



HE BRINGS *&* EXALTS
LOW

HOW THE LORD MAKES HIS GLORY KNOWN

What does it take to avoid being ruled by the fear of man?



Fear of Man Defined



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Fear of man is being motivated by the *glory* of man



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Fear of man is being motivated by the *glory* of man

This can be done by trying to exercise your *glory* over others



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Fear of man is being motivated by the *glory* of man

This can be done by trying to exercise your *glory* over others

This can be motivated by how others use their *glory* over you



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Fear of man is being motivated by the *glory* of man

This can be done by trying to exercise your *glory* over others

This can be motivated by how others use their *glory* over you

The opposite of fear of man is not lack of fear of man... it is recognizing the *glory* of the LORD



What does it take to avoid being ruled by the fear of man?



Saul fears man's *glory*



Saul fears for his *glory*



Saul fights for his *glory*



Saul lived for one year and then became king, and when he had reigned for two years over Israel, Saul chose three thousand men of Israel. Two thousand were with Saul in Michmash and the hill country of Bethel, and a thousand were with Jonathan in Gibeah of Benjamin. The rest of the people he sent home, every man to his tent.

1 Samuel 13:1-2 ESV

Jonathan defeated the garrison of the Philistines that was at Geba, and the Philistines heard of it. And Saul blew the trumpet throughout all the land, saying, "Let the Hebrews hear." And all Israel heard it said that Saul had defeated the garrison of the Philistines, and also that Israel had become a stench to the Philistines. And the people were called out to join Saul at Gilgal.

1 Samuel 13:3-4 ESV

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1 Samuel 13:3-4 ESV

And the Philistines mustered to fight with Israel, thirty thousand chariots and six thousand horsemen and troops like the sand on the seashore in multitude. They came up and encamped in Michmash, to the east of Beth-aven.

1 Samuel 13:5 ESV

When the men of Israel saw that they were in trouble (for the people were hard pressed), the people hid themselves in caves and in holes and in rocks and in tombs and in cisterns, and some Hebrews crossed the fords of the Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead. Saul was still at Gilgal, and all the people followed him trembling.

1 Samuel 13:6-7 ESV

He waited seven days, the time appointed by Samuel. But Samuel did not come to Gilgal, and the people were scattering from him. So Saul said, "Bring the burnt offering here to me, and the peace offerings." And he offered the burnt offering.

1 Samuel 13:8-9 ESV

Saul fears man's *glory*

Saul's army is small
and scattering

Saul fears for his *glory*

Saul fights for his *glory*



As soon as he had finished offering the burnt offering, behold, Samuel came. And Saul went out to meet him and greet him.

1 Samuel 13:10 ESV

Saul fears man's *glory*

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Samuel's clear command

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Samuel said, "What have you done?" And Saul said, "When I saw that the people were scattering from me, and that you did not come within the days appointed, and that the Philistines had mustered at Michmash, I said, 'Now the Philistines will come down against me at Gilgal, and I have not sought the favor of the LORD.' So I forced myself, and offered the burnt offering."

1 Samuel 13:11-12 ESV

Samuel said, "What have you done?" And Saul said, "When I saw that **the people were scattering** from me, and that you did not come within the days appointed, and that the Philistines had mustered at Michmash, I said, 'Now the Philistines will come down against me at Gilgal, and I have not sought the favor of the LORD.' So **I forced myself**, and offered the burnt offering."

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And Samuel said to Saul, "You have done foolishly. You have not kept the command of the LORD your God, with which he commanded you. For then the LORD would have established your kingdom over Israel forever. But now your kingdom shall not continue.

1 Samuel 13:13-14a ESV

The LORD has sought out a man after his own heart, and the LORD has commanded him to be prince over his people, because you have not kept what the LORD commanded you."

1 Samuel 13:14b ESV

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And Samuel arose and went up from Gilgal. The rest of the people went up after Saul to meet the army; they went up from Gilgal to Gibeah of Benjamin. And Saul numbered the people who were present with him, about six hundred men. And Saul and Jonathan his son and the people who were present with them stayed in Geba of Benjamin, but the Philistines encamped in Michmash.

1 Samuel 13:15-16 ESV

One day Jonathan the son of Saul said to the young man who carried his armor, "Come, let us go over to the Philistine garrison on the other side."

