

STUDIES IN THE LIFE OF DAVID

PART II

STUDY NUMBER SIXTEEN - 2 Samuel 13:1-39

**David is really hurting today.
He is in a traumatic set of circumstances.**

**I think if he could sit here and talk to you
for a few minutes he would probably say,
how long is this awful thing going to
keep on going on?
And how long do I have to suffer?**

**Ann Kiemel Anderson in *Taste of Tears; Touch of God* describes
her husband's prayer when they had it, about up to here.
He says, "Father, God it seems as if Ann and I
have had all we can handle. It's been tuff.
But we only go through life once and we want
all you have for us. Don't ease up and don't quit
if you see that we still need some more."**

**Now as we are coming to the life of David today, there is a
principle that we have to understand before we get into it.**

**That principle came out last week, but I'm
repeating it again today.
That principle is: The consequences of sin
live long, after the act.**

God can instantaneously forgive and he did

last week and bring David and Bathsheba into a relationship with himself.

And even healing takes place in the birth of the little son, the second born son to them.

All of this is wonderful, but the consequences still live on. David is going to really go through some horrible, terrible experiences.

Last week Nathan the prophet confronted David with his sin.

And there is a statement that underscores the secret of the whole thing.

And that is the Lord said, “If this had been too little, I would have even given you more.”

All you have to do is ask and acknowledge and I’ll answer. Nothing is too hard for me.

When you hurry and help God’s purpose you end up harming, hindering and hurting it.

And that is what has happened where we are today.
It’s sin in chapter 11,
we had sorrow in chapter 12,
and we have suffering now in chapter 13.

Before we actually launch into the text, we ought to read a few of the psalms that come from this period of time:

Psalm 3:1

**“O Lord, how my adversaries have increased!
Many are rising up against me.**

Psalm 4:1

**“Answer me when I call to you,
O my righteous God
Give me relief from my distress;
be merciful to me and hear my prayer.**

Psalm 5:1

**“Give ear to my words, O Lord,
Consider my sighing and groaning.**

Psalm 25:1

**“To you, O LORD , I lift up my soul;
in you I trust, O my God.
Do not let me be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

Psalm 28:6-7

**“Praise be to the LORD ,
for he has heard my cry for mercy.
The LORD is my strength and my shield;
my heart trusts in him, and I am helped.
My heart leaps for joy
and I will give thanks to him in song.**

Let's get into it

VERSE 1.

Chapter 13:1. In the course of time, Amnon son of David fell in love with Tamar, the beautiful sister of Absalom son of David.

In our story today, there are four characters. We are going to meet Amnon, Tamar, Absalom and Jonadab.

Jonadab is a creep and a character. He is the nephew of David along with Abishai, Asahel and Joab, the three sons of Zeruah. This happens to be the son of another of David's brothers by the name of Shimeah, you'll see him in just a few minutes.

Who is Amnon?

Amnon is the first born son of David.

He was born to Ahinoam of Jezreel, his very first wife.

This is his oldest son, this guy is the heir-apparent presently to the throne of David.

Now who is Absalom and Tamar?

Absalom and Tamar were born to Maacah, the daughter of Talmai, the king of Geshur.

It's a political wedding.

These two kids, Absalom and Tamar have royalty on both sides of the family.

They evidently both were beautiful kids because Absalom is good looking and the text tells us that Tamar is "the beautiful sister of Absalom."

Absalom was probably a teenager when the affair broke forth with Bathsheba and that in itself has brought resentment and disillusionment and he has probably lost respect for his father.

So here we are in a situation with Amnon falling in love with Tamar his half-sister, full sister to Absalom.

Now isn't it interesting that Absalom's rebellion begins with the very same sins of his father.

We're going to have rape and murder in the study today.

But morality and murder are the things that start Absalom on the downhill slide.

v. 2 Amnon became frustrated to the point of illness on account of his sister Tamar, for she was a virgin, and it seemed impossible for him to do anything to her."

