II Samuel 10-11

Review…

- **II Samuel 7 – An everlasting Kingdom…**
  - David wanted to build a house for God – a place to keep the Ark of the Covenant…
    - What temple could David build – Heaven was God's home / the earth his footstool!
    - Instead God would build a house for David – the Messiah would come from him!
  - When Nathan told David – the king fell on his knees and was speechless…
    - David wanted to bless God – but he realized God had already blessed him!
    - Rather than asking God to follow his plans – David realized God had a better plan!
- **II Samuel 8-9 – Victory on all sides…**
  - David conquered all the nations the surrounded Israel – North/ South / East / West…
    - He brought peace to the empire – and prosperity to the people…
    - But he dedicated all the spoils of war to the task of building the Temple for God!
  - David made a vow to Jonathan – to care for his children…
    - It had been 40 years since the vow – and David wanted to fulfill it…
    - David found out the son of Jonathan - Mephibosheth was still alive…
    - He restored all the land of Saul to him – and had Mephibosheth come live in the palace!

The fall of king David… (*4 things*)

- **1st – Making asumptions… vs. 1-7** Read: II Samuel 10:1-6
  - 1st - King Nahash of Ammon died – a nation on the eastern side of Israel… vs. 1-3
    - David wanted to send his condolences for the loss of the King…
      - He had been a good friend to David – perhaps helping him when he hid from Saul…
      - So he sent ambassadors to his son Hanun to comfort him…
      - But the advisors of Hanun were suspicious of David…
      - David had just conquered all the nations surrounding Israel – they were next…
      - They warned the king the ambassadors were not there to comfort – but to spy!
    - People tend to make assumption about others...
      - We never know what someone else is thinking – but we like to think the worst…
      - But more often than not our assumptions are WAY OFF…
      - Walking down the street - someone looks towards us with a frown…

- Out brains race to try and figure out what we have done to upset them…
- Maybe they do not like our outfit / or perhaps we forgot their birthday…
- When in truth they did not even notice us – because they just bit their tongue!
- It is VERY dangerous to make assumptions – better to simply ask – then you know!

- 2nd - The new king shaved the ambassador's beards / cut their robes… vs. 4-5
  - In Jewish culture – the beard is sacred / never to be cut – **Leviticus 19:27**
    - So the men were humiliated with ½ a beard – clothes cut to show their underwear!
    - The ambassadors were so humiliated they refused to come back to Jerusalem…
    - David had them stay in Jericho to wait until their beards grew back
  - Thinking the worst of people – causes us to treat them unfairly…
    - We will end up doing and saying things that will come back to haunt us…
    - One dark rainy night a salesman had a flat tire on a lonely road…
    - Seeing a nearby farmhouse – he thought the farmer might have a wrench…
    - But would the farmer even come to the door - if he did he would probably be furious…
    - He would say - 'What is the big idea getting me out of bed in the middle of the night!'
    - This thought made the salesman angry - that farmer is selfish to refuse to help me...
    - Finally the man reached the house - frustrated / drenched - he banged on the door...
    - 'Who is there?' a voice called out from a window overhead...
    - 'It's me!' - yelled the salesman now red with anger – 'You can keep your silly wrench!'…
    - 'I would not borrow it if it were the last one in the world!'
- 3rd - The people of Ammon saw they had REALLY upset King David… vs. 6-7
  - So they hired an army to prepare for the coming war…
    - 20,000 Syria mercenaries from / 1,000 from Maacah / 12,000 from Ish-Tob…
    - When David found out he sent Joab will the whole army to fight them…
    - The assumptions of Ammon had turned comfort to war…
  - The problem with making assumptions – is it turns friends into enemies…
    - There is no faster way to ruin a friendship – than by making assumptions!
    - **Luke 6:27** - "Do not judge others, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn others, or it will all come back against you. Forgive others, and you will be forgiven."
    - Better to think the best of others – do not assume their intentions...
    - Then people will also think the best of our motives and us!

- **2ND – VICTORY IN BATTLE… VS. 8-19** READ: II SAMUEL 10:8-12
  - 1st - The battle began at the Ammonite city of Medeba… vs. 8-14
    - Joab was immediately faced with huge problem – there were two armies to fight…
    - The Ammonites attacked from the city / the mercenaries from the fields…
    - So Joab fought the mercenaries - his younger brother Abishai attacked the city…
    - If either group began to lose their battle – the other would come to help them!
    - The mercenaries quickly abandoned the battle – money was not worth dying for…

- When the Ammonites saw their mercenary army running away…
- They quickly ran to hide behind the walls of their city – and barred the gates!

○ 2nd – The Syrian mercenaries were bitter about their defeat… vs. 15-19

- They brought reinforcements from beyond the Euphrates River…
  - From king Hadadezer – the same king David had defeated in **II Samuel 8:3**…
  - King David mobilized all of Israel – and personally marched out to war…
  - And David defeated them all killing over 40,000 of their soldiers…
  - The kings of Syria paid tribute to Israel – and were afraid to help Ammon again!
- This was not Syria's war – it started with Ammon…
  - But they chose to take a side – and as a result got pulled into the battle…
  - When there is a division among our friends / family – we tend to choose sides…
  - We usually only listen to one side of the story – then attack the other person…
  - Rather than taking sides – and adding to the problem…
  - Take the time to listen to both sides of the argument…
  - **Proverbs 18:17** - "Any story sounds true until someone sets the record straight."
  - Then rather than taking sides – point both people to Jesus!

