

2 Samuel 11:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when the mourning was past, David sent and fetched her to his house, and she became his wife, and bare him a son.
But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD.

Analysis

And when the mourning was past, David sent and fetched her to his house, and she became his wife, and bare him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD.

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

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

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

וְעַבְרָא	הָאָבֵל	וְשָׁלַח	דָּוִד	וַאֲסָפָה	אֶל
was past	And when the mourning	sent	David	and fetched	H413
H5674	H60	H7971	H1732	H622	
בֵּיתוֹ	לֹא	וַתְּהִי	לְאִשָּׁה	וַתֵּלֶד	בָּר
her to his house	H1961	H0	and she became his wife	and bare	H0
H1004			H802	H3205	H1121
וַיִּרַע	הַדָּבָר	אֲשֶׁר	עָשָׂה	דָּוִד	בְּעֵינֵי יְהוָה:
displeased	But the thing	H834	had done	David	H5869
H3415	H1697		H6213	H1732	H3068

Additional Cross-References

2 Samuel 12:9 (References Lord): Wherefore hast thou despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in his sight? thou hast killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and hast taken his wife to be thy wife, and hast slain him with the sword of the children of Ammon.

1 Chronicles 21:7 (Parallel theme): And God was displeased with this thing; therefore he smote Israel.

Genesis 38:10 (References Lord): And the thing which he did displeased the LORD: wherefore he slew him also.

Deuteronomy 22:29 (Parallel theme): Then the man that lay with her shall give unto the damsel's father fifty shekels of silver, and she shall be his wife; because he hath humbled her, he may not put her away all his days.