

## Making Our Sin Okay!

DAVID:

>Adultery

>Murder

Wednesday, March 3 at 11:00 & 7:00

Third Wednesday in Lent – 2021

**Introduction:** Dear friends in Christ: **Two weeks ago**, we learned how temptation works; then, **last week**, we began to focus on *how we justify our sin*. What does that mean? We see our sin in such a way that – *to us* – it seems okay. Last week we looked at the rebellion of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram against Moses and Aaron, *with God intervening in a most dramatic way!* Today, we will look at David's sins of adultery and murder, as recorded in **2 Samuel 11**...

- David Stayed Home:** **<sup>1</sup> Then it happened in the spring, at the time when kings go out to battle, that David sent Joab [the commander of the army] and his servants with him and all Israel, and they destroyed the sons of Ammon and besieged Rabbah. But David stayed at Jerusalem.** // In the United States today, the commander-in-chief does not fight; instead, *he commands others to go and fight*. On this occasion, David did the same – and that seems to be his *first step* into his sins; staying home put him in the *wrong place* at the *wrong time*. As a journey of thousand miles begins with but a single step, *so David's adultery and murder began with but a single step!* Think of a complex sin in your life; *what was your first step?*

2. **David Did Not Stop:** <sup>2</sup> Now when evening came David arose from his bed and walked around on the roof of the king's house, and from the roof he saw a woman bathing; and the woman was very beautiful in appearance. <sup>3</sup> So David sent and inquired about the woman. And one said, "Is this not Bathsheba... the wife of Uriah the Hittite?" <sup>4</sup> David sent messengers and took her, and when she came..., he lay with her... // David had multiples wives; for those in the Bible who followed that practice, *the Bible records various internal family problems.*<sup>1</sup> When David first saw Bathsheba, he didn't know she was married. However, *upon learning of her situation*, he should have STOPPED. Instead, *he took her and laid with her!* Even worse, *Uriah was one of David's 37 mighty men.*<sup>2</sup> Have you ever NOT STOPPED, when you know you should have?
3. **David Tried to Cover His Adultery:** <sup>5</sup> The woman conceived; and she sent and told David, and said, "I am pregnant." <sup>6</sup> Then David sent to Joab, *saying*, "Send me Uriah the Hittite." ... <sup>7</sup> When Uriah came..., David asked concerning the welfare of Joab and the people and the state of the war. <sup>8</sup> Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house, and wash your feet." And Uriah went out of the king's house... <sup>9</sup> 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. // David was clever; if Uriah would have laid with his wife, most would have assumed the child to be born was his. *But David's plan failed.* Have you ever tried to cover your sin? Is that a good idea? If you think it is, *read Psalm 32:1-5!*

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<sup>1</sup> <https://answersingenesis.org/family/marriage/what-about-polygamy-in-the-bible/>

<sup>2</sup> See 2 Samuel 23 for the whole list; Uriah is mentioned in verse 39.

4. **David Was Not Moved by Uriah's Honorable Actions:**

<sup>10</sup> Now when they told David... David said to Uriah, "Have you not come from a journey? Why did you not go down to your house?" <sup>11</sup> Uriah said..., "The ark and Israel and Judah are staying in temporary shelters, and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are camping in the open field. Shall I then go to my house to eat and to drink and to lie with my wife? By your life and the life of your soul, I will not do this thing." // *What a contrast!* **David**—so shameful in laying with Uriah's wife; **Uriah**—so honorable in not doing so because of ▶the ark, ▶his commander, ▶his fellow soldiers, and ▶his king! Have we been shameful?

5. **David Tried Again to Cover His Adultery:** <sup>12</sup> Then David said to Uriah, "Stay here today also, and tomorrow I will let you go." So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day and the next. <sup>13</sup> Now David called him, and he ate and drank before him, and he made him drunk; and in the evening he went out to lie on his bed with his lord's servants, but he did not go down to his house. // Earlier, David told Uriah to go to his house; here, David tried to trick Uriah to go to his house – by getting him drunk, *but he did not go!*

6. **David Murdered Uriah and Others:** <sup>14</sup> Now in the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent *it* by the hand of Uriah. <sup>15</sup> He had written... "Place Uriah in the front line of the fiercest battle and withdraw from him, so that he may be struck down and die." <sup>16</sup> So it was as Joab kept watch on the city, that he put Uriah at the place where he knew there *were* valiant [powerful] men. <sup>17</sup> The men of the city went out and fought against Joab, and some of the people among David's servants fell; and Uriah the Hittite also died. // David was so determined to

cover his sin *that he murdered one of his own mighty men!*

► David gave the order, ► Joab cooperated in the plot, and  
► Uriah was killed along with others. Rather than being  
determined to cover, *let us be determined to confess!*

7. **David's Kill Is Confirmed:** <sup>18</sup> Then Joab sent [a messenger] and reported to David all the events of the war.... <sup>23</sup> The messenger said to David, "The men prevailed against us... <sup>24</sup> Moreover... some of the king's servants are dead, and your servant Uriah the Hittite is also dead." <sup>25</sup> Then David said..., "Thus you shall say to Joab, 'Do not let this thing displease you... make your battle against the city stronger and overthrow it...'" // Even though David did not shoot the arrow that killed Uriah, he was definitely responsible for his death! *We have also sinned* 😞!
8. **David Took Bathsheba as His Wife:** <sup>26</sup> Now when the wife of Uriah heard that Uriah her husband was dead, she mourned for her husband. <sup>27</sup> When the *time of mourning* was over, David sent and... she became his wife; then she bore him a son. But the thing that David had done was **evil in the sight of the LORD.** // David may have thought: I did it, and yet no one knows, so everything is good.

### **Conclusion:**

- **Truth** – "Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account" (Heb. 4:13 NIV).
- **Relevance** – As David covered his sin, *so we are tempted!*
- **Inspiration** – Jesus took our eternal punishment, *so let us be sorry, uncover, confess, and receive God's forgiveness!*

**Let Us Pray:** Dear Jesus, since we have sinned and You have taken them away, *let us gladly and daily receive forgiveness!*

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