

Faith Comment published in the Petersfield Post

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Look closer, see me!

The broadcaster, Clare Balding, has criticised the television pundits for the fact that the quality of what men say is valued over their looks, but 'women are still judged on how they look than what they say'. She said that it is in every walk of life not just the media and it has a pervasively negative effect, seeping through everything.

A recent study found that of 481 presenters on BBC, Sky, ITN and Channel 5, just 26 were women aged over 50 who were regular presenters.

Do you sometimes wonder if people care more about what you look like than about the person you are? Take heart, God sees things - and you - differently....

God told the prophet Samuel to find a man named Jesse as God had selected one of his sons to be the new king of Israel. Without telling the family the real purpose of his visit, Samuel was invited into Jesse's home and one by one the sons came in.

With the appearance of each son, Samuel thought to himself, "Surely this is the one the Lord has chosen". But God said, "Don't judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him." The Lord doesn't make decisions the way you do! People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at a person's thoughts and intentions.

Eventually Samuel had to ask Jesse whether these were all his sons. Jesse replied that there was still the youngest. Sure enough, the boy called David was the one the Lord had chosen. David was to become a great king and many generations later Jesus was to be 'born of David's line'.

David wrote a song which is found in the Book of Psalms. "O Lord you have examined my heart and know everything about me. You know when I stand up and when I sit down. You chart the path ahead of me and tell me where to stop and rest. You know what I am going to say even before I say it. You both precede and follow me. You place your hand of blessing on my head. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too great for me to know!" God did not judge