***Notes & Summary of “Rest in Christ: The Cost of Rest”***

***1) A Restless King***

**2 Samuel 11:1-2a**

**David and Bathsheba**

11 In the spring, at the time when kings go off to war, David sent Joab out with the king’s men and the whole Israelite army. They destroyed the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David remained in Jerusalem.

2aOne evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace.

* *Why was King David at home and why does he appear restless? He was at the wrong place at the wrong time. It states in the first verse that “at the times when kings go out to battle, but King David was not with his soldiers in the battlefield at this time. David is the warrior king and that’s what God lhas called him to do. The better thing, a way to avoid restlessness, is to be where God calls us to be.*

**2 Samuel 11:2b-4**

2bFrom the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, 3and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, “She is Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite.” 4Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her. (Now she was purifying herself from her monthly uncleanness.) Then she went back home

* *What temptation did David face while walking on the roof? Lust is the first thing that happens. He also abused his position. He was the king. Job said, “I made a covenant with my eyes.” The first problem is not the adultery. The first problem is, as soon as he saw that there was someone bathing, he should have immediately turned away. But its says, “She was very beautiful.” Tragically, there is that sequence of lingering, staring, calling, and eventually committing adultery.*
* *What should he been doing when he was restless? He should have been writing (Psalms) and talking to God. If he could not be in battle, he could be at least praying for the soldiers and doing his “kingly” duties as well as interceding for the people. Psalms 16 says, “I have set the Lord always before me; when He is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.” If, instead of gazing at this naked woman, he had set the Lord before him, he would not have been shaken.*

**James 1:14-15**

14but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. 15Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

* *The root of sin and how it starts in our lives and where it leads us. It is a progression of sin.*
* *What lesion can we apply to our lives today? You can not prevent birds from flying over your heads but you can definitely stop them from building a nest in your hair” We cannot avoid temptations, but we cannot give it space to be in our hearts and to give fruit. Here is a man of God, who wrote Scripture, but no one is immune from temptation. If we are careless about the small things, we might be shocked to see what we would end up doing. We have to choose to not do it, just like we choose to do it. The choice is ours to make. “An empty mind is the office of the devil.” ( Portuguese saying). Keep busy doing God’s work.*
* *What other bible characters who allowed their restlessness to lead them into a path of sin? Abraham and Sarah, God gave them a promise and it was taking longer than what they thought it should take. That took them to make different decisions that were not under God’s plan. The Israelites, when they were waiting for Moses to come down from Mt. Sinai, and couldn’t wait and they were worshiping the golden calf.*

**2 Samuel 11:5-24**

5The woman conceived and sent word to David, saying, “I am pregnant.”

6So David sent this word to Joab: “Send me Uriah the Hittite.” And Joab sent him to David. 7When Uriah came to him, David asked him how Joab was, how the soldiers were and how the war was going. 8Then David said to Uriah, “Go down to your house and wash your feet.” So Uriah left the palace, and a gift from the king was sent after him. 9But Uriah slept at the entrance to the palace with all his master’s servants and did not go down to his house.

10David was told, “Uriah did not go home.” So he asked Uriah, “Haven’t you just come from a military campaign? Why didn’t you go home?”

11Uriah said to David, “The ark and Israel and Judah are staying in tents, and my commander Joab and my lord’s men are camped in the open country. How could I go to my house to eat and drink and make love to my wife? As surely as you live, I will not do such a thing!”

12Then David said to him, “Stay here one more day, and tomorrow I will send you back.” So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day and the next. 13At David’s invitation, he ate and drank with him, and David made him drunk. But in the evening Uriah went out to sleep on his mat among his master’s servants; he did not go home.

14In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it with Uriah. 15In it he wrote, “Put Uriah out in front where the fighting is fiercest. Then withdraw from him so he will be struck down and die.”

16So while Joab had the city under siege, he put Uriah at a place where he knew the strongest defenders were. 17When the men of the city came out and fought against Joab, some of the men in David’s army fell; moreover, Uriah the Hittite died.

