

8/30/09

1Sam. 26-28

David had spared the life of Saul, refusing to kill him in the cave, but Saul did not stop pursuing him.

After this David almost took vengeance on Nabal, fool, for insulting him by not being grateful for the protection David and his men offered them.

The intervention of Abigail, the wife of Nabal was used by God to turn David from committing his horrible evil of avenging himself.

God struck Nabal dead and then David took Abigail as his wife.

Now Saul's pursuit of David picks up again.

26:1-25 The sparing of Saul's life a second time by David.

26:1-4 The Ziphites inform Saul of David's whereabouts.

- 1) The Ziphites came to Saul at Gibeah, and told him David was hiding in the hill of Hachilah, opposite Jeshimon? vs. 1

* They had told Saul once before David was hiding in the Stronghold in the woods. 1Sam. 23:19

- 2) Saul went down to the Wilderness of Ziph with 3,000 chosen men of Israel, to seek David in the Wilderness of Ziph. vs. 2
- 3) Saul made his camp in the hill of Hachilah, opposite Jeshimon, by the road. vs. 3a-b
- 4) But David stayed in the wilderness, seeing Saul came after him into the wilderness. vs. 3c-d
- 5) So David sent out spies, confirming that Saul had indeed come. vs. 4

26:5-12 The intrusion into the camp of Saul.

- 1) David spied out the camp of Saul. vs. 5
 - a) David arrived to Saul's camp and observed the place they all laid. vs. 5a-d
 - b) David saw the people encamped all around Saul. vs. 5e-f
- 2) David asked two for volunteers to go with him into the camp. vs. 6
 - a) Ahimelech the Hittite and to Abishai the son of Zeruiah, brother of Joab.
 - b) Abishai said, "I will go down with you." He was the son of David's sister, his nephew. 1Chron. 2:16
- 3) David and Abishai entered the camp by night, as they were all asleep,

surrounding Saul for protection, with his spear stuck in the ground by his head. vs. 7

- 4) Abishai expressed to David that God had delivered Saul, his enemy into his hand that day, petitioning permission, needing only one strike on Saul. vs. 8
* Those who see this account as the same one in chapter 24, ignore the many differences recorded.
- 5) David would not allow it, declaring whoever stuck the LORD'S anointed, and be guiltless. vs. 9
- 6) David declared by and oath, God would take Saul's life, he would just die or he would fall in battle. vs. 10
- 7) David removed any thought of killing Saul, requesting to only take the spear and jug of water and depart. vs. 11
 - a) The spear representing death, the very one that was cast at him many times by Saul.
 - b) The jug of water representing life.
- 8) David took the spear, the jug of water and they left without being detected, because God had caused a deep sleep to fall on them. vs. 12
* The same word is used for Adam and Abraham. Gen. 2:21, 15:12

26:13-20 The charge and defense of David to Abner and Saul.

- 1) David providing safe distance between them, standing on a hill and called out to Abner. vs.13-14
 - a) David called out to the people and particularly to Abner. vs. 14a
 - b) David said, "Do you not answer, Abner?" Abner answered, "Who are you, calling out to the king?" vs. 14b-d
- 2) David charged Abner with failing to protect the king. vs. 15
- 3) David to Abner certain things. vs. 16
 - a) This thing he had done was not good. vs. 16a
 - b) By an oath to God he should die, for not guarding the master, the LORD'S anointed. vs. 16b-e
 - c) David provided the evidence in his hand, the king's spear and the jug of water that was by his head. vs. 16f-g
- 4) Saul responded to the voice of David. vs. 17-18
 - a) Saul had an emotional moment recognizing David's voice, and said, "Is that your voice, my son David?" And David said, "It is my voice, my lord, O king." vs. 17
 - b) David questioned Saul. vs. 18

- 1)) “Why does my lord thus pursue his servant?” vs. 18a-b
- 2)) “For what have I done, or what evil is in my hand?” vs. 18c-d
- 5) David made his defense before Saul. vs. 19-20
 - a) If God had directed Saul to pursue David, Saul should make an offering and God accept it. vs. 19a-d
 - b) If it was men, he cursed them, for they had caused him to be driven out of the land. as if to serve other gods. vs. 19e-i
 - * The common belief of the pagan, being driven from the regional god, not that David believed it but charging Saul with his evil.
 - c) David pleaded that Saul not be responsible for his death. vs. 20a-b
 - d) David made himself of insignificance and exhausted of running by the two metaphors of a flee and a partridge. vs. 20c-d

26:21-25 The confession of guilt by Saul.

