

## **Hit & Run Spirituality**

**9-14-14 PM**

According to some statistics, hit & run accidents (accidents where one of the people who are involved in an accident flee the scene) are on the rise<sup>1</sup>. Here in Hillsboro, we are all familiar with the terrible accident last year where a young woman in Forest Grove struck two children and then fled. While she would have likely been exonerated for that accident, she is going to prison now for leaving the scene, and afterwards she is being deported from the country. Her life is ruined by the Hit & Run mindset, which we will see is about more than just auto accidents.

What is the mindset of a hit & run? "I did something terrible, but rather than deal with it, I am going to run away". Running away from our problems is a very common reaction that only compounds the consequences. In spiritual terms, we refuse to accept the consequences of sin, and then pretend it did not happen. Ultimately, we suffer worse consequences than before.

Let us look at David's Hit & Run moment in 2 Samuel 11. There he sinned by lust, then adultery. In an effort to cover it up and avoid the consequences, he committed subsequent sins, including drunkenness and murder. Had David dealt with this at the beginning, he would not have received the consequences that begin at the end of the chapter, with God regarding David as evil.

In 2 Samuel 12 we see the consequences of David's sin. His family would fall apart, his kingdom would fall apart. In the end, his sin would result with the deaths of four of his sons. What terrible consequences to David's inability to deal with sin.

Learning from Hit & Runs: We need to see that it is best for us deal with sin immediately. In I John 1:8-10, we are told that if we simply confess (and implied, to repent) our sins, God will take away the wages of our sins. In James 5:14-16 that idea of confession is extended to each other. If we bear one another's burdens, we fulfill the law of Christ.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2013/11/10/hit-and-run-crashes-los-angeles/3452699/>