2. Presentation. In a sermon preached om a manuscript. I heard a preacher scribe the witch of Endor as looking ike a wet gunnysack drooped over a nce post. One front tooth stood out like lonely sentinel guarding the entrance hell." Only wording prepared ahead of ne can be that precise and descriptive. Extemporaneous preaching, however, usually more relational than is manuipt preaching. Henry Ward Beecher

S. N. April 13, 75-WARI R.M. Avove Park and 12,90 VVV Lake IVW mmores Apri 20,97 VVV.

SAUL'S NIGHT IN THE WITCH'S CAVE

I Samuel 28

bown non - Story Denking a world in Room

INTRODUCTION:

From our night scene sermons in the Bible, we discover one of the most unusual dramas as we visit the cave of a witch with King Saul. It reads like an inspiring (tragedy) because of the surroundings that take place in this drama.

It has been (3,000 years since he fell slain upon Mt. Gilboa, and still musicians use part of this when they want to express the sorrow of a stricken heart. One of the most mournful marches to which funeral processions move in modern times is known by the name of Saul.

There is much good and much bad, weakness and strength, success and failure that visited the witch that night.

onferred upon this king, great gifts and great grace. And yet he failed through his own fault and died in dishonor for his own transgressions. Eroshed in business when be died, they had to screwed in the ground

At the outset there were many contradictions in his life. At different times - there was sternness, like the cruelty of Mero. There was superstitution and jealousy, like the madness of a ruler. He was rash in danger - and yet he was He spared his worst enemy and would have (put) to death his best friend.

He prophesied himself and destroyed the prophets of the Lord. He cut off the witches in the land, and on the (last night) of his life, he traveled 10 mile under (isguise) with a distressed mind to inquire of a woman who had a familiar spirit.

He mamed his own children as the faith and superstitution happened to move him.

Jonathan which is taken from Jehovah.

Melchishua, from Molock.

Eshbaal from Baal.

Mephibosheth from contempt of all faiths.

When he was brought under the influence of sacred music and song, and religious worship - he could catch the spirit of devotion, and express praise and prayer. And then there were times that he was carried away from religion and he could neither find rest nor food - day nor night. He was a moody person in his disposition and there was great violence.

Now the drama tonight will center around his visit to this witch.

Demons a Heaven's Mate Jong's Sucide

We are well aware today of the witches in our own days. We think about the practice of demons and witches when we think of Charles Manson who killed eleven people who claimed to be Satan and Jesus at the same, time. And his eyes were strange.

Nomadic hippie Ritual Slavyer.

Some drink blood & animals.

Some man who went to <u>vitness to him</u> said that he possessed the strangest eyes. And he was convinced that he was demon possessed.

The dimensions of witchcraft in the world has filled a gap. When people were saying "God is dead" - then Satan began to take over in this world. They are making visits to cemeteries. People go to all lengths - there are even education courses in

some of the universities on Palm Reading and astrology, and witchcraft.

(They tell us) there are (4 million) weegee boards) in this country. And there are all sorts of palm reading establishments. You go in and this person looks at your hand and the lines in your hand - and they tell you you are going to be rich. or you are going to meet somebody great.

The (Bible tells) us that they had put away familiar spirits and witches, out of the land.

Deut. 18:9-12, that they will not be tolerated (IABIBC, worse warms) Few not allow any witch

Fx. 22:18, you shall not suffer a witch to live. yri ago Bombey Ker 600

witches burned by as 3 ngle Bishop , Jedland, 7,000 were executed. Rarpyor Prostatant momen Claimed

Gal. 5:19' Witchcraft is out.

1584 Aggradal Scot spoke of Thereby out on Booky
"Whenly The ride on a brown," Personal responsibility for deaths

Cases of Brown trips verted by me of Drugs, Jer. 27:9-10 - people were instructed to go and hear your sourcers. You will

120,000 Dito

Torrah rook a whole but il still make my trips on a tarnet ord!

Enger co. Evolutive Bourgamin may 19 69 Funto Rico homon had med witereff to influent to

Here in America) we are told that there are at least 100,000 witches teaching

The Formal Starp setter So he could join the bould!

Town South of March Michael Willer With the Start of the sells.

There are bookstore in SanFrancisco that sell with the Vineland, N. F. (4800) Patrick Michael Wirolls with Erroff Intuition, Spalls all sorts of witchcraft materials and ingredients for casting spells.

There are at least 100,000 witches teaching the sell with t

Now as we consider the visit to the witch - there are three or four things about this (story) that I want to fix in your mind.

First, dreadful disaster, V. 4-7.

Second, disclosure of disguise, V. 8-11.

