Sin (Mark at the bottom of 2 Samuel 12).

Yahweh can forgive sins, but the consequences remain.

All Israel, and indeed all the world know about it.

When David stands again in life this realisation will be there. He and Bathsheba must yet again face Uriah.

David's sin brought upon him years of suffering:

- Bathsheba's child died before he was named (**2 Sam 12:19**).
- Amnon defiled Tamar (**2 Sam 13:11-15**), and was slain by vengeful sword of the proud and rebellious Absalom (**2 Sam 13:28-29**).
- Absalom himself was then slain by Joab (**2 Sam 18:14**).
- Adonijah rebelled against David and was slain by the just sword of Solomon (**1 Kg 2:25**).
- With strict justice, every action of David is punished, even the very spot where the sin was conceived became the very site in which he was dishonoured by Absalom (cp **2 Sam 11:2; 16:22**).
- As a result of these events Ahithophel who had been his friend, became his enemy, and David found himself exploited by the unscrupulous Joab.

He who had ruined the family life of Uriah, found his own family ruined. It was as though David had to restore fourfold for the life he had taken (**2 Sam 12:6**; cp **Exod 22:1**).