

1 SAMUEL 28; April 12; Saul Visits the Witch at Endor

ANALYSIS:

1. What military promotion or honor did the Philistine king Achish wish to give David? _____
2. Name a spiritual reform Saul had carried out in Israel.

3. To whom did Saul go for guidance for his battle with the Philistines after the LORD did not answer him? _____
4. How did Saul relieve the woman's fears when he asked her to contact the familiar spirit? _____
5. Whom did Saul ask the woman with the familiar spirit to contact in the spirit world? _____

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

Verse 18 reminds us of chapter 15 which details Saul's disobedience to the LORD'S plain command to annihilate the Amalekites (15:3). We recall he falsely claimed to have performed the commandment of the LORD (15:13). Then he blamed the people for sparing some of the animals (15:15, 21). He further claimed he had obeyed the voice of the LORD by bringing Agag back (15:20). When Samuel exposed Saul's disobedience as rebellion against the LORD, Saul finally admitted, "I have sinned" (15:24, 30). However, Samuel left Saul with no assurance of forgiveness (15:26). One lesson from this is that one sin can change the entire course of life for a man, his family and his nation! Read verse 18 again.

If you ever even think about sinning (its a secret and no one else knows or is being hurt), confess and renounce the thought, claim forgiveness through the blood of Jesus and put far away everything that might tempt you again. Sin's wages are dreadful! "Be sure your sin will find you out" (Nu 32:23).

While this chapter records the true account of Saul's sin by seeking guidance from a woman with a familiar spirit (a witch), we must reject all forms of communication with the devil (palm reader, sorcerer, wizard, voodoo, soothsayer, black magic, Ouija Board, etc). The LORD condemned all such to be put to death in Israel: Ex 22:18; Lev 19:31; 20:27; Deut 18:10.

HELP:

1. Achish made David the keeper of his head forever (v 2). Probably meaning his personal bodyguard, especially in battle.
2. He had put away those that had familiar spirits and were wizards (v 3).
3. A woman which hath a familiar spirit (v 7).
4. Saul swore by the LORD that no punishment would happen to her (v 10).
5. Samuel (v 14).