

**I. Introduction and review.**

**II. David repents of his sin. v. 13a**

- A. David's repentant response to Nathan stands in stark contrast to the former king, Saul, when he was confronted by the prophet Samuel (worldly sorrow). I Sam. 15
1. Saul had been told by the LORD to utterly destroy the Amalekites and all that belonged to them. I Sam. 15:1-3
  2. Saul disobeyed the LORD's command, keeping some of the spoils of war and sparing the Amalekite king. I Sam. 15:9
  3. The prophet Samuel is sent by the LORD to rebuke Saul. I Sam. 15:17-19
  4. Saul responds defensively. I Sam. 15:20-21,15b
  5. Even when Saul confesses his sin he is more concerned about saving face before the people (removing consequences), than honoring the LORD. v. 24,30 Pr. 29:25
  6. Saul is a picture of worldly sorrow over sin – blaming and attacking others, penance, minimizing, rationalizing, comparing, self pity, etc. II Co. 7:10
  7. It is possible to admit your sin, or even to feel conscience stricken, without being truly repentant. I Sam. 15:24 24:16ff 26:21ff Nu. 22:34 Ex. 9:27
  8. Saul's worldly sorrow does not result in forgiveness (or a changed life); therefore, his kingdom is taken away. I Sam. 15:28
- B. What are the characteristics of David's repentance? II Co. 7:10-11
1. We learn more about David's repentance in the Psalms (51 and 32) he wrote.
  2. David responds humbly to Nathan's rebuke. v. 13a
  3. He comes clean, hiding his sin no more. Ps. 32:1-5 Pr. 28:13 Gen. 3:7ff
  4. He is a broken man who openly and thoroughly confesses his guilt. Ps. 51:3-5
  5. He longs for forgiveness and purification. Ps. 51:1-2,7-12 2 Co. 7:11
  6. He purposes to live a life of service and praise to the LORD. Ps. 51:13-15 32:8
  7. Have you repented of your sin? II Tim. 2:25

**III. The LORD forgives David's sin. v. 13b**

- A. God is exceedingly gracious to repentant sinners. Ex. 23:7 Is. 1:18 Ps. 103:12 130:3-4
1. The law demands that David die. Le. 20:10 24:17 Dt. 22:22 Gen. 9:6 Ex. 21:12
  2. David does not lose his kingdom or his life. v. 13 7:15
  3. David's guilt is immediately removed through faith. Ro. 4:5-8 Ge. 15:6 Ps. 32:5
- B. On what grounds is David's sin forgiven? Rom. 3:21-26 I John 2:1-2
1. The sacrifices of the Old Covenant did not actually remove sin. Heb. 10:4
  2. Forgiveness was granted based upon the coming atonement of Christ.
    - a. Jesus has *forgiven* (carried away) our guilt. Ps. 32:1a 103:12-13 Lev. 16:21ff
    - b. Our *iniquity* was laid upon Him. Ps. 32:2a Isa. 53:5-6,11
    - c. Jesus provides the *cleansing* for which David longed. Ps. 51:7 Heb. 1:3 10:10,14 I John 1:7 Rev. 7:14
    - d. His atoning blood covers our guilt. Ps. 32:1b Heb. 9:14 Isa. 53:8 Rev. 3:18
    - e. Our sins are no longer counted (imputed) against us. Ps. 32:2a Num. 12:11
  3. The more we comprehend the greatness of our guilt the more we appreciate the greatness of God's gift of His Son who paid our debt. II Co. 8:9 Luke 7:47
- C. God still forgives repentant sinners. Luke 18:10ff I Jo. 1:8-2:2
- D. We should forgive each other as God has forgiven us. Eph. 4:32 Mt. 18:21-34

#### **IV. David still suffers the consequences of his sin. v. 14, 10-12**

- A. Horrible things are going to happen to David and to his house.**
- 1. The punishment (chastisement) fits his crimes. Ex. 21:24 Lev. 24:20**
  - 2. His sexual sins will be repeated by his sons. v. 11b-12 13:1-19 16:21ff I Ki. 11:4**
  - 3. His sin of murder will be repaid as four of his sons will die a premature death. v. 5b,14b,18 13:29 18:14-15 I Ki. 2:24-25**
  - 4. The sword will not depart from his house -- two civil wars and more to come. v. 10 II Ki. 11:1 12:20**
  - 5. David's sin will continue to have national and covenantal implications.**
  - 6. All of this results from one sinful desire. Js. 1:14-15**
  - 7. All the past good that David had done does not stop God from chastising him.**
- B. Why doesn't God remove the consequences of David's sin? 7:14 Jer. 30:11 Ps. 99:8**
- 1. The LORD protects His reputation as upholding righteousness. v. 14**
  - 2. Why does God take the life of David's infant son who had done nothing wrong?**
  - 3. Is there significance to the fact that the innocent son of David dies instead of David because of David's guilt? Someone had to die! II Co. 5:21**
  - 4. The LORD, through David's example, warns us to take sin seriously.**
- C. Being forgiven by the LORD does not mean that your sin will not have consequences. Gal. 6:7 Num. 14:20ff II Chron. 12:7-8 Ps. 118:18 89:30-34 Pr. 5 6 7**
- 1. Many Christians take sin much too lightly.**
  - 2. God's forgiveness does not always remove the results of your transgressions.**
  - 3. We should marvel at how gracious the LORD has been towards us in that we have not fully experienced the deserved consequences of our many sins. Ps. 25:7**
  - 4. Those in spiritual leadership who fall into scandalous sin disqualify themselves from holding church office. I Tim. 3:1-7**
  - 5. When we forgive others must we always remove all consequences of their sin? Jer. 31:34 Mt. 19:9 Num. 14:20ff**
- D. When Christ returns, all of the effects of our sin will be removed forever.**

#### **V. Concluding applications.**

- A. Learn from David. Ps. 51:13 32:8ff John 3:14-16 I Jo. 1:8-9 Ezek. 18:23,32 33:11 I Co. 6:9-11**
- B. How can God's covenant with David's house be fulfilled since David has broken the covenant? 7:8ff Ps. 89:30-37**

#### **Discussion questions**

- 1. Compare Saul's reaction when he was confronted by the prophet Samuel with David's reaction when he was confronted by Nathan.**
- 2. What are some characteristics of worldly sorrow?**
- 3. How does David exemplify true repentance?**
- 4. On what basis does the LORD forgive David's sin?**  
Were people in Old Testament times forgiven in a different way than we are forgiven?
- 5. What consequences does the LORD bring upon David?**
- 6. Why doesn't the LORD remove the consequences of David's sin (after he is forgiven)?**  
What consequences do we face because of our sin?
- 7. How should our forgiveness of each other reflect God's forgiveness of us?**  
Is it ever right for us to bring consequences upon those whom we forgive?
- 8. After David's horrible failure, how can the Davidic covenant be fulfilled?**