



Lesson 77

THE DEATH OF SAUL

Story Elements

- **Text:** 1 Samuel 28:3-25; 31:1-13
- **Setting:** approx. 1020 B.C.
- **Main Characters:** God, Saul, Samuel, and a witch
- **Plot:** Saul, desperate for spiritual guidance, consults with a witch shortly before his tragic death.
- **Key word(s):** “_____” (28:5, 20)
- **Climax:** “*1 Samuel 28:11 Then said the woman, Whom shall I bring up unto thee? And he said, Bring me up Samuel.*”

The Witch at Endor (28:3-25)

1. (vv 3-6) Once again, the armies of Israel and the Philistines gathered to do battle. The _____ Saul sought guidance from the LORD, but no answer was received. (28:6)
2. Deprived of godly spiritual guidance, Saul decided to disobey the Law of Moses (Deu. 18:11) by seeking the services of a _____.
 - a. Under his leadership, Saul had driven almost all the mediums and _____ (“those that had familiar spirits, and the wizards” - KJV) out of Israel. Therefore, he used a disguise to visit the witch at Endor.
3. (vv 7-11) Desperate for spiritual guidance, Saul asked the witch to “bring up” _____.
4. (v 12) The witch's startled reaction to the appearance of Samuel shows two things:
 - a. She was _____ to conjure the dead in this fashion.
 - b. The LORD providentially _____ Samuel to appear and converse with Saul.
5. (vv 13-14) When Saul asked the witch what she saw, she said, “I saw gods ascending out of the earth.” The word translated *gods* (Hebrew: *Elohim*) is a general word with various meanings that are determined by context. In this instance, it is used to refer to a spiritual being – Samuel’s _____.
6. (vv 15-19) Samuel did not have good news for Saul. He told Saul that he and his _____ would die in battle against the Philistines.
7. (vv 20-25) Saul passed out from a combination of shock and lack of nourishment. The witch served and fed Saul and his men, probably out of a desire to part ways on _____.

The Death of Saul (31:1-13)

8. (vv 1-2) At Mt. _____, the battle with the Philistines ensued, and true to Samuel's word Israel was losing and Saul's sons had fallen in battle.

