

**Series:** 1 Samuel: Harp and Spear XIV

**Text:** 1 Samuel 27:1-28:25

**HI: The Lord's word stands.**

**Title:** *Enough Said*

**Hook:** "Enough said"

**Date:** 4.14.24

**Purpose:** To call the listeners to put their faith in the enduring word of God.

**FCF:** Like David and Saul, despair stalks us. But God's grace is poured out through his word, which is a sure foundation in an insecure world.

**COR:** We are spiritual beings in a materialistic world. We try to rationalize the spiritual away, but there is no escaping it. In this scene, we see the contradictory reality of a man who wants the Lord's direction without any communion.

**Witness of Christ [WC\*]:** [Longitudinal Themes] "Enduring Word" + Hebrews 1:1ff  
In Christ, God's kingdom is established and his enemies judged.

**Apologetic:** Objection: the spiritualistic nature to this text. Answer: we cannot deny the spiritual. We know, instinctually, that the materialistic world is not all there is. Reason, beauty, objective morality—all of these speak to the fact that all of this is not accidental or chance. We are spiritual beings, and we will worship. The question is, "What?"

**Text Tone:** Prophetic

**Preaching Voice:** Prophetic

**Form:** Inductive

**Call to Worship:** Psalm 18:30

**Benediction:** Revelation 22:3-5 (new heavens and new earth)

**Outline:**

**I. The search for Godless security will always come up empty. (27:1-28:2)**

A. David despairs of his life. (1-2)

B. David flees to his enemies. (3-5)

C. David deals in deceit. (6-11)

D. David is up against it. (12-28:2)

**II. There is no darker night than being dead to the living God. (28:3-25)**

A. Saul is up against it. (3-6)

B. Saul deceives and disguises. (7-10)

C. Saul has become the Lord's enemy. (11-19)

D. Saul despairs of his death. (20-25)

**Main Idea:**

Subject: David flees to his enemies and Saul consults a witch.

Complement: The Lord is the only true source of security and his word stands.

Exegetical Idea: As David flees to his enemies and Saul consults a witch, the Lord is clearly the only true source of security and his word stands.

Theological Idea: The Lord is only true source of security for his people and his word stands.

**Homiletical Idea: The Lord's word stands.**

**Introduction:**

[PIC 1] - Gandalf

[PIC 2] - Gandalf and Balrog

READ 1 Samuel 27:1-28:2

**27** Then David said in his heart, "Now I shall perish one day by the hand of Saul. There is nothing better for me than that I should escape to the land of the Philistines. Then Saul will despair of seeking me any longer within the borders of Israel, and I shall escape out of his hand." <sup>2</sup>So David arose and went over, he and the six hundred men who were with him, to Achish the son of Maach, king of Gath. <sup>3</sup>And David lived with Achish at Gath, he and his men, every man with his household, and David with his two wives, Ahinoam of Jezreel, and Abigail of Carmel, Nabal's widow. <sup>4</sup>And when it was told Saul that David had fled to Gath, he no longer sought him.

<sup>5</sup>Then David said to Achish, "If I have found favor in your eyes, let a place be given me in one of the country towns, that I may dwell there. For why should your servant dwell in the royal city with you?" <sup>6</sup>So that day Achish gave him Ziklag. Therefore Ziklag has belonged to the kings of Judah to this day. <sup>7</sup>And the number of the days that David lived in the country of the Philistines was a year and four months.

<sup>8</sup>Now David and his men went up and made raids against the Geshurites, the Girzites, and the Amalekites, for these were the inhabitants of the land from of old, as far as Shur, to the land of Egypt. <sup>9</sup>And David would strike the land and would leave neither man nor woman alive, but would take away the sheep, the oxen, the donkeys, the camels, and the garments, and come back to Achish.

<sup>10</sup> When Achish asked, “Where have you made a raid today?” David would say, “Against the Negeb of Judah,” or, “Against the Negeb of the Jerahmeelites,” or, “Against the Negeb of the Kenites.” <sup>11</sup> And David would leave neither man nor woman alive to bring news to Gath, thinking, “lest they should tell about us and say, ‘So David has done.’ ” Such was his custom all the while he lived in the country of the Philistines. <sup>12</sup> And Achish trusted David, thinking, “He has made himself an utter stench to his people Israel; therefore he shall always be my servant.”

**28** In those days the Philistines gathered their forces for war, to fight against Israel. And Achish said to David, “Understand that you and your men are to go out with me in the army.” <sup>2</sup> David said to Achish, “Very well, you shall know what your servant can do.” And Achish said to David, “Very well, I will make you my bodyguard for life.”

“Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God” (Psalm 42:5)

Eugene Peterson: “God rides the lame horse and writes straight with a crooked stick.”

“The Bible does not claim that God’s servants are dipped in Clorox so they will be infallibly sin-free and attractive to you. The living God does not have clean material to work with.” Dale Ralph Davis

“bodyguard for life”—literally “the guard of my head”

### **I. The search for worldly security will always come up empty. (27:1-28:2)**

READ 1 Samuel 28:3-25

<sup>3</sup> Now Samuel had died, and all Israel had mourned for him and buried him in Ramah, his own city. And Saul had put the mediums and the necromancers out of the land. <sup>4</sup> The Philistines assembled and came and encamped at Shunem. And Saul gathered all Israel, and they encamped at Gilboa. <sup>5</sup> When Saul saw the army of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart trembled greatly. <sup>6</sup> And when Saul

inquired of the Lord, the Lord did not answer him, either by dreams, or by Urim, or by prophets. <sup>7</sup> Then Saul said to his servants, "Seek out for me a woman who is a medium, that I may go to her and inquire of her." And his servants said to him, "Behold, there is a medium at En-dor."

