

## 2 Samuel - The 10th book of the bible

Info:

- A. **Who wrote this book?** We don't know, in the Jewish Talmud, which is the original commentary of the Old Testament - said Samuel wrote the first section then Gad and Nathan picked up the book after Samuel died
- B. 1 and 2 Samuel was just one book, but when it was translated in the Septuagint it was divided
- C. 1 Samuel marked the end of the Judges...and the beginning of the Monarchy
- D. 1 Samuel **marks the rise** of David, and 2nd Samuel **marks the reign** of David
- E. 2nd Samuel covers a period of 40 years — from about 1010 B.C. – 970 B.C. And it begins with the death of Saul, and with David being anointed as king over Judah. And it ends with David in his old age. The reign of David as king in Israel has three movements in it, if you would - **David's Triumphs, David's Tragedies, and David's Trials**
- F. **The flow of the Book**
  - 1. **1-10 Triumphs**
  - 2. **11-12 Tragedies**
  - 3. **13 - 24 Trials**

# Chapter 1-10 - David's Triumphs

## Chapter 1

This chapter picks up with the death of Saul...and David receiving news about it the event from the young man who finished him off

2 Samuel 1:6–10 (ESV) <sup>6</sup>And the young man who told him said, “By chance I happened to be on Mount Gilboa, and there was Saul leaning on his spear, and behold, the chariots and the horsemen were close upon him. <sup>7</sup>And when he looked behind him, he saw me, and called to me. And I answered, ‘Here I am. <sup>8</sup>And he said to me, ‘Who are you?’ I answered him, ‘I am an Amalekite. <sup>9</sup>And he said to me, ‘Stand beside me and kill me, for anguish has seized me, and yet my life still lingers.’ <sup>10</sup>So I stood beside him and killed him, because I was sure that he could not live after he had fallen. And I took the crown that was on his head and the armlet that was on his arm, and I have brought them here to my lord.”

**Summary:** Think about this - In 1 Samuel 15 Saul had been sent to battle to bring God's judgment on the Amalekites. Saul didn't kill all of them. He left 'the best' of the Amalekites alive. **What Saul was supposed to kill, but left alive, ended up killing Saul.**

- A. **Here's the picture** — God will point out things in our lives that need to die. If we value that thing and let it live, it will destroy us.

Look at David's unlikely response

2 Samuel 1:11–13 (ESV) <sup>11</sup>Then David took hold of his clothes and tore them, and so did all the men who were with him. <sup>12</sup>And they mourned and wept and fasted until evening for Saul and for Jonathan his son and for the people of the Lord and for the house of Israel, because they had fallen by the sword.

**Summary:** David is crushed and mourns the death of Saul and Jonathan and memorializes them.

- A. Now, Jonathan we understand...but Saul?
1. He hated him - He tried to kill him - He relentlessly pursued him, and He was standing in His was to becoming what God had promised he would be...King
  2. Yet he doesn't respond to the death of Saul with laughter or vengeance...He responds with mourning
  3. This shows that David had a 1 Corinthians 13 heart...A heart that was willing to bear with someone even though this person is an enemy **1 Peter 4:8 (ESV) <sup>8</sup>Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.**

## Chapter 2

**2 Samuel 2:1–4 (ESV)** <sup>1</sup> After this David inquired of the Lord, “Shall I go up into any of the cities of Judah?” (At this time he was living in Ziklag which was a philistine city) And the Lord said to him, “Go up.” David said, “To which shall I go up?” And he said, “To Hebron.” <sup>2</sup> So David went up there, and his two wives also, Ahinoam of Jezreel and Abigail the widow of Nabal of Carmel. <sup>3</sup> And David brought up his men who were with him, everyone with his household, and they lived in the towns of Hebron. <sup>4</sup> **And the men of Judah came, and there they anointed David king over the house of Judah.**

**Summary:** This was 15 -20 years since Samuel anointed David. **(1 Samuel 16:12-13)**. As the promise seems almost fulfilled, David didn't rush in blindly and seize it. Instead, he carefully sought the Lord. David knew the promise was from God, so he knew God could fulfill it without any manipulation from David.

