

1. Amnon, the son of David, is next in line for the throne. Despite his privileged status, he finds himself utterly weak in his thought life.

2. Jonadab's influence on Amnon is far from positive. This emphasizes the need to be careful about who we permit to speak into our lives.

3. Tamar's presence becomes repulsive to Amnon as he is repulsed by himself. He is consumed by guilt.

4. Tamar puts ashes on her head and rips her ornamented robe in despair and grief.

5. David's past failure paralyzes him. He responds with anger but takes no action.

6. Absalom plans his revenge for two years before executing it against Amnon.

7. David mourns and yearns to see Absalom, but he does not recall him. Absalom stays in exile for three years.

8. "Amnon's lust, David's passivity, and Absalom's vengeance all prove that sin fractures relationships, families, and the very fabric of society." – Ric Bruce, E2E Book 8, Lesson 77

9. We understand that all Scripture serves a purpose intended by God, including the heartbreaking passages. This

## GREEK & HEBREW WORDS

**Shamem** (shaw-mame´); to stun (grow numb), devastate, stupefy (-ied) - be destitute, (lay) waste

**Peirasmos**, (pi-ras-mos´); a putting to proof - by experiment (of good),

## QUOTES

*"...[king] David's inaction not only enabled further injustice but served to highlight the need for a greater King - Jesus - who would rule perfectly."*

Ric Bruce - E2E book 8, lesson 77

## TODAY'S WORSHIP

Graves Into Gardens  
Nothing but the Blood of Jesus  
Hold to His Love

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Are you aware of, or have you personally experienced a child that, despite being raised in a God-fearing home, has chosen a path of “foolishness” and lived in opposition to God and His ways? What kinds of questions does that situation tend to stir up in people? In the parents? In outside observers? How do you reconcile this with what God’s Word teaches?

2 Samuel 11 & 12 relates the account of David engaging in sexual sin and murder. Here in chapter 13, we see his sons engaging in both sexual sin and murder. What do you think the Biblical author was trying to communicate by placing these stories right next to one another? What conclusions do you think we should draw from this connection? Are there any conclusions you think shouldn't be drawn from it?

Great evil had taken root in David’s human kingdom. However, despite human evil, God is at work! Through King Jesus, God’s Kingdom is advancing in us, through us, and around us with the ultimate promise that He will bring His kingdom fully to earth - where acts of sin like this will no longer happen.

- As King Jesus’ agents in this world, how can we exert a greater influence on the “worldly kingdoms” around us? How can we be part of seeing God’s Kingdom further advance during our lifetime?
- How can our “internal life” (beliefs, thoughts, desires, values, etc) affect our “external life” (behaviors, appearance, interactions, etc) and its resulting influence on the world around us?