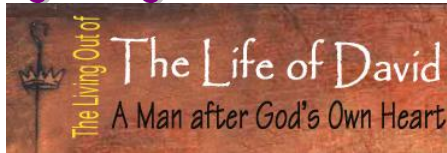




2 Samuel 24:1-17

Sinning...Again Sun, Apr 29th 2007



Getting old doesn't guarantee good sense.

- A loose translation of- **Job 32:9** 🖥 – and it is true
- **Some think age inoculates against sin...NO**
 - Every person young & old here – sinners
- **Some thing Spiritual Greatness keeps from sin – NO**
 - The greatest of Christians – still struggle
- **Both of these aspects we find in David today**

Continue study in Life of David - 🖥

- **David older...almost 70...last year or two of life**
- **Again...David is a great man – God says so**
 - Walked with the Lord for 60 years or so
- **Yet, far from perfect – Bible honestly shows many sins**
 - To me–1st word of text says much – “**Again**”
 - Is often many people's struggle w/David
- **But honestly, This is a far more comforting message**
 - David isn't perfect...neither are you
 - Who would want all their sins so shown
 - Part of message of David– is in the midst of imperfection – how one can please God
- **All this as we deal with David...sinning again**

I. What Causes this Sin?

1. Was it God? Notice v.1

- a. Numbering Israel is the sin...more in a minute
- b. So—is this simply saying God moved David to sin?

2. Was it satan? 2 Ch 21:1

- a. Wait....here says God—there satan— contradiction?
- b. Confusion...questions??? Is David just a pawn?

3. Turn to James 1 – anatomy of temptation

a. David's Part – v.14 – desires, lusts inside-appealed to

- i) Each one – all of us, applies to all – true of all
- ii) Whatever David's sin is – originates here-heart
- iii) David is culpable both for lust & choice

b. Satan's part – v.14 – enticed – satan is the Tempter (title)

- i) 1 Chr 21 – tells us satan is the agent

c. God's part – v13, 16-18

- i) Never the one doing it – He gives good things
- ii) Yet...2 Sam 24:1 – how is God involved?
- iii) 1Cor 10:13 – God's part – allowing

A. Some have called the Permission Principle

B. Never tempted without God's permission

C. See in the temptation of Job

d. One more point – James 1:12 – can be victorious

- i) Temptation is not sin – can be endured
 - A. Don't be beaten up by satan's lie
- ii) Further know – David could have endured
 - A. Could have learned lesson in temptation

4. So...put it all together - 2 Sam 24

a. God allowing...satan tempting...David sinning

II. What is this Sin, Specifically?

1. David's sin...he numbered the people

a. Might find yourself wondering—that was sin? Why?

2. David knew it was a sin – Biblically – in this book

a. Gave specific instructions **Ex 30:11-16** 📖

b. Understanding is not needed for obedience

3. David was warned that this would be sin 1 Ch 21:3 📖

a. If David forgot... he was reminded – did anyway

4. David sinned in the face of God's patience

a. God waited 9 months—not a sin of passion (Bathsheba)

b. David missed that God waits...giving time to repent Rom 2:2

5. Why was this a sin? See is a sin...but don't see why

a. Instructions– when number – consecrate to temple

i) Why? Clear picture – they are God's people

b. David takes credit for the people, God's people – wrongly

c. What is David thinking? Consider near end of his life...

i) Could be gloating – taking God's glory

ii) Could be preparing – pass to Solomon

iii) Could be depending – resting on

iv) One way or another – seeing people as “mine”

d. In one sense – so undavid like – knew better

i) Wrote it in his Psalms - **Ps 20:7; 33:16-22**

ii) It was his boast against Goliath -**1Sa 17:45-47**

e. The sin then is a sin of **PRIDE...of self trust**

i) Maybe think – but that is so small – not real sin

ii) Yet...not so. Pride – is most hated sin

iii) God resist proud, grace to humble – 1 Pet 5:5

iv) Is heart of sin, causes independence from God

6. Word of application

a. Today – not armies...but friends, position, money

b. Is it wrong to have savings, insurance, IRA's?

i) No – in fact Bible demands us to provide

c. Yet...danger is trusting in them – **1 Tim 6:17-19** 📖

d. Corrie Ten Boom's rule-hold with open hand

e. Being able to say with Job – Lord gives and takes

III. Response to Sin - Repents

1. v.10 is one of those key verses in study of David

a. Man after God's own heart...but does still sin

b. Yet when David sins – repents wonderfully – key

2. David's heart – is sensitive – convicts him

a. Wonderful to see – sensitivity of his heart in this

b. Bible warns of danger of hardening, searing

3. David takes full responsibility – I did it

a. No blame shifting, no excuses (not even on satan)

i) Knew it was him...his heart – I have sinned

b. Sees his sin and repents of his sin- quickly

i) Real Christian life is one of continual repentance

4. Part of what makes this wonderful- is his age

a. Almost 70... 60 yrs of walking – still repenting

b. Not common – two seasons of life where it becomes the most rare – Teenage and old age

5. Is this picture of David's heart true of you?

a. Sensitivity & repentance – good gages of spiritual health

b. Are you sensitive to sin? Conscience pricked?

c. Are you seriously, intently repenting of sin?

IV. Response to Consequences

1. David asked forgiveness of Lord and God forgave him

a. Is God's character- 1 John 1:9

2. Yet God has message for David—consequences coming

a. Consequences – probably most understand

i) Quick refresher – did whole study on (CD)

b. Forgiveness – is available in Christ – wonderful

c. But forgiveness doesn't remove consequences

i) **If lose temper – quit job – forgiven – unemployed**

ii) **If sin sexually – disease, pregnant – forgiven, but...**

d. Sin always has consequences

3. David gets to pick the consequences – wow

a. Don't' know of any other time this was true-hard

b. Lots of reasons David could have made choice he did
and interesting theories and thoughts

c. But tells us main reason – trust God, His mercy

4. 70,000 people die – what do we do with this?

a. **1st Quick reminder – read this, see this Biblically**

i) Death – Biblically is not the end.

ii) So many Christians misread- wrongly

iii) **Death is like being removed from a game in sports**

b. **2nd Sin has consequences for others**

i) One of satan's lies – sin only hurts me – not so!

ii) Sin hurts others - always

c. **3rd Leaders' sin...hurts more, great consequences**

i) Love David's words – heartbreaking

Conclusion

Still....70,000 men die in this...maybe seems wrong

- David sins...they suffer...why?

Is their more? Is their a purpose? Yes – v.1

- **God is dealing with Israel – He is correcting them**
 - Not just about David...whole nation is in need of God's discipline...working this
- **What was God dealing with? Doesn't say**
 - Some thing disloyalty w/Absalom – maybe
 - Maybe it was the same thing as David
- **But hear this – God's discipline is right...good**
 - Never out of whack, never unfair – good
 - **Heb 12:5-11** – proof of His love
 - Question – are you being trained? Call to

Is another possibility – don't know His correction

- If know nothing of this...then unsaved
- **1 Pet 4:17-18** – If God deals w/His kids this way – dealing even w/pride...how about enemies?
- Those who don't obey Gospel...
- **2Thess 1:7-10** tells us the end of these....worse