

David's Sin, So Admonitory to Us Weak Men

by Clement of Rome

David's sin with Bathsheba serves as a cautionary tale for Christians to live a righteous life and avoid the dangers of unchecked desire.

Scripture: 2 Samuel 11:2

Topics: "Temptation And Sin", "Spiritual Accountability"

Description

Clement of Rome warns about the dangers of lust and temptation using the example of David, a man after God's heart who fell into sin after being captivated by Bathsheba. He emphasizes the consequences of giving in to passion, highlighting how even the most righteous individuals can be led astray. Clement urges believers to be cautious in their interactions with women, especially those who have taken vows, reminding them to avoid situations that may lead to temptation and sin.

Transcript

Does not the case of David instruct you, whom God found a man after His heart, one faithful, faultless, pious, true? This same man saw the beauty of a woman-- I mean of Bathsheba-- when he saw her as she was cleansing herself and washing unclothed. This woman the holy man saw, and was thoroughly captivated with desire by the sight of her. See, then, what evils he committed because of a woman, and how this righteous man sinned, and gave command that the husband of this woman should be killed in battle. You have seen what wicked schemes he laid and executed, and how, because of his passion for a woman, he perpetrated a murder-- he, David, who was called the anointed of the Lord.

Be admonished, O man: for, if such men as these have been brought to ruin through women, what is your righteousness, or what are you among the holy, that you consort with women and with maidens day and night, with much silliness, without fear of God? Not thus, my brethren, not thus let us conduct ourselves; but let us be mindful of that word which is spoken concerning a woman: Her hands lay snares, and her heart spreads nets; but the just shall escape from her, while the wicked falls into her hands.

Therefore let us, who are consecrated, be careful not to live in the same house with females who have taken the vow. For such conduct as this is not becoming nor right for the servants of God.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/clement-of-rome/davids-sin-so-admonitory-to-us-weak-men/>

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