

The Consequences



Sunday August 6th, 2023

Nathan the prophet before David

- **2 Samuel 12:11-13 (NKJV)**

¹¹ Thus says the LORD: 'Behold, I will raise up adversity against you from your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes and give *them* to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this sun.

¹² For you did *it* secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel, before the sun.' "

¹³ So David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD." And Nathan said to David, "The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die.

- Sin can be forgiven but it still carries with it the consequences and effects of the sin.
- David's sin affected him and his family for the rest of his life.

The effects of sin

- One of the greatest frustrations of being a parent is the desire to see your kids do right, but they don't. As parents, most of us want to be and try to be a good example to our kids. The frustrating part though is our children have a tendency to follow our weaknesses instead of our strengths. They follow the wrong footsteps sometimes. A little girl followed her father in newly planted clumps of St. Augustine grass. She stepped exactly where he stepped. She said, "Daddy, if you don't get mud on your feet, I won't get any mud on me!"

- Unfortunately, sometimes we do get mud on our feet as parents and it affects our kids. We even get mad at them for the same weaknesses in our own lives. We don't want them to make the same mistakes as us, but they do. God will use our relationship with our children to speak to us about our relationship with Him. **If we are disobeying the Lord, don't be surprised if your kids start disobeying you.**

As the sun rises in [chapter 13](#), we find David has been forgiven of his sin. He has repented. God in His mercy has spared his life. More children are born, especially the next king, Solomon. David is going forward in his life.

- As he does, he will reap the harvest of sinful deeds he had sown earlier with Bathsheba. He will reap the harvest in the lives of his own children. Would to God he could have a crop failure from his wickedness, but he doesn't. [Chapter 13](#) begins a long journey of one heartache after another, stemming from a fling in the night. The sweetness of David's passionate night with Bathsheba has long soured and continues to get more bitter by the day as his children pattern their lives after his weaknesses and failures as they follow their father's footsteps. **[Chapter 13](#) will give us insights on the influence of our example; lessons about lust and the consequences of failing to overcome sinful desires in our heart.** It stresses the importance of parents leaving the right footprints for our children to follow. Treasures From the Scriptures

- **2 Samuel 13:1-2 (NKJV) David's first heartache**
 - ¹ After this Absalom the son of David had a lovely sister, whose name *was* Tamar; and Amnon the son of David loved her.
 - ² Amnon was so distressed over his sister Tamar that he became sick; for she *was* a virgin. And it was improper for Amnon to do anything to her.
- In verse one we are told of some of King David's family, Absalom, Tamar and Amnon.
- **Absalom**....David's third son born to Maachah.
- **2 Samuel 14:25-27 (NKJV) Absalom's looks**
 - ²⁵ Now in all Israel there was no one who was praised as much as Absalom for his good looks. From the sole of his foot to the crown of his head there was no blemish in him.

- ²⁶ And when he cut the hair of his head--at the end of every year he cut *it* because it was heavy on him--when he cut it, he weighed the hair of his head at two hundred shekels according to the king's standard.
²⁷ To Absalom were born three sons, and one daughter whose name was Tamar. She was a woman of beautiful appearance.
- **1 Samuel 16:12 (NKJV) David's appearance**
¹² So he sent and brought him in. Now he *was* ruddy, with bright eyes, and good-looking. And the LORD said, "Arise, anoint him; for this *is* the one!"

- Tamar....Absalom's lovely sister who is around sixteen years old.
- Amnon.....David's first born son born to Ahinoam.
- Amnon loves his very beautiful half sister Tamar. Beauty seems to run in the family. The word "fair" described David and Absalom. **Beauty can be a blessing, but also a snare.** Be alert for greater temptations that may come your way because of your appearance.
- **1 Peter 3:3-4 (NKJV) Inward beauty**
 - ³ Do not let your adornment be *merely* outward--arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on *fine* apparel--
 - ⁴ rather *let it be* the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible *beauty* of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God.

- Amnon's desire for his sister was unnatural. Marriage to a sister was forbidden ([Leviticus 18:9, 11](#)) Inwardly man's nature is to desire forbidden fruit. The more that it is forbidden, the more it is greedily desired. How many times have you told your child, "No, you can't have this or do this" and then they turn around and do it. Men have a defiant nature within themselves because men are sinners.
- [Isaiah 64:6](#)—*But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.*
- Amnon is a companion of a fool. He will eventually be destroyed by Jonadab's enticing plan.
- [Proverbs 13:20](#)—*He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.* Treasures From the Scriptures

- **2 Samuel 13:14-20 (NKJV)**

¹⁴ However, he would not heed her voice; and being stronger than she, he forced her and lay with her.

¹⁵ Then Amnon hated her exceedingly, so that the hatred with which he hated her *was* greater than the love with which he had loved her. And Amnon said to her, "Arise, be gone!"

¹⁶ So she said to him, "No, indeed! This evil of sending me away *is* worse than the other that you did to me." But he would not listen to her.

¹⁷ Then he called his servant who attended him, and said, "Here! Put this *woman* out, away from me, and bolt the door behind her."

¹⁸ Now she had on a robe of many colors, for the king's virgin daughters wore such apparel. And his servant put her out and bolted the door behind her.