From 2nd Samuel 2-4 there is pretty much a civil war between Judah and the other tribes who were still loyal to Saul..and so the war is raging between David, and Saul's son Ish-bosheth who was the appointed king of the northern tribes

### Chapter 3

2 Samuel 3:1–4 (ESV) <sup>1</sup> There was a long war between the house of Saul and the house of David. And David grew stronger and stronger, while the house of Saul became weaker and weaker. <sup>2</sup> And sons were born to David at Hebron: his firstborn was Amnon, of Ahinoam of Jezreel; <sup>3</sup> and his second, Chileab, of Abigail the widow of Nabal of Carmel; and the third, Absalom the son of Maacah the daughter of Talmi king of Geshur; <sup>4</sup> and the fourth, Adonijah the son of Haggith; and the fifth, Shephatiah the son of Abital...

**Summary:** So David has been busy

- A. **Sons were born to David:** During David's seven-year reign in Hebron, his six different wives gave birth to six sons. This shows that David went against God's commandment that Israel's king should not multiply wives to himself
- B. His many wives went against God's command to kings and against God's heart for marriage:
  - 1. God spoke about it on - **Genesis 2:24 (ESV)** <sup>24</sup> Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh
  - 2. God's law spoke about it - **Deuteronomy 17:17 (ESV)** <sup>17</sup> And he shall not acquire many wives for himself, lest his heart turn away, nor shall he acquire for himself excessive silver and gold
  - 3. Jesus spoke about it - **Matthew 19:4–6 (ESV)** <sup>4</sup> He answered, "Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, <sup>5</sup> and said, 'Therefore a man shall

leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? <sup>6</sup> So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate."

- C. David's many wives were common in that culture... Adding many wives was one way great men and especially kings expressed their power and status
- D. A little later we'll discuss the consequences to this choice to go with the culture instead of God...

Now, lets look at someone from Saul's family

2 Samuel 3:6–10 (ESV) <sup>6</sup> While there was war between the house of Saul and the house of David, **Abner was making himself strong in the house of Saul.** <sup>7</sup> Now Saul had a concubine whose name was Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah. **And Ish-bosheth said to Abner, "Why have you gone in to my father's concubine?"**

**Summary:** so this was a big accusation made by Ish-Bosheth,

- A. To take the wife or concubine of the late monarch was to appropriate his property and to make a bid for the throne
- B. This might seem strange that there was a controversy over the **concubine** of **Saul**, especially because Saul was dead. Yet in their thinking, the king's bride belonged to him and him alone, even if he was absent...

look how Abner response

<sup>8</sup> Then Abner was very angry over the words of Ish-bosheth and said, "Am I a dog's head of Judah? To this day I keep showing steadfast love to the house of Saul your father, to his brothers, and to his friends, and have not given you into the hand of David. And yet you charge me today with a fault concerning a woman. <sup>9</sup> God do so to Abner and more also, if I do not

accomplish for David what the Lord has sworn to him, <sup>10</sup> to transfer the kingdom from the house of Saul and set up the throne of David over Israel and over Judah, from Dan to Beersheba.

**Summary:** So given Abner's response, and that Fact that He wouldn't put to death for treason...so this tells leads us to believe that Ish-Bosheth had a little bit of His Dad in him - As Saul was jealous of David, Ish-Bosheth seems like he saw Abner gaining notoriety in the the kingdom and He couldn't handle it...

- A. **Lesson:** Unrepentant sin always has collaterals damage - No sin is localized to just one person, it spreads and effects the whole family
- B. **Lesson 2:** Ish-bosheth Jealousy of Abner drove away someone who was obviously of great help to him...this is what Jealously does

Abner would join forces with David...would eventually be killed by Joab took revenge on Abner killing his brother...

