

17 וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל-הָאֱלֹהִים הֲלֹא אֲנִי אָמַרְתִּי  
 לְמִנּוֹת בְּעַם וְאֲנִי-הוּא אִישׁוֹר-חַטָּאתַי וְהִרְעִ  
 הִרְעוֹתַי וְאֵלֶּה הַצֹּאֵן מֶה עָשׂוּ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵי תְהִי  
 נָא יְדָהּ בִּי וּבְבֵית אָבִי וּבְעַמֶּה לֹא לְמַגְפָּה:

18 וּמִלְאָךְ יְיָ אָמַר אֶל-גַּד לֵאמֹר לְדָוִד כִּי  
 יַעֲלֶה דָוִד לְהַקִּים מִזְבֵּחַ לַיְיָ בְּגֵרֶן אֲרָנֹן הַיְבֵסִי:

17. And David said unto God, Is it not I that commanded the people to be numbered? even I it is that have sinned and done evil indeed: but as for these sheep, what have they done? let thine hand I pray thee, O Lord my God, be on me, and on my father's house; but not on thy people, that they should be plagued.

18. Then the angel of the Lord commanded Gad to say to David, that David should go up, and set up an altar unto the Lord in the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite.