

1 Samuel 28

King James Version (KJV)

28 And it came to pass in those days, that the Philistines gathered their armies together for warfare, to fight with Israel. And Achish said unto David, Know thou assuredly, that thou shalt go out with me to battle, thou and thy men. (Achish believed David to be his servant)

²And David said to Achish, Surely thou shalt know what thy servant can do. And Achish said to David, Therefore will I make thee keeper of mine head for ever. (David's answer is ambiguous. He never actually said what he would do. Achish took it to mean that David pledged his loyalty to him. Achish is making David chief bodyguard to himself)

³Now Samuel was dead, and all Israel had lamented him, and buried him in Ramah, even in his own city. And Saul had put away those that had familiar spirits, and the wizards, out of the land. (They were forbidden in God's Word. Saul did the right thing, probably while Samuel was still there to guide him)

⁴And the Philistines gathered themselves together, and came and pitched in Shunem: and Saul gathered all Israel together, and they pitched in Gilboa. (Getting ready for war)

⁵And when Saul saw the host of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart greatly trembled. (Without the Spirit of God, Saul's courage wavered. Samuel told Saul that God had rejected him. Saul knows the he stands alone)

⁶And when Saul enquired of the LORD, the LORD answered him not, neither by dreams, nor by Urim, nor by prophets. (God had rejected Saul as king long ago, because of what Saul had done against God's Word over the years. Saul even had 80 priests murdered by Doeg; because they had fed David when he was on the run. Samuel had already anointed David to be king)

⁷Then said Saul unto his servants, Seek me a woman that hath a familiar spirit, that I may go to her, and enquire of her. And his servants said to him, Behold, there is a woman that hath a familiar spirit at Endor. (Familiar spirit = necromancer, an evil spirit, a soothsayer, a witch; the woman is a person who is possessed by an evil spirit. This was the last straw for God. Saul was bringing in evil spirits to guide the armies of Israel)

⁸And Saul disguised himself, and put on other raiment, and he went, and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night: and he said, I pray thee, divine unto me by the familiar spirit, and bring me him up, whom I shall name unto thee. (Saul disguised himself because he knew he was going against God's laws) see Leviticus-20:27

⁹And the woman said unto him, Behold, thou knowest what Saul hath done, how he hath cut off those that have familiar spirits, and the wizards, out of the land: wherefore then layest thou a snare for my life, to cause me to die? (She doesn't know that this is Saul. She believes that if Saul finds out about this, he will have her put to death)

¹⁰And Saul sware to her by the LORD, saying, As the LORD liveth, there shall no punishment happen to thee for this thing. (Saul was swearing by God, that he approved of this evil that God hates- irony)

¹¹Then said the woman, Whom shall I bring up unto thee? And he said, Bring me up Samuel. (Samuel is with God; no evil spirit would be able to bring up Samuel. Saul had just signed his own death warrant)

¹²And when the woman saw Samuel, she cried with a loud voice: and the woman spake to Saul, saying, Why hast thou deceived me? for thou art Saul. (She cried with a loud voice - probably the first time she actually saw a real evil spirit. Usually, these con artists only put on a good show for the gullible clients. This time, God gave Saul exactly what he asked for. The evil spirit informed her that this man was Saul)

¹³And the king said unto her, Be not afraid: for what sawest thou? And the woman said unto Saul, I saw gods ascending out of the earth. (Evil spirits are really there. She's never actually seen one before. She is frightened)

¹⁴And he said unto her, What form is he of? And she said, An old man cometh up; and he is covered with a mantle. And Saul perceived that it was Samuel, and he stooped with his face to the ground, and bowed himself. (All angels of God appear as young when people see them. This old man is an evil spirit. God is allowing it because He's giving Saul exactly what he asked for)

¹⁵And Samuel said to Saul, Why hast thou disquieted me, to bring me up? And Saul answered, I am sore distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God is departed from me, and answereth me no more, neither by prophets, nor by dreams: therefore I have called thee, that thou mayest make known unto me what I shall do. (This

"Samuel" is really an evil spirit) (Saul never mentioned the Urim, like he did in verse-6. He didn't want to admit that he had murdered 85 priests by the hand of Doeg)

Deuteronomy-18:10 (Saul has broken many commands of God)

Also Leviticus-19:31, 20:6,27

¹⁶ Then said Samuel, Wherefore then dost thou ask of me, seeing the LORD is departed from thee, and is become thine enemy? (The evil spirit is stating what really happened. He is giving Saul more rope to hang himself with. He is reminding Saul that he is going farther and farther away from God by doing all of this)

¹⁷ And the LORD hath done to him, as he spake by me: for the LORD hath rent the kingdom out of thine hand, and given it to thy neighbour, even to David: (This was common knowledge in the land, that God had rejected Saul. Saul refused to give up power and had been trying to kill David)

¹⁸ Because thou obeyedst not the voice of the LORD, nor executedst his fierce wrath upon Amalek, therefore hath the LORD done this thing unto thee this day. See Chapter-15

¹⁹ Moreover the LORD will also deliver Israel with thee into the hand of the Philistines: and to morrow shalt thou and thy sons be with me: the LORD also shall deliver the host of Israel into the hand of the Philistines. (God had judged Saul to death. Israel will also be punished for following Saul, after he was rejected of God. The philistines will win the battle)

²⁰ Then Saul fell straightway all along on the earth, and was sore afraid, because of the words of Samuel: and there was no strength in him; for he had eaten no bread all the day, nor all the night. (Saul was lying on the floor from fright and dread) (the words of Samuel = not Samuel – this is an evil spirit pretending to be Samuel)

(On the spiritual side – Jesus is the bread of life. God had left Saul long ago, so there was no spiritual bread for Saul)

²¹ And the woman came unto Saul, and saw that he was sore troubled, and said unto him, Behold, thine handmaid hath obeyed thy voice, and I have put my life in my hand, and have hearkened unto thy words

which thou spakest unto me. (The penalty for soothe-saying or necromancy or witchcraft was death)

²² Now therefore, I pray thee, hearken thou also unto the voice of thine handmaid, and let me set a morsel of bread before thee; and eat, that thou mayest have strength, when thou goest on thy way.

²³ But he refused, and said, I will not eat. But his servants, together with the woman, compelled him; and he hearkened unto their voice. So he arose from the earth, and sat upon the bed. (Two of his servants had accompanied him to see the witch)

²⁴ And the woman had a fat calf in the house; and she hasted, and killed it, and took flour, and kneaded it, and did bake unleavened bread thereof: (She hurriedly put a meal together for Saul. She wanted him out as soon as possible. What she had done that night <necromancy> was punishable by death)

²⁵ And she brought it before Saul, and before his servants; and they did eat. Then they rose up, and went away that night.

(Saul was a bad king. He should have put God and the people before himself. He always did just the opposite. It was always about him first. Seeing the witch for prophecy was the last straw for God)