

Nathan the Prophet Confronts David (c. 996 BC)

2 Samuel 12:1–15a

- 1 So Yahweh sent Nathan to David, and he came to him and said, “Two men were in a certain city; one *was* rich and the other *was* poor.
- 2 The rich *man* had very many flocks and herds,
- 3 but the poor *man* had nothing except for one small ewe lamb which he had bought. He had nurtured her, and she grew up with him and with his children together. She used to eat from his morsel and drink from his cup, and she used to lie in his lap and became like a daughter for him.
- 4 And a visitor came to the rich man, but he was reluctant to take from his flocks or from his herds to prepare a meal for the traveler when he came to him. So he took the ewe lamb of the poor man and prepared it for the man who had come to him.”
- 5 Then the anger of David was kindled against the man, and he said to Nathan, “As Yahweh lives, the man who has done this deserves to die!
- 6 He shall restore the ewe lamb fourfold because he has done this thing, and because he had no pity.”
- 7 Then Nathan said to him, “You *are* the man! Thus says Yahweh the God of Israel: ‘I anointed you as king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul.
- 8 I gave you the household of your master and the women of your master into your lap. I also gave you the house of Israel and Judah; if *that had been too* little, I would have added to you much more.
- 9 Why have you despised the word of Yahweh by doing evil in his eyes? Uriah the Hittite you have struck down with the sword, and his wife you have taken to yourself as wife! You have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites!
- 10 So then, a sword will not turn away from your house forever, because you have despised me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife!’
- 11 Thus says Yahweh, ‘Look, I *am* going to raise up evil against you from *within* your house, and I will take your women before your eyes, and I will give them to your neighbor, and he shall sleep with your wives in broad daylight.
- 12 Though you did this in secret, I will do this thing before all of Israel in broad daylight!’”
- 13 Then David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against Yahweh!” Nathan said to David, “Yahweh has also forgiven your sin; you shall not die.
- 14 But because you have utterly scorned Yahweh in this matter, the son born for you will certainly die.”
- 15a Then Nathan went to his house,

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God (c. 996 BC)

Psalm 51

For the music director.

A psalm of David. When Nathan the prophet came to him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba.

- 1 Be gracious to me, O God, according to your loyal love.
According to your abundant mercies,
blot out my transgressions.
- 2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and from my sin cleanse me.
- 3 For I myself know my transgressions,
and my sin *is* ever before me.
- 4 Against you, only you, I have sinned
and have done this evil in your eyes,
so that you are correct when you speak,
you are blameless when you judge. [[Rom 3:4](#)]
- 5 Behold, in iniquity I was born,
and in sin my mother conceived me.
- 6 Behold, you delight *in* truth in the inward parts,
and in *the* hidden *parts* you make me to know wisdom.
- 7 Purify me with hyssop, and I shall be clean.
Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
- 8 Make me hear joy and gladness;
let *the* bones you have crushed rejoice.
- 9 Hide your face from my sins,
and all my iniquities blot out.
- 10 Create a clean heart for me, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

- 11 Do not cast me away from your presence,
and do not take your Holy Spirit from me.
- 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and with a willing spirit sustain me.
- 13 *Then* I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will turn back to you.
- 14 Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God,
the God of my salvation;
then my tongue will sing aloud *of* your righteousness.
- 15 O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will proclaim your praise.
- 16 For you do not delight *in* sacrifice or I would give *it*.
With a burnt offering you are not pleased.
- 17 The sacrifices of God *are* a broken spirit;
A broken and contrite heart,
O God, you will not despise.
- 18 Do good in your favor toward Zion.
Build the walls of Jerusalem.
- 19 Then you will delight *in* righteous sacrifices,
burnt offering and whole burnt offering.
Then bulls will be offered on your altar.

Blessed Are the Forgiven (c. 996 BC)

Psalm 32

Of David. A maskil.

