

Israel in Danger: The Reign of King Saul

Part II

The First King of Israel

The Emergence of King Saul

- ▶ After Samuel had wrongly turned the judging role over to his sons, corruption was rampant.
- ▶ The Israelites wrongly thought having a king would solve their corruption issues.
- ▶ Samuel warned the Israelites what would happen if they had a king.
- ▶ YHWH choose Saul as their first king.

The Leadership Aspects of King Saul

- ▶ Saul was tall and handsome.
- ▶ Saul appeared to be obedient to commands from YHWH.
- ▶ Saul appeared to be humble.
- ▶ Saul was filled with the Holy Ruach (Spirit) and had prophesied.
- ▶ He had command presence. Though when he hewed a yoke of oxen to make his point, one would have to be concerned about his management style. It would be a sign of things to come.

Saul Wars with the Philistines

1. Saul reigned one year; and when he had reigned two years over Israel,
2. Saul chose him three thousand men of Israel; whereof two thousand were with Saul in Michmash and in mount Bethel, and a thousand were with Jonathan in Gibeah of Benjamin: and the rest of the people he sent every man to his tent.
3. And Jonathan smote the garrison of the Philistines that was in Geba, and the Philistines heard of it. And Saul blew the trumpet throughout all the land, saying, Let the Hebrews hear.
4. And all Israel heard say that Saul had smitten a garrison of the Philistines, and that Israel also was had in abomination with the Philistines. And the people were called together after Saul to Gilgal. (I Samuel 13:1-4)
 - ▶ Saul's son Jonathan smote a garrison of Philistines in Geba.
 - ▶ It must be asked, did Jonathan get authorization to attack this garrison?

Saul Wars with the Philistines

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5. And the Philistines gathered themselves together to fight with Israel, thirty thousand chariots, and six thousand horsemen, and people as the sand which is on the seashore in multitude: and they came up, and pitched in Michmash, eastward from Beth-aven.
6. When the men of Israel saw that they were in a strait, (for the people were distressed,) then the people did hide themselves in caves, and in thickets, and in rocks, and in high places, and in pits.
7. And some of the Hebrews went over Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead. As for Saul, he was yet in Gilgal, and all the people followed him trembling. (I Samuel 13:5-7)
 - ▶ While the Ammonites were a problem, the Philistines were a crisis for Israel.
 - ▶ Once again, King Saul would have to raise an army to deal with the problem.
 - ▶ They would also need the Blessing of Yah to complete this battle successfully.

The Sacrifice before the Battle

6

8. And he tarried seven days, according to the set time that Samuel had appointed: but Samuel came not to Gilgal; and the people were scattered from him.
9. And Saul said, Bring hither a burnt offering to me, and peace offerings. And he offered the burnt offering.
10. And it came to pass, that as soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt offering, behold, Samuel came; and Saul went out to meet him, that he might salute him.
11. And Samuel said, What hast thou done? And Saul said, Because I saw that the people were scattered from me, and that thou camest not within the days appointed, and that the Philistines gathered themselves together at Michmash;
12. Therefore said I, The Philistines will come down now upon me to Gilgal, and I have not made supplication unto YHWH: I forced myself therefore, and offered a burnt offering. (I Samuel 13:8-12)

The Sacrifice before the Battle

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13. And Samuel said to Saul, Thou hast done foolishly: thou hast not kept the commandment of YHWH thy Elohim, which he commanded thee: for now would YHWH have established thy kingdom upon Israel for ever.
14. But now thy kingdom shall not continue: YHWH hath sought him a man after his own heart, and YHWH hath commanded him to be captain over his people, because thou hast not kept that which YHWH commanded thee. (I Samuel 13:13-14)
- ▶ This was Saul's first major mistake... only a Priest, a descendant of Aaron can offer a sacrifice. (Leviticus 1:5-17)
 - ▶ The tribe of Benjamin lost the right to be the kingly tribe. That right would revert to the Tribe of Judah. (See Jacob's Prophecy in Genesis 49:10)
 - ▶ David was likely about ten years old when Samuel said this... Samuel and his priests would have plenty of time to teach David the Torah and have him write his own copy.

