

TRIUMPHS
AND TRIALS
of the
KING



A King Plagued With Pride

2 SAMUEL 24



Fathers, where has your hidden pride
reared its ugly head lately?



2 Samuel 24

1 The LORD's anger burned against Israel again, and he stirred up David against them to say, "Go, count the people of Israel and Judah."

2 So the king said to Joab, the commander of his army, "Go through all the tribes of Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba and register the troops so I can know their number."



2 Samuel 24

1 The LORD's anger burned against Israel again, and he stirred up David against them to say, "Go, count the people of Israel and Judah."

1 Chronicles 21

1 Satan, rose up against Israel and incited David to count the people of Israel



Exodus 30:12

When you take a census of the Israelites to register them, each of the men must pay a ransom for his life to the Lord as they are registered. Then no plague will come on them as they are registered.



2 Samuel 24

3 Joab replied to the king, “May the LORD your God multiply the troops a hundred times more than they are—while my lord the king looks on! But why does my lord the king want to do this?”

4 Yet the king’s order prevailed over Joab and the commanders of the army. So Joab and the commanders of the army left the king’s presence to register the troops of Israel.



2 Samuel 24

5 They crossed the Jordan and camped in Aroer, south of the town in the middle of the valley, and then proceeded toward Gad and Jazer. 6 They went to Gilead and to the land of the Hittites and continued on to Dan-jaan and around to Sidon. 7 They went to the fortress of Tyre and all the cities of the Hivites and Canaanites. Afterward, they went to the Negev of Judah at Beer-sheba.



2 Samuel 24

8 When they had gone through the whole land, they returned to Jerusalem at the end of nine months and twenty days. 9 Joab gave the king the total of the registration of the troops. There were eight hundred thousand valiant armed men from Israel and five hundred thousand men from Judah.



Psalm 122

6 Pray for the well-being of Jerusalem:

“May those who love you be secure;

7 may there be peace within your walls,
security within your fortresses.”



2 Samuel 24

10 David's conscience troubled him after he had taken a census of the troops. He said to the LORD, "I have sinned greatly in what I've done. Now, LORD, because I've been very foolish, please take away your servant's guilt."



Psalm 51:1-2

Be gracious to me, God, according to your faithful love;
according to your abundant compassion,
blot out my rebellion.

Completely wash away my guilt and
cleanse me from my sin.



2 Samuel 24

11 When David got up in the morning, the word of the LORD had come to the prophet Gad, David's seer: 12 "Go and say to David, 'This is what the LORD says: I am offering you three choices. Choose one of them, and I will do it to you.'

13 So Gad went to David, told him the choices, and asked him, "Do you want three years of famine to come on your land, to flee from your foes three months while they pursue you, or to have a plague in your land three days? Now, consider carefully what answer I should take back to the one who sent me."



2 Samuel 24

14 David answered Gad, “I have great anxiety. Please, let us fall into the LORD’s hands because his mercies are great, but don’t let me fall into human hands.”



2 Samuel 24

15 So the LORD sent a plague on Israel from that morning until the appointed time, and from Dan to Beer-sheba seventy thousand men died. 16 Then the angel extended his hand toward Jerusalem to destroy it, but the LORD relented concerning the destruction and said to the angel who was destroying the people, “Enough, withdraw your hand now!” The angel of the LORD was then at the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite.



2 Samuel 24

17 When David saw the angel striking the people, he said to the LORD, “Look, I am the one who has sinned; I am the one who has done wrong. But these sheep, what have they done? Please, let your hand be against me and my father’s family.”



“They who truly come to God for mercy,
come as beggars, and not as creditors.”

--Jonathan Edwards



2 Samuel 24

18 Gad came to David that day and said to him, “Go up and set up an altar to the LORD on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite.” 19 David went up in obedience to Gad’s command, just as the LORD had commanded. 20 Araunah looked down and saw the king and his servants coming toward him, so he went out and paid homage to the king with his face to the ground.



2 Samuel 24

21 Araunah said, “Why has my lord the king come to his servant?” David replied, “To buy the threshing floor from you in order to build an altar to the LORD, so the plague on the people may be halted.”

22 Araunah said to David, “My lord the king may take whatever he wants and offer it. Here are the oxen for a burnt offering and the threshing sledges and ox yokes for the wood. 23 Your Majesty, Araunah gives everything here to the king.” Then he said to the king, “May the LORD your God accept you.”



2 Samuel 24

24 The king answered Araunah, “No, I insist on buying it from you for a price, for I will not offer to the LORD my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing.”

David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for twenty ounces of silver. 25 He built an altar to the LORD there and offered burnt offerings and fellowship offerings. Then the LORD was receptive to prayer for the land, and the plague on Israel ended.





- **Dads:**

Stop bringing leftovers to the Lord.

Offer Christ your life.

Lead your family to do the same.

- **Church:**

Jesus does not want token worship.

Bring your guilt, pride, resources, and loving obedience.

Christ gave himself wholly for us.

By grace, let us give ourselves wholly to him.

