

## Chapter 21

*Dauid finneth in numbring his people, 8. repenteth, and prayeth, yet is punished, many dying of the plague, 15. til God shewing mercie spareth the rest. 16. Dauid accusing himselfe, and excusing the people is commanded by the Angel to offer sacrifice, which he (22. bying ground for an altar) 26. performeth.*

2. Reg. 24.

**B**ut <sup>a)</sup>Satan rofe agaynft Ifrael: and moued Dauid to number Ifrael. <sup>2</sup> And Dauid fayd to Ioab, and to the princes of the people: Goe, and number Ifrael from Berfabee vnto Dan, and bring me the number that I may know. <sup>3</sup> And Ioab, answered: Our Lord increafe his people an hundred fold more then they are: are they not my lord king al thy seruantes? why doth my lord seeke this, which may be reputed for a finne to Ifrael? <sup>4</sup> But the kinges word preuailed more: and Ioab went forth, and went about al Ifrael: and returned to Ierufalem. <sup>5</sup> And he gaue Dauid the number of them, whom he had surueyed: and al the number of Ifrael was found a thousand thousand and an hundred thousand men that drew sword: and of Iuda foure hundred feuentie thousand men of warre. <sup>6</sup> For Leui and Benjamin he numbred not: becaufe Ioab vnwillingly executed the kings commandement. <sup>7</sup> And that which was commanded displeafed God: and he froke Ifrael. <sup>8</sup> And Dauid fayd to God: I haue finned exceedingly in that I would doe this: I besech thee take away <sup>b)</sup>the iniquitie of thy seruant, becaufe I haue done foolifhly. <sup>9</sup> And our Lord spake to Gad the Seer of Dauid, faying: <sup>10</sup> Goe, and speake to Dauid, and tel him: Thus fayth our Lord: I geue thee the choyse of three thinges, choofe one which thou wilt, and I wil doe it to thee. <sup>11</sup> And when Gad was come to Dauid, he fayd to him: Thus fayth our Lord: Choofe which thou wilt: <sup>12</sup> either three yeares famine:

<sup>a</sup> By Gods permiffion Dauid was tempted and ouercome. 2. Reg. 24.

<sup>b</sup> King Dauid was not without faith, nor hope, and yet was contaminate with iniquitie, from which he prayed to be deliuered.

or three monethes to flee from thine enemies, and not to be able to escape their sword: or three dayes the sword of our Lord, and pestilence to be in the land, and the Angel of our Lord to kil in al the coastes of Ifrael: now therefore see what I shal answer him, that sent me. <sup>13</sup> And Daud sayd to Gad: I am on euerie side in great distresse: but it is better, that I fall into the handes of our Lord, because his mercies be manie, then into the handes of men. <sup>14</sup> Our Lord therefore sent the pestilence in Ifrael, and there fel of Ifrael seuentie thousand men. <sup>15</sup> He sent also an Angel into Ierusalem, to strike it: and when it was striken, our Lord saw, and had compaffion vpon the greatnesse of the euil: and commanded the Angel, that smote: It is sufficient, now let thy hand cease. Moreover the Angel of our Lord stoode beside the floore of Ornan the Iebuseite. <sup>16</sup> And Daud lifting vp his eyes, saw the Angel of our Lord standing betwen heauen and earth, and a sword drawn in his hand, turned agaynst Ierusalem: & they fel as wel he as the ancientes clothed in heare clothes, flatte on the earth. <sup>17</sup> And Daud sayd to God: Am not I he, that commanded the people to be numbred? It is I that haue finned: it is I that haue done the euil: this flocke what hath it deserued? Lord my God let thy hand be turned I besech thee vpon me, and vpon my fathers house: and let not thy people be striken. <sup>18</sup> And the Angel of our Lord commanded Gad to tel Daud, that he should goe vp, and build an altar to our Lord God in the floore of Ornan the Iebuseite. <sup>19</sup> Daud therefore went vp according to the word of Gad, which he had spoken to him in the name of our Lord. <sup>20</sup> Moreover Ornan when he had looked vp, and sene the Angel, and his foure sonnes with him, they hid themselues: for at that time he threshed wheat in the floore. <sup>21</sup> Therefore when Daud came to Ornan, Ornan beheld him, & went forth to mete him out of the floore, and adored him flatte on the ground. <sup>22</sup> And Daud sayd to him: Geue me the place of thy floore, that I may build therein an altar to our Lord: so that thou take as much siluer as it is worth, and the plague may cease from the people. <sup>23</sup> And Ornan sayd to Daud: Take it, and let my lord the

king doe whatfoeuer pleafeth him: yea the oxen alfo I  
 little cartes. geue for holocaust, and the dreyes for wood, and wheat  
 for facrifice: I wil giue al thinges willingly. <sup>24</sup> And king  
 Dauid fayd to him: It fhall not be fo, but I wil geue  
 thee filuer as much as it is worth: for I may not take  
 it from thee, and fo offer to our Lord holocaustes geuen  
 gratis. <sup>25</sup> Dauid therefore gaue Ornan for the place, fix  
 hundred ficles of gold of moft iuft weight. <sup>26</sup> And he built  
 there an altar to our Lord: and he offered holocaustes,  
 and pacifiques, and he inuocated our Lord, & he heard  
 him <sup>a</sup>in fyre from heauen vpon the altar of holocauste.  
<sup>27</sup> And our Lord commanded the Angel: and he turned  
 his fword into the fcabbard. <sup>28</sup> Dauid therefore forth-  
 with, feing that our Lord had heard him in the floore of  
 Ornan the Iebufeite, immolated victimes there. <sup>29</sup> But  
 the tabernacle of our Lord, which Moyfes made in the  
 defert, and the altar of holocaustes, was at that time in  
 the excelfe of Gabaon. <sup>30</sup> And Dauid could not goe to  
 the altar to pray God there: for he had bene frighted  
 with exceding feare, feing the fword of the Angel of our  
 Lord.

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<sup>a</sup> God fhewed by fending fire miraculoufly to burne the facrifice,  
 that he had heard Dauids prayer.