The Preparation for Battle

15. And Samuel arose, and got him up from Gilgal unto Gibeah of Benjamin. And Saul numbered the people that were present with him, about six hundred men.
16. And Saul, and Jonathan his son, and the people that were present with them, abode in Gibeah of Benjamin: but the Philistines encamped in Michmash.
17. And the spoilers came out of the camp of the Philistines in three companies: one company turned unto the way that leadeth to Ophrah, unto the land of Shual:
18. And another company turned the way to Beth-horon: and another company turned to the way of the border that looketh to the valley of Zeboim toward the wilderness. (I Samuel 13:15-18)
 - ▶ The Philistines were veteran warriors who knew how to fight a war.
 - ▶ They also broke into three companies to cause trouble in Israel.

Identification of a Weakness!

- 19. Now there was no smith found throughout all the land of Israel: for the Philistines said, Lest the Hebrews make them swords or spears:
- 20. But all the Israelites went down to the Philistines, to sharpen every man his share, and his coulter, and his axe, and his mattock.
- 21. Yet they had a file for the mattocks, and for the coulters, and for the forks, and for the axes, and to sharpen the goads. (I Samuel 13:19-21)

Identification of a Weakness!

10

22. So it came to pass in the day of battle, that there was neither sword nor spear found in the hand of any of the people that were with Saul and Jonathan: but with Saul and with Jonathan his son was there found.
23. And the garrison of the Philistines went out to the passage of Michmash. (I Samuel 13:22-23)
- ▶ A serious weakness identified here: there were no blacksmiths in Israel to do metal work.
 - ▶ However, it did not stop Jonathan from defeating the Philistines.

King Saul Builds His Army and Establishes his Kingdom

11

- 47. So, Saul took the kingdom over Israel, and fought against all his enemies on every side, against Moab, and against the children of Ammon, and against Edom, and against the kings of Zobah, and against the Philistines: and whithersoever he turned himself, he vexed them.
- 48. And he gathered a host, and smote the Amalekites, and delivered Israel out of the hands of them that spoiled them.
- 52. And there was sore war against the Philistines all the days of Saul: and when Saul saw any strong man, or any valiant man, he took him unto him.
(I Samuel 14:47-48, 52)

King Saul's Family and Leadership

- 49. Now the sons of Saul were Jonathan, and Ishui, and Melchi-shua: and the names of his two daughters were these; the name of the firstborn Merab, and the name of the younger Michal:
- 50. And the name of Saul's wife was Ahinoam, the daughter of Ahimaaz: and the name of the captain of his host was Abner, the son of Ner, Saul's uncle.
- 51. And Kish was the father of Saul; and Ner the father of Abner was the son of Abiel. (I Samuel 14:49-51)

King Saul is Commissioned by the Prophet Samuel to Destroy the Amalekites

13

1. Samuel also said unto Saul, YHWH sent me to anoint thee to be king over his people, over Israel: now therefore hearken thou unto the voice of the words of YHWH.
2. Thus saith YHWH of hosts, I remember that which Amalek did to Israel, how he laid wait for him in the way, when he came up from Egypt.
3. Now go and smite Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass. (I Samuel 15:1-3)

King Saul is Commissioned by the Prophet Samuel to Destroy the Amalekites

- ▶ Even though King Saul had already dealt with the Amalekites, Samuel in his prophetic status gives an order from YHWH that it is time to finally destroy the Amalekites!
- ▶ They have been a thorn in the side of the Israelites from the time of the Exodus.
- ▶ And YHWH said unto Moses, Write this for a memorial in a book, and rehearse it in the ears of Joshua: for I will utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven. (Exodus 17:14)
- ▶ King Saul was commanded to slay everyone including children and ALL the livestock.

King Saul is Commissioned to Destroy the Amalekites

15

4. And Saul gathered the people together, and numbered them in Telaim, two hundred thousand footmen, and ten thousand men of Judah.
5. And Saul came to a city of Amalek, and laid wait in the valley.
6. And Saul said unto the Kenites, Go, depart, get you down from among the Amalekites, lest I destroy you with them: for ye shewed kindness to all the children of Israel, when they came up out of Egypt. So the Kenites departed from among the Amalekites. (1 Samuel 15:4-6)

