

“Redeeming a Mom!”

I. INTRO:

A. Mothers Day: Video & Pray for moms.

B. I'm going to do 2 Sam.11 in 2 Parts.

1. This week: Part 1 **Redeeming a Mom**; center on Bathsheba's life.
2. Next week: Part 2 **Redeeming a Man**; center on David's most notable sin.

C. Every Mothers Day inevitably I talk with those who say, *but my mom wasn't a good mom.*

1. I want to speak to the less-than-perfect moms.
2. I want to speak to moms who have made mistakes in mothering/motherhood.
3. I want to show you a God who shows mercy, gives grace, & Redeems moms!

II. REDEEMING A MOM!

A. **BACKGROUND & HIGHLIGHTS!**

B. (1) In the spring - or “at the turn of the year”. March/April. Jewish New Year.

C. And of course David's in bed when he should have been in battle!

D. Family Counselor J. Allan Pettersen lists in his book, *The Myth of the Greener Grass*:

1. No one however chosen, blessed & used of God, is immune to an extramarital affair
2. Anyone, regardless of how many victories he has won, can fall disastrously.
3. The act of infidelity is the result of uncontrolled desires, thoughts, and fantasies.
4. Your body is your servant or it becomes your master.
5. A Christian who falls will excuse, rationalize, and conceal, the same as anyone else.
6. Sin can be enjoyable but it can never be successfully covered.
7. One night of passion can spark years of family pain.
8. [Listen to this!] Failure is neither fatal nor final!

E. Bathsheba - Not sure what you think of her?

1. You might think she's a seductress right out of a romantic-novel.
 Purposely hoping to catch the eye of the most powerful man in the known world.
 Who just moved in to his new palace.
 Which happens to command a view of her house, right across the little valley.
 Who also happens to know he walks his porch right before nightfall.

2. **You might think** she's an *innocent victim* of a crime of rape; or at least one who was *taken advantage of*.
3. **What do we know?** We know she's good looking (11:2); & We know she came from a God fearing family (dad's name was Eliam/Ammiel = *People of God*).

F. **Outline:** [1] Becoming a mom doesn't always start off well [2] Being a mom isn't always easy esp regarding the death of a child [3] Moms & their faulty Motherhood can always be Redeemed

III. [1] Becoming a mom doesn't always "start" off well! (2 Sam.11:5)

- A. *David, I'm pregnant! I am with child* - When is *Happy Mothers Day* not a *Happy Mothers Day*?
 1. Unmarried mothers gave birth to 4 out of every 10 babies born in the US in 2007.
 2. Number of live births to unmarried women: 1,726,566 (2008 CDC stats)
 3. Ok, that's heard enough not being married, but being married & coming up w/ someone else's baby...even worse.
- B. We are told Bathsheba *could not have* resisted had she desired, for a woman in these ancient times was completely subject to a king's will.
 1. **Consequently**, her part in the story is neither **praiseworthy** nor **blameworthy**.
 2. **Even Sarah**, some centuries before, *because of her beauty*, had been taken into the harems of 2 kings, Pharaoh & Abimelech (though not touched).
- C. There is no indication of Bathsheba's **thoughts** or **feelings** in the matter.
 1. *I am with child* was the message she sent to David; & she left him to deal with the situation.
 2. **She did mourn for her husband**(26) **but** was her grief routine, or guilt, or sincere?
- D. So, *Becoming a mom doesn't always "start" off well!*

IV. [2] Being a mom isn't always easy, esp regarding the death of a child!

(2 Sam.12:15b, 19)

- A. No greater grief a mother could ever face...the death of one of her children, even a baby.
 1. With Mary, the mother of Jesus, the death of her Son was defined, or alluded to, as **a sword**.
 2. The massacre of the children under 2 in Bethlehem & its districts brought about, **"A voice was heard in Ramah, Lamentation, weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, Refusing to be comforted, Because they are no more."**
 - a) **Rachel?** The mother of Joseph & Benj.
 - (1) Joseph had Ephraim & Mannaseh (2 leading tribes in the **North** of Israel)

- b) **Ramah?** – Jeremiah had heard Rachel weeping at Ramah, “where the Jewish prisoners were assembled for their long journey to Babylon”.
- c) Rachel’s descendants thru **Joseph** (North Is.) captured by **Assyria**;
Her descendants thru **Benj.** (South Is.) now captured by **Babylon**.
(1) God reassured her both Eph. & Benj. would be restored (16,17)
- d) **Q: Why is this quoted in Mt.2:16-18?**
- e) The mothers of Bethlehem, like Rachel, could only weep cuz of their **present** situation;
but like Rachel, the tears were **not in vain & not forever**.
See, “These children died that Jesus might live, so Jesus could die that they might live!”

