

GREG'S NOTES

A NEW BEGINNING TEACHING OUTLINES

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THE UPS AND DOWNS AND UPS OF A WORLD CHANGER

2 Samuel 11

David was like the perfectly balanced man. He was masculine—tough as nails. He was a warrior. He was a poet and a musician. He had a tender heart toward God. He was really the greatest king in the history of the nation of Israel, and found himself in the messianic line of Jesus Christ. God Himself said of David, “He’s a man after My own heart.” But, David was far from perfect. In fact, two names come to mind when you think of David: “David and Goliath” and “David and Bathsheba.” One was his greatest victory, the other his greatest defeat.

PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES

1. **God uses ordinary people to change the world.** Saul and David were polar opposites. Saul was loved by his parents and stood head and shoulders above other men. David was just an ordinary shepherd boy, but chosen by God. Why does God seem to go out of his way to choose the most unqualified people? It is a very simple answer: so He’ll get the glory.
2. **World changers are focused on what really matters in life.** For insight into who David was, just read the Psalms. He wrote songs about God. Psalm 34:1 says, “I will bless the Lord at all times. His praise shall continually be in my mouth (NKJV).” And David was focused. He wrote in Psalm 57, “My heart is fixed, O God.” He knew what was most important. He put the Lord first in his life.
3. **World changers are faithful in little things until God gives them bigger things.** David’s responsibility was watching his flock. He was anointed by the prophet Samuel and then returned to tending his sheep—no crown, no chariot, no secret service. Everything went back to normal. He was faithful. And when the time came for him to battle Goliath, he defeated him and was on the rise because he trusted the Lord.

RELEVANT REMINDERS

- Sometimes when there is no crisis, we don’t hang on to the Lord as tightly as we had before. David trusted the Lord in hardship, but relaxed spiritually over the years because things were going well.
- Satan hits us when we are the most vulnerable. David’s heart slowly turned from God. David filled his life with concubines and lust in disobedience to God leading up to his sin with Bathsheba.
- If you commit sin and later ask God to forgive you, He will forgive you—but you still have to face the consequences of your sin.

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APPLICABLE ACTIONS

The Christian life should not be a life of up and down. The Christian life should be a life of in and out. What do I mean by in and out? In for worship—out for service. We go to church, and we get refueled. We get fed, and refocus our perspective. We're worshipping. We're serving. We're giving. That's coming in. Then we go out into the world to be a world changer.