

THE POWER OF GOD'S WORD

“For the word of God is living and powerful,
and sharper than any two-edged sword,
piercing even to the division of soul and spirit,
and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner
of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

(Hebrews 4:12)

“WHEN TO STOP PRAYING”

(2 Samuel 12)

*“Rejoice always,
pray without ceasing,
in everything give thanks;
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”
(1 Thessalonians 5:16–18)*

*“Then Jesus spoke a parable to them,
that men always ought to pray and not lose heart.”
(Luke 18:1)*

“WHEN TO STOP PRAYING”

(2 Samuel 12)

*“It happened in the spring of the year, at the time **when kings go out to battle**, that David sent Joab and his servants with him, and all Israel; and they destroyed the people of Ammon and besieged Rabbah.
But **David remained at Jerusalem.**”*

(2 Samuel 11:1)

“WHEN TO STOP PRAYING”

(2 Samuel 12)

The Death of David's Son

13 So David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the Lord.” And Nathan said to David, “The Lord also has put away your sin; you shall not die.

14 However, because by this deed you have given great occasion to the enemies of the Lord to blaspheme, the child also who is born to you shall surely die.”

15 Then Nathan departed to his house. And the Lord struck the child that Uriah's wife bore to David, and it became ill.

“WHEN TO STOP PRAYING”

(2 Samuel 12)

The Death of David's Son

16 David therefore pleaded with God for the child, and David fasted and went in and lay all night on the ground.

17 So the elders of his house arose and went to him, to raise him up from the ground. But he would not, nor did he eat food with them.

18 Then on the seventh day it came to pass that the child died. And the servants of David were afraid to tell him that the child was dead. For they said, “Indeed, while the child was alive, we spoke to him, and he would not heed our voice. How can we tell him that the child is dead? He may do some harm!”

“WHEN TO STOP PRAYING”

(2 Samuel 12)

The Death of David’s Son

19 When David saw that his servants were whispering, David perceived that the child was dead. Therefore David said to his servants, “Is the child dead?” And they said, “He is dead.”

20 So David arose from the ground, washed and anointed himself, and changed his clothes; and he went into the house of the Lord and worshiped. Then he went to his own house; and when he requested, they set food before him, and he ate.

“WHEN TO STOP PRAYING”

(2 Samuel 12)

The Death of David’s Son

21 Then his servants said to him, “What is this that you have done? You fasted and wept for the child while he was alive, but when the child died, you arose and ate food.”

22 And he said, “While the child was alive, I fasted and wept; for I said, ‘Who can tell whether the Lord will be gracious to me, that the child may live?’

23 But now he is dead; why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.”

“WHEN TO STOP PRAYING”

(2 Samuel 12)

1a). Confession of Sin

13a So David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the Lord.”

All Sin is Ultimately against God

“WHEN TO STOP PRAYING”

(2 Samuel 12)

1b). Clemency for Sin

13b And Nathan said to David, “The Lord also has put away your sin; you shall not die.”

A Loving and Merciful God

“WHEN TO STOP PRAYING”

(2 Samuel 12)

1c). Consequence of Sin

14 “... this deed (*has*) given great occasion to the enemies of the Lord to blaspheme, the child also who is born to you shall surely die.”

A Holy and Just God

“WHEN TO STOP PRAYING”

(2 Samuel 12)

2a). Consecrated Prayer

22 “While the child was alive, I fasted and wept; for I said, ‘Who can tell whether the Lord will be gracious to me, that the child may live?’”

Appeals to God’s Sovereignty and Grace

“WHEN TO STOP PRAYING”

(2 Samuel 12)

2b). Ceased Prayer

23 “But now he is dead; why should I fast? Can I bring him back again?
I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.”

Accepts God’s Will and Press On

“WHEN TO STOP PRAYING”

(2 Samuel 12)

King David's Testimony

*“And when He had removed him, He raised up for them David as king, to whom also He gave testimony and said, ‘I have found David the son of Jesse, **a man after My own heart, who will do all My will.**’*

*From this man's seed, according to the promise,
God raised up for Israel a Savior – Jesus.”*

(Acts 13:22,23)

“WHEN TO STOP PRAYING”

(2 Samuel 12)

1. How has your understanding of sin, and your view of God been enlightened?
2. How has this impact your prayer life, especially when it concerns a serious issue?