

# ***Don't Waste Your Life!***

*Saul and the Witch of Endor – 1 Samuel 28:3-25*

**Introduction:** Chapter 27 and 28 form a contrast. When David runs from God, he flees to the world, but God can bring him back. When Saul the non-believer runs from God, he flees to demonism and there is no hope. He cannot come back. This chapter is a dire warning not to dabble in demonism or witchcraft.

- 1. *HOW IT BEGINS – Sometimes desperate people refuse to turn to God, so they turn to the occult. 1 Samuel 28:3-6***
  - A. Saul has totally cut himself off from any supernatural word from God. 28:3
  - B. Saul's country is about to be cut in half by the forces of the Philistines (Davis, 233). 28:4-5
  - C. Saul tried every way possible to communicate with God, but nothing worked. 28:6
  - D. Saul's mindset – Just as David struggled with waiting on God, Saul did as well. But they handled their fleeing from God differently. Beware the occult!
- 2. *HOW IT DEVELOPES – Saul meets with the witch of Endor, but God intervenes for judgment. 1 Samuel 28:7-19***
  - A. Small compromises: We discover that Saul did not totally rid the land of witches. 28:7
  - B. Large compromise: Saul now meets with the witch. 28:8-9
  - C. Samuel does indeed come and he issues a word of judgment. 28:15-19
- 3. *HOW IT ENDS – Saul experiences the ultimate degradation; he must be ministered to by a witch. 1 Samuel 28:20-25***
  - A. Saul suffers a massive panic attack. 28:20
  - B. Saul will listen to no one and must be forced to eat. 28:21-23
  - C. Saul eats his last supper. The symbolism is one of ironic hopelessness. 28:24-25
  - D. Later: Incredibly, Saul does not withdraw his men; he still thinks he can do it on his own power.