**READING:** Exodus 20: 1 – 17; 2 Samuel 24: 10 - 25

**SINGING:** 277:1,3,7,8 – 428:9 – 109 – 429:2 – 268

 **THE MYSTERY OF THE OFFERING**

 *By the late Rev. A. Hoogerland*

**The true humiliation**

* But though David was a man after God’s heart, he did

not always act after God’s heart.

* When David was little in himself and had to flee from

Saul, he was close to the Lord.

* In the chapter of our text it is said that the Lord moved

David and in 1 Chron 21 we read that Satan provoked

David to number Israel.

* What actually are we when the Lord gives us over for

a moment to ourselves?

* Was not David allowed to number Israel?
* Blessed are they who, after they have fallen in the

temptation, come before God into guilt.

* The confession of guilt comes forth from God’s one-

sided ministration, and from God’s degree to forgive

the guilt.

* The Lord strikes with fatherly compassion.
* To fall into the hands of the Lord will be better than

anticipated.

**The offering which is brought.**

* In the first place David was commanded to build an

altar.

* David was humbled before the presence of the Lord,

and the way was shown to him whereby the Lord

would return to His people in favour.

* There was fear in Israel because of that which would

take place.

If only our country would be afraid before the presence

 of the Lord because of the coming judgment.

* David built an altar and offered burnt offerings and

peace offerings unto the Lord. How did David offer?

* The place of a debtor is such a sweet place to God.

**A gracious restoration.**

* Man has many escapes and excuses, causing the

hand of the Lord not to be observed.

* When the soul comes upon the basis of the Offering,

the Lord will be entreated.

* Who shall be able to describe the joy of David

because of the loving kindness of the Lord?

**Application.**

* Two times mention is made of that “I” of David.
* Sins which we have forgotten long ago, are not

forgotten by God.

* The Lord still calls to us: “Be ye reconciled to God.”
* Place your trust upon Him Who knows what to

expect from His creatures.