

THE DEADLY SIN OF LUST,
IT'S ANCIENT ORIGIN'S
AND MODERN EFFECTS
ON SOCIETY

PART 1

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Human sexuality can be one of the most beautiful aspects of YHWH's plan for His children here on earth. But since Adam and Eve's fall from grace, human sexual practices have drifted from YHWH's purposes.

In fact, if we are not careful to look to our Heavenly Father and follow His teaching in this area, we live a life which makes us slaves to sin and fails to bring glory to our YHWH.



Painting by Hendrik Goltzius

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

If you are struggling with sexual sin, you are not alone. Even King David -- a man after YHWH's own heart -- wrestled with sexual sin. When he saw a beautiful woman named Bathsheba, he was overcome by his own lust. He then went to great lengths to hide his sin. But thanks to a faithful friend and a forgiving God, David found his way home (2 Samuel 11:12). And so can you.

LETS TAKE A LOOK AT HIS LIFE AND
DERIVE SOME LESSONS FROM IT.

DAVID DANCED BEFORE YHWH



David's first and foremost drive is to have a relationship with YHWH. We get the glimpse of the beauty of his soul when we read the Psalms, most of which he wrote. Even when we consider his military conquest, we see that the driving force behind them was his attachment to YHWH.

King David was a great military conqueror, but he could not conquer himself.

He allowed one night of lust with Bathsheba, and it had disastrous consequences in his life.

KING DAVID WAS A MIGHTY WARRIOR



LUST HAS NO PATIENCE

The Scripture answers this question when it says: "Everything that was written in the past was written to teach us!" (Rom. 15:4)

1 Corinthians 10:11-12 These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the culmination of the ages has come. 12 So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall!

In the Bible, YHWH does not hide the sins of the prophets because HE wants to teach us valuable lesson. Let's go to the second book of Samuel and see how David was tempted into sin.

KING DAVID STAYED AT THE PALACE, WHILE THE OTHER KINGS WENT OFF TO WAR

2 Samuel 11 In the spring, at the time when kings go off to war, David sent Joab out with the king's men and the whole Israelite army. They destroyed the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah.

David remained in Jerusalem.



IDLE HANDS MAKE THE DEVIL'S WORK

At the very root of David's problems, we find a king who wasn't where he belonged. If David had been out in the battlefield, where the king was supposed to be, instead of hanging around the palace this whole incident would have never happened.



SATAN COMES TO ATTACK WHEN YOU ARE OUT OF YHWH'S WILL

David should have been on the battlefield and not in the bedroom.

Second, in a time of war, a soldier was not to indulge himself in the normal comforts of life, including sexual relations with his wife (let alone anyone else's wife).

When David and his men fled from Saul to Ahimelech the priest at Nob, he requested bread from Ahimelech. Note very carefully the priest's words and David's response:

NO SEXUAL RELATIONS DURING WAR

4 The priest replied to David, “I don’t have any ordinary bread at my disposal. Only holy bread is available, and then only if the soldiers have abstained from women.”

5 David said to the priest, “Certainly women have been kept away from us, just as on previous occasions when I have gone out. The soldiers’ equipment is holy, even on an ordinary journey. How much more so will they be holy today, along with their equipment!” (1 Samuel 21:4-5).

SO DAVID SHOULD ALSO HAVE BEEN ABSTAINING FROM WOMEN.

IDLENESS GIVES EASY ENTRY FOR THE DEVIL

Instead of being at battle, David is busy being a peeping Tom.

2 One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing.

(Now she was purifying herself from her monthly uncleanness) (i.e having a Mikveh).

HOW WAS THE KING ABLE TO WATCH BATHSHEEBA HAVING A MIKVEH?

The king's house was probably located at the highest elevation in town so he could view the entire city from his rooftop. It was typical in that day for gardens to be located on the rooftops and it was where people would go to relax in the evening. That is the reason Peter was on the rooftop in the New Testament.

She knew all the men were gone to battle including her own husband. So she felt relatively safe in deciding to take her bath where she did. But she didn't know that the king was still around.



BATHSHEEBA WAS NOT BATHING BUT HAVING A MIKVEH

According to Jewish purity laws, a woman must wait seven days after her menses end before purifying herself ritually in a Mikvah, a special immersion pool, so that she and her husband may resume sexual relations. The biblical text implies that this ritual purification was the bath that David saw Bathsheba taking.



WHO WAS BATHSHEEBA?

She was the grand daughter of Ahithophel, a high-powered advisor to King David, whose advises were as the oracles of YHWH. Her husband, Uriah was a commander and armor bearer to the chief commander Joab, so the family would most probably have a private well within the compound of their own and she was having her mikveh (ritual purification) in her own enclosed courtyard and this was entirely private and legitimate.

LUST AND BOREDOM BE DANGEROUS BEDFELLOW'S

The reason this lust was conceived in David's heart and he sent for Bathsheba was because of boredom. Boredom is a tool the devil can use against us.

The New Testament tells us in Matthew 13:25, "While men slept, the enemy came in and sowed tares."



We see that which we want. There is nothing wrong with desire in itself. The wrong is in what we do with such desire. If we seek to fulfil it in a way which is contrary to the laws of YHWH, then we move into sin.

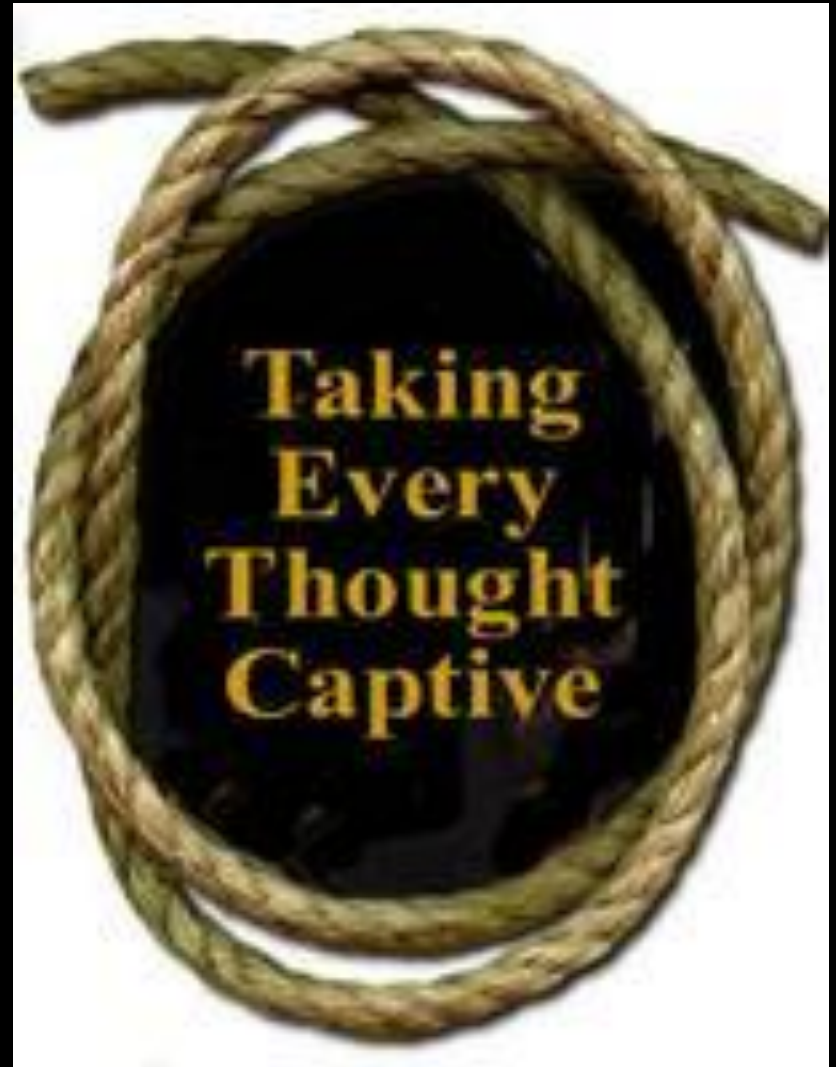
That is the way it was with Adam and Eve in the Garden. They heard the words of the serpent. They looked at the forbidden fruit. They desired to be wise.