King Saul is Commissioned to Destroy the Amalekites

16

- ▶ King Saul does a General Draft of troops and gathers 210,000 men, more than enough to deal with the Amalekites.
- ▶ King Saul warns the Kenites to depart from the Amalekite cities.
 - ▶ One would have to wonder if this warning would tip off the Amalekites of an impending attack. Also, was he instructed to do this?
 - ▶ There is no accounting of this event in the Torah. All that can be seen is that Abram was given their land. (Genesis 15:19)
 - ▶ King Saul could have been referring to Judges 5:24, a line in the Song of Deborah and Barak which praises the wife of Heber the Kenite. She put a tent peg through the head of Sisera, the Canaanite Commander. (Judges 4:21)

King Saul is Commissioned to Destroy the Amalekites

17

7. And Saul smote the Amalekites from Havilah until thou comest to Shur, that is over against Egypt.
8. And he took Agag the king of the Amalekites alive, and utterly destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword.
9. But Saul and the people spared Agag, and the best of the sheep, and of the oxen, and of the fatlings, and the lambs, and all that was good, and would not utterly destroy them: but every thing that was vile and refuse, that they destroyed utterly. (I Samuel 15:7-9)
 - ▶ With 210,000 men, attacking and destroying Amalek was an easy task.
 - ▶ However, politics got the best of Saul... he had to pay the troops something? Didn't he?

King Saul is Commissioned to Destroy the Amalekites

18

10. Then came the word of YHWH unto Samuel, saying,
11. It repenteth me that I have set up Saul to be king: for he is turned back from following me, and hath not performed my commandments. And it grieved Samuel; and he cried unto YHWH all night.
12. And when Samuel rose early to meet Saul in the morning, it was told Samuel, saying, Saul came to Carmel, and, behold, he set him up a place, and is gone about, and passed on, and gone down to Gilgal. (I Samuel 15:10-12)
 - ▶ It wasn't long before King Saul was writing his own Torah.
 - ▶ Samuel felt responsible for setting up Saul as king.
 - ▶ Saul found respite in politics. Kings should not be concerned with politics. They should be above politics...

King Saul is Commissioned to Destroy the Amalekites

19

13. And Samuel came to Saul: and Saul said unto him, Blessed be thou of YHWH: I have performed the commandment of YHWH.
14. And Samuel said, What meaneth then this bleating of the sheep in mine ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?
15. And Saul said, They have brought them from the Amalekites: for the people spared the best of the sheep and of the oxen, to sacrifice unto YHWH thy Elohim; and the rest we have utterly destroyed. (I Samuel 15:13-15)
 - ▶ It did not take long for Samuel to see that King Saul was breaking the Torah. One of the first things YHWH told Israel was that they were to sacrifice their own cattle, sheep, and oxen. (*cf.* Exodus 20:24) It isn't a sacrifice unless you are giving up your own livestock!
 - ▶ Saul was told to kill everything!

King Saul is Commissioned to Destroy the Amalekites

20

16. Then Samuel said unto Saul, Stay, and I will tell thee what YHWH hath said to me this night. And he said unto him, Say on.
17. And Samuel said, When thou wast little in thine own sight, wast thou not made the head of the tribes of Israel, and YHWH anointed thee king over Israel?
18. And YHWH sent thee on a journey, and said, Go and utterly destroy the sinners the Amalekites, and fight against them until they be consumed.
19. Wherefore then didst thou not obey the voice of YHWH, but didst fly upon the spoil, and didst evil in the sight of YHWH? (I Samuel 15:16-19)
 - ▶ Samuel was obliged to give Saul a history lesson.
 - ▶ Samuel was not happy at all about what Saul was doing!

King Saul is Commissioned to Destroy the Amalekites

21

20. And Saul said unto Samuel, Yea, I have obeyed the voice of YHWH, and have gone the way which YHWH sent me, and have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and have utterly destroyed the Amalekites.
21. But the people took of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the chief of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice unto YHWH thy Elohim in Gilgal.
22. And Samuel said, Hath YHWH as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of YHWH? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.
23. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of YHWH, he hath also rejected thee from being king. (I Samuel 15:20-23)
 - ▶ Like many leaders in history, they try to turn the blame to someone or something else.
 - ▶ Samuel sees through Saul's games and confronts his sin... how will Saul respond.

