

The Man After God's Own Heart

Repentance and the Cruelty of our Sin 2 Samuel 12.7-15

Our sin is disastrous for us and cruel to others. And, while we can repent of our sin, find forgiveness, and follow the Lord, we can never undo the damage of our sin.

We're A Long Way From Back Then

Repentance

7 Nathan then said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the Lord God of Israel, 'It is I who anointed you king over Israel and it is I who delivered you from the hand of Saul. 8 I also gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your care, and I gave you the house of Israel and Judah; and if *that had been* too little, I would have added to you many more things like these!

9 Why have you despised the word of the Lord by doing evil in His sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword, have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the sons of Ammon.

10 Now therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised Me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.' 11 Thus says the Lord, 'Behold, I will raise up evil against you from your own household; I will even take your wives before your eyes and give *them* to your companion, and he will lie with your wives in broad daylight.

12 Indeed you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel, and under the sun.'"

13 Then David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the Lord." And Nathan said to David, "The Lord also has taken away your sin; you shall not die.

Faith and Repentance are inseparable.

To honor God, you must repent of sin.

The Cruelty Of Our Sin

Sin is cruel. Innocent people suffer because of sin. This is not God's fault; it is our fault.

14 However, because by this deed you have given occasion to the enemies of the Lord to blaspheme, the child also that is born to you shall surely die.”

15 So Nathan went to his house.

Then the Lord struck the child that Uriah's widow bore to David, so that he was very sick.

Did God decide what would happen or describe what would happen?

We want the freedom from God to live however we want. But we then blame God when we face the unavoidable result of our rebellious freedom.

God can do something about suffering right now. But that would violate our freedom.

In Christ, God dealt with sin and the cruelty of sin once and for all.

The very nature of faith means that as a sinful, fallen person I may not understand how God deals with sin. But I trust Him to do what is right.