

The Roosts and Returning Birds
Sermon Notes 1.05.14

A review:

In 1 Samuel we saw David's struggle against Saul.

In 2 Samuel we say David's rise in Israel.

- Abner and Ishbosheth's rebellion for 7 years until the uniting of all Israel.
- The conquest of the Jebusites of Jerusalem
- The procession of the ark into Jerusalem. God takes His throne.
- The conquest of the Philistines and other enemies of the nation.
- The outreach of mercy to Mephibosheth.
- The outreach of mercy to the Ammonites. Their rejection of David and the resultant Ammonite war.

Then Bathsheba!

- David's adultery and his murder of Uriah.
- Nathan's confrontation, David's repentance, and God's mercy.
- The birth of Solomon
- But God's promise of judgment on David for the vindication of His name.

The sword would not depart from David's house.

But the sequel of 12:26 -31 is odd. It is so "un-Davidic."

The story here occurred **after** his sin against Uriah and David's concealment of it and yet **prior to** his repentance before Nathan and Solomon's birth.

The text shows the effect of sin on the soul of man caught in deceit.

v 26. Joab persisted against the Ammonites after Uriah's death.

v 27-28. David was called by Joab to strike the final blow and claim the honor.

v 29-30. David receives a crown, a precious stone, the spoil, and the praise. Never was David so in pursuit of worldly honor.

v 31. And never was he so **uncommonly** cruel to the enemy.

David has become, in one year of deceit, proud, worldly, and cruel. Just like any common ruler of men.

Sin can twist and warp the best of men.

Chapter 13 is the sequel to Bathsheba

God told David (12:11) the sword would not depart from his house.
Now we see its beginnings . . . through 8 chapters and almost 20 years!

David will bury 3 sons - one murdered, one dying in a revolt, and another in a mutiny against Solomon.

He will observe incest, rape, adultery, and polygamy.

He will observe 3 uprisings and one civil war.

Why? He publically dishonored God.

He is chastened with the rod of his own making: perversion and murder.

Another hard lesson: Righteousness doesn't run in the blood but corruption does. It was easier for David's children to imitate his corruption than his devotion.

v1. Absalom and Tamar were royal children from the marriage of David and Maacah, the daughter of the king of Geshur.

- Both were stunningly beautiful (11 Sam 14:25)
- Amnon had the same father but a different mother. Their marriage was forbidden by divine law. (Lev. 20:17; Lev. 18:9)

v2. "frustrated" Tamar: "bound , restricted"

- Because "it was hard in Amnon's eyes to do anything to her"
- This was Amnon's "love" - but he is "frustrated" or "bound" by law.
- He becomes "sick" with frustration. The virgin women of Israel are his candy store (see also Hophni and Phinehas). But here is one he cannot have – the best one.

v3. But Satan finds a way. Amnon has a cousin, a shrewd man.

v4. "You are a prince. You can have anything you want. Why are you sad?"

The answer? "I can't have what I want."

v5. The solution? "fake sick . . . ask for the king . . . have him call Tamar . . . demand to eat from her hand . . ." – Get her alone.

v6. -10. Amnon did so. There are no witnesses.

v11. He shows his hand. "Lie with me."

He assumes she will be just like him. Irresistible!

v12. - 14. "No"
"my brother"
"do not violate"
"not done in Israel"
"disgrace"
"my reproach will last forever"
"You will be disgraced forever"
"ask the king . . ."

"He was stronger -
He violated her"

v15. And then, "He hated her . . ."

In Tamar he saw his guilt
his disgust
his responsibility.

v16. - 17. He won't speak her name or touch her or speak to her.
"Throw her out. Lock the door."

The wrong being done? Neglect and irresponsibility

v18. She tears her garment, that of the virgin. Her virginity has been torn and she is in grief.

v19. She puts ashes on her head, defiling her beauty in mourning. She cries out at another's sin.

v20. "Keep silent; he is your brother; do not take the matter to heart."

- meaning: "This will not become public. Forget about it."
- She, however, is literally "devastated" or "desolate."
- She is traumatized and stays safe in her brother Absalom's house. Tamar will never be mentioned again.

v21. He waits for David to act but David does not.

v22. The hatred simmers for 2 years.