

HELEN SANDERS

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BATHSHEBA PART 3

Bathsheba endured so many things. It was bad enough she was pregnant by another man, but now her husband was murdered. The grief she had over his death was compounded as she grew with King David's child. She could not be with him because there had to be a time of mourning before marriage. We do not know if David spent time with her during her mourning period or not, but probably not. You know, David wanted to "save face" because he sent her home to have Uriah believe he was the father. When this didn't work out, he had him put on the front line of battle and he was killed.

The time of mourning from a biblical standard was 30 days or longer. Some say 90 days. I can imagine the fear and uncertainty that Bathsheba felt during this time. When the mourning period is over David marries her, but his sin is exposed by Nathan the Prophet. All of Israel would know of their sin. The shedding of the innocent blood of Uriah would bring the sword to David's lineage forever. It also kept David from building the temple that he longed to build for God.

Then, after this exposure the child that had been conceived through adultery died. Losing a child is one of the most painful things a parent can go through. Often it causes a breach between the husband and wife, but in this case, David comforted Bathsheba and she becomes pregnant with Solomon. Little did she know how much God loved Solomon.

Proverbs 31 speaks of a prophecy given to King Lemuel by his mother. Strong's concordance interprets this name as symbolic for Solomon. Notice how this "mother" teaches her son about the ways that destroy kings and to seek the word of God. In Proverbs 31:10 Solomon attributes this woman to being virtuous and more valuable than rubies. How excellent he was taught by his mother. She was a woman of great wisdom. She was not an idle housewife. She bought a field, worked with her hands and her husband trusted her. Indeed, a godly mother.

Bathsheba produced the son that did not ask God for riches. He asked God for wisdom. Later, when King David was dying, she went to him and asked him to remember his promise to make Solomon King, which he did. We see this in 1 Kings chapter 1. It took great courage for her to go to the king, but she secured Solomon's position to be king and he reigned over Israel 40 years.

As we conclude our message on Bathsheba it is a reminder that even though we fail God in one way, he makes a new way for us. Bathsheba went from being the pregnant adulterous wife of a soldier to mother of a king. God knew this would happen and blessed her faithfulness to Him.