

Day 25 – Mar. 3

God is at work in our world and has been from the beginning. He acts in this world to bring about His will. We have argued forever about what this looks like – whether everything that happens is God’s will since He is Almighty or whether some things can happen outside His will by His own choice. Our poets have sung that God moves the tides and planets, holds our molecules together, and creates every storm that blows. Our scientists have stated that God has created systems by which this world works, systems that can be studied and known. However God works, God is at work in our world and has been from the beginning.

As I read, I find more and more that God has a particular MO for how He works, though. He seems to most commonly work “through”. Besides the writing of the 10 Commandments, God usually works through people, animals, instruments, or messengers. And when He works through people, He works through the weak, the poor, the small, the incapable. This is intentional, because God knows our propensity to take credit for His work. So He tells Gideon to whittle down his 30,000 man army to 300 witnesses. He chooses Ruth, a foreign widow, to carry on the family line of His own Son, along with Tamar, Bathsheba, and even Mary. He chooses a Zealot and a tax collector, a slew of fishermen, and even Judas himself to be His Son’s emissaries.

Today we meet Saul, first king of Israel. And while Saul is gorgeous and tall, he is also from the smallest family in the smallest tribe in Israel. Saul himself even questions God’s wisdom in this choice, but only because he has not studied God’s MO as we have. God always picks the lost, the last, the least, the littlest to be the vessel for His divine action on earth.

So take that for what it’s worth. As you strive to be the best, work to be the most gorgeous, stress your way to success, grow to be the largest, or seek the approval of this world because of your accomplishments, remember God’s MO. If you truly want to be used by Him, be the You He has created you to be. Work harder at knowing God than succeeding at work. Don’t fight for this world’s accolades. God will use whomever He chooses, and it is almost never the “Best”. Just ask Saul.