

2 Samuel 11:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But Uriah slept at the door of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and went not down to his house.

Analysis

But Uriah slept at the door of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and went not down to his house.

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

James 2:17 — Faith and works

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

כָּל	אֵת	הַמֶּלֶךְ	בֵּיתוֹ:	פֶּתַח	אֲוִיָּהּ הַ	וַיִּשָּׁכַב בַּ
		of the king's	house	at the door	But Uriah	slept
	H854	H4428	H1004	H6607	H223	H7901
בֵּיתוֹ:	אֶל	יָרַד	וְלֹא	אֲדֹנָיִי	עִבְדֵּי י'	
house		and went not down		of his lord	with all the servants	
H1004	H413	H3381	H3808	H113	H5650	

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 21:30 (References Lord): There is no wisdom nor understanding nor counsel against the LORD.