

HELEN SANDERS
9-18-2023
BATHSHEBA PART 2

In our previous lesson we learned that King David committed adultery with Bathsheba while his soldiers were off fighting war. She conceived a baby from this affair and when David found this out, he had Bathsheba's husband put in a position that he was killed. He shed innocent blood.

In 2 Samuel 11: 26 we see that Bathsheba mourned the loss of her husband. Then in verse 27 we see that after the mourning was past David took her to be his wife and she had a son. But it also says, ***"...But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD."***

God sent the prophet Nathan to David and told him a story of a man that had only one sheep (which represented Bathsheba's husband) in 2 Samuel 12:1-12. The story was about a rich man that took a poor man's only sheep and killed it for himself, not taking of the many sheep that he had.

David becomes very angry when Nathan tells this story and tells Nathan that the rich man deserved to die. (vs. 5.) Nathan then tells David he is the rich man. David admits his sin in verse 13. He didn't blame anyone for his sin but himself. He didn't blame Bathsheba or her husband. He pled guilty. Nathan then tells him in verse 13 that he would not die but the child would die. God also told him ***"...the sword shall never depart from thine house."*** (2 Samuel 12:10.)

David fasts and prays for the child to live, but it didn't happen. On the seventh day the child died, and David's servants are afraid to tell him for fear of what he might do. Instead, David said in 1 Samuel 12:22-23 something remarkable. He said, ***"And he said, 'While the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept: for I said, who can tell whether God will be gracious to me, that the child may live? But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.'"*** David knew God couldn't lie and Nathan had told him the child would die. He had hoped for a different result, but also knew that God was a just God. Psalm 51 tells of David's repentance and plea for restoration.

This had to be a very difficult time for Bathsheba. First, she was brought before a king, and he took her sexually. Then she becomes pregnant. Then her husband is killed. Now the baby has died. David did not abandon her because of the loss of the child. He loved her deeply. In 1 Samuel 12:24 it says, ***"And David comforted Bathsheba his wife, and went in unto her, and lay with her: and she bare a son, and he called his name Solomon: and the LORD loved him."***

God wasn't done with Bathsheba despite all the sin and sorrow. He had a plan for this new child that he loved. We will learn more about this tomorrow.