

2 Samuel 12

Chapter 12 of 24 · 31 Verses · Authorized King James Version

Nathan Confronts David

¹ And the LORD sent Nathan unto David. And he came unto him, and said unto him, There were two men in one city; the one rich, and the other poor.

² The rich man had exceeding many flocks and herds:

³ But the poor man had nothing, save one little ewe lamb, which he had bought and nourished up: and it grew up together with him, and with his children; it did eat of his own meat, and drank of his own cup, and lay in his bosom, and was unto him as a daughter.

⁴ And there came a traveller unto the rich man, and he spared to take of his own flock and of his own herd, to dress for the wayfaring man that was come unto him; but took the poor man's lamb, and dressed it for the man that was come to him.

⁵ And David's anger was greatly kindled against the man; and he said to Nathan, As the LORD liveth, the man that hath done this thing shall surely die:

⁶ And he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.

⁷ And Nathan said to David, Thou art the man. Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I anointed thee king over Israel, and I delivered thee out of the hand of Saul;

⁸ And I gave thee thy master's house, and thy master's wives into thy bosom, and gave thee the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would moreover have given unto thee such and such things.

9 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.

10 Now therefore the sword shall never depart from thine house; because thou hast despised me, and hast taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be thy wife.

11 Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will raise up evil against thee out of thine own house, and I will take thy wives before thine eyes, and give them unto thy neighbour, and he shall lie with thy wives in the sight of this sun.

12 For thou didst it secretly: but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.

13 And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.

14 Howbeit, because by this deed thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also that is born unto thee shall surely die.

The Death of David's Son

15 And Nathan departed unto his house. And the LORD struck the child that Uriah's wife bare unto David, and it was very sick.

16 David therefore besought God for the child; and David fasted, and went in, and lay all night upon the earth.

17 And the elders of his house arose, and went to him, to raise him up from the earth: but he would not, neither did he eat bread with them.

18 And it came to pass on the seventh day, that the child died. And the servants of David feared to tell him that the child was dead: for they said, Behold, while the child was yet alive, we spake unto him, and he would not hearken unto our voice: how will he then vex himself, if we tell him that the child is dead?

19 But when David saw that his servants whispered, David perceived that the child was dead: therefore David said unto his servants, Is the child dead? And they said, He is dead.

20 Then David arose from the earth, and washed, and anointed himself, and changed his apparel, and came into the house of the LORD, and worshipped: then he came to his own house; and when he required, they set bread before him, and he did eat.

21 Then said his servants unto him, What thing is this that thou hast done? thou didst fast and weep for the child, while it was alive; but when the child was dead, thou didst rise and eat bread.

22 And he said, While the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept: for I said, Who can tell whether GOD will be gracious to me, that the child may live?

23 But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast? can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.

Solomon's Birth

24 And David comforted Bath-sheba his wife, and went in unto her, and lay with her: and she bare a son, and he called his name Solomon: and the LORD loved him.

25 And he sent by the hand of Nathan the prophet; and he called his name Jedidiah, because of the LORD.

The Capture of Rabbah

26 And Joab fought against Rabbah of the children of Ammon, and took the royal city.

27 And Joab sent messengers to David, and said, I have fought against Rabbah, and have taken the city of waters.

28 Now therefore gather the rest of the people together, and encamp against the city, and take it: lest I take the city, and it be called after my name.

29 And David gathered all the people together, and went to Rabbah, and fought against it, and took it.

30 And he took their king's crown from off his head, the weight whereof was a talent of gold with the precious stones: and it was set on David's head. And he brought forth the spoil of the city in great abundance.

31 And he brought forth the people that were therein, and put them under saws, and under harrows of iron, and under axes of iron, and made them pass through the brickkiln: and thus did he unto all the cities of the children of Ammon. So David and all the people returned unto Jerusalem.

HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

Eternal — עולם (Olam)

Eternal, everlasting

The Hebrew **olam** (עולם) means eternal or everlasting—time stretching beyond human comprehension. God is the 'everlasting God' (Genesis 21:33), and His covenant love endures forever.

God — אֱלֹהִים (Elohim)

God (plural of majesty)

The Hebrew **Elohim** (אֱלֹהִים) is a plural form denoting majesty and fullness of deity. Though grammatically plural, it takes singular verbs when referring to the one true God, suggesting the Trinity's plurality within unity.

Lord — אֲדֹנָי / יְהוָה (YHWH / Adonai)

The LORD / Lord

When 'LORD' appears in small capitals, it represents the Tetragrammaton **YHWH** (יְהוָה), God's personal covenant name meaning 'I AM.' When 'Lord' appears normally, it's **Adonai** (אֲדֹנָי), meaning 'my Lord,' emphasizing sovereignty.

