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The Sword Will Never Depart from Your House Second Samuel 9:1 to 14:33

After reaching the pinnacle of success, **David** reflected upon **his** early life, the days of testing, days of suffering, and days of rejection. And as **he** mused over the past and recalled Sha'ul's hatred of **him**, there came the thought: **I wonder if there is still anyone left from the house of Sha'ul to whom I can show kindness for Y'honatan's sake (Second Samuel 9:1)?** Thus we are introduced to one of the most touching chapters in the TaNaKh, and a vivid illustration of truth in the B'rit Chadashah. **David's** treatment of **Mephibosheth** is just one of many pictures in the Scriptures of **God's** grace toward **His** people.

Then, continuing to be blessed by **YHVH**, **David** defeated **the Ammonites**. This was the only extensive narrative in the court history that casts **David** in a favorable light. **God's** favor was still upon **him** and **the LORD** continued to give **David** **victory wherever he went (Second Samuel 8:13-14; First Chronicles 18:13)**. **David** was on top of the world. Although **he** was a **man** after **God's own heart (First Samuel 13:14)**, **he** was not immune to temptation and sin. And the rest of this section records **David's** troubles in the areas of morals, politics and family relationships. To be sure, elsewhere, the narrator of the history views **David** positively - or at least sympathetically - in briefer sections (**12:13** and **22-23, 18:32-33, 19:38-39**). On the whole however, this section depicts **David** under divine discipline.



Ha'Shem never winks at sin, even when it is found in the life of an otherwise

exemplary believer. **Chapters 11 and 12** mark the lowest point in **David's** life as **he** committed adultery with **Bathsheba**. As is often the case, one sin led to another, and **David** was guilty of both adultery and murder. But the sin with **Bathsheba** was merely the climax of something that had been going on in **his** life for about twenty-six years. Sin always takes you further than you want to go and costs you more than you wanted to pay. And this was surely the case with **David**. When **God** sent **Nathan** to confront **David** with **his** sin, **the prophet** said: **You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword of the Ammonites; therefore, the sword will never depart from your house (Second Samuel 12:10).**

Yes, **David** was quick to acknowledge **his** failure, and **ADONAI** was just as quick to forgive the repentant sinner (**First John 1:8-10**). Nonetheless, **David** learned that sin, even though forgiven, bears serious consequences. As Rabbi Sha'ul warns: **Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. You reap what you sow. Whoever sows to please the flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction (Galatians 6:7-8a)**. This section vividly illustrates from **David's** experience the inevitable and devastating consequences of sin in the life of the believer. **David's** life took a turn for the worse and **he** would live in anguish the rest of **his** life.³¹⁴