

**II SAMUEL**

Please turn in your Bibles this evening to II Samuel chapter 11 as we continue our study through the Word of God. As we concluded last week in II Samuel chapter 10, David was at the pinnacle of his power. His kingdom had grown and was strong. The land that was lost by king Saul was gained back by king David and the borders of Israel almost encompassed all that God had promised them. And if you were to place the accomplishments of king David on a graph, it would be steadily going up. It seemed that everything David touched turned to gold. David was very prosperous and victorious. But then things came crashing down as we move into chapter 11. We are going to see David walk into sin, for he did not fall into it. You see, when you use the word “fall” it implies that it was an accident. It was not necessarily your fault. But with sin we never fall into it, but we walk into it. And we are going to see David walk into sin and as he does, he is going to try and cover his sin, which only is going to cause him to move farther and farther into it and away from God. In regards to this chapter and what transpired from it, G. Campbell Morgan wrote, “In the whole of the Old Testament literature there is no chapter more tragic or full of solemn and searching warning than this.” So with that said, let’s begin reading in II Samuel chapter 11, starting in verse 1 and see what the Lord has for us as we study His Word.

## II SAMUEL 11

### VERSE 1

1. Now today, we really don't have seasons for war, we fight anytime and anywhere. But back then they did have seasons to fight and in the Middle East the winter months were usually too wet and cold to fight and thus, they waited until spring to go into battle. Now keep in mind that as we closed chapter 10 last time there was some unfinished business. Yes, the children of Israel defeated the Syrians, but not the Ammonites. They returned home to their city and were not defeated. And now it was time to go to war again, it was in the spring when the rainy and cold season was over and they are going to deal with the Ammonites in Rabbah!

2. Thus, as this season of war comes into place, David sends his military leader, Joab to go and fight against the Ammonites, but we are told, "**David remained in Jerusalem.**" Now you might not think much about that, but even though David was the king, he was not to go into battle. Why didn't he go this time? Maybe he was getting tired of fighting, he has been on the throne in Israel for some 20 years now, and thus, he is around 50 years old and he wanted a break. He has been fighting since he was a young man and now he wanted a rest, maybe to enjoy the spoils of all the victories he has had so far. And we are going to see that prosperity; idle time will bring him down. Remember that all the direct assaults that the enemy mustered against David, failed. But this back door approach is going to be very successful. David is going to allow his flesh to get the better of him. And he will find out that his real enemy is not the Philistines, or the Ammonites but his flesh!

VERSE 2

1. Maybe it was a hot evening and David, trying to cool off, took a walk on the top of his roof, which was functional back then. And maybe Bathsheba felt the same way; she wanted to cool off and bathed herself in some cool water. The problem for David is that he had a lot of time on his hands and as he walked on the roof his eyes caught the sight of a beautiful woman who was bathing. That first look was not the sin, but the second and third and so on was. You see, he began to entertain thoughts and ideas, fantasizing a relationship with her until it finally became a reality. It is as James tells us, **“But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.”** James 1:14-15. If you feed and nurture sin, it will grow and give birth to your desires, but it only leads to death, as David will soon find out.

2. Something else that many don't deal with and that is the fact that this was not something that was new for David. He multiplied wives, and obviously that was not fulfilling his needs and he is still lusting after women. Redpath put it like this, “As I think of what happened, of this I am sure, that it did not happen all at once. This matter of Bathsheba was simply the climax of something that had been going on in his life for twenty years.” Why couldn't all his wives satisfy David, why did he go looking for more? Because you can't satisfy the lusts of the flesh, the flesh is never satisfied. Thus, because David was not satisfied in what God had given him, he is going to look for more and he still will not be satisfied and it will bring devastating consequences to him and his family, as we will see!

