

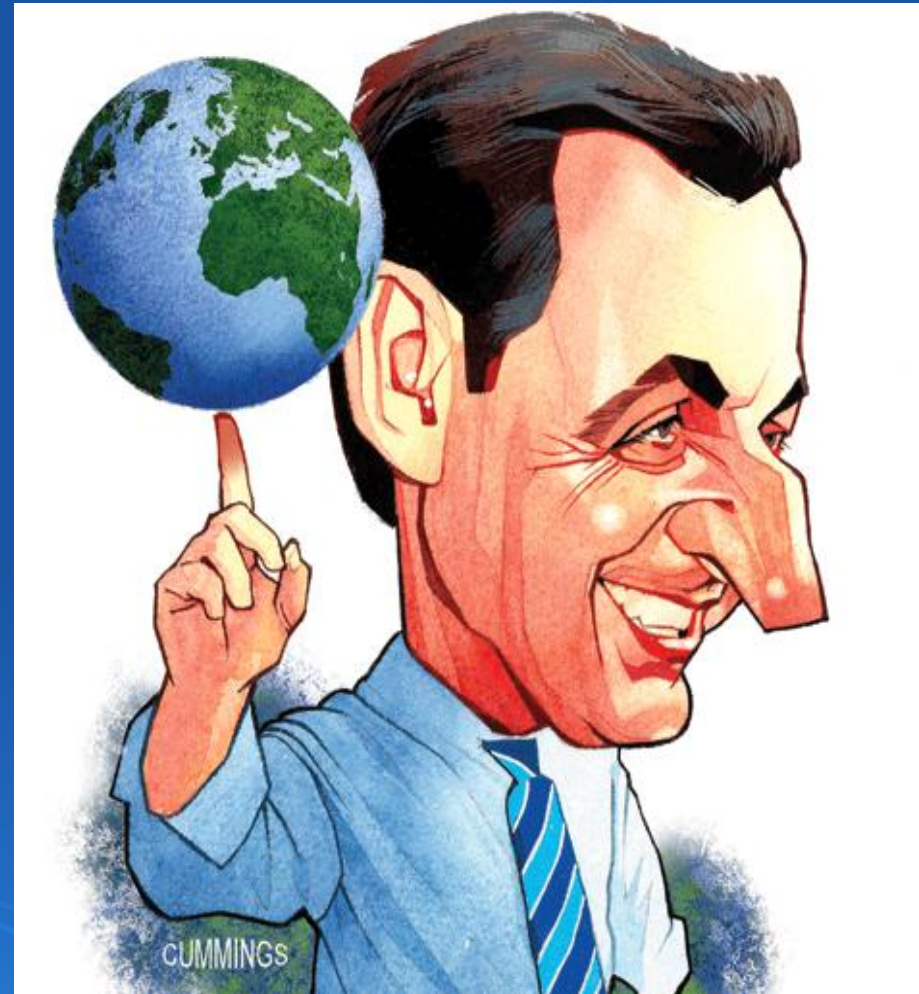
# WHO ORDERED THE CENSUS?

- Originally 1 large book, then divided into two before the time of Christ
- Later divided again into 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel, and 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings
- Did NOT harm the text
- David's wrong thoughts to have a census came from his evil inclination
- All humans born with evil and good inclinations and will die with them



# HUMANISM PUTS GOD AND MAN ON EQUAL FOOTING

- Modern age in Judaism and Christianity where Humanism has taken hold
- Isa. 55:8 – 9 “....*My thoughts are not your thoughts....*”
- David tells Joab to go around and conduct a census
- **Shut** = go around, roam, with evil intent



# CENSUS ONLY TO BE DONE WHEN IT IS FOR A GODLY PURPOSE

- David wanted to know how many people were in his kingdom
- Joab challenged David on doing a census
- Accuses him of doing this for selfish reasons and “pleasure”
- David brushes aside Joab’s arguments and the count begins





# WHAT'S WRONG WITH A CENSUS?

- Two levels of problems
- Earthly/Human and Spiritual/Divine
- Politically a census would cause suspicion
- Bad timing for a census considering David's indiscretions
- A census would make people think they might be conscripted into the army



# THE SPIRITUAL / DIVINE PROBLEM WITH A CENSUS

- Ex.30:11 – 16
- Paying a ransom (redemption price)
- A Plague is the penalty for NOT doing the census according to God's instructions
- Num.1:1 – 3
- Conscription for Holy War



# ROUTE OF THE CENSUS TAKERS

- **Aroer** is the at the boundary between Gad and Moab
- **Ya'zer** an Israelite border fortress to defend against Ammon
- **Tachtim-Hodshi** = New Hodshi
- **Dan Ya'am** at the foot of Mt. Hermon
- Cities of the Canaanites and Hivites
- Canaanites and Hivites had assimilated into Israel by David's day
- Ends at Be'er Sheva





# CENSUS TAKES 9 MONTHS 20 DAYS

- Calculated using Lunar months
- About 42 weeks, same length as maximum nominal human gestation
- Birth metaphor also used to describe Christians as born-again
- Also time leading up to the Day of the Lord likened to a woman having birth pangs



# CENSUS RESULTS



- 800,000 Israel + 500,000 Judah = 1.3 million total
- ONLY military age males
- Indicates total population of about 6.5 million
- 1Chronicles 12 is different
- 1,100,000 Israel + 470,000 Judah = 1.57 million total
- Benjamin and Levi are NOT included in totals
- Difference is very likely copyist error



# DAVID MUST CHOOSE AMONG 3 PENALTIES FOR HIS SIN



- David repents without excuse
- **Leb** = heart
- Heart = seat of the intellect, morality
- No need for a cosmic trial since David has admitted guilt
- Choices are: 7 year famine, 3 months of fleeing enemies, a plague on the land
- David refuses to choose and says God should decide

# PLAGUE KILLS 70,000

- The Lord prescribes plague as in Ex. 30
- The Lord instructs the Angel to NOT harm Jerusalem
- The ONLY people who died were redeemed Israelites
- Torah is NOT for pagans
- ***Malach Yehoveh*** = Angel of the Lord
- This was an Angel and NOT the Lord Himself



# DAVID'S SIN BECOMES THE PUNISHMENT FOR ISRAEL

- The Plague is the result of David's sin, and God uses it to punish the people for THEIR sin
- **Rah** = evil, wicked, but also calamity, distress
- Mark 13:14 – 20
- Yeshua standing in Jerusalem, speaks of God stopping the wrath for the sake of His elect





# DAVID BUYS THE THRESHING FLOOR

- The future Temple Mount is purchased by David
- ***Araunah*** the Jebusite is a gentile
- Prophet Gad tells David to build an altar
- Conditions will be the same in the End Times when Jews and gentiles together build the New Temple
- Zech.6:15