

in disagreement because he had said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." ⁴²They said, "Isn't this Jesus, the son of Joseph? We know his father and mother. How can he say, 'I came down from heaven?'"

6:27 "Son of Man" is a title Jesus used for himself. 6:31 Exod 16:4; Ps 78:24. 6:41 Greek *Jewish people*; also in 6:52.

PSALM 106:32-48

- ³² At Meribah, too, they [the Israelites] angered the LORD, causing Moses serious trouble.
- ³³ They made Moses angry,* and he spoke foolishly.
- ³⁴ Israel failed to destroy the nations in the land, as the LORD had commanded them.
- ³⁵ Instead, they mingled among the pagans and adopted their evil customs.
- ³⁶ They worshiped their idols, which led to their downfall.
- ³⁷ They even sacrificed their sons and their daughters to the demons.
- ³⁸ They shed innocent blood, the blood of their sons and daughters. By sacrificing them to the idols of Canaan, they polluted the land with murder.
- ³⁹ They defiled themselves by their evil deeds, and their love of idols was adultery in the LORD's sight.
- ⁴⁰ That is why the LORD's anger burned against his people, and he abhorred his own special possession.
- ⁴¹ He handed them over to pagan nations, and they were ruled by those who hated them.
- ⁴² Their enemies crushed them and brought them under their cruel power.
- ⁴³ Again and again he rescued them,

but they chose to rebel against him, and they were finally destroyed by their sin.

- ⁴⁴ Even so, he pitied them in their distress and listened to their cries.
- ⁴⁵ He remembered his covenant with them and relented because of his unfailing love.
- ⁴⁶ He even caused their captors to treat them with kindness.
- ⁴⁷ Save us, O LORD our God! Gather us back from among the nations, so we can thank your holy name and rejoice and praise you.
- ⁴⁸ Praise the LORD, the God of Israel, who lives from everlasting to everlasting! Let all the people say, "Amen!"

Praise the LORD!

106:33 Hebrew *They embittered his spirit*.

PROVERBS 14:34-35

Godliness makes a nation great, but sin is a disgrace to any people. □ A king rejoices in wise servants but is angry with those who disgrace him.

May 11

- OT _____
- NT _____
- Ps/Pr _____

1 SAMUEL 10:1-11:15

Then Samuel took a flask of olive oil and poured it over Saul's head. He kissed Saul and said, "I am doing this because the LORD has appointed you to be the ruler over Israel, his special possession.* ²When you leave me today, you will see two men beside Rachel's tomb at Zelzah, on the border of Benjamin. They will tell you that the donkeys have been found and that your father

has stopped worrying about them and is now worried about you. He is asking, 'Have you seen my son?'

³"When you get to the oak of Tabor, you will see three men coming toward you who are on their way to worship God at Bethel. One will be bringing three young goats, another will have three loaves of bread, and the third will be carrying a wineskin full of wine. ⁴They will greet you and offer you two of the loaves, which you are to accept.

⁵"When you arrive at Gibeah of God,* where the garrison of the Philistines is located, you will meet a band of prophets coming down from the place of worship. They will be playing a harp, a tambourine, a flute, and a lyre, and they will be prophesying. ⁶At that time the Spirit of the LORD will come powerfully upon you, and you will prophesy with them. You will be changed into a different person. ⁷After these signs take place, do what must be done, for God is with you. ⁸Then go down to Gilgal ahead of me. I will join you there to sacrifice burnt offerings and peace offerings. You must wait for seven days until I arrive and give you further instructions."

⁹As Saul turned and started to leave, God gave him a new heart, and all Samuel's signs were fulfilled that day. ¹⁰When Saul and his servant arrived at Gibeah, they saw a group of prophets coming toward them. Then the Spirit of God came powerfully upon Saul, and he, too, began to prophesy. ¹¹When those who knew Saul heard about it, they exclaimed, "What? Is even Saul a prophet? How did the son of Kish become a prophet?"

¹²And one of those standing there said, "Can anyone become a prophet, no matter who his father is?*" So that is the origin of the saying "Is even Saul a prophet?"

¹³When Saul had finished prophesying, he went up to the place of worship. ¹⁴"Where have you been?" Saul's uncle asked him and his servant.

"We were looking for the donkeys," Saul replied, "but we couldn't find

them. So we went to Samuel to ask him where they were."