- 1) Saul says all the right things. vs. 21
 - a) Saul is moved to confess but not genuinely, “I have sinned.” vs. 21a-b
 - b) Saul offers David to come back, “Return, my son David.” vs. 21c-d

- c) Saul promise to do no harm to David for sparing his life, “For I will harm you no more, because my life was precious in your eyes this day.” vs. 21e-f
- d) Saul gave a clear assessment of his life, “Indeed I have played the fool and erred exceedingly.” vs. 21g
 - * Having strayed abundantly, here again is to the account of Nabal “fool”.
- 2) David responded to Saul. vs. 22-24
 - a) David returned the king’s spear, allowing a young men to get it from him. vs. 22
 - b) David expressed in a form of prayer, that God repay each of them for their integrity, as he did not kill Saul, God’s anointed. vs. 23
 - * This entire chapter is saturated with the word and phrase “hand”.
 - c) David continues prayerfully that Saul valued his life in the eye of God, as Saul’s was in his eyes. vs. 24ab
 - d) David ends prayerfully that God protect him from all tribulations. vs. 24c
 - * David did not believe Saul at all, he know Saul was untrustworthy and evil!

- 3) Saul acknowledges David would succeed as king. vs. 25
 - a) He offered his blessing to David, calling him “my son”. vs. 25a-c
 - b) He affirmed David would prevail. vs. 25d
 - c) He and David went their own way. vs. 25e-f

27:1-12 The flight of David to Gath.

27:1-4 The flight of David to the Philistines to avoid Saul’s pursuit.

- 1) David got tired of running from Saul. vs. 1
 - a) He decided, not God, these are all his thoughts, evident in the previous chapter. 1Sam. 26:19
 - b) He failed to trust God to protect him.
 - c) He jeopardized everything.
- 2) David traveled with his six hundred men to Achish the son of Maach, king of Gath. vs. 2
- 3) David’s company was not small. vs. 3
 - a) David and his men. vs. 3a
 - * 600 men and one wife would be 1200.
 - b) The men’s families. vs. 3b
 - * Four children average would be 2400.

- c) David’s two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the Carmelitess, Nabal’s widow. vs. 3c-f
 - * The number could have been from 2400 to 5000.
- 4) Saul heard the news and stop pursuing David. vs. 4

27:5-9 The abode and the activities of David.

- 1) David acting in false humility expressed his unworthiness to lodge in the royal city, requesting a place in the country. vs. 5
 - * It was not uncommon for mercenaries to higher themselves out!
- 2) Achish gave him Ziklag, which belonged to the kings of Judah to that day. vs. 6
 - * About 13 miles southeast of Gath and northwest of Beersheba, assigned to Simeon. Josh. 15:31
- 3) The duration of time David spent in the country of the Philistines was one year and four months. vs. 7
- 4) David and his men were engaged in raids on the enemies of Israel. vs. 8
 - a) They raided the Geshurites. vs. 8a
 - b) They raid the Girzites. vs. 8b
 - c) They raided and the Amalekites. vs. 8c
 - * They were under the curse of God. 1Sam. 15:2-3

- d) They were located to the south, as you go to Shur, even as far as the land of Egypt. vs. 8d-g
- 5) David took no prisoners, killing all, taking only the booty, then returned to Achish. vs. 9

27:10-12 The deception of Achish by David.

- 1) When Achish enquired about the raid, David told him, he raided areas of Judah. vs. 10
 - a) The southern area of Judah.
 - b) The southern area of the Jerahmeelites.
 - c) The southern area of the Kenites.
- 2) David would spare no life, to remain undetected to Achish, the entire 16 months. vs. 11
- 3) Achish believed David and was convince he had made his people Israel utterly abhor him and be his servant forever. vs. 12

28:1-6 The fear of the Philistines by Saul led him to seek the occult.

28:1-6 The desperate condition of Saul when the Philistines waged war on Israel.

- * Some place the first two verses at the end of the previous chapter.

