

Loving God When Disciplined by Him

2 Samuel 24:1-25; Psalm 30:1-5

David's Drift into Self Reliance – 2 Samuel 24:1–9

"Again the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel."

"Satan stood against Israel and incited David to number Israel." (1 Chronicles 21:1)

God is the _____ cause.

He has determined to judge Israel. This event unfolds under His sovereign will.

Satan is the _____ instrument.

He provokes and incites, acting with intent but always under God's authority.

David is the _____ agent.

He chooses, acts, and is accountable.

There is another layer to David's sin. God had already given explicit instruction for a census:

"When you take the census of the people of Israel, then each shall give a ransom for his life to the LORD... that there be no plague among them when you number them... Each one who is numbered... shall give this: half a shekel... to make atonement for your lives." (Exodus 30:12–15)

This explains why the judgment takes the form it does.

The Weight of Divine Discipline – v. 10-17

"But David's heart struck him after he had numbered the people."

"I have sinned greatly in what I have done... I have acted very foolishly."

_____ begins when _____ end.

God then sends Gad with three options. Each exposes the same misplaced confidence.

God targets the _____ of the sin.

"Let us fall into the hand of the LORD, for his mercy is great..."

"The LORD sent a pestilence... seventy thousand men died."

This is precise _____.

Then _____ interrupts: "It is enough; now stay your hand."

The Necessity of Atonement – v. 18-25

Mercy has _____ wrath.

It has not yet _____ it.

"And Gad came that day to David and said to him, 'Go up, raise an altar to the LORD on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite.'"

The same God who brought discipline now directs David to the place where restoration will occur.

That place is an _____.

God is establishing a pattern in history:

Where _____ brings judgment, God provides _____.

Where _____ is deserved, God makes a way for it to be _____.

How do you respond when God deals with you like this?

Loving God Under Discipline – Psalm 30:1–5

1. You _____ God, not _____ Him

"I will extol you..."

2. You interpret discipline as _____

"You have drawn me up..."

3. You trust the _____ of His _____

"His anger is but for a moment..."

4. You anchor yourself in _____

"His favor is for a lifetime"

5. You _____ with confidence in _____

"Weeping... joy comes"