



I Samuel

Part #22 –

Saul – Hour of Desperation

Desperate, afraid and trembling – Who are you going to call?

Paul Idusogie

Senior Pastor, HELON House



Introduction

Key Scriptures

- And David said in his heart, I shall now perish one day by the hand of Saul: *there is* nothing better for me than that I should speedily escape into the land of the Philistines; and Saul shall despair of me, to seek me any more in any coast of Israel: so shall I escape out of his hand. – 1 Samuel 27:1
- And David said unto Achish, If I have now found grace in thine eyes, let them give me a place in some town in the country, that I may dwell there: for why should thy servant dwell in the royal city with thee? . – 1 Samuel 27:5
- Then Achish gave him Ziklag that day: wherefore Ziklag pertaineth unto the kings of Judah unto this day. – 1 Samuel 27:6



Introduction – Cont'd

Key Scriptures

- 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. – 1 Samuel 28:1
- Now 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. – 1 Samuel 28:3
- And the Philistines gathered themselves together, and came and pitched in Shunem: and Saul gathered all Israel together, and they pitched in Gilboa. And when Saul saw the host of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart greatly trembled. – 1 Samuel 28:4,5



Introduction – Cont'd

Key Scriptures

- And when Saul enquired of the LORD, the LORD answered him not, neither by dreams, nor by Urim, nor by prophets. – 1 Samuel 28:6
- Then 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. – 1 Samuel 28:7
- And 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? – 1 Samuel 28:9



Introduction – Cont'd

Key Scriptures

- And 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. – 1 Samuel 28:15
- 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: – 1 Samuel 28:17
- 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. – 1 Samuel 28:18



Introduction – Cont'd

Key Scriptures

- And Asa in the thirty and ninth year of his reign was diseased in his feet, until his disease *was exceeding great*: yet in his disease he sought not to the LORD, but to the physicians. – 2 Chronicles 16:12
- And had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse, – Mark 5:26; Luke 8:43
- And ye shall know that I *am* the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your graves. – Ezekiel 37:12
- And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many. - Matthew 27:52,53



Keys

Desperate, afraid and trembling – Who are you going to call?

- David in the Philistine of Ziklag
- Answers of survival or craftiness - answering wisely in the adversary's territory
- The cost of disobedience
- Saul's desperate move
- Consulting the dead through familiar spirits
- Saul's hears about his successor from the dead
- Imminent death sentence



In this lesson

Desperate, afraid and trembling – Who are you going to call?

- Saul's quandary
- Sacrilege
- Spirit world - 101
- Society norms
- Saints cautioned



Saul's Quandary

And when Saul enquired of the LORD, the LORD answered him not, neither by dreams, nor by Urim, nor by prophets. – 1 Samuel 28:6

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. – 1 Samuel 28:18

Afraid, trembling and desperate

- This had been going on for a while
- Seeking the will of the Lord outside covenant – 1 Samuel 15:11
- In those days they discovered the direction and will of God through: - Dreams, Urim and by the Prophets



Sacrilege

Then 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. – 1 Samuel 28:7

Seeking answers through other means

- Necromancer – A person who uses witchcraft or sorcery, especially to reanimate dead people or to foretell the future by communicating with them:
- Familiar spirit – A demon supposedly attending and obeying a witch, often said to assume the form of an animal.
- Saul goes back on his law – 1 Samuel 28:3, 9
- Ahaziah – 1 Kings 1:2,3,16
- King Asa dies for placing his confidence in sorcerers – 2 Chronicles 16:12



Spirit world - 101

Then said the woman, Whom shall I bring up unto thee? And he said, Bring me up Samuel. – 1 Samuel 25:11

Who should I bring up unto thee?

- The Bibles always affirm the existence of the spiritual world
- Saul's last resort was to know the unknown
- Familiar spirits, and their works - Exodus 7:11,22; 8:19; 22:18; Acts 16:16
- Saul gets his answers which spells his doom
- Biblical examples – Acts 10:4; 27:23,24; Ezekiel 37:12; Matthew 27:52



Society Norms

Depart ye, depart ye, go ye out from thence, touch no unclean thing; go ye out of the midst of her; be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the LORD. – Isaiah 52:11

Fashions of this world

- It has become fashionable among youth to call themselves witches
- Consulting necromancers
- Consulting séance – A meeting at which people attempt to make contact with the dead, especially through the agency of a medium.



Saints Cautioned

But Jehoshaphat said, Is there not here a prophet of the LORD, that we may enquire of the LORD by him? And one of the king of Israel's servants answered and said, Here is Elisha the son of Shaphat, which poured water on the hands of Elijah. – 2 Kings 3:11

Saints cautioned

- Wise unto that which is good and simple concerning evil – Romans 16:19
- We are told to seek the Lord while he may be found; – Isaiah 55:6
- David made a choice to inquire of the LORD – Psalms 27:4
- The Lord thy God in the midst of you is might – Zephaniah 3:17
- Don't turn aside to serve other gods – Deuteronomy 31:20



Summary

Ziglag – Home of David and his men burnt down, wives and children taken captive



Next Week

Bootcamp Continues! – David in preparation in the classroom of the wilderness continues