

BOOK OF 2 SAMUEL
DAVID'S GREATEST SIN-PART 1
2 SAMUEL 11:1-27

Introduction

Sometimes there are occasions in our lives when we invite problems into our lives because we voluntarily place ourselves in the wrong place at the wrong time. Such was the case with what we see in this chapter regarding King David. We are going to see that King David, the great conqueror of Goliath, was conquered by his own lusts because of some other things that were wrong in his life that led up to his great sins. I want us to see those things tonight.

I. DAVID'S PRIORITIES WERE IN THE WRONG PLACE. (Vs 1)

David should have been out to war with his troops, but instead, he was at his home relaxing (goofing off.)

We need to remember how Ezekiel the prophet pointed out that idleness was one of the things that led to the sins and the final downfall of Sodom and Gomorrah.

Ezekiel 16:49—"Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy"

There is an old quote that has a couple of different versions to it:

"Idle hands are the devil's workshop."

"Idle minds are the devil's workshop."

In this case, **both of these come into play** in David's life because we will see that **in addition to not being where he should have been, his mind was not where it should have been.**

Idleness! Slothfulness! A good soldier of the LORD cannot afford to be idle in spiritual things.

These events transpired in the spring of the year when kings would begin their military campaigns, or if they were already at war, they renewed them with new vigor.

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We know from what we have seen thus far in these books of 1st and 2nd Samuel that David was a warrior king and ordinarily led his men. It is not until **2 Samuel 10:7** that we see things changed.

It was under David's God-directed leadership that Israel had become strong. God had empowered him and had constantly blessed him in his conquests!

Now we know David had some able generals and delegated part of his military responsibilities to them. Nevertheless, ordinarily, if it was necessary for his armies to be in the field, he was there with them.

At this particular time he sent Joab to subdue the Ammonites, "*but David tarried still at Jerusalem.*" In other words, David failed to follow the path of his normal duty and this was the first of the steps we can see that led to his terrible fall into sin.

Had David been out fighting the battles of the LORD he would not have been at his palace to fall under this temptation. But he was **not** out there fighting; instead, he was failing God when he should have been directing his troops.

The Christian has a battle to fight too! Paul tells us in *Ephesians 6:10-12* "*Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. 11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.*"

But there are far too many believers who are not taking part in any battles for the Lord. Some may be fighting, but they are fighting their own battles in their own way. Also, some may be fighting the Lord's battles in the wrong way. They tend to fight people and attack personalities, rather than recognizing that this is a spiritual warfare that we are in that goes far deeper than that.

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David was relaxing when he should have been on the alert. He preferred the luxury of his palace to the hardships of the battlefield.

David had taken off his armor; consequently, he was without protection. We who fight spiritual enemies dare not lay aside our armor at any time. Our battles are against the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. We cannot withstand the enemy unless we do it in the strength of the Lord.

If we are to stand in the evil day, we need divine help.

This time where we see that David remained behind in Jerusalem was his evil day, and the Devil caught him off guard. David had set aside his physical armor, but more importantly it appears he had laid aside his spiritual armor as well during this time!

The Lord tells us to watch and pray, but David rested. He dropped his spiritual guard by watching the wrong things and we don't see him praying here.

We cannot let down our spiritual guard as long as we are in this world. There is no place of rest from our spiritual warfare until we stand in the presence of the Lord! And remember, the Lord says watch and pray. Prayer without watching would be futile.

Turn to Psalm 91. Here we have an unnamed psalmist penning these words: *Vs 1 "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty."*

Does that infer idleness? No! This whole Psalm speaks of a battle, a warfare if you will, and it shows that the LORD is His people's armor. Note what the Psalmist goes on to say in vs 2, *"I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress [these speak of protection]: my God; in him will I trust."*

Look at the Divine protection spoken of in these verses! (*Vs 3-7*)

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To the believer who places himself under the protection of God by putting on His whole armor and uses God's offensive weapons in the power of God, these things are true! (*Vs 9-16*)

We set our love on God by giving ourselves to Him completely and unreservedly for the spiritual warfare. (Just like Jesus did!)

It is ALWAYS time for watchfulness and alertness!

1 Peter 5:8-9 "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: 9 Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world."

Are you attending to your God-given priorities as a child of God or is your guard down? Are you taking up the whole armor of God as you should each day? When we fail to do that then when we leave ourselves wide open for the attack of the enemy!

Watch and pray that ye enter not into temptation! Stay in the battle and stay battle ready! Don't get slothful in your spiritual walk!

DAVID'S PRIORITIES WERE IN THE WRONG PLACE...

II. DAVID'S EYES WERE IN THE WRONG PLACE! (Vs 2)

When Bathsheba took her bath, David should have turned away when he first saw her, but instead he continued to watch allowing his lust to burn hot and out of control.

There can be danger in some of the things that we see. That is especially true if we gaze upon them or continue to look at them!

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

The lusts of our flesh is part of that old nature that is in each of us!

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Only through the power of the Holy Spirit can our old nature be conquered, but it takes a constant diligence on our part!

Satan loves for us to walk in our flesh in our unguarded moments so that he can use our old sin nature against us to trip us up!

Galatians 5:16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. Galatians 5:25 25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

We've just started going through the Book of James in our Sunday evening services. Very soon we'll see him address this very thing.

James 1:14-15 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. 15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

The Psalmist David even later penned these words in:
Psalm 119:37 Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity; and quicken thou me in thy way.

Unfortunately, we see that David came to know by experience what not turning away the eyes could lead to in one's life.

Job had the right idea when he said in *Job 31:1 I made a covenant with mine eyes; why then should I think upon a maid?*

We (guys especially) need to be careful what we look at! We need to covenant with God to control our eyes so that we do not desire the wrong things!

The Lord Jesus Christ said:
Matthew 5:27-28 Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: 28 But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.

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The eye gate and the ear gate are neither good nor bad in themselves, it depends on how they are used by us!

We are living in an age that has gone mad when it comes to sexuality! We are bombarded with images on every hand it seems like! They are on the billboards as we drive down the road, they are on the TV in the ads and programs. The images bombard us at the checkout lines in the store where they adorn the magazines covers and at the book store where they adorn the book covers. And this electronic dependant age the images bombard us, trying to lure us in even on our computers and smart phones!

As we shop in the stores or even walk down the street we can't seem to get away from the images that have become so prolific in our society that we most certainly need the LORD's help in turning our eyes away on most every hand!

Psalm 101:3 I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me."

*DAVID'S PRIORITIES WERE IN THE WRONG PLACE...
DAVID'S EYES WERE IN THE WRONG PLACE...*

Next week, Lord willing, we're going to see also,
DAVID'S MOUTH WAS IN THE WRONG PLACE
DAVID'S BODY WAS IN THE WRONG PLACE
DAVID'S MIND WAS IN THE WRONG PLACE
DAVID'S HEART WAS IN THE WRONG PLACE