

# The Fall of a King

2 Samuel 11-12

This weekend, I want to walk you through one of the most tragic stories in the Bible. It serves as a significant **pivot point** in the whole “**biblical narrative**” of the bible, showing us why we need a Messiah; why it’s not an earthly king or political solution that can help us. Every person you look up to, **will. fall. short.** Your big brothers, fathers, presidents, doctors, bf, pastors, leaders, and teachers. Israel have been *awaiting* a mighty warrior king to rise and lead the people, but even David “*the man after God’s own heart*” falls short.

We will see that it wasn’t the enemies around him that took him down, but the enemies within himself that caused **Self-Destruction**. This story shows us the dangers of **sexual sin**. Sexual sin destroys more people’s relationship with God than probably any other thing.

- If you **don’t** have a relationship with God, sexual sin will **prevent** you from considering it.
- If you **do** have a relationship with God, sexual sin will **destroy** it.

And I think this is a very serious matter in the church right now, because our culture says that **sex is just physical**, and you can participate with “no strings attached”. People says it’s like **food**, you get hungry, you eat. It’s like **tennis**, you find a partner to play with you for a while. Later on, you can switch up partners. That’s why our culture like to call this, “experience”. *The more you practice the better you will be.*

- **People think, “What’s the big deal if we have a little fun?”**
- Most everybody, even though they go along with it, deep down **knows that it’s not true.**

Andy Stanley, the pastor, and author of the book “The New Rules of Love, Sex, and Dating” ask;

- **Why is it that many people’s greatest regrets in life are sexual?** When **somebody comes to me** and says, “Pastor, I need to talk to somebody, and I’ve **never told anyone** this before,” I know what it’s going to be about. It’s not usually “*I cheated on this test.*” “ I haven’t paid my taxes.” It’s almost always about some **sexual** regret.
- If sex is just physical, **why is it that when a child is sexually abused, it is still so difficult to shake off as an adult?**
- *If sex is just physical, why is adultery/cheating so hard to get over?*
- *If sex is just physical, why is it that men with the deepest sexual issues usually had uninvolved or missing fathers?*
- *If sex is just physical, why is rape so much more psychologically damaging to a woman than other physical violence?*
- Sex is way more than just physical act, it’s a soul act.

God intended sex to only be within the context of a **marriage relationship because of its powers**, and if not used correctly it will lead to **self-destruction**.

And I know that some of us have dealt with the effects of sexual sin, and this is a *sensitive* and *personal* topic. I want you to know that the church is here for you, and we do offer male and female counseling and help in whatever stage you are at.

**A disclaimer**, I am not exempt from this lesson, I need God to continue to shape my mind and heart and to convict **me** in areas that I need to repent. What you don’t need from me is a list of moral rules, so you leave here feeling **shameful** and **guilty**, but instead I will speak with the **authority of God** and display for you his **rescue mission, his plan A**, which will be so much better than your **Plan B**.

What I aim to show you today is that David’s sin did not come out of the blue, or all of sudden, much like a fallen tree doesn’t rot all at once. There was already underlying issues that lead up to that moment. I want to show you some of those **red flags**, and you will see for yourself if you, or your friends are headed down that direction of **self-destruction**. We will also see the aftermath of those choses.

I have for you today **the 6 stages of sexual sin**, you should write this down because I'm telling you this is the cycle that you will be trap under until you are able to break free.

## The 6 Stages of Sexual Sin

### **1. Boredom in the Battle** (1 Sam. 11:1)

In the spring, at the time when kings go off to war, David sent Joab out with the king's men and the whole Israelite army. They destroyed the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David remained in Jerusalem.

The first thing you should notice is that David was **disengaged in his own battle**. David was supposed to be a warrior, but instead he sent someone else to do his job. Which doesn't make sense. Just listen to his **resume**:

- 1 Sam. 17: David defeated Goliath the philistine
- 1 Sam. 18: David receive a high rank in the army
- 1 Sam. 22: David gathers his first army unit
- 1 Sam 30: David defeats the Amalekites
- 2 Sam 5: David becomes king of Israel and concurred Jerusalem/ City of David
- 2 Sam 8: David gain victory over the Philistines, Moabites, Syrians, and Edomites

What's my point? David is supposed to be in the **battle**. That's where he **belongs**, that was his **position** and his **duty**. I'm not sure why he decided to stay, but I know that if he was in the battle he won't have slept with Bathsheba.

- For a lot of people, this is where sexual temptation begins. It starts with laziness, their lives lack **purpose**, and the allure of **sex** give a false promise of fulfillment, an **excitement, attention, or adventure**.
- A fair warning to those of you in an **officer position, planning committee, or small group leader**. If you are not doing your part in this **fight**, then you are going to lose your **battle**, and especially in the area of sexual purity.
- **It starts with Boredom in the Battle**

**"Fight the New Drug"** "We are a non-religious and non-profit organization that exists to raise awareness on the harmful effects of porn, using only science, facts, and personal accounts."

