

# “THE SHIPWRECK OF KING DAVID”

Joshua 1:2 Fellowship

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## **I Tim. 1:18-19**

David was God’s choice to be king. He was anointed by the prophet Samuel to be the king of Israel.

“Arise, anoint him; for this is he” I Sam. 16:12

Months later, David has a big victory in killing a giant by the name of Goliath. David had a great start. He seemed a sure thing to “finish strong.” In the first ten chapters of II Samuel, David could do no wrong. He is never defeated in



battle. He begins his reign and continues in faith. In chapter eleven, David shipwrecked! His life would never be quite the same again. Before the shipwreck with Bathsheba, all David knew was

triumph. After he shipwrecked, all he knew was heartbreak and trouble.

There are three inescapable consequences to being shipwrecked.

- 1) Shipwrecks can take you further than you wanted to go.
- 2) Shipwrecks can keep you longer than you wanted to stay.
- 3) Shipwrecks can cost you more than you wanted to pay.

That’s exactly what happened to David and why he didn’t finish strong. David’s shipwreck is found in:

**II Sam. 11:1-2: “Then it happened in the spring, at the time when kings go out to battle, that David sent Joab and his servants with him and all Israel, and they**

**destroyed the sons of Ammon and besieged Rabbah.**



**But David stayed at Jerusalem. Now when evening came David arose from his bed and walked around on the roof of the king’s house, and from the roof he saw a woman bathing; and the woman was very beautiful in appearance.”**

As a young man, David was off to an incredible start. But somewhere in his late forties, David shipwrecked.

II Sam. 11:3-5 states; So, David sent and inquired about the woman, and one said, “Is this not Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?” And David sent messengers and took her, and when she came to him, he lay with her; and when she had purified herself from her uncleanness, she returned to her house. And the woman conceived; and she sent and told David, and said, **“I AM PREGNANT.”**

**SIN CAN SHIPWRECK YOUR LIFE.**

- Sin will take you farther than you wanted to go.
- Sin will keep you longer than you wanted to stay.
- Sin will cost you more than you wanted to pay.

## **A TITANIC MISTAKE**

The Titanic may be the most famous shipwreck in all of history. The sin of David and Bathsheba may be the most famous moral shipwreck in all history. On April 10, 1912, the Titanic took off on a cruise from Southampton to New York. The ship was so carefully structured and engineered that it was labeled as “the ship that God could not sink.” This great ship carried 2,200 passengers and had only twenty lifeboats. This high-tech ship that all of money could buy sailed the seas for only five days. She hit an

iceberg and sank in just two hours and forty minutes. A total of 1,523 people lost their lives in the greatest shipwreck of modern history.



Only 705 survivors were picked up from her half-filled lifeboats. The reason the Titanic went down was because the crew failed to heed

the repeated warnings of threatening danger. Throughout the day on April 14, the crew of the Titanic received at least six messages concerning icebergs on her course directly ahead. The Titanic shipwrecked before it ever hit the iceberg.

David shipwrecked morally years before he ever saw Bathsheba bathing. David set the course for his own shipwreck the moment he married his second wife. By the time David was thirty, he had six wives! God's plan for David was that he be a "one-woman king of man" – but David had other plans.

Just as the Titanic failed to heed the six warnings, so David failed to heed at least six warnings. Every time he took another wife, the Holy Spirit would send a telegram to his conscience. And just as the Titanic ignored the warnings, so did David. The greatest tragedy of both shipwrecks was that they could have been easily avoided.

### **A DIRECT ORDER**

In the book of Deuteronomy, God laid down a direct order to his people.

*Read Deut. 17:14-17*

God made it very clear that any king of Israel was not to multiply horses or multiply wives.

Q: Why didn't God want the king of Israel to multiply horses?

A: Because horses were used for warfare, and God didn't want Israel using horses in battle.

God didn't want Israel to trust in their vast numbers of horses when they went to war. He wanted Israel to trust in Him. When David was king, he was careful to obey God's command about multiplying horses.

### **An example of this is in I Chronicles 19.**

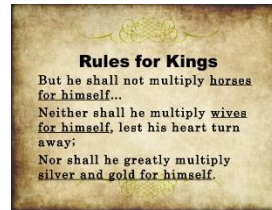
The enemy came against David with 32,000 chariots and thousands of soldiers. Against that mighty cavalry and

countless armored chariot, David sent in his foot soldiers. And against all odds, Israel was victorious. Israel was victorious because they trusted in God.

David obeyed God. (Deuteronomy 17:16)

David said, "Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God" (Ps. 20:7).

There was second part of the command in Deut. 17 that David knew but chose to ignore. David had an easier time with horses, than he had with women. This became the



basis for his shipwreck. Somewhere around the age of eighteen, David was anointed by Samuel to be king of Israel. David did not actually become king until he was thirty. When

David was anointed to become king at 18, he had no wife. When he assumed the throne at 30, he had six wives.

