

# 2 Samuel 11:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And David said to Uriah, Go down to thy house, and wash thy feet. And Uriah departed out of the king's house, and there followed him a mess of meat from the king.

## Analysis

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**And David said to Uriah, Go down to thy house, and wash thy feet. And Uriah departed out of the king's house, and there followed him a mess of meat from the king.**

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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**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## 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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בְּגִלְיָהּ	וַיֵּץ	מִבֵּית	דָּוִד	אֶזְרִיָּה	דָּוִד	וַיֵּץ
thy feet	and wash	house	Go down	And Uriah	And David	said
H7272	H7364	H1004	H3381	H223	H1732	H559

וַיֵּץ	הַמֶּלֶךְ:	מִבֵּית	אֶזְרִיָּה	וַיֵּץ
departed out	of meat from the king	house	And Uriah	departed out
H3318	H4428	H1004	H223	H3318

הַמֶּלֶךְ:	מִשָּׂא	אֲחֵר
of meat from the king	him a mess	and there followed
H4428	H4864	H310

## Additional Cross-References

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**Genesis 18:4** (Parallel theme): Let a little water, I pray you, be fetched, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree:

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