He is lovesick over her and you can tell it is lust because he wants to do something to her, not for her. Love gives and lust takes.

v. 3 Now Amnon had a friend named Jonadab son of Shimeah, David's brother. Jonadab was a very shrewd man. Here comes the VILLAIN - - Jonadab. He is a nephew of David and cousin to Amnon, Tamar, and Absalom.

Notice the text says, "He was a very shrewd man."

He will come up with a plan that will work for Amnon to accomplish his despicable purposes.

v. 4 He asked Amnon, “Why do you, the king’s son, look so haggard morning after morning? Won’t you tell me?”

Here comes this perverted plan.

v. 5 “Go to bed and pretend to be ill,” Jonadab said. “When your father comes to see you, say to him, ‘I would like my sister Tamar to come and give me something to eat. Let her prepare the food in my sight so I may watch her and then eat it from her hand.’”

v. 6 So Amnon lay down and pretended to be ill. When the king came to see him, Amnon said to him, “I would like my sister Tamar to come and make some special bread in my sight, so I may eat from her hand.”

Dr. Paul Jorden points out, “To me, the lesson in what happened is rather clear. One of David’s weaknesses was his eye for the ladies, and Amnon was simply a chip off the old man’s block. I would think David, being as hot-blooded as he was, would have easily recognized that Amnon’s request for a fair young thing fluttering about his house preparing a meal would stimulate more than his physical appetite.”

David is so dumb today.

He doesn’t know what the kids are thinking,

he doesn’t know what is going on with them,

partly because he has never had time to be home. He is just

an absent father,

he’s running a kingdom,

he’s a military man;

he’s everything but being at the house.

v. 7 David sent word to Tamar at the palace: “Go to the house of your brother Amnon and prepare some food for him.”

So David calls the palace and says to Tamar, “honey go on over to the house of your brother Amnon, prepare some food for him.” She is so obedient in all of this.

v. 8 So Tamar went to the house of her brother Amnon, who was lying down. She took some dough, kneaded it, made the bread in his sight and baked it.

When Tamar arrived, Amnon pretended to be sick by lying down.

v. 9 Then she took the pan and served him the bread, but he refused to eat. “Send everyone out of here,” Amnon said. So everyone left him.

v. 10 Then Amnon said to Tamar, “Bring the food here into my bedroom so I may eat from your hand.” And Tamar took the bread she had prepared and brought it to her brother Amnon in his bedroom.

v. 11 But when she took it to him to eat, he grabbed her and said, “Come to bed with me, my sister.”

v. 12 “Don’t my brother!” she said to him. Don’t force me. Such a thing should not be done in Israel! Don’t do this wicked thing.

You can sense the fear and emotion in these circumstances as he grabs her and holds her close.

She says “Don’t” three times.

“Don’t my brother!”

“Don’t force me.”

“Don’t do this wicked thing.”

v. 13 What about me? Where could I get rid of my disgrace? And what about you? You would be like one of the wicked fools in Israel. Please speak to the king; he will not keep me from being married to you.”

What about me?

Aren’t I valuable to you as a sister.

v. 14 But he refused to listen to her, and since he was stronger than she, he raped her.

Here Tamar walks off with the pages of scripture, a desolate woman.

She has literally been totally devastated by this experience.

What a tragic, tragic story.

v. 15 Then Amnon hated her with intense hatred. In fact, he hated her more than he had loved her. Amnon said to her, “Get up and get out!”

Dr. Paul Jorden points out, “Certainly here we see an entirely different situation than the one with David and Bathsheba. Bathsheba had been indiscreet in exposing herself while bathing. Also there was no indication that she was an unwilling partner. Tamar seemed to be entirely innocent and made every effort to avoid the action. The blame falls squarely on Amnon for his lustful violation of his sister. The story suggests the emotions of rape. After the act, Amnon hated her exceedingly. It is not uncommon when a man has had sexual relations with an unloved woman for him to have this sense of disgust with himself and also with her. It is also not uncommon for a man to beat up on a woman with whom he has been involved sexually. And this is true though he had forced himself upon her.”

