**Who Sanctioned the Census? Was it God or the devil Who Told David to do What he Did?**

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Scripture: 2 Sam. 24:1-4, 8-17 & 1 Chron. 21:1-4, 9-10

Author of the book of 2 Samuel and I Chronicles (I Sam. 25:1, Samuel dies, I Chron. 29:29, Samuel, Nathan, & Gad contribute to the story of David)

* Before we can answer the question, “Was it God or the devil that told David to number the people,” we must first answer another question.
* David said, “What have these sheep done?” (I Chron. 21:17) - We have to answer this question first. Must find out why God slew 70,000 men (I Chron. 21:14)
* The answer is found in the Tabernacle.
1. The Silver Foundation (The Blood Foundation)
	1. Exodus 26:1, 18-22, 25, 29-32 - Sockets of Pure Silver (Foundation)
* 100 blocks of Silver (weight a/b 100 lbs. each) 10,000 lbs.
* Tabernacle built on a Solid Foundation
	1. Where Did They Get This Silver? – Exodus 3:21-22 – From Sinners (***Wealth Transfer – Reparations***)
	2. After the Tabernacle Would be Finished, God gave a Command Regarding Numbering the People
* Exodus. 30:11-16
* Not just anybody could be numbered among the People of God. **It is an Honor to be in “*The Number*.”**
* There has to be an Atonement
* Silver = Price of Atonement (I Corth. 6:20, Acts 20:28)

***Ye are bought w/ a price / The blood of God Himself***

* Silver speaks of the Atonement / Blood of Christ
* Silver Foundation – Tabernacle built upon Atoning Blood of Jesus (***The Foundation of our Faith is Built Upon the Blood of Jesus)***
* Only those who furnished the half shekel of silver could be numbered among the People of God
* Why should I be ashamed to be a Christian when I’m in that Great Number?

**Second Question:** Was it God or the devil that told David to number the people

**Every devil is Subject To Do God’s Bidding.**

1. Job 23:10 – When He has tried me, I shall come forth as gold - Who was it that “***Tried***” Job?
2. I Kings 22:19-23 - lying spirit
3. I Sam. 16:14-16, 23 – God caused the evil spirit to fall on Saul.
* This is partly what the scripture meant when it said, “At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow.” It means everything, including the devil and his angels are subject to do God’s bidding.

**God is Sovereign**

* Eph 1:11 – God does everything after the counsel of His own will
* God will even break His own law to bless you
1. Deut. 21:15-17 – Who was Abraham’s first son? Why didn’t the inheritance go to Ishmael? God broke His own law to bless Abraham and to bless Issac.
2. How many times did God heal on the Sabbath?
3. Mathew 12:1-8 – Jesus is Lord over the Sabbath.
4. II Timothy 2:13 – If we believe not, yet He abideth faithful: He cannot deny Himself.
* Even if you struggle in your faith to believe, God said He’s still going to do it because He cannot deny Himself (His Word).