

“Three Lessons from Two Mothers”

Genesis 3:6-7; 2 Samuel 11:1-5

Mother’s Day, May 12, 2024

Introduction: About a month ago, I told Jon the mother in the Bible I was planning to use in my Mother’s Day sermon this year. I felt that God had put this mother on my heart. I could tell when I told Jon the mother I planned to use that he thought I had lost my mind. He asked me what direction I was going in this sermon using the mother I shared with him. A few days later Jon told me that he had been thinking about the sermon idea I had and that there was another mother in the Bible that illustrated the same thing. From this came my sermon title: “Three Lessons from Two Mothers.”

The two Mothers are Eve and Bathsheba. I have never preached a Mother’s Day sermon using Eve and Bathsheba. I doubt any preacher anywhere has ever used Eve and Bathsheba in a Mother’s Day sermon.

- I have used Mary, the mother of Jesus.
- I have used Jochebed, the mother of Moses.
- I have used Eunice, the mother of Timothy.
- I have used Hannah several times, the mother of Samuel.
- I have used other mothers in the Bible, but never Eve and Bathsheba.
- God put Eve in my mind. Jon put Bathsheba.

T.S. All of us in some ways can and should identify with Eve and Bathsheba. Why do I say this?

1. We are all imperfect.

- Eve was imperfect (Genesis 3:6-7).
- Bathsheba was imperfect (2 Samuel 11:1-5).
- Both were imperfect.

We all come into this world imperfect (Romans 5:12). We will all leave this world imperfect. Only in heaven will we experience perfection.

Illustration: Philippians 1:6 is helpful at this point.

Application: We are all imperfect. This is how we came into this world. At this point we are all the same. But this does not give us a license to sin.

T.S. A second way we can identify with Eve and Bathsheba is that we all experience broken hearts.

2. We all experience (broken) (hearts).

- Eve certainly would have experienced a broken heart when one of her sons (Cain) killed his brother (Abel).
- Bathsheba would have experienced a broken heart when her son died (2 Samuel chapter 12:21).

Illustration: I remember long years ago when one of my seminary professors said, "On every pew there is a broken heart. Remember that as you preach each Sunday." I have never forgotten that.

Application: You may be sitting next to a person with a broken heart or behind a person with a broken heart, or in front of a person with a broken heart. This morning you may have a broken heart.

T.S. From Eve and Bathsheba, we learn perhaps the greatest lesson. We learn that in our imperfection and times of a broken heart we need to be resilient.

3. We need to be (resilient).

- After the death of Eve's son (Abel), she moved on and had another son (Seth)—Genesis 4:25.

- After Bathsheba's son died she moved on. She became the mother of Israel's 3rd King—Solomon.
- She later gave her son Solomon advice on the qualities of a godly wife (Proverbs 31:10-31).
- Ancient Jewish tradition identifies King Lemuel as Solomon.

Illustration: Bathsheba evidently knew Solomon would need a mother's guidance when it comes to women, sadly Solomon did not listen to her wisdom. The Bible says. "Solomon had 700 wives, princesses, and 300 concubines... (1 Kings 11:3).

Application: Whatever life brings, we need to remember the examples of Eve and Bathsheba and be resilient—adapt, adjust, bounce back. Ask God to help you be resilient whatever you face.

Conclusion: We have help Eve and Bathsheba did not have. We have the Holy Spirit living in us to empower us in a way Eve and Bathsheba did not have.