

2 Samuel 11:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the woman conceived, and sent and told David, and said,
I am with child.

Analysis

And the woman conceived, and sent and told David, and said, I am with child.

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

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of 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

וַיַּעֲשֵׂה	וְיֵצֵא	וְיִתְשְׁלַח	וַיֹּאמֶר	לְדִבָּרָיו	וְיֹתֶן
conceived	And the woman	and sent	and told	David	and said
H2029	H802	H7971	H5046	H1732	H559
בְּנֵי	אֶתְכֶּי				
I am with child					
H2030					

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 22:22 (Parallel theme): If a man be found lying with a woman married to an husband, then they shall both of them die, both the man that lay with the woman, and the woman: so shalt thou put away evil from Israel.

Proverbs 6:34 (Parallel theme): For jealousy is the rage of a man: therefore he will not spare in the day of vengeance.

