



## Choices Matter

By Terry Kountz on February 20, 2024

### **TODAY'S READING: 2 Samuel 11**

The story of David and Bathsheba in 2 Samuel 11 is one of the most sobering accounts in the Bible. It serves as a stark reminder of the consequences of compromise and the devastating effects of giving in to temptation.

David, a man after God's own heart, found himself in a moment of weakness when he chose to stay back from battle and indulge in idleness. In that state, he saw Bathsheba, bathing on her rooftop, and allowed his desire to overrule his commitment to righteousness.

In that moment of temptation, David's actions spiraled out of control. He committed adultery with Bathsheba and then sought to cover up his sin by orchestrating the death of her husband, Uriah, in battle. David's fall from grace serves as a poignant example of the destructive power of sin and the far-reaching consequences of our choices.

Yet, even in the midst of David's failure, we see the grace and mercy of God at work. When confronted by the prophet Nathan in chapter 12, David humbled himself and repented of his sin. Despite the severity of his actions, God forgave David and continued to use him as a significant figure in His redemptive plan.

This story reminds us that even the most faithful and righteous individuals are susceptible to sin's allure. It serves as a warning to guard our hearts and minds against temptation and to remain vigilant in our pursuit of becoming more like Jesus.

Moreover, it offers hope for those who have fallen short. Just as God extended grace to David, He offers forgiveness and restoration to all who come to Him in repentance. God's mercy is greater than sin, and He stands ready to forgive and redeem those who turn to Him.

In our own lives, let us heed the lessons of David's story. May we remain steadfast in our commitment to righteousness, guarding against compromise and resisting the temptations that seek to lead us astray. And when we do fall short, may we humbly come before God, seeking His forgiveness and experiencing the fullness of His grace.

**PRAYER:** Lord, when we stumble and fall, give us the courage to humbly come before You in repentance, knowing that You are faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. May we experience the fullness of Your grace and mercy, and may our lives be a testament to Your redemptive power.

**TOMORROW'S READING: 2 Samuel 12**

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