

# 2 Samuel 11:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Uriah said unto David, The ark, and Israel, and Judah, abide in tents; and my lord Joab, and the servants of my lord, are encamped in the open fields; shall I then go into mine house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? as thou livest, and as thy soul liveth, I will not do this thing.

## Analysis

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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

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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

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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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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

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וַיֹּאמֶר	אֲוִיָּהּ	אֶל	דָּוִד	הָאֲרוֹן	וְיִשְׂרָאֵל	וַיהוּדָה
said	And Uriah	H413	unto David	The ark	and Israel	and Judah
H559	H223		H1732	H727	H3478	H3063
עַל	אֲדֹנָי	וְעַבְדֵי	יֹאבָב	אֲדֹנָי	בְּסֹכֹת	וַיֵּשֶׁב
H5921	and my lord	and the servants	Joab	and my lord	in tents	abide
	H113	H5650	H3097	H113	H5521	H3427
בֵּיתִי	אֶל	אָב וָאִמִּי	וְאֲנִי	חֹנִים	הַשָּׂדֶה	פָּנִי
H1004	into mine house	then go	shall I	are encamped	fields	in the open
	H413	H935	H589	H2583	H7704	H6440
וְחִי	וְחִי	אִשְׁתִּי	עִמִּי	וְלִשְׁכָּב	וְלִשְׁתּוֹת	לֶאֱכֹל
H2416	as thou livest	with my wife	H5973	and to lie	and to drink	to eat
	H2416	H802		H7901	H8354	H398
הַזֶּה	הַדָּבָר	אֶת	אֲעֲשֶׂה	אִם	נַפְשִׁי	כִּי
H2088	this thing	H853	I will not do	H518	and as thy soul	
	H1697		H6213		H5315	

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Samuel 7:2** (Parallel theme): That the king said unto Nathan the prophet, See now, I dwell in an house of cedar, but the ark of God dwelleth within curtains.

**2 Samuel 20:6** (References Lord): And David said to Abishai, Now shall Sheba the son of Bichri do us more harm than did Absalom: take thou thy lord's servants, and pursue after him, lest he get him fenced cities, and escape us.

**2 Samuel 7:6** (References Israel): Whereas I have not dwelt in any house since the time that I brought up the children of Israel out of Egypt, even to this day, but have walked in a tent and in a tabernacle.

**1 Samuel 1:26** (References Lord): And she said, Oh my lord, as thy soul liveth, my lord, I am the woman that stood by thee here, praying unto the LORD.

