### 2 Samuel

## Chapter 12

1As a result, Jehovah sent the prophet Nathan to David, who went in and told him this story:  
  
 ‘There were two men who lived in the same city; one was rich, and the other was poor.  
  
 2‘Now, the rich man had huge flocks and herds, 3but the only thing that the poor man owned was a small female lamb that he’d purchased... He protected it and fed it, and it grew up with his children. It ate the same bread, drank from his cup, and slept inside of his robe; for it was just like a daughter to him!  
  
 4‘Well, it so happened that a traveler came along who stopped in to see the rich man. Then, because he didn’t want to take anything from his own flocks or herds to prepare [a meal] for a stranger, he took the lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the person who had come to visit.’  
  
5Well, when he heard this, David was outraged and he said:  
  
 ‘As Jehovah lives, that man deserves to die!  
  
 6‘He should also have to pay for the lamb with 7 of his own, because of this evil thing that he did!’  
  
7And Nathan said to David:  
  
 ‘But, you are the man who did this!  
  
 ‘So, Jehovah the God of IsraEl told me to say this to you:  
  
 ‘I’m the One who anointed you to be the king over IsraEl, and I’m the One who saved you from the hands of Saul.  
  
 8‘I’m also the One who gave you the house of your lord and I brought his women to your chest; and thereafter I gave you the houses of IsraEl and Judah... And if you had remained faithful, I would have given you even more!  
  
 9‘So, why have you treated the Word of Jehovah as worthless by doing this wicked thing before His eyes?  
  
 For you cut down UriAh the Hittite with the broadsword and took his woman as yours… When the sons of AmMon killed him, it was really you who killed him!  
  
 10‘And because you did this, the broadsword won’t leave your house throughout the ages! For you treated Me with contempt by taking the wife of UriAh the Hittite as your woman.’  
  
 11‘And Jehovah also said this:  
  
 ‘Look, I will cause evil things to awaken in your own house… I will take your women from before you and give them to your neighbor, then he will go to bed with them in the daylight.  
  
 12‘Although you did it in secret, I will do this in the daylight and before all IsraEl!’  
  
13Well at that, David said to Nathan:  
  
 ‘I have truly sinned against Jehovah!’  
  
And Nathan said to David:  
  
 ‘Well, Jehovah has forgiven your sin, so you’re not going to die... 14However, by doing such an unrighteous thing, you’ve even made Jehovah’s enemies angry.  
  
 ‘Therefore, the son who’ll be born to you will die.’  
  
15And at that, Nathan left David’s palace.  
  
  
So as a result, Jehovah caused the child that was born to the woman of UriAh by David to be sickly and weak. 16However, David [prayed to] God about the boy, and he fasted and slept on the ground.  
  
17And when the elders of his house came to lift him off the ground, he wouldn’t get up, nor would he eat with them.  
  
18Then after 7 days, the boy died… And David’s servants were afraid to tell him, for they said:  
  
 ‘{Look!} When we spoke to him about the boy while [the child] was still alive, he didn’t listen to us... So how can we now tell [David] that he’s dead, for he’ll surely do bad things to us!’  
  
19Well, David noticed that his servants had been whispering, and he suspected that the boy had died.  
  
So he asked his servants:  
  
 ‘Has the boy died?’  
  
And they replied:  
  
 ‘He has.’  
  
20Then David got up from the ground, took a bath, rubbed himself with oil, and changed his clothes. And thereafter, he went to the [Tent] of God and bowed before Him.  
  
And when he got back home, he asked for some food to eat, which they brought to him, and which he ate.  
  
21So his servants asked:  
  
 ‘Why have you acted this way concerning the boy?  
  
 ‘For while he was still alive you fasted, cried, and wouldn’t sleep, but after he died, you got up and ate and drank something.’  
  
22And David replied:  
  
 ‘I fasted and cried while the boy was still living, because I hoped that Jehovah would show mercy on me and allow the boy to live. 23But now that he’s died, why should I fast?  
  
 ‘I won’t be able to go and see him again, nor can I carry him to me, because I can’t bring him back.’  
  
24Then David went to comfort his woman, BathSheba.  
  
Well, he went to bed with her again, and she got pregnant and gave birth to a son whom she named Solomon… And Jehovah loved him. 25So He sent for Nathan the prophet, who renamed him JediDiAh (Beloved of Jehovah), following the Lord’s instructions.  
  
  
26Then JoAb went to war with RabBah of the sons of AmMon again, and he conquered that kingdom’s capital city.  
  
27So JoAb sent messengers to David to say:  
  
 ‘I’ve fought against RabBah and subdued the City of Waters!  
  
 28‘Therefore, gather your men and come to our camp so you can be the first to take it! I don’t want to be the first to take the city, for I don’t wish to have it called by my name.’  
  
29As a result, David gathered his men and he went to RabBah and captured it.  
  
30Then he took their king’s crown from his head (which was made of gold and precious gems) and had it placed on his own head... They also looted the city and brought back a tremendous amount of goods.  
  
31Then he took the [city’s] people away and put them to work as carpenters, farm laborers, iron smelters, blacksmiths, and brick makers… In fact, that’s what he did in all the cities of the sons of AmMon.  
  
And thereafter, David and his men returned to JeruSalem.