- v. 16 “No!” she said to him. “Sending me away would be a greater wrong than what you have already done to me.” But he refused to listen to her.**

- v. 17 He called his personal servant and said, “Get this woman out of here and bolt the door after her.”**

- v. 18 So his servant put her out and bolted the door after her. She was wearing a richly ornamented robe, for this was the kind of garment the virgin daughters of the kings wore.**

- v. 19 Tamar put ashes on her head and tore the ornamented robe she was wearing. She put her hand on her head and went away, weeping aloud as she went.**

All these are the marks of being violated

and no longer being a virgin:

1. She put ashes on her head.
2. She tore her robe.
3. She put her hand on her head and went away, weeping aloud as she went.

Look at verse 20, this is just incredible!

v. 20 Her brother Absalom said to her, “Has that Amnon, your brother, been with you? Be quiet now, my sister; he is your brother. Don’t take this thing to heart.” And Tamar lived in her brother Absalom’s house, a desolate woman.

Evidently, Absalom had some idea of what Amnon was up to and figured that he had accomplished his purpose.

Absalom has some weird advice when he says;

1. To be quiet, because he is your brother.
2. Don’t take this thing to heart.

The tragic final statement about Tamar is “she lived in her brother Absalom’s house, a desolate woman.”

She was probably not only desolate but devastated and depressed and discouraged.

Lev. 18:6

“None of you shall approach any blood relative of his to uncover nakedness; I am the Lord.”

Lev. 18:9

“The nakedness of your sister, either, your father’s daughter, or your mother’s daughter, whether born at home or outside, their nakedness you shall not uncover.”

Lev. 18:28,29

“so that the land may not spew you out should you defile it as it has spewed out the nation which has been before you. For whoever does any of these abominations, those persons who do shall be cut off from among their people.”

The Scriptures teach in this passage that whoever would violate his sister was to be vomited out of the land regardless.

That was the law.

David knew this.

Get him out of the land and out of the nation Israel.

This was an abomination to the Lord.

David knew this, but Absalom and Amnon knew David.

Amnon knew that he could get away with it.

He knew David had no discipline in the home life of his boys.

v. 21 When King David heard all this, he was furious.

That’s first and last, alpha and omega;

beginning and the end of the disciplinary action taken in view of what has happened in his family.

David got mad.

Why in the world can David say when he has had his hospitality rights violated, put on your swords.

Why can he sit in the presence of Nathan who describes a man who takes a little pet lamb and says, the man deserves to die.

And when David gets home, all he can do is have a little temper tantrum and let his kids do whatever they want to.

David fails at the house.

v. 22 Absalom never said a word to Amnon, either good or bad; he hated Amnon because he had disgraced his sister Tamar.

Absalom broke all communication with Amnon. He never said another word to him, good or bad. He hated Amnon because he had disgraced his sister Tamar.

For two years this hatred grew and festered, and when you have a hatred like this, it leads to murder.

v. 23 Two years later, when Absalom’s sheepshearers were at Baal Hazor near the border of Ephraim, he invited all the king’s sons to come there.

This is about 15 miles northeast of Jerusalem where Absalom is preparing for the celebration of the shearing of the sheep.

v. 24 Absalom went to the king and said, “Your servant has had shearers come. Will the king and his officials please join me?”

Here Absalom wants the whole family to join him on this occasion, so he starts by asking the king himself and all of his officials to come.

v. 25 “No, my son,” the king replied. “All of us should not go; we would only be a burden to you.” Although Absalom urged him, he still refused to go, but gave him his blessing.

v. 26 Then Absalom said, “If not, please let my brother Amnon come with us.” The king asked him, “Why should he go with you?”

David is oblivious to the hatred and to what’s been going on for two years.

v. 27 But Absalom urged him, so he sent with him Amnon and the rest of the king’s sons.