3. Some may feel that Bathsheba was very beautiful and thus, you can't blame David! Really. Folks, the temptations will always be out there and some may be stronger than others. Keep in mind that it is not the strength of the temptation but the condition of the heart and mind of the one who is being tempted. Think about Joseph and as a young man Potiphar's wife wanted to have sexual relations with him. What did Joseph do? He fled the temptation and he did not entertain it. The Bible tells us to flee fornication, flee idolatry, to flee youthful lusts and that is exactly what Joseph did. And don't think for a minute if you are 30 or 40 or 50 or 80 you can't have youthful lusts. It is not about your age, but your heart! And if you notice, God did provide a way out for Joseph but Joseph needed to take those steps and flee, not linger. And folks, isn't it better to flee than to fall? Of course it is! And please understand that Joseph knew his stand for godliness, for what was right, for purity was going to cost him dearly, but he was willing to stand up for what was right rather than succumbing to sin! For David, it is as the old proverb goes, "An idle mind is the devils workshop." And David will find out that the thoughts of sin he is going over in his mind will manifest itself in action. He is not going to flee, but walk into this temptation from the Devil and fall short of the trial that God has before him.

VERSE 3

1. David could have ended this temptation just by leaving the rooftop and not going any further, but he could not leave it alone and his curiosity got the better of him and he sends out his servants to find out more about this beautiful woman. And notice what he finds out. First of all she is married and that should have ended it right there, but it didn't. Secondly, her husband, Uriah was one of David's might men, (II Samuel 23:39), and these men fought for David, protected him and now he was going to do this! And thirdly, something for you to file away till next time is that Bathsheba's father, Eliam, was the son of Ahithophel. Thus, Ahithophel was Bathsheba's grandfather and he was also one of David's trusted counselors. We are going to see that when Absalom, David's son, takes over the kingdom, usurps it from king David, that Ahithophel sides with Absalom. And this breaks David's heart. In Psalm 55 David laments over this broken friendship. And it may be that what David did to Ahithophel's granddaughter, Bathsheba, in breaking up her marriage and killing her husband, caused great bitterness and resentment in his heart. And when the right opportunity came, Ahithophel took advantage and tried to repay the hurt that he felt in his own heart, and give that hurt to David. As we are going to see, sin has far reaching consequences, it not only affects the one doing it but their family and friends!

VERSES 4-5

1. David let this grow and grow until finally he calls for her and she comes and they have sexual relations. And please understand that Bathsheba did not hesitate in coming to David. Yes, he was the king and had influence but as one commentary said, “In the expression *he took her, and she came to him* there is no intimation whatever that David brought Bathsheba into his palace through craft or violence, but rather that she came at his request without any hesitation, and offered no resistance to his desires. Consequently Bathsheba is not to be regarded as free from blame.” (Keil and Delitzsch). So both parties are guilty of this sin and it is possible that she let David know that she was pregnant so that he could do something to protect both of them, because adultery was a capital crime, they could be stoned to death for this sin.

2. Now this is something that we need to understand here or we may come to the wrong conclusion. God tells us in Leviticus 15:19-28 that during a woman’s menstrual period, she was unclean for 7 days. That during that time, as she was considered unclean, if you had sexual relations with her, you would be unclean also. And God is telling us that her menstrual period is over because He wanted us to know that she was not pregnant before she slept with David. That this child she conceived was not from her husband, but from David.

3. Now if David knew all that would happen as a result of this sin, do you think he would have done it? Maybe, the heart of man is wicked, it is evil but then again, look at what will take place because of his sin, look at these consequences and they are tragic and they did not have to happen!

- An unwanted pregnancy
- The murder of a trusted friend
- A dead baby
- His daughter raped by his son
- One son murdered by another son
- A civil war led by one of his sons
- A son who imitates David's lack of self-control and it leads him and much of Israel away from God

Folk's, what adultery did back then it still goes on today with tragic consequences. You think of the millions of children that go to bed each night because a spouse was unfaithful in the marriage relationship. You think of the destroyed, the devastated family and friends that have to go through this with them. There is so much loss, there is so much pain all because Satan ripped them off by telling them sex is pleasurable even if it is not with your spouse. It may be, but the consequences are devastating and the world's view of love is far different that God's view and I will tell you this, God's view is correct! David will find this out the hard way but may we learn the lesson before it is too late!

VERSES 6-11

1. When David finds out that Bathsheba is pregnant he does not repent of his sin but tries to cover his sin. And his plan sounds good, it might work, at least that is what he thought. He sends word to Joab, the commander of his army to send Uriah back home and he does. And after David inquires of how the war is going, some small talk, David tells him to go home and be with his wife. The idea here is that he will sleep with her and no one will know whose child this is, they will think that Uriah is the father. But Uriah was a mighty man of God and he did not have sexual relations with his wife, he did not even enter the door. You see, he felt that if his fellow soldiers were living out in the fields then he would not go in and enjoy the comforts of being home.

