

“A Man After God’s Own Heart”

(2 Samuel 11:1-5)

Both in the Old and New Testaments, David is referred to as “a man after God’s own heart” (1 Samuel 13:14; Acts 13:22). This is indeed a very high compliment!

It is also an interesting and puzzling statement (especially when you consider the terrible sins David committed). How could a man who committed adultery and murder be referred to in this way?

I. It wasn’t because he caved to temptation.

- A. David’s sin with Bathsheba involved a process.
 1. First, David **lusted** (2 Samuel 11:2).
 2. Second, David **inquired** of her (2 Samuel 11:3).
 3. Third, even though David knew that she was the wife of Uriah, he still called for her and **laid** with her (2 Samuel 11:4).
- B. Joseph found himself in a similar situation.
 1. Instead of caving to sin, he remembered God and fled (Genesis 39:9).
 2. Joseph’s example teaches us that we don’t have to succumb to temptations.

II. It wasn’t because he tried to COVER his sin.

- A. After he committed adultery with Bathsheba, David’s problems were only beginning.
 1. Once David found out that she was pregnant, he then began trying to cover his sin.
 2. First, he tried to make it seem as though the child was going to be Uriah’s (2 Samuel 11:6-13).
 3. When that didn’t work, he then set Uriah up to be killed in battle (2 Samuel 11:14-25). In fact, David was so corrupt that he even had Uriah deliver the letter with his own death sentence to Joab!
- B. Covering sin only leads to more sin!
 1. In fact, this is a futile exercise because God sees everything (Proverbs 15:3; Ecclesiastes 12:14).
 2. God saw everything David had done and He was not pleased (2 Samuel 11:26-27).

III. It was because he sought and embraced the things of God.

- A. About a year later, God sent Nathan the prophet to confront David with his sins.
 1. Nathan told David a story that convicted and motivated him to repent (1 Samuel 12:1-13). We can also read about David’s repentance in Psalm 51.
 2. David embraced the truth about himself and turned again to the Lord.
- B. His example gives us all hope!
 1. We serve a God of forgiveness and second chances.
 2. Whenever we mess up, if we confess and repent of our sins, God will forgive us. Those who are people after God’s own heart don’t let their past sins define them!

Conclusion: David repented of his sins. Do you need to do the same?