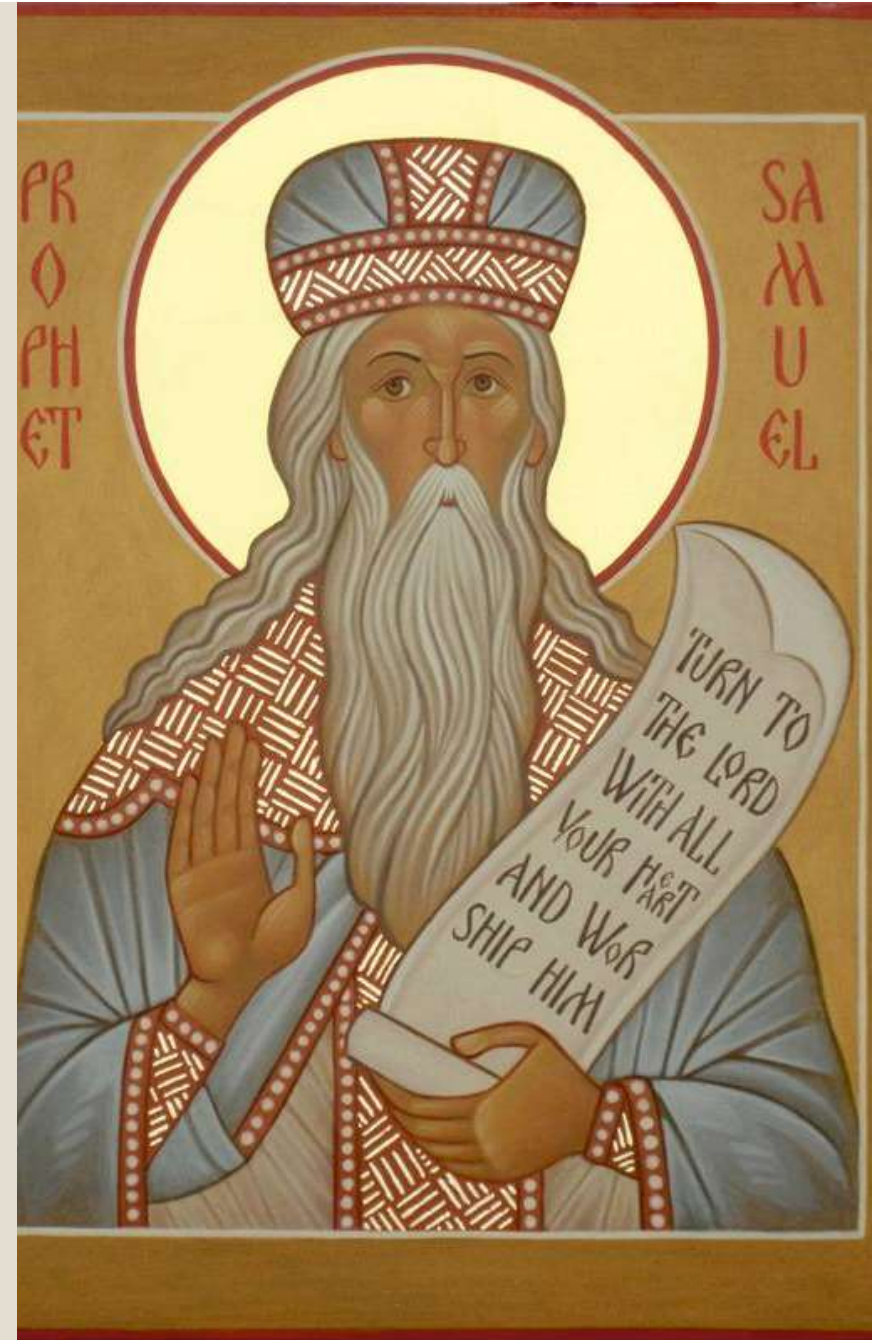


THE LORD LOOKS AT THE HEART

1 Samuel 15:34 – 16:13

Context

- Israel: God = King, Judges
- Israel wanted to be like everyone else
- Saul appointed King
- Saul disobeyed God
- 1 Samuel 13:14 – Saul disinherited and new king found – a man after God's own heart
- 1 Samuel 16:14 – Spirit removed from Saul