Third, doom and destruction. V. 16 and following.

Fourth, deliverance for you.

Soul Anointed Knig som, 18:23 (Hood & Shoulders) enforce

Now if we can follow this outline, we'll be able to analyze this story, very carefully tonight.

Pastor Viril - Movey Wed - Rad Parott - "Let no Kind - (Embarmed Comple)

11 Jan - I have Permute - Let says " Let me Cray"

Why mit get 2 treed her - ong fit inflance for good - They Did
tomple - Baid " Let me Kins"

Comple - Baid " Let me Kins"

I. DREADFUL DISASTER (- V. 4-7.

Here is the tragedy of a fearful soul who is defeated, and is terribly afraid.

And I have called this dreadful disaster. When a person gets into the grip of this.

That is, when they have given up on God and they feel that God has given up on them.

And they are at the point of not knowing which direction to go, it is a sad, disastrous situation.

Saul has gone the way of jealousy, hate, and the furry of a demon. And now with the tenderness of child - his heart has been touched. He has been a man of indecision and of fearful extremes. As a mad king of Israel, with his good and his evil - but now his soul is swept into a storm.

There are 300,000 men upon the Northern ridge of Gilboa. And there a great host of Philistines in sight. Five miles away on the other side of the valley, we see the situation for war. And there is one of the most famous plains in all of Palestine out there before them. And Sau was encamped upon a place, on a ridge when Gideop and his 300 men had hid among the rocks 200 years before. And silently by night they had crept through the wild grass under the outside of the armed men. And those brave 300 divided into three companies. Broke their pitches, and made a sound like a clash of an army, vanished their lamps — like the signal lights of a

v.4-5

great army - blew their trumpets and cried the sword of the Lord and of Gideon.

They rushed in disorderly route toward the pass of Jordan and Gideon's men

Saul is encamped where Gideon's band drank. Hastily lifting up their eyes, and Saul has a thousand times as many men as Gideon. Better armed, better disciplined, etc.

or to meet the peril of the hour. Misfortunes had multiplied upon him. His bad temper, his gloomy - moody disposition, his guilt were destructive storms.

His own tribe had grown weary and Samuel was dead. And his last words to Saul were words of threat. The prophets and the priests were slain. The oracles of the law of the Lord gave him no answer. And there was no voice to charm or to take away the demon from the dark soul of the King. And there was his enemy. He was filled with fear.

In an age when physical strength was the best title to soverighty - no man in all the hosts was compared to Saul - he stood above them all.

But Saul felt himself to be defenseless and alone. Because God had forsaken him.

There is no path so dark or desolate until you travel the one where you feel God has given you up. The worse thing that can ever happen to a disobedient man like Saul, is for God to let him have his own way. Now this was a dark hour, in that man's life. He was left to follow his own blind passion. And to fall into the pit of his own folly. There was left to This Torques.

This reads like the book of Romans. God gave them up several times in the beginning chapters it tells us.

Now the tide of battle was running against the children of God. They were at war. And during war, World War I, World War II, some of these grief stricken parents have sought to talk with the dead. When defeated people, bewildered people will scrape together cash and money, and flock to these sue sayers - trying to get a word. Now Saul faces certain defeat. Monderated information. The trying of home to the people who know how to run this townty are tarting their or Driving a tarticol.

The only people who know how to run this townty are tarticol.

In V. 6 He was inquiring about some council from God - but in his creams he did not receive it. He had slain the high priest. And there is nothing from the law that speaks to him. All the divine aid that he sought, closed up every channel in vain.

Now we could say several things about this. It is not sought in the right time when thou mayest be found. We have to seek God.

It was not sought in the right spirit - in humility and repentance.

It was not sought for the right purpose. And so he is denied in V. 6 any word and he is in utter helplessness. And really dreadful disaster is upon him.

Now this man and his distress came from a lack of religion.) If the King had lived in right relationship with God, he would have felt no impulse to go and to consult a witch. During his early years, he depended upon Samuel for spiritual counsel.

Samuel acted as his dear friend and pastor. He felt no need of any other

contacts. He could solve each problem as it arose. But when the man of God, the pastor had departed - the King was at his wit's end,

In those closing years, of King Saul's life, he discovered that he could not pray. In his early manhood, he relied on Samuel interceeding and praying for him.

In every hour of crisis, but now he had thought that God had forsaken him.

Now there are millions of people tonight who are without God. Who have sorrow in their homes and in their hearts - if they could only be sure of guidance from above. But some will turn to a familiar spirit. They have no pastor who stands ready to intercede. They have no church to offer them a friendly shelter that they can reach out too.

