

Spooky Scriptures, Pt. 1
"The Witch at Endor"
TW Norman
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Ephesians 5:8 (NLT) *"For once you were full of darkness, but now you have light from the Lord. So live as people of light."*

The goal of exploring these "Spooky Scriptures" is not to make us fearful, but to help us to be faithful and fruitful.

1. Saul Wanted an Answer More Than He Wanted God

1 Samuel 28:5-7 (NLT) *"When Saul saw the vast Philistine army, he became frantic with fear. He asked the Lord what he should do, but the Lord refused to answer him, either by dreams or by sacred lots or by the prophets. Saul then said to his advisers, 'Find a woman who is a medium, so I can go and ask her what to do.' His advisers replied, 'There is a medium at Endor.'"*

v. 22 (NLT) *"What is more pleasing to the Lord: your burnt offerings and sacrifices or your obedience to his voice? Listen! Obedience is better than sacrifice, and submission is better than offering the fat of rams."*

Here is the Danger: Saul wanted direction from God without surrender to God.

2. Desperation Can Make Darkness Look Attractive

v. 3 (NLT) *"Saul had banned from the land of Israel all mediums and those who consult the spirits of the dead."*

v. 8 (NLT) *"Saul disguised himself by wearing ordinary clothing instead of his royal robes."*

Reality is that darkness thrives in secrecy.

3. Darkness Is Often Disguised as Light/Innocent

2 Corinthians 11:14 (NLT) *"But I am not surprised! Even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light."*

Be aware: Not everything spiritual is from God.

- Something can feel supernatural and not be holy.
- Something can feel enlightening and still not contain truth.
- Something can promise peace and still lead you into bondage.
- Something can use spiritual terminology and still have a demonic source.

4. Don't Seek from Darkness What God Has Forbidden

Sometimes the greatest display of faith is trusting God when you don't get an answer.

5. Test the Spirit Behind the Voice

1 John 4:1 (NLT) *"Dear friends, do not believe everyone who claims to speak by the Spirit. You must test them to see if the spirit they have comes from God."*

6. You Don't need a Counterfeit when You have the Spirit of Truth

John 14:16-17 (NLT) *"And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you. He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you."*

John 16:13 (NCV) *"When the Spirit of truth comes, He will lead you into all truth."*

Mature faith says:

- If God hasn't answered yet... I'll wait.
- If God hasn't shown me yet, I'll trust.
- If God hasn't shown me yet, I'll still obey Him today.

Jesus hasn't left you searching in the dark.

- 1) When you don't know what to do: Go to the Word
- 2) When you are confused: Pray
- 3) When you are desperate: Wait on the Lord
- 4) When voices compete for your attention: Test the Spirits
- 5) When you can't see what's coming: Trust the one who can