

Our Promise Keeping King – 2 Samuel

2 Samuel 11:1-27

“Hardened by Sin’s Deceit” – December 9, 2018



Introduction

Hebrews 3:12–13 says “Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.” Left unchecked, sin has a hardening effect. If we believe the lies of sin, our hearts become a bit more calloused, sin becomes a bit more ‘normal’ (instead of shocking/disgusting), and we begin to spiral into sin. David’s fall into sin may leave us confused, angry, and disgusted, but his failure not only calls for our own self-examination...it points us to King Jesus who has the power to change our hearts and set us free from the sin we’ve spiraled into.

Pray

Before you begin, take some time to ask God to help you understand His word, to reveal what needs to change in you, and for the grace to follow Him in response. To help, use [Psalm 119:33-40](#) as a prayer for God to open His word up to you.

Sermon Outline

- I. Scene 1 (11:1-5) The Bedroom
- II. Scene 2 (11:6-11) Plan A – Get Uriah Home
- III. Scene 3 (11:12-13) Plan B – Get Uriah Drunk
- IV. Scene 4 (11:14-21) Plan C – Kill Uriah
- V. Scene 5 (11:22-25) David’s Assessment
- VI. Scene 6 (11:26-27) God’s Assessment
- VII. Application

Read & Discuss

1. Read [2 Samuel 11:1-5](#)

In vv1-5, an innocent glance turns to lust. Lust is followed by inquiry, and inquiry turns into an affair. What hint does the text give us as why David falls into sin as he does? What can we learn about our own fight against sin and temptation from David? ([James 1:14-15](#))

2. Read [2 Samuel 11:6-17](#)

Instead of confessing his sin, stepping into the light and turning back to God, David tries to cover it up, hoping it will ‘go away.’ If he can get Uriah to go home and be with his wife, people will think the child is *his*, not David’s – but the king’s plan is frustrated by Uriah’s integrity ([v11](#)). With each plan that fails, we see David’s sin begin to snowball into something bigger until his conspiracy involves the murder of Uriah (and several other soldiers) to keep it quiet. The desperate attempt to cover up sin is nothing new. It’s what our first parents, Adam and Eve, were guilty of...and it’s something we’re prone to do with

our own sin as well. Can you think of a time(s) when you believed it would be better to cover up sin rather than confess it? In the moment, what was the reason you thought it would be better? In other words, what was sin whispering in your ear that you believed in the moment? Do you find yourself in David's downward spiral of trying to keep your sin hidden *now*? Do you see how sin is lying to you? Can you recognize the toxic effects it's having on you and the ones around you?

3. Read [2 Samuel 11:18-25](#)

David's assessment of it all is quite simple: "Do not let this matter displease you" (literally: *Do not let this thing be evil in your eyes*). It seems David thinks that all is well, that ends well. Perhaps he got away with it!? How can a hard heart skew our moral judgement?

4. Read [2 Samuel 11:26-27](#)

David may have thought he got away with it; he may have labeled it as no big deal. But God had a different assessment. Proverbs 15:3 says "The eyes of the Lord are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good." Later in the New Testament, we read in Hebrews 4:13 "And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account." God saw and was 'displeased' with David's actions. David had lived for the opinion of man in chapter 11 but forgotten the one opinion that matters at the end of the day: God's. Had David cared more about God's opinion than man's; had he feared God *more* than man, how might chapter 11 had looked different?

5. Application

- Where do you see *yourself* in this story? Are you fighting sin and temptation, seeking after God in His word and in prayer, and striving to live in the light with the people of God? Or can you identify yourself at one point in the downward spiral of David's downfall?
- Not matter how hard confession and repentance may be, it is always better than the cost of cover up (Read [Psalm 32](#) for example). God's warning is God's mercy and grace to us – to help us turn to Him in repentance. Who do you need to talk to get help for where you're at?

Prayer of Response

1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to *confess*? From what do I need to *repent*?

2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand, believe, desire, or do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come.

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