

Lesson 23
David Numbers Israel
(2 Samuel 24:1-25; 1 Chronicles 21:1-30)

Questions

1. What was David moved (incited) to do, why was he moved to do it, and who moved him to do it (24:1-3; 1 Chron. 21:1-3)?

2. How long did it take to number the people, how many were numbered, and who was not numbered (24:4-9; 1 Chron. 21:4-6)?

3. What did David confess to the Lord (24:10; 1 Chron. 21:7-8)?

4. What three choices did the Lord give David as punishment for his sin (24:11-14; 1 Chron. 21:9-13)?

5. How many people died in the pestilence sent by the Lord, what city was spared, and why (24:15-17; 1 Chron. 21:14-17)?

6. What was David told to do at the threshing floor of Araunah (Ornan) and what happened when he did it (24:18-25; 1 Chron. 21:18-27)?

7. Where was the tabernacle at this time and why did David not go there (1 Chron. 21:28-30)?

Digging Deeper

1. What other time did David's heart "smote" him and what other time did David confess his sin (24:10)?

2. Why would the Lord move someone to do something that was sinful (24:1) and why would he then punish someone for doing something that he moved them to do (24:15)?

3. Why was the numbering Israel a sin (24:10; see Ex. 30:12 and Num. 1:47-49)?

4. Locate on a map the following: Aroer and Jazer (24:5), Gilead, Tahtim-hodshi, Danjaan, and Sidon (24:6), the Hivites, the Canaanites, and Beer-sheba (24:7), and the threshing floor of Araunah (24:16).

Applications for Today

1. The Lord's people belong to the Lord, not to the leaders (24:3; 1 Chron. 21:3; 1 Pet. 2:9).
2. Confess your sin to the Lord, don't hide it (24:10, 17; 1 Chron. 21:8, 17; 1 Jn. 1:8-10).
3. Sin is folly (24:10; 1 Chron. 21:8; 2 Sam. 13:12; Num. 12:11; Psa. 69:5; Prov. 24:9).
4. The Lord is full of mercy and rich in mercy (24:14; 1 Chron. 21:13; Eph. 2:4).
5. The Lord will "repent" (change) and stop his punishment when he sees fit to do so (24:16; 1 Chron. 21:15; Ex. 32:12; Jer. 18:8; 26:3, 13, 19; Joel 2:13; Jonah 3:10; 4:2).
6. True sacrifices to the Lord are not to be offered cheaply; they should cost us something (24:24; 1 Chron. 21:24; Rom. 12:1; Phil. 2:7; Heb. 13:15-16; 1 Pet. 2:5).