

Our Promise Keeping King – 2 Samuel

2 Samuel 13:1-39

“Like father like son” – February 3, 2019



Introduction

Relationships, work, health, bad weather, broken cars...life can be frustrating such that the pain and suffering of a fallen world can leave us groaning ([Rom. 8:22-23](#)). What is wrong with the world? After Adam and Eve rejected God's rule over their lives, sin changed everything. In response, God cursed the ground ([Gen. 3:17](#)) and subjected the world to futility. Why does God do this? In our fallen nature, we are blind to the ugliness of sin – we get more upset about our discomfort than belittling God's name. The frustration and grief of having *something you created*, not do what it's supposed to, is God's mercy to open our eyes to the horror of sin so we hate sin and trust Him more. That's what we see in 2 Samuel 13.

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 (13:1-6) Bad Friends
- II. Scene 2 (13:7-19) Sin Deceives
- III. Scene 3 (13:20-29) Vengeance
- IV. Scene 4 (13:30-39) Messy Consequences

Read & Discuss

1. Read [2 Samuel 13:1-6](#)

Amnon's twisted lust for his sister may have ended with no action since it seemed impossible for him to act on it (v2). But instead of helping Amnon fight a sinful desire, Jonadab opens the door for him to act on it. The Christian should have friends they disagree with and don't know Christ, but not if they're being influenced to drift from God. Take an inventory of the relationships in your life that influence you're thinking, values, and decisions – do they help you follow Christ? Do they love you enough to say the hard thing when necessary? Are you a good friend, helping others to follow Christ thru the ups and downs of life?

Additional Reading: Proverbs 13:20, 1 Corinthians 15:33, Proverbs 27:6

2. Read [2 Samuel 13:7-19](#)

Proverbs 5:3–4 tells us “The lips of a forbidden woman drip honey, and her speech is smoother than oil, but in the end she is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two-edged sword.” This is true of any temptation – it shows us the sweet taste of sin but lies to us and hides the bitter poison that comes if we indulge. Amnon thought he loved Tamar (v4) but he'd

believed sin's twisted lie. When we pause to listen to what temptation has to promise us, we're not too far from having our hearts harden and our minds blinded to the ugly nature of sin. Sober-minded, we look at sin and want nothing to do with it – it's poison that leads to death and dishonors God. Drunk with desire and deceived by the lies of temptation, sin begins to sound reasonable. Proverbs is helpful here once again: when temptation enters the room, what should we do? Flee! *“Do not enter the path of the wicked, and do not walk in the way of the evil. Avoid it; do not go on it; turn away from it and pass on”* (Proverbs 4:14–15). David, and David's family, was learning the sobering truth that we are free to pursue our desires, but we're not free to escape from sin's consequences because this is *God's world*. Are you toeing the line of sin, assuming you can 'look, but not buy' and be okay? Where do you need to flee from sin before you're hardened and blind to it's danger?

Additional Reading: Galatians 6:7-8, Ephesians 4:17-18

3. Read [2 Samuel 13:20-29](#)

Waiting for two years, with nothing being done for Tamar, Absalom takes matters into his own hands. While we understand Absalom's anger toward Amnon, a *right* desire for justice turns into a bitter scheme for vengeance and murder. When wronged, we should turn to the people God has entrusted authority with to protect and enact justice (parents, police, the state), and when they get it wrong (and every human institution will), we turn to God and wait on Him for perfect justice. Take some time to read [Romans 12:18-21](#). How does knowing vengeance belongs to God help us rightly care about injustice *and* wait on Him?

Additional Reading: John 5:25-29

4. Read [2 Samuel 13:30-39](#)

With everything a mess, we once again see how David points us toward a true and better king, King Jesus. As you think thru each of the characters in chapter 13: Amnon with his guilt, Absalom with his hatred (and longing for justice), Tamar with her shame (for sin done *to* her), how does Jesus and the good news of the gospel offer help, healing and hope?

Additional Reading: Hebrews 10:22, Romans 6:1-14

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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