2. The more you try to cover your sin the more it will grow and the father from God you will be. We are never to play with sin or try to cover sin but to repent of our sin before it destroys us. Spurgeon put it like this, "As soon as ever we are conscious of sin, the right thing is not to begin to reason with the sin, or to wait until we have brought ourselves into a proper state of heart about it, but to go at once and confess the transgression unto the Lord, there and then."



VERSES 12-13

1. Since plan A did not work it was now time for plan B. David now will get Uriah drunk, so drunk that he will go back home and even if he doesn't sleep with his wife, he probably won't remember and everything will be okay. Imagine, instead of repenting he continues to try to cover his sin. But Uriah was a man of integrity, and even though David got him drunk, he did not go home, he sleeps in the servant's quarters and plan B also fails. Now what is David going to do? It is amazing how far we can go and still think we are doing the right thing. Let's read on and see!

VERSES 14-17

1. So now we see that plan A has failed. We have also seen that plan B failed. Thus, it is time for plan C, which is just the plan of a desperate man who is trying to cover his sin. David sends to Joab a letter telling Joab to put Uriah on the front line and then pull back, thus the enemy would kill Uriah. And Uriah was the one who would carry his own death sentence to Joab. How sad to see David sink to such a depraved state. And I wonder what Joab thought when he read this letter? Is this something that Joab had on David so that even when Joab did his own thing, David could not do anything about it? I believe so, as well as being a relative of David!

2. David is called a man after God's own heart, and yet look at what he has done. How can this be? How can a man of God do such evil? You see, the reason we think that way is because we believe evil can only come from evil people, but that is wrong. Inside every one of us are the seeds of evil, and if they are watered and nurtured they will grow until the grossest sin is manifested in a persons life. And yes, this is very sad and you may think, "Why would God even tell us these things about David?" I believe to show us that they were real men, real people and they did fall and stumble but the key to their fall and stumbles is that they eventually repented and got right with God. It is as Paul reminds us in Romans 15:4, "**For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.**" They are in here so we can learn from them and hopefully not go down that same path! It is as Spurgeon said regarding this event in David's life, "Though we mourn over David's sin, yet we thank God that it was permitted, for if he had not so fallen he had not been able to help us when we are conscious of transgression. He could not have so minutely described our griefs if he had not felt the same. David lived, in this respect, for others as well as for himself."

3. And isn't it amazing the things that man can justify. Even murder, rape, stealing all can be justified in the human mind. That is why we need a standard to live by. We need something to tell us right from wrong. And the standard we use is written by God - it is called the ***BIBLE!*** Remember what Paul told Timothy in II Timothy 3:16-17, "**All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.**" In other words, the Word of God tells us what is right, it tells us what is wrong, it tells us what to do when we have done wrong and it tells us how to stay right. It has all that we need to live a life that is pleasing to God if we would only listen and obey as we surrender to the Holy Spirit's leading in our lives!

4. People today want to know what God's will is for their lives and the reality is, they really don't want to know. They just want what they want because God is very clear about His will for our lives. Let me show you what I mean. In I Thessalonians 5:3, Paul tells us, "**For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality.**" What is God's will for our lives? Paul tells us here that God's will for our lives is our sanctification, HAGIASMOS, (hag-ee-as-mos') in the Greek and it means to be set apart. We are to be set apart from sin and unto God. Specifically here Paul speaks of sexual purity, that we are to abstain or stay completely away from any thought or behavior that goes against God's Word in regards to sexual sin.

