

8/30/09

**Saul And The Witch of En Dor**  
**1Sam. 28:1-25**

As we look to our world around us, the events and practices that are being accepted today, you have to place the interest of the occult high on the list.

Often the Occult is presented as a search for God, the life hereafter or a search for man's hidden abilities beyond his five senses, all these are neither recent nor new.

1. The Bible tells us of the existence of God and Satan, as well as the void that man has in his heart and the need to fill that void.

2. Now there are only two possibilities, either I will be filled with God and the things of God or Satan and the things of Satan.

\* I am not saying that if you are not born-again, you are filled with Satan.

Jesus warned his disciples about the of false prophets and false Christs deceive many.

1. The reason being that iniquity would abound, love of many would wax cold. Matt. 24:11-12

2. But the first words out of His mouth were "Take heed that no man deceive you." Matt. 24:4

Saul having no guidance by God is ready to go into battle against the Philistines, so he sought guidance

through the occult, unfolding for us in three movements: 1Sam. 28:1-25

- I. The demoralized heart of Saul before the battle. vs. 1-6
- II. The desperate heart of Saul seeking a medium about the battle. vs. 7-14
- III. The depraved heart of Saul judged by God in the battle. vs. 15-25

**I. The demoralized heart of Saul before the battle. vs. 1-6**

A. The perilous setting for the battle. vs. 1-2

1. The anointed king, David, was going to be with the Philistines. vs. 1

a. The Philistines were preparing for war, "Now it happened in those days that the Philistines gathered their armies together for war, to fight with Israel." vs. 1a-b

b. The Philistine king of Gath was also preparing for war but David was living with him. vs. 1c-e

- 1) David was expected to go into battle with the Philistines against Israel, "And Achish said to David, "You assuredly know that you will go out with me to battle, you and your men." vs. 1c-e
- 2) David led Achish on and made him one of his key bodyguards, "And

- David said to Achish, “Surely you know what your servant can do.”  
 And Achish said to David,  
 “Therefore I will make you one of my chief guardians forever.” vs. 2
- c.** The way David arrived at this position was by not trusting God but leaning to his own understanding.
- 1) David went to Gath by deciding to flee to king Achish, in the land of the Philistines, to escape being pursued by Saul. 1Sam. 27:1-4
  - 2) David deceived Achish by false humility, requesting a city apart from the royal city, Ziklag was given, dwelling for a year and four months. 1Sam. 27:5-7
  - 3) David led raids against the Geshurites, the Girzites and the Amelekites, as far as the land of Egypt, destroying everyone to not be discovered . 1Sam. 27:8-11
  - 4) Achish believed David had made himself abhorrent to Israel and that he was now his servant forever. 1Sam. 27:12  
 \* Remember David had acted as a madman, fearing. 1Sam, 21:15

**B.** The purifying of the land of occultist. vs. 3

1. The period was at the death of Samuel, “Now Samuel had died, and all Israel had lamented for him and buried him in Ramah, in his own city.” vs. 3a-b
  - 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.
2. The person responsible for the expelling was Saul, “And Saul had put the mediums and the spiritists out of the land.” vs. 3c
  - a. 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.
  - b. 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 attempt to guess the future by

very general predictions, not specific, like prophecy.

**C.** The prospect of going to battle without God.  
vs. 4-6

- 1.** The two armies face off each other for warfare. vs. 4
  - a.** The Philistines gathered together and encamped at Shunem. vs. 4a
    - 1)** The city of Shumen “Shuwnem” means double resting place.
    - 2)** The city was located five miles south of Mount Tabor and Gilboa.
  - b.** The ex-king 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
- 2.** The affect on Saul, at the sight of the army of the Philistines caused him to coward. vs. 5
  - a.** When Saul saw the army of the Philistines.” vs. 5a
    - \* The word saw “ra’ah” means to inspect and consider.

- b.** He was afraid, and his heart trembled greatly. vs. 5b
  - 1)** The word afraid “yare’ “ describes the mental anxiety and means to stand in awe and be dreadful.
  - 2)** The word trembled “charad”, describes the physical reaction, to quake, used for Mount Sinai. Ex. 19:18
- 3.** The seeking of God by Saul was met with silence. vs. 6
  - a.** At the time Saul inquired of the LORD, 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

### **Illustration**

Jeremiah had to deal with those in the occult.

