





What is a leader? Are you a leader? Is it a title? Position? Power?

This is an important question, because what we think is important.

<u>Proverbs 23:7</u> 'For as a man thinks in his heart, so he is' <u>Proverbs 4:23</u> 'Guard your heart; it is the wellspring of life' <u>Matthew 12:34</u> 'For out of the overflow of the heart, the mouth speaks' (Luke 5:45)

## **⇔** Cf. King David

- <u>1 Samuel 13:14</u> The Lord has sought for Himself a man after His own heart.
- <u>1 Samuel 16:7</u> Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.
- 1 Samuel 17:28 I know how wicked your heart is.

Acts 13:22 'David, a man after my own heart'

The heart is very important. Most people do not become leaders because in their heart, they do not believe that is who they are.

So, who are you? Who am I?

Evolution wrongly says that you came here by accident, billions of years of gradual change after a big bang. Survival of the fittest means that the strong win; those who dominate win. The Bible says that you were made by God. You did not evolve; you are not an accident.

Genesis 1:3 Then God said, "Let there be light and there was light." "LET THERE BE..."

Genesis 1:26 Then God said, "Let us make man in our own image; according to our likeness; let them have dominion." Image (selem) = statue, copy, essential nature, same characteristics

Likeness (demut) = likeness, shape, form, pattern (verb damah = be like, resemble, act like)

We were, therefore, designed to be like, act like, resemble our Creator.

God created everything with purpose – it is natural for seeds to produce plants, for fish to swim, birds to fly – they were not taught to be that way.

We were created to have *dominion* (*radah*) = tread down, prevail against, reign, rule.

Therefore the most natural thing for a person to do is lead.

That is our purpose. You were born for leadership. Leadership is part of who you are. God did not design man and then think of something for him to do; God designed us with leadership in mind.

To become a leader is to discover yourself; who you are, why you were put here, your reason, purpose, destiny.

## **⇔** Cf. Gideon

<u>Judges 6:12</u> God spoke to Gideon, "The Lord is with you, mighty warrior"

But Gideon believes in his heart that he is weak and descended from weakness.

His information is wrong.

God made him to be a leader, so Gideon had to accept a new concept from God.

<u>John 8:31&32</u> says that if we abide in the Word, we will know the truth and the truth will set us free.

Judges 6:14 God gives him a vision/destiny/purpose Judges 6:34&35 He gathers an army Judges 7:2&3 22,000 leave because they are afraid. Eventually only 300

True leaders do not need to seek followers; followers will find them.

Leadership is not a title; it does not seek to manipulate or control.

Leadership is not a label you pin on yourself; others will see it. Leadership is finding God, finding ourselves and serving others.

## ➡ Cf. James and John (Matthew 20:20-28)

Whoever wants to be great in God's Kingdom, let him become the servant of all.

Therefore leadership serves.

A true leader will have found out who God is, who they are, feel secure in that and then serves themselves to others.

<u>Judges 7:7</u> By the 300 I will deliver the Midianites into your hands.

Judges 7:17 To the 300, "Look at me and do likewise".

<u>Judges 7:22</u> When the 300 blew the horns, the Lord won the battle.

Therefore know this:

Leadership was in you before you were born.

You need to accept this from the Word of God.

That will set you free from the opinions of others.

People will follow you when they see this leadership.

You must live to serve others.