And when a person drops out of church, and when the burdened men and women fail to find some help - in many eases, they will look for something to fill the vacant place. And they will in this moment of disaster, begin to think about a witch.

V, 7 - He says seek) me a woman who has a familiar spirit. And they told him that there was a woman at Endor.

II. DISCLOSURE OF DISGUISE V. 8

From his dreadful disaster, Saul disguised himself and put on other raiment.

And he went with two men and they came to see the woman by night. The sun went down on the oak-crowned ridge, and the shadows of the evening covered the great battle plain and the sleepless king watched the campfires and he heard the murmurrs. Of the mighty Philistines rising like a mighty roar of the sea across the valley. His distress of mind increased as the darkness came in. He bitterly thought of

tomorrow. He needed sleep but he could not sleep. He needed the council of God. But he had so often rejected it when it was given, that God no longer offered him counsel. When men give up their faith in God, God gives them up. To believe a lie.

The King, having that his eyes to the light that guides from Heaven, begins to think about seeking some council from beneath. He took off his royal robe, he layed aside his battle sphere, and he put on the garments of a common peasant. And he took two trusted men and stole out of the camp, by night.

They silently go down the steep sides of the valley and having traveled at least some 10-12 miles across the grassy plain they came to a little miserable cluster of mud and stone cabins hanging on the side of a hill - that formed the range of little Hermon. One of these wretched cabins formed the entrance of a rocky cavern or cave, in the mountainside. Saul and his attendants seek out the darkness and enter. In this damp den at midnight they find a solitary has who received their late intrusion with terror and cursing. Place Filled Tollen - Sn

Her fear, however, was sub-sided by the promise of secrecy. And her wrath is appeased by the offer of a rich reward. I pray thee, bring thee up him whom I shall name unto them.

V. 9 - The woman said you know that Saul has cut off the witches and the wizzards out of the land. You are laying a snare that will cause me to die.

punishment. Her evil works are works of darkness and they hate the light. So she has promised if she'd bring one up from the dead, that she will not be punished in any way. She signifies her fear of the law - and she is very suspicious from

the very beginning. Of course it is the duty of the king to punish and she knew this. But when this man swore unto her, she felt that he would perform.

Spirit of Rapping 1800's cratom Among some Preachers Visitations From East mith promise a IB, shower Debote, Talking with the Dide This witch, heathen witch, an outcast woman, hid away with a profitable practice pretended to have power of calling back the spirits of departed and also getting secrets from the unknown liture. But she had no more power over the spirits and the dead than a rain-maker has over the clouds. She has no more knowledge of the future than the gypsy fortune teller. Who pretends to read the decrees of your eternal destiny by looking at the lines in your hands. and mutterings, and cunning devices which detract attention, deceive, her magical arts are wicked and forbidding. And are not for good but are evil. But because they are in positions and lives - and they lead men to withdraw their confidence and truth to believe in nothingness and vanity. In this covered cavern at midnight is the appointed king of Israel. He is in the den of a witch. (He might have had God's guidance. And the Almighty for his shield. But now he is seeking a confederate with the prince of darkness) The hours of the night are swiftly passing and the dawn will soon appear unto the hills - and there will be the battle cry. And the thundering charge of half a million warriors. And this unnerved the heart of the king and he is in the presence of this wicked and worthless woman at Endor.

With such dreadful darkness and dissolution - Princely men sometimes give up. They turn away from the only true living God, and try to trust in lying vanities. If you will meet the great battle of life, with the courage of heroes and the faith of martyrs, do not ask such council from witches and from the underworld. Seek your advice and admonition from God and from holy men moved by the holy spirit. Do not put yourself under the wisdom of a witch.

we up Samuel.

V. 11 - The woman said, Whom shall I bring up unto thee? And he said, bring me up Samuel.

New haters the woman could practice her (arts of deception) it (seems that

Samuel actually appeared. The woman herself had least expectation of anything like this. She was startled and terrified. And she cried out with a shreak and horror. Han on head 3+ord mp-, like lan Afro Wig For your pirk Day,

V. 12 - The woman immediately said, you have deceived me.) And there was the disclosure of Saul-

This must have been by the power of appointment of God. That Samuel appear to confound the art of the witches - so as to rebuke the rebellious king because he had not obeyed the voice of God.

It is not any shadow or some ambassador of Satan. The awful look when we think of Samuel and his voice, when he talked to Saul the last time, commanded him that the Lord was going to rent the kingdom from him. 28 years before he had prophesied this. Words of doom will come again ringing into the King's ears. Tomorrow, all of this will be fulfilled.

