

# **“The Dreaded Affair”**

## **(Part 4)**

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**February 6, 2011**

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### **I. Introduction**

#### **A. The unexpected visitor in Vista**

1. A young Marine stopped by the church
  - a. He'd been drinking
  - b. He pulled out a loaded revolver
  - c. Had returned from a deployment
  - d. His wife had an affair while he was gone
  - e. Wanted to kill both of them
  - f. “Seldom kill pastors or priests”
2. *“Give me the gun and we'll talk tomorrow when you're sober”*
  - a. Sobered up the next day
  - b. I was able to talk him out of it
  - c. Gave him his gun back and sent him on his way

#### **B. The problem faced in the military**

1. Year-long deployments.....loneliness
2. Friends and family in the military
3. Takes a strong marriage to survive
  - a. *“If the Marines wanted you to have a wife, we would have issued you one.”*

#### **C. Not just a problem for military couples**

1. The pain I've seen recently (California and here)
2. The long-term scars left by an affair
  - a. The issue of "trust"
  - b. But there is a road to recovery
  - c. God delights in using scarred people

#### **D. Affairs are a tale as old as time**

1. Today...the greatest affair in human history
2. The story of David and Bathsheba
  - a. The most famous affair in history
  - b. Why did God record it in such vivid detail ?
  - c. How it may save your marriage from life-shattering pain

## **II. Things you should know about affairs**

### ***1. Beware of boredom***

- a. II Samuel 11:1

***(1) In the spring, at the time when kings go off to war, David sent Joab out with the king's men and the whole Israelite army. They destroyed the Ammonites and besieged Rabbath. But David remained in Jerusalem.***

1. 1000 years before Christ
  2. Israel was at its zenith
  3. David was king of Israel and the most powerful man on earth
  4. Married to a lovely lady named Abigail
- b. ***"In the spring of the year"***
    1. When *kings* go off to battle

2. David is the king
  - a. His army is at war with Ammon
    1. Jordan
    2. War in the Middle East
    3. Egypt
  - b. And he stayed home with the girls
  - c. Satan waits for prime opportunities to tempt you
    1. And one such time is when you're bored
    2. Ephesians 6:10-11

***(10) Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. (11) Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.***

- a. He has an evil scheme for your life
  3. His goal is to minimize your effectiveness serving God
- d. Satan sees idle time as prime time for temptation
  1. I Peter 5:8

***Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.***

2. He's never bored
- e. Lonely men and women are vulnerable to attack
  1. The song, "Lonely women make good lovers"

## ***2. Don't advertise for disaster***

- a. Let's see what happened next
  1. II Samuel 11:2

***(2) One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful,***

2. Every man here understands what David faced
  - a. Would have been difficult not to look
  - b. “Seeing her” was not the sin
  - c. All he had to do is walk away
  - d. But did he?
- b. But before we look at that...let’s meet the woman in the tub
  1. Her name is Bathsheba
  2. She’s married to a soldier named Uriah
  3. Uriah was off fighting in David’s army
    - a. Where David should have been
  4. The clues suggest there was something wrong in her marriage
    - a. Will see her husband’s behavior
- c. It’s likely she knew what she was doing on the roof
  1. Bathing where the king could see her
  2. Something doesn’t seem right
  3. She may have been craving attention...and was about to get it
    - a. She was advertising for disaster
- d. Things that can open the door to an affair:
  1. ***Provocative Dress***
    - a. Or in this case....undressing
    - b. Styles change
      1. I was raised in the age of burned bras, mini skirts and halter tops

- c. Yet a societal norm for decency always exists
- d. Some women (and men) dress to attract attention
  - 1. It sends a signal
  - 2. Men are visually aroused

## *2. Flirtatious Signals*

- a. Men and women can pick up the signals
  - 1. Can't necessarily describe them
  - 2. But we all seem able to recognize them
- b. Sometimes things start out innocently
  - 1. Yet quickly gets out of hand
- c. The signals
  - 1. Those flirtatious eyes or looks
  - 2. Flirtatious or inappropriate talk
    - a. Sexual innuendo
    - b. Intimate topics
    - c. Suggestive stories
  - 3. Touching and hugging
    - a. Types of hugs and types of touching
    - b. Ladies, be careful!
      - 1. The "breast bump"
      - 2. Can ignite a fire
      - 3. Sending out signals
    - c. May be done in innocence...but

