

1 Chronicles 21

King James Version (KJV)

21 And Satan stood up against Israel, and provoked David to number Israel. (provoked = seduced, incited – better translation)

2Samuel-24:1 (David's success fueled his ego. Numbering Israel was a way to measure how great of a king he had become. He forgot that God made all of that possible for the people; not for David's ego)

Ezekiel-28 (Satan's downfall was also his ego. He wanted to replace Jesus as our savior)

NOTE: (We all have an ego and it will work against us, if we allow it. We all have to stay alert in order to keep our ego in check)

²And David said to Joab and to the rulers of the people, Go, number Israel from Beersheba even to Dan; and bring the number of them to me, that I may know it. (Beersheba to Dan- the south end to the north end of Israel) (Joab was David's general, in charge of Israel's army)

³And Joab answered, The LORD make his people an hundred times so many more as they be: but, my lord the king, are they not all my lord's servants? why then doth my lord require this thing? why will he be a cause of trespass to Israel? (trespass = sin)

(Joab is correct about this but David won't listen. It wasn't his great wisdom, or Israel's superior numbers that gave David the victories. It was God's blessings. David seems to have forgotten that)

⁴Nevertheless the king's word prevailed against Joab. Wherefore Joab departed, and went throughout all Israel, and came to Jerusalem.

⁵And Joab gave the sum of the number of the people unto David. And all they of Israel were a thousand thousand and an hundred thousand men that drew sword: and Judah was four hundred threescore and ten thousand men that drew sword. (1,100,000 Israel, 470,000 Judah) (These numbers were the fighting men only. The general population was much larger. Israel had grown considerably since the count in 2Samuel-24)

⁶But Levi and Benjamin counted he not among them: for the king's word was abominable to Joab. (Joab did a poor job of the count because he knew that this counting of the fighting men would

displease God. It was God who made Israel great; not David. Joab was right)

⁷ And God was displeased with this thing; therefore he smote Israel.
(God didn't appreciate David's ego trip)

(Jesus taught us that – If you exalt yourself, God will abase you. But if you humble yourself, God will exalt you) Matthew-23:12

⁸ And David said unto God, I have sinned greatly, because I have done this thing: but now, I beseech thee, do away the iniquity of thy servant; for I have done very foolishly. (David is finally wising up, but it's too late)

Luke-10:17-18 (Jesus taught us how to stop Satan when he tries to seduce us. Don't argue with him. Just send him away in the name of Jesus Christ)

⁹ And the LORD spake unto Gad, David's seer, saying, (seer = a prophet of God; a beholder in a vision- the Hebrew translation)

(Not to be confused with a wizard, witch, or soothsayer. Those people have nothing to do with God. They are from Satan)

¹⁰ Go and tell David, saying, Thus saith the LORD, I offer thee three things: choose thee one of them, that I may do it unto thee.

¹¹ So Gad came to David, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Choose thee (David will choose the punishment for his sin. Either the country will suffer or David will suffer)

(This was God's way of making sure that David understood that he was the cause of all of this. David got the message)

¹² Either three years' famine; or three months to be destroyed before thy foes, while that the sword of thine enemies overtaketh thee; or else three days the sword of the LORD, even the pestilence, in the land, and the angel of the LORD destroying throughout all the coasts of Israel. Now therefore advise thyself what word I shall bring again to him that sent me. (As usual, the country pays the price for the idiocy of the rulers)

(David will choose the third option. I believe that David chose correctly. It should be up to God, as to who lives and who dies. No man has the right or the wisdom to make that choice)

NOTES: (Look at us today – God was thrown out of our schools and yet they teach Islam. Abortion is no longer murder. Political correctness has replaced moral correctness. The result is an evil and violent generation of young people. Atheists and perverts <LGBTQ> call Christians “bigots”, and the law sides with them)

(The result is that God has taken away our blessings. We are a bankrupt and divided people. We can't even control our borders. Divided nations all fall. We have destroyed our children's inheritance)

¹³ And David said unto Gad, I am in a great strait: let me fall now into the hand of the LORD; for very great are his mercies: but let me not fall into the hand of man. (Let God decide because is He far wiser; more fair and merciful than man)

