

“The LORD Has Worked Salvation In Israel”
1 Samuel 11:1-15

“It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man. It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes.” (Psalm 118:8-9)

“Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, says the LORD of hosts” (Zechariah 4:6). “By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, and by the breath of His mouth all their host....Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him! For He spoke, and it came to be; He commanded, and it stood firm....The king is not saved by his great army; a warrior is not delivered by his great strength. The war horse is a false hope for salvation, and by its great might it cannot rescue....Our soul waits for the LORD; He is our help and our shield” (Psalm 33:6-20).

- **“Nahash the Ammonite....” (1 Samuel 11:1-3)**
 - The Ammonites were descendents of Lot (Genesis 19:38). The Ammonites were cruel people who sacrificed their children to Molech (1 Kings 11:7) and were historically known for brutal practices toward the people that they conquered (Amos 1:13; 1 Samuel 11:2).
 - During this period of time warriors would hold their weapon in their right hand and they would hold their shield in their left hand. In gouging out their right eyes they would be unable to wage war against the Ammonites, a sign of total defeat.
 - *“And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear Him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.” (Matthew 10:28)*
 - Nahash’s desire was to bring disgrace on all of Israel. He wanted them to be identified with weakness. Arrogance, conceit, and intimidation is the way that the world leads, but humility and servanthood is the way of Christ (Mark 10:42-45; cf. 2 Samuel 10:1-2).
- **“If there is no one to save us....” (1 Samuel 11:3-5)**
 - The elders of Israel *again* look to another solution other than pleading with God for help. In 2 Kings 19:14-19 we see an example of how Israel should have called out to God to protect them from their enemies.
 - Israel has had a tendency of forgetting that it is God that delivers (1 Samuel 2:6-10; 4:3; 7:12-14). It is easy to forget who God is and what He has done which is why He gives us the body of Christ and His Word....*“Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the day drawing near.” (Hebrews 10:23-25)*
 - The Bible offers one Savior, the Lord. There is no hope, no strength, no solution outside of God. We humbly come before our Savior. *“I, I am the LORD, and besides Me there is no savior (Isaiah 43:11). “And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12).*
- **“And the Spirit of God rushed upon Saul....” (1 Samuel 11:6-7)**
 - The Holy Spirit brought a righteous anger into Saul’s life (Ephesians 4:26-27; James 1:20). The Holy Spirit unified Israel. The Holy Spirit brought salvation to Israel. Saul could do nothing apart from God (John 15:5).
 - The Holy Spirit empowers us to use our spiritual gifts for His glory (1 Corinthians 12:7). The Holy Spirit empowers us to grow in holiness (Galatians 5:22-24). The Holy Spirit empowers us to have persevering faith (Galatians 5:5; Ephesians 1:13-14). The Holy Spirit empowers us to be strong through our ever growing knowledge of Christ (Ephesians 3:16-19). The Holy Spirit would

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Worship: I Stand Amazed (Norton Hall Band)

Christ The Sure And Steady Anchor (Matt Boswell)

Service Times: Sundays: Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 6:30 & 7; Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

empower Saul to rule according to Deuteronomy 17:14-20 if he was to humble himself before God...“for God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time He may exalt you.” (1 Peter 5:5-6)

- “The dread of the LORD fell upon the people....” (1 Samuel 11:7-11)
 - The fear of the Lord is a powerful thing. The fear of the Lord brought unity to Israel and will bring unity to the church. The fear of the Lord brings wisdom into our lives (Proverbs 9:10). The fear of the Lord brings confidence in God (Proverbs 14:26). The fear of the Lord brings blessings into our lives (Psalm 112:1). The fear of the Lord brings a hatred of sin (Proverbs 8:13). The fear of the Lord brings holiness into our lives (2 Corinthians 7:1). The fear of the Lord grows us in Christlikeness (Philippians 2:12-13).
 - *The fear of the Lord is an awe, respect, and trust of God that leads to transformation by knowledge of and obedience to God’s Word.*
- “For the LORD has worked salvation in Israel....” (1 Samuel 11:12-15)
 - Saul chose to lead differently, he chose to lead in the fear of the Lord. This was the high point of Saul’s kingship, and it was short-lived.
 - Gilgal has great significance in Israel’s history. It represented salvation (Joshua 5:8-9) and this day salvation was celebrated in Gilgal. Salvation that brought reconciliation with God and one another. We ought to rejoice in our salvation (Leviticus 7:15-36).

Announcements:

★**DONATIONS:** THIS Sunday is the last day we will be collecting donations for Heartbeats. They are in need of: New SUMMER clothing only — size 3 months to 3T; Swim diapers ONLY (they are well stocked on regular diapers); and diaper bags. There is a tote in front of the back table to put your donations in!

★**KINGS ISLAND TRIP:** Christina Strawn is organizing a group trip to Kings Island on Saturday, August 13th. Group Admission tickets are \$42 each (minimum of 15 people). Please contact Christina (740-755-6512) if you would like to go or you have any questions!

★**PNEUMATOLOGY CLASS:** We will be offering a new class on Sundays, starting on August 14th. This class will be a study on the Holy Spirit — who is the Holy Spirit, what is the work of the Holy Spirit, etc. This class will be EVERY Sunday from 4-5pm. If you are interested in participating in this class, there is a sign-up list on the back table!

★**MEMBERS MEETING:** We will be having a short Members Meeting immediately following the worship service on Sunday, August 7th. If you are a church member, please plan on staying for that meeting!

★**FELLOWSHIP DINNER:** We are having a Fellowship Dinner THIS Sunday, July 31st, immediately following the worship service. There is a sign-up list on the back table, please sign-up to bring something. EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the dinner and fellowship with us!