

# 1 Samuel 10:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they will salute thee, and give thee two loaves of bread;  
which thou shalt receive of their hands.

## Analysis

---

**And they will salute thee, and give thee two loaves of bread; which thou shalt receive of their hands.**

The pilgrims' spontaneous gift to Saul carries multiple layers of significance. The Hebrew 'sha'al leshalom' (salute) literally means 'ask concerning your peace/welfare,' a formal greeting recognizing dignity. Their offering of two loaves from their three demonstrates generous hospitality despite being en route to worship. Saul is instructed to 'receive' (laqach) this gift - an act of humility for one newly anointed as leader. This moment prefigures how God's chosen leaders should receive provision from God's people. The bread also echoes the showbread in the tabernacle, sacred bread that would later figure significantly when David took the showbread from Ahimelech (1 Samuel 21). This small act of sharing prepared Saul for understanding that leadership involves receiving from others, not merely commanding them.

## Historical Context

---

Ancient Near Eastern hospitality customs included sharing provisions with travelers. The gift of bread to a stranger was considered a sacred obligation. This encounter would have been unremarkable to observers but profoundly confirming to Saul, who knew Samuel's prophecy.

## Related Passages

---

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

---

1. How do small acts of generosity from others serve as reminders of God's providential care?
2. What does Saul's instruction to receive (rather than demand) teach about godly leadership?

## Interlinear Text

---

וְשָׂא לִי	לְךָ	וְשָׂא לִי	וְנָתַתְּ לִי	לְךָ	שְׁתֵּי	לֶחֶם
And they will	H0	salute	thee and give	H0	thee two	loaves of bread
H7592		H7965	H5414		H8147	H3899
וְלִקְחָתָּ	מֵהֶם:					
which thou shalt receive	of their hands					
H3947	H3027					