



Remembering the rooftop

Sins forgiven but not forgotten

2 Samuel 11

▲ David's tragic fall into sin

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. ² 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, ³ 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?" ⁴ 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. ⁵ The woman conceived and sent word to David, saying, "I am pregnant."

11:14 In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it with Uriah. ¹⁵ 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."

11:26 When Uriah's wife heard that her husband was dead, she mourned for him. ²⁷ 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.

Psalm 51

▲ David's prayer of repentance

51:0 For the director of music. A psalm of David. When the prophet Nathan came to him after David had committed adultery with Bathsheba.

51:1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. ² Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. ³ For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.

1 Kings 15:5

▲ At the end of David's life

15:5 For David had done what was right in the eyes of the LORD and had not failed to keep any of the LORD'S commands all the days of his life—except in the case of Uriah the Hittite.

Matthew 1

▲ A thousand years later

1:1 A record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ the son of David, the son of Abraham: ² Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, ³ Judah the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar, Perez the father of Hezron, Hezron the father of Ram, ⁴ Ram the father of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon, ⁵ Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab, Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth, Obed the father of Jesse, ⁶ and Jesse the father of King David. David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah's wife,

Sin recorded

▼ David's sin was recorded

² Samuel 11:4 Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her.

▼ David's sin was remarkable

¹ Samuel 13:14 the LORD has sought out a man after his own heart and appointed him leader of his people,

▼ David's sin was reinforced

² Samuel 11:5 The woman conceived and sent word to David, saying, "I am pregnant." — ¹⁴ In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it with Uriah. ¹⁵ 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."

▼ David's sin was revealed and rebuked

² Samuel 12:7 Then Nathan said to David, "You are the man!"

▼ David's sin was repented

Psalm 51:1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. ² Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

▼ David's sin was removed

² Samuel 12:13 Nathan replied, "The LORD has taken away your sin. You are not going to die."

Sin remembered

▼ There were plenty of regrets

² Samuel 12:13 Then David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD."

▼ There were perpetual ripples

² Samuel 12:13 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. ¹⁴ But because by doing this you have made the enemies of the LORD show utter contempt, the son born to you will die."

▼ There were prophetic repercussions

Psalm 3:0 A psalm of David. When he fled from his son Absalom. ¹ O LORD, how many are my foes! How many rise up against me! ² Many are saying of me, "God will not deliver him."

▼ There were painful reminders

¹ Kings 15:5 For David had done what was right in the eyes of the LORD and had not failed to keep any of the LORD'S commands all the days of his life—except in the case of Uriah the Hittite.

▼ There were permanent records

Matthew 1:6 David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah's wife,

- ▶ Sin may never be forgotten by the wounded
- ▶ Sin may never be forgotten by the weak
- ▶ Sin may never be forgotten by the wicked
- ▶ Sin may never be forgotten by the world

1) When sin is confessed and abandoned, God's forgiveness is powerful and complete. Leave it behind and refuse to wallow in guilt. Move forward in faith and gratitude for God's grace and mercy. Determine to live in victory today and tomorrow by strengthening yourself in the Lord. Don't fall to that sin again.

2) If you have wounded others by your sins, seek the Lord's direction in facilitating healing and rebuilding a trustworthy life. Jesus asked in Matthew 5:13, "If the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again?" Rebuilding a testimony of trustworthiness is hard, but with God's help you can move forward.

3) When temptation arises, be warned and wise. Others mightier than you have fallen into the tempter's trap. Sin will take you farther than you had planned to go and will cost you more than you want to pay. Sin is destructive, not only to you, but to others around you. So stay strong. Don't ignore your spiritual enemy and don't ignore your own experiences. Refuse to entertain temptation even for a moment. Resist vigorously and violently. Flee from temptation. Live your life in and for the Lord!