And then they disobeyed the command of YHWH and they take that which they desire.

THE BATTLE IS WON OR LOST IN THE MIND FIRST

When people refer to the sin of David, they automatically think of is his adulterous affair with Bathsheba.

But where does the act of adultery begin? In the mind of course.



This is how temptation has a way of taking you deeper and deeper into sin and farther and farther away from YHWH?

How many marriages have been broken up because a spouse became too friendly with their co-worker? Maybe it starts with a look, then a compliment, then a shared lunch, then eventually they are at some motel committing adultery! All sin starts somewhere. Sinful thoughts later become sinful actions. Again, that is why we must overcome temptation and lust before sin is conceived.

<http://www.jesusisthelight.net>

When David caught sight of this woman, he was not a gentleman. He did not look away; instead his eyes fixed on her as he contemplated her beauty. He was, at this moment, no better than a peeping tom.

But the same sin has become even easier for men and women today. I am speaking of pornography. We may, by only a few clicks of a mouse, look at all the nakedness and perversion we wish on the internet. We can, by merely pushing a certain button on the remote control, see more nudity than David saw on the screen of our television while watching a network broadcast. Countless lives have been destroyed by looking at things we should not see.

SATAN ATTACKS MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY, BECAUSE THAT IS YHWH'S HEART

This was to be a permanent union between man and woman that they might be helpful to one another (Genesis 2:18). Marriage represents a relationship of both spiritual and physical unity.

Hebrews 13:3-4: "Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge."

So is it any wonder that Satan's attack should center on this fundamental work of YHWH. From the beginning he has determined to destroy the very system that fulfils YHWH's original commandment to "be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it" (Genesis 1:28b). I

In demonic contradiction to YHWH's plan, pornography promotes physical satisfaction without caring love, sex without responsibility, union without obligation for the consequences, and exercise of privilege with no regard to the eternal consequences originally designed to accompany it.

<http://www.afa.net/>

THIS SIN OF LUSTING AFTER THE FLESH HAS BEEN ON EARTH SINCE THE FALL

Pornography leads to idolatry. The central truth of the Christian religion is belief in one Holy YHWH. "Thou shalt worship YHWH thy ELOHIM, and Him only shalt thou serve," Yahshua said (Matthew 4:10).

Ancient near-Eastern history documents the decadence of nations that worshiped the fertility gods using human sex organs as their symbols and prostitution as worship. YHWH eventually punished them without mercy, as He did His own people when they fell into these pagan practices.

For many centuries Christians have contemplated the impersonal religious prostitution associated with fertility religions in other times and places with rightful abhorrence. Yet they largely overlook the fact that a new form of “fertility worship” has moved in to fill the void of loneliness and meaninglessness in our rootless culture, and that the modern form is far more subtle, insidious, and addictive than those of the past.

Physiological effects of pornography are as great (or greater) than actual sex with a prostitute. Sex with a prostitute involves a degree of realism, and more likelihood of remorse, sympathy, or disgust. Pornography has all of the perfection of illusion, with no physical-relational strings attached.

The Psalmist wrote, “Turn my eyes away from worthless things; preserve my life according to your word” (Ps. 119:37).

How many times have you prayed that prayer? Rather than seeking those things that will corrupt the body and destroy your soul, seek after YHWH with the same intensity you seek after the things of the world.

PORNOGRAPHY IS AN ANCIENT PRACTICE

In Exodus, YHWH was very clear that if Israel did not purge Canaan of their culture and their gods, they would be a snare.

Further research showed that the idols representing the demon deities of Canaan were pornographic in nature. They were naked, had big penises and breasts, were depicted in sexual acts, and were often used to symbolize fertility. The kinds of worship that took place with these idols often involved drugs or alcohol, and also could involve illicit sex. These high places were the “dirty book stores” of the ancient world.

In Exodus 20, right at the beginning of the Ten Commandments, comes this warning,

3 "I am YHWH your ELOHIM, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You shall have no other gods before Me.

4 "You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth.

DO NOT WORHSIP ANYTHING EXCEPT YHWH



5 "You shall not worship them or serve them;
for I, YHWH your ELOHIM, am a jealous God,
visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the
children, on the third and the fourth
generations of those who hate Me,

6 but showing loving-kindness to thousands, to
those who love Me and keep My
commandments." (NAS)

Pornography use and addiction is the sin of idolatry

It involves making or using “graven images” and worshiping those images and giving them power and place in your life. The high places are no longer the tops of hills, but they are “virtual”: the computer screen, the DVD player, the television set.

They are also the places where pornography is peddled: the “adult” book store, even convenience stores and gas stations. We have, in our culture, protected the high places even as they did in ancient times.

Idol worship has always been bound up with fornication. Idolaters throughout the world, both in the past and in the present have made statuary of the whole human form or parts of it. The nude or semi-nude statues of Aphrodite or Venus in our art museums today were once in temples, as idols and symbols of lust to be worshipped. The fair prostitutes who posed for such represented ideal “beauty.”

Yet YHWH says of the “strange” woman, “Lust not after her beauty in thy heart; neither let her take thee with her eyelids.”(Proverbs 6:25) Man’s so-called “appreciation for beauty” is an excuse for lust. No fornicator loves the object of his lust; he loves the flaming of his own desire and uses images to stoke it.

The sin of fornication can be committed with the image of a person. YHWH SAYS TO THE ISRAELITES “You took the very jewels and gold and silver ornaments I had given you and made statues of men and worshiped them. This is adultery against me! (Ezekiel 16:17)

According to scripture, one may commit fornication “with their eyes” as well as with their body. Ezekiel 6:9 states, “I am broken with their whorish heart, which hath departed from me, and with their eyes, which go a whoring after their idols”

When one has a “whorish heart,” or a spirit of fornication, one’s eyes will “go a whoring.”

WOMEN DRESS MODESTLY OR YOU WILL BE CONSIDERED JUST AS GUILTY

But pornography need not be present for a spirit of fornication to be at work. Idolatry exists in the heart and in the mind through the “image – ination.”

Every woman who dresses or acts in a manner designed to arouse desire in men allows herself to become a pornographic image in the thought life of a man. Long after she has left the presence of those she has dressed (or undressed) to interest, her image can continue to be a “stumbling block” before their mind’s eye.

By looking and lusting the man is guilty of idolatry and fornication, by dressing immodestly the woman is not only guilty of harlotry, but also is guilty of placing a stumbling block before another.

YHWH warns that no one is to “put a stumbling block or an occasion to fall” in the way of another. (Romans 14:13) “Love works no ill to their neighbour” (Romans 13:10) “He that loves his brother abides in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him.” (1 John 2:10)

Both ancient and modern pornographers aim to “capture” in their chosen medium actual harlots plying their trade. The message of “availability to all,” conveyed by the prostitute when working in real time, is the message that pornographers desire to package and distribute. This is the “hook” of the “hooker.”

All modern day “artists,” whether in the fashion and advertising industry, whether through still or motion pictures, whether through book or music, who manipulate physical and mental images to stir sexual desire in their audience are pornographers.

We see here that pornographers are the descendants of pagan idolaters. Some of us have watched and supported this idolatry. But this is not our inheritance! We may have fallen prey to these snares, but they shall never be gods in which we trust.

