

**BOOK OF 2 SAMUEL**  
**THE CONSEQUENCES OF SIN**  
**2 SAMUEL 24:10-25**

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**Introduction**

Last time we began by looking at **David's sin of pride** in numbering the people of Israel.

*WE SAW THAT SOMETIMES THE LORD ALLOWS US TO MAKE WRONG CHOICES! (Vs. 1)*

*WE SAW THAT PRIDE CAUSES US TO DO SOME STRANGE THINGS! (Vs. 2-3)*

*WE SAW THE DETAILS OF THE NUMBERING. (Vs 4-9)*

*WE SAW DAVID'S CONVICTION, ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND REPENTANCE OF HIS SIN! (Vs 10)*

Tonight we move on down through this chapter. But let's back up to verse 10.

**I. WE SEE THE CONSEQUENCES OF DAVID'S SIN! (Vs 10-13)**

In these verses God sends His prophet with three punishment choices.

God's prophet **Gad** [whose name means *good fortune*] told David that God was displeased. This was no small thing to such a man as David.

The repentant King's sinful deed had been forgiven. But even the reception of divine grace and forgiveness doesn't mean that one can sin without consequence!

We usually can't go back and correct the past, but we can do what is right from now on. We can repent and make things right with God. However, we may suffer some adverse consequences associated with our sin.

Consequences for our sin should cause us to pause and reflect on the cost of sin. Was it worth it? No, but the consequences can maybe help us make better decisions in the future!

David came to realize here the awful price for his sin! David was given three choices of punishment for his sin.

Israel would either be punished by war, famine or pestilence, for this sin! Sometimes we never learn the real serious nature of our sins until the awful consequences come and open our eyes!

Any of these punishments would affect Israel in a profound way.

1. **A seven year famine in the land.**  
(Remember they had already endured a three-year famine in the matter of Saul's sin against the Gibeonites!)
2. **Fleeing three months before their enemies while they are being pursued by them.**  
(David knew all about fleeing and the affect it has on one and his family!)
3. **The other choice was three days of pestilence.**  
The land filled with who knows how many corpses strewn about tears and wailing of both widows and orphans.

And the King had to choose one of these.

**II. WE SEE DAVID'S RESPONSE TO THE PROPHET OF GOD! (Vs 14)**

David realized that God would be more merciful than a person.  
*"His mercy endureth forever"!!!*

It is upon that kindness that David casts himself. He knows that he is guilty before God and deserves to suffer at His hand. But he also knows that the hand of God is kinder than the hand of men.

Think of this for a moment. David not only trusts in God for his salvation and for deliverance from his enemies, but for His chastening. There is no area of our lives that we should entrust to men instead of God.

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**III. WE SEE GOD'S JUDGMENT ON HIS PEOPLE! (VS 15-17)**

In *verse 15* the Lord sent an unknown plague upon His people.

70,000 were lost in the plague! That is an astounding number!

In *verses 16-17* the sword of the Lord is revealed. When the angel stretched out his hand toward Jerusalem to destroy it, the LORD stayed the plague saying it was enough!

The angel is called "*the Angel of the LORD*", [a phrase which marks a Christophany in the Old Testament.]

David visibly saw this Angel of the LORD standing between heaven and earth with a drawn sword.

[Look at the information given us in *1 Chronicles 21:14-17*]

This Angel was a detectable being that made it obvious that this plague was a definite punishment from God, and not just a coincidence of nature.

David's response was to declare that he indeed had sinned but he didn't understand the punishment upon these sheep. [David refers to himself and the people in metaphor; he is the shepherd, and the people are the sheep. The same figure is used of Christ and the church in the New Testament.]

The plague then was stayed here just by the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite.

**IV. WE SEE A REDEMPTIVE SACRIFICE TAKE PLACE!**  
**(Vs 18-25)**

This book closes with this beautiful story of the purchase of this threshing floor (where the plague was stayed) to be used as a place of worship.