King Saul is Commissioned to Destroy the Amalekites

22

24. And Saul said unto Samuel, I have sinned: for I have transgressed the commandment of YHWH, and thy words: because I feared the people, and obeyed their voice.
25. Now therefore, I pray thee, pardon my sin, and turn again with me, that I may worship YHWH.
26. And Samuel said unto Saul, I will not return with thee: for thou hast rejected the word of YHWH, and YHWH hath rejected thee from being king over Israel. (I Samuel 15:24-26)
 - ▶ It would have been wiser for Saul if he had just handed the crown over to Samuel and allowed him to select another king. Instead, he confessed his sin, but blamed his sin on the people he supposedly was ruling over.
 - ▶ Saul never understood the magnitude of the sin he had just committed. Even though he performed 90% of the tasks assigned him, the 10% left undone caused him to lose his kingdom. He would just make things worse...

King Saul is Commissioned to Destroy the Amalekites

23

30. Then he said, I have sinned: yet honour me now, I pray thee, before the elders of my people, and before Israel, and turn again with me, that I may worship YHWH thy Elohim.
31. So Samuel turned again after Saul; and Saul worshipped YHWH.
32. Then said Samuel, Bring ye hither to me Agag the king of the Amalekites. And Agag came unto him delicately. And Agag said, Surely the bitterness of death is past.
33. And Samuel said, As thy sword hath made women childless, so shall thy mother be childless among women. And Samuel hewed Agag in pieces before YHWH in Gilgal. (I Samuel 15:30-33)
 - ▶ Even though King Saul did worship YHWH at Gilgal, his choices were still consequential.
 - ▶ The Prophet Samuel was obliged to clean up Saul's mess. The biggest one being that King Agag was alive. Something that would haunt Israel later. (Esther 3:1)

The End of the Kingdom of Saul

24

- 34. Then Samuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his house to Gibeah of Saul.
- 35. And Samuel came no more to see Saul until the day of his death: nevertheless Samuel mourned for Saul: and YHWH repented that he had made Saul king over Israel. (I Samuel 15:34-35)
 - ▶ Both men went home and they never saw each other again, with two exceptions.
 - ▶ Samuel would never go to visit King Saul again.

King Saul is Tormented by an Evil Spirit

25

14. But the Spirit of YHWH departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from YHWH troubled him.
15. And Saul's servants said unto him, Behold now, an evil spirit from Elohim troubleth thee.
16. Let our master now command thy servants, which are before thee, to seek out a man, who is a cunning player on an harp: and it shall come to pass, when the evil spirit from Elohim is upon thee, that he shall play with his hand, and thou shalt be well.
17. And Saul said unto his servants, Provide me now a man that can play well, and bring him to me. (I Samuel 16:14-17)

King Saul is Tormented by an Evil Spirit

26

- ▶ This has been a troubling part of the Bible for many Pentecostals and Charismatics. Some of their denominational leaders teach that a “Christian cannot have a demon.” But here, we see how Saul went from being filled with the Holy Spirit to being tormented by an evil ruach (spirit).
- ▶ Like many people who chose to violate the Laws of the Torah, the Holy Spirit departed from King Saul... which is an invitation for an evil spirit to take His place.
- ▶ Verse 15 states that the evil spirit was given leave to torment Saul by YHWH.
- ▶ The servants suggest to the king that they know someone who can play the harp well.
 - ▶ If he plays the right notes, the demon will leave until the music quits playing.
 - ▶ I have found that evil spirits and even the devil HATE the Torah.
 - ▶ When I turn the Torah to music, I often get the same result.

King Saul is Tormented by an Evil Spirit

27

18. Then answered one of the servants, and said, Behold, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, that is cunning in playing, and a mighty valiant man, and a man of war, and prudent in matters, and a comely person, and YHWH is with him.
19. Wherefore Saul sent messengers unto Jesse, and said, Send me David thy son, which is with the sheep.
20. And Jesse took an ass laden with bread, and a bottle of wine, and a kid, and sent them by David his son unto Saul. (I Samuel 16:18-20)
 - ▶ Even though David had been anointed king by Samuel, they kept that anointing secret. They knew that YHWH would work out a way.
 - ▶ David's musical abilities were brought to the attention of King Saul.

King Saul is Tormented by an Evil Spirit

28

21. And David came to Saul, and stood before him: and he loved him greatly; and he became his armourbearer.
 22. And Saul sent to Jesse, saying, Let David, I pray thee, stand before me; for he hath found favor in my sight.
 23. And it came to pass, when the evil spirit from Elohim was upon Saul, that David took an harp, and played with his hand: so Saul was refreshed, and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him. (I Samuel 16:21-23)
- ▶ King Saul saw the Holy Spirit in David that he was missing. He requests that Jesse allow David to serve in his court.
 - ▶ I believe that David had translated the Torah into music and played that music to King Saul, causing the evil spirit to leave for a time.

