

The Sword Comes Home

2 Samuel 13:1-39

Nathan's words come true and effect the heir-apparent to the throne.

1. Lust and Rape – v. 1-14

- 1: Absalom and Tamar are by Maacah, daughter of king Talmai of Gesher. Both noted for their beauty. Tamar = palm tree; Absalom, proud of his hair. Amnon, 1st born child of Ahinoam, woman of Jezreel.
- Loved poor translation, not really loved but allowed himself to be consumed with lust.
- None of D's children followed in his devotion. They did follow his shameful sins!
- 3: Jonadab: nephew of D, not really a friend of Amnon at all.
- 6: no time lost in acting upon this evil idea
- 12: verbal quotation from Gen. 34:17; in tragic moment of rape, Tamar recalls the disgraceful rape of Dinah.
- 13: desperately trying to get out of a terrible situation; knew such a kind of wedding forbidden, Lev. 18:9, 11
- Everything Tamar cherish was taken from her.

2. Love and Hatred – v. 15-22

- 15: hated her: where did the "love" go?
- 16: why was this true? He bolted the door and made it appear she had dishonored Amnon – a lie! It was the other way around. Also, he prevented her from crying out for help, Deut. 22:27.
- 18: same word for Joseph's coat of many colors: long tunic reaching hands and feet. Tamar wore it as an indication of the high rank as virgin daughter of the king. Ashes represent extreme sorrow.
- 19: probably sent outside without a veil so she tries to cover her head in shame
- 20: "your beautiful sister raped by godless Amnon."
- 21: D angry but did nothing about it; punishment is deserved, Lev. 22:28 > must marry the virgin and be severely fined. IF the one that raped was a man's sister, death is the penalty, Lev. 20:17.
- D's lack of punishment led directly to Absalom's murdering him
- 22: hatred will break forth

3. Revenge, Report, Return, and Longing – v. 23-39

- 23: 2 years = premeditated; Baal-hazor: exact place debated, possibly el-Taiyibe 12mi N of J

- 26: question indicates some suspicion on D's part. It is apparent that Amnon thought he got away with rape.
- 29: mule: potentially 1st time mentioned. [Gen. 36:24 is translated by Jewish leaders as mule.] Lev. 19:19: hybrid breeding forbidden.
- 30-33: report gravely exaggerated. Amazing thing: how did Joab have this info in advance of the event?
- 34-36: Nathan's words must have rang in D's ears (12:10).
- 37-39: Absalom welcomed in court of pagan court (grandfather). D's heart saddened over Amnon but shifts to miss Absalom.

David	Absalom
>Procured help	>Procured help
>Did not deserve to die	>Did deserve death
>Involved rape	>Involved rape
>Victim brought to residence	>Victim brought to residence

Lesson:

1. John categorized sin well in 1 John 2:15-17. Amnon acted upon all three and sinned with his half-sister.
2. Although, according to the Law, Amnon deserved to die, Absalom should have allowed the Law to handle the matter! Today, we should never get in the way of God's Law when handling punishments.
3. The similarities between D's sin & Amnon's sin are striking. Let us not ignore the punishment for sin because we (or a family member) are struggling with a sin. It is a shame to teach anything otherwise!

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