## Chapters 4

The Civil war continues

## Chapters 5

**Summary:** Ish-bosheth died, And the remaining leaders and people of those tribes come to Hebron; and they recognize David as king over all of Israel. You can put 1st Chronicles 12 as a header there at 2nd Samuel 5. There in 1st Chronicles 12 we're given a detailed account of this three-day coronation and celebration.

- A. We're told - "There was joy in Israel". And from that point forward David starts a 33 year reign as king over all of Israel. The first thing David did was make Jerusalem the capital of the nation – big stuff! Jerusalem is the center of God's universe – you need to understand that, guys. It's not New York, London, Paris, LA, DC, Hong Kong, Tokyo. It's none of those places. It's Jerusalem.

- B. It would be outside the city of Jerusalem where Jesus would be crucified. Jerusalem is the place to which Jesus will return. He will sit upon the throne of David, and rule the world in righteousness for a thousand years before ushering in a New Heaven, a New Earth, and a New Jerusalem! And up to this point the Israelites had never been able to possess Jerusalem because it was occupied by this people group called the Jebusites. And the Jews could never drive them out. But when God's anointed king took the throne of Israel the Israelites finally conquered the city.

2nd Samuel 5:6 And the king and his men went to Jerusalem against the Jebusites..."

And here's how bad things were.

2nd Samuel 5:6 ... the inhabitants of the land, who said to David, "You will not come in here, but the blind and the lame will ward you off— thinking, "David cannot come in here."

In other words – "We'll let every gimpy person amongst our people. You'll never come in here. They'll still beat you guys."

2nd Samuel 5:7 Nevertheless, David took the stronghold of Zion.... 10 And David became greater and greater, for the Lord, the God of hosts, was with him."

**Summary:** What a great picture of Jesus being crowned in our lives – joy when He's crowned King. When we were the self-appointed sovereigns in our little kingdoms of one, we were powerless to conquer sin. But when we abdicate the throne of our lives, when Jesus is enthroned in our lives, Jesus leads us to victory over the sin that we were powerless to deal with. There's a significant change in our lives. Our lives become His dwelling place – the city of Jesus. And then Jesus becomes greater and greater – the sphere of His influence and power grows day by day. He extends His rule in our lives. And, guys, we need to remember - God invites us to – come as we are, not stay as we are!

- A. **When Jesus takes the throne of our lives** – there's an overthrow; there's a new King on the throne. It's marked. It's notable. But then Jesus expands the borders of His influence

## Chapter 6

2 Samuel 6:1–7 (ESV) <sup>1</sup> David again gathered all the chosen men of Israel, thirty thousand. <sup>2</sup> And David arose and went with all the people who were with him from Baale-judah to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the name of the Lord of hosts who sits enthroned on the cherubim. <sup>3</sup> **And they carried the ark of God on a new cart and brought it out of the house of Abinadab**, which was on the hill. And Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, were driving the new cart, <sup>4</sup> with the ark of God, and Ahio went before the ark. <sup>5</sup> And David and all the house of Israel were celebrating before the Lord, with songs and lyres and harps and tambourines and castanets and cymbals. <sup>6</sup> And when they came to the threshing floor of Nacon, Uzzah put out his hand to the ark of God and took hold of it, for the oxen stumbled. <sup>7</sup> And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Uzzah, and God struck him down there because of his error, and he died there beside the ark of God.

**Summary:** David's great desire was to make Jerusalem the center of worship. At the start of his reign over Israel David desired to bring the Ark of the Covenant up to Jerusalem. The Ark of the Covenant is where God manifested His glory above the Mercy Seat. And here is the heart of King David: He wanted – to bring the glory of God, to the people of God.

