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DEMONIC WARFARE
AND DEMONS – PART 2

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Today's Scripture text says, ***"Now Samuel was dead, and all Israel had lamented him, and buried him in Ramah, even in his own city. And Saul had put away those that had familiar spirits, and the wizards, out of the land. And the Philistines gathered themselves together, and came and pitched in Shunem: and Saul gathered all Israel together, and they pitched in Gilboa. And when Saul saw the host of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart greatly trembled. And when Saul enquired of the LORD, the LORD answered him not, neither by dreams, nor by Urim (two divining stones in a pouch on the high priest's breastplate), nor by prophets. Then said Saul unto his servants, Seek me a woman (it seems women are more susceptible to demonic activity, see Acts 16:16-18; Revelation 17:4-5) that hath a familiar spirit, that I may go to her, and enquire of her. And his servants said to him, Behold, there is a woman that hath a familiar spirit at Endor"** (1 Samuel 28:3-7).*

At this point, King Saul was unable to find direction from Jehovah. Saul's act of rebellion, by not destroying the Amalekites and sparing King Agag's life, is what brought this grievous departure by Jehovah from his life. Disobedience is one of the greatest sins of any believer. Thus, we find the renowned words of the prophet Samuel: ***"Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken (heeding God's Word is more important than any sacrifice) than the fat of rams"** (1 Samuel 15:22).*

Like many professing Christians, Saul chose his own way rather than God's. We are admonished: ***"There***

***is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death"** (Proverbs 14:12).*

To choose one's own way and will is always disastrous. Saul's decisions may have seemed right in his own eyes, but he died lost, without Jehovah. Saul's act of rebellion ultimately destroyed him, his sons, and his kingdom: ***"For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king"** (1 Samuel 15:23).*

Rebelling against the Word of the Lord is always a grievous sin. Sadly, today's generation does not believe Jehovah would depart from anyone; but that is a faulty belief.

Though Saul's sin was not blasphemy, his sin was one of rebellion and disobedience. Because of Saul's grievous act of sin, the Lord removed His presence and Spirit from Saul.

Saul was a walking dead man. He was merely awaiting his earthly demise, and after his death he would spend eternity lost without Jehovah: ***"But the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil (calamitous) spirit from the LORD troubled (terrified) him."** (1 Samuel 16:14).*

I find it alarming that many Christians believe they can live any way and still retain blessing and favor from God within their lives.

Because Saul had become so callous and hardened, Jehovah left him and replaced His holy presence with a spirit of calamity. What horror, fear, and terror Saul must have lived with until his death! In the end, Saul not only found himself in a place of tor-

ment, but one of desolate isolation.

Some time ago, God revealed to me a very moving and disturbing revelation. That revelation concerned King David after he committed adultery and had Uriah murdered. I believe you will grasp the simple gravity of this disturbing revelation in David's words: ***"Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me"** (Psalm 51:11).*

David had a front row seat as he observed Jehovah had departed from King Saul. Therefore, after David was indicted by Nathan for his sins, he cried aloud from the depth of his soul: ***"Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me!"***

Only a fool would cast aside and forfeit the knowledge David had concerning Saul and how Jehovah had removed His Spirit from Saul's life. Because David feared Jehovah so greatly, he cried earnestly: ***Cast me not away from thy presence, and please don't take thy Holy Spirit from me like you did Saul!***

For the most part, the modern church has lost its fear and reverence for Jehovah. We have several stern warnings in the New Testament concerning God's divine character.

We read: ***"It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God"** (Hebrews 10:31).* It is the fear and reverence of God that causes men to depart from rebellion, disobedience, and a life of sin.

We read: ***"For our God is a consuming fire"** (Hebrews 12:29).*

I admonish you, please do not allow sin to have lodging within your heart, lest Jehovah also deal so harshly with you. Because He is the God of

all flesh, He can break every man, government, institution, denomination, or nation. He is God alone and there is none like him.

