

WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?

By Keith Greer

"Then Samuel died; and the Israelites gathered together and lamented for him, and buried him at his home in Ramah ... "{1 Samuel 25:1} Samuel was the prophet of God for king Saul. When he died, along with all the events with David, Saul knew God had left him. Now what would he do with Samuel gone?

The Philistines were gathering against Saul at Shunem and he was afraid. So he seeks to gain counsel from the Lord. "And when Saul inquired from the Lord, the Lord did not answer him, either by dreams or by Urim or by the prophets." {1 Samuel 28:6} He had put the mediums out of the land and had nowhere to turn.

He is told of a medium, a woman called En Dor. He goes to her to seek her help in bringing up Samuel to talk with Saul. Of course people do not have such ability, but when she calls up Samuel he appears! What does Samuel say to Saul? " ... Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up? ... why then do you ask me, seeing the Lord has departed from you and has become your enemy." {1 Samuel 28:15,16}

Samuel has some more words for Saul to hear. "Moreover the Lord will also deliver Israel with you into the hands of the Philistines. And tomorrow you and your sons will be with me. The Lord will also deliver the army of Israel into the hand of the Philistines." {1 Samuel 28:19} What was Saul's reaction to the words of Samuel? "Then immediately Saul fell full length on the ground, and was dreadfully afraid because of the words of Samuel... " {1 Samuel 28:20}

Why was En Dor afraid when she saw Samuel coming up? She knew she did not bring him up-but God had! Saul's doom was sealed by these words of Samuel. We know that Saul and his sons lost their lives in the battle the following day. Saul's reign comes to a terrible end. Yet, Saul had made evil choices that brought God's displeasure against him for his disobedience. Saul is living proof that the sins which one commits do have consequences! How could this story have turned out better? Saul had only trusted God more than he trusted himself!
