

II SAMUEL 12; April 27; Thou Art the Man

ANALYSIS:

1. In Nathan's story that he told to David, what were the real names of the rich man and the poor man? _____
 2. When David heard Nathan's story, what was his response and judgment? _____
 3. What word did the LORD use twice that describes how David had treated the LORD and his commandments? _____
 4. Why did David fast while the child lived but not when the child was dead? _____
 5. What special fact about Solomon do we learn in this chapter? _____
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THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

While we may think that David's judgment against the rich man in verse 5 was harsh, the LORD's judgment against David and his family was every bit as severe: the baby died; David's kingdom was continually threatened by neighboring enemies so he was always at war; David's family had horrible internal problems of rape, murder, and rebellion; and Absalom his own son was going to publicly shame David and try to kill him for the throne. David's sins paid terrible consequences for some 25 years. Do you hate sin? Sin will destroy you if you do not hate it and turn from it. David wrote, "Therefore I esteem all thy precepts concerning all things to be right; and I hate every false way" (Ps 119:128).

After Nathan had told David the consequences of his sins, David confessed and acknowledged them to the LORD. And the Bible tells us that the LORD put away David's sin (v 13). "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 Jn 1:9). The LORD does forgive our sins if we confess them to him, but do not think for a second that you can get away with sin. Even though the LORD forgives our sins, they still carry severe penalties in this life.

HELP:

1. The rich man was David, and the poor man was Uriah the Hittite; and the little ewe lamb was Bathsheba, Uriah's wife.
2. David became very angry against the rich man and stated that he should die and that he also should restore the lamb fourfold because he had shown no pity toward the poor man (v 5).
3. The LORD said that David had despised him and his commandments (vv 9-10).
4. David fasted because he hoped that the LORD might be gracious and let the child live; but once the child died, David stopped fasting because he knew that the child was gone (vv 22-23).
5. The LORD loved Solomon (v 24).