

# Isaiah 2:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the loftiness of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low: and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day.

## Analysis

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This verse summarizes verses 13-16: human pride ('loftiness of man') will be humbled, and God alone exalted. The exclusivity—'the LORD alone shall be exalted'—reflects the fundamental theological reality that divine glory tolerates no rival (Isaiah 42:8). This anticipates the eschatological vindication when every knee bows and tongue confesses Christ's lordship (Philippians 2:10-11). Reformed theology's emphasis on soli Deo gloria finds its ultimate fulfillment in this vision of God's exclusive exaltation.

## Historical Context

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In polytheistic contexts where multiple deities vied for supremacy, Isaiah's monotheism and God's exclusive exaltation was radical. This theological exclusivity formed Israel's covenant distinctiveness.

## Related Passages

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**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## Study Questions

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1. What competes with God for exaltation in our hearts and culture?
2. How does anticipation of God's exclusive future exaltation inform present worship and devotion?

## Interlinear Text

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וְשַׁחַת	וְתַּחֲנֵן	בְּאֵד מֶלֶךְ	לְשַׁפֵּל
shall be bowed down	And the loftiness	of man	shall be made low
H7817	H1365	H120	H8213
רְאֵם	בְּאַנְשָׁם	וְנִשְׁגַּב	לְבָדָה
and the haughtiness	alone shall be exalted	and the LORD	H905
H7312	H376	H7682	H3068
בַּיּוֹם			
in that day			
H3117	H1931		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Isaiah 2:11** (References Lord): The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, and the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down, and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day.

**Isaiah 13:11** (Parallel theme): And I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogancy of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible.