

2 Samuel 11:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass in the morning, that David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah.

Analysis

And it came to pass in the morning, that David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah.

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

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

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

וַיְהִי י'	בַּבֹּקֶר	וַיִּכְתֹּב ב	דָּוִד	סָפֵר	אֶל
H1961	And it came to pass in the morning	wrote	that David	a letter	H413
	H1242	H3789	H1732	H5612	
ב יוֹאָב	וַשְׁלַח ח	בְּיַד	אֻרְיָה:		
to Joab	and sent	it by the hand	of Uriah		
H3097	H7971	H3027	H223		