1. "The prophet who has a dream, let him tell a dream; And he who has My word, let him speak My word faithfully. What is the chaff to the wheat?" says the **LORD.**" Jer. 23:28
2. "Therefore do not listen to your prophets, your diviners, your dreamers, your soothsayers, or your sorcerers, who speak to you, saying, "You shall not serve the king of Babylon." Jer. 27:9

### **Application**

1. Sometimes Christians, rather than trusting God and seeking God, make their own decisions and several things can happen.
  - a. A believer can be at the wrong place, at the wrong time, like David, being where he should not be.
  - b. A believer can, by being where he should not be, involve himself in something that can destroy or ruin their life in the future

- with their wife, husband or family, like it could of happened to David.
- c. The believer needs to stay close to God and not try to protect himself by compromises that are rationalized.
    - \* Prayer and the word brings reality and stability, "Until I went into the sanctuary of God... Thus my heart was grieved, And I was vexed in my mind. I was so foolish and ignorant; I was like a beast before You. Nevertheless I am continually with You; You hold me by my right hand. You will guide me with Your counsel, And afterward receive me to glory. Whom have I in heaven but You? And there is none upon earth that I desire besides You. My flesh and my heart fail; But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. For indeed, those who are far from You shall perish; You have destroyed all those who desert You for harlotry. But it is good for me to draw near to God; I have put my trust in the Lord GOD, That I may declare all Your works." Ps. 73:17, 21-28
  2. The prohibitions by God for people to learn the occult abomination of the nations was clear.
    - a. "There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who

interprets omens, or a sorcerer, or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead. For all who do these things are an abomination to the LORD, and because of these abominations the LORD your God drives them out from before you. You shall be blameless before the LORD your God. For these nations which you will dispossess listened to soothsayers and diviners; but as for you, the LORD your God has not appointed such for you.” Deut. 18:10-14

b. Wizards, etc. Lev. 19:26, 31, 20:6, 27, Deut. 12:30-32

3. When God no longer speaks to a person, it is the most frightening things that can happen in life.

- a. God speaks to me through His word.
- b. God’s Holy Spirit convicts me of sin.
- c. God instills passion in my life.

\* “Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men. Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come.” Matt. 12:31-32

*The demoralized heart of Saul before the battle was his own fault!*

## II. The desperate heart of Saul sought a medium about the battle. vs. 7-14

A. The command of Saul to seek out a medium. vs. 7

1. Saul in his desperate situation crossed the line with God, “Then Saul said to his servants, “Find me a woman who is a medium, that I may go to her and inquire of her.” vs. 7a-c

a. Mediums are not channels of God but of Satan.

b. Mediums only know the past and the present in a limited way.

2. Saul was not discouraged but aided in his transgression, “And his servants said to him, “In fact, there is a woman who is a medium at En Dor.” vs. 7d-f

a. 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 Latin word having the idea of things hidden and mysterious.

2) Deals with things secret or hidden.

3) Deals with operations or events which seem to depend on human powers, that go beyond the five senses.

- 4) Deals with the supernatural presence of angelic or demonic forces and drugs.
  - b. 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) The reasoning is illogical, having known God.
- B.** The meeting of Saul with the medium. vs. 8-10
- 1. The journey and arrival to En Dor. vs. 8
    - a. They went deceptively and under the cover of night, “So Saul disguised himself and put on other clothes, and he went, and two men with him; and they came to the woman by night.” vs. 8a-c
      - 1) Disguised to deceive a deceiver.
      - 2) By night for the work of darkness.
  - b. The man Saul made his request. vs. 8d-f
    - 1) To call on familiar spirits, “And he said, “Please conduct a séance for me.” vs. 8d-e

