

Nov 15th 2009: David and the KGB: 2 Sam 12. Psalm 51. Psalm 32

Back in the era of the Cold War.....the Russian KGB.....was renown....for using moral mistakes of For the political advantage of their nation

Many a military leader....scientist....politician was pressured to betray.....Some skeleton

Just think about the hold they could have had over king David.....if they had been around At the time of his dalliance with.....and subsequent murder of Uriah (hoping to use or destroy David)

But of course the KGB weren't around at that time....

But Almighty God was.....and his intention was not to destroy....but to reclaim David back....mess

And in doing that God made use of another KGB
Where K stands for Knowledge
G stands for GUILT.....and
B stands for blessing

I'm not sure that the knowledge base of David's sin.....was particularly widely spread
A few people knew little bits.....Bathsheba.....Joel.....Uriah

→only David and God knew everything.....**and then God told His prophet Nathan**

Stop and think for a moment about the hardest things God has ever asked you to do???
There's a good possibility.....that confronting someone.....is on the list

Well spare a thought for Nathan

He was told by God all that David had done....then we read.....God sent him to David
Sent him to a king....who he now knew murdered.....**Sent** him to confront him over his sin

So into the king's presence marched Nathan.....Nothing unusual about that

He would have often brought cases before the king for his judgment

But this time Nathan knew how diff it was.....For he was the spokesperson for God.....& the offender

So in a very skillful way.....Nathan presented the knowledge...to David...as just another complaint
This is what he said.....Comes from 2 Sam 12:1-4.....CEV

A rich man and a poor man lived in the same town. ²The rich man owned a lot of sheep and cattle, ³but the poor man had only one little lamb that he had bought and raised. The lamb became a pet for him and his children. He even let it eat from his plate and drink from his cup and sleep on his lap. The lamb was like one of his own children.

'One day someone came to visit the rich man, but the rich man didn't want to kill any of his own sheep or cattle and serve it to the visitor. So he stole the poor man's little lamb and served it instead.

David is now a very rich and powerful king.....but once he had been a poor Shepherd with his own sheep and lambs to careand his heart is still touched deeply when he hears stories such as this one.....about grass injustice....against a Shepherd whose herd is tiny...from a Shepherd

And David reacts angrily

'David was furious with the rich man and said to Nathan, "I swear by the living LORD that the man who did this deserves to die! 'And because he didn't have any pity on the poor man, he will have to pay four times what the lamb was worth."

Then God takes all the **knowledge**.....and sends it back to David.....in just two words in Hebrew **YOU ARE THE MAN**

And it hit David between the eyes like a two by four.....God through Nathan Pierced David's heart with the knowledge.....which is His word.

I am not at all surprised to see that happening with Nathan

Because I have been privileged....to know God doing the same through me
Often after a service....someone has said to me.....You were speaking directly to me.....

- **Then after the Knowledge God used the Guilt**

God didn't make David feel guilty over something he hadn't done

He simply drew forth from him the guilt he already felt....for the wrong He had done

The Guilt he was trying to hide.....The guilt he didn't want to deal with

I have heard people complain about the church....that all the church does is to make people feel guilty.....**And I** know at times I have personally manipulated people to do things by making them feel real bad if they say no.....**That's creating** false guilt....and its wrong

But when the guilt is related to wrongs committed against God's will for those He has created
Then God the Holy Spirit delights to draw out that guilt.....so He can then cleanse and heal

Jesus said, as recorded in John 16:8 of the Holy Spirit:

'When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt^[e] in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment.

The holy Spirit does not do this....in order to leave the person drowning in despair
But so that they can be moved by the guilt they experience....to seek forgiveness and renewal

I always thought that this revelation of guilt for David....was a sudden thing
That up to that point guilt at what he had done.....had hardly worried him
But then I read this in one of the other penitent Psalms.....32:3-4

*When I kept silent,
my bones wasted away
through my groaning all day long.*

*4 For day and night
your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was sapped
as in the heat of summer*

- **David may well have** hid his guilt from others....but all that time....within his heart
It was taking a dreadful toll.....He was loosing weight....depressed.....no strength or enthusiasm

There is definitely a sense here....that he was relieved.....when God brought it into the open
When he declared his sin openly to Nathan.....words found in 2 Sam 12:13

¹³ **Then David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD."**

*Psalm 32:5 says
Then I acknowledged my sin to you
and did not cover up my iniquity.
I said, "I will confess
my transgressions to the LORD"—
and you forgave
the guilt of my sin.*

- **And that of course**....is exactly what God did.....This is where the B for blessing comes
- **For** the greatest Blessing that any of us can ever receive.....is the Blessing of forgiveness

Nathan said to David in v13

"The LORD has taken away your sin. You are not going to die.

That didn't mean no consequences.....There were some dreadful.....look at that next week
But the forgiveness meant that David would not die....a criminal in God's sight...separated for....

And it's in Psalm 51....that we find out how much that meant to David.....verses 7-12

***Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.***

***⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.***

***⁹ Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquity.***

***¹⁰ Create in me a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.***

***¹¹ Do not cast me from your presence
or take your Holy Spirit from me.***

***¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.***

- **Now all this is great for David**.....He is forgiven.....Pure in God's sight
But he did such horrible things.....He stands as a **adulterer ...murderer**....liar...hypocrite
He doesn't deserve **forgiveness**....Yet then all sin is as black before God.....and we do not deserve

But God offers it to us all.....because of another lamb.....**who gave** His life on a cross
That Lamb being.....the Son of God

And its because of that:-

KGB
+
You and Me
=
Glory for Ever