YHWH hears and forgives the sins of his elect, cleansing us from our idols and impurities for his name's sake (cf. Ez 36:25). Pornography seems to provide relief from troubles, like a drug, yet in the end it is nothing but an idol of burden, destroying the peace of a good conscience and competing with our love of YHWH. <http://hissignpost.com/>

SEXUAL SIN IS THE MOST DESTRUCTIVE TO OURSELVES

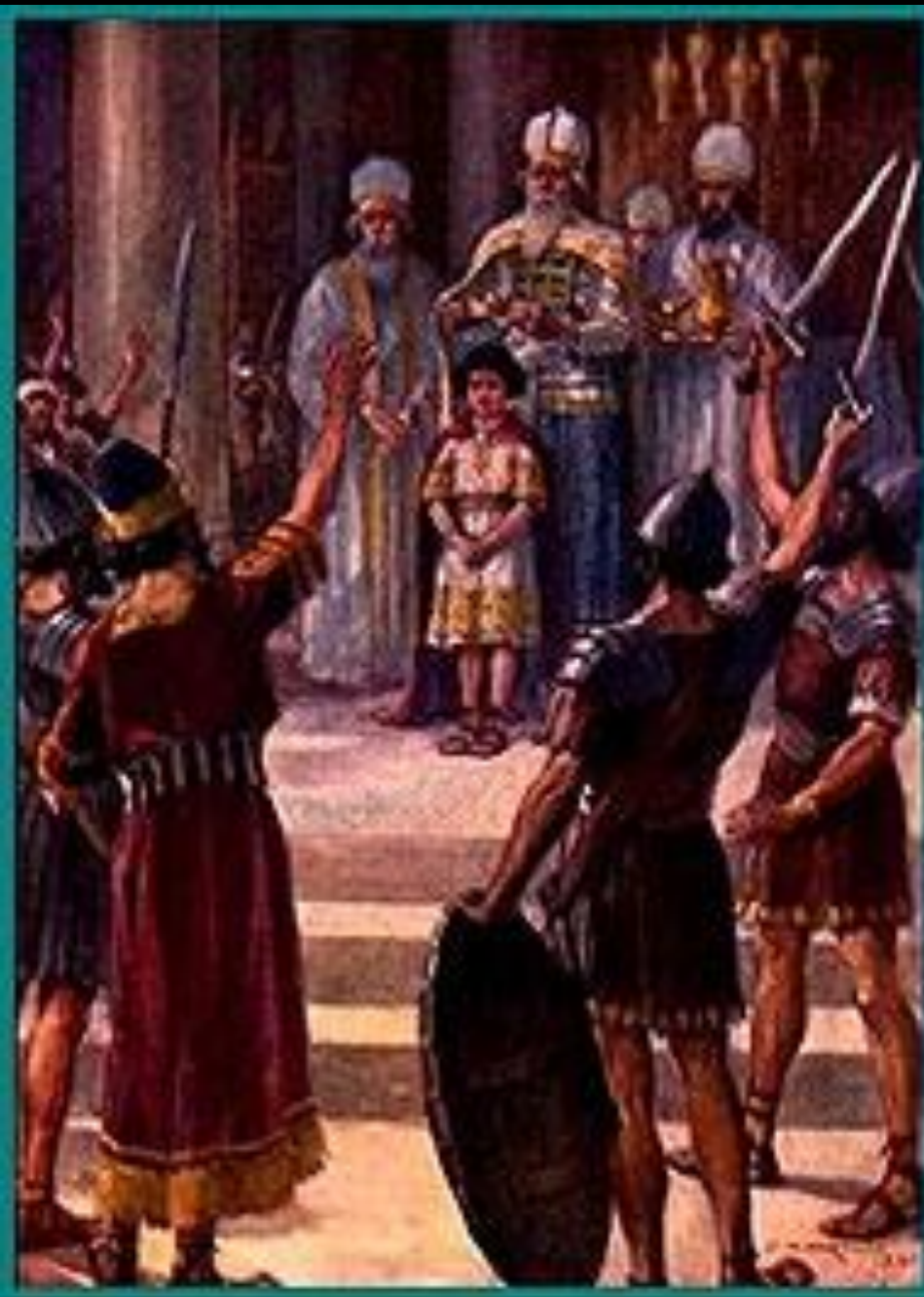
All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. 2 Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from YHWH? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor YHWH with your body.” (1 Corinthians 6:9-20 NIV)

When Gideon was called by YHWH to lead the nation of Israel, he started his work by cutting down the Asherah pole in his father's front yard, in the centre of his village. He was almost murdered for it because his neighbours were so attached to the pole.



REMOVING THE IDOL WORSHIP FROM OUR LIFE





Deut 5:7 “YOU SHALL HAVE NO OTHER GODS BEFORE ME!!”

Deut 7:5 “This is what you are to do to them: Break down their altars, smash their sacred stones, cut down their Asherah poles and burn their idols in the fire. For you are a people holy to the Lord your God...”

JOSIAH LED THE PEOPLE TOWARDS RIGHTEOUSNESS

Curiously, one of the kings of Israel that was the most successful, not only in “doing right in the eyes of YHWH” but also in “removing the high places,” was Josiah, who became king at the age of eight.

The innocence of age and the fact that he was raised by the Levites helped to make him one of the most successful kings at removing idolatry and the high places from Judah.

<http://www.indypsych.com>

BLESSED IS THE MAN WHO ABIDES IN YHWH

Behold, the man who would not make
YHWH his refuge, But trusted in the
abundance of his riches And was strong in
his evil desire.

But as for me, I am like a green olive tree in
the house of YHWH; I trust in the loving-
kindness of YHWH forever and ever (Ps.
52:7,8).

Sometimes we try to quench our desire for God by lustfully feeding ourselves with the glory of how other people appear. Lustfully feeding on the appearance of other people is a form of stealing. The robbery that happens make us the predator and them the prey. Afterward, we reassure and pride ourselves on how well we took advantage of them without getting caught. But YHWH always knows.

It hurts Him deeply when we feed on sexual things because we could have so much more, something so much better. Learn to quench your thirst with YHWH: "Seek YHWH and His strength; seek His face continually" (1 Chron. 16:11).

<http://tasteheavennow.net/>

YHWH WANTS YOU TO COMMUNE WITH HIM



SEXUAL SIN ENSLAVES THE SINNER

Pornography began being researched in 1984 and 1988 by Dolf Zillman and Jennings Bryant, and their research continues to be referenced. They discovered that the effects of repeated exposure to standard, non-violent, commonly available pornography includes: increased callousness toward women; distorted perceptions about sexuality; devaluation of the importance of monogamy; decreased satisfaction with partner's sexual performance, affection, and appearance; doubts about the value of marriage; and decreased desire to have children. Later research studies further confirm their findings.

"In YHWH's plan, this would be his wife, but for many men it is an image on a screen. Pornography thus enslaves the viewer to an image, hijacking the biological response intended to bond a man to his wife and therefore inevitably loosening that bond."



Sexual sin promises satisfaction, but it can't deliver. Instead lust leaves you with an unsatisfied, intense, unbridled sexual desire for more. Paul describes it "the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts"

(Ephesians 2:3). Where the heart is "darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of YHWH because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more" (Ephesians 4:18-19).

BREAK FREE FROM THIS GENERATIONAL CURSE OF LUST AND IDOLATRY



COMMANDMENT 2 – NO IDOL WORSHIP

Understanding that demonic influence is at work behind pornography is sobering. This truth explains why idol worship ranks high on the list of the Ten Commandments (number two in fact). It helps explode the idea that pornography use is a private sin and doesn't hurt anyone else. When a father, mother, or church leader begins to consume pornography they unwittingly invite the presence of the demonic into their homes and churches.

Men and women who would never attend a séance, read a horoscope, or consult a spirit guide nevertheless will privately use pornography, and in the process invite, unwittingly, demonic influence into their lives. Once that demonic presence has a foothold those persons find their spiritual strength sapped. They jeopardize YHWH's covering of blessing on the family or church they lead. They become indifferent to their real relationships, and their mates suffer.