1 Samuel 14:1 ESV

Saul was staying in the outskirts of Gibeah in the pomegranate cave at Migron. The people who were with him were about six hundred men, including Ahijah the son of Ahitub, Ichabod's brother, son of Phinehas, son of Eli, the priest of the LORD in Shiloh, wearing an ephod. And the people did not know that Jonathan had gone.

1 Samuel 14:2-3 ESV

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Jonathan said to the young man who carried his armor, "Come, let us go over to the garrison of these uncircumcised. It may be that the LORD will work for us, for nothing can hinder the LORD from saving by many or by few." And his armor-bearer said to him, "Do all that is in your heart. Do as you wish. Behold, I am with you heart and soul."

1 Samuel 14:6-7 ESV

Then Jonathan said, "Behold, we will cross over to the men, and we will show ourselves to them. If they say to us, 'Wait until we come to you,' then we will stand still in our place, and we will not go up to them. But if they say, 'Come up to us,' then we will go up, for the LORD has given them into our hand. And this shall be the sign to us."

1 Samuel 14:8-10 ESV

So both of them showed themselves to the garrison of the Philistines. And the Philistines said, "Look, Hebrews are coming out of the holes where they have hidden themselves." And the men of the garrison hailed Jonathan and his armor-bearer and said, "Come up to us, and we will show you a thing."

1 Samuel 14:11-12a ESV

And Jonathan said to his armor-bearer, "Come up after me, for the LORD has given them into the hand of Israel." Then Jonathan climbed up on his hands and feet, and his armor-bearer after him. And they fell before Jonathan, and his armor-bearer killed them after him.

1 Samuel 14:12b-13 ESV

And that first strike, which Jonathan and his armor-bearer made, killed about twenty men within as it were half a furrow's length in an acre of land. And there was a panic in the camp, in the field, and among all the people. The garrison and even the raiders trembled, the earth quaked, and it became a very great panic.

1 Samuel 14:14-15 ESV

And the watchmen of Saul in Gibeah of Benjamin looked, and behold, the multitude was **dispersing** here and there. Then Saul said to the people who were with him, "Count and see who has gone from us." And when they had counted, behold, Jonathan and his armor-bearer were not there.

1 Samuel 14:16-17 ESV

And the watchmen of Saul in Gibeah of Benjamin looked, and behold, the multitude was **melting** here and there. Then Saul said to the people who were with him, "Count and see who has gone from us." And when they had counted, behold, Jonathan and his armor-bearer were not there.

1 Samuel 14:16-17 ESV

So Saul said to Ahijah, "Bring the ark of God here." For the ark of God went at that time with the people of Israel. Now while Saul was talking to the priest, the tumult in the camp of the Philistines increased more and more. So Saul said to the priest, "Withdraw your hand."

1 Samuel 14:18-19 ESV

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Then Saul and all the people who were with him rallied and went into the battle. And behold, every Philistine's sword was against his fellow, and there was very great confusion.

1 Samuel 14:20 ESV

Now the Hebrews who had been with the Philistines before that time and who had gone up with them into the camp, even they also turned to be with the Israelites who were with Saul and Jonathan. Likewise, when all the men of Israel who had hidden themselves in the hill country of Ephraim heard that the Philistines were fleeing, they too followed hard after them in the battle.

1 Samuel 14:21-22 ESV

So the LORD saved Israel that day. And the battle passed beyond Beth-aven. And the men of Israel had been hard pressed that day, so Saul had laid an oath on the people, saying, "Cursed be the man who eats food until it is evening and I am avenged on my enemies." So none of the people had tasted food.

1 Samuel 14:23-24 ESV

Now when all the people came to the forest, behold, there was honey on the ground. And when the people entered the forest, behold, the honey was dropping, but no one put his hand to his mouth, for the people feared the oath.

1 Samuel 14:25-26 ESV

But Jonathan had not heard his father charge the people with the oath, so he put out the tip of the staff that was in his hand and dipped it in the honeycomb and put his hand to his mouth, and his eyes became bright. Then one of the people said, "Your father strictly charged the people with an oath, saying, 'Cursed be the man who eats food this day.' " And the people were faint.

