



Lesson 87

David and Bathsheba – Part 1

Story Elements

- **Text:** 2 Samuel 11:1-12:23
- **Setting:** approx. 1000 B.C.
- **Main Characters:** God, David, Bathsheba, Uriah, and Nathan
- **Plot:** David's sin with Bathsheba brings tragic results.
- **Key word(s):** “*the _____ of Uriah*” (11:3, 26)
- **Climax:** “*But the thing that David had done displeased the Lord.*” (11:27)

Idle Hands... (2 Sam. 11:1-5)

- 1) Chapter 10 closed with Joab battling the Ammonites and their Syrian mercenaries.
 - a) Having vanquished the Syrians, Joab waited until springtime to besiege Rabbah, the royal city of the Ammonites. (10:14) Spring was the time when “_____ go forth to battle.”
 - b) What advantage would there be to waiting for spring to besiege a city? _____
- 2) The phrase “but David tarried still at Jerusalem” implies that David broke from his normal practice, setting himself up for _____.
- 3) David walked along the flat roof of his palace, enjoying the evening breeze. From his elevated vantage, he espied Bathsheba, the wife of Uriah the Hittite, washing herself in a nearby house. A lot of artistic interpretation has been interjected into this story. Common houses of that day had no bathtubs or pools. Most washing was done with a wide, shallow _____.
- 4) David's admiration of Bathsheba's beauty devolved into sinful _____. He had her brought to his palace, where he committed adultery with her.

If You Play with Fire... (2 Sam. 11:6-25)

- 5) Bathsheba became pregnant, and immediately sent word to David. To conceal his sin, David plotted:
 - a) He would have Uriah, Bathsheba's husband, return from battle under the ruse of needing an _____ on the battle. David thought that Uriah would surely go to his house that evening to be with his wife, and so Uriah would assume Bathsheba's child was his own.
 - b) Unfortunately for David, Uriah was a highly _____ soldier. His incredible *esprit de corps* forbade him from sleeping in his own house and being with his wife. (11:9)

