

## THE GHOST OF SAMUEL

### 1 SAMUEL 28:13

#### INTRODUCTION:

1. All Saint's Day began in 607 to honor Christians who had been killed by the Romans. The evening before is Hallows Eve.
2. The Bible is the word of God revealing historically accurate accounts of events which actually took place. (1 Thess. 2.13)
3. In 1 Samuel 28, we can read about a Biblical ghost story.

#### I. THE SETTING

- A. The defense of Israel.
  1. **1 SAMUEL 28.1,2:** *"The Philistines gathered their armies together for war, to fight with Israel."*
  2. Among the fighters was David. (1 Sam. 28.2)
- B. The death of Samuel.
  1. **1 SAMUEL 28.3:** *"Now Samuel had died"*
  2. Samuel was a prophet. (1 Sam. 3.20; 15.11,35)
- C. The departure of God.
  1. **1 SAMUEL 28.15-17:** *"the LORD has departed from you"*
  2. Why did God depart? (1 Sam. 28.18; 15.2,19,23-28)

#### II. THE STORY

- A. The desperation of Saul.
  1. Saul had feelings of desperation. (1 Sam. 28.4-6)
  2. Saul acted out of desperation. (1 Sam. 28.7; Deut.18.11)
- B. The divination of the woman.
  1. Saul made a request to summon Samuel. (1 Sam. 28.8,9)
  2. The woman began a ritual. (1 Sam. 28.12-14)
- C. The discussion with Samuel.
  1. There was a problem expressed. (1 Sam. 28.15)
  2. There was a prediction explained. (1 Sam. 28.19)

#### III. THE SIGNIFICANCE

- A. God kept His word which He spoke to Saul through Samuel.
  1. **1 SAMUEL 28.17:** *"And the LORD has...as He spoke"*
  2. What did God promise to do? (1 Sam. 15.28)
- B. God always keeps His promises. (Num. 23.19; Rom. 2.6)
  1. Eternal life to His faithful. (Rom. 2.7,10)
  2. Eternal condemnation to the disobedient. (Rom. 2.8,9)

**CONCLUSION:** What has God promised is in your eternal future?

## NORTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST

2424 McCarran St. ☐ North Las Vegas, NV ☐ 89030  
Phone: (702) 642-3141 Email: [info@nlvchurchofchrist.com](mailto:info@nlvchurchofchrist.com)  
Be sure to watch us live at [www.nlvchurchofchrist.com](http://www.nlvchurchofchrist.com)

*"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature"*  
-Mark 16.15

**October 31, 2021**

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#### MEETING TIMES:

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS : 9:00 AM  
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP: 9:50 AM  
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP: 6:00 PM  
WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS 7:30 PM

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#### THE FOOL: WHAT COULD BE WORSE?

The term "fool" usually indicates a lack of common sense. It describes someone who lacks judgment and understanding. The two primary Greek words from which "fool" is derived is "aphro" defined as "without mind" and "anoetos" defined as "not understanding" [VINE]. The nature of foolishness is not the inability to learn, but the choice to ignore common sense and good judgment.

Solomon has some harsh words for the fool. A fool tends to rattle on about things he knows nothing about (Prov. 10.8). A fool finds pleasure in unrighteousness (Prov. 10.23). Although he is wrong, a fool refuses to listen to instruction and accept correction. (Prov. 17.10). A fool will soon find himself in a jail cell (Prov. 7.22). Therefore, a fool is dangerous. He is so dangerous that Solomon write, *"Let a man meet a bear robbed of her cubs, rather than a fool in his folly"* (Prov. 17.12).

With such a notorious description of a fool, it is hard to imagine anyone being worse. Yet Solomon describes two kinds of people that are considered worse than a fool. **PROVERBS 26.12:** *"Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him."* And then in **PROVERBS 29.20:** *"Do you see a man hasty in his words? There is more hope for a fool than for him."* CLP

## WHAT IS YOUR VALUE SYSTEM?

### MARK 10:21

#### INTRODUCTION:

1. A value system refers to those things you value most. Whatever you value will become your priority. (Matt. 6.33; 1 Cor. 2.2)
2. Jesus has three encounters which gives insight into His values.

