

2 Samuel 11:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when they had told David, saying, Uriah went not down unto his house, David said unto Uriah, Camest thou not from thy journey? why then didst thou not go down unto thine house?

Analysis

And when they had told David, saying, Uriah went not down unto his house, David said unto Uriah, Camest thou not from thy journey? why then didst thou not go down unto thine house?

This verse contributes to the narrative of David and Bathsheba, emphasizing devastating consequences of sin. David's adultery with Bathsheba and murder of Uriah represent the nadir of his reign. The Hebrew narrative's sparse, matter-of-fact reporting heightens the horror. The phrase "but the thing that David had done displeased the LORD" (v. 27) marks divine displeasure. This chapter demonstrates that even "a man after God's own heart" can fall catastrophically when neglecting spiritual disciplines and succumbing to temptation. Cross-references to Psalm 51 reveal David's repentance.

Historical Context

The historical setting of 2 Samuel 11 occurs during David's reign (circa 1010-970 BCE) over Israel's united monarchy. Archaeological discoveries, including the Tel Dan inscription mentioning the 'House of David,' corroborate biblical historicity. Ancient Near Eastern customs regarding devastating consequences of sin provide crucial background. The geopolitical situation involved regional powers—

Philistines, Ammonites, Arameans, Moabites, Edomites—as David consolidated and expanded Israel's territory. Cultural practices concerning kingship, warfare, covenant relationships, family dynamics, and religious observance differed significantly from modern Western contexts, requiring careful attention to avoid anachronistic interpretation while extracting timeless theological principles applicable across cultures and eras.

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does this passage deepen your understanding of devastating consequences of sin?
2. What does this verse reveal about God's character, and how should that shape your worship and obedience?
3. In what specific ways can you apply this truth to your current circumstances and relationships this week?

Interlinear Text

וַגְּדוּ	דָּוִד	וַיֹּאמֶר	לֹא	יָבֹדַתְּ	אֲוִיָּה	אֶל	
And when they had told	David	said	H3808	went not down	Uriah	H413	
H5046	H1732	H559		H3381	H223		
בֵּיתָהּ:	וַיֹּאמֶר	דָּוִד	אֶל	אֲוִיָּה	הֵל וְאֵ		
unto his house	said	David	H413	Uriah	H3808		
H1004	H559	H1732		H223			
מִדֶּךָ		אֶתְּהָ	בָּא	מִדְּוַעַ	לֹא	יָבֹדַתְּ	אֶל
thou not from thy journey		H859	Camest	H4069	H3808	went not down	H413
H1870			H935			H3381	
בֵּיתָהּ:							
unto his house							
H1004							

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