

Sin - The Morning After

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[2 Samuel 11:5](#) And the woman conceived, and sent and told David, and said, I am with child.

- I. So what is it like the morning after a sin such as this?
 - A. First of all, we are not talking here about a reprobate person who has degenerated to the point of an animal, has no regard for God or morals, and whose conscience is seared.
 1. We are not talking about a person who is past feeling, given over to uncleanness, vile affections, and a reprobate mind.
 2. We are talking about a person who knows right and wrong and regards God in his heart, but lets down his guard just long enough to allow corruption to enter his soul.
 3. To say a saved person cannot sin is foolishness.
 4. To tell saved people that they cannot help sinning is wickedness.
 - B. So what is like for a person like this the morning after?
 - C. You have broken through the barriers and you have crossed the line.
 - D. You have stepped through that door and are now on the other side.
 - E. You have taken of the forbidden fruit and you have eaten and swallowed it down.
 - F. You have been long thinking about it and played it out many times in your imagination, but now it has become a real action and is now a reality in your life that will forever be in your past no matter what you do about it.
 1. Wicked imaginations are wrong and thinking upon sin is a prelude to committing that sin, but thinking about it is not the same as doing it.
 2. Imagination involves only one person, but this sin involves two people joining together to commit this awful transgression against one another, against their spouse, and against God.
 3. When it happens it also affects many other people very adversely.
 4. David did not send for her the night he saw her washing herself – there were at least a few days before she was purified from her uncleanness, and was able to come to him – so he thought on it for a few days before it actually happened.
 - G. The morning after, you realize that your life is changed forever, but you do not yet have a firm grip on just how much it has changed or if it is for better or for worse.
 1. You do not realize yet that you are going to have to live with this memory you have made for the rest of your life.
 - H. When two people come together in this kind of wickedness there is a seal broken and so many knots are untied that you find yourself in a panic trying to consider them all.
 - I. “She returned unto her house.” (v. 4) – what did she feel like when she shut the door behind her in her own house where she and her husband lived, and when she looked in the mirror, and when she lay down to sleep that night?
 - J. What was going through David’s mind that night after she left, and how well did he sleep that night?

- K. As long as it is a secret between you and your partner in sin you feel a strange sense of pride.
 1. You feel like you have added something new and exciting to your life.
 2. But there is a conflict because you know you cannot tell anyone about it.
 3. And how can you be proud of such a wicked thing you have done?

Ephesians 4:22 That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;

- 4. Lusts are so very deceitful!
- L. For just a very brief time after your sin you may have a sense of pleasure and excitement.

Proverbs 9:17 Stolen waters are sweet, and bread eaten in secret is pleasant. (said the foolish woman)

1. But this is simply because you are still under the delusion that your sin is going to stay hidden.
 2. You are delighted in yourself because you think you have gotten away with what others could not.
- M. But as each day passes the pleasure and the excitement give way to fear and dread of someone finding out about what you have done and bringing you to account for it.
 - N. You begin to think upon the many ways it could happen and who it could be that might uncover your secrets and make them known.
 - O. You become suspicious and fearful of everyone.
 - P. You begin to withdraw yourself from close fellowship with friends and family to reduce the chances of making a slip somehow, and to avoid seeing their faces and having their eyes upon you.
 - Q. Life becomes like a bad dream and you wake up every morning hoping that is what it is, but finding out that it is not a dream.
 - R. The light goes out in your soul.
 - S. Joseph was faced with the same temptation but he did what the Bible says to do and he fled.
 1. Joseph was in a much better state in prison than David was still on the throne.
 2. Joseph still had his integrity, his purity, his clear conscience, and most of all the presence and blessing of his God.
- II. Then the day and the moment comes when you realize that your sin is about to be revealed and that others will soon know what you have done.

2 Samuel 11:5 And the woman conceived, and sent and told David, and said, I am with child.

- A. Suddenly, your whole life becomes about covering your sin and keeping from being found out.
- B. David must protect himself, but he must protect her, also.
 1. He is well aware of the penalty for adultery and what will happen to her if her husband finds out.
 2. Maybe David's highest concern is for her at this point.
 - a) Because he is the king, and knowing the loyalty of Uriah, maybe he thinks that Uriah would forgive him and blame it on his wife.

