

EPISODE NO. 143

2 Sam. 11:1-12

David and Bath-Sheba

1 In the spring, when the kings went out to war, David sent out Joab and his officers, and all Israel. They destroyed the Ammonites and surrounded the city of Rabbah. However, David stayed in Jerusalem.

2 One evening, David got up from his bed. He walked around on the roof of his palace. While up there, he looked out and saw a woman taking a bath. She was very beautiful.

3 So, David sent somebody to find out who she was. The man said, "That woman is Bath-Sheba, the daughter of Eliam. And, she is the wife of Uriah the Hittite."

4 Then David sent some messengers to bring Bath-Sheba to him. When she came to him, he had sex with her. (Now Bath-Sheba had purified herself from her monthly period.) Then she went back to her house.

5 But Bath-Sheba got pregnant. So, she sent a message to David, "I am pregnant!"

6 Then David sent this order to Joab: "Send Uriah the Hittite to me!" So Joab sent Uriah to David.

7 Uriah came to David, and David asked him how Joab was doing, how the soldiers were, and if the war was succeeding. 8 Then David said to Uriah, "Go home and rest."

Uriah left the king's palace. The king also sent a special gift to him. 9 However, Uriah did NOT go home. Instead, he slept just outside the gate of the king's palace. All of his master's officers slept there. Uriah did so too.

10 The officers told David: "Uriah did NOT go home!"

Then David said to Uriah, "You have just arrived from a long trip! Why didn't you go home!?"

11 Uriah said to him, "The Holy Chest and the soldiers of Israel and Judah are staying in HUTS! And, my master Joab and his officers are camping out in the open fields. It would NOT be right for me to go home to eat and drink and to have sex with my wife! I swear, I could NEVER do such a thing!"

12 So David said to Uriah, “Stay here today. Tomorrow I will send you back to the battle-lines.” So, Uriah stayed in Jerusalem that day and the next day.