

CONFRONTING SIN

II Samuel 12:1-14

Let us make it our goal to be godly when it comes to confrontation.

I. NOTICE THE CONFRONTER (1-7a)

A. HE IS A MESSENGER (1)

1. His Orders: He is sent by God
2. His Obedience: He did what God said

B. HIS MESSAGE (1-6)

1. A Parable (1-4)
 - The rich taking from the poor
2. A Provocation (5)
 - a. David's concern
 - b. David's condemnation
 - c. David's conclusion: The man had no compassion

C. HIS MINISTRY (7a)

1. Rebuke: Call out the sin
2. Revelation: David's sin is known to God and Nathan

II. NOTE THE CONFRONTATION (7b-12)

A. THE SINS DECLARED (7b-9)

1. Discontentedness (7-8)
 - a. God's blessings
 - b. David's brazenness
 - There is an underlying discontentment with what he has and an insatiable covetousness that led to an insensitive theft.
2. Disobedience (9)
 - a. David's condition: Despising God and doing evil
 - b. David's crimes
 - 1) Sticking down Uriah
 - 2) Taking Uriah's wife
 - 3) Humiliating Israel

B. THE SIN DISCIPLINED (10-12)

1. The Pronouncement (10a)
 - Immediate retribution “now”
2. The Punishment (10b-11)
 - a. For murder (10b)
 - b. For adultery (11)
3. The Publicity (12)

III. OBSERVE THE CONFRONTED (13-14)

- A. HE IS MOVED TO CONFESSION (13a)
 - David’s Exclamation: “I have sinned against the Lord.”
- B. HE MARVELS AT COMPASSION (13b)
 - God’s forgiveness and forbearance
- C. HE IS MINDFUL OF THE CONSEQUENCES (14)
 1. Reality: David’s actions hurt God’s reputation
 2. Result: Death and deliverance

CONCLUSION:

There are some lessons here about obligations.

1. The sinner (David) neglected his obligations as a king, a general, a neighbor and a married man.
2. The saint (Nathan) kept his obligation by confronting the sinning king.
3. We saints must be careful lest we neglect our obligation to care, confront and restore.

Moses reminded God’s people that if they did not keep their obligations ...

“ ... you have sinned against the Lord, and **be sure your sin will find you out.**”
 - Numbers 32:23

Let us be mindful of David’s words in Psalm 141:5a

“Let the righteous smite me in kindness and reprove me;
 It is oil upon the head;
 Do not let my head refuse it”