

## 1 Samuel Lesson 50 Saul and The Medium at Endor Part One

- The connection between our obedience and our relationship to God
- God opposes the proud and exalts the humble
- Despite human evil, God is working out His purposes in history
- Kingship in Israel and God's plan to one day raise up an anointed divine king

### **Background:**

**"divination":** divination involves a variety of methods to determine the will of the gods and to predict the future.

**"mediums and spiritists":** the practitioners of spiritism and sorcery are condemned in Old Testament law (Deuteronomy 18: 9-22) because of their association with Canaanite religion and because their art attempted to circumvent Yahweh by seeking knowledge and power from "spirits". In the practice of Canaanite religion, spiritists and mediums would often conjure up ancestral spirits to speak to the living about the future.

### **Key Word:**

**inquire: Strong's H7592 " shaal"** ask, beg, consult. It is often used in the context of consulting a deity.

### **Read 1 Samuel 28:1-8 and Proverbs 1:24-33**

The Philistines were assembling for war with Israel and David has been assigned to the position of bodyguard to the Philistine king, Achish. David found himself in a difficult situation. As the king's body guard he would most likely have to fight against Saul.

1. According to 1 Samuel 28:3, who was dead and buried and what had Saul banned in the land of Israel? What Old Testament commands in Deuteronomy 18:9 -14 and Leviticus 19:31 was Saul obeying?

**Application:** As Christians we are to stay away from the occult. What are some ways people can "dabble in the occult " today? By doing so which of the 10 commandments are they breaking? See Exodus 20:1-6. According to Leviticus 20:6 what does God say will be the consequence for his people of participating in occult practices?

2. In 1 Samuel 28:5-6 what was Saul's reaction when he saw the camp of the Philistines and what did he do in response to that reaction?

3. The Lord did not answer Saul. What insight can you get from Proverbs 1:24-33 as to why? Give specific instances from Saul's life that correspond to the Proverbs passage.

**Application:** What warnings and what comfort do you get personally from the Proverbs passage? What stands out to you in that passage and why?

4. According to 28:7-8 what did Saul do when God did not answer him? What did this action reveal about Saul's character? According to 1 Chronicles 10:13 what was the consequence of both Saul's previous disobedience and this act of consulting a medium? What does this reveal about the seriousness of this sin?

