

## **The Medium of Endor**

1 Samuel 28:3-25

by Don Falkos

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Saul disguised himself and went to Endor to consult a medium. He said to her, "I need to talk to a man who has died. Call up his spirit."

But the woman said, "You must know that King Saul has outlawed the consulting of the spirits of the dead. Is this some sort of trap? Are you trying to get me killed?"

Saul promised, "As surely as the Lord lives, you will not be punished for doing this."

"Well, whose spirit do you want me to call up?"

"Call up Samuel."

When the woman saw Samuel, she screamed and said, "You have deceived me! You are Saul!"

"Don't be afraid!" he said, "Just tell me what you see."

"I see a spirit coming up from the ground – an old man wearing a robe."

Saul knew it was Samuel and bowed low to the ground.

Samuel asked, "Why have you disturbed me?"

Saul replied, "I'm in trouble. The Philistines have come against me with a massive army, and God has turned away from me. So I've called on you to tell me what to do."

Samuel said, "It's no use asking me. There's nothing I can tell you. The Lord has left you and is now your enemy. The Lord has torn the kingdom from you and given it to your rival, David. Tomorrow the Lord will give the Philistines victory over the army of Israel. Tomorrow you and your sons will be here with me."

Saul immediately fell full length on the ground, paralyzed with fear. He was also faint with hunger; he hadn't eaten anything all day and all night. The woman persuaded him to eat. When he had finished he got up and went out into the night.