



December 17, 2023

Ancient Words, Present Hope

David's Greater Son

Matthew 1:17, Luke 1:33, 2 Samuel 7:11-17

For Discussion and Reflection

1. God says that he regrets making Saul king over his people because he isn't following or obeying his commands, 1 Samuel 15:10. When Samuel confronts him Saul says, "I have sinned...because I feared the people," 1 Samuel 15:24. God leads Samuel to Jesse's house to choose a new king. He tells him, "Do not look at his appearance or on the height of his stature...for the LORD sees not as man sees; man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart," 1 Samuel 16:6-7. What does this communicate to you? What does it say about David?
2. Read how David speaks about God, 1 Samuel 17:31-37. What is going on in David's mind and heart? What is going on between God and David? What does God see that man can't see?
3. In two instances, David could injure Saul who is aggressively seeking to kill him: cave of Engedi (1 Samuel 24:1-7) and wilderness (1 Samuel 26:6-13). In each case, he refrains from destroying Saul because he is the Lord's anointed. Consider the respect to God, David communicates.
4. Consider these passages concerning David: 2 Samuel 5:1-2; Isaiah 40:11; Ezekiel 34:20-24, 37:24; Micah 5:1-4. God presents this hope that David and his greater descendent will "shepherd" his people. What does this tell you about God and his desire for his people? What does this say about Jesus' ministry to you?
5. When David writes, "The Lord is my Shepherd," describe and discuss his experience. (Psalm 23)
6. How has Jesus shepherded you in the past? How is he shepherding you today?