

January 1, 2017 Sin-watching—King David

2 Samuel 11:1-17

With each word in Nathan's sermon, David becomes more religious—feeling sorry for the poor man who lost his pet lamb, seething with indignation over the rich man who stole the lamb. Pitying and judging are religious sentiments that can be indulged endlessly, making us feel vastly superior to everyone around us, but they're incapable of making a particle of difference in our lives. David, pitying and judging, becoming more religious by the minute, absorbed in a huge blur of sentimentality. And then the sudden, clear gospel focus: you are the one—you.

The subtlety of sin is that it doesn't feel like sin when we're doing it; it feels godlike, it feels fulfilling and satisfying—a replay of the episode in Eden when the tempter said, "You won't die... you will be like gods" (Genesis 3:4-5) David didn't feel like a sinner when he sent for Bathsheba; he felt like a lover—and what can be better than that? David didn't feel like a sinner when he sent for Uriah; he felt like a king. Somewhere along the line he withdrew from the life of worship: adoration of God receded, and obsession with self moved in - E. Peterson 1997)

God's refusing to put David to death or abandon him emerges from God, from God's grace and God's commitment. God doesn't have mercy on us because we deserve it. God has mercy on us because that is God's nature - John Goldingay (2011).

Next week: The King who had it all. **Solomon**

January 1, 2017 Sin-watching—King David

2 Samuel 11:1-17

With each word in Nathan's sermon, David becomes more religious—feeling sorry for the poor man who lost his pet lamb, seething with indignation over the rich man who stole the lamb. Pitying and judging are religious sentiments that can be indulged endlessly, making us feel vastly superior to everyone around us, but they're incapable of making a particle of difference in our lives. David, pitying and judging, becoming more religious by the minute, absorbed in a huge blur of sentimentality. And then the sudden, clear gospel focus: you are the one—you.

The subtlety of sin is that it doesn't feel like sin when we're doing it; it feels godlike, it feels fulfilling and satisfying—a replay of the episode in Eden when the tempter said, "You won't die... you will be like gods" (Genesis 3:4-5) David didn't feel like a sinner when he sent for Bathsheba; he felt like a lover—and what can be better than that? David didn't feel like a sinner when he sent for Uriah; he felt like a king. Somewhere along the line he withdrew from the life of worship: adoration of God receded, and obsession with self moved in - E. Peterson 1997)

God's refusing to put David to death or abandon him emerges from God, from God's grace and God's commitment. God doesn't have mercy on us because we deserve it. God has mercy on us because that is God's nature - John Goldingay (2011).

Next week: The King who had it all. **Solomon**

THE STORY

FINDING YOUR STORY IN GOD'S STORY

Our primary task is not to avoid sin.

Our high priority is to recognize and admit sin.

When Nathan, sent by God, walked into David's room,
he recovered for David an awareness of God.

David's sin, as enormous it was, was wildly outdone
by God's amazing grace.

Recognition of my sin brings me to the God Who
saves me from it.

Lord, make us sin-watchers...

...that we might know Your grace.

Psalm 51 brings us honestly and adoringly to God.

God does not condemn us; He saves us!

THE STORY

FINDING YOUR STORY IN GOD'S STORY

Our primary task is not to avoid sin.

Our high priority is to recognize and admit sin.

When Nathan, sent by God, walked into David's room,
he recovered for David an awareness of God.

David's sin, as enormous it was, was wildly outdone
by God's amazing grace.

Recognition of my sin brings me to the God Who
saves me from it.

Lord, make us sin-watchers...

...that we might know Your grace.

Psalm 51 brings us honestly and adoringly to God.

God does not condemn us; He saves us!