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## SERMON OUTLINE

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### God's Severe Mercy 2 Samuel 24

- I. Sin and true repentance – David counted his army out of pride (2 Samuel 24:1-10).
  - A. God disciplined Israel through David's sin (1-2).
  - B. Though warned by Joab David counted the army (3-9).
  - C. David repented of his sin (10).
- II. Severe consequences – David repented, but God still judged his sin (2 Samuel 24:11-16).
  - A. God gave David 3 choices of discipline (11-13).
  - B. David chose a 3 day plague that killed 70,000 (14-15).
- III. Return to fellowship – God showed mercy when David worshipped (2 Samuel 24:16-25).
  - A. God stopped the angel from destroying Jerusalem (16).
  - B. David prayed for God to judge him, not the people (17).
  - C. David bought the place God spared, worshipped and God stopped the plague (18-25).

**What is true repentance (2 Samuel 24:10, 17, 25)?**

1. *Conscience-stricken* – Responding to God's inner conviction before getting caught
2. *I have sinned in what I have done* – Calling it sin without minimizing or defending ourselves
3. *Greatly* – Admitting the magnitude of internal sins like pride
4. *I have done a very foolish thing* – Humbly admitting we are capable of foolish, irrational sinful acts or attitudes
5. *I beg you, take away the guilt* – Throwing ourselves upon God's grace to receive forgiveness, not simply to avoid consequences.
6. *I am the one who has sinned* (v.17) – Focusing on our own guilt even when we could point to the guilt of others.
7. *David built an altar to the Lord* (v. 25) – Returning to a life of worship instead of wallowing in guilty self-pity