

IT'S QUIZ TIME!

The Ark of the Covenant

Saul's Three Mistakes

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#1: When told to destroy everything in a city he had captured, he didn't do it. He tried to claim that he had kept the good stuff for sacrifices, but he still hadn't done things God's way.

#2: When Samuel was late, Saul took it upon himself to offer sacrifice; since he was not a priest (why not?), he wasn't supposed to do this.

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After #1 and #2, Samuel told Saul that he'd forfeited the kingdom for himself and for his son, Jonathon (David's best friend). Despite this, Saul made mistake #3:

After Samuel's death, Saul goes to a witch to try to summon him back from the dead to consult him. *Something* happens (more on that in a bit), but whoever he's talking to only gives him a prophecy that makes him despair.

Does the witch really call up Samuel's ghost?

Probably not. The most widely accepted explanation is that she actually calls up a demon impersonating Samuel.

2115 God can reveal the future to his prophets or to other saints. Still, a sound Christian attitude consists in putting oneself confidently into the hands of Providence for whatever concerns the future, and giving up all unhealthy curiosity about it. Improvidence, however, can constitute a lack of responsibility.

2116 All forms of divination are to be rejected: recourse to Satan or demons, conjuring up the dead or other practices falsely supposed to "unveil" the future. Consulting horoscopes, astrology, palm reading, interpretation of omens and lots, the phenomena of clairvoyance, and recourse to mediums all conceal a desire for power over time, history, and, in the last analysis, other human beings, as well as a wish to conciliate hidden powers. They contradict the honor, respect, and loving fear that we owe to God alone.