




Is There Hope For King David?

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2 Samuel 1–12: The Fall of King David 

Elder Bruce R. McConkie explained the limits of David's eternal inheritance:



“Murderers are forgiven eventually but only in the sense that all sins are forgiven except the sin against the Holy Ghost; they are not forgiven in the sense that celestial salvation is made available to them. (Matt. 12:31–32; Teachings, pp. 356–357.) After they have paid the full penalty for their crime, they shall go on to a telestial inheritance. (Rev. 22:15.)” (Mormon Doctrine, p. 520.)


Notes: Murder is only unforgivable if the person has already received the Holy Ghost and has divine knowledge, like David had at the time. If anyone in this same position ever murders someone else, they will only be able to achieve the lowest heavenly kingdom and will never be able to receive eternal life and live in the presence of God.

D&C 132:39 “David’s wives and concubines were given unto him of me, by the hand of Nathan, my servant, and others of the prophets who had the keys of this power; and in none of these things did he sin against me save in the case of Uriah and his wife; and, therefore he hath fallen from his exaltation, and received his portion; and he shall not inherit them out of the world, for I gave them unto another, saith the Lord.

D&C 42:18 “And now, behold, I speak unto the church. Thou shalt not kill; and he that kills shall not have forgiveness in this world, nor in the world to come.

- Anyone with knowledge and the Holy Ghost who murders will never be forgiven of that sin. This is why king David lost his eternal life, is now in the telestial kingdom and has no hope of living in God presence in heaven.

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President Kimball Speaks Out on Morality 

Perhaps one reason murder is unforgivable is that having taken a life, the murderer cannot restore it. Restitution in full is not possible. Also, having robbed one of virtue, it is impossible to give it back.

- LDS Prophets confirm that this kind of murder is an unforgiveable sin.

Below is a Psalm that David wrote after he committed this terrible sin of murder and adultery:

*Psalm 51:1-4 "Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. **Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me.** Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest."*

- *We can see how heartbroken and repentant he is for the terrible sins that he committed. His sin blinded him and he made some HUGE mistakes. Here, we see that he is desperately seeking forgiveness from God. This is one of the reasons why he is the only person in history whom God has ever called, "a man after my own heart" (Acts 13:22). But according to the LDS Church, God will never forgive David of that sin. David will also be eternally separated from God while his other family members will be in God's presence.*
- *The God I read about in the Bible is all-loving, all-merciful and full of grace. This same God called David, "A man after my own heart." Are we to believe that God in all of his love, grace and kindness, heard David's sincere plea for forgiveness only to look at him and say, "Yes David, I know that you are truly sorry. Yes, I know that you are a man after my own heart. And yes, I do have the power to forgive your all of your sins, including murder...but I am NOT going to. And because of my decision to not forgive your sin, you will never be able to live my presence." It seems very difficult and inconsistent to believe that the God of love, mercy, and grace would make such a harsh decision on someone who is truly repentant and sincerely pleading for His forgiveness.*

Below is a verse that took place shortly after David murdered Uriah the Hittite:

*2 Samuel 12:13 "Then David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD." Nathan replied, "The LORD **has taken away your sin.** You are not going to die."*

- *According to God's Word, **God actually DID forgive David** of his sin of murder.*

Fully forgiven = Cleansed from all sins = 100% Righteous = Washed of our sins

1 John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to **forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**"

- *If we put our doctrines on the shelf and let God's Word freely speak to us, doesn't God's Word say that He will forgive us of ALL our sins if we genuinely confess them before Him with a sincere heart?*
 - *Because David recognized and sincerely confessed his sins to God, doesn't that mean that he was forgiven of ALL his sins?*
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Colossians 1:13-14 "Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the **kingdom of his dear Son**: In whom we have **redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:**"

- *According to God's Word, is the forgiveness of my personal sins achieved in the blood and sacrifice of Jesus? Or in my own efforts and works?*
 - *Is the blood of Jesus strong enough to cover the sin of murder? Or was the brutal, agonizing, and life changing sacrifice of Christ insufficient/not strong enough to cover that sin?*
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Is The LDS Gospel Good News For All?

Do you see how this is such a sad gospel for some people? The LDS gospel teaches that a "man after God's own heart" messed up big, he was temporarily blinded by his sin, and now has NO HOPE of ever living with God in heaven and will be forever separated from his family. I can't imagine how crushed and hopeless David would be feeling right now. I know that David isn't the only person who has ever made this kind of mistake. Put yourself in David's shoes for a moment: **Would you feel joyful knowing that your Father and forever family are in presence of God while you are stuck in the telestial kingdom, forever separated from them? That sounds like torment and outer darkness.**

This is a not a gospel of good news for all, but actually gospel of sadness and hopelessness for some. However, the gospel that I read about in the Bible is indeed good news for ALL PEOPLE.

*Luke 2:10-11 “But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you **good news that will cause great joy for all the people.** Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.”*

Anyone who sincerely confesses their sins to God, believes in the one true Jesus and turns their heart toward Him will be forgiven of ALL UNRIGHTEOUSNESS. Not only are their sinful burdens removed from their back, but they also receive the promise of eternal life, which is the guarantee of living in the presence of God.

1 John 5:13 “I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.”

Romans 6:23 “For the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life.”

A gift is something that is free. It requires nothing on our end except to believe that it's free and then to accept that free gift.

It is never too late to repent, trust in Jesus, receive his full forgiveness and receive His free gift of eternal life.

Matthew 12:31 “Therefore I say unto you, all manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men, but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men.”

- There is only one sin that will not be forgiven and it isn't murder. It is blasphemy of the Holy Ghost which is an intentional, willful and permanent rejection of God.
- To anyone who repents of their sins and turns to God, the blood of Jesus is indeed strong enough to cover all of their sins, including murder.
- The God I read about in the Bible is loving, grace-filled and merciful. He would never intentionally withhold his forgiveness from anyone who is repentant and force them to spend eternity in a state of hopeless exile, forever being separated from both God and their family.

Of the two gospels you just read, which one is the “best news?”

- 1. God will always forgive all sins of a repentant sinner**
- 2. God will NOT always forgive all sins of a repentant sinner**