

## QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Was it forbidden for the Israelites to have anything to do with the occult practices?
2. Even though it was Saul that banned all mediums and wizards from Israel, why did he turn to one for counsel?
3. Can we denounce sin today, but not remove it from our heart?
4. Why did the witch cry with a loud voice when she saw Samuel?
5. After the woman saw Samuel, how did the woman know that it was Saul that was with her?
6. Why did God bring Samuel back?
7. How did Saul receive the message from Samuel?

### SUMMARY:

In this lesson, Saul continues his path into sin, to the point of losing contact with God and seeking the solution to his problems through a witch (or medium). This was not only against Jewish law, but Saul himself had previously put out of the land all those who claimed to be mediums. However, God permitted Samuel to appear through the efforts of the witch of Endor, and Samuel proclaimed Saul's doom—he was to die at the hands of the Philistines. This lesson should serve as a constant reminder to us to keep in close communication with God.

### NOTES:

## APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #12

June 18, 2023

Second Quarter

### SAUL'S VISIT TO THE WITCH

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**LESSON TEXT:** *1 Samuel 28:1-25*

**LESSON SETTING:** Saul had disobeyed God. The Philistines were at war with Israel.

**TIME:** About 1056 B.C.

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- I. SAUL'S DESPERATION.** 1 Samuel 28:1-6
  - A. Powerless (due to sin and unbelief) Leviticus 26:37; Deuteronomy 28:32; Judges 16:17, 20
  - B. Prayers Unanswered. Deuteronomy 1:45; 1 Samuel 14:37; Psalm 66:18; Proverbs 1:28; 28:9; Isaiah 59:2; James 1:6-7; 4:3
- II. SAUL'S DELINQUENCY.** 1 Samuel 28:7-14
  - A. Witchcraft. Exodus 22:18; Leviticus 19:31; Deuteronomy 18:10-14; Galatians 5:19-21
  - B. Deception. Genesis 3:4; Matthew 2:8; Acts 5:1-10; Revelation 22:15
- III. SAUL'S DESOLATION.** 1 Samuel 28:15-25
  - A. Misery in Sin. Judges 2:13-15; Proverbs 13:15; Isaiah 48:22; Romans 2:5-11
  - B. Wicked Forsaken. 1 Samuel 16:14; 1 Kings 11:33-35; Psalm 81:12; Matthew 23:37-39; Romans 1:24-25

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**GOLDEN TEXT:** *BELOVED, BELIEVE NOT EVERY SPIRIT, BUT TRY THE SPIRITS WHETHER THEY ARE OF GOD.* 1 John 4:1

**NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON:** 1 Samuel 31:1-13  
**SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES:** 2 Samuel 1:17-27

**QUARTERLY THEME:** Samuel and Saul - 1 Samuel

**TOPIC:** SAUL SLAIN

**INTRODUCTION:**

If Saul had actually seen and spoken with Samuel and been told what his end would be, he should have repented, and confessed his sin. We are not told that he did so, but only what Samuel had said became literally true.

Saul's life was ended in a tragic way and his body used in mockery by the Philistines. How horrible to come to such an awful end because of his self-will and his pride, which led to such terrible sins. He began his reign as a humble, gracious young man with a "new heart". But what a calamity pride can bring to a person's life as it did in the life of Saul.

**CENTRAL TRUTH:** Death does not bring an end to troubles for the wicked, but ushers in an eternity of woes.

**GOLDEN TEXT: SAUL DIED FOR HIS TRANSGRESSIONS WHICH HE COMMITTED AGAINST THE LORD.** 1 Chronicles 10:13

Saul had many opportunities to repent for his evil ways. Often his own heart and conscience had convicted him, as when David spared his life even though Saul had been seeking to slay him. Saul had made a good beginning as King of Israel when his humility caused him to seek God's will and the advice of Samuel. But Saul's kingly power brought pride, and pride caused disobedience. His disobedience led to his rejection, which was followed by jealousy and envy. All this led to the loss of his kingdom and finally his death.

We also are humbled when God in His Grace gives us a place in His Kingdom. May Saul's life and death serve as a warning to us that we may not again become disobedient, proud, or envious and thus lose the grace of God and our place in His eternal Kingdom.

"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:23)

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF June 19 - 25**

Mon. \*Saul Slain. 1 Samuel 31:1-6  
Tue. \*Saul is Buried. 1 Samuel 31:7-13  
Wed. The Young Man's Story. 2 Samuel 1:1-10  
Thu. David Mourns Saul. 2 Samuel 1:11-17  
Fri. David's Lamentation. 2 Samuel 1:18-27  
Sat. The Death of the Wicked. Ezekiel 33:8-11  
Sun. God's Fair Treatment. Ezekiel 33:14-20

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