

# The First Worship Leader

## Understanding the Spiritual Warfare of Praise & Worship

We often acknowledge the spiritual warfare that consistently comes upon the worship team, but we rarely discuss the how & why.

We've looked at rejected worship in our previous study. Today, we'll go back to the very beginning so see where Praise & Worship was *first* corrupted.

- Read: **Isaiah 14:12-15**
- Read: **Ezekiel 28:12-17**

Ezekiel expands on Isaiah and gives us a little more insight.

- “The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes Was prepared for you on the day you were created.”

NOTE: Hebrew scholars agree that the way this is written suggests that his *body* is *made* of musical instruments.

Very likely, Satan was a worship leader who went rouge.

Ezekiel also tells us (verse 17) “...your heart was lifted up because of your beauty”.

- This is “Pride” (See Strongs #1361)

Satan's sin (iniquity) was PRIDE. That pride caused him to rebel.

### The Enemy Attacks Pride

We continually see examples of spiritual warfare in the Bible, most commonly, attacking Pride.

1. Read: **1 Chronicles 21:1** (Satan Incites David to Pride)
  - a. Inciting David to conduct a census
    - i. Pride in numbers
    - ii. Didn't follow Exodus instruction regarding ransom offering
2. Reference: Job (Satan attacks pride)
  - a. Attacks Wealth (livestock & farmland)
  - b. Attacks Lineage (sons & daughters)
  - c. Attacks Physical Appearance (Boils)
  - d. Attacks social standing (people accusing Job of sin)
3. Read: **Matthew 4:1-11** (Jesus is tempted)
  - a. Identify: “If you are who you say you are...”
  - b. Self Reliance: “Turn this stone to bread & eat”
  - c. Show Off: ‘Jump from this ledge, the angels will save you’
  - d. Rule/Control: ‘I'll give you all these nations”

## Satan works in Disobedience

- Read **Ephesians 2:1-10**

The enemy "... works in the sons of the disobedience".

## Disobedience Corrupts Worship

We see that the enemy attacks pride. Pride leads to disobedience & disobedience corrupts our worship.

- Read: **1 Samuel 15**

What God told them to do	What they actually did...
"... utterly destroy all that they have, and do not spare them. Bt kill both man & woman, infant and nursing child, ox and sheep, camel and donkey."	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Spared Agag (the king)</li><li>• Kept the best sheep, oxen, fatlings, lambs</li><li>• Kept "all that was good"</li></ul> Only destroyed what <i>they</i> thought was "despised & worthless"

**Masked with Good Intent** (Verse 15) "... we brought the best to sacrifice to the LORD God"

**Samuel's Response on behalf of God:**

22 But Samuel replied,

"What is more pleasing to the Lord:

your burnt offerings and sacrifices

or your obedience to his voice?

Listen! Obedience is better than sacrifice,

and submission is better than offering the fat of rams.

23 Rebellion is as sinful as witchcraft,

and stubbornness as bad as worshiping idols.

So because you have rejected the command of the Lord,

he has rejected you as king."

These animals *physically* met the conditional requirements of an acceptable sacrifice (without blemish), but God rejected them *because* they were acquired / offered in disobedience.

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Does this bring to mind or heart any aspects of Praise & Worship or Ministry?