



**Adult Sunday
School at the
sanctuary**

Lesson-9: Saul
and the witch of
Endor

Date: 4 Sep 2022
(Sunday)

Time: 9.40am

Venue: Sanctuary

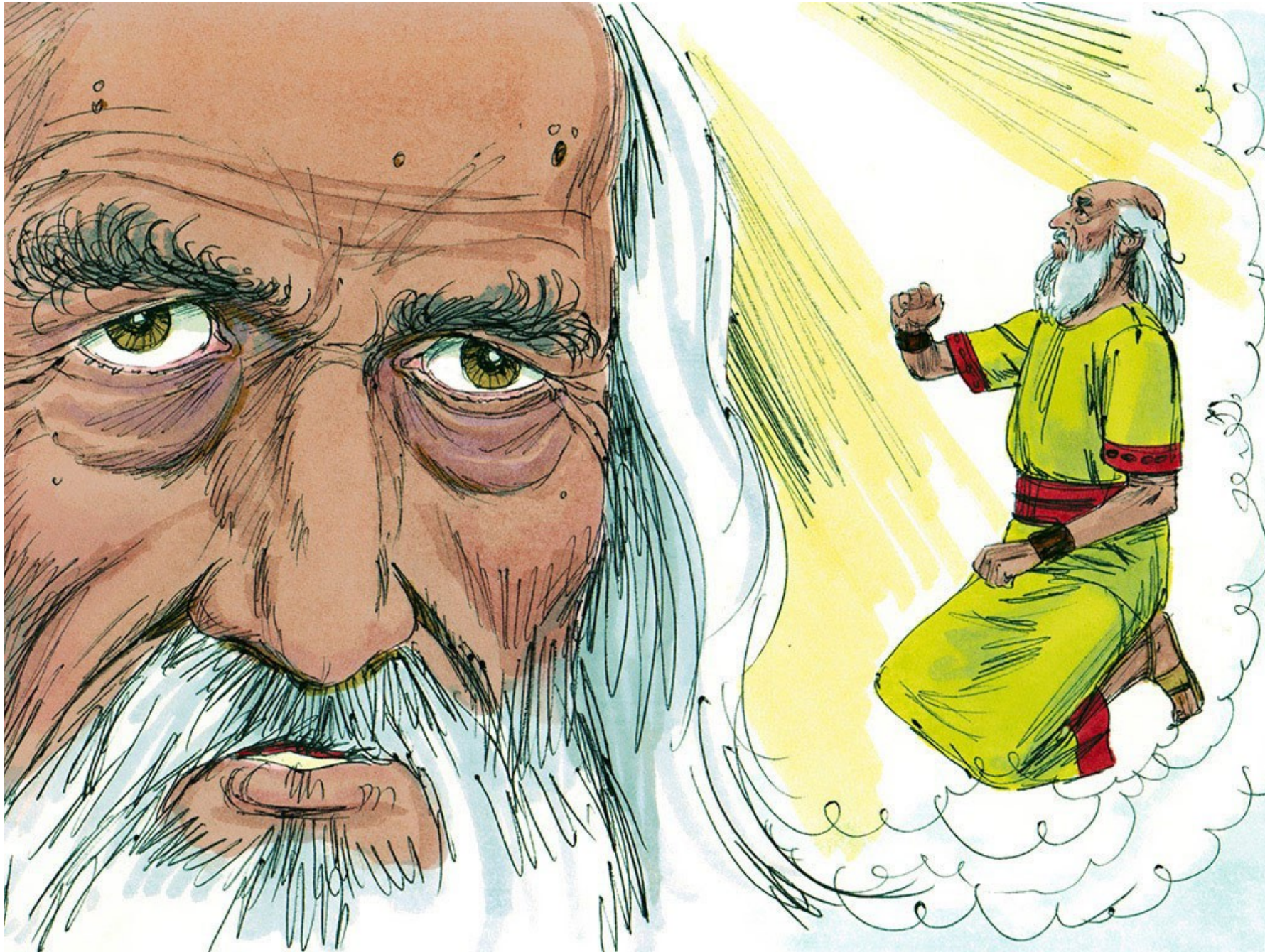
Lesson 9- Saul and the witch of Endor

- (1) Background: The Philistines set up their camp at Shunem. Saul and his army set up their camp at Gilboa. David was taking refuge in Philistine country.
- (2) Saul was terrified at the Philistine army.



