



Pregnant Again

When Bathsheba sent word to David that she was pregnant, he didn't know what to do.

Last time she was pregnant, David had resorted to murder to cover it up. After all, she was another man's wife then. And the child was David's. He couldn't let that get out. David did everything he could to cover up his sin, everything to hide what he had done. He murdered Bathsheba's husband and took her in as his own Bride...

And after all that, the child... the child had died anyway. David had mourned, yes. And he had confessed, "I will go to him, but he will not return to me."

Yes. The child that had been born in sin died. And now? Now Bathsheba was pregnant again. And what was God doing? Oh. David longed to know God's heart – he was a man after God's own heart after all.

And David had received so much from his God. Not long before, God had promised David, "The LORD declares to you that the LORD himself will establish a house for you: When your days are over and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, who will come from your own body, and I'll establish his kingdom. He's the one who will build a house for my Name, and I'll establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his father, and he will be my son."`

Yeah.

David had heard so many promises from God, and David knew that they were true. But now – another child. Another child from Bathsheba. The Bride that David had murdered to get. And David had other children. God could keep his promise through any of them.

David couldn't lose another. He couldn't stand the thought of seeing Bathsheba mourn again because of him.

What was God doing?

Over the months, the child grew. Bathsheba kept her own counsel, but David could tell through her glances and her shaking voice: she was terrified of what would happen to this baby.

She didn't want to lose another.

She spent so much time at the Tabernacle praying. David went with her every chance he got. 'Til finally the day came, and she screamed in pain as she gave birth to a son.

And they gave him the name "Solomon."

They held that child close in case God decided to take him away. They wept over him. They treasured every second.

But then, a knock at the door. There was the prophet, the trusted friend who would tell David anything, even when he was doing something wrong. Nathan looked at David and Bathsheba and the child. Nathan opened his mouth and spoke: "Thus saith the LORD, you shall name him Jedidiah!"

And David wept. And Bathsheba wept. For Jedidiah means, "Loved by the LORD."

Brothers and sisters:

As we continue in Advent, as we approach Christmas, hold fast to God's promises.
We don't always know how he'll keep them, but we know he will.

David didn't know how God would use Solomon. That Solomon would be the one who would be Jesus's great great great great grandfather. But how amazing that God would keep his promise even in a situation like that.

Hold fast to God's promises.

And this story is true.

II Samuel 11-12, especially 12:24-25
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