1 Samuel 14:27-28 ESV

Then Jonathan said, "My father has troubled the land. See how my eyes have become bright because I tasted a little of this honey. How much better if the people had eaten freely today of the spoil of their enemies that they found. For now the defeat among the Philistines has not been great."

1 Samuel 14:29-30 ESV

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And Saul inquired of God, "Shall I go down after the Philistines? Will you give them into the hand of Israel?" But he did not answer him that day. And Saul said, "Come here, all you leaders of the people, and know and see how this sin has arisen today. For as the LORD lives who saves Israel, though it be in Jonathan my son, he shall surely die." But there was not a man among all the people who answered him.

1 Samuel 14:37-39 ESV

Then he said to all Israel, "You shall be on one side, and I and Jonathan my son will be on the other side." And the people said to Saul, "Do what seems good to you."

1 Samuel 14:40 ESV

Therefore Saul said, "O LORD God of Israel, why have you not answered your servant this day? If this guilt is in me or in Jonathan my son, O LORD, God of Israel, give Urim. But if this guilt is in your people Israel, give Thummim." And Jonathan and Saul were taken, but the people escaped. Then Saul said, "Cast the lot between me and my son Jonathan." And Jonathan was taken.

1 Samuel 14:41-42 ESV

Then Saul said to Jonathan, "Tell me what you have done." And Jonathan told him, "I tasted a little honey with the tip of the staff that was in my hand. Here I am; I will die." And Saul said, "God do so to me and more also; you shall surely die, Jonathan."

1 Samuel 14:43-44 ESV

Then the people said to Saul, "Shall Jonathan die, who has worked this great salvation in Israel? Far from it! As the LORD lives, there shall not one hair of his head fall to the ground, for he has worked with God this day." So the people ransomed Jonathan, so that he did not die. Then Saul went up from pursuing the Philistines, and the Philistines went to their own place.

1 Samuel 14:45-46 ESV

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And Samuel said to Saul, "The LORD sent me to anoint you king over his people Israel; now therefore listen to the words of the LORD. Thus says the LORD of hosts, 'I have noted what Amalek did to Israel in opposing them on the way when they came up out of Egypt. Now go and strike Amalek and devote to destruction all that they have. Do not spare them, but kill both man and woman, child and infant, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.' "

1 Samuel 15:1-3 ESV

The task was a solemn and holy one since those Israelites who carried it out functioned as the Lord's agents of judgment. The soldiers were not to profit from their assignment through the acquisition of slaves or booty; like Aaronic priests who offered up burnt offerings to the Lord, they were to receive no compensation for their efforts other than the satisfaction of having fulfilled a divinely mandated mission.

Bergen, 1,2 Samuel: NAC

And Saul defeated the Amalekites from Havilah as far as Shur, which is east of Egypt. And he took Agag the king of the Amalekites alive and **devoted to destruction** all the people with the edge of the sword.

1 Samuel 15:7-8 ESV

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Saul's army is strong and overly capable

But Saul and the people spared Agag and the best of the sheep and of the oxen and of the fattened calves and the lambs, and all that was good, and would not utterly destroy them. All that was despised and worthless they devoted to destruction.

1 Samuel 15:9 ESV

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The word of the LORD came to Samuel: "I regret that I have made Saul king, for he has turned back from following me and has not performed my commandments." And Samuel was angry, and he cried to the LORD all night.

1 Samuel 15:10-11 ESV

The word of the LORD came to Samuel: "I am grieved that I have made Saul king, for he has turned back from following me and has not performed my commandments." And Samuel was angry, and he cried to the LORD all night.

1 Samuel 15:10-11 ESV

And Samuel rose early to meet Saul in the morning. And it was told Samuel, "Saul came to Carmel, and behold, he set up a monument for himself and turned and passed on and went down to Gilgal."

1 Samuel 15:12 ESV

And Samuel came to Saul, and Saul said to him, "Blessed be you to the LORD. I have performed the commandment of the LORD." And Samuel said, "What then is this bleating of the sheep in my ears and the lowing of the oxen that I hear?"

1 Samuel 15:13-14 ESV

Saul said, "They have brought them from the Amalekites, for the people spared the best of the sheep and of the oxen to sacrifice to the LORD your God, and the rest we have **devoted to destruction**." Then Samuel said to Saul, "Stop! I will tell you what the LORD said to me this night." And he said to him, "Speak."

