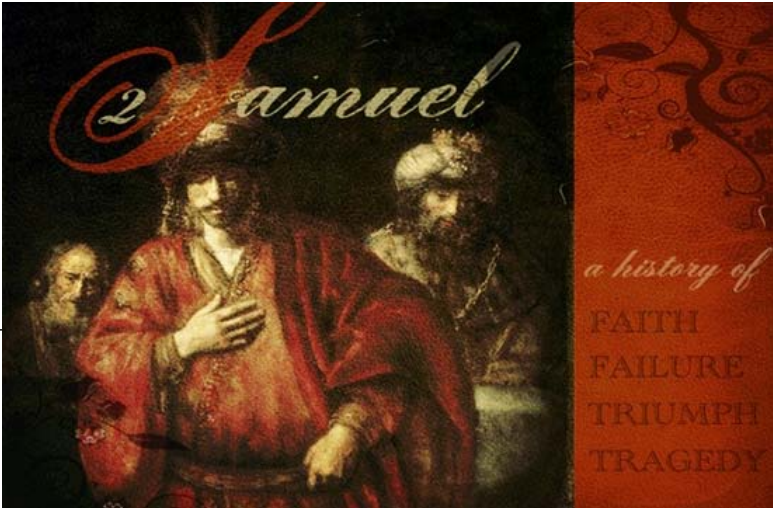


2 Samuel 12:26-13:39
Richard Cimino
Monday at Metro
July 20, 2009

2 Samuel 12:26-13:39

Related Topics: Consequences of Forgiven Sin; Sowing and Reaping; Lust; Amnon; Tamar; Absalom; Sin of Omission; Sin of Commission



26 Now Joab fought against Rabbah of the Ammonites and took the royal city. 27 And Joab sent messengers to David and said, "I have fought against Rabbah; moreover, I have taken the city of waters. 28 Now then gather the rest of the people together and encamp against the city and take it, lest I take the city and it be called by my name." 29 So David gathered all the people together and went to Rabbah and fought against it and took it. 30 And he took the crown of their king from his head. The weight of it was a talent of gold, and in it was a precious stone, and it was placed on David's head. And he brought out the spoil of the city, a very great amount. 31 And he brought out the people who were in it and set them to labor with saws and iron picks and iron axes and made them toil at the brick kilns. And thus he did to all the cities of the Ammonites. Then David and all the people returned to Jerusalem.

There are those who view this victory as having it's beginnings BEFORE David's repentance.

Matthew Henry takes the position that this happened a good while before, and soon after the death of Uriah, perhaps during the days of Bath-sheba's mourning for him.

One evidence that this is BEFORE David's confession and repentance is seen in the way David behaves in this victory.

There is no sign of humility and brokenness.

QUOTE: "He was too haughty and too severe upon this occasion, and neither so humble nor so tender as he should have been if this had transpired BEFORE his repentance." - Matthew Henry

He seems to have been too fond of the crown of the king of Ammon.

The heart that is truly humbled following sin is dead to worldly glory and looks upon it with a holy contempt.

He seems to have been too harsh with his prisoners of war, v. 31.

This is a sign that he had not yet found mercy, because when one has OBTAINED great mercy they want to GIVE mercy.

REGARDLESS of WHERE this fits in the chronology of David's life we don't want to miss the AMAZING demonstration of God's sovereign grace!

God simply choosing to grace David, the repentant sinner, with victory

CRUCIAL: There are many a servant of God who have looked at this awesome display of God's grace as their FIRE INSURANCE or CATOSTROPHIC INSURANCE policy before stepping into sin.

I know I shouldn't have this affair, I know that people are going to get hurt, but God restored David to the throne and gave him victories after his sin, so He will fix it all in the end.

REALITY:

The Holy Spirit says nothing about David entering into his sin with such presumptions

REALITY:

We have the luxury of hindsight in the Scriptures

We can see that God restored David to the throne because God had a work YET to be done through David in

Preparing and providing for the building of the Temple

Preparing his son Solomon to rule and build

Preparing the people for Solomon's reign.

You and I must NEVER PRESUME upon the grace of God.

Psalm 19:13 Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me! Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

Jesus died for our sins so that we might die to sin.

Romans 6:1-2 What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? 2By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?

As for being restored to a previous place of service, God does not OWE us anything when it comes to wife and family. God does not OWE us anything when it comes to serving in His kingdom.

Wife, family, and privilege of serving are ALL owing to the sovereign grace of God.

How do you and I know that God might not say, "You're finished. Someone else will stand in your place IN YOUR MARRIAGE AND HOME."?

In Proverbs 5:1-17 we are given the picture of a man who destroyed his life for an adulterous relationship. Another man now has all of his wealth, his wife, and his children.

