

The welcome verse for this week is Hebrews 12:28, “Let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe.”



## I Dream of Genie

1 Samuel 4:1-22; Proverbs 19:3  
Galatians 6:7-8

**Bottom Line:** There is nothing God takes more seriously than how seriously we take him.

### Introduction:

Are you superstitious?

Many of us are superstitious, or, at least, a little “stitious.” We do certain things, act a certain way, or, perhaps, carry around good luck charms.

If we’re honest, most of these superstitions don’t hold any value in our lives. We only hold to them for good luck.

The danger comes when we treat God and matters of faith in this way.

### Truth:

There is nothing God takes more seriously than how seriously we take him.

The seriousness, or lack thereof, that we ascribe to God has an incredible effect on how we prosper or fail in life.

This reality becomes especially apparent in Israel’s war against the Philistines.

### Read 1 Samuel 4:1-22

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**Application & Conclusion:**

Where God’s glory is lacking, sin is abounding. Where God’s glory is misplaced, faith is misguided. Where God’s glory is resisted, God’s favor is restrained. The greatest threat to our lives, the church, and our society is a failure to understand the glory of God.

Repentance begins with an awakening to the glory of God. Worship is the overflow of a heart captured by the glory of God. Favor rests on those who live according to the glory of God.

However, the glory of God is most recognizeable in the presence of God. The weight of His presence in our lives is the weight of His glory. Therefore, we must be people who live for the presence of God. First, we acknowledge the provision of God’s presence to us in Jesus and the Holy Spirit (John 1:14). Second, we live everyday in the presence of God, so that we might reflect His glory to the world.

**1. What does this teach me about God?**

**2. What does this teach me about me?**

**3. How do I apply this to my life?**