- I. **David's first attempt to bring the ark up to Jerusalem was a failure.** He had a right motive; But he used wrong methods
  - A. **First** - They Put it on a a cart when it was supposed to be carried and only by levites (**Ex 25:12-15**)
  - B. **Second** - It was to only by levites (**Numbers 4:15**)



- C. **Here's the picture:** Good intentions and big productions...don't mean much if God's commandments and his holiness disregarded

David's second attempt was successful was much more successful because Scripture was obeyed...David searched the Scriptures, the writings of Moses, and found out God's way to transport the Ark of the Covenant.

## Chapter 7

**Summary:** Here we have the story of David's desire to build a house for the Lord. And the Lord told David, "David, no, you can't build a house for me." Then God made this radical promise to David that becomes a pivotal point in the Old Testament.

Here's where we need to remember somethings...

- A. **In Genesis 3:15** God promised that Savior of the world would come from a woman, a man who would destroy the works of Satan
- B. **In Genesis 22:18** God promised the Savior of the world would be a descendant of Abraham
- C. **In Genesis 49:10** we're told that Savior of the world would come through the tribe of Judah

2 Samuel 7:12–16 (ESV) <sup>12</sup> When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. <sup>13</sup> He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. <sup>14</sup> I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, <sup>15</sup> but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. <sup>16</sup> And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever"

**Summary:** This is messianic prophecy about The one who would come from the Line of David...Jesus

- A. Jesus's kingdom would be established forever
- B. He would be whipped and broken for iniquity - No his but ours -  
**Isaiah 53:4–6 (ESV)** <sup>4</sup> Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. <sup>5</sup> But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. <sup>6</sup> All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.
- C. **Lesson 1:** Remember the bible truly is one big book about Jesus... it's always important for us to see that in our reading...somehow some way, your bible study should always lead us back to a love, honor, and awe of the person and work of Jesus
- D. **Lesson 2:** David said, I want to glorify God by building him a big house...And God says "David, the big deal is not the building, the big deal is me bringing Jesus into the word...thats what i want you to set your eyes on"
  - 1. Thats important for us to remember Jesus is the main thing -  
**Philippians 2:11 (ESV)** <sup>11</sup> and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. - It brings God glory when Jesus is exalted

### **Chapters 7-10 — records David's victories, and the expansion of Israel's territory.**

But there's a wonderful account mentioned in chapter 9 that is such a beautiful picture of Jesus...

**2 Samuel 9 (ESV)**<sup>1</sup> And David said, "Is there still anyone left of the house of Saul, that I may show him kindness for Jonathan's sake?"

**Summary** - 1 Samuel 7 David asked, “What can I do for God?” and he proposed to build a temple for the Lord. Now David asked another question we should each ask: “What can I do for others?”

- A. David’s question showed a great love because Saul made himself an enemy of David. *It was customary in those days for the king of a new dynasty to completely massacre anyone connected with the prior dynasty. David went against the principle of revenge and against the principle of self-preservation and asked what he could do for the family of his enemy.*

<sup>2</sup> Now there was a servant of the house of Saul whose name was Ziba, and they called him to David. And the king said to him, “Are you Ziba?” And he said, “I am your servant.” <sup>3</sup> And the king said, “Is there not still someone of the house of Saul, that I may show the kindness of God to him?” Ziba said to the king, “There is still a son of Jonathan; he is crippled in his feet.”

So then David summons for him...

<sup>6</sup> And Mephibosheth the son of Jonathan, son of Saul, came to David and fell on his face and paid homage. And David said, “Mephibosheth!” And he answered, “Behold, I am your servant.” <sup>7</sup> And David said to him, “Do not fear, for I will show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan, and I will restore to you all the land of Saul your father, and you shall eat at my table always.” <sup>8</sup> And he paid homage and said, “What is your servant, that you should show regard for a dead dog such as I?”

