

April 25 Answers

- 1) David's war with the Ammonites and his adultery with Bathsheba. When Nahash of Ammon died, David reached out to Hanun in a gesture of kindness and friendship. Hanun listened to bad advice and believed the **worst** of David's ambassadors. He humiliated them and sent them away in shame. This shows us how easy it is to be **suspicious** of people and to question their motives. While we should be cautious and **wise** in our dealings with others, we should not assume their motives are **evil**. When Hanun realized his blunder, he refused to **admit** his mistake and spent an enormous sum of **money** preparing for war. This teaches us that it **costs** more to cover up an error than to admit it honestly. Rather than **compound** a mistake by being stubborn and defensive, we should seek forgiveness and reconciliation as soon as we realize our offense. After defeating Hanun's hired army of Arameans (Syrians), Joab besieged the Ammonite capital city of **Rabbah**. David remained in Jerusalem during the siege, and one evening, as he was walking on the palace roof, he saw a **very** beautiful woman taking a bath. Instead of **turning** away and resisting temptation, David **watched** her and then **inquired** about who she was. This teaches us the importance of **fleeing** temptation. We can't keep ourselves from being tempted, but we can refuse to **act** on those desires (2 Tim 2:22; Jam 1:14–15). David never dreamed that he would **murder** one of his own mighty men, yet that's what happened when he tried to **hide** his sin rather than confessing and repenting. Is there any sin in our lives that we've been trying to hide from God?