YHWH DELIEVER US FROM TEMPTATION

Have faith in YHWH for Him to deliver you. He is a Strong Tower for those who are weak and “He will keep you strong to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Messiyah Yahshua.” (I Cor 1:8).

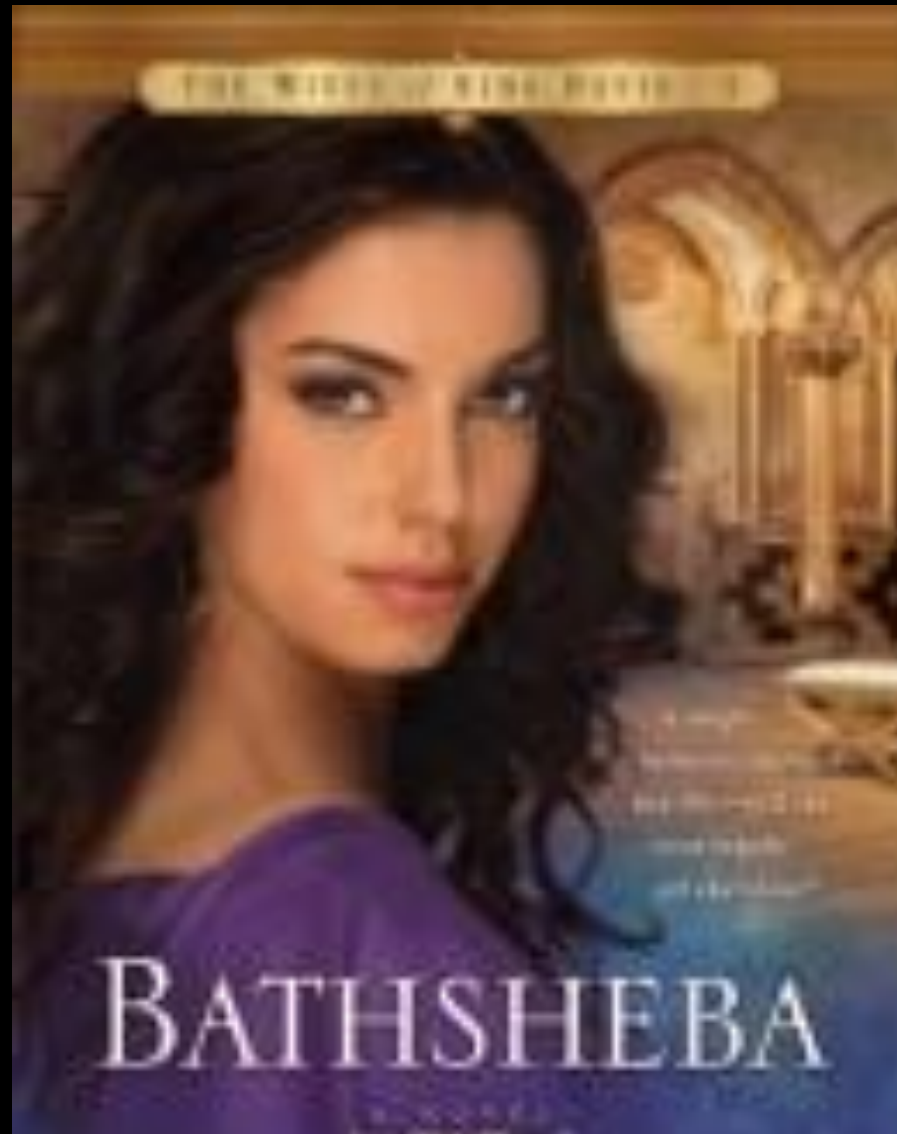
This is “so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Messiyah” (Phil 1:8). Then you, “being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Yahshua HaMashiach” (Phil 1:6).

BACK TO THE STORY OF DAVID

2 Samuel 11

The woman was very beautiful, and David sent and inquired after the woman.

And one said, Is not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?



Now, as soon as David found out that Bathsheba was a married woman, he should have put on the brakes there. Even if his lust was aroused he could have go to one of his wives for comfort but instead he sent for her. So one sin has lead to another.

First he lusted after her, then coveted her. Then he broke YHWH's law and committed adultery with her.

KING DAVID COULD HAVE PREVENTED HIS FAMILY'S DESTRUCTION WITH SOME SELF-CONTROL

YHWH never forces us to sin and He does not allow us to be overwhelmed with temptation.

1 Corinthians 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and YHWH is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, that you may be able to endure it.

HE WHO COURTS TEMPTATION PLAYS WITH FIRE

The writer of Proverbs wrote, “Can a man scoop fire into his lap without his clothes being burned? Can a man walk on hot coals without his feet being scorched? So is he who sleeps with another man's wife; no one who touches her will go unpunished” (Prov. 6:27–29).

Neither you nor anyone else is 100% immune or 100% able to resist or avoid sexual temptations. Put a guard on your eyes. Watch what you watch. No matter how entertaining you might find it, keep away from it.

PROTECT YOUR EYE GATE

Second, guard the eye gate. Proverbs 4:25 says, “Let your eyes look straight ahead, fix your gaze directly before you.”

Mathew 6:22-23

“The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!”

BE VIGILANT ABOUT WHAT YOU WATCH ON T.V AND MOVIES

In much the same way, if we don't get a little aggressive about guarding our eye gates, ear gates, the gates of our mind, heart, and homes, we can lose our place of rest (Sabbath) and quickly become corrupted by the offerings of our increasingly godless environment.

Our eyes and ears are the primary gates to our inner man.

But due to our constant over-exposure to evil, we have become numb and thus largely unaware of the assault that is raging against our ability to maintain a soul at rest. Because of the rapid advancement of our technology, and the pervasiveness of our media consuming devices, we have been subjected to witnessing far more evil and vile human behaviour than we were created to handle. Now, only the most shocking and repulsive of images causes us to turn away in disgust. Over time, we have developed an unhealthy tolerance of what used to make us cringe.

WE HAVE BEEN DE-SENSITIZED TO VULGAR IMAGES AND VIOLENCE.

WHO WAS URIAH?

David's mighty men were a group of his best thirty-seven fighters (later expanded to around eighty). Although the lists of his mighty men (2 Samuel 23:8-39 & 1 Chronicles 11:10-47) are given after David has become king, many of them may have been the loyal followers who stayed with him when he was fleeing King Saul. At the very least, they fought side-by-side with him.

Uriah's closeness to David is illustrated by how closely he lived to the palace, and his position as one of the mighty men at the front battle lines allowed David to formulate and carry out his plot.

Uriah, as his name in Hebrew means
“YHWH is my light.”

Uriah was a Hittite. Obviously he either joined himself to the nation through conversion or his family had at some point in order for him to be allowed to marry a Jewess and be a high officer in the military, but also this would have had to have been recent enough to where Uriah's Hittite heritage was worthy of distinction.

4 “Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her.”

Had David not been the king of Israel, this matter would have gone no further. But he was the most powerful man in Israel. What David wanted, he could get, and without as much as a word of protest.

YHWH abhors all that is immoral, idolatrous, sexually perverted, and lustful.

"Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor male prostitutes nor sexual offenders... will inherit the kingdom of God...The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for YHWH, and YHWH for the body" (I Corinthians 6:9-13).

THE BIBLE MAKES IT CLEAR BATHSHEBA WAS THE INNOCENT PARTY

The bible in no way casts any aspersions on Bathsheba's character or conduct and makes it clear she was the victim. If she had acted as a vixen and been provocative, the bible would have stated that. Every step was taken at the initiative of David. Nathan's rebuke places the entire blame on David, and not on Bathsheba. She was but a young woman, the wife of a foreigner; David was the king. When he summoned someone to come, they came. It was not David's charms that brought Bathsheba. It was David's power that brought this event to pass.

David started with a look. But then he kept on looking. It has been said that you can't stop birds from flying over your head, but you don't have to let them build a nest in your hair.

