

Character Study: David
Part 5 – David’s Sin
II Samuel 11

What’s happening?

- Some battles broke out around Israel, so David sent his army out to fight. One evening David walked out on the roof of his house and noticed a neighboring woman who was bathing. (11:1-2)
- David found out that the woman was Bathsheba, the wife of a man named Uriah, a Hittite, who was out fighting. David had his messengers bring her to his house and he slept with her. (11:3-4)
- The woman became pregnant, so David had Uriah return from battle and invited him to enjoy some time at home. But Uriah could not find the heart to enjoy an evening with his wife while his fellow Israelites were in battle, so he just slept at David’s doorstep. (11:5-13)
- David had Uriah return to battle, telling the commander to place him on the front lines in hopes he would be killed. Soon afterward, David received word that Uriah had in fact been killed. (11:14-25)
- Hearing the news, Bathsheba mourned for her husband. Then David brought her to his house and made her his wife. The Lord was displeased with what David had done. (11:26-27)

What’s God doing?

> God had blessed David tremendously, but God still sought David’s continued obedience. God is showing us that no one is beyond the temptation of sin. David’s sin would haunt him the rest of his life.

What’s to learn?

→ David not only saw Bathsheba, but he meditated on what he saw and lusted after her. The act of adultery was sin, but so was David’s lust. If our thoughts become polluted with sin, so will our actions. The first step in obedience is maintaining a godly thought life.

→ David showed that one sin leads to another. We often want to think that sin is innocent and harmless, but the truth is that sin always affects us more than we think it will, and it often leads us on to further sin. David’s sin of lusting led to murder.

→ We must always be on guard against sin, realizing that temptation may come even at moments when we feel least vulnerable.

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