

DAVID: A MAN OF PASSION & DESTINY
WHEN THE GODLY ARE FOOLISH
2 SAMUEL 24; 1 CHRONICLES 21



The Heart of the Matter

Sadly, we do not reach perfection by growing older. Age alone does not guarantee maturity or freedom from error. As Elihu said to Job, “The abundant in years may not be wise” (Job 32:9). So true. Sometimes the aged saints among us act downright foolish! When these saints are also leaders, the consequences are usually greater. Consider the aged and otherwise godly David—a father of many, a courageous warrior in battle, a king for nearly four decades, and a sensitive man of God. In spite of these achievements and experiences, he made a foolish decision based on pride and fell into Satan’s trap. From his error, we can all learn valuable lessons.



Discovering the Way

1. Analysis of Decision (2 Samuel 24:1–4; 1 Chronicles 21:1–6)

At some point late in David’s reign, he decided to take a census, an action independent of the Lord and ultimately for David’s selfish interests.

2. Consequences of Disobedience

David declared his wrongdoing, endured the guilt of his poor choice, and confessed his care for those suffering as a result of his actions.

3. Altar of Deliverance

God commanded David to build a monument to mark the event, so David bought a plot of land from Araunah and built an altar to the Lord.

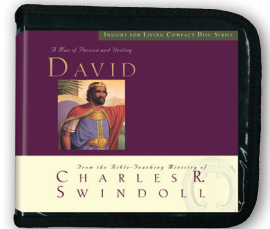


Starting Your Journey

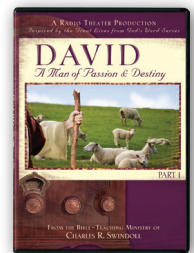
What can we learn from David’s failure? Living an unaccountable life is to flirt with danger, ignoring sin’s consequences is to reject God’s truth, and failing to take God seriously is to deny His lordship.



Tools for Digging Deeper



David: A Man of Passion & Destiny
by Charles R. Swindoll
compact disc series



David: A Man of Passion & Destiny, Part 1
A Radio Theater Production
by Insight for Living
compact disc set



David: A Man of Passion & Destiny, Part 1
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