- **3rd – The sin of David… vs. 1-4** Read: II Samuel 11:1-4

○ 1st - Being in the wrong place… vs. 1

- The following spring – David was at his palace…
  - It was the time of year when Kings go out to war – but David was taking it easy…
  - Instead he sent Joab to finish off the Ammonites – conquer their city…
  - David was not were he was supposed to be – and that got him into trouble!
- The best solution to sin – is to avoid it…
  - If you are tempted to have sex – if you think you will compromise - stay away!
  - Do not be alone with a girl – do not go into a room by yourself – stay in public…
  - Be accountable – do not trust yourself – because given the chance – you will likely sin!

○ 2nd – Giving in to lust… vs. 2-4

- Late one afternoon David got up from a nap – and went to lago-lago…
  - His roof was flat – his palace on the highest hill of the city – nice afternoon breeze…
  - He looked down and saw a beautiful woman bathing…
  - It was not sin to see the woman bathing – the sin was not looking away…
  - We will face many temptations in this life – but temptation is not sin…
  - Temptation becomes sin when we do not look away – we like what we see…
  - **James 1:12-15** – "Each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin..."
- David sent for someone to find out who the woman was…
  - David already had 6 wives – he certainly did not need a 7th…
  - And this was not motivated by love – he did not even know her name…
  - This was all about lust – this was David giving into his sinful desires!
  - If you do find that you are being tempted to sin – RUN!

- **II Timothy 2:22** – "Flee also youthful lusts..."
- Do not worry about what others think – do not test your resolve – just get out…
- It is not worth your reputation – it is not worth your pride – to risk falling into sin!

▪ David found out her name was Bathsheba – she was the wife of Uriah the Hittite…

- David did not care who she was – or even if she was already married…
- In a foolish moment of sin - he sent for Bathsheba – and slept with her…
- Then in remorse – regretting what he had done - he sent her home!
- The reality is sin can be fun – if sin was not fun – none of us would choose to sin…
- But once it is over – the excitement has passed – the shame sets in…
- The worst part about giving in to sin – is the guilt that floods you afterwards!

- **4TH – TRYING TO HIDE SIN... VS. 5-27** READ: II SAMUEL 11:5-29
  - 1st – Busted - Bathsheba became pregnant… vs. 5

▪ There was no doubt that it was the child of David – Uriah was out at war…

- David was busted – everyone was going to find out about his adultery…
- **Galatians 6:7** – "God is not mocked; whatever a man plants he will also harvest…"
- If you plant a kalamansi seed in the ground - you are not going to reap mango!
- In the same way we will harvest what we plant in our life...
- If we sow to the sin - sexual sin / greed / jealously or anger / partying...
- Then it should come as no surprise that we reap corruption / destruction...
- Whether it is pregnancy / a disease / prison / or death - sin will destroy our life...
- **Numbers 32:22** - "Be sure your sin will find you out..."

▪ David had Joab send Uriah back from the battle…

- He pretended to want to know how the battle was going – but he sent Uriah home…
  - He knew he had not seen his wife in months – and would be happy to see her…
  - Then would just assume the 'child' was his own / hiding the sin of David…
  - What started with one sin - adultery – now had grown to add deception / lying…
  - David was not longer in control of his life – he was in bondage to his sin…
- Sin is like a drug - the most addictive kind of drug - and it will take over your life...
  - The same way a drug dealer gets a new client - giving them a free sample...
  - Sin can seem to be enjoyable - but it sucks us in and we are trapped!
  - In the end we find we are in bondage to sin - morally and spiritually bankrupt!
  - **John 8:34** - "I say unto you he that commits sin is the slave of sin…"

▪ Uriah refused to go home…

- All of his fellow soldiers were sleeping in tents – even the Ark was in a tent…
  - How could he allow himself to go sleep in a nice bed with his wife!
  - So David got him drunk – figuring it would loosen Uriah's moral convictions…
  - But even drunk Uriah was still an upright and honorable man…
  - Not only had David sinned – he had sinned against a really good guy!
- We often make the mistake of thinking that our choices only affect us...
  - If we choose to sin– only we face the consequences– we are not hurting others...
  - The truth is that our lives effect many people – our kids / family / friends...
  - Either indirectly by our example – our children following us...

- Or directly as a result of our actions – being angry using hurtful words

- 2nd – The slippery slope of sin… vs. 15-24
  - David had Uriah take a letter to Joab…
    - In the letter David told Joab to put Uriah at the front of the battle…
    - Then pull the soldiers back – ensuring that Uriah would be killed….
    - David sent Uriah unknowingly with a letter for his own execution!
  - David had become calloused by his sin – only caring about saving himself!
    - When we first commit a sin - we bleed with conviction from the Holy Spirit...
    - But if we continue to sin - we can create a callous on our hearts - feel nothing...
    - Those who are calloused - no longer feel any conviction from God...
    - **Ephesians 5:19** – "They do not care anymore about right and wrong, and they have given themselves over to immoral ways."
- 3rd – The consequence of sin… vs. 25-29
  - Joab followed the instructions of the king…
    - He did not know why David wanted Uriah dead – but an order was an order…
    - He had Uriah attack the strongest defenses of the city…
    - And when he pulled back the troops – Uriah and several others were killed!
  - Joab sent word to the king – letting him know Uriah had died in battle
    - David told Joab not to be discouraged – fight harder and conquer the city…
    - Trite words in light of the despicable crime they concealed…
    - David waited for Bathsheba to mourn the death of her husband…
    - Then married her – and she gave birth to a son…
    - From the outside it might appear David got away with adultery / lying / murder…
    - But God knew what David had done – and God was not happy!