

You Are That Man!
2 Samuel 11:26-12:15

August 11, 2024

INVOCATION: Gracious and merciful God, we thank You today for allowing us to gather in Your presence. We thank You for forgiving our sins and for Your great love given to us. Hear our loving expression of song and prayer to You today. Allow us to hear You as we draw closer to You today. In the name of Christ our Lord we pray, Amen.

WELCOME: Be sure to welcome visitors.

HYMN # 309 Lord, I'm Coming Home
HYMN # 310 Out of My Bondage

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

MISSIONARY PRAYER CALENDAR

PASTORAL PRAYER:

OFFERTORY HYMN # 187 In the Garden

SERMON FOCUS: I must repent and be forgiven.

SERMON FUNCTION: The hearer will confront and repent of any known sin.

BACKGROUND:

Last week we discussed David's sin with Bathsheba. We saw all the warnings and stop signs that David went through in order to engage in his great sin. Today, we will observe that God sent someone to confront David with this great sin. It is generally believed that this visit comes about a year after David's adultery.

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 Samuel 11:26-12:15

INTRODUCTION:

How I got the scar on my left hand.

MESSAGE:

1. GOD WILL CONFRONT US WITH OUR SIN

a. The Spirit convicts

- i. Those "bad feelings" that we think of as conscience
- ii. (Psalm 32) "When I kept silent, my bones became brittle from my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy on me; my strength was drained as in the summer's heat."
- iii. Once we have given in to sin, particularly as a believer, we will not have peace until we get right with God. It is impossible for the Holy Spirit to commune with our sin.
- iv. If we choose to hold on tightly to our sin, then by nature we must let go of God in order to do so.
- v. If we fail to respond to the conviction of the Spirit, God will send people into our lives to confront us with our sin.

b. People confront us

- i. Nathan had skillfully presented a story that was designed to elicit pity from David for the one who had been wronged. It worked.
- ii. David declared what was deserved (death) and what was the legal penalty (repay fourfold).
- iii. It was easy for David to see the sinfulness in the rich man's actions in the story. His indignation was justified. Then, Nathan turned his indignation back to David himself. (7) "You are that man!"
 1. I've always pictured Nathan yelling this.
 2. Perhaps he said it softly and sadly.
- iv. God sent Nathan to confront David with his sin. These were not Nathan's words or judgments. These were God's words and judgments.

c. The longer we continue in our sin without repentance, the worse off we are, because repentance is essential.

2. REPENTANCE IS ESSENTIAL

- a. (13) "I have sinned against the Lord."
- b. David also writes in Psalm 51:4, "Against you--you alone--have I sinned and done this evil in your sight.
 - i. I have always read this and thought, "Uriah the Hittite might disagree with you." "Bathsheba might disagree with you."
 - ii. However, the important point, and the thing that we cannot forget is that every sin is a sin primarily against God.
 - iii. It is God to whom we must express our repentance and need for forgiveness.
- c. When we repent and turn back to God, our forgiveness is immediate.

3. FORGIVENESS IS IMMEDIATE

- a. (13) "Then Nathan replied to David, "And the Lord has taken away your sin; you will not die."
- b. (Luke 23:43) "I say to you today you will be with me in paradise."
- c. When our Lord removes our sins, that removal is immediate. There is no mandatory waiting period.
- d. When Jesus forgave the woman taken in adultery, He said, "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more."
- e. When Jesus forgives immediately, the accompanying change of heart should be immediate: When Jesus forgave Zacchaeus, he immediately acted forgiven and started repaying what he had taken.
- f. Nathan pronounced God's forgiveness of David as the result of his repentance.
- g. As Pastor Steve Gaines always says, "Admit it and quit it!"
- h. Note that what was removed was the sin, but not the consequences of that sin.

4. PENALTY IS REMOVED, BUT CONSEQUENCES REMAIN

- a. (14) "However, because you treated the Lord with such contempt in this matter, the son born to you will die."
- b. This seems harsh: This poor child, born of adultery, died for his father's sin. I have to trust that the child is ok in the afterlife.
- c. Remember David's initial judgment that "this man deserves to die." God is also saying, "You deserve to die, but I will spare you."
- d. David also pronounced, within the law, that the thief of the sheep must repay fourfold.
- e. David himself would pay fourfold for the sin of taking the life of Uriah.
 - i. The baby would die
 - ii. Amnon would be murdered (chap. 13)
 - iii. Absalom would be slain (chap. 18)
 - iv. Adonijah would be executed (1 Kgs. 2).
- f. Dr. Thomas Constable makes a great point. When you hammer a nail into a board, even if you remove the nail, the hole remains.

- g. As I used to tell my middle-school students: If you kill someone, then repent, God will forgive you. But you will still have to go to prison.
 - h. Are there any sins that we must give up, even if they leave a hole in our lives, so that we may be forgiven?
5. THE GOSPEL IN SIMPLE FORM (adapted from Dr. James Merritt).
- a. Bad News: We are all sinners separated from God.
 - b. Worst News: There is nothing we can do about our sin problem.
 - c. Good News: Christ did for us what we cannot do for ourselves.
 - d. Best News: Salvation and eternal life are a free gift, but you must receive it.

INVITATION HYMN # 320 Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus