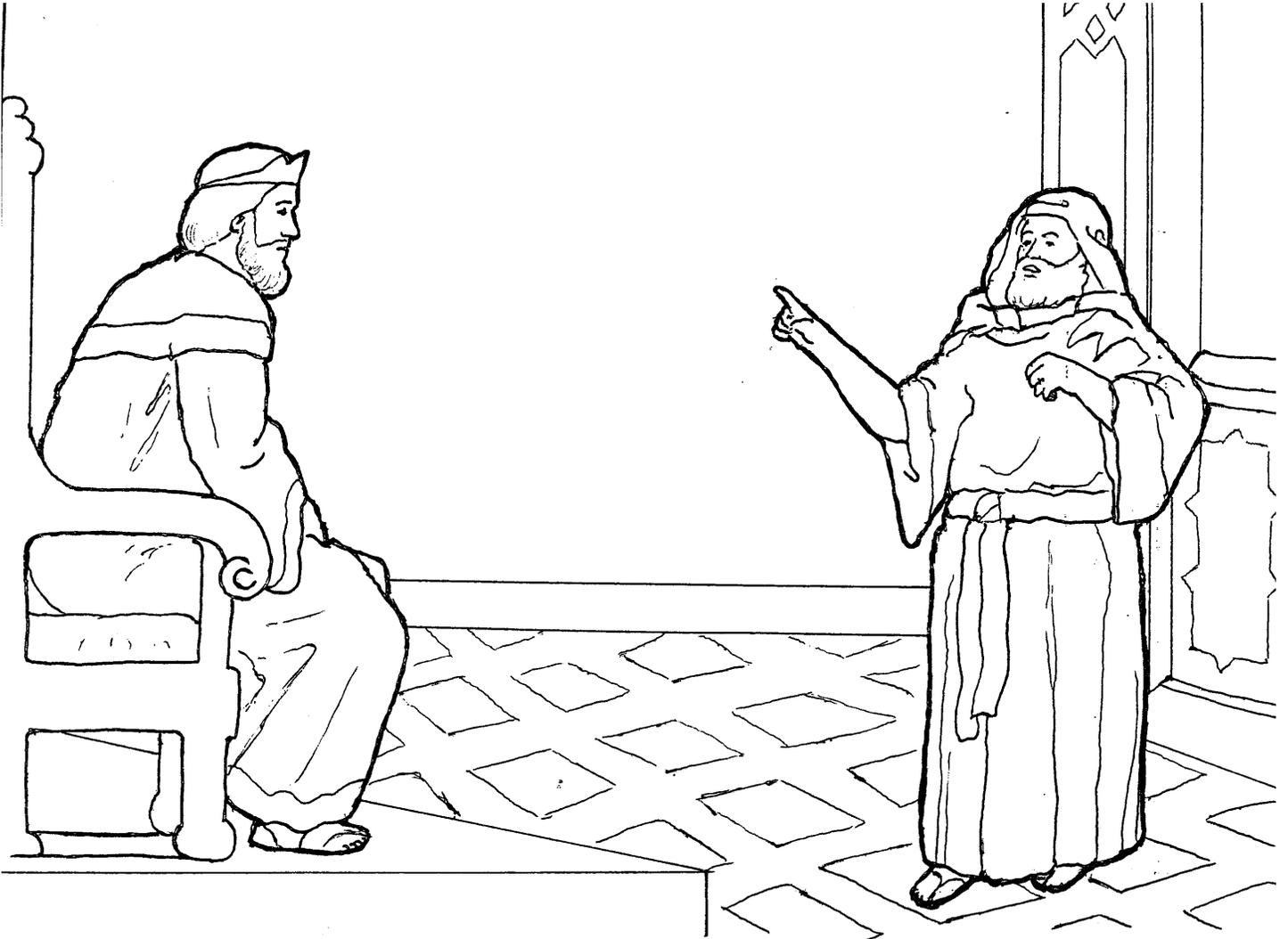


David & Bathsheba

2 Samuel 11:1 - 12:25



Nathan said to David, "You are the man!"



The Story

David was the king of Israel. His army was fighting the people of Ammon. David normally went with his army, but this time he stayed home. One night David was walking on the roof of his palace. He saw a beautiful woman taking a bath on her roof. David wanted to know more about the woman and asked about her. He found out that her name was Bathsheba and her husband was Uriah, a commander in David's army.

