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The Result of a Healthy Heart

The Failed King

2 Samuel 11:1–13 (HCSB)

In the spring when kings march out to war, David sent Joab with his officers and all Israel. They destroyed the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah, but David remained in Jerusalem.

² One evening David got up from his bed and strolled around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing - a very beautiful woman. ³ So David sent someone to inquire about her, and he reported, "This is Bathsheba, daughter of Eliam and wife of Uriah the Hittite." ⁴ David sent messengers to get her, and when she came to him, he slept with her. Now she had just been purifying herself from her uncleanness. Afterward, she returned home. ⁵ The woman conceived and sent word to inform David: "I am pregnant."

⁶ David sent orders to Joab: "Send me Uriah the Hittite." So Joab sent Uriah to David.

⁷ When Uriah came to him, David asked how Joab and the troops were doing and how the war was going. ⁸ Then he said to Uriah, "Go down to your house and wash your feet." So Uriah left the palace, and a gift from the king followed him. ⁹ But Uriah slept at the door of the palace with all his master's servants; he did not go down to his house. ¹⁰ When it was reported to David, "Uriah didn't go home," David questioned Uriah, "Haven't you just come from a journey? Why didn't you go home?" ¹¹ Uriah answered David, "The ark, Israel, and Judah are dwelling in tents, and my master Joab and his soldiers are camping in the open field. How can I enter my house to eat and drink and sleep with my wife? As surely as you live and by your life, I will not do this!" ¹² "Stay here today also," David said to Uriah, "and tomorrow I will send you back." So Uriah stayed in Jerusalem that day and the next. ¹³ Then David invited Uriah to eat and drink with him, and David got him drunk. He went out in the evening to lie down on his cot with his master's servants, but he did not go home.

1. TEMPTATION IS NOT SINFUL; _____ TO TEMPTATION IS vv 1-4

- We cannot avoid temptation; we can _____ not to act on it.

Hebrews 4:15 (HCSB)

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tested in every way as we are, yet without sin.

- We rarely commit sin that we have not already contemplated.

James 1:13–15 (HCSB)

No one undergoing a trial should say, "I am being tempted by God." For God is not tempted by evil, and He Himself doesn't tempt anyone. ¹⁴ But each person is tempted when he is drawn away and enticed by his own evil desires. ¹⁵ Then after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin, and when sin is fully grown, it gives birth to death.

- The _____ of power and position is especially egregious.

2. SINFUL BEHAVIOR OFTEN LEADS TO _____ SIN TO COVER UP THE FIRST vv 5-13

- In the middle of trying to hide our sin, we _____ our sinful behavior with more sin.
- We may hide our sin from others, but we cannot hide it from ourselves or God.

3. THE ONLY TRUE REMEDY TO SIN IS GENUINE _____

- Our sin may affect ourselves and others, but it is always an _____ against God.

Psalm 51:1–5 (HCSB)

Be gracious to me, God, according to Your faithful love; according to Your abundant compassion, blot out my rebellion. ² Wash away my guilt and cleanse me from my sin. ³ For I am conscious of my rebellion, and my sin is always before me. ⁴ Against You - You alone - I have sinned and done this evil in Your sight. So You are right when You pass sentence; You are blameless when You judge. ⁵ Indeed, I was guilty when I was born; I was sinful when my mother conceived me.

- Repentance sets the stage for forgiveness and cleansing.

Psalm 51:10–13 (HCSB)

God, create a clean heart for me and renew a steadfast spirit within me. ¹¹ Do not banish me from Your presence or take Your Holy Spirit from me. ¹² Restore the joy of Your salvation to me, and give me a willing spirit. ¹³ Then I will teach the rebellious Your ways, and sinners will return to You.

- Repentance takes us beyond remorse into _____.

Psalm 51:14–17 (HCSB)

Save me from the guilt of bloodshed, God, the God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing of Your righteousness. ¹⁵ Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare Your praise. ¹⁶ You do not want a sacrifice, or I would give it; You are not pleased with a burnt offering. ¹⁷ The sacrifice pleasing to God is a broken spirit. God, You will not despise a broken and humbled heart.

The Next Step:

Face temptation with the power of God and repent of all known sin.