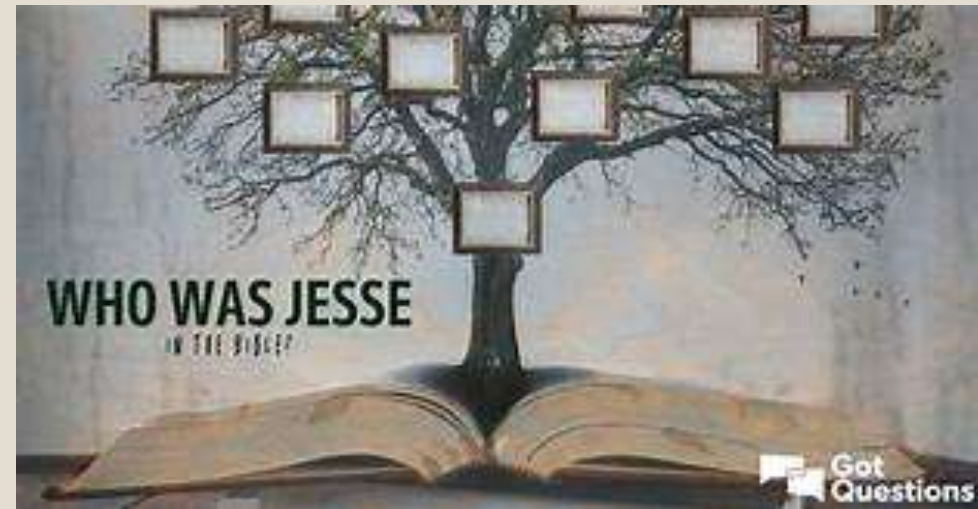


Then Samuel left for Ramah, but Saul went up to his home in Gibeah of Saul. Until the day Samuel died, he did not go to see Saul again, though Samuel mourned for him. **And the Lord regretted that he had made Saul king over Israel.**



The LORD said to Samuel, “How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king.”

- Regret now rejection
- Oil – used to anoint kings
- Jesse – Father of David, Son of Judah and Tamar, Grandson of Ruth and Boaz
- God has chosen the king



But Samuel said,
“How can I go? If
Saul hears about it,
he will kill me.”

- Samuel is afraid.
- Many prophets were afraid -
Moses, Jonah
- How often is this true of us?



The LORD said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.’ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate.”

