



Killing the Innocent For the Sake of the Guilty
2 Samuel 11:1-27

NKJ 2 Samuel 11:1 It happened in the spring of the year, at the time when kings go out to battle, that David sent Joab and his servants with him, and all Israel; and they destroyed the people of Ammon and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem.

2 Then it happened one evening that David arose from his bed and walked on the roof of the king's house. And from the roof he saw a woman bathing, and the woman was very beautiful to behold.

3 So David sent and inquired about the woman. And someone said, "Is this not Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?"

4 Then David sent messengers, and took her; and she came to him, and he lay with her, for she was cleansed from her impurity; and she returned to her house.

5 And the woman conceived; so she sent and told David, and said, "I am with child."

6 Then David sent to Joab, saying, "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent Uriah to David.

7 When Uriah had come to him, David asked how Joab was doing, and how the people were doing, and how the war prospered.

8 And David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house and wash your feet." So Uriah departed from the king's house, and a gift of food from the king followed him.

9 But Uriah slept at the door of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and did not go down to his house.

10 So when they told David, saying, "Uriah did not go down to his house," David said to Uriah, "Did you not come from a journey? Why did you not go down to your house?"

11 And Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah are dwelling in tents, and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are encamped in the open fields. Shall I then go to my house to eat and drink, and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do this thing."

12 Then David said to Uriah, "Wait here today also, and tomorrow I will let you depart." So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day and the next.

13 Now when David called him, he ate and drank before him; and he made him drunk. And at evening he went out to lie on his bed with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house.

14 In the morning it happened that David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it by the hand of Uriah.

15 And he wrote in the letter, saying, "Set Uriah in the forefront of the hottest battle, and retreat from him, that he may be struck down and die."

16 So it was, while Joab besieged the city, that he assigned Uriah to a place where he knew there were valiant men.

17 Then the men of the city came out and fought with Joab. And some of the people of the servants of David fell; and Uriah the Hittite died also.

18 Then Joab sent and told David all the things concerning the war,

19 and charged the messenger, saying, "When you have finished telling the matters of the war to the king,

20 if it happens that the king's wrath rises, and he says to you: 'Why did you approach so near to the city when you fought? Did you not know that they would shoot from the wall?'

21 'Who struck Abimelech the son of Jerubbesheth? Was it not a woman who cast a piece of a millstone on him from the wall, so that he died in Thebez? Why did you go near the wall?' -- then you shall say, 'Your servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also.' "

22 So the messenger went, and came and told David all that Joab had sent by him.

23 And the messenger said to David, "Surely the men prevailed against us and came out to us in the field; then we drove them back as far as the entrance of the gate.

24 "The archers shot from the wall at your servants; and some of the king's servants are dead, and your servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also."

25 Then David said to the messenger, "Thus you shall say to Joab: 'Do not let this thing displease you, for the sword devours one as well as another. Strengthen your attack against the city, and overthrow it.' So encourage him."

26 When the wife of Uriah heard that Uriah her husband was dead, she mourned for her husband.

27 And when her mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD.

Every year I mark the anniversary of the Roe vs. Wade decision.

I do not believe this is an anniversary that should be ignored

If the blood of innocent Abel cried out to God and was heard, then what cry must be made by the blood of the 49.5 million infants who have been slain since the legalization of abortion in this country.

The cries of so much innocent blood cannot go unanswered.

Why does God record this, but to remind us that even the greatest saints, men and women after His own heart can fall into desperate wickedness, and to teach us to avoid it, it also teaches us that there is no saint so Holy that he does not have a desperate and ongoing need of Jesus Christ and of His sustaining Grace. If a Peter, a Moses, a David can fall into grave sins, how much more do you and I need to be aware of our need of the saving grace of Christ. To save us from our dead condition, to return us when we wander – “Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, Prone to leave the God I love” isn’t that what we sing, to preserve us from falling, and to build us up in the faith.

Incidents like this also teach us graphically even horrifically of the wages of sin and that that sin inevitably gives birth to death. This entire episode show us graphically the truth of what James wrote in James 1:14-15 ***“But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.”***

That sins have consequences, in David’s life, the declaration of the Lord through Nathan was 2 Sam. 12:10 ***“Now therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised Me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.”***

David’s secret sins had consequences for his family and for his nation

Now this episode starts out with a warning, this was the time when Kings go out to battle but David did not do so, he sent others to fight his battle and we find him sleeping the day away and then arising to look for trouble. Idle hands do the devil’s work. As Matthew Henry warns “Standing waters gather filth. The bed of sloth often proves the bed of lust” and he rises for a session of rooftop voyeurism. He is literally looking for trouble.

Well he finds what he is looking for, David spies a beautiful woman taking a purification bath after period was finished and he sends a messenger to find out who she is. The answer should have been the end of the matter, because the messenger tells him it's the WIFE of one of his own mighty men – David's 30 "Special Forces" bodyguard, Uriah the Hittite.

David's married, she's married, and to one of his most loyal servants. But he's already committed adultery with her in his heart, but inflamed with lust, he determines he's going to move from the theoretical to the practical. God has offered David yet another chance to stop. But God and His law is the last thing on David's mind. It'll be simple, her husband is deployed. He'll never know. It'll just be one night and that'll be it. ***One indiscretion can't possibly hurt.*** How many men and women have destroyed themselves with that thought, eh? So he sends for her. At this point of course Bathsheeba joins David in his sin. She could have said no, but clearly she doesn't. Some would say "how could she deny the king?" but brothers and sisters, many have. Joseph although a lowly slave, and not even married himself, chose prison and possibly death over the invitation of Potiphar's wife. As Gordon Keddie points out, **true holiness may have a cost, but in never has price.** She could have entered into the bible as yet another living example of faith by taking a stand for marital fidelity but sadly she joins David in his wicked scheme.

