

Out of His Place

2 Samuel 11-12, Psalm 51

"I'm just going to rest at home," thought King David. "The soldiers can go to the battle without me."

It was the time of year when kings went out to fight; but as his army marched out, King David stayed home.

One quiet afternoon, David went up to walk around on the terrace of his house when he saw a woman bathing on another house nearby. He should have turned away, but he sent people to find out about her. The woman's name was Bathsheba and she was married to one of David's faithful soldiers.

David did very wrong. He called for Bathsheba and treated her like his own wife. Then it got even worse. David tried to cover up his sin by having Bathsheba's husband killed in the battle. It looked like David's plan worked, but God had seen all of this.

God sent the prophet Nathan with a message for David. Because of what David did, there would be violence and trouble in David's family.

David knew he had done wrong. Instead of trying to defend himself, David repented and begged God to wash his heart from sin.

God forgave David and helped him, but this sin left a scar and brought much trouble to David's family for years and years.