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In *verses 18 and 19*, the prophet Gad came to David with this commandment of the LORD that he was to offer unto the LORD a sacrifice! (*Read the verses*)

Why did the Angel of the Lord stop His sword of destruction at that spot? Why did the prophet tell David to erect an altar to the Lord on that spot?

*2 Chronicles 3:1* Then Solomon began to build the house of the LORD at Jerusalem in mount Moriah, where the LORD appeared unto David his father, in the place that David had prepared in the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite.

It was near where Abraham and Melchizedek met in Genesis 14 and Abraham gave offering to the King of Salem (i.e. peace)

It was the place where Abraham took Isaac, his only son to sacrifice him to the Lord, called Mount Moriah.

This is the place where the temple of God would be built which housed the ark and the Shehinah glory.

This is the place or near the place where the Dome of the Rock, which is the Muslim religion's second most holy place, sits today.

This the place where the abomination of desolation will make his sacrifice to Satan in the Great Tribulation!

This threshing floor, a wide, smooth, surface, was on Mount Moriah, just outside the northern wall of David's Jerusalem. But David had no right to it because it was owned by another.

In *verses 20 and 21* we see that David goes to the owner of the threshing floor under the instructions of Gad the prophet. (*Read verses*)

Then, in order to make proper restitution and atonement, David arranged to construct an altar to the Lord.

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Gad had told him that it must be built on the threshing floor of Araunah.

***Read verses 22 and 23.***

Did Araunah [Ornan] try to withhold the threshing floor, the means of his livelihood from the king? No, he wanted to give it all to the king.

And our King wants to use what we have also. The question is are we willing to freely give what we have?

Notice that Araunah wanted to also give his wood sledges which the oxen pull to crush the grain, for fire to consume the offering which were his oxen for the burnt offering, and to give even the wheat he was grinding for the grain offering.

He was willing to give it all!

David's reply to Araunah has captured the imagination of Christians through the ages in **verse 24**.

In this passage, I think we are given understanding and insight into what made David so great. Why was he alone called a man after God's own heart (1 Samuel 13:14)?

It certainly wasn't because he was sinless, for he had a series of failures that match or exceed any of ours. But that wasn't God's verdict. Why? Because God looks at the heart, and David had a heart for God.

If you want to know the heart of David, read the Psalms. Saul never wrote a single psalm because Saul didn't have a heart for the Lord. Saul was outwardly impressive, but he used the things of God to exalt himself. David, on the other hand, used himself to exalt the things of God.

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David's refusal to offer a sacrifice that cost him nothing provides a model of biblical giving. One cannot be making a sacrifice when the offering has cost little or nothing. Whatever we do for God let it be a sacrificial offering of ourselves to God.

With **verse 25**, 2 Samuel closes. (***Read it***)

This final paragraph brings the books of Samuel to an end, with a look toward the future. This threshing-floor of Araunah becomes a sacred place, a place for sacrifices, offerings and prayer!

In fact, it is where Solomon's temple will be constructed. This place of sacrifice will become the scene of hope and fellowship.

**Conclusion**

As we leave the Book of Samuel, our eyes are fixed on the person of Jesus Christ, Who is to come to save His people as the "***Son of David***," Who one day will sit on the throne of his father, David.

Our eyes are likewise fixed on a place, on a flat spot atop a mountain near Jerusalem. As I see the angel of the LORD standing there with uplifted arm, ready to smite Jerusalem with his sword, I cannot help but think back to Abraham, who also had his hand lifted up, ready to plunge the knife into his beloved son Isaac. It took place at the very same place, Mount Moriah. And both times God stayed the hand from taking the life, because He had a better sacrifice, One that would take away the sin of the world.

Yes, the temple was built on this very spot, on Mount Moriah. And it was there that sacrifices were offered which stayed the judging hand of God.

But best of all it was on a hill not far away at all, Mount Calvary, where the hand of God came down upon His own beloved Son, and because of this sacrifice, men never need suffer the eternal wrath of God for their sins.

It was because of His sacrificial death on that cross, and His resurrection from the dead that the offer of eternal salvation has come to us!