

Pastor's Bible Study

Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study

Week Twenty-Eight 2 Samuel 11

Review

Literary Period Covered: 991 - 993 B.C.E.

Review

David is King

Lecture Segment

2 Samuel 11 recounts a pivotal and tragic episode in King David's reign, focusing on his adultery with Bathsheba and the subsequent cover-up of his sin. Here's an overview of the key events:

David's Adultery – David would have been 49 to 50 years of age

(18th-19th year of his reign)

At a time when kings typically went to war, David remained in Jerusalem. One evening, he saw a beautiful woman named Bathsheba bathing. Despite knowing she was married to Uriah the Hittite, David sent for her and slept with her

Attempted Cover-Up

When Bathsheba informed David that she was pregnant, he attempted to conceal his sin through deception:

1. He summoned Uriah from battle, hoping he would sleep with his wife and assume the child was his.
2. When Uriah refused to go home due to his loyalty to his fellow soldiers, David tried to get him drunk.
3. After these attempts failed, David resorted to more drastic measures

Murder of Uriah

Unable to hide his adultery, David ordered Joab, his military commander, to place Uriah in the most dangerous part of the battle, ensuring his death. After Uriah was killed, David took Bathsheba as his wife

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Consequences

The chapter concludes by stating that David's actions displeased the Lord. This sets the stage for the divine judgment and consequences that would follow in subsequent chapters

Themes and Significance

This chapter marks a turning point in David's reign, highlighting:

- The dangers of unchecked power and lust
- The progressive nature of sin, from adultery to deception to murder
- The fallibility of even the most devout followers of God
- The misuse of authority and its consequences

The story serves as a stark reminder of human weakness and the importance of accountability, regardless of one's position or past relationship with God