

“Redeeming A Man!”

I. INTRO:

- A. **Belize/Machaca:** John Gotz.
- B. **Prayer:** (read 1 Kings 15:5) We are thankful our sins are not written down for all to read. May we learn from our friend David, during his darkest hour.
- C. **Why ch.11 in 2 parts?**
 - 1. **Last week:** Part 1 **Redeeming a Mom**; center on **Bathsheba's** life.
 - 2. **This week:** Part 2 **Redeeming a Man**; center on **David's** most notable sin.
 - a) The bible never flatters its heroes. All had feet of clay. [How the mighty have fallen!]
 - b) Many families this morning, have lived through this very sin. :(
 - c) **I again remind us**, if we leave the story on **adultery**, we learn little; **but** if we learn about God's mercy, redemption & grace, **then** we surely have learned something tremendous.
- D. **Outline:** How It Happens. How To Prevent It. How To Fix It. How to Move On.

II. HOW IT HAPPENS!

- A. **Dropping Your Guard!**
- B. “The devil tempts all men; but idle men tempt the devil.” F.B.Meyer
 - 1. There are perils of the indulgent life, unguarded moments, leisure hours, slackness, & lack of discipline w/the flesh.
 - 2. Tell me if James doesn't describe David's situation **But each 1 is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.** James 1:14,15
- C. **David's mid-life crisis** (age 50).
 - 1. He took off his armor...**both** physical & spiritual.
 - 2. W/o your **helmet** of salvation, we don't think like saved people;
W/o your **breastplate** of rt, we have nothing to protect our heart;
W/o your, **belt** of truth, we will easily believe lies; (i.e. “we can get away w/this!”)
W/o the **sword** of the Spirit & shield of faith, we are helpless before the enemy;
W/o **prayer** we have no power.
- D. **David's most difficult battle**, one that would even cripple his kingdom waited for him in the **ease & comfort** of his own palace.
 - 1. Our military men & women face the same things today. Overseas, away from home, even on base, there is such order, respect for rank, command, authority, “hear & obey”. Then they come home.

- a) They go from commanding troops, being respected, & now they face a toddler or teenager talking back. Your spouse can care less what rank it says on your sleeve or patch on your arm...the dog poop needs picking up & dirty diapers need-a-changin!
- 2. Often for our soldiers, men & women alike, find like David did, *the greater battlefield* might be when they walk through the front door.
- E. David was tempted **when** he woke up from his mid-day siesta. (Is there a pattern/time **when** u sin)
- F. One sin never abides alone! *Unless, it is immediately confessed.*
 - 1. Sin hardens the heart, & makes repentance difficult.
 - 2. **No excuse David:** He made the victim carry his own death instructions; he sacrificed other lives as well as Uriah's; he makes Joab a part of his plot; the marriage has to be hurriedly consummated.
 - a) David, **What were the 6 things God hates? There are six things the Lord hates - no, seven things he detests: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that kill the innocent, a heart that plots evil, feet that race to do wrong, a false witness who pours out lies, a person who sows discord in a family.** Prov.6:16-19

III. HOW TO PREVENT IT!

- A. David was tempted **through** the look! Like **Eve** (Gen3:6) & **Achan** (Josh7:21).
 - 1. We must put our eyes into the Lord's keeping.
 - 2. Mt.6:22,23 *NLT* Your eye is a lamp that provides light for your body. When your eye is good, your whole body is filled with light. But when your eye is bad, your whole body is filled with darkness.
- B. I heard a great illustration from a free Download of *The Next Story* by Tim Challies, from ChristianAudio.com. Tim Provides a framework we all can apply to any **technology**, he explains **how** and **why** our society has become reliant on digital technology, **what** it means for our lives, and **how** it impacts the Christian faith. (Illustration from ch.4)
- C. It was the old British war hero **Admiral Lord Nelson** who declared, **that every man became a bachelor once he went beyond Gibraltar.** That Giant chunk of rock jutting into the Mediterranean Sea guarding against anyone who wanted to sail in or out.
 - 1. Gibraltar was, & Gibraltar represented, anything beyond the civilized world! **Beyond Gibraltar** laid the frontier. When a ship sailed through Gibraltar heading south down the African coast the men were leaving the known world & heading into the unknown.
 - 2. Beyond civilization w/all its **rules, religion, & morality** lay uninhibited freedom. And here, **every man was a bachelor.** Every man free from the watchful eye of society could now behave however he pleased.

3. If you know the story of **John Newton** you know he enjoyed all that the world had to offer him. **Until God did his work of *Amazing Grace* in his life.**
4. ***Beyond Gibraltar*** there was no law. It was ***Beyond*** the watching eyes of friends & family & neighbors & pastors. **Every man could be who he wanted to be.**
5. **Without law & without oversight there was great freedom...And great captivity.**
 - a) In all the freedom to sin, he became bound to sin. ***Beyond Gibraltar*** you left behind **accountability**, & close on its heels **morality!**
6. **Now in our digital lives** we spend much time ***Beyond Gibraltar***, beyond accountability through visibility. **Able to say & do & look at & enjoy whatever our hearts desire. It has never been easier for everyone to be who he wants to be.** (choose your own status). **Yet** for all the **freedom** it brings us, **it** can also bring **captivity.**
 - a) **How are you protecting yourself when you digitally sail *Beyond Gibraltar*?**
 - b) **Accountability?** Do you have a problem giving your spouse/parent your **password.**
 - c) Your **freedom** can very quickly turn into **captivity.** **And it all comes into the eye-gate!**
 - (1) **The lust for sensual things** (**pornography on-line**; 50% men w/in the church?)
The lust for \$ or the thrill of chance (**gambling on-line**. We as Americans are now more addicted to gambling than alcohol. Peaks at age 31-40 & is now 3x's as common as alcoholism for that age group)
The need for constant communication w/others (**all social media**)
 - (2) **I am pro-social media. I am pro-digital media. But I am also pro-healthy boundaries.**
 - (a) **A 2010 study by Oxygen Media & Lightspeed Research found...1/3** of woman ages 18-34 check Facebook when 1st wake up even before using the bathroom.
21% check in the middle of the night. **39%** admit being **addicted** to F.B.
 - (3) **So how does one battle:** cybersex & cyberporn addiction; online affairs which have led to surprising new trends in divorce & marital separation; addictions to eBay, or online gambling, or multi-user role-playing online games?

