

# SERMON NOTES

By Pastor John Paul Miller

## ***David... A Man After God's Own Heart***

### **Character Studies on the Life of David**

#### **2 Samuel 12 - "Thou Art The Man!"**

Matthew Henry, the well known Bible expositor once said, "Though God may suffer His people to fall into sin, He will not suffer His people to lie still in it."

David the great King of Israel, the man after God's own heart has committed a series of terrible sins.

He's committed adultery.

Rather than face and confess it, he tried to cover it up by murder.

For the better part of a year, he lived a lie of hypocrisy and deception.

It might have looked as though David had gotten away with it but, in chapter 11 of 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel (11:27) we learn that "...*the thing that David had done displeased the LORD.*"

God was not going to allow David to lie in his sin.

God sent him a preacher, who tells David a parable.

Through this story David's secret sins are exposed with four simple words, "...*Thou art the man....*" (2 Samuel 12:7)

Finally David is open and broken confessing, "...*I have sinned against the LORD. ...*" and Nathan's response, "...*The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.*" (2 Samuel 12:13)

As we follow David from his sin to his final restoration there are five steps through which he must walk:

#### **I. Conviction – Not found in 2 Samuel 12 but in Psalms 32**

*Psalm 32, "Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile. When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long.*

*For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me: my moisture is turned into the drought of summer. Selah. I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah. For this shall every one that is godly pray unto thee in a time when thou mayest be found: surely in the floods of great waters they shall not come nigh unto him.*

*Thou art my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance. Selah. I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye. Be ye not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding: whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee. Many sorrows shall be to the wicked: but he that trusteth in the LORD, mercy shall compass him about. Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart."*

During that one year period between his sin and his confession, what was going on in David's heart?

1. It was a time of silence (vs. 3)

- He didn't talk to the people
- He didn't talk to God

Since he hadn't talked to the Lord about his sin, he couldn't talk to the Lord about anything.

- He lost his fellowship with God

David had said, *"If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me."* (Psalm 66:18)

In Psalm 51:12, *"Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation..."*

2 It was a year of suffering (vs. 3, 4)

*Psalms 32:3-4, "When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long. For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me: my moisture is turned into the drought of summer. Selah."*

- He had a beautiful new wife
- Living in a beautiful new house
- But no peace

Psalm 32:3-4 (The Living Bible) – *"There was a time when I wouldn't admit what a sinner I was. But my dishonesty made me miserable and filled my days with frustration.*

All day and all night your hand was heavy upon me. My strength evaporated like water on a sunny day until I finally admitted all my sins to you and stopped trying to hide them.”

How about you?

## II. Confrontation (2 Samuel 12:1-9)

2 Samuel 12:1-9, *“And the LORD sent Nathan unto David. And he came unto him, and said unto him, There were two men in one city; the one rich, and the other poor. The rich man had exceeding many flocks and herds: But the poor man had nothing, save one little ewe lamb, which he had bought and nourished up: and it grew up together with him, and with his children; it did eat of his own meat, and drank of his own cup, and lay in his bosom, and was unto him as a daughter. And there came a traveller unto the rich man, and he spared to take of his own flock and of his own herd, to dress for the wayfaring man that was come unto him; but took the poor man's lamb, and dressed it for the man that was come to him. And David's anger was greatly kindled against the man; and he said to Nathan, As the LORD liveth, the man that hath done this thing shall surely die: And he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity. And Nathan said to David, Thou art the man. Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I anointed thee king over Israel, and I delivered thee out of the hand of Saul; And I gave thee thy master's house, and thy master's wives into thy bosom, and gave thee the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would moreover have given unto thee such and such things. Wherefore hast thou despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in his sight? thou hast killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and hast taken his wife to be thy wife, and hast slain him with the sword of the children of Ammon.”*

Lessons on effective confrontation:

### 1. Examine your life

Matthew 7:1-5, *“Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye.”*

Galatians 6:1, *“Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.”*

2. Don't go on hearsay, get the truth
3. Right timing – is the Lord sending you?
4. Use wise words – Like Nathan

Proverbs 25, 11-12, *"A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver. As an earring of gold, and an ornament of fine gold, so is a wise reprovener upon an obedient ear."*

5. Don't be afraid – If the Lord is sending you don't fear losing a friend.

### III. Confession (vs. 13a)

2 Samuel 12:13a, *"...I have sinned against the LORD..."*

Notice what he didn't do.

a. What is confession? – to say the same thing

b. Psalm 51:1-4, *"Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest."*

Notice the words David used in his confession.

1. transgression (vs. 1) is rebellion against God
2. iniquity (vs. 2) is crookedness
3. sin (vs. 2) is to miss the mark
4. evil - a vile thing deserving judgment

Was David's confession real?

Yes!

It's God ward (vs. 4)

True repentance:

- open unguarded admission
- a complete break from sin (notice the word "also")
- the spirit is broken and humble (vs. 17)

### IV Cleansing (2 Samuel 12:13b)

2 Samuel 12:13b, *"...The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die."*

The same God who convicts us of sin is the God who confronts our sin; to whom we confess our sin and who can cleanse us from sin.

Psalm 51 – Notice the words David uses for the cleansing of his sin:

Psalm 51:1-12, *"Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest. Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me. Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice. Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit."*

1. Blot out (vs. 1) - refers to paying a debt
2. Wash me (vs. 2) – indicates that sin is a spot that defiles the entire person
3. Cleanse me (vs. 2) – used of the cleansing of a leper (need healing?)
4. Purge me (vs. 7) – literally, un-sin-me
5. Create in me (vs. 10)
6. Restore unto me (vs. 12) - we lose so much

For us:

God's bar of soap - 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."*

Notice in verse one of Psalm 51 God's greatness

You say, "O praise the Lord! David has been forgiven. But, the merciful, loving, and compassionate God cannot cancel out the consequences of David's (our) sin.

## V. The Consequences (2 Samuel 12:10-12)

2 Samuel 12:10-12, *"Now therefore the sword shall never depart from thine house; because thou hast despised me, and hast taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be thy wife. Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will raise up evil against thee out of thine own house, and I will take thy wives before thine eyes, and give them unto thy neighbour, and he shall lie with thy wives in the sight of this sun. For thou didst it secretly: but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun."*

Notice:

The Evil in David's house:

1. the child will die
2. Amnon raped Tamar
3. Absalom killed Amnon

#### 4. Absalom rebelled against his father

Don't confuse the consequences of sin with the forgiveness of sin.

Since the effects of sin continue, people often take guilt upon themselves even though they have received God's forgiveness.

All the tears in the world could never restore the child that had died or bring back Uriah to life. Yet for all that, he would again sing the songs of Zion. David's forgiveness would be granted in full view of the terrible repercussions that still lay ahead.

How clean did God make David?

Psalm 51:7, wash me "*...and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.*"