1 Samuel 15:15-16 ESV

And Samuel said, "Though you are little in your own eyes, are you not the head of the tribes of Israel? The LORD anointed you king over Israel. And the LORD sent you on a mission and said, 'Go, devote to destruction the sinners, the Amalekites, and fight against them until they are consumed.' Why then did you not obey the voice of the LORD? Why did you pounce on the spoil and do what was evil in the sight of the LORD?"

1 Samuel 15:17-19 ESV

And Saul said to Samuel, "I have obeyed the voice of the LORD. I have gone on the mission on which the LORD sent me. I have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and I have devoted the Amalekites to destruction. But the people took of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the best of the things devoted to destruction, to sacrifice to the LORD your God in Gilgal."

1 Samuel 15:20-21 ESV

And Samuel said,

“Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices,
as in obeying the voice of the LORD?

Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice,
and to listen than the fat of rams.

For rebellion is as the sin of divination,
and presumption is as iniquity and idolatry.

Because you have rejected the word of the LORD,
he has also rejected you from being king.”

1 Samuel 15:22-23 ESV

Saul said to Samuel, "I have sinned, for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD and your words, because I feared the people and obeyed their voice. Now therefore, please pardon my sin and return with me that I may bow before the LORD."

1 Samuel 15:24-25 ESV

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Saul's fear of man "forces" him to not obey

And Samuel said to Saul, "I will not return with you. For you have rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD has rejected you from being king over Israel."

1 Samuel 15:26 ESV

As Samuel turned to go away, Saul seized the skirt of his robe, and it tore. And Samuel said to him, "The LORD has torn the kingdom of Israel from you this day and has given it to a neighbor of yours, who is better than you. And also the Glory of Israel will not lie or have grief, for he is not a man, that he should have grief."

1 Samuel 15:27-29 ESV

As Samuel turned to go away, Saul seized the skirt of his robe, and it tore. And Samuel said to him, "The LORD has torn the kingdom of Israel from you this day and has given it to a neighbor of yours, who is better than you. And also the Eternal One of Israel will not lie or have grief, for he is not a man, that he should have grief."

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Saul is fully rejected by the LORD for ignoring the LORD's *glory* repeatedly

Then he said, "I have sinned; yet honor me now before the elders of my people and before Israel, and return with me, that I may bow before the LORD your God." So Samuel turned back after Saul, and Saul bowed before the LORD.

1 Samuel 15:30-31 ESV

Then Samuel said, "Bring here to me Agag the king of the Amalekites." And Agag came to him cheerfully. Agag said, "Surely the bitterness of death is past."

1 Samuel 15:32 ESV

And Samuel said, "As your sword has made women childless, so shall your mother be childless among women." And Samuel hacked Agag to pieces before the LORD in Gilgal.

1 Samuel 15:33 ESV

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How is the LORD's *glory* displayed through this passage?

Who does the LORD exalt?

Who does the LORD bring low?



How is the LORD's *glory* displayed through this passage?

Who does the LORD exalt?

Who does the LORD bring low?

Saul is brought low...

...and lower...

...and lower still



How is the LORD's *glory* displayed through this passage?

Who does the LORD exalt?

Jonathan for understanding what Saul fails to see

Who does the LORD bring low?

Saul is brought low...

...and lower...

...and lower still



How is the LORD's *glory* displayed through this passage?

The LORD shows his patience, deliverance, and justice

Who does the LORD exalt?

Jonathan for understanding what Saul fails to see

Who does the LORD bring low?

Saul is brought low...

...and lower...

...and lower still



What does it take to avoid being ruled by the fear of man?



What does it take to avoid being ruled by the fear of man?

Remember you are made in the image of God, just like every other human, created by God for his *glory*



What does it take to avoid being ruled by the fear of man?

Find other image-bearers to challenge you and point you to the LORD that you would live for his *glory*

Remember you are made in the image of God, just like every other human, created by God for his *glory*



What does it take to avoid being ruled by the fear of man?

Focus on the perfect image-bearer who willingly took on the weight of the sin of image-bearers for the **glory** of the LORD

Find other image-bearers to challenge you and point you to the LORD that you would live for his **glory**

Remember you are made in the image of God, just like every other human, created by God for his **glory**



