



IS THERE LIFE FOR DAVID AFTER BATHSHEBA?

Are you paralyzed by some failure? Mired in guilt? Beating yourself up? Maybe it's time to move on. David's story teaches us that failure doesn't have to be fatal—as long as you fail forward.

1. The devil's strategy is to entice you into sin, and then **ensnare you in guilt and self-loathing** for taking his bait [[Romans 8:31-39](#)].
2. The key to avoiding the snare of sin, and wallowing in the muck and mire of guilt, is **a proper assessment of your fallen nature** [[James 3:2](#) & [Romans 3:0-12; 7:14-24](#)].
3. **Beware of the coverup.** "Oh, what a tangled web we weave when first we practice to deceive." [[2 Samuel 11](#); [Number 23:32](#); [Galatians 6:7](#)].
4. Deceiving others will produce **self-deception** that prolongs your enslavement to sin and postpones your repentance and redemption. [[2 Samuel 12:5-7](#)].
5. For repentance to do its complete work, we have to **face the full reality of what we have done**—no matter how much the Sword of God's Word eviscerates our soul [[2 Samuel 12:7-12](#)].

6. Let repentance do its work. **Quick and easy repentance is never the work of God.** It's like peeling off layers of an onion. [2 Samuel 12:13; 2 Corinthians 7:10].

7. Don't let the consequences of sin take away your assurance of salvation, or make you **doubt the love of God** [2 Samuel 12:13&14; Hebrews 12:6-11].

8. It's okay to **plead with God to graciously lighten the consequences.** No discipline ever seems pleasant, nor does God call us to be masochists [2 Samuel 12:15-21].

9. True repentance **praises God for his severe mercy.** Ungodly repentance blames God or degenerates into self-pity or self-loathing. There comes a time when we have to get off the floor, wash up, praise God, and move on [2 Samuel 12:20-25].

10. Through the process we have to believe that **complete restoration is a sure reality** [2 Samuel 12:24 &25; Jeremiah 29:11; Philippians 1:6].

11. **We have to get back into the game.** True repentance never allows the devil to put us on the sideline [2 Samuel 12:26-31].

12. **The Anatomy of Repentance** [Psalm 51].
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