

# Character Will Keep You

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Barrier series #6 - Designed to keep you on the road in your daily walk with Jesus

## 2 Samuel 11

In the past few messages we've went through the mess David made because of some character flaws, and his lies led to the murder of Uriah, one of his best fighting men who had been faithful to him and willing to die for him. I've been in ministry long enough to see that Lust will take you to places you said you'd never go.

**Mousetrap**- almost all the peanut butter was gone, except for this stuff I crammed into the holes- just one more bite...

Today I want to talk to you about Character- we're going to use Uriah as a case study. Not a lot is written about him. We know that he was one of 37 of David's Might Men listed in 2 Samuel 23.

**Stories you need to read**- 1 guy killed 800 men in one fight- another 300, men who stood their ground when everyone else ran away- It was their character stick to their promises to serve David their King, and Uriah was one of them.

Uriah was the very type of warrior David wanted on his team, yet killed him to cover up his own sin. *Sin will make you do crazy things- and it's always progressive if it's not confessed.*

Sin doesn't start out big-

**United Flight 232** Fatal Flaw missed on inspections

The study of David shows us what character flaws can do to you and those around you.

Today I want to talk to you about what character will do for you. It will give you an edge because so many people lack good character and work ethic. It might even get you killed, which can be seen as a Promotion if you're a Christian!

**Character:** The way someone thinks, feels and behaves

Your character is what you are when no one is looking.

The English word for character is derived from the Latin word "ingenium" which means "engraved"

Your life is like a block of valuable marble that is either carefully sculpted into something beautiful or hacked upon carelessly.

**Your character determines how your life turns out**

There are no stories about Uriah killing hundreds or standing his ground in grave circumstances, but you didn't become a Mighty Man just because you're strong. There are stories, they're just not told. But Uriah's character is revealed in the story of David by his behavior. See, what was on the inside of him would come out by his behavior.

## 2 Samuel 11:6-15

**Uriah was a Hittite**- not a born Israelite. Name means "**The Lord Jehovah is my light**"

1. **Uriah obeyed orders.** A person of good character obeys those in authority, without an attitude.
2. **Uriah disobeyed orders.** David told him to do something that went against his character. There was a code of

honor amongst warriors in this time period to abstain from intimacy during war time as a practice of discipline. *His honor was more important to him than his pleasure.* It wasn't like he was trying to disrespect his King, it just didn't sit right with him while his buddies were out fighting. (something David should have been doing) Honor meant something to him. Vs. 11

3. *Even while intoxicated, his character prevailed.* His character was so ingrained in him that it took the controls when he wasn't in control. You're NOT Uriah. David got him drunk. The Point: **What is in you is what's going to come out of you.**
4. *He was completely trustworthy.* David gave him a task and knew he wouldn't open the death warrant. Why was he trusted now? Because he had been trustworthy in the past! The amount of betrayal by David here is HUGE. First his wife, now his life. He's murdering the very man who was willing to give his life for him.

### Character will keep you

It might kill you, but like I said, at least he went to Heaven doing what was right. God blesses those who do the best they can to follow His Word and have good character.

If you've had character issues in the past, you need to know that you can change this.

*Philippians 3:12-14 Forgetting what is behind, pressing toward what is ahead*

Catch yourself in your bad habits- determine to work on a few at a time. Habits take a while to change, but once they do change, a changed person will not go unnoticed! **The Cross**