### **David eventually had eight wives!**

*Michal, Haggith, Ahinoan, Ablital, Abigail, Eglah, Maacah and Bathsheba.*

In addition to these eight wives, David had at least ten concubines! By these eight wives, David had twenty-one sons and one daughter. David had one, very large, messed-up family. Following the example set by his father, Solomon had seven hundred wives and three hundred concubines.

### **I Ki. 11:3 "and his wives turned his heart away."**

Deut. 17:17, "Neither shall he multiply wives for himself, **LEST HIS HEART TURN AWAY;**"

God's Word has a way of proving itself True - not only the "blessing" parts we like so much, but also the "warning" parts we don't always like so much.

Are there any other wives in your life?

Women, are there any other husbands in your life?

Your wife, husband

Your second wife is pornography

Your third wife is soft porn movies

Your fourth wife is a fantasy woman/husband when you are having sex with your spouse.

Just like David multiple wives, these wives of today also bear children.

If you marry the other wife of pornography, she will bear you a child by the name of “**SHAME**”.

If you marry the other wife of **HBO** soft porn movies, she will bear you a child called “**GUILT**”.

If you marry the other wife of prostitution, she will bear you a child of “**HUMILIATION**”.

Just take a peek of the disgraced evangelist of the ‘80’s. If you don’t put away these other wives, you should know that you are on the same exact course of the Titanic and King David.

### **SIN WILL TAKE YOU FARTHER THAN YOU WANTED TO GO**

Captain Edward J. Smith was given the honor of command for the Titanic. He was fifty-nine years old and a senior commander of the Titanic. Captain Smith had planned that the Titanic’s first voyage would be his last. After he got the ship to New York, he was going to retire. Due to the shipwreck, he went farther than he wanted to go. He went



thirteen thousand feet farther, in the wrong direction. Captain Smith had been headed for retirement. He wound up in an icy coffin thousands of feet below the

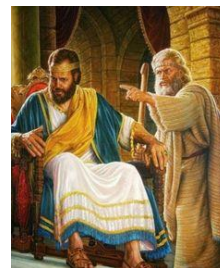
sea. Shipwrecks will take you farther than you wanted to go. King David had planned to kick-back and take it easy while his army was out fighting. When David stood on his roof, watching the beautiful Bathsheba step out of her clothes, the only thing on his mind was to enjoy her. But sin will take you farther than you wanted to go. David had only planned on a careful evening of adultery, yet within weeks he was guilty of betrayal, murder, and a scandalous cover-up. King David brings Uriah, the husband of Bathsheba, so that he would lay with her and so cover-up his sin. David thought that he could use deception to cover disobedience. Deception never covers disobedience.

**II Sam. 11:6-15 – Read**

David had been driving fast for a long time on the freeway of sexual gratification. He went to adultery and then murder. David’s sin took him farther than he wanted to go. If you are playing around with hidden sin, it’s eventually going to come out. Repent!

### **SIN WILL KEEP YOU LONGER THAN YOU WANTED TO STAY**

The passengers of the Titanic had been deceived into believing that every possible safety measure had been taken. As a result, over fifteen hundred were kept longer than they wanted to stay. By the time David had sinned with Bathsheba, he had been stretching his **CONSCIENCE** for years. Even after his adulterous act and the murder of Uriah, David continued to act as though everything was just fine. But it was not! David kept showing up for religious services on Sunday Morning, Sunday Night, and even Wednesday Night. But he was living a lie. He was covering up adultery and murder. About a year after the murder of Uriah, the prophet Nathan showed up and told David of a heartless crime that had been committed in his kingdom.



II Sam. 12:1-7 Read

Nathan had to say to David, “**YOU ARE THE MAN!**”

God had been trying to get his attention for 12 months, but David would not listen.

Sin had kept him longer than he had planned to stay!

### **SIN WILL COST YOU MORE THAN YOU WANTED TO PAY.**

The passengers of the Titanic who were booked first-class paid thousands of dollars to have the very best. This was a trip that cost every one of them more than they were willing to pay. David eventually confessed and repented of his great sin. But there are painful consequences that follow even our confessed sin. That’s why we want to avoid sin in the first place. David’s sin with Bathsheba and the murder of Uriah cost him a huge price.

It cost him dearly when his infant son died.

It cost him dearly when his oldest son, Amnon, raped his half-sister and David’s daughter, Tamar.

It cost him when his son Absalom killed his brother Amnon to avenge the rape of Tamar.

It cost him dearly when years later, his trusted friend and counselor, Ahithophel, assisted young Absalom in a plot to overthrow David and rip the kingdom out of his hands.

Why would Ahithophel betray David whom he had served for decades?

Ahithophel was the grandfather of Bathsheba and the father of Eliam. (II Sam. 23:34) (II Sam. 11:3)

Who Was Eliam? He was the best friend of Uriah. No wonder Ahithophel turned on David. David was never the same after his adultery. Before his shipwreck with Bathsheba, David's life was characterized by Triumph. After the shipwreck, there is only one word that describes the rest of David's life: **TROUBLE**.

The iceberg that shipwrecked David was in his own heart.

It was the iceberg of a cold and compromising heart that brought him down.

What is the temperature of your heart?

