One Year Bible Challenge

Read the whole Bible in one year

Week 20, May 21, 2011: "Styles of Kingship"

This week's Reading: May 14th to 20th

Old Testament: 1 Samuel 15:1 - 28:25

New Testament: John 8:1 - 11:54

Psalms: Psalm 110:1 - 117:2

Proverbs: Proverbs 15:8 - 15:23

God chose both Saul and David to be Kings of the Israelites. What are some of the similarities and differences between these two kings. What does this comparison tell you about God?

1 Samuel, chapters 9 to the end of 2 Samuel (Note: this reference covers before and after this week's reading)

1 Samuel 9:15-17 -- [**15**] Now the day before Saul came, the LORD had revealed to Samuel: [**16**] "Tomorrow about this time I will send to you a man from the land of Benjamin, and you shall anoint him to be prince over my people Israel. He shall save my people from the hand of the Philistines; for I have seen the affliction of my people, because their cry has come to me." [**17**] When Samuel saw Saul, the LORD told him, "Here is the man of whom I spoke to you! He it is who shall rule over my people."

1 Samuel 10:1 -- [1] Then Samuel took a vial of oil and poured it on his head, and kissed him and said, "Has not the LORD anointed you to be prince over his people Israel? And you shall reign over the people of the LORD and you will save them from the hand of their enemies round about. And this shall be the sign to you that the LORD has anointed you to be prince over his heritage.

Jesus healed a man who had been blind from birth. What did the principal characters in this story learn?

John 9:1-32

[**1**] As he passed by, he saw a man blind from his birth. [**2**] And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" [**3**] Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. [**4**] We must work the works of him who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. [**5**] As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." [**6**] As he said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay, [**7**] saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Silo'am" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. [**8**] The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" [**9**] Some said, "It is he"; others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man." [**10**] They said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" [**11**] He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, `Go to Silo'am and wash'; so I went and washed and received my sight." [**12**] They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." [**13**] They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. [**14**] Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. [**15**] The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." [**16**] Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them. [**17**] So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." [**18**] The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, [**19**] and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" [**20**] His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; [**21**] but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." [**22**] His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if any one should confess him to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. [**23**] Therefore his parents said, "He is of age, ask him." [**24**] So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner." [**25**] He answered, "Whether he is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see." [**26**] They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" [**27**] He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become his disciples?" [**28**] And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. [**29**] We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." [**30**] The man answered, "Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. [**31**] We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if any one is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. [**32**] Never since the world began has it been heard that any one opened the eyes of a man born blind.