

STAND RIGHT, BOW LOW

1 Samuel 5:1–7:1

If the “fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom” (Prov. 9:10), then we must admit: sometimes we act like fools. Many believers treat God with frivolity and approach him casually. We prefer a God who feels approachable, familiar, and even manageable. We like his love, his mercy, and his patience. But his holiness? His untameable majesty? His uncompromising purity? That feels too invasive and too judgmental. So, we smooth the edges, softening God and tailoring him to our preferences and sensitivities. The result is a tepid Christianity that speaks easily of grace but trembles not at glory, a Christianity in which reverence is rare, and awe is replaced by ease. But the God of the Bible will not be domesticated, manipulated, or disregarded. He is sovereign. He is holy. And the *only* right response is to bow before him.

God’s Not a Trophy To Be Displayed

5:1–5

God’s Not a Burden To Be Controlled

5:6–12

God’s Not a Person To Be Scorned

6:1–7:1

Bow Low Before the Holy God!

6:20