

“ PSALM 51:1

“Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.”



EXPLANATION OF MEMORY VERSE

David cries out for God to have mercy on him and to blot out his sins. He could do this because he knew God was love and full of mercy. He also knew what he deserved and didn't want God's justice and judgment.



THEME OF LESSON

Sin leads to judgment, which leads to repentance, which leads to God's mercy.



PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Even though God forgave David, he still had to reap and learn from the consequence of sin. Sometimes there are sad consequences of forgiven sins.



BACKGROUND OF LESSON

For about a year, David hid his sins and suffered under the chastening hand of God. He was given opportunity for repentance, but refused to yield. David is now confronted with a message, from his friend Nathan, to open his eyes.

I. God's Judgment on David's Sin (2Sam.12:1-25)

- A. Chastisement is one way God teaches His children.
 1. It may involve suffering, rebuke, or shame.
 2. The purpose is to bring about discipline and correction.
 3. If a parent doesn't chastise his child for doing wrong, it will lead to a questionable love and encourage even more bad behavior (Heb.12:6) (Deut.8:5). What would you think of a parent who never corrected his child for doing bad things?
- B. Many months had passed after David sinned. There was still no repentance from David. He was still hiding his sin and did not yet confess. God took action by sending his prophet Nathan to confront David. In order for David to see the severe consequence of his sin, Nathan told a short story (12:1-7).
 1. Enraged at the injustice of the rich man, David interrupted Nathan and swore under oath that the rich man deserved to die. He then issued the verdict: the rich man was to make restitution, paying back four times over as (Ex.22:1) says.
 2. Unknown to David, he had just condemned himself for stealing someone else's wife! Nathan boldly declares to David, "Thou art the man."



- C. The judgment and consequence of David breaking the 10th, 7th, and 6th commandments were severe.
 - 1. Violence and death would always be a part of his family (12:10).
 - 2. The new son of David and Bath-sheba died (12:14,18).
 - 3. David's wives would be stolen from him (12:11).
 - 4. Three of David's sons died: Amnon, Absalom, and Adonijah.
- D. David paid dearly for a few moments of lustful pleasure.
 - 1. The slippery slope of sin is nothing to play around with.
 - 2. The one thing that we often forget is... (Gal. 6:7) "For whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

II. David's Repentance and Confession

- A. Repentance is a change of heart and mind.
 - 1. It will prompt a change in direction.
 - 2. It is being sorry for what you have done and who you are... a sinner.
 - 3. It is knowing that you have sinned against God and are guilty.
- B. Before David repented:
 - 1. He became physically weak and sick (Ps.32:3).
 - 2. He lost his joy (Ps.51:12).
 - 3. He had a bad spirit (Ps.51:10).
 - 4. He lost his witness (Ps.51:13).
 - 5. He felt guilty (Ps.51:14).
- C. After David repented:
 - 1. The Lord forgave and granted mercy.
 - 2. God set aside the death penalty that David deserved. He was guilty of murder (Ex.21:12) and adultery (Lev.20:10).
- D. In mercy and grace, God allowed David to have a son (Solomon) who became very blessed (12:24).
 - 1. What are some of God's mercies in your life?
 - 2. What are some of God's graces in your life?
- E. In humiliation and brokenness, David confessed his sin, declaring that he had sinned against the Lord Himself (12:13).
 - 1. No attempt was made to rationalize or justify his behavior.
 - 2. No excuses were given.
- F. Confession is a key ingredient to genuine repentance.
 - 1. If we are not willing to confess our sin, we can not receive God's forgiveness.
 - 2. Confession involves acknowledging that we have broken God's law and are guilty (Prov.28:13) (Lk.15:18) (1Jn.1:9) (2Chron.7:14).