

HISTORY – DAVID

- Israel asks God for a king (1 Samuel 8)
- God gives the people a king (Saul) but not his will
- King Saul disobeys God and is rejected by God
- David – anointed as king by Samuel when only a boy (Israel's second king)
- Saul tries to kill David after David slays Goliath
- David flees and is on the run for many years
- Does not take Saul's life when given the opportunity
- Saul dies in battle and David becomes king

HISTORY – DAVID

- Scripture – David, “a man after God’s own heart” and is known for being Israel’s greatest king – the “golden boy” of the Scriptures
- David captures Jerusalem and makes it capital
- David wants to build a house for God, but God says no, his son will build it (blood on his hands)
- Israel is emerging as the dominant power in the Middle East.
- David is on the brink of defeating all of the nations surrounding Israel

2 SAMUEL 11

¹ In the spring, at the time when kings go off to war, David sent Joab out with the king's men and the whole Israelite army. They destroyed the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David remained in Jerusalem. ² One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, ³ and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, "Isn't this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite?" ⁴ Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her. (She had purified herself from her uncleanness.) Then she went back home.

THE STORY

- Bathsheba sends word to David, “I am pregnant”
- 2 Choices: confess or cover up
- David comes up with a plan... “send for Uriah”
- David tries to get Uriah to go home and sleep with his wife (effectively covering up his sin)
- Uriah refuses – twice
- David sends a deadly letter back to Joab with Uriah

2 SAMUEL 11

¹⁵ In it he wrote, "Put Uriah in the front line where the fighting is fiercest. Then withdraw from him so he will be struck down and die." ¹⁶ So while Joab had the city under siege, he put Uriah at a place where he knew the strongest defenders were. ¹⁷ When the men of the city came out and fought against Joab, some of the men in David's army fell; moreover, Uriah the Hittite died.

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- Joab sends word back to David – “Uriah has fallen”

2 SAMUEL 11

²⁵ David told the messenger, "Say this to Joab: 'Don't let this upset you; the sword devours one as well as another. Press the attack against the city and destroy it.' Say this to encourage Joab."

²⁶ When Uriah's wife heard that her husband was dead, she mourned for him. ²⁷ After the time of mourning was over, David had her brought to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But the thing David had done displeased the LORD.

2 SAMUEL 12

¹ The LORD sent Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, "There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor. ² The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle, ³ but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children. It shared his food, drank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him. ⁴ "Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him.

Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one who had come to him."

⁵ David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, "As surely as the LORD lives, the man who did this deserves to die! ⁶ He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity."

⁷ Then Nathan said to David, "You are the man! This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul. ⁸ I gave your master's house to you, and your master's wives into your arms. I gave you the house of Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more. ⁹ Why did you despise the word of the LORD by doing what is evil in his eyes?

You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and took his wife to be your own. You killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. ¹⁰ Now, therefore, the sword will never depart from your house, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own.'

¹¹ "This is what the LORD says: 'Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity upon you. Before your very eyes I will take your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will lie with your wives in broad daylight. ¹² You did it in secret, but I will do this thing in broad daylight before all Israel.' "

¹³ Then David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD."

THE STORY

- God forgives David but reveals the consequences...
 - The sword will never depart from his house
 - Calamity/public shame will come from his own family
 - His son will die
- David pleads with God to let his son live – he fasts and prays for a full week
- His son dies after 7 days
- David responds by bathing, worshipping, and eating

LESSONS FROM THE STORY

1. Moral Autonomy

- a. We live in a self-sufficient society – independence is one of our main values
- b. No one has the right to tell us how to live – including Jesus
- c. Depending on anyone else is seen as weakness – faith becomes a crutch for the weak
- d. Moral autonomy is nothing more than the elevation of self and perhaps the greatest lie of our culture
- e. Rejection of Christ as King

LESSONS FROM THE STORY

1. Moral Autonomy
2. The Devastating Effects of Sin
 - a. Even though God forgave David, the consequences of his sin would affect generations after him
 - b. Sin of any kind has devastating effects – it destroys us and hurts the people around us
 - c. Sin is so devastating that it cost God the life of his own Son to pay for it
 - d. James 1:13-15

JAMES 1:13-15

¹³When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; ¹⁴but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed. ¹⁵Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

LESSONS FROM THE STORY

1. Moral Autonomy
2. The Devastating Effects of Sin
3. Hidden Sin
 - a. David thought he had effectively hidden his sin, but it was not hidden from God
 - b. When we sin, our first reaction is to hide it for shame always accompanies sin (i.e. Adam and Eve)
 - c. Psalm 32:1-5

PSALM 32

- ¹ Blessed is he
whose transgressions are forgiven,
whose sins are covered. ² Blessed is the man
whose sin the LORD does not count against him
and in whose spirit is no deceit.
- ³ When I kept silent,
my bones wasted away
through my groaning all day long.
- ⁴ For day and night
your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was sapped
as in the heat of summer.

PSALM 32

⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you
and did not cover up my iniquity.
I said, "I will confess
my transgressions to the LORD"—
and you forgave
the guilt of my sin.

LESSONS FROM THE STORY

1. Moral Autonomy
2. The Devastating Effects of Sin
3. Hidden Sin
4. Repentance
 - a. As king David could have responded differently
 - b. When we are confronted by our sin, we have the same choices – we can hide it or come clean and through the cross have our shame and guilt removed
 - c. Psalm 51:1-13

PSALM 51:1-13

- ¹ Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion
blot out my transgressions. ²Wash away all my iniquity
and cleanse me from my sin.
- ³ For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is always before me.
- ⁴ Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you are proved right when you speak
and justified when you judge.

- ⁵ Surely I was sinful at birth,
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
- ⁶ Surely you desire truth in the inner parts;
you teach me wisdom in the inmost place.
- ⁷ Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
- ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.
- ⁹ Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquity.
- ¹⁰ Create in me a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

- ¹¹ Do not cast me from your presence
or take your Holy Spirit from me.
- ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.
- ¹³ Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will turn back to you.