As Christians, we are not like animals that are controlled by their lusts, their body appetites. We are controlled by the Spirit of God who speaks to our spirit and thus, we should be able to control our bodies, not succumb to the fleshly impulses! And whoever goes down that path, transgresses the will of God, there are consequences to their actions because they are taking advantage, taking something greedily for their own personal gain. You see, the adulterer takes advantage or defrauds his spouse and children. The fornicator defrauds his future spouse and children. I don't believe you hear this too often in the church, but as Christians we are to take charge of our bodies, of our holiness. Yes, Paul tells us in I Thessalonians 5:23, **“Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”** But we must also walk in holiness, purpose in our heart that we will not go down that path! It is as Paul said in I Corinthians 6:18-20, **“Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.”**

Another point regarding God's will is found in I Thessalonians 5:18, where Paul tells us, **“in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”** So not only is our sanctification part of God's will for our lives, but we are also to give thanks in everything, not necessarily for everything but God has a plan, He has a purpose and we need to surrender to His will and not ours! Those are just two points regarding God's will.

Now some struggle in finding God's will for their lives in various situations and let me give you a little guide to help you out. First of all let me share this little story with you and then I will give you three points to help you because I believe this is important for us to understand.

There is a harbor in Italy that can only be reached by sailing up a narrow channel that has dangerous rocks and shoals on either side. Because of that, over the years, many ships have been wrecked. The navigation is very dangerous!

So they came up with a way to guide these ships safely into the port. Their idea was very simple. They put up three lights on three huge poles in the harbor. Now, how does that help? Listen carefully. When these three lights are perfectly lined up and seen as one, the ship can proceed forward and they will safely make it to the port. But, if the pilot sees two or three lights he knows that he is off course, he is in danger and he needs to readjust his course to get back in line, to be safe and make it to port.

Folks, God has also given to us three lights or beacons to guide us. Thus, if these three beacons line up as one, then you are safe to proceed forward. But, if two or three are seen, they don't line up, then we need to readjust to get back in line, to be safe! These three beacons of guidance are as follows:

## 1. THE WORD OF GOD – THE OBJECTIVE STANDARD

The objective standard is the Word of God and this is where many get into trouble. They either don't know what God's Word has to say, or they don't care what God's Word has to say and they ignore it, or they don't believe this particular issue in God's Word is for them, they are above it! Folks, God's Word is the standard for us to follow, it is the truth and thus, by looking at any other source, any other standard, you are placing yourself in danger. You see, this objective witness is not skewed by any biases or anything at all. God's Word is truth – period!

## 2. THE HOLY SPIRIT- THE SUBJECTIVE WITNESS

Here we see the subjective witness of the Holy Spirit. And Paul put it like this in I Corinthians 2:10-16, **“But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one. For ‘who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?’ But we have the mind of Christ.”**

You see, the Holy Spirit knows the things of God because He is God! Thus, He gives to us the heart of God, the mind of God, the deep things of God as He speaks to our hearts. Now, once again we can listen to His voice or we can choose to ignore it and do it our own way, do our own thing. But understand that there are consequences to our actions be they good or bad, depending on our walking in the Spirit or working in the flesh!

### 3. **THE CIRCUMSTANCES** – THE DIVINE PROVIDENCE

Here we see the divine providence of the circumstances that come our way, that come across our path. Folks, I'm sure you have all seen God work out situations for you, place you in situations, and you know it is the Lord who has done this and it is the Lord who will see you through it, you just need to walk.

The prophet Jeremiah had a tough ministry. He spoke to the Southern Kingdom of Judea rebuking them for their idolatry and the coming judgment of God by the hands of the Babylonians. That they were going to be taken captive to Babylon by them! Thus, they hated Jeremiah, they persecuted him, threw him in prison, threw him into a slime pit and in 40 years of service, he had not even one convert! And in Jeremiah 20:7-9a we are told, **“O Lord, You induced me, and I was persuaded; You are stronger than I, and have prevailed. I am in derision daily; Everyone mocks me. For when I spoke, I cried out; I shouted, ‘Violence and plunder!’ Because the word of the Lord was made to me A reproach and a derision daily. Then I said, ‘I will not make mention of Him, Nor speak anymore in His name.’ . . .”**

Jeremiah was devastated over the situations he faced and he was blaming God for getting him into this mess. He spoke the truths of God but no one wanted to hear him, no one wanted to listen, they only persecuted him for it. And because of that, he does not want to speak any more. Jeremiah wants to quit! How does that go? Well, he has seen the divine providence of God in his life and he goes on to say, “**. . . But His word was in my heart like a burning fire Shut up in my bones; I was weary of holding it back, And I could not. For I heard many mocking: ‘Fear on every side!’ ‘Report,’ they say, ‘and we will report it!’ All my acquaintances watched for my stumbling, saying, ‘Perhaps he can be induced; Then we will prevail against him, And we will take our revenge on him.’ But the Lord is with me as a mighty, awesome One. Therefore my persecutors will stumble, and will not prevail. They will be greatly ashamed, for they will not prosper. Their everlasting confusion will never be forgotten. But, O Lord of hosts, You who test the righteous, And see the mind and heart, Let me see Your vengeance on them; For I have pleaded my cause before You.**” Jeremiah 20:9b-12.