Love — חֶסֶד / אַהֲבָה (Ahavah / Chesed)

Love / Loyal-love

Hebrew uses **ahavah** (אַהֲבָה) for love generally, but the covenant term **chesed** (חֶסֶד) describes God's steadfast, loyal love—faithful covenant commitment beyond mere emotion.

Prophet — נָבִיא (Navi)

Prophet, spokesman

The Hebrew **navi** (נָבִיא) means prophet—one who speaks God's word to the people. Prophets received divine revelation and declared God's message, often calling Israel to repentance and foretelling future events.

Redeem — גָּאַל (Gaal)

To redeem, act as kinsman-redeemer

The Hebrew **gaal** (גָּאַל) means to redeem or act as kinsman-redeemer (go'el)—buying back family property or relatives. It foreshadows Christ redeeming His people through His blood.

Sin — חַטָּאת (Chatta'ah)

Sin, missing the mark

The Hebrew **chatta'ah** (חַטָּאת) means sin—missing the mark of God's standard. It encompasses rebellion, transgression, and falling short of divine holiness.

Word — דָּבָר (Davar)

Word, thing, matter

The Hebrew **davar** (דָּבָר) means word, thing, or matter—God's creative and authoritative speech. 'By the word of the LORD were the heavens made' (Psalm 33:6).

CROSS REFERENCES

2 Samuel 12:3 **Parallel theme:** 2 Samuel 11:3; Micah 7:5

2 Samuel 12:4 **Parallel theme:** James 1:14

2 Samuel 12:5 **Parallel theme:** Genesis 38:24; 1 Samuel 20:31; Luke 9:55; Romans 2:1.

References Lord: 1 Samuel 14:39; 26:16

2 Samuel 12:6 **Parallel theme:** Exodus 22:1; Proverbs 6:31; Luke 19:8; James 2:13

2 Samuel 12:7

Parallel theme: Matthew 14:14. **References Lord:** 2 Samuel 22:1; 1 Samuel 16:13; 1 Kings 18:18; 20:42. **Kingdom:** 1 Samuel 13:13; 15:17. **References David:** 1 Samuel 18:21. **References God:** 1 Samuel 23:7; 23:14

2 Samuel 12:8 **Parallel theme:** 2 Samuel 2:4; 7:19; 9:7; 12:11; Psalms 84:11; Romans 8:32.

References Israel: 2 Samuel 5:5

2 Samuel 12:9

Evil: 1 Samuel 15:19; Jeremiah 18:10. **Parallel theme:** 2 Samuel 11:4; Psalms 90:8. **Word:** 1 Samuel 15:23; Isaiah 5:24; Amos 2:4

2 Samuel 12:10 **Parallel theme:** Romans 2:4. **Word:** Matthew 26:52

2 Samuel 12:11 **Parallel theme:** 2 Samuel 15:6; 15:10; Deuteronomy 28:30. **References**

Lord: Ezekiel 14:9

2 Samuel 12:12

Parallel theme: Ecclesiastes 12:14; 1 Corinthians 4:5. **References Israel:** 2 Samuel 16:22

2 Samuel 12:13 **Sin:** 2 Samuel 24:10; 1 Samuel 15:30; Psalms 51:4; Proverbs 28:13; Isaiah 43:24; Zechariah 3:4; Luke 15:21; Hebrews 9:26; Revelation 1:5. **Parallel theme:** Leviticus 20:10

2 Samuel 12:14 **Parallel theme:** Romans 2:24; Revelation 3:19. **References Lord:** Psalms 94:12; Isaiah 52:5; Hebrews 12:6

2 Samuel 12:15 **References Lord:** 1 Samuel 25:38. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 104:29

2 Samuel 12:16

Parallel theme: 2 Samuel 13:31; 1 Kings 21:27; Esther 4:16; Psalms 50:15; 69:10; Isaiah 26:16; Acts 9:9. **References God:** 2 Samuel 12:22; Isaiah 22:12; Jonah 3:9

2 Samuel 12:17 **Parallel theme:** 2 Samuel 3:35

2 Samuel 12:20 **Worship:** Job 1:20. **Parallel theme:** Ruth 3:3; Job 2:10; Ecclesiastes 9:8; Matthew 6:17. **References Lord:** 2 Samuel 7:18

2 Samuel 12:22 **References God:** Isaiah 38:5; Joel 1:14; 2:14; Jonah 1:6

2 Samuel 12:23 **Parallel theme:** Genesis 37:35; Job 30:23; Luke 23:43

2 Samuel 12:24 **References David:** Matthew 1:6

2 Samuel 12:25

Parallel theme: Nehemiah 13:26. **References Lord:** 2 Samuel 7:4; 1 Kings 1:11

2 Samuel 12:26 **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 3:11

2 Samuel 12:30 **Kingdom:** 1 Chronicles 20:2

2 Samuel 12:31 **References David:** 1 Chronicles 20:3

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