

Serve God's Purpose

Part 10

**“For when David had served God’s purpose in his own generation.” (Acts 13:36a NIV)
“For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God.” (Acts 13:36a KJV)**

In your walk with God you might get some temptation and you may get fall into sin and that will bring you away from serving God’s purpose. But you can still repent and come back to the Lord and do his will and got restored.

David had another sin mentioned in the bible, when he counted the fighting men as we can read here: ¹ *Satan rose up against Israel and incited David to take a census of Israel.* ² *So David said to Joab and the commanders of the troops, “Go and count the Israelites from Beersheba to Dan. Then report back to me so that I may know how many there are.”* ³ *But Joab replied, “May the LORD multiply his troops a hundred times over. My lord the king, are they not all my lord’s subjects? Why does my lord want to do this? Why should he bring guilt on Israel?”* ⁴ *The king’s word, however, overruled Joab; so Joab left and went throughout Israel and then came back to Jerusalem.* ⁵ *Joab reported the number of the fighting men to David: In all Israel there were one million one hundred thousand men who could handle a sword, including four hundred and seventy thousand in Judah.* ⁶ *But Joab did not include Levi and Benjamin in the numbering, because the king’s command was repulsive to him.” (1Chronicles 21:1-6)* David doubted the grace and the true presence of the Lord: He was counting his men as if he is the one who brought them and not acknowledging God being the owner and the one who put him as a king over them. David’s action of counting the men was considered as a defect in his faith in God. He doubted the true presence of God as the real King to His people. He was feeling insecure, and that led him count his men, but this attitude was considered as guilt. David was not right in this aspect that even he did not take heed from Joab’s advice or explanation as we read above. What David did was away from serving God’s purpose in his life

⁷ *This command was also evil in the sight of God; so he punished Israel.* ⁸ *Then David said to God, “I have sinned greatly by doing this. Now, I beg you, take away the guilt of your servant. I have done a very foolish thing.”* ⁹ *The LORD said to Gad, David’s seer,* ¹⁰ *“Go and tell David, ‘This is what the LORD says: I am giving you three options. Choose one of them for me to carry out against you.’”* ¹¹ *So Gad went to David and said to him, “This is what the LORD says: ‘Take your choice: ¹² three years of famine, three months of being swept away before your enemies, with their swords overtaking you, or three days of the sword of the LORD—days of plague in the land, with the angel of the LORD ravaging every part of Israel.’ Now then, decide how I should answer the one who sent me.”* ¹³ *David said to Gad, “I am in deep distress. Let me fall into the hands of the LORD, for his mercy is very great; but do not let me fall into the hands of men.” (1Chronicles 21:7-13)* David repented after he realized his wrong doing. He showed that clearly when he said, **“I have sinned greatly ... I have done a very foolish thing.”** As well as he accepted to bear the consequences of his sin as he accepted to receive *three days of the sword of the LORD—days of plague in the land, with the angel of the LORD ravaging every part of Israel*, as he said **“I am in deep distress. Let me fall into the hands of the LORD, for his mercy is very great; but do not let me fall into the hands of men.”**

¹⁴ *So the LORD sent a plague on Israel, and seventy thousand men of Israel fell dead.* ¹⁵ *And God sent an angel to destroy Jerusalem. But as the angel was doing so, the LORD saw it and was grieved because of the calamity and said to the angel who was destroying the people, “Enough! Withdraw your hand.” The angel of the LORD was then standing at the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite.* ¹⁶ *David looked up and saw the angel of the LORD standing between*

heaven and earth, with a drawn sword in his hand extended over Jerusalem. Then David and the elders, clothed in sackcloth, fell facedown. ¹⁷ *David said to God, “Was it not I who ordered the fighting men to be counted? I am the one who has sinned and done wrong. These are but sheep. What have they done? O LORD my God, let your hand fall upon me and my family, but do not let this plague remain on your people.” (1Chronicles 21:14-17)* Even as the discipline of the Lord was falling upon whole Israel David was in full repentance seeing the bad effect of his sin upon the people. He did not justify himself or put it on someone else but acknowledged before the Lord His sin saying **let your hand fall upon me and my family, but do not let this plague remain on your people.**

¹⁸ *Then the angel of the LORD ordered Gad to tell David to go up and build an altar to the LORD on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite.* ¹⁹ *So David went up in obedience to the word that Gad had spoken in the name of the LORD.* ²⁰ *While Araunah was threshing wheat, he turned and saw the angel; his four sons who were with him hid themselves.* ²¹ *Then David approached, and when Araunah looked and saw him, he left the threshing floor and bowed down before David with his face to the ground.* ²² *David said to him, “Let me have the site of your threshing floor so I can build an altar to the LORD, that the plague on the people may be stopped. Sell it to me at the full price.”* ²³ *Araunah said to David, “Take it! Let my lord the king do whatever pleases him. Look, I will give the oxen for the burnt offerings, the threshing sledges for the wood, and the wheat for the grain offering. I will give all this.”* ²⁴ *But King David replied to Araunah, “No, I insist on paying the full price. I will not take for the LORD what is yours, or sacrifice a burnt offering that costs me nothing.”* ²⁵ *So David paid Araunah six hundred shekels of gold for the site.* ²⁶ *David built an altar to the LORD there and sacrificed burnt offerings and fellowship offerings. He called on the LORD, and the LORD answered him with fire from heaven on the altar of burnt offering.* ²⁷ *Then the LORD spoke to the angel, and he put his sword back into its sheath.* ²⁸ *At that time, when David saw that the LORD had answered him on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite, he offered sacrifices there.” (1Chronicles 21:18-28)* As David repented of his sin the Lord restored him and accepted him again, he offered sacrifices to the Lord, and he was shown the place where the temple of God to be build.

When David repented of his first sin he received Solomon the successive king over Israel, and after he repented of his second sin he received the place where God’s temple needs to be built. Therefore in the process of repentance the following will happen:

- 1- Turn away and confess your sins.
- 2- Accept the discipline of the Lord.
- 3- Accept to carry the consequences of your sins.
- 4- God’s acceptance and restoration to you.
- 5- God’s reward for you.
- 6- Clear vision from God of His future plan for you.

My Dear and Beloved: What we can also conclude here that repentance would pave the way for the temple of God to be build. Therefore as we repent then we serve God’s purpose and God’s church would be built. As you repent today things will go better for you and God’s vision for your life would be clear, as you agree to pray.

My Prayer: *“Father God in heaven, I come before you in Jesus name who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord I repent from the following sins _____.* *Lord I am willing to receive your discipline and the consequences of my sins. Lord accept me once again, restore me and reward me according to your goodness and make my future path clear, this all I ask and pray in Jesus name, Amen.*