- \* The word séance “ ‘owb” is the evoking of the spirit of the dead, necromancy.
  - 2) To call up from the dead a specific person, “and bring up for me the one I shall name to you.” vs. 8f
- 2.** The precautions concern of the woman. vs. 9
- a. She mentioned Saul’s expulsion of mediums, “Then the woman said to him, “Look, you know what Saul has done, how he has cut off the mediums and the spiritists from the land.” vs. 9a-d
  - b. She questioned their attempt to endanger her, “Why then do you lay a snare for my life, to cause me to die?” vs. 9e-f
- 3.** The pretentious oath to guarantee the safety of the woman’s life. vs. 10
- a. Saul was misrepresenting the LORD Yahweh, taking His name in vain in an oath. “And Saul swore to her by the LORD.” vs. 10a
  - b. Saul was participating in what God prohibited and protecting a person that practiced what God hated, “saying, “As the LORD lives, no punishment shall come upon you for this thing.” vs. 10b-d

- C. The startling encounter of the medium. vs. 11-14**
- 1. The beginning of the séance. vs. 11**
    - a.** The necromancer asked the person to be brought up from the underworld, “Then the woman said, “Whom shall I bring up for you?” vs. 11a-b
    - b.** Saul responded, “And he said, “Bring up Samuel for me.” vs. 11d
  - 2. The surprise during the séance. vs. 12**
    - a.** The necromancer was shocked seeing Samuel, “When the woman saw Samuel, she cried out with a loud voice.” vs. 12a-b  
\* She was used to familiar spirits of demons that impersonated people, not the real spirit of the dead person! God allowed this!
    - b.** The necromancer feared, knowing her solicitor was Saul, “And the woman spoke to Saul, saying, “Why have you deceived me? For you are Saul!” vs. 12c-e  
\* She knew this was Samuel, associating him with Saul!
  - 3. The continuation of the séance. vs. 13-14**
    - a.** The necromancer was placated by Saul, “And the king said to her, “Do not be afraid.” vs. 13a-b
    - b.** The necromancer was asked by Saul, as to what she saw. vs. 13c-14

- 1) Saul said, “What did you see?” vs. 13c**
- 2) The woman said to Saul, “I saw a spirit ascending out of the earth.” vs. 13d-e**  
\* The place of departed spirits, Sheol!
- c. The necromancer was asked by Saul another question. vs. 14**
  - 1) Saul said to her, “What is his form?” vs. 14a**
  - 2) She said, “An old man is coming up, and he is covered with a mantle.” vs. 14b-c**  
\* The dress of Samuel the prophet!
  - 3) Saul perceived that it was Samuel, and he stooped with his face to the ground and bowed down.” vs. 14d-e**  
\* The text is clear, this was Samuel by the witness of the woman and Saul!

### **Illustration**

Courses being taught in our Universities. 2009

- 1. Columbia University- Sorcery and magic.**
- 2. Bucknel University- Witchcraft and Politics.**
- 3. Stanford University- Homosexuals, Heretics, Witches and Weir-Wolves.**
- 4. University of North Carolina- Magic, Ritual and Belief.**

5. Harvard Univ. and Florida- Feminist Biblical Interpretation.
6. University of Bodine- Witchcraft In The Modern World.

### Application

1. There are countless cults in the U.S. today.
  - a. Some of the leading cults are J.W.'s, Mormons, the Way International and Christian Science to name a few.
  - b. A cult is any perversion and distortion by a group of people, linked together by one man's interpretation of the Bible, deviating from orthodox Christianity, its doctrines of faith and usually marked by their attack on:
    - 1) The deity, humanity and sinless ness of Jesus.
    - 2) The Godhead, three in one, the Trinity.
    - 3) The hope for mankind apart from Christ.
    - 4) One man seems to be the focal point.
    - 5) They place new revelation or other writings equal in authority to the Bible, such as the Mormons, Pearl of Great Price, Doctrines and Covenants. Gal. 1:7-9, 2Cor. 11:13-14
    - 6) J.W.'s, Watchtower, based on works and date setting, the last was 1975.
    - 7) Mormons had 30 members in 1830, in the 80's, they project to be 8 Million strong by the year 2000, they had 11 million. in 2008 they were 13 Million strong.