18Joab sent David a full account of the battle. 19He instructed the messenger: “When you have finished giving the king this account of the battle, 20the king’s anger may flare up, and he may ask you, ‘Why did you get so close to the city to fight? Didn’t you know they would shoot arrows from the wall? 21Who killed Abimelek son of Jerub-Besheth? Didn’t a woman drop an upper millstone on him from the wall, so that he died in Thebez? Why did you get so close to the wall?’ If he asks you this, then say to him, ‘Moreover, your servant Uriah the Hittite is dead.’”

22The messenger set out, and when he arrived he told David everything Joab had sent him to say. 23The messenger said to David, “The men overpowered us and came out against us in the open, but we drove them back to the entrance of the city gate. 24Then the archers shot arrows at your servants from the wall, and some of the king’s men died. Moreover, your servant Uriah the Hittite is dead.”

* *What did King David do after the adultery? He didn’t just stop there but it led him down this path leading to death and destruction. He got one of his captain’s in his army to lie and murder, and try to cover it up just to save face because he causes someone, not his wife, to get pregnant. The more we open ourselves up to even the smallest hint of sin, we leave ourselves open to committing all kinds of atrocities. Warning is do not minimize any sin because you may look back and go, “Oh, Lord, how did we get here?”*

***2) Confrontation by a Prophet***

# 2 Samuel 12:1-9

**Nathan Rebukes David**

12 The Lord sent Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, “There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor. 2The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle, 3but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children. It shared his food, drank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him.

4“Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one who had come to him.”

5David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, “As surely as the Lord lives, the man who did this must die! 6He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity.”

7Then Nathan said to David, “You are the man! This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: ‘I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul. 8I gave your master’s house to you, and your master’s wives into your arms. I gave you all Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more. 9Why did you despise the word of the Lord by doing what is evil in his eyes? You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and took his wife to be your own. You killed him with the sword of the Ammonites.

# *The good news is that God did not allow David to stay in this place of hopelessness. God sent a prophet to him with a message in a loving way to open David’s eyes and heart to a transformation.*

# *What was God’s purpose in sending this message to David in such a way? God is trying to help him realize his mistakes. Nathan is using this story to arouse David’s sympathy and sense of justice for right and wrong and sense of justice for right and wrong. He wanted David to realize for himself what had happened, seeing through somebody else’s eyes. The tread of Christ is that He wants to reconcile. He wants us to come back and reconcile with Him.*

# 2 Peter 3:9

# 9The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

# *This shows us the heart of God that whenever He sent a message through His prophets, while the message might have seemed like a harsh rebuke, His whole purpose was to help open our eyes to see our need, that we are dying, that we are leading ourselves into destruction. And God wants to save us.*

# 2 Samuel 12:13a

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

# *David wrote Psalm 51 after this experience, a confession of David as he’s realized what he’s done against God and against others.*

# Psalm 51:1-4

1Have mercy on me, O God,
    according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion
    blot out my transgressions.
2Wash away all my iniquity
    and cleanse me from my sin.

3For I know my transgressions,
    and my sin is always before me.
4Against you, you only, have I sinned
    and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are right in your verdict
    and justified when you judge.

* *Is David minimizing that he had sinned against Uriah or Bathsheba? What was David’s meaning by, “Against You and You only, have I sinned?” Some could say “Oh, I just sinned against the people, a human sin” but it has nothing to do with God but the truth is whenever we hurt one of God’s children, we’re hurting God Himself and hurting the reputation of God.*
* *True repentance happens when we realize that our sin is against God, not against the person that we actually wronged. Once we realize that we sinned against God, we will then want to ask for forgiveness from the person, but really, the repentance comes when we realize we have sinned against God not just the person that we have offended.*
* *Genuine repentance isn’t just sorrow for a bad outcome. It is really throwing yourself on the mercy and grace of God. Give a clean heart and a right spirit.*

***3) Grace for the Repentant Sinner***

**2 Samuel 12:13**

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

Nathan replied, “The Lord has taken away your sin. You are not going to die.