Yes, the outward circumstances didn't look good, but Jeremiah knew that God had called him into this ministry from his mother's womb and God put the words into his mouth. Yes, they were words of judgment but they needed to be spoken for the Southern Kingdom of Judah was living in idolatry and judgment was coming. Folks, allow God's Word, through the inspiration of His Spirit according to the circumstances He brings across your path to show you the way to go! That I believe is how we find out God's will for our lives. As I have said, God has given to us these three lights or beacons to guide us. Thus, if these three beacons line up as one, then you are safe to proceed forward. But, if two or three are seen, they don't line up, then we need to readjust to get back in line, to be safe!

5. So here is the plan that Joab carries out for David. Joab places Uriah by the wall of the city, fighting alongside Joab's best men. And David's plan works, Uriah is killed, but so too are some of David's own men, valiant warriors killed in battle. And so David's sin has not only affected Uriah, but the wives, children, relatives and friends of these men that were also killed. The sin of David touched the lives of many, many people and the same is true today!

VERSES 18-21

1. Joab sends a messenger back to David to let him know what has happened. And Joab lets this messenger know exactly what to say, how to respond to what David may say to him. You see, Joab knows that no military leader would dare put his men in the line of fire, which Joab was instructed to do. You see, if you were too close to the wall, the archers would be able to shoot down towards you with ease and pick you off. And Joab recognizes that when David hears how these men died, he is going to be angry with Joab. And it seems that in previous battles, David instructed his men not to get too close to the wall. Joab knows that David remembers the story of Abimelech back in Judges 9:50-56, where we are told, **“Then Abimelech went to Thebez, and he encamped against Thebez and took it. But there was a strong tower in the city, and all the men and women — all the people of the city — fled there and shut themselves in; then they went up to the top of the tower. So Abimelech came as far as the tower and fought against it; and he drew near the door of the tower to burn it with fire. But a certain woman dropped an upper millstone on Abimelech’s head and crushed his skull. Then he called quickly to the young man, his armorbearer, and said to him, ‘Draw your sword and kill me, lest men say of me, “A woman killed him.”’ So his young man thrust him through, and he died. And when the men of Israel saw that Abimelech was dead, they departed, every man to his place. Thus God repaid the wickedness of Abimelech, which he had done to his father by killing his seventy brothers.”**

You see, that was just plain foolishness to get that close to the wall and once David found out that he lost some of his soldiers because of this, he will be angry. Thus, if David is angry, just let him know that Uriah is also dead and that would calm him down, he would no longer be angry. How did Joab know this? Because Joab read the death sentence that was sent by David for Uriah and thus, he was just carrying out the instructions for David and he had no reason to be mad because his evil plan worked! Look, as we read on, at how this all plays out, just as Joab said, as this messenger brings this news to David, the king of Israel.

#### VERSES 22-25

1. When David hears the news, he says basically, "Life and death are matters of chance." "You win some you lose some." "That is all part of the cost of war." "These things just happen." What a carefree, uncaring attitude at the loss of life. These were his mighty men, his soldiers and to cover his sin he was willing to sacrifice their lives, not just Uriah's, but also the other men that were with him also died. Maybe he was just trying to comfort his own guilty conscience but I wonder if David would have responded differently if he were not trying to cover his sin?

2. Now here's the thing. God is not going to let David get away with this. And no, it is not because God hates David. God loves David so much that He will not let him continue in this condition and He will do everything possible to get David to repent and get right. But that is not exactly what David is going to do; first he will try to cover his sin some more. But understand that God is going to take David's words "**The sword devours one as well as another**" and turn them around and onto David. And God is going to say to David "**The sword shall never depart from your house.**" And we will see that as we move on in our study of II Samuel, but let's finish this chapter this evening.

