

I. Introduction and review: The deceitfulness of sin. Heb. 3:13

II. David tries to cover up his sin. v. 6-27

- A. Sinners typically try to hide their sin. Gen. 3:7-8

- B. David first attempts to make it appear that Uriah is the child's father. v. 6-13
 - 1. He summons Uriah on the pretense that he wants a report about the war. v. 6-7
 - 2. David encourages Uriah to enjoy all the comforts of home while he is in town. v. 8
 - 3. Uriah refuses his king on the grounds that his duty is elsewhere. v. 9-11 Acts 5:29 I Sam. 21:5 Ex. 19:15 Dt. 23:9-11
 - 4. Shouldn't Uriah's refusal have been a wake-up call for David's conscience?
 - 5. Uriah illustrates the principle that we must obey God rather than men. Acts 5:29
 - 6. Uriah is the one person whom David can't control with his kingly power.
 - 7. Even when David makes Uriah drunk he refuses to go to be with his wife. v. 12-13
 - 8. Did Uriah suspect what David and Bathsheba had done?

- C. David's then resorts to more drastic measures -- murdering (aborting) Uriah. v. 14-25
 - 1. Loyal Uriah carries his own death warrant. v. 14
 - 2. David instructs General Joab to arrange for Uriah to die in battle. v. 15
 - 3. David sinks to Joab's level (and lower). 3:26-39
 - 4. Uriah dies in battle, along with others. v. 16-17
 - 5. David, who had been appointed to smite the LORD's enemies, smites the LORD's faithful servant and gives the LORD's enemies cause to blaspheme. 8:1-2 12:14
 - 6. Joab reports Uriah's death to David. v. 18-24 Judges 9:53ff
 - 7. David deceitfully mutters a platitude about the awfulness of war. v. 25 2:26 18:8

- D. Then David completes his cover-up by marrying Bathsheba. v. 26-27a

- E. David, however, cannot hide his sin from the LORD. v. 27b Isa. 59:15b Num. 32:23 Gen. 38:10 Pr. 5:21

III. Learn from David. Ps. 51:12-13 32:8-10

- A. One sin typically leads to many more transgressions. John 8:34
 - 1. David didn't just commit adultery, violating the seventh commandment. Ex. 20:14
 - a. He neglected his vocation, violating the fourth commandment. v. 1-2a
 - b. He coveted his neighbor's wife, violating the tenth commandment. v. 3
 - c. He stole his neighbor's wife, violating the eighth commandment. v. 4,27
 - d. He lied and deceived, breaking the ninth commandment. v. 6ff
 - e. He murdered, breaking the sixth commandment. v. 14ff
 - f. He made an idol of his own desires violating the second commandment.
 - g. He abused his power, playing God, thus violating the first commandment.
 - h. He made his neighbor drunk. v. 13 Hab. 2:15
 - 2. Your sin begets more sin.
 - 3. Sin, especially sexual immorality, is accompanied by deceit (which is often more destructive than the initial sin itself). Eph. 4:25
 - 4. Sometimes the person most deceived is the sinner. Heb. 3:13

- B. Your sin has consequences. Gal. 6:7-8 Num. 32:23 Pr. 6:25-34 7:22-27 5:20-23
 - 1. David's sin affects him for the rest of his life. II Samuel 12:10-14 13:1ff
 - 2. David's sin affected many other people: Bathsheba, Uriah, his servants, Joab, the other soldiers, his own children, and even the entire nation.
 - 3. Sexual sin is not merely a private matter between two consenting adults. Immorality continues to cut a wide swath of destruction in our day. Mt. 18:6 19:6

- C. You can hide your sin from men, but you cannot fool God. Nu. 32:23 Ps. 139:1-12,23f Heb. 12:5ff Pr. 5:21 29:25 3:11-12

IV. Concluding applications.

- A. How does this passage point us to Jesus?
 - 1. David's failure to keep God's covenant demonstrates that no mere man is worthy to lead God's people in righteousness.
 - 2. Jesus is the king we need. Isa. 7:14 9:6-7 I Pe. 3:18 Ps. 32:1 Rom. 4:7

- B. God offers hope to sinners. Ps. 32:1-4
 - 1. Even though God knows everything about you, He loves you and seeks fellowship with you. Isa. 1:18 40:27ff Heb. 4:13 Ps. 139:1ff I Sam. 16:7 Pr. 15:3 5:21
 - 2. Confess your sin to God and He will forgive and transform you for Christ's sake. Pr. 28:13 Ps. 51:1-4 32:5,1-2 Isa. 55:6-7 Phil. 3:9 1:6

Discussion questions

1. How does Uriah set an example for us?
2. Can you think of other examples of when the cover-up is worse than the sin?
3. Of what sins is David guilty, in addition to adultery?
How do our sins lead to other sins?
4. How are others affected by David's sin?
How are others affected by our sins (i.e. sexual immorality, drunkenness, pride, worry)?
5. Where are you most vulnerable to falling into sin?
6. Are you hiding or covering up your sin?
What should you do?
7. How does this passage relate to Christmas?