

Mirror, Mirror... Part 1: "Uriah's Profile!"

By Cere Muscarella

2 Samuel 11.1 "And in the time when kings go to war..."

David, *the king*, stayed behind/sent others! Even though there was *an active front!* David declares a self-indulgent exemption to any more self-exertion! If there's ever been a reason to stay in the game while you have life, this is it!

Once you let time served, prominence of faith, usefulness to the kingdom, insinuate that you have privileges... you stand in dark territory, in imminent danger!

David is... Calling out his own 'retirement' from service to God... Exposing himself to the temptations of idleness... *But if he had been where he was supposed to be... and not where he wasn't... he wouldn't have fallen into this nest of sins!*

2 Samuel 11.2 "And when he got up from his after -- noon nap and walked out onto his balcony... he saw a woman taking a bath and he watched her and observed that she was very beautiful!"

It's one thing to be surprised... Another thing to dwell on it and deal with what comes next!

"Everyone is tempted when they are drawn away by lust and enticed. And when lust conceives it brings forth sin, and sin, when it is finished, brings forth death..." James 1.14,15

2 Samuel 11.3 "And David took the next step to find out about her..."

He called up her profile! "Her name is Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam (Ammiel: Am-of-El: People of God) and the wife of Uriah the Hittite (fire-light of God); a convert, one of your leaders, and one of your adopted brothers..."

David... This is no "candidate" for the harem... This is not a young, single, unattached girl waiting for Sugar Daddy... This is not a "married" woman, wife of an unnamed, invisible, uncaring man... This is woman God loves, whose father is a good man, whose husband is a friend and compatriot... **SWERVE OFF!**

2 Samuel 11.4a "And David sent messengers and she came to him and he laid with her..."

He messaged, she responded without resistance... What was she thinking? Coup for husband/closer to the throne? Flattered that the rich, powerful, famous wanted her? Affirmation for the desperate? A thrill for the bored?

2 Samuel 11.4b "And when she had purified herself from her uncleanness she returned to her house..."

This is the "crest" of sin... The "ceremonial cleansing" of sin... Unrepentant, defiled, but playing the religious game of looking right... "Having the form of godliness their hearts are far away!" Mk 7.6 2Tim3.5

2 Samuel 11.5 "Then she sent the message: 'I'm pregnant!'"

'wasn't expecting this...' "this is a problem, even for a king..." "this is a problem for Bathsheba..." "this is a low-life betrayal of Uriah..." BUT DON'T WORRY, I CAN FIX IT! *Sin wasn't finished yet!*

David... plots the cover up! His sin has robbed him of reason! Calls Uriah back from the field... 'report!' One of his "37" mighty men/reporter? "**Now, go home, eat, drink and be married...**" And sends him out with lavish dinner... "**But Uriah stopped/slept at the door of the king's house with the other soldiers!**"

David... David keeps Uriah for one more attempt! Prepares a feast and gets him drunk... "Now, go home, and **enjoy your wife...**" "But he slept in the bunk house... again!"

David... Determined "to be free..." David sends him back to the front with the directions for his own destruction... Joab puts him out front, withdraws the troops, **and Uriah dies... just as planned!**

Uriah in the Mirror... There is a mission and it's battle time... Leadership is absent/faltering... **But Uriah is independently committed and REFUSES to be distracted/diluted...** Down to his core he is sold to serve...

"Uriah, why didn't you take advantage of this opportunity to indulge yourself?"

"For the Ark (God) and Israel and Judah (nation) and my (band of) brothers still in the battle!"

Uriah is so engaged he doesn't see the end coming... HE DIES SWINGING!

Seeing ourselves in the Mirror... There is a mission and it's battle time... Leaders come and go/falter/drift... **Are we independently committed/God?** Will we refuse to be distracted and diminished and robbed by sin? Under duress what rises from our core? Will we be serving when our end comes?

Can you see yourself in the word...? Faithful and engaged for the sake of God, a nation in turmoil, and for brothers still in the fight!