#### VERSES 26-27

1. David is confident that his plan has worked and now he makes himself look even better before the people by taking this grieving widow to be his wife. And she is not only a grieving widow, but she is pregnant. What a man David is, he is so compassionate towards his men and when Uriah died in battle, he cared for his wife. In fact, he married her! And I don't think that Bathsheba was aware that David had Uriah killed but now she was off the hook for adultery and things are working out beautifully, or so David thought and for that matter, Bathsheba also thought. But not exactly!

2. David may have hid these sins from the people but he did not hide it from the Lord. We are told that, “**. . . the thing that David had done displeased the Lord.**” Isn’t it interesting that this is the first mention of God in this chapter and we see that God is not pleased with David and his actions! I wonder if David sought God in the first place if it would not have gone this far? Yes, God knows the thoughts and intents of our hearts but it is not until David crossed that line that God says He is displeased with David. You see, it is as Paul tells us in Hebrews 4:13, “**And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.**” What David thought was covered, God knows and He will not let this sin remain covered up.

3. I like the way that J. Vernon McGee sums this up for us. He wrote:

“The thing that David had done *displeased* the LORD”—don’t miss that. David did not get by with his sin. Up to this point in his life David has had many triumphs, but from now on, to his dying day, he will have trouble.

May I say to you, Christian friend, that you can sin. Someone asked me, “Can a Christian get drunk?” I replied, “Yes, a Christian can get drunk.” This person was shocked, but then he asked, “Can he get by with it?” That is where the rub comes. The man of the world can get by with it; the Lord does not whip the Devil’s children. But He sure takes His own children to the woodshed. Will you take it from one who has been to the woodshed? I happen to know that you cannot get by with sin. David did not get by with it. The thing he did displeased the Lord. When a thing displeases the Lord, friend, He is going to do something about it.

David thinks he has gotten by with his sin, although there are a few people who know the facts. Joab, David's captain, knows the facts. A few of David's intimate counselors in Jerusalem who brought Bathsheba to the palace know the facts. Beyond that, no one knows, and the lips of these men are closed. They would not dare talk. David, however, wonders as he sits on his throne and looks around him. When David held court, there were probably two hundred people around him, and he undoubtedly looked into each face and silently asked himself, *Do they know?* After a time David probably sat back in satisfaction and said to himself, *Well, I got by with it. Nobody knows.* My friend, whether it was known in Jerusalem or not, David's secret sin and our secret sins are open before God. Someone has put it this way, "Secret sin on earth is open scandal in heaven." God knows all about what we do.

- J. Vernon McGee, *Thru The Bible*, Vol. II, p. 213

4. As I close this evening, let me leave you with this to think about. You see, between chapters 11 and 12, a whole year goes by. And that does not mean God accepted or condoned David's actions, for we read that what David did was evil in the sight of God. You see, God was giving David a chance to repent, and He will chasten us, for we are His children and He loves us just as He loved David. He wants us to get right with Him. If He let us do what we want, it would tell me that He does not love us. Now during that year, God's chastening was heavy upon David's life and yet he still refuses to repent of his sin and get right with God.

Psalm 32 shows that David was under intense conviction during this time and that all the joy in his life evaporated away. David knew the stress and agony of living a double, false life. He found no relief until he repented and got right with God again. In Psalm 32:1-5 we are told, **“Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, Whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord does not impute iniquity, And in whose spirit there is no deceit. When I kept silent, my bones grew old Through my groaning all the day long. For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; My vitality was turned into the drought of summer. I acknowledged my sin to You, And my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.”**

David had too much of sin in his life to be happy in God and he had too much of God in him to be happy in sin and what a terrible place to be, well not exactly! That is where he needed to be if he was going to come out of this, miserable, unsatisfied condition and thus, he will be drawn back to God! If anyone is in this position tonight, repent and get right with God, He is calling you to come back to Him and find that true joy and peace that is only found in Him. You will never be happy in this world because there is too much of the Lord in you and you will never be happy in the Lord because there is too much sin in you. The solution is to return and repent and God has open arms of forgiveness. Yes, there are consequences to our sins, but there is always forgiveness! May we not forget that!