When you think of this night, there will be no more opportunity to repent.

No more opportunity to go to the den of a witch. When he should have called only upon the Lord in his distress. The unhappy king saw that there was no hope, no word, and his conscience was smitten. And he passed out as one that was dead.

So here is the disclosure of the disguise. V. 8.

The witch first worked by deception. This takes place at night and even the interview called for a disguise. Preferring darkness rather than light. So that ye might somehow fool the designs of men.

Second, the Devil always prefers his deeds in the darkness And the witch

made his home in the unseen world. Oid she have any power over the things of the earth, or the realm of glory. God never intended that one his children should be disturbed by a law-breaking fortune teller. That he might give them money to look down into their spirits, after they have gone to glory.

Third, there was vagueness in this. What did that fortune-teller profess to have seen. When in V. 13 - he asked what sawest thou? Now the woman said something about some gods ascending up from the earth.

What form were the gods in. It was an old man he was covered with a mantle.

Now knowing her cunning and her insight, she knew, that was exactly what the king expected to hear. That there was an old prophet covered with a mantle. Saul himself appears to have seen nothing. He had to depend on the world of a law-breaking woman who had no reason for telling him the truth.

When has he ever heard anything worth repeating. 3,000 years have come and gone since the king went to this witch. In all the time that spiritism has contributed nothing to the knowledge of God, concerning the unseen world. If we want to learn something about the unseen world - the only place to learn it is in the Scripture and in the spirit of prayer. The secret things belong unto our Lord. Why then do we insist on learning what our Heavenly Father does not ever intend us to know. Some of these mysteries.

This woman was an impostor - she was being self-deceived. And this woman actually beheld the form of a deceased prophet. And the king really never heard the voice of his well-known friend. But standing there with the king, and his two

male escorts, in some fashion, some way - it makes it appear that the prophet appeared unto him.

How could the king have been mistaken, the voice of his beloved friend. This woman had many gifts in this art. The could impersonate the dead prophet. And that's what familiar spirit means. It means a ventriolquist. And so this fortune-telling could have easily deceived Saul. This was her chief stock and trade. She could make him think that he was listening to his departed friend. By simply throwing her voice.

Did you know in 1926 in New York City, people paid 5 million dollars to spiritualists. The rip-off today must be vastly more. Wherefore, do you spend your money for that which is not bread. And your labor for that which does not satisfy.

outson.

4 When he lame book, & Said is it is it is I Then The lar overacliff.

What's the Bad News? I Than The lar overacliff.

11 P Hood is 7 eff got a Tunched mules.

40 The gallon going down!;

III. THE DOOM AND DESTRUCTION - V. 15-16

Where he says, I want to know what I shall do. V. 16 - The Bible tells us that he was doomed. That he was God forsaken. God is departed from me and answereth me no more. The poor man might well have said, I have forsaken God of my fathers, and I know not how to pray.

Many times there are people who despise and persecute ministers and preachers.

And they live as though they are glad they are gone when they die. But then there comes a day when they would gladly consult them for some counsel. You remember how Lazarus desired to come back to the father's house to bring some news in Luke 16:24.

Saul was (mable to get in touch with God. And he sought a fortune-teller).

And this was the acknowledgement of his doom. This visit marked the beginning of the end. If he had not gone to see that witch - he might have met his death the next day anyway. But here he was in the cave, And what a sorry way to prepare for the battle on tomorrow and for life beyond this earth.

We see king Saul at this point - V. 17. The doom is pronounced. Your kingdom is going to be rent from you. Now this is a prophecy that had already been made to him, in an earlier chapter.

V, /8 - He obeyed not God.

V. 19 Everything - the enemy is going to take you over.

V 20 - V 20 - He has no strength left of his own. Here is the doom and disaster of his life.

What then shall we conclude from his trip to the witch. Do we find anything that is needful and helpful for the children of God. Do you believe that he got anything there that would help him that night.

This only shows us that those who go the way of the witch and of sin, will discover that the way of the transgressor is hard. He had neglected the Lord. And he had been striving against the Spirit. And of course, God had given up on him. And all of his pious wishes amounted to nothing.

V.13- It seems as though (au) was at a distance in the next room. As all of this was taking place. And if Saul had thought it necessary to have conversation with Samuel, he would have called the witch to have gone to the grave with him.

But God Dermitted the Devil to answer the design and to put on Samuel's shape. And here was a delusion and a disclosure that it could not be the soul of Samuel himself. And this witch by permission was able to impersonate somehow Samuel. (Saulit seems was not permitted to see any manner himself. But he must take the woman's word for it. And the saw an old man covered with a robe. Saul perceived that it was the body of Samuel that he was looking at. Though he saw him not. Or perhaps to listen to the soft and muttering voice.