King Saul is Jealous of David's Abilities

29

6. And it came to pass as they came, when David was returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, that the women came out of all cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet king Saul, with tabrets, with joy, and with instruments of musick.
7. And the women answered one another as they played, and said, Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands.
8. And Saul was very wroth, and the saying displeased him; and he said, They have ascribed unto David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed but thousands: and what can he have more but the kingdom? (I Samuel 18:6-8)
 - ▶ After David slew Goliath, his name was great in Israel... greater than Saul's name.
 - ▶ Saul wrongly believed that David would take his kingdom... He was also aware of Samuel's prophecy about losing his kingdom.

King Saul is Jealous of David's Abilities – Tries to Kill Him

30

9. And Saul eyed David from that day and forward.
10. And it came to pass on the morrow, that the evil spirit from Elohim came upon Saul, and he prophesied in the midst of the house: and David played with his hand, as at other times: and there was a javelin in Saul's hand.
11. And Saul cast the javelin; for he said, I will smite David even to the wall with it. And David avoided out of his presence twice.
12. And Saul was afraid of David, because YHWH was with him, and was departed from Saul. (I Samuel 18:9-12)
 - The Prophet-Priest Samuel's prophecy continues to haunt Saul. He knows it is a matter of time before he loses his kingdom.

King Saul Promises David That He Can Marry His Oldest Daughter

31

17. And Saul said to David, Behold my elder daughter Merab, her will I give thee to wife: only be thou valiant for me, and fight YHWH's battles. For Saul said, Let not mine hand be upon him, but let the hand of the Philistines be upon him.
18. And David said unto Saul, Who am I? and what is my life, or my father's family in Israel, that I should be son in law to the king?
19. But it came to pass at the time when Merab Saul's daughter should have been given to David, that she was given unto Adriel the Meholathite to wife. (I Samuel 18:17-19)
 - Once again, Saul makes a promise and then breaks it. The scriptures do not give us a reason why Saul broke his promise... what we do know is that the priests were not happy with Saul's behavior in this matter.

King Saul Promises David That He Can Marry His Oldest Daughter

32

20. And Michal Saul's daughter loved David: and they told Saul, and the thing pleased him.
21. And Saul said, I will give him her, that she may be a snare to him, and that the hand of the Philistines may be against him. Wherefore Saul said to David, Thou shalt this day be my son-in-law in the one of the twain.
22. And Saul commanded his servants, saying, Commune with David secretly, and say, Behold, the king hath delight in thee, and all his servants love thee: now therefore be the king's son-in-law. (I Samuel 18:20-22)
 - ▶ Because Michal had a “crush” on David, King Saul decided to use that “crush” to lure David into a snare of sorts...
 - ▶ At this point, King Saul could NOT be trusted to do anything right.

King Saul Promises David That He Can Marry His Youngest Daughter

33

23. And Saul's servants spake those words in the ears of David. And David said, Seemeth it to you a light thing to be a king's son in law, seeing that I am a poor man, and lightly esteemed?
24. And the servants of Saul told him, saying, On this manner spake David.
25. And Saul said, Thus shall ye say to David, The king desireth not any dowry, but an hundred foreskins of the Philistines, to be avenged of the king's enemies. But Saul thought to make David fall by the hand of the Philistines.
26. And when his servants told David these words, it pleased David well to be the king's son in law: and the days were not expired. (I Samuel 18:23-26)
 - ▶ King Saul tried to give David a task he could never complete... In fact, he was hoping that the Philistines would kill him.
 - ▶ Samuel's prophecy continued to haunt Saul.

King Saul Promises David That He Can Marry His Youngest Daughter

34

27. Wherefore David arose and went, he and his men, and slew of the Philistines two hundred men; and David brought their foreskins, and they gave them in full tale to the king, that he might be the king's son in law. And Saul gave him Michal his daughter to wife.
28. And Saul saw and knew that YHWH was with David, and that Michal Saul's daughter loved him.
29. And Saul was yet the more afraid of David; and Saul became David's enemy continually.
30. Then the princes of the Philistines went forth: and it came to pass, after they went forth, that David behaved himself more wisely than all the servants of Saul; so that his name was much set by. (I Samuel 18:27-30)
 - ▶ Not only did David get 100 foreskins from the Philistines, he got 200! This was twice what King Saul asked for...
 - ▶ At this time, the Philistines respected David more than they respected Saul.