Well David forgot the Law of Moses at this point, but he also forgot his warning: Numbers 32:32 ***"But if you do not do so, then take note, you have sinned against the LORD; and be sure your sin will find you out.***

Sooner or later, hidden sins always come out and move from concealed wickedness to public scandal. And inevitably this one does. Bathsheeba conceives and instead of repenting at this point before God and sending word to her husband, which would have been embarrassing, she sends word to the King. ***He got me in this mess, he better cover it up!***

Now at this point, who are the guilty parties here? David and Bathsheeba. At point after point they made the CHOICE to break the law of God and to sin. They are at fault. But they don't see it that way. Who is their problem from their point of view? Uriah. Aside from the baby he's the only innocent party in the whole chapter (now by innocent, I don't mean without sin I mean he did nothing sinful in this – in fact he will prove himself to be unswerving and loyal).

David and Bathsheeba however never even think of repentance and confession, instead they opt to foist another man's child on this loyal servant of God and the king. But David's hamfisted cover-up is thwarted by the fact that this man knows that he should be in the field with his fellows not at the palace with the king – He even subtly rebukes David – how can I go home and sleep when everyone *except you of course* is slogging it out with the Ammonites in a bitter campaign.

Oh well, we tried, now I guess we'll have to deal with the problem by terminating it. David is going to kill this man who is so trustworthy and upright, that he can hand him his own death sentence and trust him not to read it on the way. And he dutifully hands it to Joab, who sees an opportunity to advance his own career and is so cagey he modifies David's plan to kill Uriah's entire unit, rather than David's harder to conceal original plan. And then reminds David of *why he made such a terrible military blunder.*

David, gives a sigh of relief. Their problem, Uriah, is gone, disposed of. Now he can have Bathsheeba forever. How neat, and tidy, and sanitary. God never even enters into the chapter until that last line, ***But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD.***

David might think that he can get away, with adultery, and lies, and misuse of office, and murder, but that is not so, the Lord saw, and ultimately the Lord will bring David to repentance and open confession, and restoration. But He will also teach and us that sins have consequences and those consequences will bring bitterness and sorrow to David, to his family and to the entire nation.

Well I hope you can see the obvious parallel in the modern day, David and Bathsheeba the guilty parties, fornicate and produce a child, then they go to Joab the abortionist to remove “their problem” – Uriah.

The world doesn't care about Uriah the Hittite, The leaders certainly didn't care either, but the Lord Lord Cared

A Warning - Brothers and sisters, we are never going to have done with sin of abortion unless we deal with the sin that leads to it Adultery – including fornication. If we do not it will destroy this nation.

“David's sin issued in the birth of a child outside the family structure that God had ordained for the nurture of a godly seed the establishment of a stable society. We reap as we sow, and in adultery the harvest is all the more bitter for the fact that it is the only sin that produces new life, which it blights from the start. The wisdom of God in instituting the family and guarding it with the seventh commandment could not be clearer. Sexual purity and marital faithfulness are absolutely basic to the blessing of men , women, children, societies and nations. Much more is needed, of course, to provide for happy family relationships, but without this fundamental commitment to faithfulness only moral and social breakdown can result.” - Gordon Keddie Quote 96

Adulteries have often occasioned murders, and one wickedness must be covered and secured with another.

Abortion also destroys Repentance - Covering up, by doing so we avoid public exposure, but we also avoid the necessity of repentance and leads to greater personal sin

Attempts to Whitewash and cover up usually end up leading to a chain of lies

Each successive step weakens the conscience

Our children think in terms of how much can I get away with?

Societally, we sink from one sin to another

Since 1973 and the abortion decision, we have systematically dismantled every other safeguard on the family, every restriction related to adultery. And not only adultery, our cavalier attitude towards life has led to the point where euthanasia, and suicide are becoming acceptable and legalized. “The beginnings of sin are therefore to be dreaded; for who knows where they will end?”

So - avoid the beginning of the spiral

National Consequences- One of the consequences of our dreadful practice is that the United States is missing fully a third of its population. At present every worker supports two retirees and our

replacement rate In Europe the consequences are even more dreadful, some European nations have a birth rate of less than 1 such as Italy with 0.9 that's less than replacement.

For the church, the consequences are horrendous.

Finally I want to respond to those who would say, but there is another kind of abortion, eugenic abortion, isn't it better to kill them to avoid Suffering – and the Difficulties of Raising Him. Willie McCourt testimony, Ken Pierce

Is there a political solution to this? I don't know. Wilberforce was able to put an end to the slave trade ultimately because he was able to persuade the British people that what happened to slaves on the voyage from African was abominable. When people learned that people were being treated in ways you wouldn't treat an animal, and were often murdered wholesale at the will of their owners, and then they reflected that these were creatures made in the image of God, and endowed with an immortal soul they finally said enough! But today, we are living in culture that increasingly not taught to see man as made in the image of God. The scary thing is when 20% of people can see what their unborn baby looks like, and learn what an abortion procedure consists of and exactly what it will do to that little one and not care. Or worse when they are willing to empower people who don't care for the sake of expediency. Oh, I would never kill Uriah myself mind you, but I'll vote for people who would.

The only solution I see is the gospel, and individual repentance