

King David's Personal Search for Repentance

Dr. Mark Rutland April 26, 2015

King David's Sins and Punishment

1. 2 Samuel 11 — David's sins

- David has an adulterous affair with Bathsheba, wife of Uriah the Hittite
- she becomes pregnant
- they conspire to say the child is Uriah's — but he does not lie with her
- David arranges to have Uriah killed in battle
- David marries Bathsheba
- the baby is born
- they believe that the evidence is hidden and forgotten

2. 2 Samuel 12 — David's punishment

- 2 Samuel 12:1-14
 - Prophet Nathan tells David and the court story of rich man who takes lamb from poor man
 - David says the rich man should be killed
 - Nathan says to David, "You are the man"
 - you murdered Uriah and took his wife
 - for your sins, the sword will not depart from your house
 - you will not die — but — the baby to be born will die

"I have sinned against the Lord," David declares in front of all those in the throne room.

King David's Repentance and Restoration

1. Psalm 51

- no one sins in a vacuum
- sins release damage
- sins wounds us and others by what we do
- God will heal
- repentance does not immediately undo damage

In his deep search for personal redemption, David the warrior-poet, writes a poem (a Psalm) and has the chief Musician put it to music to sing in the temple. The inscription says that it was written after Nathan the prophet came to him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba.

- Psalm 51: 1-3
 - this is "my" sin
 - accepts the blame for his sins
- Psalm 51: 4, 16-17
 - knows it is a sin against God
 - God does not want a sacrifice or burnt offering
 - God does want a broken spirit and a contrite heart

- Psalm 51: 7
 - purge me with hyssop — wash me in thy blood
 - the cleansing is an activity of God
- Psalm 51: 10
 - create in me a new heart
 - renew a right spirit in me
 - not just forgiveness
 - desire to change
 - profound theology of sanctification
- Psalm 51: 11
 - he desires a personal relationship with God
 - he senses he has grieved the Spirit
- Psalm 51: 12
 - restore the joy of THY salvation
 - restore a relationship with God
 - see the reality of what He has done
 - desire to worship and praise Him
- Psalm 51: 13-19
 - redemption restores relationships
 - redemption refreshes
 - redemption rebuilds

2. End of King David's life

- David has had a second child with Bathsheba — Solomon
- 1 Kings 1: 5-53 — Prophet Nathan visits Bathsheba
 - tells her that Solomon will inherit the throne
 - they must go to David's deathbed to confirm

This is the grace of God. What God has broken, He will also restore.

Discussion Questions

1. Can you think of any private sin that does not affect anyone else?
2. What can that private sin do to you, even if no one else knows?
3. Have you experienced the damage caused by sin? Have you experienced redemption after that sin?
4. Sin releases damage. We repent, and God forgives. Discuss "repentance does not immediately undo damage."
5. David repented publicly. Are there times to repent privately, instead of publicly? How do you know when?
6. Think of an instance in your life when you have blamed someone else for causing you to sin. Was it true?
7. What does God want from us besides repentance?
8. What does it mean, "Restore unto me the joy of THY salvation"?
9. Does understanding Psalm 51 show us how to have more than a marginal faith?

Click on "House of Prayer" on www.gracechapel.net to fill out a prayer request.
We will pray for requests for one month, and at our weekly prayer meetings.
See you this Tuesday, April 28, at 6:30 p.m.!