¹⁵"Oh? And what did he say?" his uncle asked.

¹⁶"He told us that the donkeys had already been found," Saul replied. But Saul didn't tell his uncle what Samuel said about the kingdom.

¹⁷Later Samuel called all the people of Israel to meet before the LORD at Mizpah. ¹⁸And he said, "This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, has declared: I brought you from Egypt and rescued you from the Egyptians and from all of the nations that were oppressing you. ¹⁹But though I have rescued you from your misery and distress, you have rejected your God today and have said, 'No, we want a king instead!' Now, therefore, present yourselves before the LORD by tribes and clans."

²⁰So Samuel brought all the tribes of Israel before the LORD, and the tribe of Benjamin was chosen by lot. ²¹Then he brought each family of the tribe of Benjamin before the LORD, and the family of the Matrites was chosen. And finally Saul son of Kish was chosen from among them. But when they looked for him, he had disappeared! ²²So they asked the LORD, "Where is he?"

And the LORD replied, "He is hiding among the baggage." ²³So they found him and brought him out, and he stood head and shoulders above anyone else.

²⁴Then Samuel said to all the people, "This is the man the LORD has chosen as your king. No one in all Israel is like him!"

And all the people shouted, "Long live the king!"

²⁵Then Samuel told the people what the rights and duties of a king were. He wrote them down on a scroll and placed it before the LORD. Then Samuel sent the people home again.

²⁶When Saul returned to his home at Gibeah, a group of men whose hearts God had touched went with him. ²⁷But there were some scoundrels who complained, "How can this man save us?"

And they scorned him and refused to bring him gifts. But Saul ignored them.

[Nahash, king of the Ammonites, had been grievously oppressing the people of Gad and Reuben who lived east of the Jordan River. He gouged out the right eye of each of the Israelites living there, and he didn't allow anyone to come and rescue them. In fact, of all the Israelites east of the Jordan, there wasn't a single one whose right eye Nahash had not gouged out. But there were 7,000 men who had escaped from the Ammonites, and they had settled in Jabesh-gilead.]*

^{11:1}About a month later,* King Nahash of Ammon led his army against the Israelite town of Jabesh-gilead. But all the citizens of Jabesh asked for peace. "Make a treaty with us, and we will be your servants," they pleaded.

²"All right," Nahash said, "but only on one condition. I will gouge out the right eye of every one of you as a disgrace to all Israel!"

³"Give us seven days to send messengers throughout Israel!" replied the elders of Jabesh. "If no one comes to save us, we will agree to your terms."

⁴When the messengers came to Gibeah of Saul and told the people about their plight, everyone broke into tears. ⁵Saul had been plowing a field with his oxen, and when he returned to town, he asked, "What's the matter? Why is everyone crying?" So they told him about the message from Jabesh.

⁶Then the Spirit of God came powerfully upon Saul, and he became very angry. ⁷He took two oxen and cut them into pieces and sent the messengers to carry them throughout Israel with this message: "This is what will happen to the oxen of anyone who refuses to follow Saul and Samuel into battle!" And the LORD made the people afraid of Saul's anger, and all of them came out together as one. ⁸When Saul mobilized them at Bezek, he found that there were 300,000 men from Israel and 30,000* men from Judah.

⁹So Saul sent the messengers back to

Jabesh-gilead to say, "We will rescue you by noontime tomorrow!" There was great joy throughout the town when that message arrived!

¹⁰The men of Jabesh then told their enemies, "Tomorrow we will come out to you, and you can do to us whatever you wish." ¹¹But before dawn the next morning, Saul arrived, having divided his army into three detachments. He launched a surprise attack against the Ammonites and slaughtered them the whole morning. The remnant of their army was so badly scattered that no two of them were left together.

¹²Then the people exclaimed to Samuel, "Now where are those men who said, 'Why should Saul rule over us?' Bring them here, and we will kill them!"

¹³But Saul replied, "No one will be executed today, for today the LORD has rescued Israel!"

¹⁴Then Samuel said to the people, "Come, let us all go to Gilgal to renew the kingdom." ¹⁵So they all went to Gilgal, and in a solemn ceremony before the LORD they made Saul king. Then they offered peace offerings to the LORD, and Saul and all the Israelites were filled with joy.