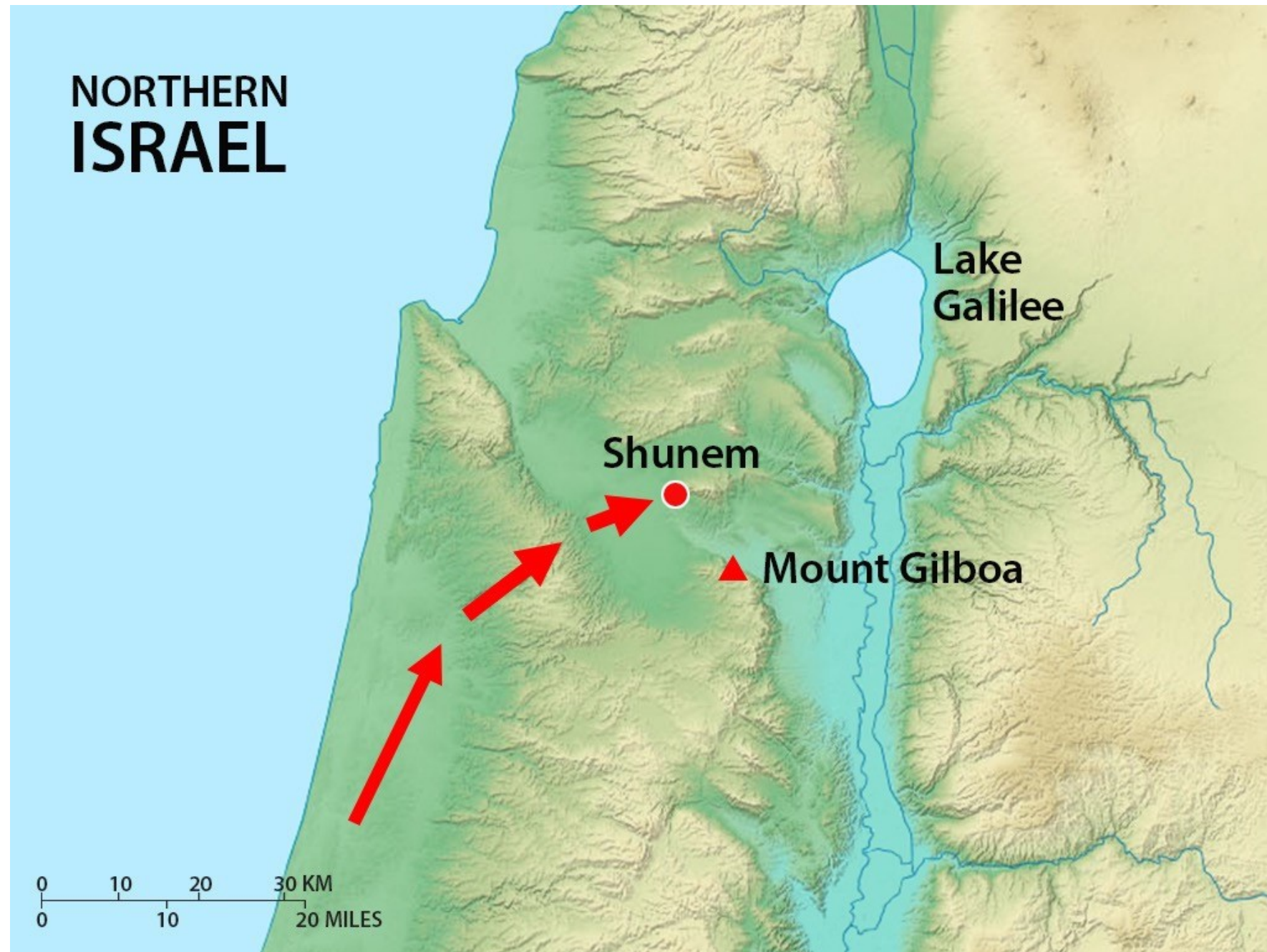
King Saul's last days

1 Samuel 28:31, 2 Samuel 1:1-2:7



Samuel the prophet died in his old age and was buried in his home town of Ramah. Some time afterwards, the Philistines again made war on Israel.

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The Philistines brought their army to a place near Shunem.

1 Sam 28:4



King Saul and his army went out to defend their country. They camped on Mount Gilboa but when Saul saw the Philistine army, he was afraid.