- 1) David was expected to go to war with the Philistines. vs. 1
- 2) David led Achish on and he made him one of his key bodyguards. vs. 2
 - * David had acted as a madman, fearing. 1Sam, 21:15
- 3) The death and burial of Samuel is tied to the expulsion of mediums by Saul. vs. 3
 - a) This confirms the record of his death. 1Sam. 25:1a-b
 - b) The loss of Samuel was great, expressed by wailing grief.
 - c) The interment was at his home city, Ramah and that it was Samuel, who God allowed to speak to Saul.
 - d) The word for mediums “ ‘owb”, is a necromancer, one who evokes the dead, through familiar spirits
 - 1)) A medium is a channel for a familiar spirit.
 - 2)) Familiar spirits are merely fallen angels, demons.
 - e) The word spiritiest “yidd@ oniy”, means a knower, one who has a familiar spirit, a wizard or soothsayer.
 - 1)) These individuals seek Satanic contact for guidance, direction or looking into the future.
 - 2)) No-one knows the future but God.
 - 3)) These familiar spirits have information of the past and present

and make attempts to guess the future and most times, they are very general predictions, not specific, like prophecy.

- 4) The two armies face off each other for warfare. vs. 4
 - a) The Philistines gathered together, and came and encamped at Shunem, 5 miles south of Mount Tabor and Gilboa, on the north edge of the plain of Migiddo. vs. 4a
 - * The city of Shumen “Shuwnem” means double resting place.
 - b) Saul gathered all Israel together, and they encamped at Gilboa. vs. 4b
 - 1)) The city of Gilboa “Gilboa” “ means swollen heap.
 - 2)) The city was located on a mountain ridge at the southeastern end of the plain of Jezreel.
 - 3)) This would be the place where Saul, Jonathan and his brother would be killed. 1Sam. 31
- 5) The sight of the army of the Philistines caused Saul to coward. vs. 5
 - a) The word saw “ra’ah” means to inspect and consider. vs. 5a
 - b) The word afraid “yare’ “ describes the mental anxiety, a dreadful awe. vs. 5b

- c) The word trembled “charad”, describes the physical reaction, to quake greatly. vs. 5c
 - * The word is used for Mount Sinai. Ex. 19:18
- 6) The seeking of God by Saul was met with silence. vs. 6
 - a) Saul inquired, but the LORD did not answer him. vs. 6a-b
 - 1)) Saul had been self-will.
 - 2)) Saul had been proud and intruded into the priesthood.
 - 3)) Saul had been disobedient to kill all the Amelekites.
 - 4)) Saul had been rejected by God.
 - 5)) The word enquired is a pun on his name Saul, ask,
 - b) Either by dreams or by Urim or by the prophets. vs. 6c
 - 1)) The method of dreams as Joseph.
 - 2)) Urim “ ‘Uwriym” means lights, it was one of the ways the mind of God was sought out by the priest, the other was Thummin “Tumiym”, meaning perfection.
 - * The two are believed to be stones in the pouch of the High Priest’s breastplate, to determine the will of God. Ex. 28:30, Num. 27:21
 - 3)) Prophet, indicates the person called by God, such as Samuel,

who was now dead and like the prophet Gad, who was seeking God for David. 1Sam. 22:5, 2Sam. 24:11

28:7-19 The great evil of Saul in seeking a medium.

- 1) Saul in his desperate situation crossed the line with God, commanding to seek out a medium. vs. 7a-c
 - * Mediums are not channels of God but of Satan.
- 2) Saul was assisted, rather than discouraged in his transgression. vs. 7d-f
 - a) The name En Dor “Eyn-Do’r” means fountain of Dor, 9-10 miles north of Gilboa but only 2-3 miles northeast of the Philistine camp.
 - 1)) The fear of Saul not knowing the outcome, outweighed his fear of being take by the enemy.
 - 2)) Mediums more often than not are women, they seem to be the one’s that are attracted and used in the occult.
 - 1)) The word occult comes from the things hidden and mysterious.
 - 2)) Deals with operations or events which seem to depend on human powers, that go beyond the five

senses, involving the demonic of fallen angels and drugs.

- 3) The meeting of Saul with the medium. vs. 8-10
 - a) Saul’s journey was deceptively and under the cover of night. vs. 8
 - b) Saul made his request for a séance, to call up the dead. vs. 8
 - * The word séance “ ‘owb” is the evoking of the spirit of the dead, necromancy.
 - c) The woman was a bit nervous, revealing the prohibition and questioning their intent. vs. 9
 - d) Saul under oath to guarantee her safety, which was blasphemous. vs. 10
 - * God was not with him, nor was he representing God!
- 4) The beginning of the séance sought out the person to be evoked. vs. 11
 - * Samuel the prophet.
- 5) The surprise during the séance was the she was shocked to see Samuel. vs. 12
 - a) She was use to familiar spirits of demons that impersonated people, not the real spirit of the dead person! God allowed the spirit of Samuel to come up!