He sunk under the heavy load - indeed he could not rise under his own power. The miserable comfort that he had received.

And when he was (revived by food) to go back on that periless night journey - a doomed man for destruction. When the morning came, a host of (Philistines swept across the valley and up to the heights of Cilboa. And as the earthquake Mezillo - Trut Pithe full flow of Exdratelon - Ward Turke; Repetrans at sea, heaves a mountainous wave on shore, there were 700,000 men yelling and which - melinh No Wonden M her talked Armagentation struggling with all hand to hand conflict. With a cloud of smoke - of cannon smoke. The fountain of Jezebel ran blood - all the way, 10 miles to the Jordan. The ranks of Israel were broken. The trampled grass of the plain was piled with countless slain. And scattered hosts. ((Saul)fell by his own hand.) And there was a final stroke of one who had shared with him in the transgression against , Why Did Not Saul Fall on Face before God, cooper sun, symm of heart word not charge his course - the wil wan on shath bed sin Paralyyes, Voice not Call for mury, have closed The saddest memorial here, it is written of this king, so Saul) died for TO : 13-14 Obit WARY OX SAWL. his transgression, which he committed against the Lord. Even against the word of the Lord. Which he kept not. And also for asking council of one who had a Hews of the Battle Sally effected forathonis Som, The Nurse picked up the

From the dark tave of the witch of Endor, down to the blood-stained place

Krible Day Sand Sen (3) Som Fall Torrath

- Archer get Close to

on Gilboa, there comes the voice of varning and instruction.

MeI

Cut off And placed in temple a Degon. His Armor hung no in Honney godden Astaroty - This Book 4(3) sons hung in city of Bethrhan - Not only had claract been defeated. But in eye IV. DELIVERANCE FOR YOU & Philistenes claracts Ava har been defeated for the pople of the Forsal Control of Almighty God.)

[In all of your trials, perplexities, and conflicts of life, we are instructed of seek first the council of Almighty God.]

All who go astray from him and wander in the darkness - they know not what they stumble. The path of obedience to God is like a shining light, unto a perfect day.

The first step is duty, and it makes the next step easier. The higher you climb by faith and self-denial, the further you leave the clouds of doubt and temptation beneath you.

Saul was over-whelmed with disaster. He was blinded by delusion. He failed to make obedience to God the first thing in his life. His life was a failure and he died in dishonor and despair. Booly Saul, (3) hung sorn - Beth Shan Burnel beyond recognition a hung some moder a true (By men & Jalent, gilled).

When he set his passionate will against God, and was bent upon having his own way.

Any man, any person, will come to sorrow who seeks the success and joy of life above obedience to God.

God has special work for everyone to do. He had a work for Saul.

For your deliverance, let me say that it is hopeless to try to live without God. It was had for men in ancient times and this is a practical lesson. The

Another thing about deliverance here is there are dangers in witch-craft)

First, it (reaks) the First Commandment - Thou shalt have no other Gods before

me. You go any other way, then you are not going God's way. You will have an

oppressive spirit. Is a 8/19 Man accept witchconft, the nexts look

Let me say again to you, your deliverance has already been secured. The Devil and witches, and sin, have already been dealt with. Jesus Christ won the victory already. He has already triumphed. Luke 4:14. We have the protection of Almighty Cod. Psalm 21:1.

Knowing that Satan has been dealt with and hasn't been limited. Knowing that he walks too and fro throughout the world, and knowing that God is going to judge us. We need not to turn to witches for advice. Or to cards, drugs, or drinks. I Cor. 15:29.

Let us know that Saul's downfall was because of the contradictions in his life. We need to exhault Christ and bear spiritual fruit. Now the Devil can counterfeit many things but he cannot counterfeit spiritual fruit. We must rejoice because we've got the victory. And he has given us the deliverance.

Why should be Princher trave to prissure a christian to being him cettured church performing his buty for tod - if you are a thrustian Why should I have to how you to worship the sing thank I why should I

Now there may be someone who has said I will serve God sometime, some place, some how. But the critical question is how and when. When shall that hetter life, that Christian life begin. I shall say it should begin now. God has called many times - and he is still calling. God has waited long and he is still waiting. We need to take heed unless we get away from his path. There should be a longing in your heart tonight to not visit the witches cave but to visit God's altar.

There is an old Christian song - Nearer my God to Thee. Nearer to Thee.

Even though it be a cross that raiseth me. Still all my song shall be - nearer my God to Thee.

God to Thee, nearer to Thee.

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