- d. Will not usually pursue when signals are not there

### ***3. Kindred Spirits***

- a. Women trying to counsel a guy with marital problems
  - 1. Run from the situation
  - 2. That's a man's job
- b. Pastors counseling love-starved women all day
  - 1. Husbands ignore them
  - 2. Pastors are expected to be loving
- c. The "hug of compassion" becomes the "hug of passion"
- d. Importance of recognizing your vulnerability
- e. The need for boundaries

### ***4. Pillow Talk***

- a. Inappropriate discussions with members of the opposite sex
- b. Sharing the intimate details of your marriage
  - 1. Talking about how she doesn't love you
- c. Getting too close at the office or work
- e. I believe Bathsheba was advertising for disaster
  - 1. She couldn't say "no" to the king
  - 2. But she didn't need to bathe in his view

### ***3. Everyone needs to establish personal boundaries***

- a. David was still okay at first
  - 1. Difficult for guys not to look
  - 2. But, it could have stopped with his eyes

3. But it got into his mind

b. From temptation to sin

*(3) And David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, "Isn't this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite?" (4) Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her. (She had purified herself from her uncleanness.) Then she went back home.*

c. David knew it was wrong

1. People in affairs usually do

2. Try to rationalize

a. Often try to place blame on spouse

d. **"Koole's Rule"** in Vista

1. Boundaries for all our pastors

a. *"Never get alone in a car or a home with an unrelated woman"*

b. Can be a hassle

c. I've called cabs for women

2. Youth pastor at our church picnic

a. "I broke **the rule**"

b. "She's pregnant"

e. Boundaries on business trips

1. Staying in the same hotel

2. Staying out of the room

3. Shared meals

f. Don't think it can't happen to you

1. Just takes one weak moment

g. Write down your personal boundaries

#### **4. Affairs turn people into cheats and liars**

- a. David gets some unwelcome news (II Samuel 11:5)

***(5) The woman conceived and sent word to David, saying, “I am pregnant.”***

- b. What must have gone through his mind!
- c. The cover-up begins (II Samuel 11:6-13)

***(6) So David sent this word to Joab: “Send me Uriah the Hittite.” And Joab sent him to David. (7) When Uriah came to him, David asked him how Joab was, how the soldiers were and how the war was going. (8) Then David said to Uriah, “Go down to your house and wash your feet.” So Uriah left the palace, and a gift from the king was sent after him. (9) But Uriah slept at the entrance to the palace with all his master’s servants and did not go down to his house.(10) When David was told, “Uriah did not go home,” he asked him, “Haven’t you just come from a distance? Why didn’t you go home?” (11) Uriah said to David, “The ark and Israel and Judah are staying in tents, and my master Joab and my Lord’s men are camped in the open fields. How could I go to my house to eat and drink and lie with my wife? As surely as you live, I will not do such a thing.***

***(12) Then David said to him, “Stay here one more day, and tomorrow I will send you back.” So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day and the next. (13) At David’s invitation, he ate and drank with him, and David made him drunk. But in the evening Uriah went out to sleep on his mat among his master’s servants; he did not go home.***

- d. When that didn’t work...He went one step farther (II Samuel 11:14-17)

***(14) In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it with Uriah. (15) In it he wrote, “Put Uriah in the front line where the fighting is fiercest. Then withdraw from him so he will be struck down and die.” (16) So while Joab had the city under siege, he put Uriah at a place where he knew the strongest defenders were. (17) When the men of the city came out and fought against Joab, some of the men in David’s army fell; moreover, Uriah the Hittite died.***

- e. What a heinous sin....murder
- f. Sin drags you deeper and deeper

#### **5. Don’t let your career undermine your marriage**

- a. Uriah sounded like a noble warrior
- b. But the truth is he placed career ahead of his wife
  - 1. May have been why his wife was lonely