- A. **Do not fear:** These words would be cruel or meaningless unless David gave Mephibosheth a *reason* to **not fear**.
- B. **I will surely show you kindness for Jonathan your father’s sake:** David made a covenant with Jonathan in 1 Samuel 20, promising to show kindness to the descendents of Jonathan. David gladly made good on his promise, though Jonathan was long dead.

- C. **Will restore to you all the land of Saul:** David simply promised Mephibosheth would receive what was his. Mephibosheth knew about these lands all along but he was afraid to take possession of them because it would expose him before the king. David went against all custom in showing such kindness to an heir of the former dynasty.
- D. **And you shall eat bread at my table continually:** This went far beyond giving Mephibosheth what was rightly his. He gave Mephibosheth the honor of a close relationship with the king.
1. A similar promise is given to the followers of Jesus. Jesus told the disciples that they would eat and drink at His table in heaven (Luke 22:30).
  2. **What is your servant, that you should look upon such a dead dog as I?** Mephibosheth didn't feel worthy of such generosity. He considered himself a **dead dog**, meaning a worthless and insignificant person

Then the generosity continues...

<sup>9</sup> Then the king called Ziba, Saul's servant, and said to him, "All that belonged to Saul and to all his house I have given to your master's grandson. <sup>10</sup> And you and your sons and your servants shall till the land for him and shall bring in the produce, that your master's grandson may have bread to eat. But Mephibosheth your master's grandson shall always eat at my table." Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants. <sup>11</sup> Then Ziba said to the king, "According to all that my lord the king commands his servant, so will your servant do." So Mephibosheth ate at David's table, like one of the king's sons. <sup>12</sup> And Mephibosheth had a young son, whose name was Mica. And all who lived in Ziba's house became Mephibosheth's servants. <sup>13</sup> So Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem, for he ate always at the king's table. Now he was lame in both his feet.

- A. **You, and your sons and your servants, shall work the land for him:** In addition to the land, David gave Mephibosheth servants to

work the land. The food from the land was for Mephibosheth's family, because he now ate at David's table

**B. He shall eat at my table like one of the king's sons:**

Mephibosheth was happy to know that David didn't want to kill him. To have a promise like this was almost unbelievable.

**II. David's grace to Mephibosheth is a wonderful picture of God's grace to us. *We are Mephibosheth***

- A. We are hiding, poor, weak, lame, and fearful before our King comes to us
- B. We are separated from our King because of our wicked ancestors
- C. We are separated from our King because of our deliberate actions
- D. We separated ourselves from the King because we didn't know him or His love for us
- E. Our King sought us out before we sought Him
- F. The King's kindness is extended to us for the sake of another
- G. The King's kindness is based on covenant
- H. We must receive the King's kindness in humility
- I. The King returns to us what we lost in hiding from Him
- J. The King returns to us more than what we lost in hiding from Him
- K. We have the privilege of provision at the King's table
- L. We are received as sons at the King's table, with access to the King and fellowship with Him.

- M. The King's honor does not immediately take away all our weakness and lameness, but it gives us a favor and standing that overcomes its sting and changes the way we think about ourselves.

## Chapter 11-12 David's tragedy

So we've seen David's triumphs...2nd Samuel 11 is the account of David's tragic fall. And the following 10 chapters (2nd Samuel 12-21) tell us of the trials that followed from that tragedy. If you sit down and read 2nd Samuel in one sitting you'd see that the great lesson of the book is – **the danger of compromise with sin, and the consequences of sin.**

- A. We not only learn about the disastrous nature of sin; We also learn about repentance and mercy.
- B. G. Campbell-Morgan said this - "In the whole of the Old Testament literature there is no tragic more tragic or full of solemn and searching warning than this."
- C. Augustine said — "David's fall should put upon their guard all who have not fallen, and save from despair all those who have fallen.
- D. Here in 2nd Samuel the Holy Spirit gives us in the life of King David perhaps the most powerful illustration of the New Testament truth record in - **1 Corinthians 10:11 Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. 12 Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall.**

2 Samuel 11:1–2 (ESV) <sup>1</sup> In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab, and his servants with him, and all Israel. And they ravaged the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup> **It happened, late one afternoon...**

Late afternoon, early evening - it happened on one afternoon / evening.

