

I. Introduction.**II. David submits to the LORD's chastisement. v. 14-23**

- A. The LORD determined that David's infant son must die. v. 14-15a**
1. What was David's most serious sin? Not adultery, nor murder, but that he had brought dishonor to the LORD's name. v. 14a Ps. 8:1 74:18
 2. There should be no greater deterrent to our sin than how our actions will affect the LORD's reputation. Mt. 6:9
 3. Why was it necessary that the LORD deal so severely with David's sin? v. 14b
 4. Though God has forgiven us, He may force us to reap sin's consequences. Ga. 6:7f
 5. Church discipline reflects how seriously the LORD takes sin. I Co. 5 Mt. 18:15ff
 6. Why does the LORD punish the son for the sins of his father?
- B. David pleads with the LORD for the life of his infant son. v. 15b-17**
1. The LORD's judgment is carried out quickly. v. 15b
 2. David earnestly seeks mercy from God – prayer and fasting. v. 16-17 Mark 9:29
 3. If LORD has already pronounced judgment, then why does David bother to pray? v. 22 Jonah 3:9 Joel 2:13-14 Jer. 18:7-8 26:3 Nu. 14:11ff
 4. Plead with the LORD while there is hope. Lu. 18:1ff Mt. 7:7ff 15:22ff Js. 4:2
- C. David submits to the LORD's will in the death of his child. v. 18-23a**
1. The LORD's answer is "no" – David's son dies. v. 18a
 2. Did God say 'no' because David didn't have enough faith? I Jo. 5:14 Mt. 26:39
 3. David's servants fear that David might do himself harm (suicide?). v 18b
 4. David worships the LORD. v. 19-20 Job 1:20-21
 5. How do you react when God says "no"? Job 1:20-21 13:15
 6. When you are deeply hurt or disappointed submit to the LORD and worship Him.
- D. David expects to go to his dead son one day. v. 23b**
1. Why do some babies die young? Why are some born with handicaps? John 9:2ff
 2. What happens to the souls of infants dying in infancy? Deut. 29:29
 3. In what sense does David expect to go to his son?
 - a. Some say that David simply expects to join him in the grave. Acts 2:29
 - b. Because the context suggests that David is expressing the hope and comfort God gives, it makes more sense to think that he expected to see his son in heaven.
 - c. Where is David now? Ps. 23:6 17:15 16:9-11 Heb. 11:32,16
 4. What other reasons do we have to hope that infants dying in infancy go to heaven?
 - a. John the Baptist was filled with the Spirit in his mother's womb. Lu. 1:15,44
 - b. Jeremiah was set apart to God in the womb. Jer. 1:4-5
 - c. Those who are judged are condemned based upon their wicked deeds - which an infant has not yet done. Re. 20:11ff Mt. 25:31ff Eze. 18:20 Co. 3:6 Jo. 8:21ff
 - d. The LORD's nature is merciful and just. Ex. 34:6-7 Gen. 18:25
 - e. Other texts which some use to infer the salvation of infants who die: Ps. 8:22:10 139:15ff Mt. 19:14 Mark 10:13-14 Ezek. 16:20-22 Job 3:11-19 Ecc. 6:3-6 I Ki. 14:13 Jonah 4:11 Jer. 19:4 2:34
 5. How can infants be saved?
 - a. Is there an age of accountability? Dt. 1:39 Isa. 7:15 Jonah 4:11
 - b. Infants are affected by the guilt and pollution of Adam's sin from conception. Ps. 51:4 58:3 Is. 48:8 Ro. 5:12ff
 - c. The LORD is able to regenerate and redeem them. John 3:3 I Tim. 2:5

III. David receives the LORD's kindness and mercy. v. 24-31

- A. The LORD blesses David and Bathsheba with another (beloved) son. v. 24-25
1. David comforts his *wife*. v. 24a II Co. 1:3-4
 2. A marriage begun sinfully is still a marriage in which both partners should seek, with God's help, to fulfill their duties to one another. Deut. 24:1-4 Eph. 5:22ff
 3. The LORD gives David and Bathsheba a son in the place of the son who died. v. 24b Gen. 4:25
 4. The LORD often shows special kindness to hurting mourning sinners. Mt. 5:4
 5. The son is named Solomon, which speaks of the peace God gives. v. 24c I Chr. 22:9
 6. Solomon is beloved by the LORD and is also given the name Jedidiah. v. 25
 7. Solomon is chosen by the LORD to be David's successor in fulfillment of the covenant. 7:12ff I Ki. 1:11ff Mt. 1:6 Neh. 13:26
 8. Why would the LORD love Solomon -- a son who is the product of a marriage which began with adultery and murder? Sovereign electing grace! Deut. 7:7-8
 9. We are beloved sons (and daughters) on the same basis as Solomon (Jedidiah) -- God's sovereign electing grace. Eph. 1:3ff Titus 3:5
 10. David and Bathsheba also have another son whom they name Nathan, who is in the line of Christ through Mary. I Chron. 3:5 14:4 Luke 3:31
- B. The LORD gives David victory over the Ammonites. v. 26-31 Ps. 3:7 18:37 68:1
1. Our story has finally come full circle. 10:1-11:1
 2. David finally does what he should have done to begin with. v. 26-29 Jo. 8:11
 3. When we repent we should look for opportunities to make right what we have done wrong. II Co. 7:11 Titus 2:14
 4. David is exalted in victory. v. 30
 5. Why is David exalted while the Ammonites are crushed?
 6. What happens to the Ammonites? v. 31 10:4 Judges 10:7ff Ps. 2

IV. Concluding applications.

- A. The LORD restores David. Ps. 51:12
- B. How does this passage point us to Christ?
1. Jesus is the beloved Son in whom the promises of the covenant are fulfilled. John 3:16 Mt. 3:17 Mark 9:7 Isa. 40:1
 2. As David's son died in his place, Jesus, the beloved Son of David, died in our place. I Pe. 3:18 II Co. 5:21
 3. The gross sin which seemed to threaten the promise leads to the fulfillment of the promise. Acts 2:23
 4. As David won a great victory over the LORD's enemies and was crowned, so Christ has defeated sin, Satan and death and is crowned LORD of all. He. 2:9 Jo. 19:2ff
 5. We share in His victory and His exaltation. Rev. 2:10 I Pe. 5:4

Discussion questions

1. What should be the most powerful deterrent to sin?
2. What indications do we have that David has been restored in his relationship to the LORD?
3. Why pray if God has already decided what He will do?
4. Why does God sometimes answer our prayers "no"? How should we respond?
5. What are some areas in which you find it hardest to submit to God's sovereign will?
6. Why do some children die in infancy? What do you think happens to them? Why?
7. If a marriage has begun sinfully does that mean God will not bless it? Why or why not?
8. What are some ways in which God has shown you undeserved kindness?
9. What is the significance of the names of David's son?
10. In what ways does this passage point to Christ?