

# 2 Samuel 24:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Joab said unto the king, Now the LORD thy God add unto the people, how many soever they be, an hundredfold, and that the eyes of my lord the king may see it: but why doth my lord the king delight in this thing?

## Analysis

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**And Joab said unto the king, Now the LORD thy God add unto the people, how many soever they be, an hundredfold, and that the eyes of my lord the king may see it: but why doth my lord the king delight in this thing?**

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

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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

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## Study Questions

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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

אָלָה יְהָוָה אֱמֹר	יְהָוָה בְּאָלָה יְהָוָה	וְאָל יְהָוָה בְּאָל	בְּאָל יְהָוָה בְּאָל	וְאָל יְהָוָה בְּאָל	אָל יְהָוָה בְּאָל
<b>said</b> H559	<b>And Joab</b> H3097	<b>H413</b>	<b>the king</b> H4428	<b>add</b> H3254	<b>Now the LORD</b> H3068
					<b>thy God</b> H430
					H413
בָּאָל מִן	מִן בָּאָל				
unto the people	how many soever	how many soever	they be an hundredfold		
H5971	H1992	H1992	H3967		
רָא וְתַּבְּנֵה יְמִינְךָ	בְּנֵה לְךָ יְמִינְךָ	בְּנֵה לְךָ יְמִינְךָ	בְּנֵה לְךָ יְמִינְךָ	בְּנֵה לְךָ יְמִינְךָ	בְּנֵה לְךָ יְמִינְךָ
H6471	and that the eyes	it but why doth my lord	<b>the king</b>	may see	H7200
H5869		H113	H4428		
בְּזִיה: בְּזִיה: בְּזִיה:					
it but why doth my lord	<b>the king</b>	H4100	<b>delight</b>	<b>in this thing</b>	H2088
H113	H4428		H2654	H1697	

## Additional Cross-References

**Deuteronomy 1:11** (References God): (The LORD God of your fathers make you a thousand times so many more as ye are, and bless you, as he hath promised you!)

**Psalms 115:14** (References Lord): The LORD shall increase you more and more, you and your children.

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