I believe that David was set up for this by the fact that he turned down Absalom on his prior request. David finally decided to give in and sent Amnon and the rest

of the king's sons to the time of celebration.

v. 28 Absalom ordered his men, "Listen! When Amnon is in high spirits from drinking wine and I say to you, 'Strike Amnon down,' then kill him. Don't be afraid. Have not I given you this order? Be strong and brave."

v. 29 So Absalom's men did to Amnon what Absalom had ordered. Then all the king's sons got up, mounted their mules and fled.

So Absalom's men did to Amnon what Absalom had ordered. Leaving him laying there in a pool of blood.

So Absalom accomplishes his mission by making Amnon pay the supreme price in the giving of his life for violating his sister Tamar.

v. 30 While they were on their way, the report came to David: "Absalom has struck down all the king's sons; not one of them is left."

Isn't that always the way the first reports come in. It is so severe. Everybody is gone.

v. 31 The King stood up, tore his clothes and lay down on the ground; and all his servants stood by with their clothes torn.

v. 32 But Jonadab son of Shimeah, David's brother, said, "My Lord should not think that they killed all the princes only

Amnon is dead. This has been Absalom's expressed intention ever since the day Amnon raped his sister Tamar.

v. 33 My Lord the king should not be concerned about the report that all the king's sons are dead. Only Amnon is dead."

This is the second death in the family that David has now experienced. The first was Bathsheba's boy, and now the second is the firstborn son Amnon has been murdered.

v. 34 Meanwhile Absalom had fled. Now the man standing watch looked up and saw many people on the road west of him, coming down the side of the hill. The watchman went and told the king, "I see men in the direction of Horonaim, on the side of the hill."

**Why did Absalom flee?
Because he is guilty of murder,
he's heading for higher ground now;
he's getting out of the country.**

v. 35 Jonadab said to the king, "See, the king's sons are here; it has happened just as your servant said."

v. 36 As he finished speaking, the king's sons came in, wailing loudly. The king, too, and all his servants wept very bitterly.

There was just bitter weeping over what Absalom had done in this situation.

v. 37 Absalom fled and went to Talmai son of Ammihud, the king of Geshur. But King David mourned for his son every day.

Absalom fled north to his mother's family. Absalom went to Grandpa Talmai's house. He went to mom's father and was gone for three years.

v. 38 After Absalom fled and went to Geshur, he stayed there three years.

v. 39 And the spirit of the king longed to go to Absalom, for he was consoled concerning Amnon's death.

And the spirit of the king longed to go to Absalom, for he was consoled concerning Amnon's death. But he never did anything about it.

The Houston police department has come up with a list of twelve rules to raise delinquent children:

- 1. Begin with infancy to give the child everything he wants. In this way, he will grow up to believe the world owes him a living.**
- 2. When he picks up vulgar words, laugh at him. This will teach him that he is cute.**

- 3. Never give him spiritual training. Wait until he is 21 and then let him decide for himself.**
- 4. Always avoid the use of the word ‘wrong.’ It may develop a guilt complex. This will condition him to believe later when he is arrested that society is against him and he is being persecuted.**
- 5. Pick up everything he leaves lying around the house. Do everything for him so that he will be experienced in throwing all responsibilities off on others.**
- 6. Let him read any printed matter he can get his hands on. Be careful that the silverware and drinking glasses are sterilized but let his mind feed on filth.**
- 7. Quarrel frequently in the presence of your children. In this way, they won’t be so shocked when the home is broken up later on.**
- 8. Give the child all the spending money he wants. Never make him earn his own.**
- 9. Satisfy his every craving for food, drink, and comfort. See that every sensual desire is gratified. Hold back nothing.**
- 10. Take his part against neighbors, teachers and officers of the law. They are all prejudiced against your child.**
- 11. When he gets into trouble, apologize for yourself by saying, ‘I never could do anything with that boy, anyway.’**
- 12. Prepare yourself for a life of grief. You are likely to have it.**

Can I ask you a question?