- \* One of the works of flesh listed, is idolatry and witchcraft. Gal. 5:20
2. There has been a great rise in the occult in the United States.
    - a. Let me give to you the definition of the occult again.
    - b. The word occult comes from the Latin word having the idea of things hidden, secret and mysterious.
      - 1) Occults deals with operations or events which seem to depend on human powers that go beyond the five senses.
      - 2) Occults deals with the supernatural presence of angelic or demonic forces.
  3. The 1980's had a great increased sophistication of occult movements by marketing in America.
    - a. Then, according to Craig A. Huey, president of Information, Inc., a Rolling Hills Estates, California-based marketing agency, many companies prospered greatly by marketing occult books, magazines, charms, voodoo pendants and other assorted paraphernalia.
    - b. The available mailing lists involved in the occult stood at some 3,824,622 (some include the accumulation of several years).
    - c. Women then and still constitute a majority of the buyers. The vast majority of occultists were involved in astrology. For example, one company called the American Astrological Association had some 339,660 individuals who had bought horoscopes.



- d. Some 86,000 women mail order buyers who paid \$8.40 each for a genie-in-the-bottle good luck pendant, a mystical talisman.
  - e. The House of Collinwood had 92,976 buyers who purchased, pyramids, talisman amulets, zodiac medallions, occult necklaces, riings, bracelets, earrings, mostly for women.
  - f. There were 208,302 buyers of the Handbook of Supernatural Powers, giving directions for ancient spells and potions. Seventy percent were men. There were 91,846 buyers of the book Magic Power of Witchcraft. There were 16,842 members of the Circle of Mystic and Occult Arts Book Club of Prentice Hall Publishing.
3. In Josh McDowell and Don Stewart's book on the occult they stated two mistakes people make about the occult.
- a. People don't believe in the supernatural.
  - b. Those who believe and meddle with it.
    - \* The people made covenant. Is. 28:15
4. On the other hand the two mistakes people make about God is that:
- a. They say they do believe.
  - b. But they don't meddle with it.
5. Some reasons for the occult growth and interest.
- a. We are in the last days.
  - b. The failure of churches to meet the spiritual needs of people.

- c. The increased celebration and interest of the occult in movies, T.V., literature, Harry Potter, is staggering, accepted as normal.
  - d. The acceptance by our society, reveals we are getting more godless.
6. No person or group of people have the ability to foretell the future except God and any endeavor to inquire apart from God is rebellion against God.
- a. Jeane Dixon in her early 40's met a gypsy man and told her she had the makings of a psychic and gave her a crystal ball.
  - b. She published 2 books and she believed to be endowed with a prophetic gift from God.
  - c. She claims to have seen as far as 2037, saying she had the same spirit as John the Baptist and Isaiah.
  - d. In 1962 she said there was to be a child born Feb. 5, in the Middle East and would appear before the century to revolutionize the world, solutions, unity, etc.
  - e. In the early 80's she changed and enlarged it by saying, he would be divine and teach as well as lead men away from Christ the Son.
    - \* Identifying the antichrist!
  - f. She uses not only a crystal ball, but tarot.
7. A prophet of God had to be 100% accurate or he would be stoned.
- \* Jeane Dixon's record of being able to predict the future failed the test of a prophet, eventhough some predictions came true, she had made many that failed, these include:

- a. She said World War III would begin 1954.
- b. Red China would be admitted to the United Nations in 1958, yet this did not occur until 1971; The Vietnam War would end in 1966; yet it did not end until 1975.
- c. On October 19, 1968, she predicted Jacqueline Kennedy was not thinking of marriage and the next day Mrs. Kennedy married Aristotle Onassis!
- c. Union Leader, Walter Reuther, would run for President in 1964, which he did not do.
- d. In 1970, she predicted the following events which did not occur:
  - 1) Castro would be overthrown from Cuba and would have to leave the island;
  - 2) New facts concerning the death of President Kennedy would be brought to light from a foreign source.
  - 3) Attempts would be made on the life of President Nixon;
- e. In 1971, she said Russia would be the first nation to put men on the moon;