#### I. PEOPLE OVER POSSESSIONS

- A. Jesus valued people more than possessions.
  1. **MARK 10.17:** “*What shall I do that I may inherit eternal life.*” (cf. Matt. 19.22; Luke 18.18)
  2. **MARK 10.18-20:** “*You know the commandments*”
  3. **MARK 10.21:** “*Go your way, sell whatever you have and give to the poor...and follow Me.*”
  4. **MARK 10.22:** “*But he was sad at this word.*”
- B. How much do you value your possessions?
  1. How you spend your money is your choice. (Acts 5.4)
  2. Your choice will affect your eternity. (1 Tim. 6.9,10)

#### II. SERVICE OVER STATUS

- A. Jesus valued service more than status.
  1. **MARK 10.37:** “*Grant us that we may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on Your left, in Your glory.*”
  2. **MARK 10.38:** “*Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, and be baptized...*” Lit. immersed.
  3. **MARK 10.39:** “*You will indeed drink the cup that I drink*” (cf. Mark 14.36)
  4. **MARK 10.42-45:** “*And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all.*” Lit. a bondservant.
- B. How much do you value a life of service?
  1. How you view yourself is your choice.
  2. Your choice will affect your eternity. (Phil. 2.3)

#### III. FAITH OVER FOLLOWERS

- A. Jesus valued faith more than followers.
  1. **MARK 10.46-51:** “*that I may receive my sight.*”
  2. **MARK 10.52:** “*Your faith has made you well.*”
- B. How much do you value faith?
  1. Having faith is a choice. (Mark 10.51)
  2. Your choice will affect your eternity. (John 8.24)

**CONCLUSION: MARK 10.21:** “*Jesus looking at him, loved him*”

## “THE SABBATH WAS NOT MADE FOR MAN”

There is a fascinating statement that Jesus made in Mark 2.27. It is there that He said, “*The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath.*”

This is a statement made within a context of the Pharisees criticizing the disciples for picking grain on the Sabbath. If you go back to the Old Testament book of Exodus and read Exodus 12.14ff, you will find that harvesting on the Sabbath would be a violation. However, picking only what you intended to prepare and eat that same day was well within the law. The Pharisees were accusing the disciples who were innocent. Jesus responded by doing two things.

First, He showed their inconsistency (Mark 2.25,26). He directs their attention back to the example of David. David lied to the high priest he they could eat the showbread that was only to be eaten by the priests (1 Sam. 21.1-6). Clearly David and his companions violated the law. These Pharisees had condemned the disciples who did nothing wrong. But David who violated the Law was held up in reverence. The Pharisees were being inconsistent.

Second, Jesus showed the true purpose of the Sabbath law. Jesus explained that “*The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath*” (Mark 2.27). The Pharisees had a zeal for the Law, but their zeal was inconsistent and hypercritical. They did not keep the Law themselves. They were more interested in criticizing others than they were in understanding the Law correctly and applying its teachings to their lives.

“*The Sabbath was not made for man.*” The idea is that it could not be changed or disregarded by man as seems best for him. It was made to benefit man, but that did not give the Jews license to personalize it for themselves. “*Man was made for the Sabbath.*” It was a law instituted by God for their benefit, and the Jews were expected to obey it as written.

The laws of God were not written to chain our lives and imprison us. They were not given to keep us from enjoy the things that bring us pleasure. They were given to keep us from those things that harm us. They were given to bring joy to our lives and ultimately bring us home to heaven (1 Tim. 1.5; Matt. 19.17). We do not have the right to arbitrarily decide what laws would benefit us and are thus worth keeping, and what laws do not help us and can be ignored. All of God’s laws are good and beneficial. To obey them is to have eternal life (Heb. 3.18).