David embraced the way of sin. He coveted another man's wife and then he sent for her and committed adultery with her. It was not long before his sin bore fruit.

Matthew 5:28 “But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart.”

YOU SHOULD NOT LOOK LUSTFULLY AFTER WOMEN

Job spoke righteously when he stated:

“I have made a covenant with my eyes;

Why then should I look upon a young woman?

2 For what is the allotment of YHWH from above,
And the inheritance of the Almighty from on high?

3 Is it not destruction for the wicked,
And disaster for the workers of iniquity?

4 Does He not see my ways,
And count all my steps? Job 31:1-4

WHY IS IT ESSENTIAL TO OVERCOME TEMPTATION?

All of the sins that you ever committed in the past or will ever commit in the future first began as a thought in your mind, an idea, a temptation. And if you can learn to overcome that temptation in the first place, you will be able to avoid doing those things that lead to you sinning and being disobedient to YHWH.

WE NEED TO TAKE EVERY THOUGHT CAPTIVE AND BRING IT TO OBEDIENCE

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in YHWH for pulling down strongholds, 5 casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of YHWH, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Messiyah Yahshua,

DAVID'S SIN NOW BEARS LITERAL FRUIT

Then Bathsheeba went back home. 5 The woman conceived and sent word to David, saying, "I am pregnant."

6 So David sent this word to Joab: "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent him to David. 7 When Uriah came to him, David asked him how Joab was, how the soldiers were and how the war was going. 8 Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house and wash your feet." So Uriah left the palace, and a gift from the king was sent after him. 9 But Uriah slept at the entrance to the palace with all his master's servants and did not go down to his house.



It seems unlikely that Uriah is ignorant of what David has done and of what he is trying to accomplish by calling him home to Jerusalem. Rumour's must have been circulating around Jerusalem about David and Bathsheba, and could easily have reached the Israelite army which had besieged Rabbah.

Uriah not only refuses to go to his house and sleep with his wife, he sleeps at the doorway of the king's house, in the midst of his servants.

9 But Uriah slept at the entrance to the palace with all his master's servants and did not go down to his house.

10 When David was told, "Uriah did not go home," he asked him, "Haven't you just come from a distance? Why didn't you go home?"

He told David he would not break the rules of soldiers on active service - ancient people believed that sexual intercourse robbed a man of some of his physical strength, so during active service soldiers were required to abstain from sexual intercourse. Uriah would not visit his wife and have intercourse with her, since he was still technically on active service.



11 Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah are staying in tents, and my master Joab and my lord's men are camped in the open fields. How could I go to my house to eat and drink and lie with my wife? As surely as you live, I will not do such a thing!"

URIAH HAD MORE INGTEGRITY AND HONOR THAN THE KING

How tempting it was for Uriah to do as David suggested – to go to his house and to spend the night with his wife. Uriah was a soldier, but he was much more than that; Uriah was a military hero (see 2 Samuel 23:39).

He was a man who understood duty, and he would not forsake his duties, even to be with his wife and even after David got him drunk (2 Samuel 11:13).

12 Then David said to Uriah, “Wait here today also, and tomorrow I will let you depart.” So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day and the next.

13 Now when David called him, he ate and drank before him; and he made him drunk. And at evening he went out to lie on his bed with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house.

KING DAVID BECAME WHAT HE ABHORED IN JOAB- A MURDERER

David considered Joab to be a murderer:

“You know what Joab son of Zeruiah did to me—how he murdered two commanders of the Israelite armies, Abner son of Ner and Amasa son of Jether. During peacetime he struck them down like he would in battle; when he shed their blood as if in battle, he stained his own belt and the sandals on his feet” (1 Kings 2:5).

Sin makes strange bedfellows of men. This alliance between David and Joab would never have happened had David not, for the moment, become like Joab, a man whose violence David despised.

Realizing that Uriah has too much integrity to sleep with his wife during war, David changes his plans. David sends orders to Joab, placing Uriah's death warrant in this valiant warrior's hand. This man could be trusted to carry these orders and not even to look at them. What an incredible man Uriah was!

14 In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it with Uriah.

15 In it he wrote, "Put Uriah in the front line where the fighting is fiercest. Then withdraw from him so that he will be struck down and die.

DAVID SEALS URIAH'S FATE AND HIS OWN WITH A STROKE OF A PEN

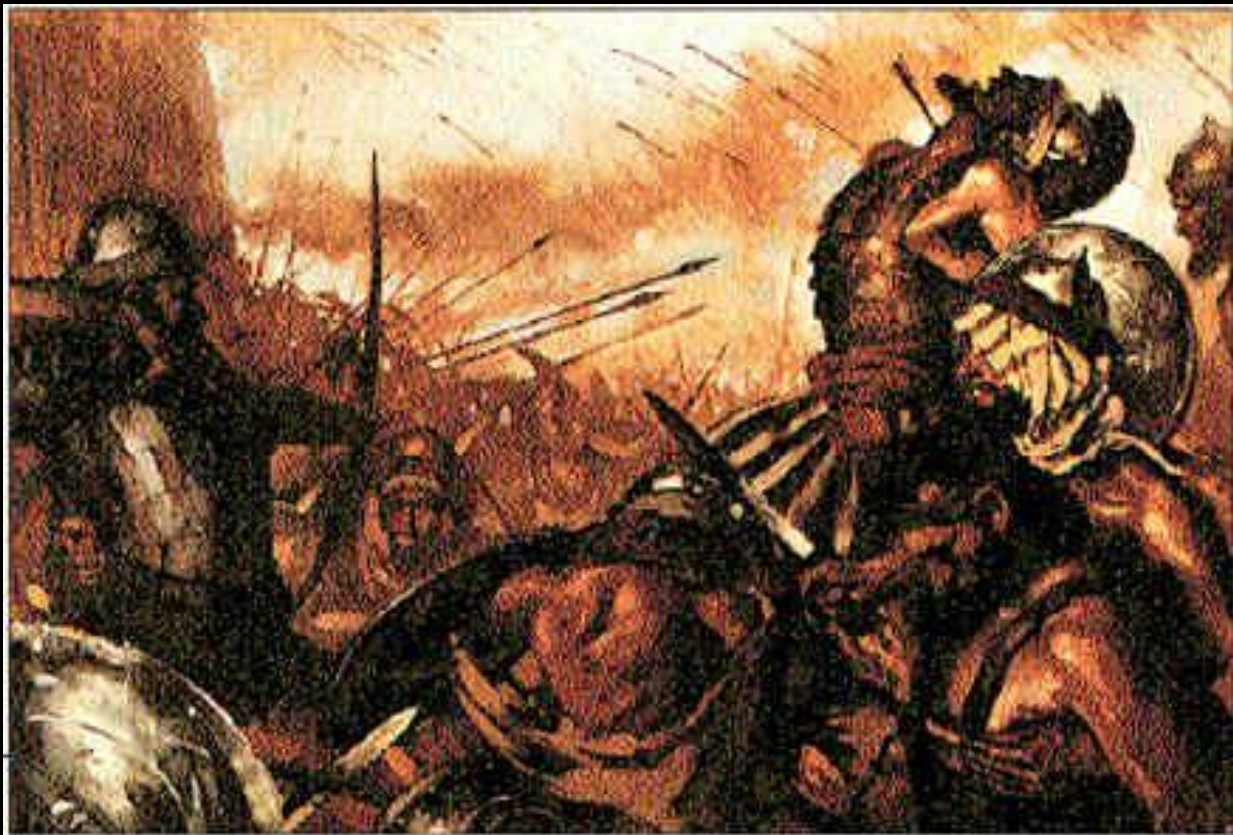


While Uriah is at his best, David has now reached an all-time low. When you stop to think about it, David has now become very much like Saul. Uriah is a loyal servant of David, who would not harm his king, yet the king (David) seeks his life through the same means Saul employed when he sought to kill David:

Then Saul said to David, “Here’s my oldest daughter, Merab. I want to give her to you in marriage. Only be a brave warrior for me and fight the battles of YHWH.”