¹⁴ So the LORD sent pestilence upon Israel: and there fell of Israel seventy thousand men. (David wasn't the only sinner in the country. The people were not innocent either. There was rebellion against David <by Absalom and his followers>, and many other trespasses. God punished the whole country to wake them up and get their heads on straight)

¹⁵ And God sent an angel unto Jerusalem to destroy it: and as he was destroying, the LORD beheld, and he repented him of the evil, and said to the angel that destroyed, It is enough, stay now thine hand. And the angel of the LORD stood by the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite. (evil = hurt – better translation)

(The Septuagint states that the pestilence only lasted until noon on the first day, when God stopped the angel. God had mercy on the people)

¹⁶ And David lifted up his eyes, and saw the angel of the LORD stand between the earth and the heaven, having a drawn sword in his hand stretched out over Jerusalem. Then David and the elders of Israel, who were clothed in sackcloth, fell upon their faces. (They humbled themselves and repented for their sins. The Angel of the lord is God, in angelic form)

¹⁷ And David said unto God, Is it not I that commanded the people to be numbered? even I it is that have sinned and done evil indeed; but

as for these sheep, what have they done? let thine hand, I pray thee, O LORD my God, be on me, and on my father's house; but not on thy people, that they should be plagued. (evil = injury or hurt – better translation)

(David is taking responsibility for what he did. He knows that he is speaking to God in angelic form)

¹⁸ Then the angel of the LORD commanded Gad to say to David, that David should go up, and set up an altar unto the LORD in the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite. (This is Mount Moriah, where Abraham was commanded to sacrifice Isaac. Also this would be the site for Solomon's temple to God) Genesis-22:2

NOTE - (David didn't choose this site, God did by sending His angel there)

¹⁹ And David went up at the saying of Gad, which he spake in the name of the LORD. (David is obeying)

²⁰ And Ornan turned back, and saw the angel; and his four sons with him hid themselves. Now Ornan was threshing wheat.

²¹ And as David came to Ornan, Ornan looked and saw David, and went out of the threshingfloor, and bowed himself to David with his face to the ground. (Ornan just saw God in angelic form. Now he sees the king standing before him)

²² Then David said to Ornan, Grant me the place of this threshingfloor, that I may build an altar therein unto the LORD: thou shalt grant it me for the full price: that the plague may be stayed from the people. (David will pay the full price for the property)

²³ And Ornan said unto David, Take it to thee, and let my lord the king do that which is good in his eyes: lo, I give thee the oxen also for burnt offerings, and the threshing instruments for wood, and the wheat for the meat offering; I give it all.

(Ornan is a generous man. He is offering the property to David for free. He just saw the Angel of the Lord, so he knows that this request is coming from God)

²⁴ And king David said to Ornan, Nay; but I will verily buy it for the full price: for I will not take that which is thine for the LORD, nor offer

burnt offerings without cost. (David bought the place and oxen that would be sacrificed. He knew that you don't offer someone else's property to God)

²⁵ So David gave to Ornan for the place six hundred shekels of gold by weight. (David paid the full price)

2Samuel-24:24 (David gave 50 shekels of silver for the threshing floor alone. The rest of the money must have been for the rest of the property and for the oxen. These were two separate transactions)

²⁶ And David built there an altar unto the LORD, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings, and called upon the LORD; and he answered him from heaven by fire upon the altar of burnt offering. (Offerings that were accepted by God were consumed by fire) See Hebrews-12:29 (Our God is a consuming fire)

NOTE: (This chapter, verses 27 -> 30, and chapters 22 -> 29 are unique to Chronicles; and not in Samuel or Kings)

²⁷ And the LORD commanded the angel; and he put up his sword again into the sheath thereof. (This is the angel that was standing by, ready to destroy Jerusalem)

²⁸ At that time when David saw that the LORD had answered him in the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite, then he sacrificed there. (From that time forward, he only sacrificed there – better translation)

²⁹ For the tabernacle of the LORD, which Moses made in the wilderness, and the altar of the burnt offering, were at that season in the high place at Gibeon. (Zadok was there with the tabernacle) (Abiathar was in Jerusalem with David)

³⁰ But David could not go before it to enquire of God: for he was afraid because of the sword of the angel of the LORD. (David was abased, for exalting himself – lesson learned) (Also, David now knew that God had chosen Mt Moriah as His new place of sacrifice for David)