

TEMPTATION PART 1

David's Catastrophic Sin *2 Sam 11:1-5*

- A. Temptation follows a pattern. *Jas 1:13-15*

- B. We have come to one of the most tragic chapters in the entire Bible.

- C. I thank God for recording this incident in His perfect Word.
 - 1. It shows that the Bible is honest about its heroes. *Jer 17:5-6*

 - 2. It serves as a warning to us against sin and presumption. *1 Cor 10:12*

 - 3. It is instructive about how temptation and sin occur, so that we might be able to resist and escape.

 - 4. It accurately portrays the ugliness and the consequences of sin.

 - 5. It offers hope to the worst of sinners who repents. *Ps 32; 51*

 - 6. It reminds us that no earthly hero will suffice. We need a better king than David.

David Falls into Sin

- A. David did not fall suddenly – there were harbingers to David’s fall. *2 Sam 11:1-2a*
1. Rather than seeking and enjoying personal intimacy with one wife, David had acquired many wives for his own power and pleasure. *2 Sam 5:13; Gen 2:18ff; Deut 17:17*
 2. Apparently prosperity and security had put David off his guard. *Prov 30:8-9*
 3. David drifted into ingratitude and undervaluing the things of God. *2 Sam 12:7-9*
 4. David was guilty of neglecting his duties as king. *2 Sam 11:1-2a; 10:9ff; 1 Sam 8:20*
- B. Sin follows a progression - first, sin is conceived in the heart. *2 Sam 11:2b-3; Jas 1:13-14*
1. Don’t try to blame God when you are tempted. *Jas 1:13-14; Gen 3:12*
 2. Sin occurs, not because of temptation from the outside, but from within our hearts.
Jas 1:13-14; Mark 7:14-23
 3. David sees beautiful Bathsheba bathing. *2 Sam 11:2a; 1 Sam 16:12*
 4. Temptation often enters through the “eye-gate”. *Gen 3:6; 1 John 2:16; 2 Pet 2:14; Num 15:39*

5. David then moves from looking, to entertaining lustful thoughts as he inquires about the bathing woman. *2 Sam 11:3a; Matt 5:28*

6. The answer David received should have stopped him in his tracks. *2 Sam 11:3b; 23:39, 34*

C. Sinful desire in the heart ultimately results in the tragic act of sin. *2 Sam 11:4; Jas 1*

1. David sends for Bathsheba, thus involving others in his crime.

2. He takes her. *2 Sam 12:4, 9, 11; Lev 18:22*

3. The description of David's sin with Bathsheba is succinct. *2 Sam 11:4a*

4. Afterwards Bathsheba went home.

D. What responsibility does Bathsheba bear?

1. Shouldn't she have been more modest, realizing that she could be seen? *1 Tim 2:9*

2. Shouldn't she have refused David's advances? *Deut 22:22-24*

3. Her husband Uriah was not afraid to stand up to David. *2 Sam 11:11*

4. It is ironic that she is so concerned about outward ceremonial cleanness while violating the seventh commandment against adultery. *2 Sam 11: 4b; Lev 15:25ff*
- E. Finally sin brings forth deadly consequences. *2 Sam 11:5; Jas 1:15b; Prov 6:32-33; 7:26ff; Deut 22:22*
1. The conception of a child, which should be an occasion for great joy, is seen as a tragedy. *1 Sam 1:19ff; Ps 127:1ff*
 2. David's attempts to cover up his guilt will only compound his sin. *2 Sam 11:6ff; Num 32:23*
 3. David's sin will affect him and many others for the rest of his life. *Gal 6:7ff*
 4. Sexual sin is not merely a private matter which involves only two people.

How Can We Avoid Falling into Sin?

- A. Be on your guard.
1. Don't think that it can't happen to you. *1 Cor 10:12; 1 Pet 5:8*
 2. Guard your heart. *Prov 4:23*
 3. Guard your eyes. *2 Tim 2:22*

4. Also protect your thoughts. *Phil 4:8-9*

5. Neglect of the small things can lead to a big fall. *Jas 1:15*

6. Don't think that you can toy with sin without experiencing the consequences.

7. Sinful desire indulged will produce sinful acts.

8. Don't be a stumbling block to others.

B. Nurture your own relationship with the Lord - don't let your love for Him grow cold. *Matt 22:37; 2*

Tim 2:22; Rev 2:5; Rom 8:13

1. If you are walking closely with God, you will not be vulnerable to sin. *Gen 39:9*

2. Remember who you are. *Rom 6:11; Col 3:5*

3. Pray that He will keep you from temptation. *Matt 6:13; Luke 22:40; Jude 24*

C. Stay busy fulfilling God's calling on your life. *Col 3:23; 2 Tim 1:6*

1. You are especially vulnerable to temptation when you are negligent of your duties. *1 Thess 5:7*

2. Stay busy in your vocation, in your family and in your church.

D. Guard your marriage. *Gen 2:18ff; Eph 5:22ff; Prov 5:15ff; 1 Cor 7:2ff; Song of Songs*

E. If you have started to give in to temptation, abort the sin before it is too late. *Gen 39:6ff; 2 Tim 2:22; Matt 5:29-30; Rom 6:12-14; 8:13; 1 Cor 10:13*

1. At every stage David could have chosen to turn from his sin. *Job 31:1*

2. Take radical action to kill your sin before it kills you. *Matt 5:29ff; Rom 8:13*

3. Seek accountability.

4. The longer you wait, the worse the consequences will become.

F. God offers hope and grace to fallen sinners.

1. The significance of David's fall goes beyond merely warning us about temptation. *1 Cor 10:11*

2. David, for all of his excellent qualities, was not able to fulfill God's covenant.

3. We need someone greater than David to be our King.

4. Jesus is the Son of David who never sins or fails. He is a King who gives.

5. Jesus comes to the aid of those who are tempted. *Heb. 2:18*

6. Jesus forgives those who confess and forsake their sin. *1 John 1:8-10; Ps 32*



Audios

Newheiser, Jim. "The Pain of Porn."



Supplemental Resources

Newheiser, Jim. "The Pain of Porn."