

## 2 Samuel 12:1-25 **David's Sin Confronted – Confessed – Penalty Exacted** **Birth of Solomon**

### Nathan's Parable

<sup>1</sup> Then the Lord sent Nathan to David. And he came to him, and said to him: "There were two men in one city, one rich and the other poor. <sup>2</sup> The rich man had exceedingly many flocks and herds. <sup>3</sup> But the poor man had nothing, except one little ewe lamb which he had bought and nourished; and it grew up together with him and with his children. It ate of his own food and drank from his own cup and lay in his bosom; and it was like a daughter to him. <sup>4</sup> And a traveler came to the rich man, who refused to take from his own flock and from his own herd to prepare one for the wayfaring man who had come to him; but he took the poor man's lamb and prepared it for the man who had come to him."

### David's Judgment

<sup>5</sup> So David's anger was greatly aroused against the man, and he said to Nathan, "As the Lord lives, the man who has done this shall surely die! <sup>6</sup> And he shall restore fourfold for the lamb, because he did this thing and because he had no pity."

### You are the man

<sup>7</sup> Then Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the Lord God of Israel: 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul. <sup>8</sup> I gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your keeping, and gave you the house of Israel and Judah. And if that had been too little, I also would have given you much more! <sup>9</sup> Why have you despised the commandment of the Lord, to do evil in His sight? You have killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword; you have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the people of Ammon.

<sup>10</sup> Now therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised Me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.' <sup>11</sup> Thus says the Lord: 'Behold, I will raise up adversity against you from your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this sun. <sup>12</sup> For you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel, before the sun.'"

### David's Confession - Consequence

<sup>13</sup> So David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the Lord." And Nathan said to David, "The Lord also has put away your sin; you shall not die. <sup>14</sup> However, because by this deed you have given great occasion to the enemies of the Lord to blaspheme, the child also who is born to you shall surely die." <sup>15</sup> Then Nathan departed to his house.

### The Death of David's Son

And the Lord struck the child that Uriah's wife bore to David, and it became ill.

<sup>16</sup> David therefore pleaded with God for the child, and David fasted and went in and lay all night on the ground. <sup>17</sup> So the elders of his house arose and went to him, to raise him up from the ground. But he would not, nor did he eat food with them. <sup>18</sup> Then on the seventh day it came to pass that the child died. And the servants of David were afraid to tell him that the child was dead. For they said,

"Indeed, while the child was alive, we spoke to him, and he would not heed our voice. How can we tell him that the child is dead? He may do some harm!"

19 When David saw that his servants were whispering, David perceived that the child was dead. Therefore David said to his servants, "Is the child dead?" And they said, "He is dead."

20 So David arose from the ground, washed and anointed himself, and changed his clothes; and he went into the house of the Lord and worshiped. Then he went to his own house; and when he requested, they set food before him, and he ate. 21 Then his servants said to him, "What is this that you have done? You fasted and wept for the child while he was alive, but when the child died, you arose and ate food."

22 And he said, "While the child was alive, I fasted and wept; for I said, 'Who can tell whether the Lord will be gracious to me, that the child may live?' 23 But now he is dead; why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me."

### Solomon Is Born

24 Then David comforted Bathsheba his wife, and went in to her and lay with her. So she bore a son, and he called his name Solomon.

Now the Lord loved him, 25 and He sent word by the hand of Nathan the prophet: So he called his name Jedidiah, because of the Lord.

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### Facts Revealed:

- ✧ Yahweh was displeased when David attempted to circumvent the law and had Uriah killed so his adulterous affair with Bathsheba would be unnoticed. [2 Samuel 11:27]

### Nathan's Parable [2 Samuel 12:1-4]

- ✧ Yahweh sent Nathan the prophet to David with a parable for David to judge.
  - ◇ A rich man took the only ewe lamb of a poor man for a traveler instead of one of his own.

### David's Judgment [2 Samuel 12:5-6]

- ✧ David said the rich man deserves to die, because he did not consider needs of the poor man.

### You are the man [2 Samuel 12:7-12]

- ✧ Then Nathan said to David, "You are the man! [2 Samuel 12:7-9]
- ✧ Yahweh Elohey Yisrael (The Lord God of Israel) reminded David that God had anointed David king over Israel, saved him from the threat of Saul, and had given David all that pertained to Saul including his **house and his wives**, and gave David the houses of Israel and Judah.
  - ◇ If that had been too little, God would have given David much more.
- ✧ David is without excuse for violating the commandment of the Lord, and the evil he did in the sight of the Lord.
  - ◇ David had killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword of the Ammonites, and taken the wife of Uriah for himself.
- ✧ Penalty pronounced by Yahweh against David: [2 Samuel 12:10-12]
  - ◇ Because David had despised the commandment of God to do this thing, the sword shall never depart from David's house.
  - ◇ Yahweh will raise up adversity against David **from David's own house**.

- ✧ Yahweh will take David's wives and give them to another who will lie with them in the sight of the sun. [2 Samuel 15:16, 16:21-22]
- ✧ David did his sin in secrecy, but Yahweh will do the punishment openly, before all Israel and before the sun.

#### David's Confession – Consequence [2 Samuel 12:13-15]

- ✧ David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the Lord."
- ✧ Nathan said to David, "The Lord also has put away your sin; you shall not die".
  - ✧ However, **because** by this deed **you have given great occasion to the enemies of the Lord to blaspheme.**
  - ✧ The child from the adulterous affair shall surely die.
  - ✧ Nathan departed to his house.

#### The Death of David's Son [2 Samuel 12:15-23]

- ✧ The Lord struck the child that Uriah's wife bore to David, and it became ill.
- ✧ David therefore pleaded with God for the child, and David fasted and went in and lay all night on the ground.
  - ✧ Though the elders of his house attempted to raise David from the ground to eat, David refused for a week.
  - ✧ The seventh day the child died.
  - ✧ They were afraid to tell David the child was dead for fear of what he might do next.
  - ✧ David saw them whispering and asked if the child was dead.
  - ✧ They confirmed that the child was dead.
- ✧ David arose from the ground, cleaned himself, changed his cloths, and went into the House of Yahweh and worshiped, returned to his own house, requested food, and ate.
- ✧ The servants were puzzled and asked for an explanation.
- ✧ David said, "While the child was alive, I fasted and wept; for I said, 'Who can tell whether the Lord will be gracious to me, that the child may live?' But now he is dead; why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me." [2 Samuel 12:22-23]
  - ✧ The pronouncement had been made by God. [2 Samuel 12:14]
  - ✧ David hoped that by his piety the Lord may relent of His Word.
  - ✧ Because of the perception of the people watching, the Lord was required to follow through with His judgment as an example to discourage further sin by the people.
  - ✧ God may forgive us our sins, but the consequence will still follow as an example to the people.

#### Solomon Is Born [2 Samuel 12:24-25]

- ✧ David comforted Bathsheba his wife, and went in to her and lay with her. So she bore a son, and he called his name Solomon.
  - ✧ God loved David and Bathsheba, and allowed them to produce the great and wise king of Israel.
  - ✧ It was not the attraction of David to Bathsheba that caused the problem, it was what David did in response to the attraction that displeased God.
  - ✧ We are expected to exercise self control when faced with temptation.
- ✧ The Lord loved him, and He sent word by the hand of Nathan the prophet: So he called his name Jedidiah (beloved of the Lord), because of the Lord.
  - ✧ This demonstrated God's forgiveness of David.
  - ✧ David had humbled himself in contriteness before Yahweh, and the Lord forgave him. [Psalm 34:18, 51:17, Isaiah 57:15, 62:2]