

# That The World May Know My Power

(I Samuel 17:1-8, 48-51)

## Introduction

*“More claims of divine intervention are being reported in the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hamas, with an operator of Israel’s Iron Dome missile-defense system saying he personally witnessed “the hand of God” diverting an incoming rocket out of harm’s way.*

*Israel Today translated a report from a [Hebrew-language news site](#), which noted the Iron Dome battery failed three times to intercept an incoming rocket headed toward Tel Aviv last week.*

*The commander recalled: “A missile was fired from Gaza. Iron Dome precisely calculated [its trajectory]. We know where these missiles are going to land down to a radius of 200 meters. This particular missile was going to hit either the Azrieli Towers, the Kirya (Israel’s equivalent of the Pentagon) or [a central Tel Aviv railway station]. Hundreds could have died.*

*“We fired the first [interceptor]. It missed. Second [interceptor]. It missed. This is very rare. I was in shock. At this point we had just four seconds until the missile lands. We had already notified emergency services to converge on the target location and had warned of a mass-casualty incident.*

*“Suddenly, Iron Dome (which calculates wind speeds, among other things) shows a major wind coming from the east, a strong wind that ... sends the missile into the sea. We were all stunned. I stood up and shouted, ‘There is a God!’*

*“I witnessed this miracle with my own eyes. It was not told or reported to me. I saw the hand of God send that missile into the sea.” The commander’s account is reminiscent of a recent newspaper headline which trumpeted the possibility of supernatural protection.*

*“[Their God changes the path of our rockets in mid-air, said a terrorist](#),” was the headline in the July 18 edition of the Jewish Telegraph.*

*It was a partial quote from Barbara Ordman, who lives in Ma’ale Adumim on the West Bank.*

*Her exact quotation was: “As one of the terrorists from Gaza was reported to say when asked why they couldn’t aim their rockets more effectively: “We do aim them, but their God changes their path in mid-air.”*

Prior to and immediately following the Eden episode, the world knew only one God –Yahwah or Jehovah. The further man moved away from Eden, the more plentiful became the false gods of the world. People group, after people group added layer after layer of man-made gods.

In order to distinguish Himself and to cause man to realize who the one true God is, Jehovah would often utilize or even cause a circumstance or event to occur in order that HIS superiority and his rightful place as the ONE TRUE GOD would be evidenced.

Some times these situations would be difficulty. Some times these situations would be rescue or victory. Sometimes these situations would be miraculous or unexplainable. Some times these situations would be simple, yet powerful.

Throughout the Scriptures there are a few situations in which God demonstrated his superiority and declared through his servant or by his own declaration that very truth. The Scripture would read something like, “that the world may know there is a God!”

**Contextualize this sermon** in the series “That The World May Know.”

In the grand scheme of things, we understand that everything happens ultimately, “that the world may know”, however we will examine only the obvious and overt declaration of that truth found in the Scriptures.

**Contextualize II Samuel 17.**

## **I. The Challenge Before Them**

***Truth: God places/allows challenges in our lives that He might show Himself as the one true God.***

- A) A Powerful Enemy (17:1-9)
- B) A Cowering Leader (17:10-11)
- C) A Confident Shepherd (17:33-37)

***Application: David understood that the battle was not about Goliath, about Saul, about David or anyone else. The battle belonged to the Lord.***

## II. The Declaration of God's Purpose

***Truth: God desires to demonstrate His power in our lives in order to validate the reality of His existence to the world.***

- A) Familiar weapons (17:38-40)
- B) Confident declaration (17:42-46a)
- C) Expression of God's Purpose (17:46-47)

***Application: God desires to stretch our faith that we must trust Him and He may show his power through us.***

## III. The Defeat of the Enemy

***Truth: The victory is more that the absence or dismissal of an enemy, but rather the demonstration of God's power.***

- A) Courageous Approach (17:48)
- B) Divine Empowerment (17:49)
- C) Total Victory (17:50-52)

## Conclusion