And article called "*5 Ways COVID-19 Changed the Porn Industry—Maybe Forever*"

1. **Demand has grown significantly in a short amount of time**. When a global pandemic locks people in their homes...boredom will skyrocket, and people will look for whatever they can access to pass the time. Not surprisingly, porn has been a massive player in this boredom war. As quarantine continued on earlier this year, porn traffic saw spikes across major online platforms. Social media-based adult content site OnlyFans announced a groundbreaking 75% rise in new sign-ups in March. Subscriptions rose 50% in April. OnlyFans is seeing about 200,000 new users and 7,000-8,000 new creators every day. It's safe to say that while other industries have suffered, porn has only launched into new realms of demand and interest.

- **It starts with Boredom in the Battle**

### **2. Browsing at the Borderline** (2 Sam. 11:2-3)

<sup>2</sup>One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful<sup>3</sup> and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, "She is Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite."

Now, the second thing you should notice is David was in a place that he could be tempted. He was walking on the roof, there is no good reason for David to be walking around there. This is the OT version of browsing the **internet, scrolling, or swiping left and right**. Let me tell you, 2000 years later and **guys** are still the same, **temptation** is still the same, the only thing that changed is the **access**. We no longer need to go to the roof, everything is right out our fingertips.

And my side-note. **Why was Bathsheba bathing outside!**? I don't know the culture, so I can't use this to say, "oh she was asking for it." But I can tell you that her nudes went public, and it completely destroyed her. She was revealing her body in a place that caused men to stubble. -Girls this says a lot about how you chose to present yourself on social media.  
-Guys, you know there's certain people you should unfollow or mute, and certain websites and browsers that you should avoid.

If you read verse 3 again you notice that the author points out something that David might have dismissed. **Bathsheba was someone's daughter, she's someone's wife.**

Because, you see, sexual sin almost always **objectifies someone**. You think of them only as an **object of your pleasure**, and you forget that you're dealing with someone's life. Someone's **daughter, someone's mother, wife, or future wife.**

The major problem with this, is when we **dehumanize** a group of people, it gives birth to abuse. That how we end up with the holocaust, slavery, and abortion.

Another article I was reading shows how the porn industry is trying to push this agenda to **normalize incest**.

- Incest-themed porn, one of the fastest-growing categories of porn, featuring role-play of sex between family members. In 2019, incest porn ranked in the top 10 searched categories on Pornhub.
- The article went on to talk about how this led to so many **sexual child abuse** and **sex trafficking**. The description was so disturbing I couldn't quote it here, but you should search it up for yourself.

### 3. Bedroom with Bathsheba (2 Sam 11:4-5)

4 Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her. (Now she was purifying herself from her monthly uncleanness.) Then she went back home. 5 The woman conceived and sent word to David, saying, "I am pregnant."

One of the most horrifying words to any teenage guy.

And I bet if you ask David and Bathsheba it was one sexy night. But that's all it was, **one night, one hook up**, and it destroyed their whole lives. **Was that worth it?** One night, gave birth to so much pain. The child that they conceived in sin also died.

That's how it's described In James 1:14, "each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed."<sup>15</sup> Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death." The result of sin is described as a **stillborn dead baby**. This shows us just now deadly sexual sin can be.

And that's why James 4:7 continue by saying, "Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." That means don't be in places that you will be tempted. It's not just about resisting, it's about pursuing God.

### 4. Betraying his brothers (2 Sam. 11:6-17)

David comes up with a plan cover-up his sin. So sent for Bathsheba's husband, Uriah to come home from war so that he can sleep with his wife and she will just say that the baby is his. They don't have DNA testing yet so everything should work out!

But then Uriah refuses to come home, look wat he says in verse 11, "Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah are staying in tents, and my commander Joab and my lord's men are camped in the open country. How could I go to my house to eat and drink and make love to my wife? As surely as you live, I will not do such a thing!" What a stab to the gut, this should have been a wakeup call for David.

I think God gave David a few changes to be honest with his friend, and fess up but instead it got worst.

And David tried a few more time, even try to get him drunk, but he just passed out at the palace gate. So David sent a note to Joab the commander to let Uriah stand in the front line of the battle so he would die.

<sup>16</sup> So while Joab had the city under siege, he put Uriah at a place where he knew the strongest defenders were. <sup>17</sup> When the men of the city came out and fought against Joab, some of the men in David's army fell; moreover, Uriah the Hittite died.

What struck me as a surprise, was that **Uriah** was one of the men that help David escape king Saul, **Uriah** was a Hittite that later converted and served the God of Israel. **Uriah** was also recorded down as one of David's close men.

In a moment of sexual sin, all friendship went out the window, in order to cover up his sin, **David betrayed all his men, and killed his friend.**

Did you notice how his sin not just affected him, but it killed about 40 or 50 of his men. Verse 17, some of the men in David's army fell; moreover, Uriah the Hittite died.

And it affected Bathsheba in verse 26, "<sup>26</sup> When Uriah's wife heard that her husband was dead, she mourned for him. <sup>27</sup> After the time of mourning was over, David had her brought to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son.

Then the last sentence of chapter 11, these verses should install fear in all of us.

But the thing David had done, displeased the Lord.