For Saul thought, “There’s no need for me to raise my hand against him. Let it be the hand of the Philistines!”
1 Samuel 18:17

16 So while Joab had the city under siege, he put Uriah at a place where he knew the strongest defenders were. 17 When the men of the city came out and fought against Joab, some of the men in David's army fell; moreover, Uriah the Hittite died. 18 Joab sent David a full account of the battle [...with the news:] 21 "Your servant Uriah the Hittite is dead."



THE MAN AFTER YHWH'S OWN HEART BECAME A MAN FOLLOWING SATAN'S HEART

John 10:10 (KJV) The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy.

Several innocent men are killed along with Uriah. David didn't dream he would end up being a multiple murderer. He did what most monarchs who have absolute power would do. If they wanted a woman, they took her, and if anyone got in the way, they killed him. This was the right of kings. But David was supposed to be different. David was YHWH's king.

26 When Uriah's wife heard that her husband was dead, she mourned for him.

27 After the time of mourning was over, David had her brought to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But the thing David had done displeased YHWH.



DID HE REALLY THINK HE COULD GET AWAY WITH ADULTERY AND MURDER

I have to wonder if Bathsheba had any idea (at least initially) that it was David who issued the order that Uriah be killed. I seriously doubt that David would ever have told her; nevertheless, it became a matter of public knowledge.

David's plan was to have Uriah killed and then to do the magnanimous thing of taking his wife into his harem. His plan was to accomplish Uriah's death with only one other person knowing about it – Joab. It did not turn out as David had hoped.

IF YOU THINK YOU HAVE GOT AWAY WITH
YOUR SIN,
YHWH IS WATCHING

2 “Nothing is hidden that will not be revealed, and nothing is secret that will not be made known.

3 So then whatever you have said in the dark will be heard in the light, and what you have whispered in private rooms will be proclaimed from the housetops” (Luke 12:2-3; see also Numbers 32:23; 1 Timothy 5:24-25).

YOU CANNOT HIDE YOUR SIN FROM YHWH....

One of YHWH's many attributes is that of omniscience. That means that He has universal knowledge of all things; He is infinitely knowing; He is all seeing.

When we sin it affects other people. Even though David was held responsible for what happened because he initiated it all, Bathsheba still had to pay a price, the death of her firstborn son. And an innocent child had to die.

(Romans 14:7) "For none of us lives to himself, and no man dies to himself."

WAS BATHSHEEBA A WILLING PARTICIPANT IN KING DAVID'S DUPLICITY?

Bathsheba is not said to have any part in David's scheme to deceive Uriah or to bring about his death, much less any knowledge of what David is doing. When she informs David that she is pregnant, David takes decisive action, but nowhere are we told that Bathsheba has a part in his schemes.

Verse 26 makes it sound as though she learns of Uriah's death after the fact, through normal channels. After all, would David really want his new wife to know he murdered her husband? David acts without Bathsheba's knowledge or help.

YHWH waited to send Nathan to confront David until He had sufficiently prepared David for repentance. David himself tells us this in Psalm 32:

3 When I refused to confess my sin,
my whole body wasted away,
while I groaned in pain all day long.

4 For day and night you tormented me;
you tried to destroy me in the intense heat of summer. (Selah)

5 Then I confessed my sin;
I no longer covered up my wrongdoing.
I said, "I will confess my rebellious acts to YHWH."
And then you forgave my sins. (Selah) (Psalm 32:3-5)

YHWH SEND HIS PROPHET NATHAN TO
EXPOSE KING DAVID'S LIES BY ASKING
HIM TO ADJUDICATE ON A MATTER

2 Sam 12: 1 YHWH sent Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, "There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor.

2 The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle, 3 but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children. It shared his food, drank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him.

4 “Now a traveller came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveller who had come to him. Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one who had come to him.”

5 When David heard this story, he burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, "As surely as YHWH lives, the man who did this deserves to die! 6 He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity!"

7 Then Nathan said to David, "You are the man!"



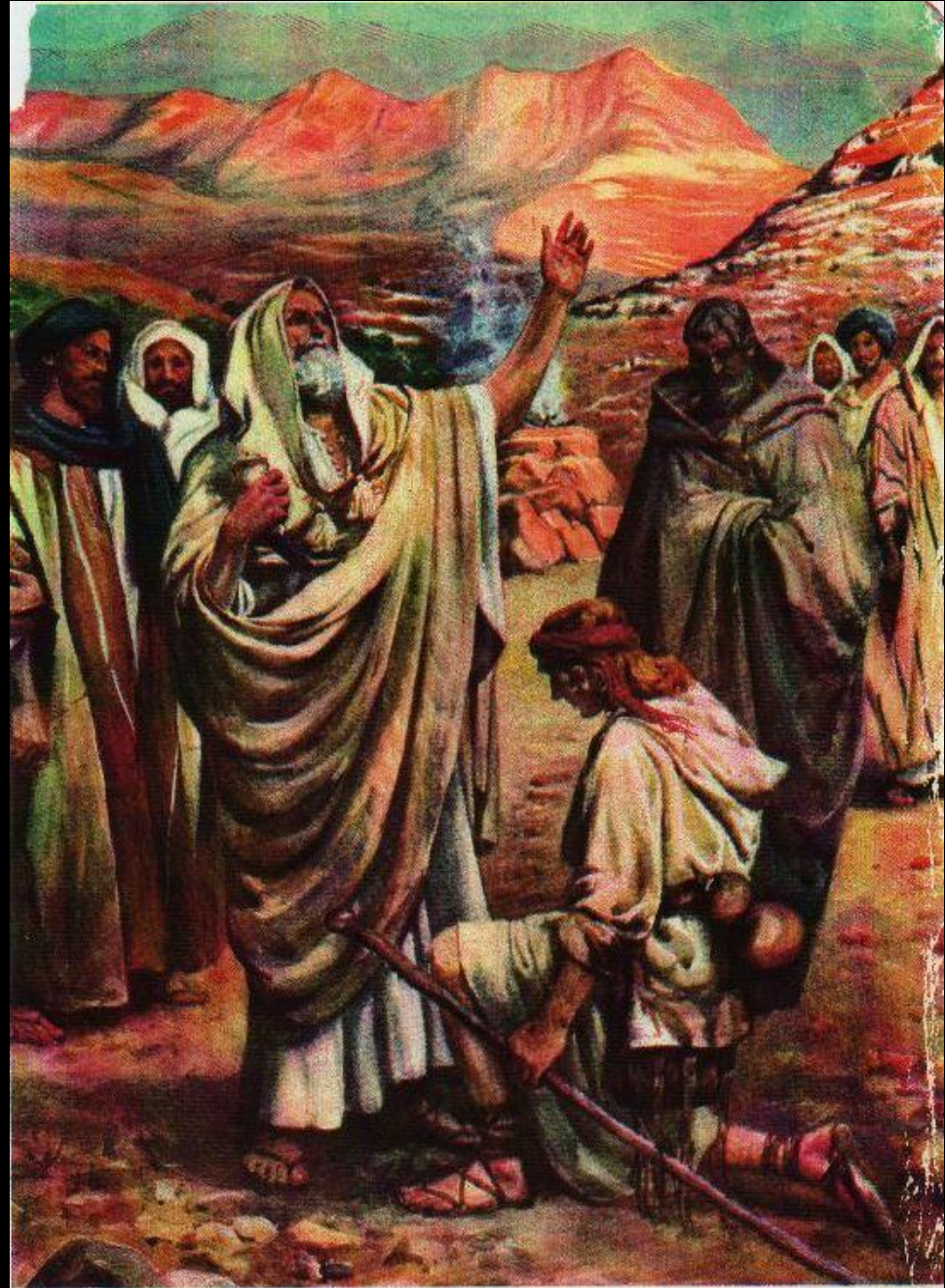
DAVID'S OWN OATH BECOMES HIS REALITY

David has called for a fourfold restitution. And he has bound his words with an oath. His words will now be fulfilled with the deaths of four of his sons.

