

2 Samuel 24:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And David built there an altar unto the LORD, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings. So the LORD was intreated for the land, and the plague was stayed from Israel.

Analysis

And David built there an altar unto the LORD, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings. So the LORD was intreated for the land, and the plague was stayed from Israel.

This verse contributes to the narrative of Census and Plague, emphasizing pride, judgment, provision. David's census represents prideful self-reliance rather than dependence on God. The plague's devastation demonstrates sin's consequences extending beyond the sinner. David's purchase of Araunah's threshing floor and sacrifice there establishes the future temple location. Theological themes include the danger of pride, corporate consequences of leaders' sins, the necessity of proper sacrifice, God's mercy in limiting judgment, and divine purpose even in disciplinary actions.

Historical Context

The historical setting of 2 Samuel 24 occurs during David's reign (circa 1010-970 BCE) over Israel's united monarchy. Archaeological discoveries, including the Tel Dan inscription mentioning the 'House of David,' corroborate biblical historicity. Ancient Near Eastern customs regarding pride, judgment, provision provide crucial background. The geopolitical situation involved regional powers—Philistines, Ammonites, Arameans, Moabites, Edomites—as David consolidated and expanded Israel's territory. Cultural practices concerning kingship, warfare,

covenant relationships, family dynamics, and religious observance differed significantly from modern Western contexts, requiring careful attention to avoid anachronistic interpretation while extracting timeless theological principles applicable across cultures and eras.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does this passage deepen your understanding of pride, judgment, provision?
2. What does this verse reveal about God's character, and how should that shape your worship and obedience?
3. In what specific ways can you apply this truth to your current circumstances and relationships this week?

Interlinear Text

עַל זֹת	וַיַּעַל	יְהוָה	מִזְבֵּחַ	דָּוִד	שָׁם	וַיִּבֶן
burnt offerings	and offered	So the LORD	there an altar	And David		built
H5930	H5927	H3068	H4196	H1732	H8033	H1129
וַיִּשְׁלַח יָמָיו	וַיִּשְׁתַּעֲבֹד	יְהוָה	לְאֶרֶץ	וַעֲתִידָהּ	וְשָׁלָמָהּ	יָמָיו
was stayed	for the land	So the LORD	was intreated	and peace offerings		
H6113	H776	H3068	H6279	H8002		
יִשְׂרָאֵל:	מֵעַל	הַמִּגַּפָּה				
from Israel		and the plague				
H3478		H4046				

Additional Cross-References

2 Samuel 21:14 (Parallel theme): And the bones of Saul and Jonathan his son buried they in the country of Benjamin in Zelah, in the sepulchre of Kish his father: and they performed all that the king commanded. And after that God was intreated for the land.

Genesis 8:20 (Sacrifice): And Noah builded an altar unto the LORD; and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar.

1 Samuel 7:17 (Sacrifice): And his return was to Ramah; for there was his house; and there he judged Israel; and there he built an altar unto the LORD.

2 Samuel 24:14 (References Lord): And David said unto Gad, I am in a great strait: let us fall now into the hand of the LORD; for his mercies are great: and let me not fall into the hand of man.

Genesis 22:9 (Sacrifice): And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood.

1 Samuel 7:9 (Sacrifice): And Samuel took a sucking lamb, and offered it for a burnt offering wholly unto the LORD: and Samuel cried unto the LORD for Israel; and the LORD heard him.