

### Third – He \_\_\_\_\_

*When David saw the angel who was striking down the people, he said to the Lord, "I have sinned; I, the shepherd, have done wrong. These are but sheep. What have they done? Let your hand fall on me and my family." 2 Samuel 24:17*

*Then Solomon began to build the temple of the Lord in Jerusalem on Mount Moriah, where the Lord had appeared to his father David. It was on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite, the place provided by David. 2 Chronicles 3:1*

*"Enough, withdraw your hand." 2 Samuel 24:16*

*"Enough, withdraw your hand. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son." Genesis 22: 9 – 12*

*He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Romans 8:32*

*For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Romans 1:21*



SCC Message by John Aldax, November 13, 2011

Part 20

## The Census

2 Samuel 24

### WHY IS GOD ANGRY? WHAT'S WRONG WITH TAKING A CENSUS?

*1 Chronicles 21:1: Satan rose up against Israel and incited David to take a census of Israel. (NIV)*

"Satan," can refer to an \_\_\_\_\_ in general or \_\_\_\_\_ in particular. (NET Bible textual notes)

*An adversary opposed Israel, inciting David to count how many warriors Israel had. (NET)*

Moses' censuses:

1. After leaving Egypt – Numbers 1
2. Before entering the Promised Land – Numbers 26

*Numbers 26:52 – 56 – 52 The Lord said to Moses, 53 "The land is to be allotted to them as an inheritance based on the number of names. 54 To a larger group give a larger inheritance, and to a smaller group a smaller one; each is to receive its inheritance according to the number of those listed. 55 Be sure that the land is distributed by lot. What each group inherits will be according to the names for its ancestral tribe. 56 Each inheritance is to be distributed by lot among the larger and smaller groups."*

*Isaiah 31:1 – Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help, who rely on horses, who trust in the multitude of their chariots and in the great strength of their horsemen, but do not look to the Holy One of Israel, or seek help from the Lord.*

*It is only God who "7 . . . sends poverty and wealth; he humbles and he exalts. 8 He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap; he seats them with princes and has them inherit a throne of honor." 1 Samuel 2:7*

2 Samuel 7:18 – “Who am I, O Sovereign Lord, and what is my family, that you have brought me this far?”

David isn't \_\_\_\_\_ . . . he's \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Reason why the census was wrong – because \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

**PRINCIPLE:** Something is wrong simply because God says so . . . even if you can't see why . . . even if it doesn't make sense . . . even if you don't see the downside.

**PRINCIPLE:** Obeying only when it makes sense isn't \_\_\_\_\_ it's \_\_\_\_\_.

## WHY DOES GOD CUT THE JUDGMENT SHORT?

Three options: 3 years of famine, or 3 months of military defeat, or 3 days of plague.

*So the LORD sent a plague on Israel from that morning until the end of the time designated, and seventy thousand of the people from Dan to Beersheba died. 2 Samuel 24:15*

*When the angel stretched out his hand to destroy Jerusalem, the Lord relented concerning the disaster and said to the angel who was afflicting the people, “Enough! Withdraw your hand.” The angel of the Lord was then at the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite. 2 Samuel 24:16*

David does three things

**First** – He \_\_\_\_\_.

*2 Samuel 24:10 – David was conscience-stricken after he had counted the fighting men, and he said to the LORD, “I have sinned greatly in what I have done.*

**Second** – He \_\_\_\_\_.

*2 Samuel 24:14 – Let us fall into the hands of the Lord, for his mercy is great; but do not let me fall into human hands.*

**PRINCIPLE:** If you make anything your god but the real God, you'll never receive mercy from that god. *Timothy Keller*

“The real God is the only God who if you get him will satisfy you and if you fail him can forgive you.” *Timothy Keller*