Saul had been abandoned by God, so he sought the witch of Endor, who was possessed with a familiar spirit.

Saul absolutely knew this was wrong because he was the one who had all the witches, warlocks, and those possessed with familiar spirits put out of the land. However, in sheer desperation, Saul sought a woman possessed with a familiar spirit.

Familiar spirits can predict the future, not because they discern the future, but because they know people, their lives, and God's will.

This foreknowledge is revealed to demons during assemblies wherein you and I are the subjects of discussion between God and Satan: ***"Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them. And the LORD said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it"*** (Job 1:6-7).

It would be in this gathering that Job would become the subject between Satan and Jehovah. Satan and his minions had foreknowledge of what Jehovah would allow Satan to do to Job. Therefore, they knew Job's future because of the dialogue between Jehovah and Satan. This foreknowledge allows demons to appear to predict the future, because of the dialogue between Jehovah and Satan.

After Saul engaged the witch of Endor, she conjured a familiar spirit, but that spirit was not Samuel. When Samuel died, he went to Abraham's bosom, thus it would not be possible for this witch to conjure up Samuel.

Remember the words of Christ concerning the rich man in Hell: ***"And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf" (chasm) fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither***

can they pass to us, that would come from thence" (Luke 16:26).

The child conceived by David and Bathsheba through the act of adultery, Jehovah suffered to die. Following the child's death, David broke his fast and wept no more and the servants questioned, "Why?" David responded: *While the child was yet alive, I fasted and prayed Jehovah might be gracious to me and let the child live. But the child is now dead, wherefore should I weep and fast?* David decreed: ***"I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me"*** (2 Samuel 12:23). That event authenticates the dead cannot return to this side of eternity.

This was a familiar spirit imitating the prophet of God. Having foreknowledge, this familiar spirit seemingly prophesied Saul's and his three sons' deaths. This familiar spirit had foreknowledge by being in an assembly between God and Satan concerning Saul's life and what would happen the following day. This familiar spirit, imitating Samuel, spoke prophetically, like the demon-possessed damsel in the book of Acts: ***"These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation"*** (Acts 16:17).

This demon imitating Samuel declared that the next day Israel would be delivered into the hands of the Philistines, and Saul and his three sons would die and come to where this familiar spirit was.

(Note: In every biblical account I read in the Scriptures about demons, they are always spoken of in the male pronoun, either he or him.)

I feel certain Jonathan was not lost, but I cannot speak to the fate of Abinadab and Melchishua. In the end, Saul committed suicide by falling upon his sword.

Don't ever underestimate the power of rebellion and disobedience and how they can destroy a person's life, bringing them to absolute ruin and destruction.

Demonic activity will only increase now, in these end times, and

the only way to prepare is through prayer and fasting. Things accepted in the modern church are open manifestations of such demonic activity.

We read: ***"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils"*** (fallacies taught by men); ***Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron"*** (1 Timothy 4:1-2).

These grievous, disastrous, and damnable false doctrines are spread by seducing demonic spirits. Beware, lest they are already present in your church or denomination, and you end up deceived as well. To believe one cannot be deceived is itself a sign that many people are already deceived by these seducing demons.

As you spend time in prayer, the Holy Ghost will edify and keep your cup running over, so Satan's lies will not pervade your spirit.

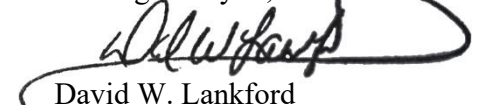
In closing, allow me to express heartfelt thanks for your love and support for this ministry. We are so blessed to have you on our team and appreciate the significant burden you bear with us.

Please keep
September 26-28, 2025,
open for our
Revival Meeting
in
Hickory, North Carolina.

Bishop Jimmy D. Smith, Dr. Tim Hill, and yours truly will be ministering in our Revival Meeting. Come and be refreshed in the Holy Ghost.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Serving with you,


David W. Lankford
Pastor / Evangelist