

God Incited David?

Question: “In 2 Sam. 24:1, God “incited David” to command a census because “the anger of the Lord was kindled against Israel.” Did God make David sin?

Answer:

- A key to this passage is that we read in the parallel account that “Satan stood against Israel and incited David” (1 Chron. 21:1). So God intended to judge Israel and he used Satan to incite David. A fairly classic case of God employing sin sinlessly.
- David’s sin was that he was so willing to be incited.
- James 1:13: “Let no one say when he is tempted, ‘I am being tempted by God,’ for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one.”