

The Uprightness and Perfection of David

Introduction

1 Kings 9:4 Now if you walk before Me as your father David walked, in integrity of heart and in uprightness, to do according to all that I have commanded you, and if you keep My statutes and My judgments,

1 Kings 11:4 For it was so, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned his heart after other gods; and his heart was not loyal to the Lord his God, as was the heart of his father David.

1. **God constantly compared the Kings of the Old Testament to David.**
 - A. **They either walked in uprightness, with a perfect heart as David did, or they did not.**
2. **Terms defined:**
 - A. **UPRIGHT: "Honest", "just".**
 - B. **PERFECT: "To make perfect or more nearly perfect according to a given standard, as by training." "The act or process of perfecting."**
 - 1) **God's perfection is absolute; man's is relative reaching the goal set for him by God with each individual different according to one's God-given ability.**
 - 2) **One who has attained his moral end, the goal for which he was intended, namely, to be a man obedient in Christ.**
Matthew 5:48
 - 3) **"Be ye therefore perfect", means that you may not be morally lacking.**
3. **David is referred to as being upright and perfect. Yet he was not without sin.**

The Sin of David

1. **Bathsheba**
2 Samuel 11:2-5

2. **Uriah:**
2 Samuel 11:14-17

A. Here we see a "man after God's own heart" that had committed adultery, and planned a man's murder. Most would think of him as a terrible sort of man. Yet this same David is later said to be upright and perfect!

Others Sinned but Most Were Not Upright & Perfect as David Yet Others Were Said to Be:

1. **Solomon:**

A. In Solomon's early years as King he loved the Lord.

1 Kings 3:3 And Solomon loved the Lord, walking in the statutes of his father David, except that he sacrificed and burned incense at the high places.

1 Chronicles 28:9 "As for you, my son Solomon, know the God of your father, and serve Him with a loyal heart and with a willing mind; for the Lord searches all hearts and understands all the intent of the thoughts. If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will cast you off forever.

B. Later, Solomon allowed his wives to turn his heart from God.

1 Kings 11:4 For it was so, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned his heart after other gods; and his heart was not loyal to the Lord his God, as was the heart of his father David.

1 Kings 11:6 Solomon did evil in the sight of the Lord, and did not fully follow the Lord, as did his father David.

2. **Abijam:**
1 Kings 15:3

3. **Asa:**
1 Kings 15:11-14

4. **Amaziah:**

2 Kings 14:3 And he did what was right in the sight of the Lord, yet not like his father David; he did everything as his father Joash had done.

5. **Ahaz:**

2 Kings 16:2 Ahaz was twenty years old when he became king, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem; and he did not do what was right in the sight of the Lord his God, as his father David had done.

6. **Hezekiah:**

2 Kings 18:3 And he did what was right in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his father David had done.

7. **Josiah:**

2 Chronicles 34:2-3 And he did what was right in the sight of the Lord, and walked in the ways of his father David; he did not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. For in the eighth year of his reign, while he was still young, he began to seek the God of his father David; and in the twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem of the high places, the wooden images, the carved images, and the molded images.

Why Was David the Model?

1. **Because His heart was set on serving the Lord. When he understood that he had sinned, he repented and was determined to serve God.**
 - A. **What David did was not pleasing to God. God sent Nathan to David to point out his error!**
2 Samuel 11:27-12:7
 - 1) **David recognized his sin, and repented before the Lord.**
2 Samuel 12:13
 - 2) **Yet he still had to pay the consequences of his sin.**
2 Samuel 12:14
 - B. **When David's son was sick and dying, he prayed and fasted.**
2 Samuel 12:15-23
 - 1) **David did all he could do while the child was alive, once the child died he knew that there was nothing more he could do. Therefore, he gathered himself together and got on with his life.**
 - 2) **He did not blame God - He worshiped God!**

The "Perfect" Heart

1. The "perfect" heart is a heart that is set on serving God in every manner of one's life. In health, or sickness, in richness or poorness. No matter where we may be - our life is a life of godliness!

A. Hezekiah's heart was set on serving God.

2 Kings 20:3 "Remember now, O Lord, I pray, how I have walked before You in truth and with a loyal heart, and have done what was good in Your sight." And Hezekiah wept bitterly.

1) Isaiah explains why Hezekiah was crying:
Isaiah 38:1-5

B. The People:

1 Chronicles 29:9 Then the people rejoiced, for they had offered willingly, because with a loyal heart they had offered willingly to the Lord; and King David also rejoiced greatly.

C. David:

1) Jeroboam did not do what was right in God's sight. God explains to Jeroboam that David was "perfect" because he kept His commandments.

1 Kings 14:8 and tore the kingdom away from the house of David, and gave it to you; and yet you have not been as My servant David, who kept My commandments and who followed Me with all his heart, to do only what was right in My eyes;

1 Kings 15:5

2) David writes in the 101st Psalm:

Psalms 101:2 I will behave wisely in a perfect way. Oh, when will You come to me? I will walk within my house with a perfect heart.

a. **A heart set on serving God!**

Conclusion

1. **Can it be said of us that we are walking uprightly with a "perfect" heart? God knows!**

2. **The apostle Paul said:**

Philippians 3:15 Therefore let us, as many as are mature, have this mind; and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to you.

3. **David was upright and perfect because his heart was set on serving God.**

A. **Yes he sinned - but was penitent and set his heart on Almighty God.**

B. **We sin (Romans 3:23) - We too can be forgiven if we repent with Godly sorrow and determine to be perfect toward Him.**

2 Corinthians 7:10 For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death.

4. **Won't you be determined to be steadfast in the Lord, being perfect as our heavenly father is perfect?**

1 Corinthians 15:58