**Psalm 51:6-13**

6Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb;
    you taught me wisdom in that secret place.

7Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;
    wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
8Let me hear joy and gladness;
    let the bones you have crushed rejoice.
9Hide your face from my sins
    and blot out all my iniquity.

10Create in me a pure heart, O God,
    and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
11Do not cast me from your presence
    or take your Holy Spirit from me.
12Restore to me the joy of your salvation
    and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

13Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
    so that sinners will turn back to you.

* *David wrote about how he is asking God to create in him a clean heart, renew a right spirit. He wants to rest in Christ. He is realizing how he’s gone away from God and how he wants to return to Him and he wants God to return to him. He says, “I don’t want to just have this salvation restored to me, but I want to teach others that have fallen into this trap of sin. I want them to find what I have found. I want them to be converted to You.”*
* *“Many times when I have asked God for forgiveness, or when I have asked a friend for forgiveness, Satan still brings up that sin that I’ve done and tries to condemn me and put doubts in my heart that although you ask for forgiveness, but you don’t feel forgiven, so are you really forgiven?” or “You said you were sorry to that person, but they are never going to treat you the same way again.” Those are doubts that Satan puts into our hearts and into our minds, so what would you say to somebody who is saying, “I asked for forgiveness, but I don’t feel forgiven?”*
* *We are not to depend on our sinlessness but on the righteousness of Jesus Christ, which gives us the power to overcome sin in return. God is calling us to have faith over feelings. We should not trust our feelings, because feelings can deceive us. But we can have faith in the Word of God that tells us that once we confess our sins, God is righteous and just to forgive us of our sins. And we need to believe that. And when we believe that, there is power through the Holy Spirit who gives us the joy of salvation to experience that forgiveness.*
* *It is about trusting in the promise of God, not in our feelings.*

**Psalm 51:17**

17My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit;
    a broken and contrite heart
    you, God, will not despise.

**1 John 1:6-9**

6If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. 7But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

8If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. 9If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

**Luke 23:34**

34Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

**Romans 3:21-26**

### Righteousness Through Faith

21But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. 22This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, 23for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. 25God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— 26he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

***4) Consequences***

**2 Samuel 12:10-12**

10Now, therefore, the sword will never depart from your house, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own.’

11“This is what the Lord says: ‘Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity on you. Before your very eyes I will take your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will sleep with your wives in broad daylight. 12You did it in secret, but I will do this thing in broad daylight before all Israel.’”

**2 Samuel 12:14**

14But because by doing this you have shown utter contempt for the Lord, the son born to you will die.”

* *Consequences for David were difficult. Just because we are forgiven doesn’t mean that there’s no effect of our sin.*
* *The very judgment that King David brought upon that person in the parable that Nathan brought to him, came upon him. “May this person repay four times what he has done,” and King David lost four of his sons in tragic ways. God spared King David’s life and He allowed him to live so that he could share God does transform and He can take something difficult and turn it into something good.*
* *For Bathsheba: she lost her husband, her baby, was taken advantage of, and went through so much. But what is the good news about Bathsheba and how God gave her grace and hope in the midst of all the turmoil that she went through? We find her in one of the names of the ancestors of Jesus the Messiah in Matthew 1. God used her to bring the Messiah into the world.*
* *Although there may be consequences to our behaviors and consequences to our sin, there is a God who is willing to restore us to where we should be.*

**Isaiah 54:7**

“For a brief moment I abandoned you,
    but with deep compassion I will bring you back.

**Psalm 51:13-15**

13Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
    so that sinners will turn back to you.
14Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God,
    you who are God my Savior,
    and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.
15Open my lips, Lord,
    and my mouth will declare your praise.

**1Timothy 1:15-17**

15Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. 16But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life. 17Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.