

# King David Sins

by Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian church

**2 Samuel 11.** This chapter tells the shameful account of David and his desire for another man's wife.

When he saw Bathsheba washing herself on the roof, he had a choice to make. He could continue to watch her, which he did, or he could go into his own home. While David was a great man in many ways, he was still a man. David had seven wives and still desired another man's wife. He knew it was wrong but he let his desires overrule his faith. Now before we condemn him, haven't we done the same thing at some point in life? We get angry and say harsh words to someone, knowing that it is wrong, but in the heat of the moment we say them anyway. Later we might be sorry, but in the moment we don't think of anything but our anger. No, I'm afraid that no man is perfect even though we would like to be.

Bathsheba is not without blame herself. First, she didn't have to be uncovered where she could be seen. She knew that she was visible to others, at least from the palace walls. Second, she could have called for help,

which she evidently didn't do. **Deuteronomy 22:22-24**, "If a man be found lying with a woman married to an husband, then they shall both of them die, both the man that lay with the woman, and the woman: so shalt thou put away evil from Israel. If a damsel that is a virgin be betrothed unto an husband, and a man find her in the city, and lie with her; Then ye shall bring them both out unto the gate of that city, and ye shall stone them with stones that they die; the damsel, because she cried not, being in the city; and the man, because he hath humbled his neighbour's wife: so thou shalt put away evil from among you." It appears that she went willingly to the king.

While few people knew of the affair, God knew all about it. **Numbers 32:23**, "...and be sure your sin will find you out." David thought that his sin was hidden from most people and worked hard to cover it up. On finding out that Bathsheba was expecting a child, they knew that their sin would become public knowledge. Uriah, her husband, was with the army and had been gone for several months. None could think that he was the father of the child. David thought that if Uriah were to come home and spend a few days with his wife then all would think that the child was his. When that plan didn't work out, David grew desperate and had Uriah carry his own

death warrant to the commander of the army.

Consider the man Uriah for a moment. He was a Hittite who had come to Israel and put his faith in God. He was a great soldier and in **2 Samuel 23** he was listed among the 37 great leaders in David's army. Uriah was faithful and would not go see his wife because he didn't think that he should because the army was engaged in a war, Joab, and the ark of God was in the field.

Then, Uriah was considered faithful enough that he carried the order calling for his death. He delivered it and was killed by David's command. Joab had to wonder why David wanted Uriah killed. He didn't know until later that David had him killed so that he could have his wife.

When David got the news that Uriah was dead he was happy. At last his plan worked and the way was clear for Bathsheba to become his wife. He was to find out that no matter how much God loved him such sin could not go unpunished. The sword would never leave his house because of his sins. Later one of his own sons would try to kill him. There had to be many a time that he wished that he had not committed adultery and murder. May we ever repent of our sins and thank God for his mercy.

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**Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI**

IT TOOK A CASE OF LEPROSY AND AN EARTHQUAKE TO STOP THIS KING!

UZZIAH, SON OF AMAZIAH, ASCENDED THE THRONE OF JUDAH AT THE AGE OF SIXTEEN TO REIGN FOR FIFTY-TWO YEARS (809-757 B.C.). DURING THIS RULE, HE SERVED AS A WISE AND PIOUS KING. HE REBUILT JERUSALEM, STRENGTHENED ITS WALLS, ENCOURAGED THE ARTS, WAS VICTORIOUS IN BATTLE WITH HIS NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES AND, IN FACT, RAISED THE KINGDOM BACK TO THE POWER AND GLORY IT ENJOYED IN KING SOLOMON'S DAY! HOWEVER, WHEN HE MADE HIS ONE AND ONLY MISTAKE, IT WAS AS STUPENDOUS AS WERE HIS MANY TRIUMPHS! ELATED BY ALL HIS GOOD DEEDS, HE DECIDED HE SHOULD ALSO BE HEAD MAN IN THE TEMPLE, CERTAINLY ON HIGH OCCASIONS—AFTER ALL, OTHER KINGS DID THIS, DIDN'T THEY? WHO BETTER TO SERVE GOD IN THE HOLY OF HOLIES THAN UZZIAH, HIMSELF, WHO HAD DONE SO MUCH FOR HIS KINGDOM?! BUT...

...WHEN HE MADE THIS ATTEMPT, HE WAS WARNED BY THE HIGH PRIEST, AZARIAH, THAT ONLY A PRIEST COULD LAWFULLY ENTER THE HOLY PLACE AND OFFER INCENSE ON THE ALTAR (2<sup>ND</sup> CHRON. 26:17-19). UZZIAH WAS ENRAGED AND ABOUT TO USE FORCE WHEN, THE BIBLE TELLS US, GOD, IN HIS ANGER, INTERVENED AND UZZIAH WAS SMITTEN WITH LEPROSY, THEN AND THERE! NOT ONLY THAT—THE DIVINE WRATH WAS SO TEMPESTUOUS THAT IT CAUSED AN EARTHQUAKE WHICH SPLIT THE ROOF OF THE TEMPLE AND SENT ONE HALF OF A MOUNTAIN, SITUATED TO THE WEST OF JERUSALEM, CRASHING INTO THE VALLEY BELOW, WHICH DESTROYED AND COMPLETELY COVERED UP THE ROYAL GARDENS! THIS WE HAVE ON THE WORD OF JOSEPHUS, THE ANCIENT HISTORIAN OF THE JEWS, WITH FURTHER CORROBORATION IN THE BIBLE (AMOS 1:1) (ZECH 14:5). FROM THAT DAY ON, UZZIAH HAD TO LIVE IN SECLUSION AS A LEPER, HIS SON, JOTHAM, ADMINISTERING THE AFFAIRS OF GOVERNMENT IN HIS FATHER'S NAME. A RATHER FORCEFUL REMINDER TO ALL ISRAEL THAT, NO MATTER HOW GREAT, NO ONE COULD GET AWAY WITH BREAKING GOD'S LAW!

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