This one evening would change the rest of David's life. This one evening would change David's family.

- A. This one evening would change David's ministry as king. This one evening would change the face of Israel
- B. The sin David committed on this one evening had disastrous consequences – privately, publicly, and politically
- C. **Lesson:** Guys, a single act — in a single moment — brought death and disaster into what had been, up to that one evening, a life of victory. I want you to think about everything broken in this world. The brokenness of this world traces back to a single act of disobedience. In light of David's life, in light of Genesis 3, to even think about saying, 'Well, it was just one sin', is absolutely absurd.

**<sup>2</sup> It happened, late one afternoon...when David arose from his couch and was walking on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; and the woman was very beautiful.**

**Summary:** Now think about this, even though this moment changed David's life, the compromise that led to this sin started in **Samuel 3** with David taking on multiple wives.

- A. **Geneses 2** God had already defined marriage between 1 man and 1 women...but somehow David had scraped that idea...and He allowed fallen culture to inform his view of marriage
- B. He was married to the daughter of Saul, a woman named Michal. Then he married Abigail...Then he added other wives
- C. Alongside of that David also adopted fallen culture's take on sexual relationships. He took to himself concubines. Now concubines were not wives. If they conceived, their children were not considered royalty. They were sex partners
- D. By the time this late afternoon came...This big sin didn't seem so big after all

E. **Lesson:** Sin often starts with small compromises...and goes to big things **James 1:13–15 (ESV)** <sup>13</sup> Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God,” for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. <sup>14</sup> But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. <sup>15</sup> Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

F. Be very careful of compromise

Theres was another element to this tragedy

**2 Samuel 11:1 (ESV)** <sup>1</sup> In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle....**But David remained at Jerusalem.**

**Summary:** When he should have been battling; He was just kicking back. In Old Testament times, Biblical times, there were war seasons. They didn't have the kind of technology that let them be all terrain, all weather. There was a time that was appropriate to doing war. As he sent everybody else out, he could have been thinking -I survived Goliath. I survived Saul. I've led Israel to a greatness it's never known. I think I just deserve a rest

A. **Lesson:** Nothing says that David...stayed back to intentionally commit this sin...but here's the warning...when we are someplace we should not be...**When we are not doing things that we ought to be doing Sin happens!**

**2 Samuel 11:3–4 (ESV)** <sup>3</sup> And David sent and inquired about the woman. And one said, “Is not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?” <sup>4</sup> So David sent messengers and took her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she had been purifying herself from her uncleanness.) Then she returned to her house.

**Summary:** David inquired about her. And when he made an inquiry he was told she was – she was the daughter of one of his mighty men, **Eliam (2nd**



Samuel 23:34). and she was the wife of one of his mighty men, Uriah (2nd Samuel 23:39)

- A. You would think that would end it...He's fed his flesh...and the more you fed it, the more that beast grows, and they more you become a slave to your desires...
- B. **Question:** What was at the root of David's sin? He simply wasn't satisfied with what God had provided for him
  - 1. God had given the covenant of marriage to satisfy one's sexual desires...Yet David chose to ignore that for himself, and her the woman
  - 2. Makes me think of the children of Israel in Numbers 11 - God had provided Mana...They wanted things like meat, leeks, onions, garlic...things outside of God's will for them at that time...so God give them meat in the form of Quails that brought about a plague - Kebroth - Hutiva - The graves of lust
  - 3. **Lesson** - David's sin wasn't that he desired to have sex, His sin was obey his bodily cravings above God's voice and commands...that applies to us as well

Now His sin would lead to Her getting pregnant and David essentially committing murder of a good man, Uriah...He would be exposed by a prophet of the name of Nathan who would eventually say this to David

2nd Samuel 12:9 Why have you despised the word of the Lord, to do what is evil in his sight?

