

# God's Provision for Our Sin

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Pastor Mark Turner

2 Samuel 24:1-15

Oak Community Church (PCA)

## Introduction

- The last chapter of Samuel... what a way to wrap-up David's life!
- Not a eulogy, but David's greatest strength: his repentance and faith in God

## The Census 1-9

- Intense words to start: *again the anger of the Lord was kindled*<sup>1</sup>
- What sin? Was it lack of repentance for Absalom's rebellion<sup>2S16:15-17:23</sup> or Sheba's rebellion<sup>2S20:1-22</sup>? We're simply not told
- God uses the folly of David to accomplish His judgment<sup>Calvin Institutes 4.20.25</sup>
- Here 'God incited' while 1 Chr 21<sup>1</sup> 'Satan incited'. So which is it? Yes
- Don't get bogged down, WCF<sup>1.7</sup> *All things in Scripture are not alike plain in themselves, nor alike clear unto all: a yet those things which are necessary to be known, believed, and observed for salvation, are so clearly propounded, and opened in some place of Scripture or other, that not only the learned, but the unlearned, in a due use of the ordinary means, may attain unto a sufficient understanding of them.*
- Calvin distinguishes between secret will of God and revealed will of God
- Revealed will of God: His Word, what we need to know and believe
- Secret will of God: everything God has ordained to actually happen
- God is under no obligation to explain Himself to His creatures<sup>Rm9:20-24</sup>
- What we know: God's anger was just because He is Holy<sup>Rom1:18; Ex34:6-7; Nah1:2-3</sup>; we are rebellious<sup>1Cor15:21-22; Ps51:5</sup>; God is Righteous<sup>Psa145:17</sup>; we can trust God<sup>Dt32:4</sup>
- Peter under inspiration of Spirit shows us God's secret vs revealed will<sup>Act2:22-23</sup>
- God didn't tempt David<sup>Jas1:13</sup>; God used means of Satan<sup>Eph2:2-3</sup>
- God provided way out<sup>Joab's Warning</sup> - David didn't take it<sup>1Cor10:13</sup>
- David failed to use God's means of grace<sup>Word, prayer, sacraments</sup>
- Our hope: God uses even our sin for His purposes<sup>Rom8:28</sup> His glory

## David Acts in Sin 4-9

- How did David sin by census? We're not told specifically...
- Motive? Joab's warning: *delight in this thing*<sup>4</sup>; *I have done very foolishly*<sup>10</sup>
- Likely self-glorifying pride and self-reliance...
- Method? Ex 30:11-16 required 'ransom' for each
- God wants His people to remember they are Redeemed<sup>Ex30:16</sup>. Today<sup>1Pet1:18-19</sup>

## David Convicted of Sin - Runs to God 10-14

- Census likely took considerable time... David waited... delighted<sup>3</sup>
- But then David is convicted<sup>10</sup> - sign of regenerate heart<sup>1S13:14</sup>
- Confesses well<sup>10</sup> before His God and looks to God for solution<sup>2S7:16</sup>
- We likewise can confess & look to God<sup>1Jn1:9</sup>
- Agree with God we broke the 1<sup>st</sup> command: *no other gods*<sup>Ex20:3</sup>
- Let us like David look to God to deal with our sins<sup>1John2:1-2</sup>
- God alone provides the mercy we need<sup>2S24:14</sup> through Jesus Christ!