King Saul Puts a Contract Out on David

35

1. And Saul spake to Jonathan his son, and to all his servants, that they should kill David.
 2. But Jonathan Saul's son delighted much in David: and Jonathan told David, saying, Saul my father seeketh to kill thee: now therefore, I pray thee, take heed to thyself until the morning, and abide in a secret place, and hide thyself:
 3. And I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where thou art, and I will commune with my father of thee; and what I see, that I will tell thee. (I Samuel 19:1-3)
- ▶ King Saul wanted David dead... He knew the time of his judgment was close.
 - ▶ He figured the only way he was going to remain king is if he could get ride of David.
 - ▶ Jonathan was beginning to realize that his father was insane and colluded with David.

Jonathan Convinces His Father

36

4. And Jonathan spake good of David unto Saul his father, and said unto him, Let not the king sin against his servant, against David; because he hath not sinned against thee, and because his works have been to theeward very good:
5. For he did put his life in his hand, and slew the Philistine, and YHWH wrought a great salvation for all Israel: thou sawest it, and didst rejoice: wherefore then wilt thou sin against innocent blood, to slay David without a cause?
6. And Saul hearkened unto the voice of Jonathan: and Saul sware, As YHWH liveth, he shall not be slain.
7. And Jonathan called David, and Jonathan shewed him all those things. And Jonathan brought David to Saul, and he was in his presence, as in times past. (I Samuel 19:4-7)

Jonathan Convinces His Father

37

8. And there was war again: and David went out, and fought with the Philistines, and slew them with a great slaughter; and they fled from him.
9. And the evil spirit from YHWH was upon Saul, as he sat in his house with his javelin in his hand: and David played with his hand.
10. And Saul sought to smite David even to the wall with the javelin; but he slipped away out of Saul's presence, and he smote the javelin into the wall: and David fled, and escaped that night. (I Samuel 19:8-10)
 - ▶ The evil spirit was getting more power over Saul. For the second time, he tried to kill David. David just slipped away.
 - ▶ It was getting to the point where the insanity of Saul was overtaking him.

Saul Tries to Kill David Again...

38

8. And there was war again: and David went out, and fought with the Philistines, and slew them with a great slaughter; and they fled from him.
9. And the evil spirit from YHWH was upon Saul, as he sat in his house with his javelin in his hand: and David played with his hand.
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 - ▶ The evil spirit was getting more power over Saul. For the second time, he tried to kill David. David just slipped away.
 - ▶ It was getting to the point where the insanity of Saul was overtaking him.

Saul Tries to Kill David Again...

39

11. Saul also sent messengers unto David's house, to watch him, and to slay him in the morning: and Michal David's wife told him, saying, If thou save not thy life to night, to morrow thou shalt be slain.
12. So Michal let David down through a window: and he went, and fled, and escaped.
13. And Michal took an image, and laid it in the bed, and put a pillow of goats' hair for his bolster, and covered it with a cloth.
14. And when Saul sent messengers to take David, she said, He is sick. (I Samuel 19:11-14)
 - This time, Saul's daughter and David's wife hears of the plot and protects David.

Saul's Attempt is Averted Again...

40

15. And Saul sent the messengers again to see David, saying, Bring him up to me in the bed, that I may slay him.
16. And when the messengers were come in, behold, there was an image in the bed, with a pillow of goats' hair for his bolster.
17. And Saul said unto Michal, Why hast thou deceived me so, and sent away mine enemy, that he is escaped? And Michal answered Saul, He said unto me, Let me go; why should I kill thee? (I Samuel 19:15-17)

Saul's Attempt is Averted Again...

41

18. So David fled, and escaped, and came to Samuel to Ramah, and told him all that Saul had done to him. And he and Samuel went and dwelt in Naioth.
19. And it was told Saul, saying, Behold, David is at Naioth in Ramah.
20. And Saul sent messengers to take David: and when they saw the company of the prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing as appointed over them, the Spirit of Elohim was upon the messengers of Saul, and they also prophesied.
21. And when it was told Saul, he sent other messengers, and they prophesied likewise. And Saul sent messengers again the third time, and they prophesied also. (I Samuel 19:18-21)
 - ▶ David flees to the home of Samuel. He tells Samuel everything that has happened.
 - ▶ When Saul sends his servants to get rid of David, the prophets get the servants and they prophesied.

