

Scripture Readings

*The Old Testament Scripture reading is received from **The First Book of Samuel** chapter **16** verses **1-13**, which can be found on page **320** in the **old testament** of your pew bible...*

¹The Lord said to Samuel, 'How long will you mourn for Saul because I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and take it with you; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem; for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' Samuel answered, 'How can I go? Saul will hear of it and kill me.' 'Take a heifer with you,' said the Lord; 'say you have come to offer a sacrifice to the Lord, and invite Jesse to the sacrifice; then I will let you know what you must do. You shall anoint for me the man whom I show you.' Samuel did as the Lord had told him, and went to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came in haste to meet him, saying, 'Why have you come? Is all well?' 'All is well,' said Samuel; 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord. Hallow yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.' He himself hallowed Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice also. They came, and when Samuel saw Eliab he thought, 'Here, before the Lord, is his anointed king.' But the Lord said to him, 'Take no account of it if he is handsome and tall; I reject him. The Lord does not see as man sees; men judge by appearances but the Lord judges by the heart.' Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel, but he said, 'No, the Lord has not chosen this one.' Then he presented Shammah, and Samuel said, 'Nor has the Lord chosen him.' Seven of his sons Jesse presented to Samuel, but he said, 'The Lord has not chosen any of these.' Then Samuel asked, 'Are these all?' Jesse answered, 'There is still the

Sunday, March 22, 2026

Branden Moffat

youngest, but he is looking after the sheep.' Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and fetch him; we will not sit down until he comes.' So he sent and fetched him. He was handsome, with ruddy cheeks and bright eyes. The Lord said, 'Rise and anoint him: this is the man.' Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers. Then the spirit of the Lord came upon David and was with him from that day onwards. And Samuel set out on his way back to Ramah.

*The New Testament Scripture reading is received from Matthew chapter **26** verses **14-16** and verses **47-56**, which can be found on page **37** in the **new testament** of your pew bible...*

¹⁴Then one of the twelve, the man called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, 'What will you give me to betray him to you?' They weighed him out thirty silver pieces. From that moment he began to look out for an opportunity to betray him.

⁴⁷While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, appeared; with him was a great crowd armed with swords and cudgels, sent by the chief priests and the elders of the nation. The traitor gave them this sign: 'The one I kiss is your man; seize him'; and stepping forward at once, he said, 'Hail, Rabbi!', and kissed him. Jesus replied, 'Friend, do what you are here to do.' They then came forward, seized Jesus, and held him fast.

At that moment one of those with Jesus reached for his sword and drew it, and he struck at the High Priest's servant and cut off his ear. But Jesus said to him, 'Put up your sword. All who take the sword die by the sword. Do you suppose that I cannot appeal to my Father, who would at once send to my aid more than twelve legions of

Sunday, March 22, 2026

Branden Moffat

angels? But how then could the scriptures be fulfilled, which say that this must be?' At the same time Jesus spoke to the crowd: 'Do you take me for a bandit, that you have come out with swords and cudgels to arrest me? Day after day I sat teaching in the temple, and you did not lay hands on me. But this has all happened to fulfill what the prophets wrote.'

Then the disciples all deserted him and ran away.

May the Lord God help us to apply this scripture in our lives.