

## Punishment Pronounced or a Tough Tale

### 2 Samuel 12:1-31

- Nathan's perfect knowledge may have started with hearing from those around the court.
- God, no doubt, revealed it to him.
- D no doubt felt shameful yet accomplished that he had successfully covered up his sin.

#### **1. Parable – v. 1-9**

- 1: a rare parable in the OT; Nathan appears to simply need judgment in a case presented; D had no reason to think anything was up – all previous communication was favorable, Ch. 7
- 4: keeping with Ex. 22:1
- 5: easier to see other's sins
- 6: no pity for Bathsheba, Ahithopel, Uriah, Joab, families of slaughtered soldiers
- 7: God: "I anointed." Samuel merely a representative
- 8: reference to the multiplicity of D's wives
- 9: D sunk so low he had his enemies do his murdering for him; profound shock to D – imagine the courage Nathan needed.

#### **2. Punishment – v. 10-23**

- 10: sword never depart: 3 sons of D would be murdered: Amnon, Absalom, Adonijah > did not end here.
- 11: Take your wives: Absalom lived near D & was a neighbor; Absalom's 1<sup>st</sup> action to take D's throne was to lie publicly with the king's concubines, 16:22; light of the sun: broad daylight
- 13: offered no excuses; Nathan illustrates the great nature regarding the forgiveness of sins
- Shall not die: either to the man in Nathan's story (which is D) or [as DeHoff put it] the sin of adultery, Lev. 20:10. Likely both.
- 15-23 brings great comfort to those in times of loss – very self-explanatory

#### **3. Parturition (birth) – v. 24-31**

- 24: Solomon means peaceable – given at circumcision; Jedidiah: given by the Lord, same root as D, means "to love." Why did God choose Solomon? Payne: S = oldest son born in Jerusalem to a wife, not concubine!
- 27: city of waters: captured the city's water supply, a fortification that still flows today
- 30: their king: weighed a talent of gold [100/125lbs]; D probably didn't physically wear it; the weight signifies it adorned a statue of their idol – Malcam.

- David had no pity on these people.

**Lessons:**

1. Every action we do has consequences. D's son lost his life because of D's sin. We really need to weigh the consequences before we act.
2. It is not always easy to inform someone when they are out-of-line with God's teachings. We must be like Nathan and tell the truth always and say it in love, Eph. 4:15.
3. God's grace and redemptive nature is on full display with the birth of Solomon – the wisest (and most foolish) man to ever live. God can turn bad to good.

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