<sup>8</sup> So Saul disguised himself and put on other garments and went, he and two men with him. And they came to the woman by night. And he said, "Divine for me by a spirit and bring up for me whomever I shall name to you." <sup>9</sup> The woman said to him, "Surely you know what Saul has done, how he has cut off the mediums and the necromancers from the land. Why then are you laying a trap for my life to bring about my death?" <sup>10</sup> But Saul swore to her by the Lord, "As the Lord lives, no punishment shall come upon you for this thing." <sup>11</sup> Then the woman said, "Whom shall I bring up for you?" He said, "Bring up Samuel for me." <sup>12</sup> When the woman saw Samuel, she cried out with a loud voice. And the woman said to Saul, "Why have you deceived me? You are Saul." <sup>13</sup> The king said to her, "Do not be afraid. What do you see?" And the woman said to Saul, "I see a god coming up out of the earth." <sup>14</sup> He said to her, "What is his appearance?" And she said, "An old man is coming up, and he is wrapped in a robe." And Saul knew that it was Samuel, and he bowed with his face to the ground and paid homage.

<sup>15</sup> Then Samuel said to Saul, "Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up?" Saul answered, "I am in great distress, for the Philistines are warring against me, and God has turned away from me and answers me no more, either by prophets or by dreams. Therefore I have summoned you to tell me what I shall do." <sup>16</sup> And Samuel said, "Why then do you ask me, since the Lord has turned from you and become your enemy? <sup>17</sup> The Lord has done to you as he spoke by me, for the Lord has torn the kingdom out of your hand and given it to your neighbor, David.

<sup>18</sup> Because you did not obey the voice of the Lord and did not carry out his fierce wrath against Amalek, therefore the Lord has done this thing to you this day.

<sup>19</sup> Moreover, the Lord will give Israel also with you into the hand of the Philistines, and tomorrow you and your sons shall be with me. The Lord will give the army of Israel also into the hand of the Philistines."

<sup>20</sup> Then Saul fell at once full length on the ground, filled with fear because of the words of Samuel. And there was no strength in him, for he had eaten nothing all day and all night. <sup>21</sup> And the woman came to Saul, and when she saw that he was terrified, she said to him, "Behold, your servant has obeyed you. I have taken my life in my hand and have listened to what you have said to me. <sup>22</sup> Now therefore, you also obey your servant. Let me set a morsel of bread before you; and eat, that

you may have strength when you go on your way.”<sup>23</sup> He refused and said, “I will not eat.” But his servants, together with the woman, urged him, and he listened to their words. So he arose from the earth and sat on the bed.<sup>24</sup> Now the woman had a fattened calf in the house, and she quickly killed it, and she took flour and kneaded it and baked unleavened bread of it,<sup>25</sup> and she put it before Saul and his servants, and they ate. Then they rose and went away that night.

### **HI: The Lord’s word stands.**

Deut 18:9-14: When you come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you, you shall not learn to follow the abominable practices of those nations.<sup>10</sup> There shall not be found among you anyone who burns his son or his daughter as an offering, anyone who practices divination or tells fortunes or interprets omens, or a sorcerer<sup>11</sup> or a charmer or a medium or a necromancer or one who inquires of the dead,<sup>12</sup> for whoever does these things is an abomination to the Lord. And because of these abominations the Lord your God is driving them out before you.<sup>13</sup> You shall be blameless before the Lord your God,<sup>14</sup> for these nations, which you are about to dispossess, listen to fortune-tellers and to diviners. But as for you, the Lord your God has not allowed you to do this.

John 6:35, 37

Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out.”

John 3:17-19: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.<sup>18</sup> Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.<sup>19</sup> And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil.

1 Samuel 15:26-29:<sup>26</sup> And Samuel said to Saul, “I will not return with you. For you have rejected the word of the Lord, and the Lord has rejected you from being king over Israel.”<sup>27</sup> As Samuel turned to go away, Saul seized the skirt of his robe, and it tore.<sup>28</sup> And Samuel said to him, “The Lord has torn the kingdom of Israel from you

this day and has given it to a neighbor of yours, who is better than you. <sup>29</sup> And also the Glory of Israel will not lie or have regret, for he is not a man, that he should have regret.”

## **II. There is no darker night than being dead to the living God. (28:3-25)**

“It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.” Hebrews 10:31

1 Chronicles 10:13-14: <sup>13</sup> So Saul died for his breach of faith. He broke faith with the Lord in that he did not keep the command of the Lord, and also consulted a medium, seeking guidance. <sup>14</sup> He did not seek guidance from the Lord. Therefore the Lord put him to death and turned the kingdom over to David the son of Jesse.

### **HI: The Lord's word stands.**

“<sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.” John 1:14

The writer of Hebrews connects us with Saul and David even more explicitly: Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, <sup>2</sup> but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. Hebrews 1:1-2