Do you see discipline as a pain to be avoided or a means to avoid pain?

That tells you whether or not you are doing it.

To discipline Absalom would have been painful for David, but not near as painful as the grief David experienced when his son died a rebel.

Out of this study we see what un-reconciled relationships will do to devastate the life of an individual.

What are some of the lessons that we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: The consequences of sin remain a long time after the sin is forgiven. Maybe the calamity and the chastening you are experiencing right now are consequences for sin a long time ago.

LESSON #2: We have a problem with MORALITY & MURDER in chapter 11 and chapter 13. I just might be that what you don't like in your children is a reflection of yourself. Here in 13 we got sons involved and that which the father is involved in, in chapter 11.

LESSON #3: I put those three “S” over the three chapters. SIN in chapter 11; SORROW in chapter 12 and SUFFERING in chapter 13.

LESSON #4: David has lost two of his sons by means of death so far. He is going to lose another one yet before this is all over.

LESSON #5: Hatred turns to bitterness and bitterness turns to murder. There is your equation.

LESSON #6: Failure to discipline and restore relationships have horrible consequences. That is why the bible says don't let the sun go down on your wrath. You sleep on a broken relationship and it's going to be worse tomorrow. Deal with it, keep the relationships right. Here's a verse, Acts 24:16, this is one of the best verses to memorize. Before you go to bed at night you ought to evaluate your vertical and horizontal relationships, it will affect the way you sleep. Paul says, “I exercise myself to have a conscience void of the offence toward God and toward man. David doesn't do that.

LESSON #7: David fails to take disciplinary action in any of these circumstances.

Lessons Learned In The Life of David

PART II

STUDY NUMBER SIXTEEN - 2 Samuel 13:1-39

13:v. 1 In the course of time, Amnon son of David fell in love with Tamar, the beautiful sister of Absalom son of David.

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v.13 What about me? Where could I get rid of my disgrace? And what about you? You would be like one of the wicked fools in Israel. Please speak to the king; he will not keep me from being married to you."

v.14 But he refused to listen to her, and since he was stronger than she, he raped her.

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v.18 So his servant put her out and bolted the door after her. She was wearing a richly ornamented robe, for this was the kind of garment the virgin daughters of the king wore.

v.19 Tamar put ashes on her head and tore the ornamented robe she was wearing. She put her hand on her head and went away, weeping aloud as she went.

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v.21 When King David heard all this, he was furious.

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v.38 After Absalom fled and went to Geshur, he stayed there three years.

v.39 And the spirit of the king longed to go to Absalom, for he was consoled concerning Amnon's death.

QUESTIONS:

- 1. Read 2 Samuel 13:1-39 several times and in your own words outline what is happening in the life of David.**
- 2. What parallels are there between the conduct of Amnon in chapter 13 and David's in chapter 11?**
- 3. What three questions does Tamar ask of Amnon in verse 13?**

4. How does Amnon respond to Tamar after the rape, according to verse 15?
5. What is David's response to this act, according to verse 21?
6. How does Absalom handle this situation two years later, according to verses 28 & 29?
7. What is the response of David and the king's sons to the death of Amnon, according to verse 36?
8. What did Absalom do, according to verses 37 & 38?
9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?
10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

Lessons Learned In The Life Of David:

STUDY NUMBER SIXTEEN - 2 Samuel 13:1-39

LESSON #1: The consequences of sin remain long after the sin is forgiven.

LESSON #2: We have a problem with morality and murder in chapter 11 & 13.

LESSON #3: We have sin in chapter 11, sorrow in chapter 12, and suffering in chapter 13.

LESSON #4: David has lost two of his sons by means of death.

LESSON #5: Hatred turns to bitterness and bitterness turns to murder.

LESSON #6: Failure to discipline and restore relationships have horrible consequences.

LESSON #7: David fails to take disciplinary action in any of these circumstances.