#### 1 Samuel 15:1-3

Samuel told Saul, "The LORD sent me to anoint you as king over his people Israel. Now, listen to the words of the LORD. This is what the LORD of Armies says: 'I witnessed what the Amalekites did to the Israelites when they opposed them along the way as they were coming out of Egypt. Now go and attack the Amalekites and completely destroy everything they have. Do not spare them. Kill men and women, infants and nursing babies, oxen and sheep, camels and donkeys.'"

#### 1 Samuel 15:8-9

He captured King Agag of Amalek alive, but he completely destroyed all the rest of the people with the sword. Saul and the troops spared Agag, and the best of the sheep, goats, cattle, and choice animals, as well as the young rams and the best of everything else. They were not willing to destroy them, but they did destroy all the worthless and unwanted things.



#### 1 Samuel 15:12-15

Early in the morning Samuel got up to confront Saul, but it was reported to Samuel, "Saul went to Carmel where he set up a monument for himself. Then he turned around and went down to Gilgal." When Samuel came to him, Saul said, "May the LORD bless you. I have carried out the LORD's instructions."

Samuel replied, "Then what is this sound of sheep, goats, and cattle I hear?"

Saul answered, "The troops brought them from the Amalekites and spared the best sheep, goats, and cattle in order to offer a sacrifice to the LORD your God, but the rest we destroyed."

#### 1 Samuel 15:16-19

"Stop!" exclaimed Samuel. "Let me tell you what the LORD said to me last night." "Tell me," he replied. Samuel continued, "Although you once considered yourself unimportant, have you not become the leader of the tribes of Israel? The LORD anointed you king over Israel and then sent you on a mission and said: 'Go and completely destroy the sinful Amalekites. Fight against them until you have annihilated them.' So why didn't you obey the LORD? Why did you rush on the plunder and do what was evil in the LORD's sight?"

#### 1 Samuel 15:20-21

"But I did obey the LORD!" Saul answered. "I went on the mission the LORD gave me: I brought back King Agag of Amalek, and I completely destroyed the Amalekites. The troops took sheep, goats, and cattle from the plunder — the best of what was set apart for destruction — to sacrifice to the LORD your God at Gilgal."



#### 1 Samuel 15:22-23

Then Samuel said:

Does the LORD take pleasure in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the LORD? Look: to obey is better than sacrifice, to pay attention is better than the fat of rams.

For rebellion is like the sin of divination, and defiance is like wickedness and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD,

he has rejected you as king.

#### 1 Samuel 15:24-29

Saul answered Samuel, "I have sinned. I have transgressed the LORD's command and your words. Because I was afraid of the people, I obeyed them. Now therefore, please forgive my sin and return with me so I can worship the LORD." Samuel replied to Saul, "I will not return with you. Because you rejected the word of the LORD, the LORD has rejected you from being king over Israel." When Samuel turned to go, Saul grabbed the corner of his robe, and it tore. Samuel said to him, "The LORD has torn the kingship of Israel away from you today and has given it to your neighbor who is better than you. Furthermore, the Eternal One of Israel does not lie or change his mind, for he is not man who changes his mind."

#### 1 Samuel 15:30-34

Saul said, "I have sinned. Please honor me now before the elders of my people and before Israel. Come back with me so I can bow in worship to the LORD your God." Then Samuel went back, following Saul, and Saul bowed down to the LORD. Samuel said, "Bring me King Agag of Amalek." Agag came to him trembling, for he thought, "Certainly the bitterness of death has come." Samuel declared: "As your sword has made women childless, so your mother will be childless among women." Then he hacked Agag to pieces before the LORD at Gilgal. Samuel went to Ramah, and Saul went up to his home in Gibeah of Saul. Even to the day of his death, Samuel never saw Saul again. Samuel mourned for Saul, and the LORD regretted he had made Saul king over Israel.

- (15) Saul answered, "The troops brought them from the Amalekites and spared the best sheep, goats, and cattle in order to offer a sacrifice to the LORD your God, but the rest we destroyed."
- (21) The troops took sheep, goats, and cattle from the plunder the best of what was set apart for destruction to sacrifice to the LORD your God at Gilgal."
- (30) Saul said, "I have sinned. Please honor me now before the elders of my people and before Israel. Come back with me so I can bow in worship to the LORD your God."

- (15) Saul answered, "The troops brought them from the Amalekites and spared the best sheep, goats, and cattle in order to offer a sacrifice to the LORD <u>your</u> God, but the rest we destroyed."
- (21) The troops took sheep, goats, and cattle from the plunder the best of what was set apart for destruction to sacrifice to the LORD your God at Gilgal."
- (30) Saul said, "I have sinned. Please honor me now before the elders of my people and before Israel. Come back with me so I can bow in worship to the LORD <u>your</u> God."