I will show you... No need to fear

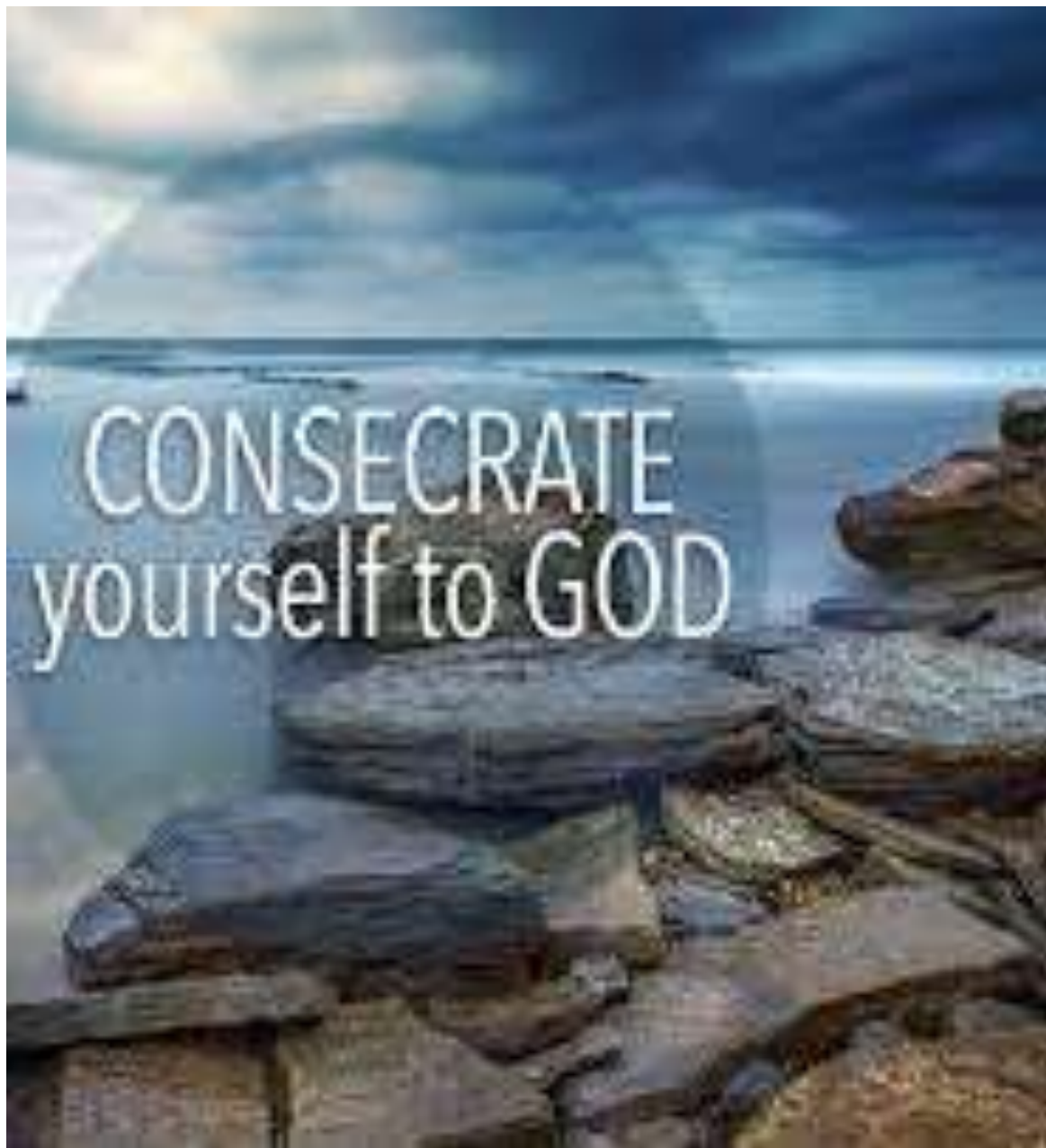


Samuel did what the Lord said. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town trembled when they met him. They asked, “Do you come in peace?”

Samuel replied, “Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.

- The elders are afraid – why?
- Prophet?
- 1 Samuel 15:33 - Samuel hacked Agag to pieces before the Lord in Gilgal. ESV





Consecrate yourselves
and come to the
sacrifice with me.”

Then he consecrated
Jesse and his sons and
invited them to the
sacrifice.

- Consecrate
- Pre Temple construction
- Local shrines

When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed stands here before the Lord.”

But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”

Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, “The Lord has not chosen this one either.” Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, “Nor has the Lord chosen this one.” Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, “The Lord has not chosen these.”

- The sons arrive but God has not chosen any of them. Why?
- Eliab is tall and strong, like Saul?

FOR THE LORD DOES NOT SEE AS MAN SEES;