David visits Samuel, Saul's Servants Fail

42

18. So David fled, and escaped, and came to Samuel to Ramah, and told him all that Saul had done to him. And he and Samuel went and dwelt in Naioth.
19. And it was told Saul, saying, Behold, David is at Naioth in Ramah.
20. And Saul sent messengers to take David: and when they saw the company of the prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing as appointed over them, the Spirit of Elohim was upon the messengers of Saul, and they also prophesied.
21. And when it was told Saul, he sent other messengers, and they prophesied likewise. And Saul sent messengers again the third time, and they prophesied also. (I Samuel 19:18-21)
 - ▶ David flees to the home of Samuel. He tells Samuel everything that has happened.
 - ▶ When Saul sends his servants to get rid of David, the prophets get the servants and they prophesied.

King Saul Prophecies Again

43

- 22. Then went he also to Ramah, and came to a great well that is in Sechu: and he asked and said, Where are Samuel and David? And one said, Behold, they be at Naioth in Ramah.
- 23. And he went thither to Naioth in Ramah: and the Spirit of Elohim was upon him also, and he went on, and prophesied, until he came to Naioth in Ramah.
- 24. And he stripped off his clothes also, and prophesied before Samuel in like manner, and lay down naked all that day and all that night. Wherefore they say, Is Saul also among the prophets? (I Samuel 19:22-24)
 - ▶ Apparently, King Saul thought, “If you want something done right, you have to do it yourself!”
 - ▶ However, the Prophet Samuel and the prophets caused Saul to prophesy again!

The Philistines Again War with Israel

44

- 22. 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.
- 23. And the Philistines gathered themselves together, and came and pitched in Shunem: and Saul gathered all Israel together, and they pitched in Gilboa.
- 24. And when Saul saw the host of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart greatly trembled. (1 Samuel 28:3-5)
 - King Saul now realized that he was in trouble...

The Philistines Again War with Israel

45

6. And when Saul inquired of YHWH, YHWH answered him not, neither by dreams nor by Urim, nor by prophets.
7. Then said Saul unto his servants, Seek me a woman that hath a familiar spirit, that I may go to her, and inquire of her. And his servants said to him, Behold, there is a woman that hath a familiar spirit at Endor.
8. And Saul disguised himself, and put on other raiment, and he went, and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night: and he said, I pray thee, divine unto me by the familiar spirit, and bring me him up, whom I shall name unto thee. (I Samuel 28:6-8)
 - ▶ Now that Samuel was dead, apparently the company of prophets was broken up as well.
 - ▶ When King Saul enquired of YHWH, he got no answers because he was wicked in the sight of YHWH.

King Saul Needs a Prophecy!

46

6. And when Saul inquired of YHWH, YHWH answered him not, neither by dreams nor by Urim, nor by prophets.
7. Then said Saul unto his servants, Seek me a woman that hath a familiar spirit, that I may go to her, and inquire of her. And his servants said to him, Behold, there is a woman that hath a familiar spirit at Endor.
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 - ▶ Now that Samuel was dead, apparently the company of prophets was broken up as well.
 - ▶ When King Saul enquired of YHWH, he got no answers because he was wicked in the sight of YHWH.

King Saul Consults a Necromancer

47

9. 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?
10. And Saul sware to her by YHWH, saying, As YHWH liveth, there shall no punishment happen to thee for this thing.
11. Then said the woman, Whom shall I bring up unto thee? And he said, Bring me up Samuel.
12. And when the woman saw Samuel, she cried with a loud voice: and the woman spake to Saul, saying, Why hast thou deceived me? for thou art Saul. (I Samuel 28:9-12)
 - ▶ King Saul, in desperate straits, goes to a Necromancer to get a word.
 - ▶ King Saul has her call up Samuel. When Samuel comes, she realizes that she is dealing with Saul.

