

UNFORESEEN CONSEQUENCES

Jkroberts_us@yahoo.com

www.pacolethillsbaptist.org

September 23, 2018

2 Samuel 12:1-14

1. Many people have the mistaken notion that because God loves us He will not hold us accountable.
2. Nothing could be further from the truth, and even a casual reader of the Scriptures should be able to discern the fact that God holds us accountable and disciplines us accordingly.
3. With privilege come responsibility. James 3:1
“Let not many of you become teachers, my brethren, knowing that as such we will incur a stricter judgment.”
4. We see this principle stated in Psalm 99:6-9
Moses and Aaron were among His priests, And Samuel was among those who called on His name; they called upon the Lord and He answered them. 7 He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud; they kept His testimonies and the statute that He gave them. 8 O Lord our God, You answered them; You were a forgiving God to them, and yet an avenger of their evil deeds. 9 Exalt the Lord our God and worship at His holy hill, for holy is the Lord our God.
NOTE: In a moment of anger Moses failed to treat God as holy and forfeited his right to bring God’s people into the Promised Land. Numbers 20:12
5. The bottom line is that our actions have consequences; both good and bad.
6. David was a great man of God, but in a moment of weakness he committed adultery with another man’s wife. 1 Kings 15:1-5
Now in the eighteenth year of King Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, Abijam became king over Judah. 2 He reigned three years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Maacah the daughter of Abishalom. 3 He walked in all the sins of his father which he had committed before him; and his heart was not wholly devoted to the Lord his God, like the heart of his father David. 4 But for David's sake the Lord his God gave him a lamp in Jerusalem, to raise up his son after him and to establish Jerusalem; 5 **because David did what was right in the sight of the Lord, and had not turned aside from anything that He commanded him all the days of his life, except in the case of Uriah the Hittite.**
7. The story is a sordid one and is chronicled in 2 Samuel 11.
 - a. Rather than leading his army David was hanging around his house.
 - b. Unable to sleep he went up on the roof of his house and inadvertently saw a woman named Bathsheba bathing in the privacy of her courtyard.
 - c. After finding out who she was he sent for her, took advantage of her, sent her home, and later found out that she was expecting a child.
 - d. David’s attempt to cover up his adultery eventually led to his ordering Joab, the commander of his army, to put her husband in the forefront of the battle and leave him there to be killed. 2 Sam 11:14-18

Now in the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it by the hand of Uriah. 15 He had written in the letter, saying, **"Place Uriah in the front line of the fiercest battle and withdraw from him, so that he may be struck down and die."** 16 So it was as Joab kept watch on the city, that he put Uriah at the place where he knew there were valiant men. 17 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.

e. When David received word of Uriah's death he probably thought, "Problem solved," but it wasn't. 2 Sam 11:26-27

Now when the wife of Uriah heard that Uriah her husband was dead, she mourned for her husband. 27 When the time of mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house 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.

8. We do not see it here in this text, but Psalms 32 and 38 give testimony to the fact that David suffered greatly because of what he had done.

9. After David married Bathsheba and she bore him a son, God sent Nathan the prophet to David with a blunt and troubling message.

I. What David did he did in the sight of the Lord.

A. Nathan asked David a pointed question, "Why have you despised the word of the Lord by doing evil in His sight?"

NOTE: Evil is defined by the Word of God and not the by the norms of any society. In the end we will be judged by God's standards; not man's.

B. Nothing escapes the notice of God.

1. Prov 15:3

The eyes of the Lord are in every place, watching the evil and the good.

2. Heb 4:12-13

For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. 13 **And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.**

C. There is a positive aspect to this reality. 2 Chron 16:7-10

At that time Hanani the seer came to Asa king of Judah and said to him, "Because you have relied on the king of Aram and have not relied on the Lord your God, therefore the army of the king of Aram has escaped out of your hand. 8 "Were not the Ethiopians and the Lubim an immense army with very many chariots and horsemen? Yet because you relied on the Lord, He delivered them into your hand. 9 **"For the eyes of the Lord move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His.** You have acted foolishly in this. Indeed, from now on you will surely have wars." 10 Then Asa was angry with the seer and put him in prison, for he was enraged at him for this. And Asa oppressed some of the people at the same time.

II. What David did he did to a loyal soldier.

- A. Uriah the Hittite was numbered with a small group of David's most fierce and faithful soldiers referred to as David's mighty men. 1 Chronicles 11:41
- B. David owed his life to these men, and any one of them would have counted it an honor to die on his behalf.
- C. Uriah was a man of principle who refused to go home to his wife as long as his comrades were camped in the field. 11:11
- D. As a side note, one of the terrible aspects of adultery is that it is often committed against a loving, and loyal spouse.

III. What David did gave the enemies of the Lord an occasion to blaspheme. 14

- A. God's enemies are many, and they are constantly looking for a reason to blaspheme Him.
- B. What David did was a sin against God, God's Law, Bathsheba, Uriah, his family, and his people.
- C. God takes His name and reputation seriously and we should as well. Rom 2:17-24
But if you bear the name "Jew" and rely upon the Law and boast in God, 18 and know His will and approve the things that are essential, being instructed out of the Law, 19 and are confident that you yourself are a guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness, 20 a corrector of the foolish, a teacher of the immature, having in the Law the embodiment of knowledge and of the truth, 21 you, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself? You who preach that one shall not steal, do you steal? 22 You who say that one should not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? 23 You who boast in the Law, through your breaking the Law, do you dishonor God? 24 **For "THE NAME OF GOD IS BLASPHEMED AMONG THE GENTILES BECAUSE OF YOU," just as it is written.**
- D. How does our behavior reflect upon God?

IV. What David did negatively impacted his family.

- A. David was an Old Testament believer and his sin was atoned for (13-14), but that did negate the impact of what he did on others.
 - 1. One of his sons committed incest with his half-sister, that son was killed by her brother Absalom, who then conspired against his father and publicly had relations with David's concubines, and then was eventually killed.
 - 2. If we believe verse 10-12, and I do, all of the above happened because of David and his personal failure.
- B. Our actions matter to God, but they also positively or negatively impact others.

APPLICATION

1. The good news is that God is ready to forgive those who seek forgiveness in and through Jesus Christ.
2. He is also ready to help and to heal those who have been negatively impacted by the actions of others.
3. May God help us to live loving and selfless lives for the benefit of others.