You will not be able to hide anything from him because he knows the heart.

### 5. Brought out in broad daylight (2 Sam. 12:1-13)

About year have passed, and David thought that no one knows about him and Bathsheba. He married her and everyone assumed that they had the baby on their honeymoon. But then God sent Prophet Nathan to David.

- Nathan told David a story:
  - 5 David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, "As surely as the Lord lives, the man who did this **must die!** 6 He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity." 7 Then Nathan said to David, "You are the man!"
- David had just condemned himself to death out of his own mouth.
  - <sup>7</sup>This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul. <sup>8</sup> I gave your master's house to you, and your master's wives into your arms. I gave you all Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more. 9 Why did you despise the word of the Lord by doing what is evil in his eyes?
- "David, I gave you everything! Was it not enough?!"
- 11 "This is what the Lord says: 'Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity on you. Before your very eyes I will take your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will sleep with your wives in **broad daylight.** 12 You did it in secret, but I will do this thing in **broad daylight** before all Israel.'"
- In this moment the conviction was inescapable
  - <sup>13</sup> Then David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the Lord." Nathan replied, "The Lord has taken away your sin. You are not going to die.

I know this is a really hard truth to swallow and accept, but there is a **grace to being caught**. When you are **completely exposed** in your wickedness, and yet God **completely forgiven** you. Like David, God wants to give you the **opportunity to repent**.

**Y'all, listen**, the question is not "*do you sin?*" but, "*What do you do after you sin?*" Everybody sins. What you do after you sin makes the difference between life and death.

See, **If you cover your sin, Jesus will expose it in judgment; if you expose your sin, Jesus will cover it in mercy.**

### 6. Burying the Baby (2 Sam. 12:14-15;22)

<sup>14</sup>But because by doing this you have shown utter contempt for the Lord, the son born to you will die.<sup>15</sup> After Nathan had gone home, the Lord struck the child that Uriah's wife had borne to David, and he became ill.

Listen, you can be **forgiven**, but sin still has **consequences**. You can't **un-sin**. A lot of people think, "*If I'm forgiven there's no consequence.*" and that's not true, because the effects are still there.

- Ex: If you murder someone, you can get **forgiveness**, but that doesn't bring that person back to their family. **sexual sin, leaves damages** that just don't automatically go away.

## Sin must be punished.

- Rape will be punished,
- Racism will be punished,
- Murder will be punished.
- **We are glad that our God is a God of Justice**

David should have died, but instead God spared him by taking his son instead. This is the curse that David spoke to Nathan. “5As surely as the Lord lives, the man who did this **must die!** 6 He must pay for that lamb **four times over**, because he did such a thing and had no pity.”

David wasn't confused or angry with God, because he knew that this was his **consequences**. The curse about paying for the lamb 4 times over, came true;

- His first son died as a still born
- His other son Amnon, raped his stepsister, David's daughter Tamar
- His other son Absalom killed Amnon then tried to kill David. And he hung himself.
- Then Solomon had 500 wives and 300 concubines because nothing could satisfy him.
- We see David's sin displayed in a cycle of sexual corruption.

This was David, “*the man after God's own heart*”

At the end of this story, when his baby was finally buried, David was able to stop crying. He says, “<sup>22</sup> He answered, “While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept. I thought, ‘Who knows? The Lord may be gracious to me and let the child live.’ <sup>23</sup> But now that he is dead, why should I go on fasting? Can I bring him back again? I will go to him, but he will not return to me.”

What David doesn't know, is that God is so gracious, that **he is able to bring Christ out of David's dysfunctional family line.**

While David is **grieving** over his **sin** and the loss of his **son**, God says, “*I understand your pain David, one day I will also have to give up my son, as a lamb to be slaughter, but not because of my sins, but to pay for the sins of the world. so that whoever believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.*

After this time David wrote a song of repentance in psalms 51:10 and he cries, “Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

See, what he realized now, is that he will fall short every time as a **man after God's own heart**, but that this whole time it was about **God after the heart of man**. God has been perusing the heart of man since the beginning, to change us from the inside out. **To create a new heart.**

So, let me ask, what happened to the old heart? It has been surrendered, crucified, and buried with Christ.

2 Sam. 12:23, David confess, “<sup>23</sup> But now that he is dead, why should I go on fasting? Can I bring him back again? I will go to him, but he will not return to me.” Unlike David, God brought Jesus Christ back to life. Through that, Jesus defeated the **power of sin over us**. So that now we can choose to live a life that pleases God.

In a very popular book “**Every Man's Battle: winning the war on sexual temptation one victory at a time.**” I definitely recommend this book, it's like once you pick it up you can't put it down,

“Holiness is not some (obscure) thing. It's a series of right choices...You'll be holy when you choose not to sin. You're already **free from the power of sexual immorality**; you are not yet free from the habit of sexual immorality, until you choose to be—until you say, “That's enough! I'm choosing to live purely!”

- Some of you need a Nathan in your life, someone you give permission to call you out.
- Some of you need to surrender your sexual sin to the Lord.
- Some of you need to confess and be open about your struggles and sins.
- Some of you need to start seeking help.