10:1 Greek version reads *over Israel. And you will rule over the LORD's people and save them from their enemies around them. This will be the sign to you that the LORD has appointed you to be leader over his special possession.* 10:5 Hebrew *Gibeath-haelohim.* 10:12 Hebrew said, "Who is their father?" 10:27 This paragraph, which is not included in the Masoretic Text, is found in Dead Sea Scroll 4QSam^a. 11:1 As in Dead Sea Scroll 4QSam^a and Greek version; Masoretic Text lacks *About a month later.* 11:8 Dead Sea Scrolls and Greek version read *70,000.*

JOHN 6:43-71

But Jesus replied, "Stop complaining about what I said. ⁴⁴For no one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them to me, and at the last day I will raise them up. ⁴⁵As it is written in the Scriptures,* "They will all be taught by God." Everyone who listens to the Father and learns from him comes to me. ⁴⁶(Not that anyone has ever seen the Father; only I, who was sent from God, have seen him.)

⁴⁷"I tell you the truth, anyone who believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸Yes, I am the

bread of life! ⁴⁹Your ancestors ate manna in the wilderness, but they all died. ⁵⁰Anyone who eats the bread from heaven, however, will never die. ⁵¹I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live forever; and this bread, which I will offer so the world may live, is my flesh."

⁵²Then the people began arguing with each other about what he meant. "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" they asked.

⁵³So Jesus said again, "I tell you the truth, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you cannot have eternal life within you. ⁵⁴But anyone who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise that person at the last day. ⁵⁵For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶Anyone who eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him. ⁵⁷I live because of the living Father who sent me; in the same way, anyone who feeds on me will live because of me. ⁵⁸I am the true bread that came down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will not die as your ancestors did (even though they ate the manna) but will live forever."

⁵⁹He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum.

⁶⁰Many of his disciples said, "This is very hard to understand. How can anyone accept it?"

⁶¹Jesus was aware that his disciples were complaining, so he said to them, "Does this offend you? ⁶²Then what will you think if you see the Son of Man ascend to heaven again? ⁶³The Spirit alone gives eternal life. Human effort accomplishes nothing. And the very words I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But some of you do not believe me." (For Jesus knew from the beginning which ones didn't believe, and he knew who would betray him.) ⁶⁵Then he said, "That is why I said that people can't come to me unless the Father gives them to me."

⁶⁶At this point many of his disciples

turned away and deserted him. ⁶⁷Then Jesus turned to the Twelve and asked, "Are you also going to leave?"

⁶⁸Simon Peter replied, "Lord, to whom would we go? You have the words that give eternal life. ⁶⁹We believe, and we know you are the Holy One of God.*"

⁷⁰Then Jesus said, "I chose the twelve of you, but one is a devil." ⁷¹He was speaking of Judas, son of Simon Iscariot, one of the Twelve, who would later betray him.

6:45 Greek in the prophets. Isa 54:13. 6:69 Other manuscripts read *you are the Christ, the Holy One of God;* still others read *you are the Christ, the Son of God;* and still others read *you are the Christ, the Son of the living God.*

PSALM 107:1-43

¹ Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good!

His faithful love endures forever.

² Has the LORD redeemed you?

Then speak out!

Tell others he has redeemed you from your enemies.

³ For he has gathered the exiles

from many lands,

from east and west,

from north and south.*

⁴ Some wandered in the wilderness, lost and homeless.

⁵ Hungry and thirsty, they nearly died.

⁶ "LORD, help!" they cried in their trouble,

and he rescued them from their distress.

⁷ He led them straight to safety, to a city where they could live.

⁸ Let them praise the LORD for his great love

and for the wonderful things he has done for them.

⁹ For he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.

¹⁰ Some sat in darkness and deepest gloom,

imprisoned in iron chains

of misery.

11 They rebelled against the words of God, scorning the counsel of the Most High.
 12 That is why he broke them with hard labor; they fell, and no one was there to help them.
 13 "LORD, help!" they cried in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress.
 14 He led them from the darkness and deepest gloom; he snapped their chains.
 15 Let them praise the LORD for his great love and for the wonderful things he has done for them.
 16 For he broke down their prison gates of bronze; he cut apart their bars of iron.
 17 Some were fools; they rebelled and suffered for their sins.
 18 They couldn't stand the thought of food, and they were knocking on death's door.
 19 "LORD, help!" they cried in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress.
 20 He sent out his word and healed them, snatching them from the door of death.
 21 Let them praise the LORD for his great love and for the wonderful things he has done for them.
 22 Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving and sing joyfully about his glorious acts.
 23 Some went off to sea in ships, plying the trade routes of the world.
 24 They, too, observed the LORD's power in action, his impressive works on the deepest seas.

