

TRIUMPHS
AND TRIALS
of the
KING



When Kings Fall

2 SAMUEL 11



How does this happen?

How does hidden sin grow in the heart of a believer until it becomes public ruin?.



2 Samuel 11

1 In the spring when kings march out to war,
David sent Joab with his officers and all Israel.
They destroyed the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah,
but David remained in Jerusalem.



Proverbs 26:14

A slacker turns over on his bed
like a door hinge on its posts.



2 Samuel 11

2 One evening David got up from his bed and strolled around on the roof of the palace.

From the roof he saw a woman bathing—a very beautiful woman.

3 So David sent someone to inquire about her, and he said, “Isn’t this Bathsheba, daughter of Eliam and wife of Uriah the Hethite?”



Proverbs 4:23

Guard your heart above all else,
for it is the source of life.



2 Samuel 11

4 David sent messengers to get her, and when she came to him, he slept with her.

Now she had just been purifying herself from her uncleanness. Afterward, she returned home.

5 The woman conceived and sent word to inform David, “I am pregnant.”



Psalm 119:9–11

How can a young man keep his way pure?
By keeping your word.

I have sought you with all my heart;
don't let me wander from your commands.
I have treasured your word in my heart
so that I may not sin against you.



2 Samuel 11

6 David sent orders to Joab: “Send me Uriah the Hethite.”
So Joab sent Uriah to David.

7 When Uriah came to him, David asked how Joab and
the troops were doing and how the war was going.

8 Then he said to Uriah, “Go down to your house and
wash your feet.” So Uriah left the palace, and a gift from
the king followed him.

9 But Uriah slept at the door of the palace with all his
master’s servants; he did not go down to his house.



2 Samuel 11

10 When it was reported to David, “Uriah didn’t go home,” David questioned Uriah, “Haven’t you just come from a journey? Why didn’t you go home?”

11 Uriah answered David, “The ark, Israel, and Judah are dwelling in tents, and my master Joab and his soldiers are camping in the open field. How can I enter my house to eat and drink and sleep with my wife? As surely as you live and by your life, I will not do this!”



2 Samuel 11

12 “Stay here today also,” David said to Uriah,
“and tomorrow I will send you back.”

So Uriah stayed in Jerusalem that day and the next.

13 Then David invited Uriah to eat and drink with him,
and David got him drunk. He went out in the evening
to lie down on his cot with his master’s servants,
but he did not go home.



Proverbs 28:13

The one who conceals his sins will not prosper,
but whoever confesses and renounces them
will find mercy.



2 Samuel 11

14 The next morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it with Uriah.

15 In the letter he wrote: Put Uriah at the front of the fiercest fighting, then withdraw from him so that he is struck down and dies.



2 Samuel 11

16 When Joab was besieging the city,
he put Uriah in the place where he knew the best
enemy soldiers were.

17 Then the men of the city came out and attacked Joab,
and some of the men from David's soldiers fell in battle;
Uriah the Hethite also died.



2 Samuel 11

18 Joab sent someone to report to David all the details of the battle.

19 He commanded the messenger, “When you’ve finished telling the king all the details of the battle—20 if the king’s anger gets stirred up and he asks you, ‘Why did you get so close to the city to fight? Didn’t you realize they would shoot from the top of the wall?’



2 Samuel 11

21 At Thebez, who struck Abimelech son of Jerubbesheth?

Didn't a woman drop an upper millstone on him from the top of the wall so that he died?

Why did you get so close to the wall?'—then say, 'Your servant Uriah the Hethite is dead also.' ”



2 Samuel 11

22 Then the messenger left. When he arrived, he reported to David all that Joab had sent him to tell.

23 The messenger reported to David, “The men gained the advantage over us and came out against us in the field, but we counterattacked right up to the entrance of the city gate.

24 However, the archers shot down on your servants from the top of the wall, and some of the king’s servants died. Your servant Uriah the Hethite is also dead.”



2 Samuel 11

25 David told the messenger, “Say this to Joab:
‘Don’t let this matter upset you because the sword
devours all alike. Intensify your fight against the city
and demolish it.’ Encourage him.”



2 Samuel 11

26 When Uriah's wife heard that her husband, Uriah, had died, she mourned for him.

27 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.

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Psalm 32:3-4

When I kept silent, my bones became brittle from my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy on me; my strength was drained as in the summer's heat.



James 1:14–15

But each person is tempted when he is drawn away and enticed by his own evil desire. Then after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin, and when sin is fully grown, it gives birth to death.



The way out

- 1) We must never use another person merely as a means to our selfish ends.
- 2) We must kill sin early, because what begins in secret never stays small.
- 3) We must run to Christ with honest confession, because while hidden sin destroys, grace restores.





Christ bears our sin and shame, then gives grace to repent and come out of darkness into light.