How do you and I know that God might not say "You're finished. Someone else will stand in your place IN YOUR MINISTRY."?

Proverbs 6:32-33 He who commits adultery lacks sense; he who does it destroys himself.33 Wounds and dishonor will he get, and his disgrace (KJV - reproach) will not be wiped away.

1 Tim. 3:2 Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife...

LET'S ALSO NOT FORGET the DARK and FOREBODING things that God told David by way of Nathan concerning the state of affairs in his house and kingdom as a result of his sin.

As we will see in just a few moments, His throne and family will never match his life before his sin.

CHAPTER 13

The various Bible translations give different titles to this chapter

“The Crime of Amnon”

“Conflict in David’s Family.”

“The rape of princess Tamar.”

The chapter is an account of both rape and incest. The brother-sister relationship between Tamar and Amnon is referred to a dozen times. This rape was an outrageous thing that was not done in Israel.

v. 12 She answered him, “No, my brother, do not violate me, for such a thing is not done in Israel; do not do this outrageous thing.”

Since it occurred in the royal family, it had implications for the whole nation.

1 Now Absalom, David’s son, had a beautiful sister, whose name was Tamar. And after a time Amnon, David’s son, loved her.

Now, this transition “After a time” suggests that some time has passed since the end of CHAPTER 12.

Here are the players in this drama

Absalom and Tamar

This brother and sister were the children of David through David’s wife named Maacah, who was the daughter of Talmai, king of Geshur (2 Samuel 3:3).

Tamar was the half sister of Amnon, who was David’s eldest son.

Amnon was David’s first born son, born from his wife Ahinoam the Jezreelitess (2 Samuel 3:2).

Being the first born, Amnon was the crown prince, first in line for the throne of Israel.

NOTE:

God NEVER CONDONES polygamy, and He ALWAYS shows the destructive nature of it.

2 And Amnon was so tormented that he made himself ill because of his sister Tamar, for she was a virgin, and it seemed impossible to Amnon to do anything to her.

The Hebrew literally is, it was narrow to Amnon, even to becoming sick.

In that time and culture the term narrowness was used to communicate a sense of distress, while joy was expressed with the terms largeness and expansion.

CRUCIAL:

What is in Amnon’s heart for Tamar has NOTHING to do with love and EVERYTHING to do with LUST

Love NEVER TORMENTS

Amnon is so sexually obsessed with his sister Tamar that he becomes physically ill

3But Amnon had a friend, whose name was Jonadab, the son of Shimeah, David's brother.

Amnon's friend was his a cousin, and Jonadab was a very crafty man.

The word "Crafty" is used a number of times in the Old Testament to refer to extraordinary talent or skill.

Used of the artisans employed in the making of the tabernacle and temple and it's furniture Ex 28:3; 31:6; 35:10; 36:1, 2, 4, 8

Being wise in the administration of affairs: Joseph in Egypt Gn 41:33, 39

INTERESTING:

Also used in relation to the prince of Tyre (behind who is the working and power of Satan) Ez 28:3

Jonadab was a very gifted and bright young man who used his intellectual skills for WICKED things. His wicked advice to Amnon begins a disastrous chain of events. Jonadab was an ungoldy friend, who was in reality a spiritual enemy, who advised Amnon how to gratify his lusts and ruin his soul.

QUOTE:

BLAIKIE p.195-196

4And he said to him, "O son of the king, why are you so haggard morning after morning? Will you not tell me?" Amnon said to him, "I love Tamar, my brother Absalom's sister."

AGAIN, what is in Amnon's heart for Tamar has NOTHING to do with love and EVERYTHING to do with LUST.

You can be love sick

The Song of Solomon speaks of being "sick with love (2:5 and 5:8)

PERSONAL:

Me with Valerie (didn't feel like eating)

BUT, love NEVER TORNMENTS. LUST torments you, causes you to obsess until you gratify it.

5Jonadab said to him, "Lie down on your bed and pretend to be ill. And when your father comes to see you, say to him, 'Let my sister Tamar come and give me bread to eat, and prepare the food in my sight, that I may see it and eat it from her hand.'"

In that culture, the wives and daughters lived in separated accommodations from the men.

It would also appear that David's sons had separate apartments assigned them in the palace. David went regularly to visit his sons, but Jonadab abused the king's affection.

THAT is one of the things sin does, it PERVERTS good things.

He used David's affection for Amnon as the very means by which a way could be made for Amnon to rape David's daughter.

