

David, A Man After God's Own Heart
God's work in chastisement
2 Samuel 12ff

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Core value: Jesus-centered

Life's overarching promises for those who are God's children through salvation in Jesus:

1. God is working good in my life, even in the midst of difficulty, suffering and pain.

Romans 8:28 And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose.

2. God continues to work in me throughout my physical life on earth.

^{NIV} **Philippians 1:6** being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

A difficult promise to swallow is that there are consequences for our sins, even though we are forgiven in Jesus.

Galatians 6:7-8 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. ⁸ For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

But God also promises that He is seeking to discipline those He loves.

Hebrews 12:8-13 But if you are without discipline, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. ⁹ Furthermore, we had earthly fathers to discipline us, and we respected them; shall we not much rather be subject to the Father of spirits, and live? ¹⁰ For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but He *disciplines us* for *our* good, so that we may share His holiness. ¹¹ All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness. ¹² Therefore, strengthen the hands that are weak and the knees that are feeble, ¹³ and make straight paths for your feet, so that *the limb* which is lame may not be put out of joint, but rather be healed.

David, a man after God's own heart had all of the above promises happen to him in graphic form.

The fall: From committing adultery, to cover up, to murder, to marrying his murder victim's wife. (2 Samuel 11)

The uncovering by Nathan, the confession by David and the forgiveness by God. (2 Samuel 12:1-14)

⁷ Nathan then said to David, "You are the man!"

¹³ Then David said to Nathan, "**I have sinned against the LORD.**" And Nathan said to David, "**The LORD also has taken away your sin;** you shall not die.

But there will be future consequences that David will reap. (verses 10-12, 14)

¹⁰ 'Now therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house, because

1. ¹⁰ 'Now therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised Me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.'
2. ¹¹ "Thus says the LORD, 'Behold, I will raise up evil against you from your own household; I will even take your wives before your eyes and give *them* to your companion, and he will lie with your wives in broad daylight.
3. ¹² 'Indeed you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel, and under the sun.'"

4. ¹⁴ "However, because by this deed you have given occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also that is born to you shall surely die."

The consequences of David's sin unfold. (chapters 12:15-18:33)

1. David's son with Bathsheba dies immediately after. (12:15-23)
2. David's son Amnon rapes his daughter Tamar (Amnon's half-sister). (13:1-19)
3. David's son Absalom (Tamar's brother) murders Amnon. (13:20-39)
4. Absalom incites a rebellion against his father, the king. (15:1-6)
5. Absalom conspires to murder David. David flees. (15:7-16:19)
6. Absalom has sex with David's concubine wives in public (16:20-23)
7. Absalom attacks David but David prevails. (17:1-18:8)
8. Absalom is killed by Joab. (18:9-33)

^{NLT} **2 Samuel 18:33** The king was overcome with emotion. He went up to the room over the gateway and burst into tears. And as he went, he cried, "O my son Absalom! My son, my son Absalom! If only I had died instead of you! O Absalom, my son, my son."

How do we ride out the storm in the consequences of sin or through the loving discipline of God?

- **Consequences?**

- **Discipline?**

^{NLT} **Psalm 32:5-11** Finally, I confessed all my sins to you and stopped trying to hide my guilt. I said to myself, "I will confess my rebellion to the LORD." And you forgave me! All my guilt is gone. Interlude ⁶ Therefore, let all the godly pray to you while there is still time, that they may not drown in the floodwaters of judgment. ⁷ For you are my hiding place; you protect me from trouble. You surround me with songs of victory. Interlude ⁸ The LORD says, "I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you. ⁹ Do not be like a senseless horse or mule that needs a bit and bridle to keep it under control." ¹⁰ Many sorrows come to the wicked, but unfailing love surrounds those who trust the LORD. ¹¹ So rejoice in the LORD and be glad, all you who obey him! Shout for joy, all you whose hearts are pure!

1. David sinned against the Lord (Uriah and Bathsheba); did God discipline David for his sin?
2. What were the consequences of that sin?
3. How does Romans 3:25-26 relate to 2 Samuel 12:13?
4. How did Christ pay for David's sins?
5. Read Psalms 51: 6-10; how did David show his desire for a renewed heart?
6. How does David's confession show the depth of his corruption? (Ps. 51)