1 Sam 28:5

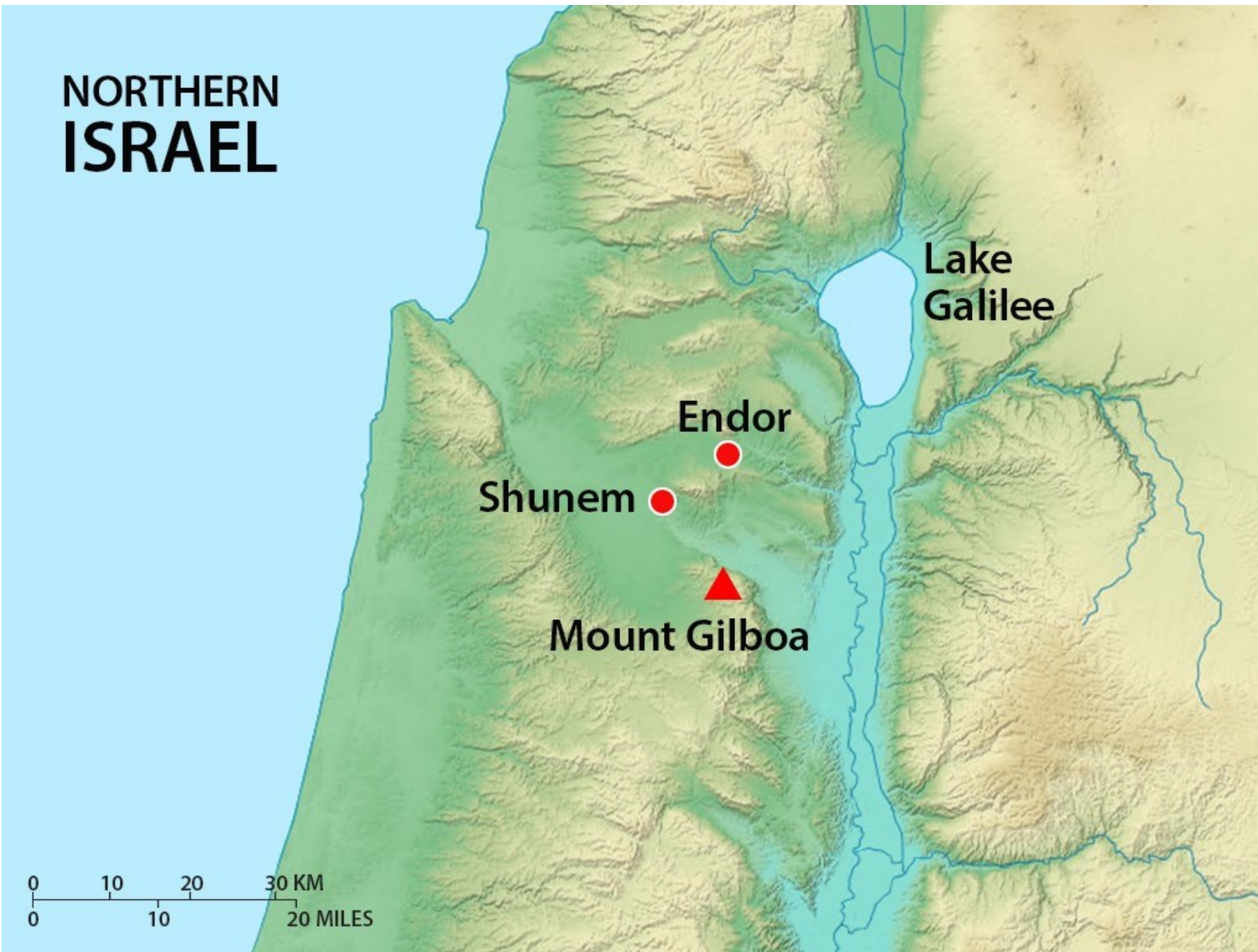


Saul tried to find out what the Lord wanted him to do but the Lord gave no answer. So Saul foolishly decided to do something that God had strictly forbidden - visit a medium (a person who claims to be able to speak to the spirits of the dead).
1 Sam 28:6-7



Now King Saul has already outlawed all mediums from the land of Israel. But his servant knew that there was a woman living in Endor who was a medium.
1 Sam 28:7

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King Saul put on
a disguise and
went to see her.

1 Sam 28:8



Saul said to her, 'Speak to the spirits and call up the one I tell you.' But the woman, a witch, was suspicious, fearing it was a trap. 'Surely you know that the King has forbidden anyone to do that,' she said.

1 Sam 28:9



Saul promised her she would be safe. Then he asked her to call back the spirit of the prophet Samuel. When Saul heard Samuel's voice he said, 'I am in great trouble, Samuel. Tell me what I must do.'
1 Sam 28:15



Samuel replied,
'As you have
disobeyed The
Lord, He is giving
your kingdom to
David. The
Philistines will
defeat you and
tomorrow you
and your sons
will be with me.'
Saul was
terrified.
1 Sam 28:18-20

Matthew Poole's commentary on 1 Samuel 28:14-

“Saul perceived that it was Samuel;”

(a) the woman pretended, and Saul upon her suggestion believed, that it was Samuel indeed; and so many popish and some other writers conceived. But that it was not Samuel, but the devil representing Samuel, is sufficiently evident.

(b) For, first, It is most incredible that God, who had just now refused to answer Saul by the means which himself appointed and used in that case, would answer him, or suffer Samuel to answer him, in that way, and upon the use of those means which God detested and contemned; etc...

