

CHAPTER FOUR

KING DEVID'S CRIME

LITERAL COMPREHENSION

Once King Devid send joub, his commander to fight, but he himself remained at Jerusalem. One evening he saw Bathshiba a beautiful woman taking a bath. She was the wife of Uriah an officer in the battle field. The king sent for her and lay with her. When she became pregnant he asked joub to send Uriah. When Uriah came to the palace, the king asked him to go home, but Uriah refused to do so because his commander had been in the battle field. When he did not go home the second time, the king send him to the battle field with a letter to joub. Then joub appointed him to the forefront as ordered by the king an Uriah was killed. This message was send to the king. And Bathshiba mourned (avL{ afg'{} for her husband. When the mourning was over the king married her and she bore him a son. But god was unhappy with the king.

INTERPRETAION

This story might be trying to tell us that every one is the victim of passion. The rulers use their special power and enjoy it, but other persons suppress (lyrf]ldrf]) this desire. It may also be interpreted to mean that every is excusable in politics. The king is free to do what ever he likes. But an ordinary citizen is punished if he or she does not helps rulers to satisfy their whims (/x/).

CRITICAL THINKING

When I read this story, I had wrong impression of the BIBAL. Aren't their other gods' characters in the story of BIBAL? Or does king Devid stand for a good king? If he is a good king, what are the other ruler's views? If we read this story as a

political story regardless of (jf:tf gul/sg) morality, we can appreciate it. It truly describes human weakness. Even the king is not free from passion.

ASSIMILATION

This story has help me to understand myself better. It is also taught me that I should not follow the example of a great person if his action is bad. Absolute power corrupts the leadership of the rulers. If the rulers are corrupt the whole society decay (s'lxg'). Now I know why my country has not improved. Immoral and undemocratic politician have used their power for their personal benefits, not for the development of the country. There for the condition of my country becoming worse every day.