Bathsheba came to the palace when David asked her to come. While she was there, David and Bathsheba acted like husband and wife. It was a sin for them to do this because David and Bathsheba were not husband and wife. A while later, Bathsheba sent word to David that she was going to have his child. So David had Joab, his army commander-in chief, send Uriah to him.

Uriah came to David. David asked about his army and how the war was going. Then David told Uriah to go home. Still, Uriah did not go! He slept at the palace's entrance. David asked Uriah why he did not go home. Uriah said he did not want to sleep in a house when the rest of the army was sleeping in fields. The next night David again tried to get Uriah to go home to his wife, but Uriah did not go.

David's attempt at hiding his sin was not working, so he sent a note to Joab with Uriah saying that he wanted Uriah put in the front line where the fighting was the worst. David wanted Uriah killed in the battle. So Joab did what David said and Uriah was killed. When David received the news that Uriah was dead and Bathsheba had mourned for her husband, David took her as his wife and she had their son. But the Lord was not happy with David.

The Lord sent His prophet, Nathan, to talk to David. Nathan told David a parable about two men. One was rich and had a lot of sheep and cattle. The other man was poor

and had only one ewe lamb whom he loved as one of his daughters. When the rich man had a traveler at his house, instead of killing one of his animals to eat, he took the poor man's lamb and prepared it. When David heard this, he became very angry and said that the rich man should die. He also said that the rich man should pay more than the lamb was worth—four times more. Nathan then told David that he was the man.

Nathan told David the Lord was angry with him because he had given David many blessings, yet David took Uriah's wife and murdered Uriah. Nathan went on to tell David that from then on there would always be trouble and hardship in David's family. David said he was sorry for his sin, and Nathan told him that the Lord had taken away his sin and he would not die. However, David's son would die.

After this, David and Bathsheba's son became sick. David went without food and prayed for his son to live. David's servants tried to get David to eat, but he would not. On the seventh day the child died. David's servants were afraid to tell him that the child was dead, but David heard them whispering and they told him the child was dead. David got up, washed and went to worship in the house of the Lord. Then he ate. David's servants wanted to know why David was not still sad about the child. David told them his sadness would not bring the child back, and he said he would see the child again, which shows David's faith in the Lord.

David comforted Bathsheba, and soon the Lord blessed them with another child. They named him Solomon, and the Lord loved him.

Nathan led David to repent of his sin.

Activity One - Answer these questions.

1. Whom did David see while walking on his roof?
2. What did David do to Uriah?
3. Why did God send Nathan to David?
4. What did David say after he heard the story about the rich man and the poor man?
5. What did David say after he heard he was the rich man?
6. What happened to David's son?
7. What did the Lord bless David and Bathsheba with?

God leads His children to repentance through His Word.

Activity Two

- Write **T** if the sentence is TRUE. Write **F** if the sentence is FALSE.

1. David did not sin by acting like a husband to Bathsheba when he was not her husband.
2. It was okay for David to have Uriah killed.
3. Nathan said David was like the poor man.
4. David was sorry for what he had done after he talked to Nathan.
5. The Lord had mercy on David and forgave David's sins.

Activity Three

- Match the name to the proper definition by drawing a line between the two columns.

- | | | |
|--------------|---|----------------------------------|
| 1. David | ● | ● A. Uriah's wife |
| 2. Nathan | ● | ● B. He helped David kill Uriah |
| 3. Bathsheba | ● | ● C. King of Israel |
| 4. Uriah | ● | ● D. A prophet from God |
| 5. Joab | ● | ● E. A commander in David's army |

Passages

Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

John 1:29 - "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"

Hebrews 11:8 "By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would afterward receive as an inheritance.
And he went out."

Hymn - TLH 416, v. 1, 2

Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways
To keep His statutes still!
Oh, that my God would grant me grace
To know and do His will!

Order my footsteps by Thy Word
And make my heart sincere;
Let sin have no dominion, Lord,
But keep my conscience clear.

Prayer

Let us ever walk with Jesus,
Follow His example pure,
Flee the world, which would deceive us
And to sin our souls allure.
Ever in His foot-steps treading.
Body here, yet soul above,
Full of faith and hope and love,
Let us do the Father's bidding.
Faithful Lord, abide with me;
Savior, lead, I follow Thee. Amen. TLH 409 vs. 1