

# Nathan's Parable

II Sam. 12:1-4

## ***Nathans In The Bible...***

- The father of Igal, one of David's heroes. (II Sam. 23:36; cf. verse 39)
- The father of Solomon's chief officer. (I Kings 4:5)
- A chief man with Ezra, who returned to Israel with him. (Ezra 8:16)
- One of those who put away his foreign wife. (Ezra 10:39)
- One of the sons of David. (I Chron. 3:5; Zech. 12:12; Lk. 3:31)
- Nathan the Prophet. (II Sam. 7, 12; ect.)

# ***Biographical Sketch of Nathan The Prophet***

- Prominent in the reign of David.
  - Comes on the scene in II Sam. 7.
    - David wants to build the temple.
      - At first Nathan supports. (7:3)
      - God has not given command. (7:7)
    - David's seed and throne will be established forever. (7:11-13; Matt. 1:1; Lk. 1:30-33; Acts 15:15-18)
- Reproves David for his sins involving Bathsheba and Uriah the Hittite. (II Sam. 12:1-15)

# ***Biographical Sketch of Nathan The Prophet***

- Gives to Solomon the name Jedidiah. (II Sam. 12:25)
- Assists Solomon in his receiving the throne. (I Kings 1:10-14; 22-27; 32-45)
- Revealed to David God's will for temple worship. (II Chron. 29:25)
- Chronicled the reigns of David and Solomon. (I Chron. 29:29; II Chron. 9:29)

# Nathan's Parable

- 1 And the LORD sent Nathan unto David. And he came unto him, and said unto him, There were two men in one city; the one rich, and the other poor.
- 2 The rich *man* had exceeding many flocks and herds:
- 3 But the poor *man* had nothing, save one little ewe lamb, which he had bought and nourished up: and it grew up together with him, and with his children; it did eat of his own meat, and drank of his own cup, and lay in his bosom, and was unto him as a daughter.
- 4 And there came a traveler unto the rich man, and he spared to take of his own flock and of his own herd, to dress for the wayfaring man that was come unto him; but took the poor man's lamb, and dressed it for the man that was come to him. (II Sam. 12:1-4)

# David's Response

- **5** And David's anger was greatly kindled against the man; and he said to Nathan, As the LORD liveth, the man that hath done this *thing* shall surely die:
- **6** And he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.
- **7** And Nathan said to David, **Thou art the man**. Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I anointed thee king over Israel, and I delivered thee out of the hand of Saul...
- **13** And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.

# ***The Approach of Nathan Applied...***

- The nature of God's silence (when God says nothing).
  - To many, “the Bible doesn't say not to” furnishes permission to act.
  - God's silence is not permissive. (II Sam. 7:1-7; I Chron. 17:4-6)
- The place of feelings in religion.
  - Many believe “okay as long as sincere” – feel good about their situation.
  - Our feelings can lead us astray. (II Sam. 7:3; Gen. 37:32-35; 45:26-27)
- The nature of “specific” authority.
  - Things God has specified: Singing (Eph. 5:19); Sunday (Acts 20:7); Unleavened bread and fruit of the vine; (I Cor. 11:23-26, Lk. 22:14-20); Immersion (Acts 2:38; Rom. 6:3-4); etc.
  - Cf. Gen. 6:14,22
- The nature of saving God's saving grace.
  - Denominational error teaches that we are saved by “grace alone”.
  - God's blessings are bestowed by His grace when there is faithful obedience to His commands. (Gen. 6:8; Heb. 11:7; Gen. 6:22 ----- Eph. 2:8; Heb. 2:9; 5:8-9 )