B. So, *Being a mom isn’t always easy. Especially regarding the **rebellion** of their child, the **lack of spirituality** of their child, or the **death** of their child!*

V. **[3]Moms & Mistakes in Motherhood can always be Redeemed**(Prov31; Mt1:6)

A. It is as *the Mother of Solomon* where she takes her honored place among the famous women of the bible. **And**, as the *great, great, great, great, great,...***grandmother of Jesus**.

B. **[1] As the Mother of Solomon.**

1. During the years of Solomon’s youth there is *no record of her*.
2. But, when King David was old & dying, she carried out the *most important mission* of her life(*moms on a mission!*). **The establishing of Solomon as king!**
 - a) **1 Kings 1**, She intervened to have her son Solomon succeed his father as king of Israel.
 - b) **Adonijah was exalting himself to be king, & David didn’t rebuke him for it. (1:5,6)**
3. The Prophet Nathan conspired with Bathsheba to have Solomon made king as David had promised earlier.
4. In Bathsheba’s plea before the aged king **she shows *wisdom, finesse, courtesy, & vision***. **See 1 Kings 1:28,30** (obviously she had won **great respect** from **her husband**; from **the prophet**; from **her son**)
 - a) Only an **intelligent, respected** woman could have won so great a victory from **the king**.
 - b) Only a **righteous** woman could have been sought out by **the prophet Nathan**.
 - c) Only a **much loved** mother could have been so warmly greeted when she went to **her son** after he became king.
 - (1) **See 1 Kings 2:19**. **Right side** (place of power/authority) & **Queen mother!**
 - (2) **Make your Mom *Queen Mother* today! :)**

5. **Jewish tradition** has it that Bathsheba recited the **31st Proverb** on *chastity, temperance, & the qualities of a good wife*, to her son Solomon at his 1st marriage.¹
 - a) Many believe Prov.31 was written by Solomon(King Lemuel) in memory of his mother.
 - b) She encouraged *her son the king* to: **Beware of Wine, Women, & Words** (vs.1-9)
 - c) The rest of the chapter becomes an anthem to the virtuous woman.
 - d) A Hebrew Acrostic of:
 How **Rare** she is(10); How **Restful** she is(11,12); How **Resourceful** she is(13-15); How **Rich** she is(16-19); How **Responsive** she is(20); How **Ready** she is(21);
 Her **Personal Appearance**(22); Her **Public Applause**(23); Her **Popular Approval**(24-25)
 How **Right** she is(26,27); How **Rewarded** she is(28); How **Renowned** she is(29-31)²
6. The stormy scenes of her young womanhood had all passed.
 - a) Though she had lost the child born of adultery, it had been her pleasure to educate for the kingdom another son to see him anointed king & then to sit by him when he began to rule
7. Her story **opens** w/a dark picture of a woman as man's seductress; **but closes** happily w/the picture of the ideal woman, who is a **trusted companion & devoted mother**.

C. [2] **As the great, great, great, great,...GrandMother of Jesus.**

D. Bathsheba is also given a special place in *the genealogy of Jesus!*

1. Mt.1:6 (NLT) **Jesse was the father of King David. David was the father of Solomon (whose mother was Bathsheba, the widow of Uriah).**
2. An interesting fact about Matthew's genealogy is the inclusion of 4 OT women:
 - a) **Tamar** (Matt.1:3), **Rahab** (5), **Ruth** (5), and **Solomon's mother Bathsheba** (6).
 - b) All of these women (*as well as most of the men*) were questionable in some way.
 - (1) **Tamar and Rahab** were prostitutes (Gen. 38:24; Josh. 2:1),
 - (2) **Ruth** was a foreigner, a Moabitess (Ruth 1:4)
 - (3) **Bathsheba** committed adultery (2 Sam. 11:2-5).
 - c) Matthew may have included these women in order to emphasize that God's choices in dealing with people **are all of His Grace!!!**
 - (1) **Let's remember 2 things: There is a clean path to hell as well as a dirty one. And, No one can out-sin the Grace of God!**

E. Edith Dean, in *All the Women in the Bible* said, "Bathsheba lives on, even today 30 centuries later, as the honored & serene mother of Israel's wisest king, as a wife possessing a noble calmness & gentle dignity, & as a woman of queenly carriage as well as one who was "very beautiful to look upon." (Edith Dean pg.117)

¹ Edith Deen, All the Women in the Bible, pg.113

² John Phillips commentary on Proverbs.