In Search of a King
1-2 SAMUEL

"forgiveness is to man the plainest of duties; to God it is the profoundest of problems."

(P. Carnegie Simpson, quoted by John Stott , *The Cross of Christ*)

---

2 Samuel 12:1-14
A Shocking Mercy

A Shocking Mercy

1. The Confrontation
   - the Lord pursues His servant and will not let him continue in sin and hypocrisy
   - David was made to see and feel the ugliness of his sin and the rightness of God's anger

---

A Shocking Mercy

➢ *Lessons:*
   1) We can be blind to the sin in ourselves that we see so easily in others
   2) We must be made to see the ugliness of our sin before we will repent of it

---

A Shocking Mercy

2. The Indictment
   - sin is a denial of the sufficient and satisfying grace of God
   - sin is a despising of God – declaring that He is not good or trustworthy

A Shocking Mercy

3. The Confession

- an authentic repentance – no denial, excuses or arguments
- David knew his sin was ultimately against God and that he deserved God's judgment (see Psalm 51)

Be gracious to me, O God,
  According to Your lovingkindness;
  According to the greatness of Your compassion
  Blot out my transgressions.
[2] Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity
  And cleanse me from my sin.
[3] For I know my transgressions,
  And my sin is ever before me.
[4] Against You, You only, I have sinned
  And done what is evil in Your sight,
  So that You are justified when You speak
  And blameless when You judge.

(Psalm 51:1-4)

A Shocking Mercy

4. The Forgiveness

- The Lord "put away" David's sin and removed the just penalty of death
- How can God put away David's sin and still be righteous?

---

[24] (We) are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,
[25] whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to demonstrate God's righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He had passed over the sins previously committed.
[26] It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

(Romans 3:24-26)