- b) It is possible that David felt so secure in his position that he thought people would blame her and not him for what had happened.
- C. The first step is to try to pin it on someone else, or hide behind someone else, or put someone else between you and your sin.
 - 1. David's first attempt to hide his sin was to get Uriah to spend the night with his wife and that would give the explanation for her being with child and he would be off the hook.
 - 2. But David would always know, and so would Bathsheba, and so would others who had seen what had happened.
 - 3. But despite two tries, this plan did not work because of the steadfast integrity and loyalty of Uriah.
- D. The next step is to remove the person or persons who stand in the way, or who could exact punishment for the crime committed.
 - 1. Uriah must die; this shows the callousness of David's heart at this point, to count the life of one of his loyal fighting men as nothing.
 - a) To disregard this man's loyalty and integrity, and especially when he is acting so base and low himself.
 - 2. David sent Uriah's death warrant by Uriah's own hand to Joab.
 - 3. It is always best if you can get someone else to do your dirty work for you.
 - 4. David knew Joab would not have a problem killing anyone, and besides he also knew that Joab would do anything he told him to do because his position was so insecure after he had killed Abner.
 - 5. It must have given Joab some glee to realize what David had done and what he was doing to take care of the situation.
- E. The next step is to own the sin without revealing it to everyone else.
 - 1. David let Bathsheba mourn for her husband as another ploy to cover their sin.
 - 2. Then he "fetched" her to his house and she became his wife.
 - 3. So now when she has a baby 8-9 months later no one will suspect a thing.
 - 4. He thinks he has pulled it off and hidden the whole thing sufficiently to go on with his life as it has been.
- F. So the months pass until the baby is born, and David has a woman whom he has wickedly stolen from another man, using the power and position given to him by God as king, but he has no communion with God.

III. Another effect of this kind of sin is that it removes you from your previous life.

- A. Life is not what it was before, and it never will be the same again.
- B. The order of everything is turned on its head.
- C. He is totally sidelined from all his duties as king of Israel.
 - 1. There is a war going on and he is not even participating in it.

2 Samuel 12:27-28 And Joab sent messengers to David, and said, I have fought against Rabbah, and have taken the city of waters. Now therefore gather the rest of the people together, and encamp against the city, and take it: lest I take the city, and it be called after my name.

- D. The world goes on while his mind is so occupied with the mess he has made that he cannot fulfill his duties as the king.
- E. His heart is so troubled and lost that he cannot think right about anything anyway.
- F. He has lost his purpose, his identity, he compass in life.

- G. God was not speaking, and what had been David's strength all of his life was gone.

2 Samuel 11:27 And when the mourning was past, David sent and fetched her to his house, and she became his wife, and bare him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD.

- 1. David was in the same shape as Samson when "he wist not that the LORD was departed from him."
- H. And all this is before the sin is actually discovered before everyone and before the message from God through Nathan the prophet.
- I. This was David before:

Psalm 27:1 A Psalm of David. The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

- J. This is David after:

Psalm 31:9-13 Have mercy upon me, O LORD, for I am in trouble: mine eye is consumed with grief, yea, my soul and my belly. For my life is spent with grief, and my years with sighing: my strength faileth because of mine iniquity, and my bones are consumed. I was a reproach among all mine enemies, but especially among my neighbours, and a fear to mine acquaintance: they that did see me without fled from me. I am forgotten as a dead man out of mind: I am like a broken vessel. For I have heard the slander of many: fear was on every side: while they took counsel together against me, they devised to take away my life.

- K. How could he attend to the business of being king in the state he is in?
 - 1. How could he face Ahithophel and Eliam?
 - 2. How could he look Joab in the eye?
 - 3. How could he speak with authority to anyone now?
 - 4. How could he command an army of men who knew what he had done to his loyal soldier Uriah?
- L. It is no wonder at all that the penalty God placed on this sin was death.
 - 1. It so destroys a man, and corrupts his influence, and weakens his abilities that the world is better off without him.

IV. Ultimately, David was the one who bore the guilt for this crime.

- A. This is the way God views this sin.
- B. Not that the woman is innocent or somehow blameless, but the responsibility is upon the man to be a man to deny himself this temptation and to deny a woman the opportunity to sin this way.
- C. It really did not cost Bathsheba much.
 - 1. She lost a husband that she obviously did not love and reverence.
 - 2. She lost a baby that was born of her unfaithfulness to her husband.
 - 3. She was viewed as a victim by her family.
 - 4. She moved from a commoner's house to the king's palace.
 - 5. Her status was actually improved by conquering a man that lions, bears, giants, armies, and adversity could not.
- D. It was David whose heart would never be the same, and whose life would be filled with sorrow from this point on.
 - 1. It was David's family that would feel the sword from that time on.
 - 2. It was David's sons that would die at one another's hands, and at the hands of Joab, who had helped David to try to cover this sin.