D. How do we resist temptation...especially *Beyond Gibraltar*?

E. How do we not yield to temptation?

1. **Look back** & recall God's goodness to you;
2. **Look ahead** & remember "*the wages of sin*";
3. **Look around you** & think of all the people who will be affected by what you do;
4. **Look up** & ask God for the strength to say no.
 - a) 1 Cor.10:13 **The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience. And God is faithful. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, he will show you a way out so that you can endure.**

F. Other Tips?

1. Establish **boundaries** that keep you out of compromising situations.

2. Don't wait until you're tempted to weigh the consequences of your actions. Consider the consequences **ahead of time**.
3. Invite someone you trust to **hold you to your standards** *this side* of Gibraltar.
4. **Cultivate healthy pursuits** that keep your thoughts on things that are honorable & pure & good.
5. Most importantly, **cling to the Lord** in daily dependence.¹

IV. **HOW TO FIX IT!** (Ps.51:1-9)

A. This Psalm will explore both the **depths** of sin, **but also** the **farthest reaches** of salvation.

B. Ps.51 is a model for recovery!!!

1. **Admit the failure to yourself** - For I acknowledge my transgressions, And my sin is always before me. (3)
 - a) *Don't blame others, rationalize, deny, or make excuses.*
2. **Admit the failure to the Lord** - Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done this evil in Your sight. (4)
 - a) *Wait! Against You, You only, have I sinned*, Adultery/murder are hardly private wrongs?
 - (1) This was a biblical way of going to **the heart of the matter!**
 - b) *Of course* sin can be against **oneself**, *Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body.* (1 Cor. 6:18);
 - c) *Or against your neighbor*, *If your brother sins against you...*, (Lk.17:3).
 - (1) But the **sinning against God** is always the length/breadth of any & every sin!
3. **See God's faithfulness & forgiveness** - Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, Blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, & cleanse me from my sin(1,2)
4. **Come to terms w/your sinful humanity** - Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me. (5)
 - a) **David's whole being was affected by his sin:** his eyes(3b); mind(6b); ears(8); heart(10); spirit(10); fellowship w/God(11); he lost his joy(12); & mouth(13-15, he stopped teaching & singing)

C. Had David stopped in vs.9, it would have led him to despair.

1. Instead, it enlarged his praying...he goes on!

V. **HOW TO MOVE ON!** (Ps.51:10-17)

A. David turns the corner & takes hold of God's pleasure in restoring the broken.

¹ Charles Swindoll; David, pg.134

- B. Ask God to put you together again - Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me. (10)
- C. Prepare to be used again - Then I will **teach** transgressors Your ways, And sinners shall be converted to You. (13)
1. This is **after** he has dealt with his failing & restored his relationship w/God; **now** he gets on with it. He deals with the new realities & makes the most of them.
 2. Once right after **Dan Marino**, former quarterback of the Miami Dolphins, had thrown an interception, the commentator said, "One great strength of Marino is, like all great quarterbacks, he has a short memory." In other words, he doesn't dwell on interceptions. He knows what he did wrong. Instead of being paralyzed by an interception, he thinks, **What's the next play?**
 - a) Obviously one is a **mistake** & the other a **major transgression**. **But** both must move push past the event **or** it will be crippling!
- D. Here is the worse **consequence** of sin in our life...loss of close fellowship w/God! (11)
1. No, God doesn't remove His H.S. from us today (as he did in OT)!
 2. Jn.14:16 **And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever**
 - a) When we sin against the Lord, we lose that **closeness** of the H.S.
- E. David didn't lose **his** salvation, **but the joy of Your** salvation! (12)
- F. (13) **Then I will teach** – Yes, you're not shelved for ever!!!
1. Jesus to Peter, **When you have turned again, strengthen your brothers!**
 2. **Yes, saved sinners**, there will again come a time, when God will use you & even your sin situation to share with others! **Build your testimony again!**
- G. (14) **Bloodshed** – plainly name your sin! *David doesn't call it a moral lapse or an indiscretion!*
1. **"Do not give fair names to foul sins!"** (Spurg)
- H. (17) **Broken** – A whole heart is a senseless thing...but when it is broken & bruised, it is useful to God.
1. My Society Garlic plant gives off its aroma when it is bruised.
 2. **Do you like Lemon slice in your ice tea?** 1st thing I do take it & bend in ½ **or** twist it.
 - a) Then & only then does it give off its wonderful full scent/flavor.
- I. Micah 7:18,19 **Who is a God like You, Pardoning iniquity And passing over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever, Because He delights in mercy. He will again have compassion on us, And will subdue our iniquities. You will cast all our sins Into the depths of the sea.**