The Necromancer Calls Samuel

48

13. And the king said unto her, Be not afraid: for what sawest thou? And the woman said unto Saul, I saw Elohim ascending out of the earth.
14. And he said unto her, What form is he of? And she said, An old man cometh up; and he is covered with a mantle. And Saul perceived that it was Samuel, and he stooped with his face to the ground, and bowed himself.
15. 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 Elohim 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.” (I Samuel 28:13-15)

Samuel Gives His Last Prophecy

49

16. Then said Samuel, Wherefore then dost thou ask of me, seeing YHWH is departed from thee, and is become thine enemy?
17. And YHWH hath done to him, as he spake by me: for YHWH hath rent the kingdom out of thine hand, and given it to thy neighbour, even to David:
18. Because thou obeyedst not the voice of YHWH, nor executedst his fierce wrath upon Amalek, therefore hath YHWH done this thing unto thee this day. (Exodus 17:14)
19. Moreover YHWH will also deliver Israel with thee into the hand of the Philistines: and to morrow shalt thou and thy sons be with me: YHWH also shall deliver the host of Israel into the hand of the Philistines. (I Samuel 28:16-19)
 - ▶ Samuel reminds King Saul of what he had prophesied previously.
 - ▶ Samuel prophesies the end of King Saul and his kingdom...

King Saul Now Realizes It is the End

50

20. Then Saul fell straightway all along on the earth, and was sore afraid, because of the words of Samuel: and there was no strength in him; for he had eaten no bread all the day, nor all the night.
21. And the woman came unto Saul, and saw that he was sore troubled, and said unto him, Behold, thine handmaid hath obeyed thy voice, and I have put my life in my hand, and have hearkened unto thy words which thou spakest unto me.
22. Now therefore, I pray thee, hearken thou also unto the voice of thine handmaid, and let me set a morsel of bread before thee; and eat, that thou mayest have strength, when thou goest on thy way. (I Samuel 28:20-22)

King Saul Finally Does Have Something to Eat

51

- 23. But he refused, and said, I will not eat. But his servants, together with the woman, compelled him; and he hearkened unto their voice. So he arose from the earth, and sat upon the bed.
- 24. And the woman had a fat calf in the house; and she hasted, and killed it, and took flour, and kneaded it, and did bake unleavened bread thereof:
- 25. And she brought it before Saul, and before his servants; and they did eat. Then they rose up, and went away that night. (I Samuel 28:23-25)

King Saul's Last Battle

52

1. Now the Philistines fought against Israel: and the men of Israel fled from before the Philistines, and fell down slain in mount Gilboa.
2. And the Philistines followed hard upon Saul and upon his sons; and the Philistines slew Jonathan, and Abinadab, and Malchi-shua, Saul's sons.
3. And the battle went sore against Saul, and the archers hit him; and he was sore wounded of the archers. (I Samuel 31:1-3)

King Saul's Last Battle

53

4. Then said Saul unto his armourbearer, Draw thy sword, and thrust me through therewith; lest these uncircumcised come and thrust me through, and abuse me. But his armourbearer would not; for he was sore afraid. Therefore Saul took a sword, and fell upon it.
5. And when his armourbearer saw that Saul was dead, he fell likewise upon his sword, and died with him.
6. So Saul died, and his three sons, and his armourbearer, and all his men, that same day together. (I Samuel 31:4-6)

The Kingdom of Israel is Shredded

54

7. And when the men of Israel that were on the other side of the valley, and they that were on the other side Jordan, saw that the men of Israel fled, and that Saul and his sons were dead, they forsook the cities, and fled; and the Philistines came and dwelt in them.
8. And it came to pass on the morrow, when the Philistines came to strip the slain, that they found Saul and his three sons fallen in mount Gilboa.
9. And they cut off his head, and stripped off his armor, and sent into the land of the Philistines round about, to publish it in the house of their idols, and among the people.
 - ▶ This was in revenge for what David did with Goliath's head.
 - ▶ Even the Amorites (Philistines) were unsure whether or not that Saul was a *Nephilim*?
10. And they put his armor in the house of Ashtaroth: and they fastened his body to the wall of Beth-shan. (I Samuel 31:7-10)

The End of King Saul

55

11. And when the inhabitants of Jabesh-gilead heard of that which the Philistines had done to Saul;
12. All the valiant men arose, and went all night, and took the body of Saul and the bodies of his sons from the wall of Beth-shan, and came to Jabesh, and burnt them there.
13. And they took their bones, and buried them under a tree at Jabesh, and fasted seven days. (I Samuel 31:11-13)
 - When you touch a dead body, you are unclean for seven days. Many Israelites also fasted during that time.