

# You Are The Man

There are times in life where a guy might do something impressive or unexpected and someone will tell him, "You are the man!"

It's when you come through by scoring tickets to the big game. Or you find the screw that was dropped in the grass. Or you come up with an easier way to do something.

You are the man! That is the title of today's message, but it's nothing like what I just described...it's quite the opposite!

## **2 Samuel 12:1-7a (CSB)**

So the Lord sent Nathan to David. When he arrived, he said to him:

There were two men in a certain city, one rich and the other poor. 2 The rich man had very large flocks and herds, 3 but the poor man had nothing except one small ewe lamb that he had bought. He raised her, and she grew up with him and with his children. From his meager food she would eat, from his cup she would drink, and in his arms she would sleep. She was like a daughter to him. 4 Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man could not bring himself to take one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the poor man's lamb and prepared it for his guest.

5 David was infuriated with the man and said to Nathan, "As the Lord lives, the man who did this deserves to die! 6 Because he has done this thing and shown no pity, he must pay four lambs for that lamb."

7 Nathan replied to David, "You are the man!"

King David stayed home from battle, and slept with a married woman, Bathsheba, who became pregnant. He brought her husband, Uriah, home from battle and tried to trick him into sleeping with her, but that didn't work so David wrote an order that sent him to the front lines to be killed in battle. Then took Bathsheba to be his wife (one of many) . It was all a cover up of David's sin.

So this is one year later...

A year later and David has gotten away with it all. You know when I was a kid, and I did something I wasn't supposed to do, if my mom didn't know the next day I was sure I got away with it...could you imagine a YEAR later?

At this point David is not only not remorseful or feeling guilty for what he did...I think he's pretty much forgotten.

And a year later, the Lord sends a man to remind David of his sin. The Lord sent him...

This is one of those areas where we look at others...what they have done...and we say “When God? When will they get what they deserve?”

But have you ever done that with yourself? “When God? When will I get what I deserve?”

**Hebrews 4:13 (CSB)**

No creature is hidden from him, but all things are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give an account.

You don't “get away” with anything in this life. There will be a day where we will all give account to Jesus. He is the judge. And He is the one who will say, “Welcome my child.” or “Depart from me, I never knew you.”

**Romans 14:9-12 (CSB)**

Christ died and returned to life for this: that he might be Lord over both the dead and the living. 10 But you, why do you judge your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. 11 For it is written,

As I live, says the Lord,  
every knee will bow to me,  
and every tongue will give praise to God.

12 So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God.

Church I share this with you this morning because no one gets to that judgement seat with the excuse that they didn't know...the Holy Spirit today reveals the sin in our life and the grace of God helps us to deal with it and overcome it.

When Nathan came to David...it was God's grace...giving David something he didn't deserve, but God wanted to give him because He loved David.

So David, having forgotten his sin...hears this story. This story of a man who had everything...large flocks. But this man took from a poor man who only had one lamb that meant everything to him. The rich man was in need of a lamb but instead of taking one of his own, he took the poor man's lamb.

David was furious...with the man in the story. In fact, David said the man deserves to die!

You may not realize what's happening here, but David wanted this man to pay beyond what the law required...and he changed his statement to what the law said...he must pay 4 lambs for that one.

David is quick and harsh in his judgement

**Matthew 7:3-5 (CSB)**

Why do you look at the splinter in your brother's eye but don't notice the beam of wood in your own eye? 4 Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the splinter out of your eye,' and look, there's a beam of wood in your own eye? 5 Hypocrite! First take the beam of wood out of your eye, and then you will see clearly to take the splinter out of your brother's eye.

If you have obstructed vision, your eyes begin to compensate for it and eventually you don't really see it anymore...even though it is still there.

That's what this sin was like for David...he began to compensate for it to the point where he eventually didn't really see it anymore...but it was still there!

Why did David react so harshly with this man?

*"Many are guilty of that in secret, which they have the face to punish others when it is discovered." ~ Matthew Henry*

Was it the disgust of his own sin that made David so angry at this man?

Sometimes the things that bother us the most in others are the things that deep down inside, we ourselves struggle with.

*"Perhaps the fault of which you complain might, on a strict examination, be discovered in yourself; and that it would be unjust publicly to express indignation against your own crime." ~ Matthew Henry*

We find David in this place where he was so angry with the man. So upset about what he had done, because it was clear, when talking about someone else, that what he did was wrong. And not just wrong, but deserved severe punishment.

Then Nathan said those famous 4 words, "You are the man."

- This man you are furious with.."You are the man."
- This man you think deserves death..."You are the man."

David recognizes his sin...and he responds to Nathan, "I have sinned against the Lord."

**1 John 1:9 (CSB)**

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Church, too often we just think "Jesus paid it all", and we neglect our responsibility to confess our sin and turn the other way...repentance!

Repentance is not a one time thing! You are in a spiritual battle!

You have a body that desires to sin. A mind that has to be constantly renewed and refocused on Jesus, in submission to the Spirit!

**Colossians 3:1-3 (CSB)**

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. 3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

David got comfortable in his sin. So comfortable that he thought he got away with it and forgot about it.

This is a man who God Himself said is a man after God's own heart. Even as a sinner...because it's not that David was perfect, it was the way David always responded to God..

**Psalms 51 (CSB)**

Be gracious to me, God,  
according to your faithful love;  
according to your abundant compassion,  
blot out my rebellion.

2 Completely wash away my guilt  
and cleanse me from my sin.

3 For I am conscious of my rebellion,  
and my sin is always before me.

4 Against you—you alone—I have sinned  
and done this evil in your sight.

So you are right when you pass sentence;  
you are blameless when you judge.

5 Indeed, I was guilty when I was born;  
I was sinful when my mother conceived me.

6 Surely you desire integrity in the inner self,  
and you teach me wisdom deep within.

7 Purify 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 Turn your face away from my sins  
and blot out all my guilt.

10 God, create a clean heart for me  
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

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

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

13 Then I will teach the rebellious your ways,  
and sinners will return to you.

14 Save me from the guilt of bloodshed, God—  
God of my salvation—  
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.

15 Lord, open my lips,  
and my mouth will declare your praise.

16 You do not want a sacrifice, or I would give it;  
you are not pleased with a burnt offering.

17 The sacrifice pleasing to God is a broken spirit.  
You will not despise a broken and humbled heart, God.

18 In your good pleasure, cause Zion to prosper;  
build the walls of Jerusalem.

19 Then you will delight in righteous sacrifices,  
whole burnt offerings;  
then bulls will be offered on your altar.

How do you respond when your sin is pointed out to you? Through the Word...by the Spirit speaking to your heart...by the love of a friend....

Or do you even recognize that “You are the man.”

Do you see the sins or bad characteristics of your own life in others, and judge them harshly while continuing to do the same things in your own life?

### **Lamentations 3:40 (CSB)**

Let's examine and probe our ways,  
and turn back to the Lord.

You Are The Man

Men who brought the woman caught in adultery and expected Jesus to stone her

Judas betraying Jesus for money

Pharisees questioning the work of the Spirit, calling it the devil

Peter following Jesus close enough to see what's going on but denying Him to others

Roman soldiers nailing Jesus to the cross