

2 Samuel 11:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when Uriah was come unto him, David demanded of him how Joab did, and how the people did, and how the war prospered.

Analysis

And when Uriah was come unto him, David demanded of him how Joab did, and how the people did, and how the war prospered.

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 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

וַיָּבֹא	אֲזַיְהָה	אֶל יוֹ	וַיִּשָּׂא ל	דָּוִד	וַיֵּשֶׁל וְ
was come	And when Uriah	H413	demanded	unto him David	did
H935	H223		H7592	H1732	H7965
יֹאבִב	וַיֵּשֶׁל וְ	הָעָם	וַיֵּשֶׁל וְ	הַמִּלְחָמָה:	
of him how Joab	did	and how the people	did	and how the war	
H3097	H7965	H5971	H7965	H4421	

Additional Cross-References

Genesis 37:14 (Parallel theme): And he said to him, Go, I pray thee, see whether it be well with thy brethren, and well with the flocks; and bring me word again. So he sent him out of the vale of Hebron, and he came to Shechem.

1 Samuel 17:22 (References David): And David left his carriage in the hand of the keeper of the carriage, and ran into the army, and came and saluted his brethren.

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