- 1 Happy *is* he whose transgression is taken away,
whose sin is covered. [[Rom 4:7](#)]
- 2 Happy *is* a person to whom Yahweh does not impute iniquity
and in whose spirit there is not deceit.
- 3 When I kept silent, my bones were worn out
due to my groaning all the day.
- 4 For day and night your hand was heavy upon me.
My vigor was changed into *the* dry heat of summer. *Selah*
- 5 I made known my sin to you, and my iniquity I did not cover.
I said, "I will confess concerning my transgressions to Yahweh,"
and you took away the guilt of my sin. *Selah*
- 6 Therefore let all *the* faithful pray to you
at *the* time *for* finding you.
Surely at *the* flood of many waters they will not reach him.
- 7 You *are* my hiding place;
from trouble you preserve me.
With cries of deliverance you surround me. *Selah*
- 8 I will instruct you and teach you
in *the* way that you should go.
I will advise *you with* my eye upon you.
- 9 Do not be like a horse *or* like a mule, without understanding;
that needs his tackle—bridle and rein—for restraint
or he would not come near you.
- 10 Many are *the* pains of the wicked,
but *for* the one who trusts Yahweh
loyal love surrounds him.
- 11 Be glad in Yahweh and rejoice, *you* righteous,
and shout for joy, all *you* upright of heart.

The Death of David and Bathsheba's First Son (c. 996 BC)

2 Samuel 12:15b–24a

15b and Yahweh struck the child that the wife of Uriah bore for David, and he became ill.

16 David pleaded *with* God on behalf of the boy and David fasted. He went to spend the night and lay upon the ground.

17 The elders of his household stood over him to lift him up from the ground, but he *was* not willing, and he did not eat *any* food with them.

18 It happened on the seventh day that the child died, and the servants of David *were* afraid to tell him that the child *was* dead, for they said, "Look, when the child *was* alive, we spoke to him, but he would not listen to our voice. How can we tell him, 'The child *is* dead'? He may do *something* evil."

19 When David saw that his servants *were* whispering together, he realized that the child *was* dead. Then David said to his servants, "Is the child dead?" And they said, "He *is* dead."

20 David stood up from the ground and washed and anointed himself and changed his clothing. Then he went *to* the house of Yahweh and worshiped, and he went to his *own* house. He asked, so they served him food, and he ate.

21 Then his servants said to him, "What *is* this thing that you have done? While the child *was* alive, you fasted and wept; *now* that the child has died, you get up and eat food!"

22 He said, "When the child *was* still alive, I fasted and I wept because I thought, 'Who knows? Yahweh may have mercy on me that the child will live.'

23 But now he *is* dead. Why *should I* be fasting? *Am I* able to return him again? I *am* going to him, but he cannot return to me."

24a David consoled Bathsheba his wife,

The Capture of Rabbah in Ammon (c. 996 BC)

2 Samuel 12:26–31

1 Chronicles 20:1b–3

26 And Joab fought against Rabbah of the Ammonites, and he captured the royal city.

27 Then Joab sent messengers to David and said, "We have fought against Rabbah, and we captured the city of the waters.

28 So then, gather the remainder of the army and encamp against the city and capture it, lest I capture the city and my name be proclaimed over it."

29 So David gathered all of the army, and he went to Rabbah and fought against it and captured it.

30 He took the crown of their king from his head.

(Now its weight *was* a talent of gold, and there *was* a precious stone *in it* and it *was* put on David's head.)

He brought out the plunder of the city in great abundance.

31 He also brought out the people who *were* in it and put them to the saws and to the iron picks and to the iron axes, and he sent them to the place of the brickmakers.

Thus he used to do to all the cities of the Ammonites, and he and all of the army returned to Jerusalem.

1b And Joab struck Rabbah and destroyed it.

2 And David took the crown of their king from his head and found it to weigh a talent of gold. And in it *was* a precious stone. Then it *was placed* upon the head of David.

And he brought out the booty of the city, a large amount.

3 And the people who *were* in it he brought out, and he set them to work with saws and iron implements and axes.

Thus David did to all the cities of the Ammonites.

Then David returned, and all the nation *went* with him.

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