

THE TRAGEDY OF LOST POTENTIAL **(2Samuel 12:1-14)**

- I. Sin causes you not to experience the fullness of God's blessings.**
- A. God told David that He would have given Him even more.
 - 1. He mentioned some things He had given David in verse 8.
 - 2. Think about what God had already given David.
 - 3. On top of all of that, God said I would have given you even more.
 - B. God is a liberal giver (Luke 6:38).
 - 1. When He gives, He gives much.
 - 2. When He gives it is good (James 1:17).
 - C. We miss the rest that God has to offer us when we sin.
 - 1. God is totally against sin (James 1:13-15).
 - 2. When we sin, we have the potential to lose out on other great things God has in store for us because we cause our selves to be enemies of God (James 4:4).
 - D. Our hearts display an ungrateful spirit towards God for the things He has given us when we sin.
 - 1. David had gotten many wives and concubines.
 - 2. However, he showed God that he was not content with the provisions of God.
 - E. We can fall into that same trap in life and miss out on great things, while looking for the little things of this world.
- II. Sin causes you to experience the loss of blessings.**
- A. God would take some of those blessings back that He had bestowed upon David (vs. 11).
 - B. Not only that, but the child that was conceived because of this sinful act would die (vs. 14).
 - C. There is no telling how many blessings are lost because God's people are not content with the things God has given them.
 - 1. How many Christian homes have been wrecked because of discontent?
 - 2. How many Christians have left the Lord's church because of discontent with their financial status?
 - 3. How many Christians have left the Lord because of discontent with the worship God has authorized?
 - D. We must understand that sin brings not only the loss of potential blessings, but possibly blessings we already possess.
 - E. This is not limited to what we may call "big" sins.
 - 1. When we allow ourselves to do things we consider small, it will harden us against God.
 - 2. Those things add up and we have to do more to cover them.
 - F. All sins cause us to have the need to come before God for forgiveness.
 - G. When we allow sin to remain we most definitely allow the loss of the blessing of joy.
 - 1. The very sin that caused this loss was written about by David in

Psalm 51.

2. Notice what he said in verse 12.

3. How many Christians are joyless because of sin?

III. Sin causes you to experience judgment instead of God's blessings.

A. David still got to be king and God spared his life.

1. He still had the promise of an heir continually on his throne.

2. He got to keep Bathsheba and remain in Jerusalem.

B. However, his family would never know peace (vs. 10).

C. His family would experience trouble within.

D. Think about what you have read this week in your daily reading that took place after this:

1. Amnon raped Tamar;

2. Absalom killed Amnon for it and then fled;

3. Absalom came back only to turn the people against David;

4. Absalom attempted to take the throne and fulfilled the prophecy of verses 11-12 of our text.

5. Absalom lost his life and it caused David misery.

E. A lot of that could have been avoided if David had turned away that fateful night or Bathsheba had not allowed herself to be seen in an immodest way.

F. You might be saying, I don't have a kingdom to lose.

G. Are things well in your house right now?

1. If not, is it because of sin?

2. If it is, you could be experiencing God's judgment.

H. Are things well at your work or in other areas of your life?

I. Sin takes and takes and many times we simply allow it do so.

From a sermon by David Taylor