

Monday (Read 2 Samuel 9: 1- 13)

Sometimes, when people are successful and have seem to have no worries in life, they often forget the past with all its sufferings, and disregards the feelings of Others. But David, with his big heart, was more motivated by his success to seek the comfort of others.

Before he became Israel's king, he made promises to both Jonathan and Saul:

- To Jonathan, he promised to protect his life and to show loving kindness to his house forever (1 Samuel 20:12-17)
- To Saul, he vowed not to cut off his descendants after him (1 Samuel 24:21-22).

Even fifteen years after the deaths of Saul and Jonathan, he did not forget his covenant. So he started to ask if there is still anyone left of the house of Saul. He heard about Mephibosheth the son of Jonathan, who could not walk. He restored to him all the land of Saul his grandfather; and to let him eat bread at his table continually, as one of his own family!



“What is your servant that you should look upon such as a dead dog as I?” 2 Samuel 9:8

Did you know...

In ancient Israel, dogs were thought of as worthless scavengers not pets.

Tuesday (Read 2 Samuel 10: 1-8)

David with his big heart, wanted to show kindness to Hanun the son of Nahash, as his father showed kindness to him; But the counsellors of Hanun misinterpreted David’s intentions, and stirred up their master’s rage against him, claiming that David sent his servants, not to comfort him, but to search the city, to spy it out, and to overthrow it.

Misinterpretation or assumptions can have negative consequences as we will see....

Hanun listened to the counsel of his servants, took David’s servants, shaved off half of their beards, cut off their garments in the middle, and sent them away. This action was considered by the Hebrew, as a great insult and a mark of defeat.

***“The king shall have joy in your strength, O Lord; And in your salvation, how greatly shall he rejoice!
(Psalm 21: 1).***

***“Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; But we will remember the name of the Lord our God”
(Psalm 20: 7).***



Name:

Year:



Wednesday (Read 2 Samuel 10: 9-19)

The people of Ammon realised that disgracing David’s messengers, was something directed against the whole nation of Israel; and expecting a reaction from David, they hired the Syrians to fight against David.

Thus the misinterpretation and bad counsel, led to a fierce war between many nations and kingdoms

Hearing of the gathering together of those kings, David did not fear, but held fast to God’s promises to him; So he prepared for war, leaning upon the power of God. Those wars, and others like them, were chances for David, to utter certain of his psalms (Psalms 2; 20; 21; 60; 110).

David and the Israelites defeated the Syrians.



2 Samuel

Here we reach the second section of 2 Samuel:

1. David's conquests and triumph (1-10)
2. David's weaknesses and troubles (11-24)

Thursday (Read 2 Samuel 11: 1-4)

The first step in many sins, is slothfulness and negligence!

Everything was going fine for David, the kingdom was well established and powerful. It was at this time when David seemed to be the strongest that he had actually become vulnerable and weak to sin.

King David should have went to war with Joab (as mentioned in verse 1), instead he stayed and relaxed in his house. He should have at least prayed in contribution to those at war. But rather he wandered up to the roof.

A big sin starts as a little negligence, that gradually drags man into an endless series of sins. This is a good reminder for us- to always be on guard and to be diligent in our spiritual lives lest we become blind and ignorant....

"Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak" Mark 14:8

"The slothfulness of body members will be followed by distraction of thoughts.

When the body takes interest in worldly things, and leads a slothful life, the lust in him will turn aflame"
St. Ephram the Syrian

Friday (Read 2 Samuel 11: 5-13)

According to the law, Bethsheba, if found pregnant, had to be put to death (Leviticus 20: 10); So she sent and told the king, to find a way to save her from death. David instructed Joab to send him Uriah from war, to go down to his house; so that the pregnancy would be counted as though from him, and so the sin would be concealed. But Uriah refused to sleep in his own house, as long as his brethren are fighting in the battlefield. What great loyalty!

David does everything he can think of to cover up his sin, rather than seeking God and asking Him to fix up his mistake... And the result is that things get worse.... Here we learn that sin can give rise to more sin. How often do we lie to cover up our sin or try to defend our wrong doings?

"Each one of us is tempted by our own lust, so let us fight and resist and not give in nor allow ourselves to be lured by it, nor allow it to conceive anything to which it might then give birth. It is like this—lust persuades and indulges you, positively encouraging you to do something wrong. Do not give in and it will not conceive. If you ponder it willingly and with pleasure, then it will conceive and give birth, and you will die" St Augustine

Saturday (Read 2 Samuel 11: 14-27)

When the situation got too much to bear, David gave Uriah a concealed message to carry to Joab, to have him killed by the hands of the enemies. This way he can honor Uriah as a war hero, and generously take on the duty of being a husband to Uriah's wife.

When Joab sends the messenger to tell David that Uriah had died. David replies basically saying "Well, don't worry about it. After all, you win a few, and you lose a few. That's the way it goes." Uriah, a great warrior and a man of godly character, has just died, and David does not express one word of grief, one expression of sorrow, not one word of tribute. Uriah dies, and David is unmoved. This is a very different response in contrast to the death of Saul and Jonathan. David is hardened by his own sin. Has this ever happened to you?

The chapter ends with "But the thing that David had done displeased the Lord". It is through the sins that we commit that we truly upset our God and we separate us from His holy presence. How many times do you sin every day? Do you re-asses yourself at the end of the day and repent quickly? Are you blinded by sin?

