

Samuel Summoned from the Dead
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1 Samuel 28:7-20

This passage proves a number of things.

Firstly, it authoritatively demonstrates that the spirits of the dead could, in fact, at least in the days prior to Christ's resurrection, be awakened and summoned from the realm of the dead, and communicated with. This should put to silence the ignorance of foolish denominationally slanted ministers that claim that necromancy is forbidden by God on the grounds that it is not, as the Bible says it is, *communication with the dead*, but rather communication with demons. This passage proves, using a conversation between a dead prophet of Israel and a living king of Israel, that necromancy was/is real, and that witches/ mediums had/have genuine power. Secondly, it recognizes the great power and glory that the true prophets of the Lord had. The medium thought that she was seeing "a god!" The Hebrew word is *elohim*, the same word translated as "God" in Genesis 1:1. It can also be used in instances where angels appear. But it is never used to describe a mere man. Samuel was a man, but because of the weight he carried as a righteous prophet of the Lord, the witch mistook him for a god.

1 Samuel 28:11-20

"Then said the woman, Whom shall I bring up unto thee? And he said, Bring me up Samuel. And when the woman saw Samuel, she cried with a loud voice: and the woman spake to Saul, saying, Why hast thou deceived me? for thou *art* Saul. And the king said unto her, Be not afraid: for what sawest thou? And the woman said unto Saul, I saw gods ascending out of the earth. And he said unto her, What form *is* he of? And she said, An old man cometh up; and he *is* covered with a mantle. And Saul perceived that it *was* Samuel, and he stooped with *his* face to the ground, and bowed himself. And Samuel said to Saul, Why hast thou disquieted me, to bring me up? And Saul answered, I am sore distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God is departed from me, and answereth me no more, neither by prophets, nor by dreams: therefore I have called thee, that thou mayest make known unto me what I shall do. Then said Samuel, Wherefore then dost thou ask of me, seeing the LORD is departed from thee, and is become thine enemy? And the LORD hath done to him, as he spake by me: for the LORD hath rent the kingdom out of thine hand, and given it to thy neighbour, *even* to David: Because thou obeyedst not the voice of the LORD, nor executedst his fierce wrath upon Amalek, therefore hath the LORD done this thing unto thee this day. Moreover the LORD will also deliver Israel with thee into the hand of the Philistines: and to morrow *shalt* thou and thy sons *be* with me: the LORD also shall deliver the host of Israel into the hand of the Philistines. Then Saul fell straightway all along on the earth, and was sore afraid, because of the words of Samuel: and there was no strength in him; for he had eaten no bread all the day, nor all the night."

We have in this text at least 4 proofs that show that it was in fact Samuel who was "brought up," and not a demon or evil spirit.

After Saul requested that the medium bring up Samuel

1. The scripture says that **the medium "saw Samuel."**

A. When she did see him, she cried out with a loud voice (she was startled).

B. Then she spoke to Saul saying, "why have you deceived me?" realizing once she actually saw Samuel who it is that was requesting she summon him - Saul! the king. The one who had not only been anointed king over Israel by Samuel in the first place, but also the one who had "put those who had familiar spirits and the wizards out of the land."

2. The scripture says that **Saul "perceived that it was Samuel."**

(In the mouth of two or three witnesses every word shall be established.)

A. In humble recognition of whose presence he was in, "he stooped with *his* face to the ground, and bowed himself."

3. The **scripture acknowledges the one who speaks to Saul to be Samuel**, by saying, "Then said Samuel..." (whether Samuel spoke through the medium or not).

A. The scripture acknowledges that it was Samuel who spoke to Saul yet a second time, by saying, "Then said Samuel..." a second time.

B. The word that Samuel gives to Saul is in keeping with that which he gave him while he was yet alive, and the rest of the tenor of scripture.

C. The prophesy Samuel gives shows that he is a true prophet of God according to the tests laid out for true and false prophets under the Mosaic Covenant (Deu. 13:1-5; 18:21-22).

i. Nothing contained in his prophesy or word to Saul seeks to turn Saul aside to others gods, to serve them.

ii. The prophesy that Samuel gives to Saul is fulfilled the following day (1 Sam. 31:1-6).

These two things prove that the one speaking is a true prophet of God.

4. **The scripture recognizes** for at least a fourth time that **it was in fact Samuel**, when it says, "Then Saul fell straightway all along on the earth, and was sore afraid, because of the words of Samuel."