

DON'T ALL THE INJUSTICES IN CHURCH HISTORY DISCREDIT CHRISTIANITY?

2 SAMUEL 12:1-7

When we think about church injustice the historical duo of the Crusades and inquisition immediately spring to mind. Unfortunately, the injustice has not remained in history or been limited to these two but continues to draw negative attention to the church as a whole. Whether one chooses to focus on the sins of the past or present, the injustice found in the church draws out legitimate questions about the church's message and purpose.

In a similar vein to the hypocrisy discussion above, the message of the church is significantly undermined by these tragedies. How could an institution with such visible corruption and flaws be the torch bearer of truth? How could the integrity of the Christian message be maintained in an environment so twisted?

As we examine the epic story of David's failure with Bathsheba we will begin to understand the relationship between sinful people called to be ambassadors and the perfect God who calls. It is in this relationship that we can begin to more clearly understand how injustice in the church does not discredit God, but exposes humans and their propensity towards sin, rebellion, and power.

MEMORY VERSE

2 Samuel 12:5,7

Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man, and he said to Nathan, "As the LORD lives, the man who has done this deserves to die... Nathan said to David, "You are the man!"

SUPPLEMENTAL READING

<input type="checkbox"/>	MONDAY	Psalms 1
<input type="checkbox"/>	TUESDAY	2 Samuel 11-12:7
<input type="checkbox"/>	WEDNESDAY	Romans 12:9-21
<input type="checkbox"/>	THURSDAY	Matthew 23:1-36
<input type="checkbox"/>	FRIDAY	Matthew 7:15-27
<input type="checkbox"/>	SATURDAY	2 Timothy 3:1-9

SERMON NOTES

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SERMON NOTES

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POST SUNDAY STUDY CONTENT

Understanding the Text

1. The Story of David and Bathsheba is familiar to most of us, which can result in us glossing over some integral details. What does the text say about what David did? (vs. 27)
2. In the interaction between David and Nathan, who is the representative of the Lord?
3. Why does Nathan use a parable instead of the "real story"?
4. What are the implications of Nathan identifying David as the man worthy of condemnation?

Applying the Text

1. In context, David is the representative of the Lord to the people. His sin brings shame to himself and the Lord. Why is it important that Nathan is sent by the Lord to confront David and expose his sin?
2. Why has the church represented Christ so poorly at times?
3. Where has the church represented Christ well? How is this weighed against our failures? Why?
4. Why is it important to understand the difference between a representative and the actual authority?
5. How should the church respond when injustices are exposed, both past and present?
6. Does the failure of the church confirm or deny the truth of the gospel? Why?
7. How would accepting our failure, both personally and corporately, act as an apologetic to those God has placed in our lives?