# The Lord your God





### Saul's "god"

- 1. A god who <u>doesn't mean</u> what he says
- 2. A god who bends to the influence of the people
- 3. A god who <u>only cares</u> about trivial sacrifices
- 4. A god who <u>doesn't mind</u> others getting the praise
- 5. A god who <u>can be</u> appeased by mere words

### Samuel's God

- 1. A God who speaks clearly & doesn't change his mind
- 2. A God who judges and rules righteously
- 3. A God who <u>requires</u> <u>obedience</u>
- 4. A God who <u>deserves all</u> glory and honor
- 5. A God who knows the hearts of man

Your God or my God?

### The I AM

#### Exodus 3:14-15

<sup>14</sup> God replied to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: I AM has sent me to you." <sup>15</sup> God also said to Moses, "Say this to the Israelites: The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is my name forever; this is how I am to be remembered in every generation.

#### The God of Moses

#### Deuteronomy 4:5

Look, I have taught you statutes and ordinances as the LORD my God has commanded me, so that you may follow them in the land you are entering to possess.

#### The God of Ruth

Ruth 1:16 But Ruth replied: Don't plead with me to abandon you or to return and not follow you. For wherever you go, I will go, and wherever you live, I will live; your people will be my people, and your God will be my God.

### The God of David

- <sup>2</sup> The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer,
- <sup>3</sup> my God, my rock where I seek refuge. My shield, the horn of my salvation, my stronghold, my refuge, and my Savior, you save me from violence.
- <sup>4</sup> I called to the LORD, who is worthy of praise, and I was saved from my enemies.
- <sup>7</sup>I called to the LORD in my distress; I called to my God. From his temple he heard my voice, and my cry for help reached his ears.

### The God of Solomon

#### 1 Kings 5:2-5

<sup>2</sup> Solomon sent this message to Hiram: <sup>3</sup> "You know my father David was not able to build a temple for the name of the LORD his God. This was because of the warfare all around him until the LORD put his enemies under his feet. <sup>4</sup> The LORD my God has now given me rest on every side; there is no enemy or crisis. <sup>5</sup> So I plan to build a temple for the name of the LORD my God, according to what the LORD promised my father David: 'I will put your son on your throne in your place, and he will build the temple for my name.'

### The God of Daniel

#### **Daniel 6:19-22**

- <sup>19</sup> At the first light of dawn the king got up and hurried to the lions' den. <sup>20</sup> When he reached the den, he cried out in anguish to Daniel. "Daniel, servant of the living God," the king said, "has your God, whom you continually serve, been able to rescue you from the lions?"
- <sup>21</sup> Then Daniel spoke with the king: "May the king live forever.
- <sup>22</sup> My God sent his angel and shut the lions' mouths; and they haven't harmed me, for I was found innocent before him.

### The God of Thomas

#### John 20:27-29

- <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and look at my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Don't be faithless, but believe."
- 28 Thomas responded to him, "My Lord and my God!"
- <sup>29</sup> Jesus said, "Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe."

Deut. 4:24 For the Lord your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God.

**Deut. 4:31** He will not leave you, destroy you, or forget the covenant with your fathers that he swore to them by oath, because the Lord your God is a compassionate God.

2 Chr. 30:9 For the Lord your God is gracious and merciful; he will not turn his face away from you if you return to him.

Job 9:4 God is wise and all-powerful. Who has opposed him and come out unharmed?

Deut. 7:21 Don't be terrified of them, for the Lord your God, a great and awesome God, is among you.

Psalm 99:9 Exalt the Lord our God; bow in worship at his holy mountain, for the Lord our God is holy.

Psalm 54:4 God is my helper; the Lord is the sustainer of my life.

Psalm 68:20 Our God is a God of salvation, and escape from death belongs to the Lord my Lord.

Deut. 7:9 Know that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps his gracious covenant loyalty for a thousand generations with those who love him and keep his commands.

- 1 John 1:5 This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light, and there is absolutely no darkness in him.
- 1 John 4:8 The one who does not love does not know God, because God is love.
- John 4:24 God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in Spirit and in truth."
- John 3:33 The one who has accepted his testimony has affirmed that God is true.

2 Cor 9:8 And God is able to make every grace overflow to you,

Heb 4:12 For the word of God is living and effective and sharper than any double-edged sword, penetrating as far as the separation of soul and spirit, joints and marrow.

1 Cor 10:13 No temptation has come upon you except what is common to humanity. But God is faithful; he will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation he will also provide a way out so that you may be able to bear it.

Matthew 1:23 See, the virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they will name him Immanuel, which is translated "God is with us."

Romans 8:31 What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us?

Heb 11:16 But they now desire a better place—a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

Deut. 7:9

Know that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps his gracious covenant loyalty for a thousand generations with those who love him and keep his commands.

Acts 22:16

And now, why are you delaying? Get up and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on his name.'

Deut. 30:1-3

"When all these things happen to you—the blessings and curses I have set before you—and you come to your senses while you are in all the nations where the LORD your God has driven you, and you and your children return to the LORD your God and obey him with all your heart and all your soul by doing everything I am commanding you today, 3 then he will restore your fortunes, have compassion on you, and gather you again from all the peoples where the LORD your God has scattered you.