**Summary** - Nathan gets to the very heart of the issue right here...Before, his sin against Uriah, and his sin against Bathsheba...David has sinned against God

- A. He defied and despised the seventh commandment – “You shall not commit adultery” -. He despised and defied the seventh

commandment because he had already broken the first commandment. David had set himself up as God. And God says, "Here's the first one. I'm God, and no one else is. You can have other gods before me."

- B. Here's is the heart of David's sin. instead of worshiping God and being defined by God... He chose to worship himself, be led by his cravings, be defined by his view of what's right and wrong... He was guilty of Idolatry
- C. **Lesson:** You commit adultery because you have set yourself up as the one who decides what you ought to have, when God has said what you can't have...
  - 1. Being "self sovereign" is what sends people to hell... this might look different in different people's lives... but this is the sickness that sends people to hell
  - 2. By having sex with Bathsheba David was setting into motion disastrous consequences. Bathsheba's grandfather was a guy named Ahithophel. Ahithophel was David's valued counselor (2nd Samuel 23:34, 2nd Samuel 15:12). And Ahithophel is going to turn on David. And he's going to counsel Absalom in Absalom's treacherous attempt to overthrow his dad. Ahithophel will actually counsel Absalom to humiliate his father by having sex with David's concubines in the same place David committed adultery with his granddaughter.
  - 3. Wow! David's tragic fall also teaches us that sin leads to more sin
  - 4. Now... understand, this momentary lapse by David... begin a year of deceit and unrepentant sinning...

Now David would finally come to his senses...

2nd Samuel 12:13 David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the Lord."

**Summary:** Notice how David owns it - It wasn't "we" — though it was true that he wasn't the only committing adultery in that moment. And he gives his action the name it deserved. It wasn't a mistake. It wasn't an error. It wasn't a mess-up. It wasn't an indiscretion. It wasn't a problem. David called it what God calls it. He says, **"I have sinned"**

- A. This is what confession really is guys...Calling your sin...what God calls it.
- B. **And some of the Psalms tells us how he would repent of sin - Psalm 51:1–4 (ESV)** <sup>1</sup> Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. <sup>2</sup> Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! <sup>3</sup> For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. <sup>4</sup> Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.
- C. **He even spoke of his state while he was in sin - Psalm 32:3 (ESV)** <sup>3</sup> For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.
- D. **Here's the lesson** - The danger of compromise with sin and the consequences of sin; one act of sin in one moment is disastrous; that one moment is preceded by incremental acts of compromise; sin leads to more sin
- E. **But there's another lesson that follows** — Sin can be forgiven, but sin, even forgiven sin, has consequence...Think about what we've seen so far in 2nd Samuel - Victory and the expansion of David's kingdom...**but from 2nd Samuel 13 through 2nd Samuel 24 there's not a single victory, only heartache and trials.**

## Chapters 13-24 Record David's trials

The final section of the book is best understood in light of something Nathan's says to David...

2nd Samuel 12:11 Thus says the Lord, 'Behold, I will raise up evil against you out of your own house.'

**Summary:** David's family was essentially a giant train wreck that brought damage to the nation.

- A. 2nd Samuel 13 contains the tragic story of one of David's sons, a guy named Amnon, who raped one of David's daughters, a girl named Tamar. David's son Absalom murdered David's Amnon. And here's the deal – David did nothing to correct Amnon
- B. It may be because of his own sexual sin that David felt that he lacked the moral authority to correct Amnon
- C. F. B. Meyer said this — "Absalom's treason would never have taken place if David had taken instant measures to punish Amnon."