2. When David called him home
  - a. Slept outside
  - b. Good soldier...Lousy husband
3. When wives wander—
  - a. Often preceded by years of neglect
  - b. Wife finally reaches out to anyone who'll love her
4. Young couples
  - a. Working hard to get ahead
  - b. Working different hours
- c. Women today who wander
  1. Home raising kids
    - a. Feeling alone
    - b. Little support
  2. No love—just sex
    - a. No kind words
    - b. No romance
  3. When the kids finally get into school
    - a. Gets a job
  4. Guy at work gives her the attention she's craving
- d. Wives seldom stray if loved at home
- e. But once she's decided she's had enough
  1. More difficult to stop than a guy

***6. Affairs leave scars that last a lifetime***

- a. God forgave David
  - 1. Called a man after God's own heart
  - 2. Wrote the Psalms that we sing today....3000 years later
  - 3. He initiated the line of Christ
- b. But every affair leaves scars
- c. The price David paid (II Samuel 12:10-12)

***<sup>10</sup> Now, therefore, the sword will never depart from your house, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own.'***

***<sup>11</sup> This is what the Lord says: 'Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity upon you. Before your very eyes I will take your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will lie with your wives in broad daylight. <sup>12</sup> You did it in secret, but I will do this thing in broad daylight before all Israel.'***

- 1. Wives would be publicly violated
- 2. The baby would die (v. 14)
- 3. Incest within David's family
  - a. Daughter Tamar raped by her half-brother Amnon
- 4. Amnon murdered by another son, Absalom
- 5. Absalom killed while rebelling against David
- 6. Ruined relationship with wives and kids
- 7. Kingdom never at peace
- 8. Disqualified from building temple
- 9. Loss of fellowship with God
- 10. Forever known as —“David's sin”
  - a. Having a sin named after you
- d. Forgiven, yes—but, oh what a price for “The Dreaded Affair”

## **7. You'll live in fear of getting caught...and you will**

- a. The heart-stopping moment it becomes known
  - 1. It's like time stands still
- b. We hear the phrase "You're the man!"
  - 1. Wasn't meant for good when David heard it
- c. When David got caught (II Samuel 12:1-6)

<sup>1</sup> *The LORD sent Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, "There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor. <sup>2</sup> The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle, <sup>3</sup> but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children. It shared his food, drank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him.*

<sup>4</sup> *Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one who had come to him."*

<sup>5</sup> *David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, "As surely as the LORD lives, the man who did this deserves to die!" <sup>6</sup> He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity."*

- d. Then the hammer falls (II Sam. 12:7-9)

<sup>7</sup> *Then Nathan said to David, "You are the man! This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul. <sup>8</sup> I gave your master's house to you, and your master's wives into your arms. I gave you the house of Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more. <sup>9</sup> Why did you despise the word of the Lord by doing what is evil in his eyes? You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and took his wife to be your own. You killed him with the sword of the Ammonites.*

## **8. Just because it isn't physical doesn't mean it isn't an affair**

- a. The affairs of the mind
  - 1. Some of you this morning
  - 2. Another woman has come between you and your wife
    - a. She's in your thoughts

- b. She's the one you fantasize about
- 3. You think you aren't sinning
- 4. Jesus had a comment for you in Matthew 5:28

***“But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.***

- b. Pornography is an evil affair
  - 1. The destruction I've seen
  - 2. Ruined marriages....even if still together
  - 3. Can't wait to see her
- c. What was David thinking?
  - 1. How did he try to justify his actions?
  - 2. Did he think they won't get caught?
  - 3. Did he think God didn't see what was going on?
  - 4. Or did he just not think?
- d. Key if having an affair
  - 1. Stop immediately and stop completely

## ***9. God can still use people with scars***

- a. How God used David
- b. How God can use you
- c. God uses broken people
  - 1. Chapel Pointe is a house of recovery
  - 2. Where we experience God's Amazing Grace