1. Bathsheba's son (2 Samuel 12:18).
2. Ammon (2 Samuel 13:28-29).
3. Absalom (2 Samuel 18:14-15).
4. Adonijah (1 Kings 2:25).

This is what YHWH,
the YAH of Israel,
says: 'I anointed you
king over Israel, and
I delivered you from
the hand of Saul.

8...I gave you the
house of Israel and
Judah. And if all this
had been too little, I
would have given
you even more.



DAVID ANOINTED KING

1 Samuel 16:13

THE SWORD WILL NEVER DEPART FROM YOUR HOUSE

9 Why did you despise the word of YHWH by doing what is evil in his eyes? You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and took his wife to be your own. You killed him with the sword of the Amonites.

10 Now, therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own.'

11 This is what YHWH says: 'Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity upon you. Before your very eyes I will take your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will lie with your wives in broad daylight.

12 You did it in secret, but I will do this thing in broad daylight before all Israel!'



Because David took another man's wife privately, YHWH said that another man would take David's wives publicly. And so it happened:

20 Then Absalom said to Ahithophel, "Give us your advice. What should we do?" 21 Ahithophel replied to Absalom, "Have sex with your father's concubines whom he left to care for the palace. All Israel will hear that you have made yourself repulsive to your father. Then your followers will be motivated." 22 So they pitched a tent for Absalom on the roof, and Absalom had sex with his father's concubines in the sight of all Israel (2 Samuel 16:20-22, emphasis mine). www.bible.org

WHAT A TANGLED WEB WE WEAVE WHEN WE PRACTISE TO DECIEVE

You can never cover up one sin with another. It won't work. (Numbers 32:23) "But if you will not do so, behold, you have sinned against YHWH: and be sure your sin will find you out."

(Proverbs 15:3) "The eyes of YHWH are in every place, beholding the evil and the good."

(Job 34:21-22) "For his eyes are upon the ways of man, and he sees all his goings. There is no darkness, nor shadow of death, where the workers of iniquity may hide themselves."

The consequences for David's sins were spelled out and fulfilled precisely. Because David used the sword to strike down Uriah the Hittite, YHWH said the sword would not depart from David's dynasty.

The sword was often employed in David's dynasty. His son, Absalom, would kill another son, Amnon. Absalom would seek to overthrow David, and thus David would have to fight against Absalom and his forces to defend his kingdom. Joab would kill Absalom.

Adonijah would seek to establish himself as king in David's place, and Solomon would eventually have him executed (1 Kings 1 and 2).

13 Then David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against YHWH!"

Nathan replied, "YHWH has taken away your sin. You are not going to die.

14 But because by doing this you have made the enemies of YHWH show utter contempt, the son born to you will die."

15 So Nathan went to his house.



2 Samuel 12:15 Then YHWH struck the child that Uriah's widow bore to David, so that he was very sick.

David therefore inquired of YHWH for the child; and David fasted and went and lay all night on the ground. The elders of his household stood beside him in order to raise him up from the ground, but he was unwilling and would not eat food with them.

DAVID WAS FORGIVEN BUT THERE WERE STILL CONSEQUENCES FOR HIS SIN

2 Samuel 12:16-18 Then it happened on the seventh day that the child died.

And the servants of David were afraid to tell him that the child was dead, for they said, "Behold, while the child was still alive, we spoke to him and he did not listen to our voice. How then can we tell him that the child is dead, since he might do himself harm!"

But when David saw that his servants were whispering together, David perceived that the child was dead; so David said to his servants, "Is the child dead?"

And they said, "He is dead."

20 So David arose from the ground, washed, anointed himself, and changed his clothes; and he came into the house of YHWH and worshiped. Then he came to his own house, and when he requested, they set food before him and he ate.

Then his servants said to him, "What is this thing that you have done? While the child was alive, you fasted and wept; but when the child died, you arose and ate food."

He said, "While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept; for I said, 'Who knows, YHWH may be gracious to me, that the child may live.'

"But now he has died; why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I will go to him, but he will not return to me." (2 Samuel 12:15-23).

WHY DID THE CHILD HAVE TO DIE?

It was not because of the sexual sin that they committed, but who it was committed by.

Deuteronomy 23:2 "A bastard shall not enter into the congregation of YHWH; even to his tenth generation shall he not enter into the congregation of YHWH."

What is a bastard? A bastard is a child begotten out of lawful matrimony; an illegitimate child. It is the child that is a result of sex outside of marriage. Bathsheba was Uriah's wife when she conceived a child with David. That child was illegitimate. It was a bastard.



David was not only the king but he was in the messianic line of the King of Kings, Yahshua HaMashiach. Therefore this child would have also been a part of Yahshua's lineage. According to Scripture he couldn't even be considered a part or included in the congregation. If the child had lived he would have been, so he had to die.

After Uriah's death, David took Bathsheba as his legitimate wife and she and David had the son that was entitled to be in the messianic line. YHWH took away Bathsheba's reproach and made her legitimate son the heir of both an earthly throne and a heavenly kingdom.

DID KING DAVID GET WHAT HE DESERVED

The tragic death of David's son is a consequence of David's sin, but it is not the penalty David deserves for his sin. The penalty for adultery and murder is death, on each count. David deserves to die, on two counts: adultery and murder.

But Nathan has made it very clear that David's sin has been "taken away." The death of this child is a painful consequence of David's sin, but it is not punishment for his sin, per se. That punishment has been taken away, borne by Yahshua HaMashiach.

David's sin is to be understood as the exception, rather than the rule in his life as stated by later scripture:

1 Kings 15:5, "Because David did what was right in the sight of YHWH, 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."

WE REAP WHAT WE SOW

The consequences of sin are downhill: David's reign never regained its former splendour. He thought he would get away with his sin and nobody would know. All because of lust.

“YHWH cannot be mocked!”

Discipline for sexual sin may come in the form of: broken relationships; disease; a ruined reputation; persistent guilt and shame; an unwanted pregnancy. David brought shame and disgrace to himself, his family, his kingdom, and YHWH.

To better understand how David confessed his sin before YHWH, we need to read what David wrote in the Psalms after the prophet Nathan rebuked him for his sin with Bathsheba.

In Psalm fifty-one, David said:

(Psa. 51) 1 Have mercy on me, O Yahuwah, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. 2 Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. 3 For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. 4 Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge.

BLESSED IS HE WHOSE TRANSGRESSIONS ARE FORGIVEN

After this, David wrote in the Psalms, describing the blessedness of the man whom YHWH has forgiven, apart from his own works. He said: "Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man whose sin YHWH does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit!" (Psa. 32:1,2; Rom. 4:7,8)

This is how David repented. David mourned greatly because of his sin. He had a broken and crushed heart before YHWH. David was not like those who have religion, but continue in sin every day. Truly, David had fallen into the pit of sin, but he could not live in it, because David loved YHWH, and knew that "YHWH is light; in him there is no darkness at all." (1 John 1:5)

HOW SHOULD I REPENT AND PRAY
WHEN I HAVE FALLEN INTO SIN.....
KING DAVID SHOW'S US HOW

1 Be gracious to me, O YHWH, according to Your loving-kindness; According to the greatness of Your compassion blot out my transgressions.

2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity
And cleanse me from my sin.

3 For I know my transgressions,
And my sin is ever before me.

4 Against You, You only, I have sinned
And done what is evil in Your sight,
So that You are justified when You speak
And blameless when You judge.

5 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
And in sin my mother conceived me.