6So Amnon lay down and pretended to be ill. And when the king came to see him, Amnon said to the king, "Please let my sister Tamar come and make a couple of cakes in my sight, that I may eat from

her hand. 7Then David sent home to Tamar, saying, "Go to your brother Amnon's house and prepare food for him." 8So Tamar went to her brother Amnon's house, where he was lying down. And she took dough and kneaded it and made cakes in his sight and baked the cakes. 9And she took the pan and emptied it out before him, but he refused to eat. And Amnon said, "Send out everyone from me." So everyone went out from him. 10Then Amnon said to Tamar, "Bring the food into the chamber, that I may eat from your hand." And Tamar took the cakes she had made and brought them into the chamber to Amnon her brother.

This is what Amnon wanted.

NOTE WELL:

Amnon is alone with Tamar because David commanded it. David is guilty of a sin of OMISSION, he failed to do what was right. He didn't take the time to recognize what Jonadab plainly observed in Amnon.

By David's sin of OMISSION he made it possible for Amnon's sin of COMMISSION, doing what was wrong!

11But when she brought them near him to eat, he took hold of her and said to her, "Come, lie with me, my sister." 12She answered him, "No, my brother, do not violate me, for such a thing is not done in Israel; do not do this outrageous thing.

Tamar could easily see how evil and disgraceful this was. Amnon could not see what was so crystal clear to Tamar because he was blinded by lust.

13As for me, where could I carry my shame?

Amnon had ZERO concern for any shame that Tamar would endure! His only concern was to HAVE what he LUSTED after, to have sex with Tamar.

And as for you, you would be as one of the outrageous fools in Israel.

AMAZINGLY, Tamar has concern for Amnon! She cares enough for Amnon to challenge him to consider the result of his desire

QUOTE:

"There is something exceedingly tender and persuasive in this speech of Tamar; but Amnon was a mere brute, and it was all lost on him." - Adam Clarke

Now therefore, please speak to the king, for he will not withhold me from you."

The Law of Moses forbade any marriage between a half-brother and sister (Leviticus 18:11).

I wonder if Tamar perceived in David a tendency to indulge his sons beyond what was acceptable before the Lord, or if she was just throwing this out hoping against hope that it would stop Amnon.

14But he would not listen to her, and being stronger than she, he violated her and lay with her.

"Violated": The verb used here is repeated FOUR times in this story (verses 12, 14, 22, and 32).

It means "to oppress," "to humble," "to abuse" and "to rape."

She PLEADED with Amnon to not OPPRESS, HUMBLE, and ABUSE her by forcing her to have sex with him. And

then Amnon OPPRESSED, HUMBLed, and ABUSED her by forcing her to have sex with him.

Here in Amnon we can see how the iniquity of the fathers can be carried on by the children to the third and fourth generations

It is not uncommon for a child to model a parent's sinful behavior, and even go further in the direction of sin the parent ever went.

David was never this dominated by lust, but his life was pointed in that direction.

i.e. David's multiple wives (2 Samuel 3:2-5) and David's adultery with Bathsheba (2 Samuel 11:2-4).

Here we see Amnon building upon the example of his father David.

15Then Amnon hated her with very great hatred, so that the hatred with which he hated her was greater than the love with which he had loved her. And Amnon said to her, "Get up! Go!"

There is a HUGE difference between LUST and LOVE. Love is patient and kind and does not insist on it's own way. By contrast, lust is IMPATIENT and UNKIND and DEMANDING!

REMEMBER yesterday morning

INSIST = to seek after to find

The SEEKING is driven by a CRAVING. That CRAVING leads to DEMANDING your way as the means to satisfying your craving. DEMANDING to have your own way even if it means that the source of your gratification MUST and WILL be

OPPRESSED, HUMBLed, ABUSED, and RAPED

THIS IS HUGE! Having demanded his own way in order to gratify the LUST that had made him sick at the beginning, he is now made sick by the OBJECT he so desired!!

NOTE IT WELL:

LUST breeds DISGUST

16But she said to him, "No, my brother, for this wrong in sending me away is greater than the other that you did to me." But he would not listen to her. 17He called the young man who served him and said, "Put this woman out of my presence and bolt the door after her." 18Now she was wearing a long robe with sleeves, for thus were the virgin daughters of the king dressed. So his servant put her out and bolted the door after her. 19And Tamar put ashes on her head and tore the long robe that she wore. And she laid her hand on her head and went away, crying aloud as she went. 20And her brother Absalom said to her, "Has Amnon your brother been with you? Now hold your peace, my sister. He is your brother; do not take this to heart." So Tamar lived, a desolate woman, in her brother Absalom's house. 21When King David heard of all these things, he was very angry.