25 He spoke, and the winds rose, stirring up the waves.
 26 Their ships were tossed to the heavens and plunged again to the depths; the sailors cringed in terror.
 27 They reeled and staggered like drunkards and were at their wits' end.
 28 "LORD, help!" they cried in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress.
 29 He calmed the storm to a whisper and stilled the waves.
 30 What a blessing was that stillness as he brought them safely into harbor!
 31 Let them praise the LORD for his great love and for the wonderful things he has done for them.
 32 Let them exalt him publicly before the congregation and before the leaders of the nation.
 33 He changes rivers into deserts, and springs of water into dry, thirsty land.
 34 He turns the fruitful land into salty wastelands, because of the wickedness of those who live there.
 35 But he also turns deserts into pools of water, the dry land into springs of water.
 36 He brings the hungry to settle there and to build their cities.
 37 They sow their fields, plant their vineyards, and harvest their bumper crops.
 38 How he blesses them! They raise large families there, and their herds of livestock increase.
 39 When they decrease in number and become impoverished through oppression, trouble, and sorrow,
 40 the LORD pours contempt on their princes,

causing them to wander in trackless wastelands.
 41 But he rescues the poor from trouble and increases their families like flocks of sheep.
 42 The godly will see these things and be glad, while the wicked are struck silent.
 43 Those who are wise will take all this to heart; they will see in our history the faithful love of the LORD.

107:3 Hebrew *and sea*.

PROVERBS 15:1-3

A gentle answer deflects anger, but harsh words make tempers flare. □ The tongue of the wise makes knowledge appealing, but the mouth of a fool belches out foolishness. □ The LORD is watching everywhere, keeping his eye on both the evil and the good.

May 12

- OT _____
- NT _____
- Ps/Pr _____

1 SAMUEL 12:1-13:23

Then Samuel addressed all Israel: "I have done as you asked and given you a king.
 2Your king is now your leader. I stand here before you—an old, gray-haired man—and my sons serve you. I have served as your leader from the time I was a boy to this very day. 3Now testify against me in the presence of the LORD and before his anointed one. Whose ox or donkey have I stolen? Have I ever cheated any of you? Have I ever oppressed you? Have I ever taken a bribe and perverted justice? Tell me and I will make right whatever I have done wrong."
 4"No," they replied, "you have never cheated or oppressed us, and you have never taken even a single bribe."
 5"The LORD and his anointed one are my witnesses today," Samuel declared, "that my hands are clean."

"Yes, he is a witness," they replied.
 6"It was the LORD who appointed Moses and Aaron," Samuel continued. "He brought your ancestors out of the land of Egypt. 7Now stand here quietly before the LORD as I remind you of all the great things the LORD has done for you and your ancestors.
 8"When the Israelites were* in Egypt and cried out to the LORD, he sent Moses and Aaron to rescue them from Egypt and to bring them into this land. 9But the people soon forgot about the LORD their God, so he handed them over to Sisera, the commander of Hazor's army, and also to the Philistines and to the king of Moab, who fought against them.
 10"Then they cried to the LORD again and confessed, 'We have sinned by turning away from the LORD and worshipping the images of Baal and Ashtoreth. But we will worship you and you alone if you will rescue us from our enemies.'
 11Then the LORD sent Gideon,* Bedan,* Jephthah, and Samuel* to save you, and you lived in safety.
 12"But when you were afraid of Nahash, the king of Ammon, you came to me and said that you wanted a king to reign over you, even though the LORD your God was already your king. 13All right, here is the king you have chosen. You asked for him, and the LORD has granted your request.
 14"Now if you fear and worship the LORD and listen to his voice, and if you do not rebel against the LORD's commands, then both you and your king will show that you recognize the LORD as your God. 15But if you rebel against the LORD's commands and refuse to listen to him, then his hand will be as heavy upon you as it was upon your ancestors.
 16"Now stand here and see the great thing the LORD is about to do. 17You know that it does not rain at this time of the year during the wheat harvest. I will ask the LORD to send thunder and rain today. Then you will realize how wicked you have been in asking the LORD for a king!"
 18So Samuel called to the LORD, and