

The Power of Forgiveness

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As you have read through these articles you may have have rememered a sin in your past or in your present which you feel may be keeping you from becoming a leader in your country agaist the Global Abortion Holocaust. It may be a sin of a sexual nature, perhaps involving pornography or sexual abise. It have be a sin of immoral sexual behavior, or behavior that ended in an unwanted pregnancy or even an abortion.

Satan, your enemy and mine, is known as the accuser. He is the one that will whisper in your ear that you are not worthy. He knows how devastating sexual sins can be, and he uses that knowledge to fill us full of guilt and shame. But we may be wounded, but we are not worthless, for we are made in the image of God. Damaged, hurting and wounded people is all that Jesus has to work with. The truth is we are all guilty of one sin or another, and none of us is worthy on our own to stand before God. That is why God sent His son Jesus to pay the price for us. That through His death, and our believing in Him, we could be restored and redeemed.

If we are children of God, filled with His Holy Spirit, them nothing we have ever done or will ever do can separate us from His love. *For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.* Romans 8:38-39

If you do not know God and Jesus, all you need to do is believe in Him.

If you think that a sin from your past keeps you from being the spiritual leader the Lord wants you to be to be please read the following story.

There was a man named Uriah who was in the field with the Armies of Israel fighting for his nation. Uriah was not just any ordinary soldier. His name meant 'God is my light' and he was an officer in the army and one of David's "Mighty Men". David's mighty men were a group of his best fighters and his bodyguards. Many of them were his loyal followers who stayed with him when he was fleeing King Saul. Their exploits were legendary. As one of the Mighty Men, Uriah often fought on the very front lines of battle.

Uriah was very close to King David. His home was practically next door to the King. He may even have been one of David's personal bodyguards.

One early evening, while Uriah was away fighting on behalf of his King and nation, King David was walking on his rooftop terrace. He may have been there to enjoy the cool air, or perhaps, he knew that was when Bathsheba had her evening bath - and he was there to watch. His lust got the better of him.

Bathsheba happened to be Uriah's wife - but that didn't stop David. He had his men bring Bathsheba to him where he engaged in sexual relations with her, and as a result, she became pregnant with his child.

David was rightfully concerned, as he had committed adultery, and he came up with a plan that he thought would solve his problem. He thought by bringing Uriah back from the front and sending him home to be with his wife, they would have sexual relations and everyone would think the baby in her womb belonged to Uriah.

Except that Uriah had too much integrity. Three times David tried to get Uriah to go have sex with his wife. Three times he refused saying, "The ark and Israel and Judah are dwelling in tents, and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are encamped in the open fields. Shall I then go to my house to eat and drink, and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do this thing."

Uriah, had so much integrity, he could not even imagine enjoying the company of his wife - who no doubt was extremely beautiful - while his men were risking their lives in battle.

Giving up on his first plan, David grew desperate and hatched a new, deadlier one. One that he thought would take care of the problem once and for all. He sent Uriah back to the front with a note for his commanding officer. In it he wrote, "Put Uriah on the very front of the front lines where the fighting is fiercest, then pull all your other men back and leave him alone so he will be killed."

So without him knowing it, Uriah carried his own death sentence with him to the front. The commanding officer did as he was commanded to by David. Uriah was sent where the fighting was fiercest, then Uriah was abandoned - and he was killed. David had lusted, committed adultery, and committed murder of a friend and an innocent man. Uriah who had repeatedly fought and risked his life for his King had been killed by his King.

In 2 Samuel 12 we read what happened next:

The Lord sent the prophet Nathan to David. Nathan went to him and said, "There were two men who lived in the same town; one was rich and the other poor. The rich man had many cattle and sheep, while the poor man had only one lamb, which he had bought. He took care of it, and it grew up in his home with his children. He would feed it some of his own food, let it drink from his cup, and hold it in his lap. The lamb was like a daughter to him. One day a visitor arrived at the rich man's home. The rich man didn't want to kill one of his own animals to fix a meal for him; instead, he took the poor man's lamb and prepared a meal for his guest."

David became very angry at the rich man and said, "I swear by the living Lord that the man who did this ought to die! For having done such a cruel thing, he must pay back four times as much as he took."

"You are that man," Nathan said to David. "And this is what the Lord God of Israel says: 'I made you king of Israel and rescued you from Saul. I gave you his kingdom and his wives; I made you king over Israel and Judah. If this had not been enough, I would have given you twice as much. Why, then, have you disobeyed my commands? Why did you do this evil thing? You had Uriah killed in battle; you let the Ammonites kill him, and then you took his wife!'"

"I have sinned against the Lord," David said.

Nathan replied, "The Lord forgives you; you will not die."

What is the point of this story? Well, let me ask you a question. How is David remembered? As an adulterer? As a schemer? As a murderer? No! He is remembered all over the world as "A man after God's own heart." Is it because he never sinned? Obviously not. It is because when confronted with his sin David immediately repented.

David was wrong and he knew it, and he responded accordingly. It does not mean that there are not consequences for our sinful actions. In David's case, the consequences included the death of the son that he and Bathsheba had conceived. But after he repented, the prophet Nathan tells him, "The Lord has forgiven you."

The Lord loves a contrite spirit. Jesus tells the story of the Prodigal son. When the prodigal son returns to his father, his father runs to welcome him with open arms. That is a picture of our Father in heaven. There is not a sin we have committed or will commit (aside from blaspheming the Holy Spirit) he is not willing to forgive. He wants to embrace us with His arms of love, forgiveness and peace.

What you have read in articles found in Life Equip Global website may very well have raised up feelings of pain and guilt from past actions and behaviors. You need to be assured of the Lord's desire to heal your heart and forgive your sins. If He will gladly and quickly forgive David's sins, you can be assured He will forgive yours as well.