(3) Spiritual Lessons

(a) As Christians, we must never consult mediums:

“Regard not those with familiar spirits, neither seek after wizards to be defiled by them: I am the Lord your God.” Leviticus 19:31

Also: Leviticus 20:6, Leviticus 20:27

(b) Do not consult:

(i) Fortune tellers

(ii) Horoscope

(iii) Almanac

(iv) Feng-sui

(v) Lucky charm, wishing well, etc.

(vi) seance and occult practice

(c) Psychic Scams Rise During COVID-19 Pandemic

<https://www.aarp.org/money/scams-fraud/info-2020/psychic-scams-coronavirus.html>

A New Jersey man in his 50s was having problems at work. In February, he turned to a psychic for help. During their first meeting, the psychic read tarot cards and peppered him with personal questions.



Source: <https://www.insider.com/psychic-scandals-scams-2019-4>

That led to a second, costlier session at which she uttered an ominous warning: "You have a curse. It might be devastating for your family. It has to be removed immediately."

Next, she asked him to bring her \$9,000 in a pillowcase with nine white roses, nine red roses and magnets. She said she would perform rituals and soon return the \$9,000.

Yearning for the bad karma to disappear, he did as instructed, scraping together money from friends, a rainy-day fund and an account earmarked for his son's college education. He says that his repeated attempts to get the money back from the psychic have not yielded a dime, and that police refused to pursue the matter.

In groups of 2 to 4 persons:

(a) Share observation/ experience of people consulting unbiblical practises eg fortune tellers.