## Chapters 14 –18

These chapters tell us Absalom's story. After killing his brother, Amnon, Absalom went into exile for 5 years. And when he finally returns to the palace Absalom doesn't come back as his dad's friend. He doesn't come back as a humble, repentant sinner. Absalom's is the story of self-exaltation. He comes back full of pride and set on taking his dad's throne. And, again, that would mean killing his dad. And he began to move forward to take his dad's throne by turning the hearts of the people away from David.

2nd Samuel 15:2 And Absalom used to rise early and stand beside the way of the gate. And when any man had a dispute to come before the king for judgment, Absalom would call to him and say, "From what city are you?" And when he said, "Your servant is of such and such a tribe in Israel," Absalom would say to him, "See, your claims are good and right, but there is no man designated by the king to hear you."

In other words – “My dad isn’t interested.”

2nd Samuel 15:4 Then Absalom would say, “Oh that I were judge in the land! Then every man with a dispute or cause might come to me, and I would give him justice.”

He’s saying “You would always get an appointment with me. And I would give justice

2nd Samuel 15:5 And whenever a man came near to pay homage to him, he would put out his hand and take hold of him and kiss him. 6 Thus Absalom did to all of Israel who came to the king (in other words – came to His dad) for judgment. So (or by way of that) Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel.”

And David only loved his son! This is what’s so mind-blowing. I cannot even begin to understand the crushing weight of that kind of betrayal. David, a man who never ran from a battle, left the palace and fled Jerusalem. That’s so amazing.

**And here’s why it’s amazing** - by that action David essentially said, “God’s the One who made me king! So God’s going to have to be the One who keeps me king! And I’m not going to Jerusalem into a blood bath to preserve my position.” David had the heart of a shepherd; and he put the safety of the sheep — above maintaining his position, above maintaining his own needs and his own concerns.

2nd Samuel 15:14 Go quickly, lest he overtake us quickly and bring down ruin on us and strike the city with the edge of the sword.”

Absalom’s revolt fails....

**And lastly we see his weird end...in Chapter 18**

2 Samuel 18:9–14 (ESV) <sup>9</sup> And Absalom happened to meet the servants of David. Absalom was riding on his mule, and the mule went under the thick branches of a great oak, and his head caught fast in the oak, and he was suspended between heaven and earth, while the mule that was under him went on. <sup>10</sup> And a certain man saw it and told Joab, “Behold, I saw Absalom hanging in an oak.” <sup>11</sup> Joab said to the man who told him, “What, you saw him! Why then did you not strike him there to the ground? I would have been glad to give you ten pieces of silver and a belt.” <sup>12</sup> But the man said to Joab, “Even if I felt in my hand the weight of a thousand pieces of silver, I would not reach out my hand against the king’s son, for in our hearing the king commanded you and Abishai and Ittai, ‘For my sake protect the young man Absalom.’” <sup>13</sup> On the other hand, if I had dealt treacherously against his life (and there is nothing hidden from the king), then you yourself would have stood aloof.” <sup>14</sup> Joab said, “I will not waste time like this with you.” And he took three javelins in his hand and thrust them into the heart of Absalom while he was still alive in the oak.

**Summary:** In our vernacular, when somebody’s proud, we say, “Oh, they’ve got such a big head!” Well, the man with a big head gets his head stuck in a tree, and side note, Joab really likes to kill people

**Chapter 19** tells of the difficulty of reuniting the nation after Absalom’s rebellion.

**Chapter 20** tells of another rebellion from a guy named Sheba of Bethlehem who incited yet another rebellion against David.

**2nd Samuels 21-24 are somewhat of an appendix to the book. And they include**

- A. a Psalm of Praise
- B. David’s last words
- C. the list of David’s mighty men
- D. David’s sin in numbering the people

- E. and the purchase of the land where his son Solomon would build the temple of the Lord in Jerusalem

## **Conclusion:**

Sin is destructive...If you think it's not, your kidding yourself:

- A. Compromise is the premier to sin
- B. Sin Never just effects you
- C. Jesus can free you from your sin, and is calling you re confess and repent tonight