“My Sin Is Ever Before Me”  
Psalm 51:1-4

Introduction:
A. David likely refers to his sin with Bathsheba.
B. Does this case show that national leaders should be forgiven without further consequences?
C. Does not this case who how terrible and far reaching sin can be – even forgiven sin?
D. In fact, David and Bathsheba illustrates several important facets of sin:

Discussion:

II. The Attractiveness of Sin.
A. David’s attraction to Bathsheba (2 Sam 11:2-4)
   1. David could enjoy a relationship with beautiful woman.
   2. Bathsheba could have a relationship with the king.
   3. Like Eve’s attraction to the forbidden fruit (Gen. 3:6)
B. Sin does have its pleasant side – else would not be attractive (cf. Heb. 11:25)
C. Sin always appears to be beautiful, or pleasant, or advantageous.
D. The ugliness of sin is seldom self-evident.
   1. One has to learn it from divine truth.
   2. Or from experience – personal and of others.

III. The Accumulativeness of Sin.
A. Sin is like potato chips – seldom eat one.
B. The accumulative nature of David’s sin.
   1. Idleness (v. 1; cf. 1 Tim. 5:13)
   2. Fornication (vv. 3-4).
   3. Attempt to cover-up (vv. 6-13).
C. Unless nipped in the bud, sin has a way of getting out of hand.
   1. Few Alcoholics start out to be drunks.
   2. Few broken homes start out to be so.
   3. Few back sliders start out to quit the Lord.

IV. The Acknowledgment of Sin.
A. First, David had to make self-application (2 Sam. 12:1-9).
   1. Easy to see principle when applied to others.
   2. Hard to see principle when applied to self.
   3. Cannot just preach principles, must specifically apply.
B. Then David confessed his sin and was forgiven (2 Sam. 12:13).
   1. Later describes it. (Psa. 32:1-5).
   2. Shows the one to whom God does not impute sin - the forgiven one (cf. Rom. 4:8).
C. David enjoyed forgiveness (cf. Psa. 103:12)

V. The Aftermath of Sin.
A. Forgiveness did not end the matter. (2 Sam. 12:10-14; Note “however” in v. 14).
   1. The vigil and death of the child (12:13ff)
   2. His son Amnon raped his half sister (Ch. 13)
   3. Absalom takes vengeance after two years.
   4. Absalom commits treason against David -- more violence (Ch. 16).
   5. Absalom commits sin with David’s wives (ch. 16:22).
   6. David’s was never able to forget it (cf. Psa. 51:3,4).
B. Forgiveness heals the wound (guilt), but not the scars of sin.
   1. Awareness of what one has done (cf. Paul).
   2. Physical, emotional, socials and civil consequences.

Conclusion:
A. God’s mercy and forgiveness is too wonderful describe.
B. Forgiveness removes spiritual and eternal consequences of sin – not the physical and temporal.
His sin with Bath. Nation leaders forgiven w/o consequences? How terrible & far reaching - even forgiven? In fact, illustrates several important facets:

### The Attractiveness of Sin.
- David’s attraction (2 Sam 11:2-4) David-beautiful woman Bath, with the king! Like Eve (Gen. 3:6)
- Sin has pleasant side (Heb. 11:25) beautiful or pleasant or advantageous
- Ugliness seldom self-evident

### The Accumulativeness of Sin
- Potato chips
- David’s sin Idleness (v. 1; 1 Tm 5:13) Fornication (vv 3-4) Cover-up (vv 6-13) Murder (vv 14-17).
- Unless nipped, out of hand Alcoholics Broken homes Backsliders.

### The Acknowledgment of Sin
- First, self-application (2 Sam 12:1-9) Easy to others Hard to self Not just preach principles.
- Then, confessed & forgiven (2 Sam 12:13) Psa. 32:1-5 (cf. Rm 4:8). Enjoyed forgiveness (Ps 103:2)

### The Aftermath of Sin
- Forgiveness not end (2 Sam 12:10-14 - “however”) Death of child (12:13 ff) Ammon’s rape (ch 13) Absalom’s revenge - 2 yrs Absalom’s treason - more violence (ch. 16) Absalom & David’s wives (16:22) David not able to forget (cf. Ps 51)
- Forgiveness heals, not scar Paul Physical, emotional, social, civil

Mercy & forgive wonderful sp & etern not phy & tmp