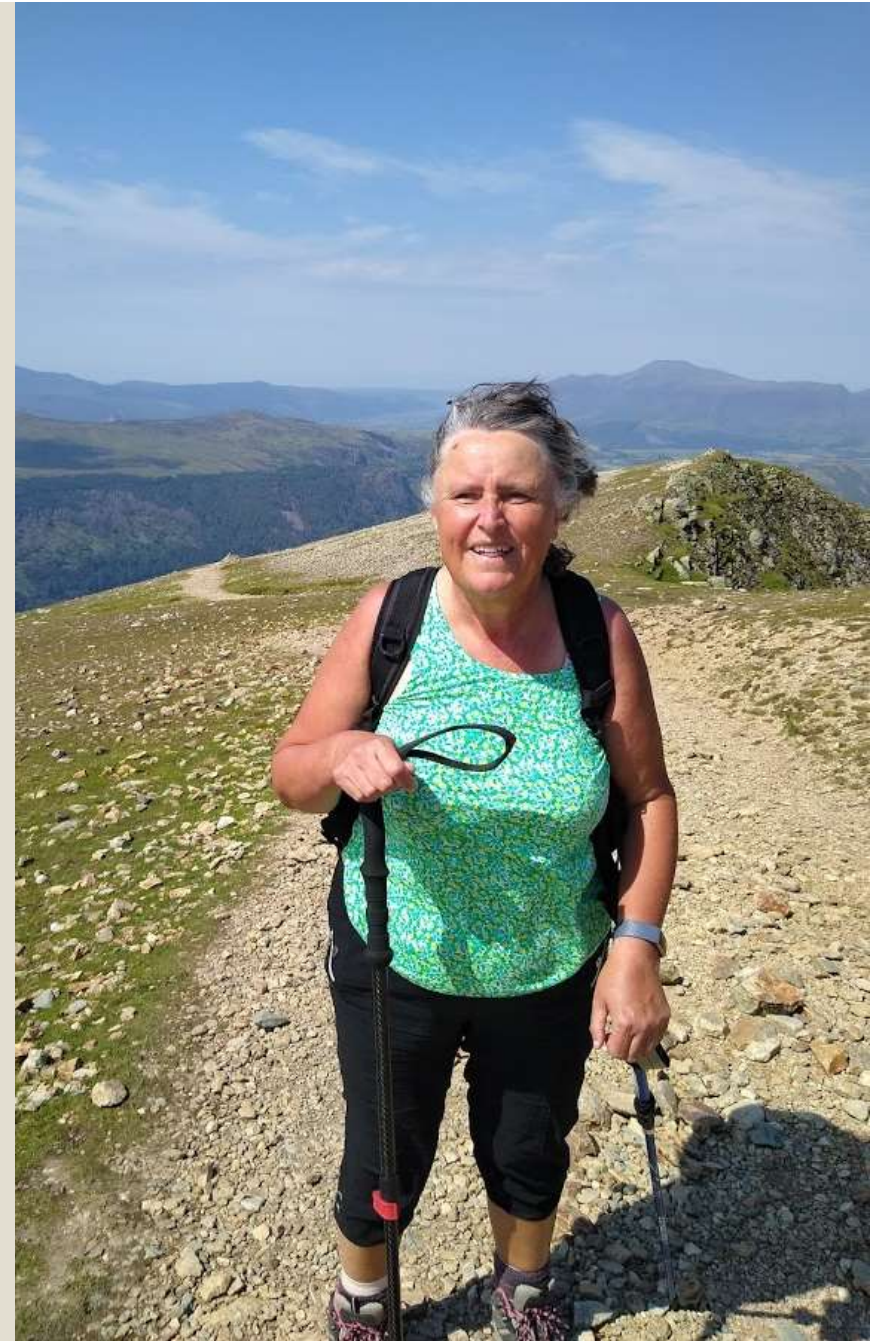
*for man looks at
the outward appearance,
but the Lord looks at
the heart.*

1 SAMUEL 16:7

@HearWordofGod



The world is full of idolatries,
but I question if an idolatry
has been more extensively
practiced than the idolatry
of outward appearance.
Very Rev William Garden
Blaikie



The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”

- Heart – inward moral and spiritual life, including the emotions, will and reason
- “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and the plate, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. You blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and the plate, that the outside also may be clean.” Matthew 23:25-26



So he asked Jesse, “Are these all the sons you have?”
“There is still the youngest,” Jesse answered. “He is tending the sheep.”
Samuel said, “Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives.”

- Samuel is in a pickle
- None of the sons have been chosen
- Youngest – no name!
- No worthy to be invited to the feast
- Samuel has to ask for him to be sent for



So he sent for him and had him brought in. He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features.
Then the Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; this is the one.”

