

A Little Dabbling Will Undo You
A Devotional on Dabbling in the Occult
1 Samuel 28

Introduction:

- In Deut 18:9-11 God warned His people not to i_____ the detestable practices of pagan people when they entered the promised land.
- Many do not realize when they are dabbling in the occult.
 1. This devotional will help you realize if you are so you can stop.
 2. This devotional will help you help others realize if they are so they can stop.
- Why will even a little dabbling undo you? (our lesson is in 1 Sam 28)

It Keeps Us From Listening to the Lord

- King Saul's situation
 1. He saw the Philistine a_____ setting up camp in Shunem, a town in Israel.
 2. He became filled with f_____, wondering what he should do.
- King Saul's first solution – he a_____ the Lord, but the Lord did not answer him by:
 1. D_____
 2. U_____ (a pair of stones held in the pouch of a priestly garment used to determine the Lord's will).
 3. P_____
- King Saul's second solution
 1. He was not satisfied with _____ answer from the Lord
 2. He located a w_____ who could conjure up the dead
 3. His intent was to find an answer from a dead person!
- Application
 1. Seeking answers through pagan means keeps us from listening to the Lord (See Deut 18:14,15)
 - a. God promised to raise up a prophet like Moses who would only communicate God's w_____.
 - b. This prophet is J_____ (Jn 6:14; 7:40)
 2. What is paganism? – the worship of n_____ (or created things) and ascribing some supernatural power behind it.
 - a. Depending on an Eight Ball
 - b. Consulting Horoscopes
 - c. Deriving good luck from a Rabbit's foot
 3. How do I know if I am worshipping something other than God? (Matt 6:24)

- a. If I l_____ anything more than I love God, then I am worshipping it.
- b. If I d_____ upon anything instead of God, I am worshipping it.

It Calls on Demonic Powers

●King Saul's strategy

1. He had the witch conjure up the prophet S_____ (this prophet had died recently – see verse 3). Was she successful?
 - a. Verse 14 states that Saul knew it was Samuel.
 - 1) Stories are often told from the perspective of a character even if their perspective is false
 - a) The temptation account in Genesis 3 is from the perspective of Adam & Eve – were they tempted by a s_____ or Satan (Rev 12:9).
 - b) 1 Samuel 17:51 is told from the perspective of the Philistines (verse 50 states that David killed Goliath with a s_____; verse 51 states that David killed Goliath with a s_____).
 - 2) 1 Sam 28 is told from the perspective of S_____ (certainly God's refusal to answer Saul by live prophets would not be circumvented by a dead prophet!)
 - b. The witch really conjured up a d_____ in disguise.
2. He got an answer that he and his sons would d_____ in battle against the Philistines.

●Application

1. Demonic p_____ are behind all pagan practices.
2. Calling upon the powers of an object is therefore calling on the power of demons!
3. Participating in pagan rituals is participating with demons.
4. Believers have the A_____ within them. His power is more than sufficient.
5. Here is what you can do with Halloween - give out tracts.

“Did you know that witches see this night as a night of power in which the spirit world can be accessed. I am going to give you something where you can access the spirit world at any time. Make sure you read it!”