

## ANATOMY of a FALL ~ 2 Samuel 11:1-27

→Scripture Reading- Js. 1:13-15, Mat. 5:27-28, Heb. 4:15-16

### Something is Desperately WRONG ~ 2 Samuel 11:1-5

<sup>1</sup> 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.

#### →Map

<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,

**The Biblical author puts ALL the BLAME on David: David was the king, and was acting in a very high-handed fashion, abusing his power and position.** DACarson

In the Ancient Near East it was improper for a neighbor to look down into the inner court of another dwelling. Inner courtyards were regarded as perfectly secluded, Bathsheba would never have suspected that what went on there could be observed from the roof of the king's palace. PCS

Since NO Israelite house had running water at that time, bathing often was done privately in the enclosed courtyard that was a part of many Israelite houses. There is no indication in the text that the woman deliberately positioned herself so as to entice David. NAC

<sup>3</sup> and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, Isn't this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite? <sup>4</sup> Then David SENT messengers to GET HER. She came to him, and he SLEPT with her. (She had purified herself from her uncleanness.) Then she went back home.

**David's temptation followed an age-old pattern: he SAW, he DESIRED, and he TOOK.** Constable

The actions that followed were inexcusable. Bathsheba was a MARRIED woman, and David KNEW IT. DACarson

**In a world dominated by men, it may not have been possible for Bathsheba to refuse the most powerful man in the kingdom.** MBI

<sup>4</sup> ...he SLEPT with her. She had just completed the purification rites after having her menstrual period. Then she returned home. (NLT)

#### David BROKE 3 of the 10 Commandments

- You shall not COVET your neighbor's wife Ex. 20:17
- You shall not commit ADULTERY Ex. 20:14
- You shall not MURDER Ex. 20:13

<sup>5</sup> The woman conceived and sent word to David, saying, I am pregnant.

### APPLICATION

#### →Take the ESCAPE God Provides

<sup>2</sup> ...From the roof he SAW a woman bathing.

**Numbers 15:38-39** (NIV) <sup>38</sup> ...Throughout the generations to come you are to make tassels on the corners of your garments, with a blue cord on each tassel. <sup>39</sup> You will have these tassels to LOOK AT and so you will REMEMBER all the Commands of the LORD, that you may OBEY them and not PROSTITUTE yourselves by going after the LUSTS of your own hearts and eyes.

**Matthew 5:27-28** (NIV) You have heard that it was said, Do not commit ADULTERY. <sup>28</sup> But I tell you that anyone who LOOKS at a woman LUSTFULLY has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

**1 Corinthians 10:13** (NIV) No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is FAITHFUL; He will NOT let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a WAY OUT so that you can stand up under it.

#### →Giving IN to Temptation IS SIN

<sup>3</sup> He sent someone to find out who she was, and he was told, She is **Bathsheba**, the daughter of Eliam and the **WIFE** of Uriah the Hittite. (NLT)

**James 1:13-15** (NLT) And remember, WHEN you are being tempted, do not say, God is tempting me. God is never tempted to do wrong, and he never tempts anyone else. <sup>14</sup> Temptation comes from OUR own DESIRES, which entice us and drag us away. <sup>15</sup> These DESIRES give birth to SINFUL ACTIONS. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to DEATH.

**A Perfect Description of David's sin...** Wiersbe

- his desires were INFLAMED by prolonged looking
- desire CONCEIVED the sin in his imagination
- he Surrendered his WILL and CHOSE sin
- his actions led to DEATH

**Hebrews 4:15** (NIV) For we do not have a High Priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have ONE who has been TEMPTED in every way, just as we are - yet was WITHOUT sin.

**Hebrews 4:16** (NIV) Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, SO THAT we may receive MERCY and find GRACE to help us in our time of need.

### Attempted COVER UP ~ 2 Samuel 11:6-15

<sup>10</sup> When David was told, "Uriah did not go home," he asked him, "Haven't you just come from a distance? Why didn't you go home?" <sup>11</sup> Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah are staying in tents, and my master Joab and my lord's men are camped in the open fields. How could I go to my house to eat and drink and lie with my wife? As surely as you live, I will not do such a thing!" ...<sup>13</sup> At David's invitation, he ate and drank with him, and David made him drunk. But in the evening Uriah went out to sleep on his mat among his master's servants; he did not go home.

**Uriah drunk is more pious than David sober.** WBC

<sup>14</sup> In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it with Uriah. <sup>15</sup> In it he wrote, "Put Uriah in the front line where the fighting is fiercest. Then withdraw from him so he will be struck down and die."

### Cover Up COMPLETE ?? ~ 2 Samuel 11:16-27

<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. ...<sup>25</sup> David told the messenger, "Say this to Joab: 'Don't let this upset you; the sword devours one as well as another. Press the attack against the city and destroy it.' Say this to encourage Joab." <sup>26</sup> When Uriah's wife heard that her husband was dead, she mourned for him.

<sup>26</sup> When the WIFE of Uriah heard that Uriah her HUSBAND was DEAD, she LAMENTED over her HUSBAND. (ESV)

<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. But the thing David had done displeased the LORD.

### TAKE AWAY ??

<sup>27</sup> When the time of mourning ended, David had her brought to his house. She became his wife and bore him a son. However, the LORD considered what David had done to be EVIL. (HCS)

**Several Thoughts to bring Perspective...** HOTC

- being godly does not make a person IMMUNE from Temptation
- it is Impossible to HIDE one sin with ANOTHER
- Every sin IS Committed IN God's PRESENCE
- NEGATIVE consequences of sin overwhelmingly OUTWEIGH any pleasure
- God will FORGIVE confessed sin
- We must Fully EMBRACE God's answer to our prayers

**1 John 1:9** (NIV) If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.