

(2-18-23) Rebellion Meets Mercy

2 Samuel 12:11; 15:1–6; 18:1–14, 31–33

Topic: Consequences, Sowing and Reaping, Mercy

Big Idea of the Message: David's sin saw its fruit in his family and in the kingdom.

Application Point: No one is immune from sin's consequences.

How many weeks until Easter? (6 weeks)

Last week's thoughts, David:

Changed the narrative.

Changed the conditions.

Should have checked his motives.

Was not careful with his testimony.

Did not consider his walk with God.

I. Confrontation of sin.

- **Read 2 Samuel 12:1-4.**
- God could/would use a man. (What if the deacons and I did what Nathan did?)
- God will use His word. (Many will avoid reading it because of it)
- God will use the Holy Spirit. (We put our hands over our ears and ignore Him)
- a. There is a purpose for the confrontation.
 - It is not a pleasant thing to be confronted by a Holy God about sin and transgression in your life.
 - But the purpose behind the confrontation is beautiful! When you stop and think how amazing it is that God loves you enough to give you an opportunity to return to Him, it should bring joy to your heart!
 - Sin is corrupt and needs to be dealt with (**Read verses 5-6**).
 - What sin or sins do you need to be confronted about? Or has God been confronting you about? (pause...hold...hold...)

II. Conviction of sin.

- **Read 2 Samuel 12:7-9.**
- There should be SOME conviction, or Lord have mercy...
- a. God will reveal what you have done to Him.
 - **"You are the man!"** You have sinned against God.
 - **Psalms 51.**
- b. God will reveal all that He has done for you.
 - Look at all the "I". Who is the one who gave us everything we have?
 - What has He given us?

- He sent His only Son to die for you.
- He has delivered you from your sins.
- He has rescued you from Hell.
- He has given you eternal life.
- He walks with you, and He talks with you.
- He is there for you and with you!
- He has a home in Heaven prepared for you.

Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." 6 So we may boldly say: "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?" Hebrews 13:5-6

And how do we repay Him?

- By living life YOUR way. Believing the lie that God will endorse or approve of how we run our homes, raise HIS children, treat the significant other that HE gave you.
- By ignoring what His Word tells you NOT to do.
- By refusing to do what His Word tells you TO do.
- By living a life in direct opposition to HIS WILL.

III. Consequences of sin.

- **Read 2 Samuel 12:10-15.**

- a. Some of the consequences will be permanent.

- You may repent and be forgiven of your sins before you leave here today. But there may be some consequences to those sins that will last the rest of your life.
- There are people that at one time you may have had an influence on and now, that influence is damaged beyond repair. Because of the period of separation from God you have lost valuable weeks, months and years that should have been spent growing closer to your Father. Your sin has a lasting impact on you and others as well.
- Your sin will have a negative effect on: Your spouse, your children, your extended family, your friends, your church, your school, your community, your place of employment.
- Every area in your sphere of influence will be affected by your sin! Not only will there be some permanent consequences.

- b. Some of the consequences will be painful.

- The sins that David had committed were done in secret. No doubt he thought he had hidden them from everyone. He was wrong, and the consequences that came because of his sin would be and were witnessed by the whole nation! And the consequences were very painful for him to bear.
- The baby that was conceived in the affair with Bathsheba died.
- His son Amnon would rape his half-sister, Tamar. David's son Amnon was in love with his brother Absalom's sister Tamar; but he could not get her attention. His adviser Jonadab had a plan to get Tamar for Amnon. He had Amnon pretend to be sick and when David came to check on him, he asked his father to have Tamar bring food to him. Tamar did what she was told to do and took food to Amnon. He refused to eat and told everyone to leave the room. At this point, Amnon told Tamar to get into his bed and she told him no and tried to reason with him; but it did not

work. Amnon raped his sister. To make matters worse, Amnon sent Tamar away and wanted nothing to do with her. When Absalom heard about this, he hated Amnon. Tamar lived out the rest of her days in Absalom's home and David burned with anger. **(2 Samuel 13:1-21)**