- ¹⁹ Then Tamar put ashes on her head, and tore her robe of many colors that *was* on her, and laid her hand on her head and went away crying bitterly.
²⁰ And Absalom her brother said to her, "Has Amnon your brother been with you? But now hold your peace, my sister. He *is* your brother; do not take this thing to heart." So Tamar remained desolate in her brother Absalom's house.
- Tamar flees to her brother. In grief, she puts dust upon her head and tears her clothes. She felt like dirt, like garbage. She remained in Absalom's home. She is *desolate* which does not mean she is without a husband. This word conveys the idea of emotional devastation and trauma. Her world has been ruined. Treasures From the Scriptures

- After the crime was committed, **he hated her** more **than... he had** ever **loved her**, as is so often the case. Lust and hatred are closely related. He tried to get rid of her, but she would not leave. So he finally had her expelled by force, hoping that "out of sight" would be "out of mind." She wore the symbol of mourning, and this alerted Absalom to what had happened.
- **Absalom** comforted **Tamar** as if he did not think it was very serious, but actually he was already plotting revenge against Amnon.
- Disgraced and unwanted for marriage, through no fault of her own, **Tamar remained desolate in her brother Absalom's house**. This probably means that she lived and died unwed. Lust hurts the innocent as well as the guilty. Believer's Bible Commentary

- **2 Samuel 13:21-29 (NKJV)**

²¹ But when King David heard of all these things, he was very angry.

²² And Absalom spoke to his brother Amnon neither good nor bad. For Absalom hated Amnon, because he had forced his sister Tamar.

²³ And it came to pass, after two full years, that Absalom had sheepshearers in Baal Hazor, which *is* near Ephraim; so Absalom invited all the king's sons.

²⁸ Now Absalom had commanded his servants, saying, "Watch now, when Amnon's heart is merry with wine, and when I say to you, 'Strike Amnon!' then kill him. Do not be afraid. Have I not commanded you? Be courageous and valiant."

²⁹ So the servants of Absalom did to Amnon as Absalom had commanded. Then all the king's sons arose, and each one got on his mule and fled.

- **2 Samuel 13:32-39 (NKJV)**

³² Then Jonadab the son of Shimeah, David's brother, answered and said, "Let not my lord suppose they have killed all the young men, the king's sons, for only Amnon is dead. For by the command of Absalom this has been determined from the day that he forced his sister Tamar.

³³ Now therefore, let not my lord the king take the thing to his heart, to think that all the king's sons are dead. For only Amnon is dead."

³⁴ Then Absalom fled.

- ³⁷ But Absalom fled and went to Talmai the son of Ammihud, king of Geshur. And *David* mourned for his son every day.

³⁸ So Absalom fled and went to Geshur, and was there three years.

³⁹ And King David longed to go to Absalom. For he had been comforted concerning Amnon, because he was dead.

- **Absalom fled** for his life to **Geshur**, in Syria, where his mother had lived, and where **Talmi**, his maternal grandfather, was **king**. Absalom lived in Geshur for **three years**. Amnon was older than Absalom and until his death was next in line to the throne. With Amnon dead, Absalom had visions of *himself* on the throne. **King David longed to see Absalom** again, after his grief over Amnon's death had subsided with the passing of time.
- **Joab** sent a **woman** from **Tekoa** (near Bethlehem) to David with a family situation similar to David's. Pretending to be in deep mourning, she told how one of her **sons** had **killed** the other.
Believer's Bible Commentary
- This was done to trick David into bringing Absalom back home again.

- King David weakly ordered Joab to **bring Absalom back** to Jerusalem in spite of the fact that Absalom was unrepentant. It was most unrighteous for David to do this, and he was to pay for it dearly.
- For **two full years... Absalom lived in Jerusalem** without being permitted into his father's presence.
- After two years Absalom tried to contact Joab for permission to see the king. **Joab** refused to come to him twice, so **Absalom** ordered his **field of barley** to be burned. This brought Joab to his door quickly! Absalom's request for an audience with his father was granted, and the two were reunited. Though David had forgiven him and brought him back to Jerusalem instead of executing him, he had refused to forget what had happened. But when the two men finally met, Absalom received a complete pardon.

- Absalom was bitter, hard, and proud. The guilt of sin will do this to a person. It will harden you or humble you.
- The trademark of pride is in Absalom's life.
- ***Pride delights in the flattery of others (vs.25).*** He enjoyed the praise of others for his beauty. What we should praise in others is their character.
- ***Pride disregards the rights of others (vs. 30, 32).*** He burns Joab's fields and expects Joab to hop.
- ***Pride denies offenses to others (vs.32).*** He says, "IF there be any iniquity in me." There is no restitution because there is no remission or pardon because there is no repentance. Absalom returned without repenting. This lead to deeper rebellion in his life. Absalom had a routine but not a relationship. He had a family, but no father. David's lack of forgiveness hardened his son.
- ***Pride demands recognition from others (vs. 32).*** Absalom demands an audience with the king.

- Absalom does meet with the king and bows to the ground. A kiss of reconciliation is made. Absalom is not bowing in his heart for it is still hard and rebellion is raging within. How about you? Is rebellion raging in your life? Do you struggle with pride? Repent of it lest it destroys your life and leaves your life like a puddle on the ground, muddy and messy. Treasures From the Scriptures
- **David is learning a very hard lesson of the effects his sin has made. His son Amnon's lust ruined Tamar's life, cost Amnon his life and resulted in Absalom becoming a murderer of his brother and a rebellious son to David.**
- **2 Timothy 2:22-26 (NKJV)**
²² Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.
²³ But avoid foolish and ignorant disputes, knowing that they generate strife.

- ²⁴ And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient,
²⁵ in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth,
- David is upset because of the atrocity, actions, and abuse of his first born son but does nothing. David was responsible as king to do something about this injustice, yet, he responds passively.
Perhaps because: 1- Amnon is the firstborn son and heir to the throne. 2- He sees a glimpse of his own self in his son.
- His passive response does not solve his problem. David's negligence leads to the death of his sons.

- Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.
- If we pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who truly call on the LORD out of a pure heart, He will give the strength to flee whatever the lust is that entices us. So that we won't have to learn the consequences of sin like David learned.
- We need the strength, the encouragement and the fellowship of others who are walking Godly lives, to help keep us from falling into lusts of any kind.