- b) The woman necromancer tied Samuel and Saul together, knowing she had been deceived. vs. 12c-e
- 6) The séance continued. vs. 13-14
 - a) The necromancer was placated by Saul, “Do not be afraid.” vs. 13a-b
 - b. The necromancer was asked what she saw. vs. 13c
 - * Saul said, “What did you see?” vs. 13c
 - c) The woman saw a spirit ascending out of the earth.” vs. 13d-e
 - * The place of departed spirits, Sheol!
 - d) The necromancer was asked the form of the spirit. vs. 14
 - 1)) She said, “An old man is coming up, and he is covered with a mantle, the dress of Samuel the prophet.” vs. 14b-c
 - 3)) Saul perceiving it was Samuel, stooped with his face to the ground and bowed down.” vs. 14d-e
 - * The text make it clear, this was Samuel by the witness of the woman and Saul!
- 7) The reproof of Saul by Samuel. vs. 15a-b
 - a) The word disturbed “ragaz” means to agitate or perturb.
 - b) The phrase “bringing me up” refers to from Sheol, the netherworld of departed spirits, without

- distinguishing the godly from the ungodly.
- c) The distinction of a two-fold compartment was taught by Jesus. Lk. 16
- 8) The self-centered response was three-fold. vs. 15c-
 - a) His emotional state, “And Saul answered. vs. 15c-d
 - * Distressed “rsarar” means to make narrow, confused and anxiously stressed.
 - b) His spiritual state. vs. 15e-g
 - c) His mental state. vs. 15f
- 9) The rebuke of Saul by Samuel. vs. 16-18
 - a) For coming to him. vs. 16
 - b) For not accepting what God declared. vs. 17
 - c) For his disobedience to God. vs. 18
 - * Saul spared the king and others, in rebellion, which is as the sin of witchcraft. 1Sam. 15:22
- 10) The revelation to Saul by Samuel. vs. 19
 - * The greater proof it was Samuel is that only God knows the future, not Satan nor demons, Samuel prophecies!
 - a) The outcome of the battle. vs. 19a
 - 1)) Abishai wanted to kill Saul when he snuck into the camp of Saul but David told him not to touch God’s anointed, then. “David said

furthermore, “As the LORD lives, the LORD shall strike him, or his day shall come to die, or he shall go out to battle and perish.” 1Sam. 26:10

- 2)) This was God’s judgment on Saul and is recorded, “So Saul died for his unfaithfulness which he had committed against the LORD, because he did not keep the word of the LORD, and also because he consulted a medium for guidance.” 1Chron. 10:13
- b)) The death of Saul and his sons in the battle, “And tomorrow you and your sons will be with me.” vs. 19b
 - 1)) Jonathan and his two brothers, without doubt, in the place of comfort, with the people of faith.
 - 2)) Saul in the place torment, with the people who had rejected God.
- c) The defeat of the Israeli army, “The LORD will also deliver the army of Israel into the hand of the Philistines.” vs. 19c
 - * Leaders are responsible for the ills they bring on people and a nation!

28:20-25 The devastated condition of Saul knowing he would die in battle.

- 1) Saul was devastated hearing the prophecy by the man of God. vs. 20
 - a) Emotionally he became distraught, vs. 20a-b
 - * If Saul would of taken this position, in true humility and repentance before God, he would not of been judged but it was too late!
 - b) Physically he was exhausted. vs. 20c-d
 - * The fearful anxiety, the journey behind the enemy lines and his fatal end crushed him!
- 2) Saul was assisted by the women of mediums. vs. 21-23
 - a) The only help Saul had was from a witch of the occult, not God. vs. 21
 - b) The witch of En Dor offered Saul his last meal before death. vs. 22
 - c) The end of Saul’s life is marked by obeying and fellowship with the servant of the occult, rejecting God. vs. 23
- 3) Saul was nourished by the woman of mediums. vs. 24-25
 - a) The witch of En Dor was moved with compassion. vs. 24
 - * She appears to be more compassionate than God or Samuel but was a daughter of Satan and an enemy of God!

- b) The witch of En Dor served them their last meal on this earth. vs. 25
- 1)) Saul left with no hope!
 - 2)) Saul left knowing the judgment of God finally caught up with him!