David's REACTION:

David was right to be angry, BUT his reaction was followed by INACTION. He didn't do anything to either protect Tamar or to correct Amnon. He did NOTHING to PROTECT Tamar. He could have PROTECTED TAMAR by pointing Amnon to the Word of God

In Exodus 22:16-17 and Deut. 22:28-29 God had provided PROTECTION for the woman who had her virginity stolen in what was called the bride price. It was a payment meant to compensate for the fact that Tamar was now less likely to be married since she had lost her virginity and had been so dishonored.

He did nothing to CORRECT AMNON. It may be that David felt that he lacked the moral authority to correct Amnon.

QUOTE:

"They say a man never hears his own voice till it comes back to him from the phonograph. Certainly a man never sees the worst of himself until it reappears in his child." - F.B. Meyer

CRUCIAL:

The enemy loves to tell us (as individuals / families / churches) that we have no right to speak to an issue because of our own past failures.

LISTEN. We do have the RIGHT and the RESPONSIBILITY to speak with authority on the BASIS of TRUTH.

David could have, should have, said to Amnon, "I know first-hand the wreckage that results when we don't restrain our lusts. It is not going to get any better until you deal with this before the Lord and conquer in God's strength."

22But Absalom spoke to Amnon neither good nor bad, for Absalom hated Amnon, because he had violated his sister Tamar.

Absalom played it cool.

We are going to discover that Absalom is a DEVIOUS and DELIBERATE man. He is going to DEVISE a plan and then be very DELIBERATE and PATIENT in WAITING for the perfect moment to EXECUTE it.

QUOTE:

"Nothing is more unsafe to be trusted, than the fair looks of a festered heart." - John Trapp

23After two full years

Two full years of seething and plotting revenge

23After two full years Absalom had sheepshearers at Baal-hazor, which is near Ephraim, and Absalom invited all the king's sons.

Sheep shearing was a festive time. It was natural that Absalom would have a great feast and invite Amnon and all the king's sons.

24And Absalom came to the king and said, "Behold, your servant has sheepshearers. Please let the king and his servants go with your servant." 25But the king said to Absalom, "No, my son, let us not all go, lest we be burdensome to you." He pressed him, but he would not go but gave him his blessing. 26Then Absalom said, "If not, please let my brother Amnon go with us." And the king said to him, "Why should he go with you?" 27But Absalom pressed him until he let Amnon and all the king's sons go with him. 28Then Absalom commanded his servants, "Mark when Amnon's heart is merry with wine, and when I say to you, 'Strike Amnon,' then kill him. Do not fear; have I not commanded you? Be courageous and be valiant." 29So the servants of Absalom did to Amnon as Absalom had commanded. Then all the king's sons arose, and each mounted his mule and fled.

God had promised that the sword would never depart from David's house (2 Samuel 12:10).

This is definitely a partial fulfillment of that promise.

30While they were on the way, news came to David, "Absalom has struck down all the king's sons, and not one of them is left." 31Then the king arose and tore his garments and lay on the earth. And all his servants who were standing by tore their garments. 32But Jonadab the son of Shimeah, David's brother, said, "Let not my lord suppose that they have killed all the young men the king's sons, for Amnon alone is dead. For by the command of Absalom this has been determined from the day he violated his sister Tamar. 33Now therefore let not my lord the king so take it to heart as to suppose that all the king's sons are dead, for Amnon alone is dead." 34But Absalom fled. And the young man who kept the watch lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, many people were coming from the road behind him by the side of the mountain. 35And Jonadab said to the king, "Behold, the king's sons have come; as your servant said, so it has come about." 36And as soon as he had finished speaking, behold, the king's sons came and lifted up their voice and wept. And the king also and all his servants wept very bitterly.

NOTE:

David is rightly grieved at learning of the death of his eldest son, the Crown Prince Amnon. But again, a sin of OMISSION is behind another tragedy in David's house. David had failed to administer Biblical correction according to Exodus 22:16-17 and Deuteronomy 22:28-29

As a result, Absalom felt free to administer his own brutal correction.

QUOTE:

"Absalom's fratricide would never have taken place if David had taken instant measures to punish Amnon." - F.B. Meyer

37But Absalom fled and went to Talmai the son of Ammihud, king of Geshur. And David mourned for his son day after day. 38So Absalom fled and went to Geshur, and was there three years.

REMEMBER, Absalom's grandfather was the king of Geshur (2 Samuel 3:3)

39And the spirit of the king longed to go out to Absalom, because he was comforted about Amnon, since he was dead.

After three years, the sting of Amnon's murder was not as sharp.

BUT AGAIN, the sin of OMISSION will be manifested in David. AMAZINGLY, David's indulgence towards Amnon and his failure to correct Amnon is repeated towards Absalom, and Absalom will meet a similar end as Amnon.

