

The Power of Passion

2 Sam. 11:2-17

Introduction:

- A. David, a man after God's own heart, surrendered to the power of passion.
 - 1. Can happen when anyone lets his guard down (cf. 1 Cor. 9:27).
 - 2. Shows how emotion can easily overrule reason and right.
 - 3. Teaches us two great lessons: Nip sin in the bud and let God's word rule rather than passions.
- B. David's walk on the roof began a downward slide to shame and sorrow.
 - 1. Sins are seldom isolated — one thing leads to another.
 - 2. No one knew this better than David — "walks" - "stands" - "sits" (Psa. 1:1).
- C. Let's trace each step of David's downward path and learn from each step.

Discussion:

- I. First, There Was His Wayward Walk (v. 2a).**
 - A. Should have been out with his army (v. 1).
 - B. Sin often committed because people are where should not be at the time. (Peter's denial).
 - C. Too much leisure can lead to many sins (cf. 2 Th. 3:11; 1 Tim. 5:13)
- II. Next Came His Lustful Look (v. 2b).**
 - A. May not have avoided seeing her, but could avoid looking.
 - B. Maybe Bathsheba should been more careful — David still responsible.
 - C. Should neither:
 - 1. Look to lust (Matt. 5:28).
 - 2. Nor make selves objects of lust (Matt. 18:7; 1 Tim. 2:9; Prov. 7:10).
- III. Next Came His Adulterous Act (vv. 3-5).**
 - A. His act was not made more sinful by her conception.
 - B. Too much attention on temporal consequence, not enough on spiritual (aids, pregnancy).
 - C. Adulterers and fornicators lost (1 Cor. 6:9) — secret or open, caught or not.
- IV. Next Came His Dishonest Dealing. (vv. 7-9).**
 - A. David pretended to favor Uriah, but was trying to cover his own sin.
 - B. Uriah's sense of duty complicated David's scheme.
 - C. David should have confessed his in here — but did not until forced to by Nathan (12:1-6).
- V. Next Came His Deadly Deed (vv. 14-17).**
 - A. His love affair had turned deadly — How often it happens!
 - 1. Probable never dreamed it would go this far.
 - 2. Was as guilty as if it had been his own sword (12:9).
 - B. Need to remember that sin has a way of picking up momentum.
- VI. Then Followed His Heavy Heart.**
 - A. Of remorse and guilt (12:13).
 - 1. After realizing the seriousness of his sin (12:1-7).
 - 2. After realizing the goodness of his Lord (12:7-8).
 - B. Of sorrow and memory.
 - 1. Could erase guilt, but not consequences and memory.
 - 2. The loss of his son and damage to his family (12:10-13).
 - 3. The loss of much of his influence (12:14).
 - 4. Likely followed him the rest of his life (Psa. 51:3)

Conclusion:

- A. Passion is a powerful force — Godly conviction needs to be stronger.
- B. Passion must be curbed before it unleashes a course like David followed