

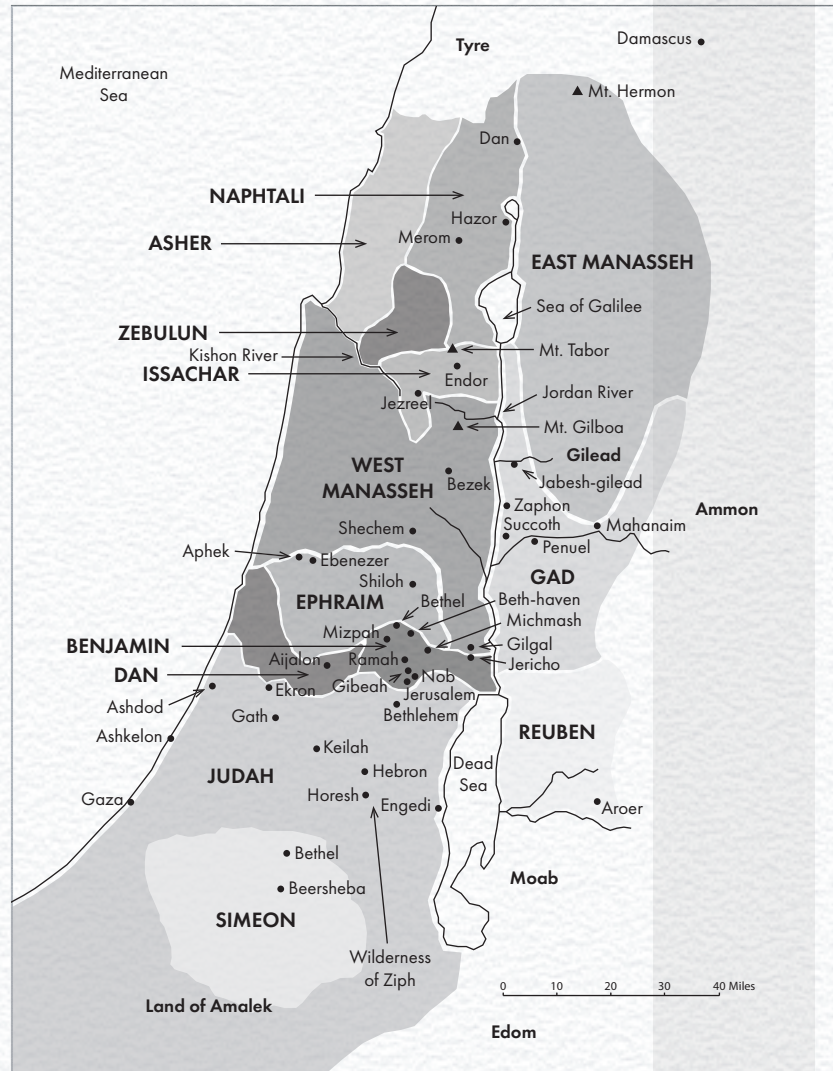
1 Samuel 28

WHEN

- Israel's first king, Saul, was appointed in approximately 1050 B.C.
- The events documented in 1 Samuel 27 took place between approximately 1015-1010 B.C.
- David lived in the land of the Philistines for 1 year and 4 months (27:7).

WHERE

- Saul went to a town called Endor to meet with a medium.



CHARACTERS

- **Saul** – The first king of Israel. He hated David and was always trying to kill him.
- **Samuel** – A prophet of God and the last significant judge of Israel. He anointed Saul and David as kings of Israel.
- **David** – The second king of Israel.
- **Achish** – The king of Gath.
- **The Medium of Endor** – A woman who Saul consulted in order to speak with Samuel after his death.

OUTLINE

- SAUL AND THE MEDIUM AT ENDOR (28:1-25):

- + The Philistines gathered their armies for war against Israel.
- + David, who was living amongst the Philistines, planned to accompany his king, Achish, in the battle.
- + Saul, the King of Israel, was terrified of the Philistines and he asked God for guidance.
- + When God didn't answer him, he decided to consult with a medium to bring Samuel up from the dead to advise him.
- + He found a medium at Endor, disguised himself, and went to visit her.
- + Saul had to disguise himself because he had previously banished all mediums and necromancers from Israel.
- + When Saul arrived, the woman was hesitant to help him because she knew fulfilling his request would incriminate her, but Saul assured her he would keep her secret.
- + When she summoned Samuel from the dead, it became clear to her that the man sitting across from her was King Saul.
- + She cried out in fear, but Saul ensured her she would not be punished.
- + When Samuel appeared, he asked Saul why he had summoned him.
- + Saul told him it was because God wouldn't answer his pleas for help.
- + Samuel responded by telling Saul God had rejected him and was going to make David king in his place.
- + Furthermore, Samuel foretold Israel's army would lose to the Philistines, and Saul and his sons would join him in death before the end of the next day.
- + Saul was terrified by this new revelation, and he fell on his face to the ground.
- + After the medium had prepared food for Saul and his men, they departed her house and went out into the night.

APPLICATION

- The government cannot destroy what God protects.
- After trying to destroy God's anointed king for years, Samuel told Saul his efforts had been in vain.
- All the might and legal authority of the King of Israel was rendered useless against God's innumerable ways of protecting David.
- Can the Church survive and even flourish in places where the government opposes its existence?
- It can if God is protecting it and blessing it.
- As we've observed in 1 Samuel, a king, even a king with a vendetta, can't stop God's work.