6 Behold, You desire truth in the innermost being, And
in the hidden part You will make me know wisdom.

7 Purify me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

8 Make me to hear joy and gladness,
Let the bones which You have broken rejoice.

9 Hide Your face from my sins
And blot out all my iniquities.

10 Create in me a clean heart, O YHWH,
And renew a steadfast spirit within me.

11 Do not cast me away from Your presence
And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.

12 Restore to me the joy of Your salvation
And sustain me with a willing spirit.

13 Then I will teach transgressors Your ways,
And sinners will be converted to You.

14 Deliver me from blood guiltiness,
O YHWH, the YAH of my salvation;
Then my tongue will joyfully
sing of Your righteousness.

15 O YHWH, open my lips,
That my mouth may declare Your praise.

16 For You do not delight in sacrifice,
otherwise I would give it;

You are not pleased with burnt offering.

17 The sacrifices of YHWH are a broken spirit;
A broken and a contrite heart, O YHWH,
You will not despise.

18 By Your favor do good to Zion;
Build the walls of Jerusalem.

19 Then You will delight in righteous sacrifices,
In burnt offering and whole burnt offering;
Then young bulls will be offered on Your altar.

IT WAS THIS REPENTANT HEART AND CONTRITE SPIRIT WHICH CAUSED YHWH TO CALL DAVID 'A MAN AFTER HIS OWN HEART'.

Was David's sin's forgiven. Yes, YHWH forgave David and judged him as righteous! That does not mean that YHWH removed the tragedies that David's sin produced. What it means is that, in the Day of Judgment, YHWH will not remember David's sins. He had erased them all from His book!

If you try to live a holy life in private, you will find that it cannot be done. You can't have victory on your own. As members of the body of Messiyah, we are dependent on one another.

When you are regularly held accountable for your moral life and asked hard questions, you grow in YHWH's grace. When a person who has walked with YHWH for some time is still struggling, it's usually because he is not accountable to a small group of fellow believers.

BECOMING ACCOUNTABLE TO OTHER'S IS TRUE HUMILITY

These areas of failure could be overcome when we help one another and keep one another true to YHWH. One of the fruits of the Spirit is self-control. As you submit to an accountability small group, YHWH will supply the help and give you the encouragement you need. Will you support your brothers and sisters that are struggling with purity? Will you become accountable yourself?

LADIES DRESS MODESTLY

If you're a woman, don't devalue the mystery of your body by putting it on display for just anyone to see! It's a treasure meant for only one person, namely your husband. (Here's a rule of thumb: if a piece of clothing is something that you can't sit or bend over in without giving people a good view, or if it's something you're going to tug at all the time, you might want to consider not wearing it.)

I also want women to dress modestly, with decency and propriety... with good deeds, appropriate for women who profess to worship YHWH. -1 Timothy 2:9,

MEN, BE SATISFIED WITH YOUR WIFE AND DON'T LET PERVE ON OTHER WOMEN

Proverbs 5:18-19 (NIV) says "Let your fountain be blessed: rejoice with the wife of your youth. Let her be as the loving fawn and the pleasant roe: let her breasts satisfy you at all times, and be ravished always with her love."

YHWH has created us to have sexual pleasure in a member of the opposite sex, but not with just any member: only with a wife or husband. Proverbs 15:20 (NIV) goes on to say "And why will you, my son, be ravished with a strange woman, and embrace the bosom of a stranger?"

YHWH hasn't made his children to wander in their desire from person to person. The Bible doesn't say to be satisfied by the body of someone walking down the street, or someone in a magazine or in a movie, and not even the body of a girlfriend or boyfriend or fiancée'.

Desiring the body of someone who doesn't belong to you in marriage produces frustration and, worst of all, deviance from the course that will lead you to a happy marriage.

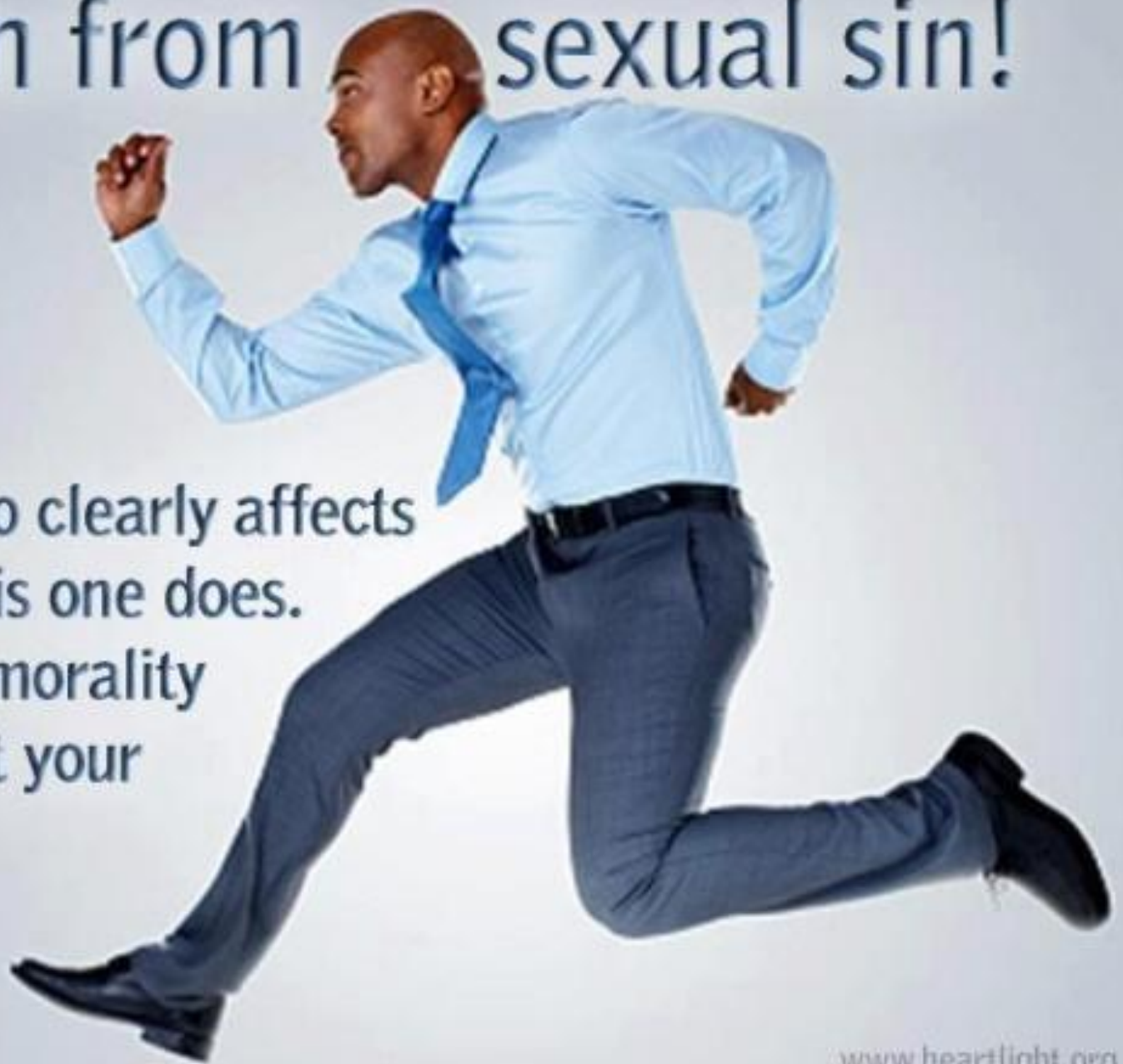
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Thessalonians 4:3-5 For this is the will of YHWH, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honour, not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know YHWH;

1 Peter 1:14 As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance,

Run from sexual sin!

No other sin so clearly affects
the body as this one does.
For sexual immorality
is a sin against your
own body.



1 John 2:16 For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world.

1 Peter 2:11 Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul.