LET GO & LET GOD! II Samuel 12:15-23

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INTRODUCTION

- After David committed his indiscretion with Bathsheba (Uriah's wife), she became pregnant.
- David attempted to cover it up by devising a scheme for Uriah to sleep with Bathsheba.
- Uriah refrains from doing so, and David had him killed.
- God sent the prophet Nathan to pronounce judgment on David for his actions. II Samuel 12:9-
- Nathan tells David that the child born to him by Bathsheba will die. II Samuel 12:14

INTRODUCTION

- The child became ill.
- David appealed sincerely to God, fasted and could not be comforted.
 - The health and well being of his child hanged in the balance!
- On the seventh day the child died, and David's servants were hesitant to tell him so.
- David figured what was going on and his fears were confirmed.
- David's next actions confounded the people!

DAVID'S SERVANTS WERE **WONDERING WHETHER DAVID HAD** LOST HIS MIND. BEFORE THE CHILD DIED, DAVID REFUSED TO EAT, WEPT, WAS DISCOMFITED, AND RECLUSIVE. WHEN THE CHILD WAS PRONOUNCED DEAD, DAVID **WANTED TO RESUME LIFE** IMMEDIATELY.

I. WHEN TIMES ARE TOUGH, WORSHIP IS STILL IN ORDER (II Samuel 12:20)

- In moments of distress, disappointment and heartache, often the best place to be is in the presence of the Lord.
 - Provides strength, comfort and encouragement
 - The collective strength and prayers of God's people is of great magnitude
 - ...The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. **James 5:16**

II. MOVE BEYOND MISFORTUNE (II Samuel 12:22-23)

- After an unfortunate experience, we should work to get over the agony
- Need to continue to move "onward and upward"
- Shouldn't allow one setback to paralyze us and forever stunt our growth
 - Recall Peter's denial of the Lord, but he moved beyond this to deliver one of the most effective gospel sermons ever. Luke 22:31-34, 54-62, Acts 2:14-36

- Learn to forgive, especially ourselves
 - Sometimes we hang on to burdens and heartaches much longer than we should because we can't seem to forgive
 - Often the person we wrestle with not being able to forgive is ourselves
 - "How could I have been so gullible?"
 - "I, of all people, should have known better!"
 - "I brought this misfortune on myself!"
 - "I have been in the church far too long to have fallen prey!"

For all have sinned and fall short of God's glory. Romans 3:23

For a righteous man may fall seven times and rise again, but the wicked shall fall by calamity. **Proverbs 24:16**

III. WE COULD MISS OUT ON FUTURE BLESSINGS BY DWELLING ON PAST MISFORTUNE (II Samuel 12:24)

- Notice that David and Bathsheba would later produced Solomon --
 - The wisest king Israel knew
 - The king charged with building the temple
 - He is in Christ's genealogy (Matthew 1:6-7)

When one door closes, another opens; but we often look so long and so regretfully upon the closed door that we do not see the one which has opened for us.

Alexander G. Bell

Lord's Invitation Extended to All

 Be added to the Lord's body ---Hear the gospel (Acts 15:7; Romans 10:17) **Believe (Hebrews 11:6, Acts 15:7)**

Repent (Acts 2:38)

Confess (Acts 8:36; Romans 10:10)

Be baptized for the remission of sin (Acts 2:38) or

Lord's Invitation (cont'd)

Be reconciled unto the Lord (I John 1:8-9); or

• Desire prayer. (James 5:16).

May GOD richly bless you!