*The desperate heart of Saul seeking a medium about the battle was foolish!*

### III. The depraved heart of Saul judged by God in the battle. vs. 15-25

- A. The prophetic oracle from Samuel to Saul. vs. 15-19

- 1. The reproof of Saul by Samuel. vs. 15
  - a. The sharp words uttered, “Now Samuel said to Saul, “Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up?” vs. 15a-b
    - 1) The word disturbed “ragaz” means to agitate or perturb.
    - 2) The phrase “bringing me up” refers to from Sheol, the netherworld of departed spirits, without distinguishing the godly from the ungodly.
    - 3) The distinction of a two separate places was taught by Jesus. Lk. 16
  - b. The self-centered response was three-fold. vs. 15
    - 1) His emotional state, “And Saul answered, “I am deeply distressed; for the Philistines make war against me.” vs. 15c-d  
\* Distressed “rsarar” means to make narrow, confused and anxiously stressed.
    - 2) His spiritual state, “And God has departed from me and does not answer me anymore, neither by prophets nor by dreams.” vs. 15e-g
    - 3) His mental state, “Therefore I have called you, that you may reveal to me what I should do.” vs. 15h
- 2. The rebuke of Saul by Samuel. vs. 16-18

- a. For coming to him, “Then Samuel said: “Why then do you ask me, seeing the LORD has departed from you and has become your enemy?”
  - b. For not accepting what God declared, “And the LORD has done for Himself as He spoke by me. For the LORD has torn the kingdom out of your hand and given it to your neighbor, David.” vs. 17
  - c) For his disobedience to God, “Because you did not obey the voice of the LORD nor execute His fierce wrath upon Amalek, therefore the LORD has done this thing to you this day.” vs. 18  
\* Saul spared the king and others, in rebellion, which is as the sin of witchcraft. 1Sam. 15:22
3. 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, “Moreover the LORD will also deliver Israel with you into the hand of the Philistines.” vs. 19a
    - 1) Abishai wanted to kill Saul when he snuck into the camp but David told him not to touch God’s anointed. “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!
- B.** The results of the prophetic oracle of Samuel on Saul. vs. 20-25
- 1. Saul was devastated hearing the prophecy by the man of God. vs. 20

- a. Emotionally he became distraught, “Then immediately Saul fell full length on the ground, and was dreadfully afraid because of the words of Samuel.” vs. 20a-b  
\* If Saul would of taken this position of humility and repentance before God, he would not of been judged but it was too late!
  - b. Physically he was exhausted, “And there was no strength in him, for he had eaten no food all day or all night.” 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, “And the woman came to Saul and saw that he was severely troubled, and said to him, “Look, your maidservant has obeyed your voice, and I have put my life in my hands and heeded the words which you spoke to me.” vs. 21
  - b. The witch of En Dor offered Saul his last meal before death, “Now therefore, please, heed also the voice of your maidservant, and let me set a piece of bread before you; and eat,

- that you may have strength when you go on your way.” vs. 22
- c. The end of Saul’s life is marked by obeying and fellowship with the servant of the occult, rejecting God, “But he refused and said, “I will not eat.” So his servants, together with the woman, urged him; and he heeded their voice. Then he arose from the ground and sat on the bed.” vs. 23
3. Saul was nourished by the woman of mediums. vs. 24-25
- a. The witch of En Dor was moved with compassion, “Now the woman had a fatted calf in the house, and she hastened to kill it. And she took flour and kneaded it, and baked unleavened bread from it.” vs. 24  
\* She appears to be more compassionate than God or Samuel but was a daughter of Satan and an enemy of God!
2. The witch of En Dor served them their last meal on this earth, “So she brought it before Saul and his servants, and they ate. Then they rose and went away that night.” vs. 25
- a. Saul left with no hope!
  - b. Saul left knowing the judgment of God finally caught up with him!

\* “But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!” 2Tim. 3:1-5

### **Illustration**

Courses being taught in our Universities. 2009

1. University Calif. Berkley-Male sexuality.
2. Dartmouth- Queer Theory and Queer texts.
3. Yale- Aids and Society.
4. Cornell University-Gay Fiction.
5. Princeton University- Sexuality, Body, desire and Modern Time Fiction
6. University of Pennsylvania-Feminist Critic of Christianity.
7. Brown University- Unnatural Acts, Introduction To Lesbian and Gay Literature.
8. Overlie University-Feminist Criticism of Shake sphere.
9. Rockford University- Women on the Fridge, Perceptions of Women as Social and Sexual.