- Still no name!
- 10 – 15 years old
- Young and insignificant
- Jesus, son of David
- Disciples



So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David. Samuel then went to Ramah.

- What did they understand?
- Holy Spirit came powerfully
- Not just once – from that day on
- Off Samuel goes



Why David?



Three Questions

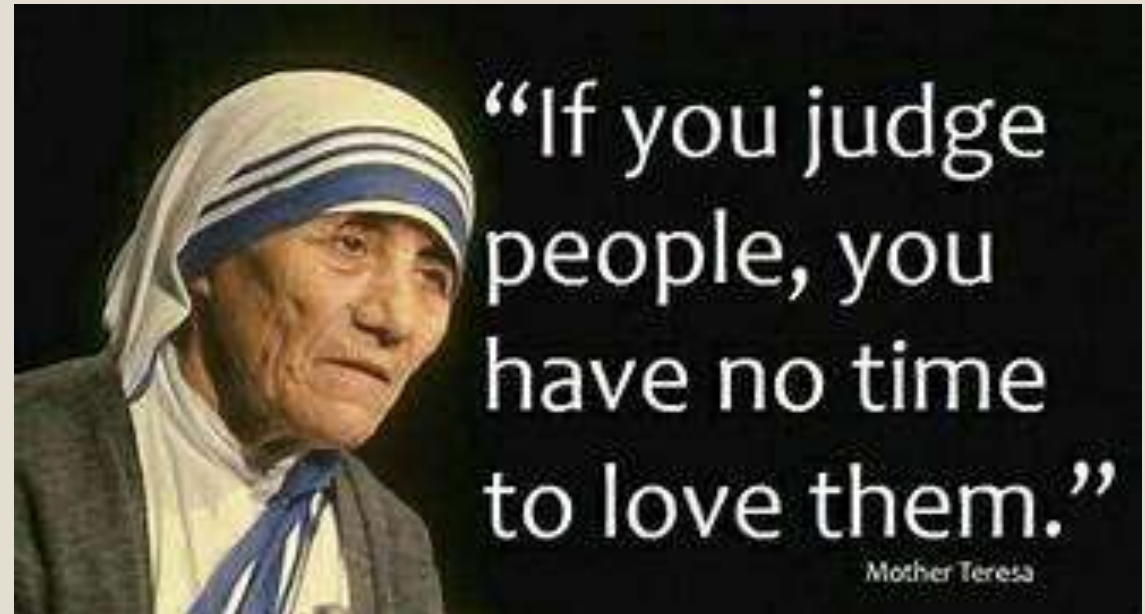
- How are our hearts?
- How are we seeing?
- How are we acting?

How are our hearts?

- Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it. Proverbs 4:23
- For it is from within, out of a person's heart, that evil thoughts come – sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. All these evils come from inside and defile a person.' Mark 7:21-23
- A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of. Luke 6:45
- We are not trying to please people but God, who tests our hearts. 1 Thessalonians 2:4b

How are we seeing?

- Are we seeing people as God sees them?



How are we acting?





HOW IS YOUR
HEART?

A CLEAN HEART

Create in me a pure heart,
O God, and renew a steadfast
spirit within me.

Do not cast me from your
presence or take your Holy
Spirit from me. Restore to me
the joy of your salvation and
grant me a willing spirit, to
sustain me.

Psalms 51: 10-12

@ your library of wisdom

Link to casting crowns

<https://youtu.be/Fouqn5Xg5-E>

How are we seeing?

It's crowded in worship today
As she slips in trying to fade into the
faces
The girl's teasing laughter is carrying
farther than they know
Farther than they know

A traveler is far away from home
He sheds his coat and quietly sinks into
the back row
The weight of their judgmental glances
Tells him that his chances are better
out on the road

Jesus paid much too high a price
For us to pick and choose who should come
And we are the body of Christ
Jesus is the way

How are we acting?

But if we are the body

Why aren't His arms reaching?

Why aren't His hands healing?

Why aren't His words teaching?

And if we are the body

Why aren't His feet going?

Why is His love not showing them there is a way?

There is a way

Jesus is the way