- His other son Absalom arranged the murder of Amnon as a result. Absalom did not say anything to Amnon and waited 2 years before he did something. At sheep shearing time, Absalom threw a party for his brothers; gave a festive party for the other sons of David, including Amnon. While the party was in progress, Absalom's servants killed Amnon. **(2 Samuel 13:23-33)**
- David was separated from Absalom for several years. As a result of Amnon's murder, Absalom fled from his father. He was gone for several years and then David allowed him to return; but would not see him. After 2 years, David and Absalom reunited. After this, Absalom began to conspire against his father quietly; and declared himself as the King of Hebron. At that point, David and his family fled from Jerusalem where Absalom set himself up as King of Israel. **(2 Samuel 13:34-14)**
- Then Absalom led a rebellion against David and ascended to the throne. **(2 Samuel 15)**
- David fled to save his life from his own son. **(2 Samuel 15)**
- Absalom went into his father's wives and concubines in front of all the people. **(2 Samuel 16)**
- Eventually Absalom died bringing much sorrow to David. **(2 Samuel 18:14-15)**
- He also lost his son Adonijah in a violent death. David was at the point of death; and his son Adonijah was in the process of having himself proclaimed King. Bathsheba, realizing the situation went to David and requested him to name her son Solomon as King, which David did. Soon thereafter, once established on the throne of Israel, Solomon ordered the death of his brother Adonijah. **(1 Kings 2:25)**
- And many other issues plagued David's life from this point on.
- You may think that you can sin and get by, but you are sadly mistaken. **THERE WILL BE SEVERE CONSEQUENCES AS A RESULT OF YOUR SIN!** And those consequences may be very painful! Is that a chance that you are willing to take?
- If David could talk to you for a moment, I am sure that he would say that **THE PLEASURE OF HIS SIN WAS NO WHERE NEAR WORTH THE PAINFUL CONSEQUENCES THAT HE FACED!**

IV. Cleansing from sin.

- **Read verses 13.**
- As soon as David confesses, He is told that his sins have been forgiven. Nathan says that he will not be put to death as the Law demanded in

Leviticus 20:10 "And the man that committeth adultery with another man's wife, even he that committeth adultery with his neighbour's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death."

- Instead of justice, David received mercy!
- Praise God when we come to a point of repentance, we have been promised **MERCY** as well.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

- No matter where you have been or what you have done, **YOUR SINS CAN BE CLEANSED TODAY!** Nathan tells David that God has **“put away”** his sin. God took David’s sins and took them away from him. And the Father can and will do the same for you today! The confrontation of David’s sin illustrates the grace, mercy, and love of our Heavenly Father. You too can experience His grace, mercy, and love today!

Conclusion

One of the worst consequences of David’s sin was that he dishonored the name of the Lord. This had a great impact on the people of God. But it also had an impact on the unbelievers as well. If God were to allow David to get by with his sin and not address it, the heathen would say that the Lord was unfair in His judgment of sin. They may look at the situation and say many other things about the Lord that were untrue. This is the blasphemy that Nathan spoke of.

When you sin, you are not just damaging your reputation and witness, you are dishonoring the name of your Father in Heaven.

Is your life and actions a positive or a negative reflection of your Father?

Is your life one that is based on gratifying self or glorifying your Father?

As believers, we are “ambassadors for Christ” are you representing Him well today? Or would you be honest and admit that you have followed in David’s footsteps?

Maybe temptation came and you fell into sin. That sin began to grow, and you went farther and farther away from the Father. You began to do things that you once said you would never do. You began to go places that you never thought you would go.

Do you realize the negative impact you are having on others? Lost people that you should be reaching for Jesus are being neglected. Saved people that you should be helping in the discipleship process are being neglected.

You are having a negative influence on the lives of your spouse, your children, your family, and friends. Your church is affected greatly by your sinful lifestyle. The jobs you should be doing are not being done. Your actions are bringing shame and reproach to this assembly and worst of all you are disgracing the name of your Heavenly Father. Friend, there are consequences for your disobedience. But you have a Father who desires to restore you... **RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW!!!**