10. Deviants in American Civilization.
11. Vassar Collage- Global Feminism.
12. Wesleyan College- Pornography Writing Of Prostitution.
13. University of Indiana- Startreck and Religion
14. University of Michigan- Crossing Erotic Boundaries.
15. University of Wisconsin- Goddesses And Feminine Powers.
16. University of Chicago-Third Wave Feminism And Girl Culture or Contemporary American Monstrosity.

### **Application**

1. People pay money to enquire about their future, the soul-mates, their financial success to some who are quacks but others are directed by demons.
  - a. The New Age Movement popularized by Shirley McClain, took America like a plague.
  - b. The New Guru promoter of New Age deception is Oprah, as she promotes books like “The Sack’ and other occultic books.
  - c. The Emergent Church Movement, is steeped in practices of the occult, invoking practices of yoga, emptying your mind and bringing it to complete silence, to tap into demons guides, called “contemplative prayer”.
  - d. The practice of “Raki”, healing practices of messages with hot stones, etc.
2. Some of the disciplines in the occult.

- a. Fortunetelling, also known as divining or divination.
  - b. Palmistry or Chiromancy, divination from the shape and markings of the hands and fingers.
  - c. Cartomancy, divining with cards, Tarot cards.
  - d. Mirror Mantic, this is the use of crystal balls, mirror, water reflection.
  - e. Hypnotism, is defined as a means of bringing on an artificial state of sleep or reduced consciousness.
  - f. Ouija Board, in the 60's and 70's was very popular, making contact with the supernatural.
  - g. Spiritualism, necromancy where spirits of dead are communicated, magic, sorcery.
  - h. Amazon.com. listed 82, 776 under the category of Religion & Spirituality, the occult had 32, 236, New Age had 55, 449, Spirituality had 17, 180, Hinduism 899, Earth Based Religions 3, 549. (8/30/09)
3. The occult is nothing new, it is going to grow more and more, the closer we get to the Coming of the Lord for us in the rapture, so that the Anti-christ appears on the world scene.
- a. It began with Lucifer's rebellion in heaven.
  - b. It was presented to man in Eden.
  - c. Man began to develop both cults and occults in the Tower of Babel.

- d. It was the source of opposition to Moses in Egypt.
- e. Israel was warned about it before entering the land.
- f. Many of the Kings practiced these after the kingdom was divided.
- g. We see it in the gospels in demon possession, demons knew Jesus was God.
- h. We see it through the Acts of the Apostles, such as the false prophet Bar-Jesus and Elymus the sorcerer.
- i. In Philippi, Paul cast out a demon from a girl who brought much gain by soothsaying to her master.
- j. Demons poses bodies, like the demoniac at Gadera, but not Christians.
- k. The rule of the anti-christ will be demon directed and he will be possessed by Satan.
  - 1) "But the rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, that they should not worship demons, and idols of gold, silver, brass, stone, and wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk. And they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts." Rev. 9:20-21
  - 2) "For they are spirits of **demons**, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole

world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.” Rev. 16:14

4. Let me take you to some scriptures that condemn the seeking after as well as the practice of such things, in the New Testament.
- a. “Beloved, believe not every spirit but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.” 1Jn. 4:1
  - b. “Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour.” 1Jn. 2:18
  - c. “But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed. 2Pet. 2:1-2
  - d. “Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons.” 1Tim 4:1
  - e. We are in a spiritual warfare not against flesh and blood but principalities and powers of darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness on high. Eph. 6:12

- f. Jesus was manifested for the purpose of destroying the works of the devil.” 1Jn. 3:8
  - g. We are to contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. Jude 3
  - h. We are to prove all things; hold fast that which is good. 1Thess. 5:21
  - i. We are to sanctify the Lord God in our hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asks us a reason of the hope that is in us with meekness and fear. 1Pet. 3:15
- \* We are commanded in scripture to stand against cults and the occult!

***The depraved heart of Saul judged by God in the battle was eternally fatal!***

### **Conclusion**

Saul having no guidance by God was ready to go into battle against the Philistines, so he sought guidance through the occult:

- I. The demoralized heart of Saul before the battle was his own fault!
- II. The desperate heart of Saul seeking a medium about the battle was foolish!
- III. The depraved heart of Saul judged by God in the battle was eternally fatal!