



1 SAMUEL 28-29

THE MEDIUM & THE ARMY

Reasons why we should seek out the Lord

- Because we are fearful
- Because we are sinful
- Because we are lost

1 Samuel 28

1 Now it happened in those days that the Philistines gathered their armies together for war, to fight with Israel. And Achish [a king of the Philistines] said to David, “You assuredly know that you will go out with me to battle, you and your men.” 2 So David said to Achish, “Surely you know what your servant can do.” And Achish said to David, “Therefore I will make you one of my chief guardians forever.” (NKJV)

**“THE PHILISTINES GATHERED THEIR
ARMIES TOGETHER FOR WAR,
TO FIGHT WITH ISRAEL.” (28:1)**



1 Samuel 28

3 Now Samuel had died, and all Israel had lamented for him and buried him in Ramah, in his own city. And Saul had put the mediums and the spiritists out of the land. 4 Then the Philistines gathered together, and came and encamped at Shunem. So Saul gathered all Israel together, and they encamped at Gilboa. 5 When Saul saw the army of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart trembled greatly. 6 And when Saul inquired of the LORD, the LORD did not answer him, either by dreams or by Urim or by the prophets. (NKJV)

Spirits and Mediums

Leviticus 19:31

Give no regard to mediums and familiar spirits; do not seek after them, to be defiled by them: I *am* the LORD your God. (NKJV)



Gaza

Ashkelon

Ashdod

Ekron

Gath

Ziklag*

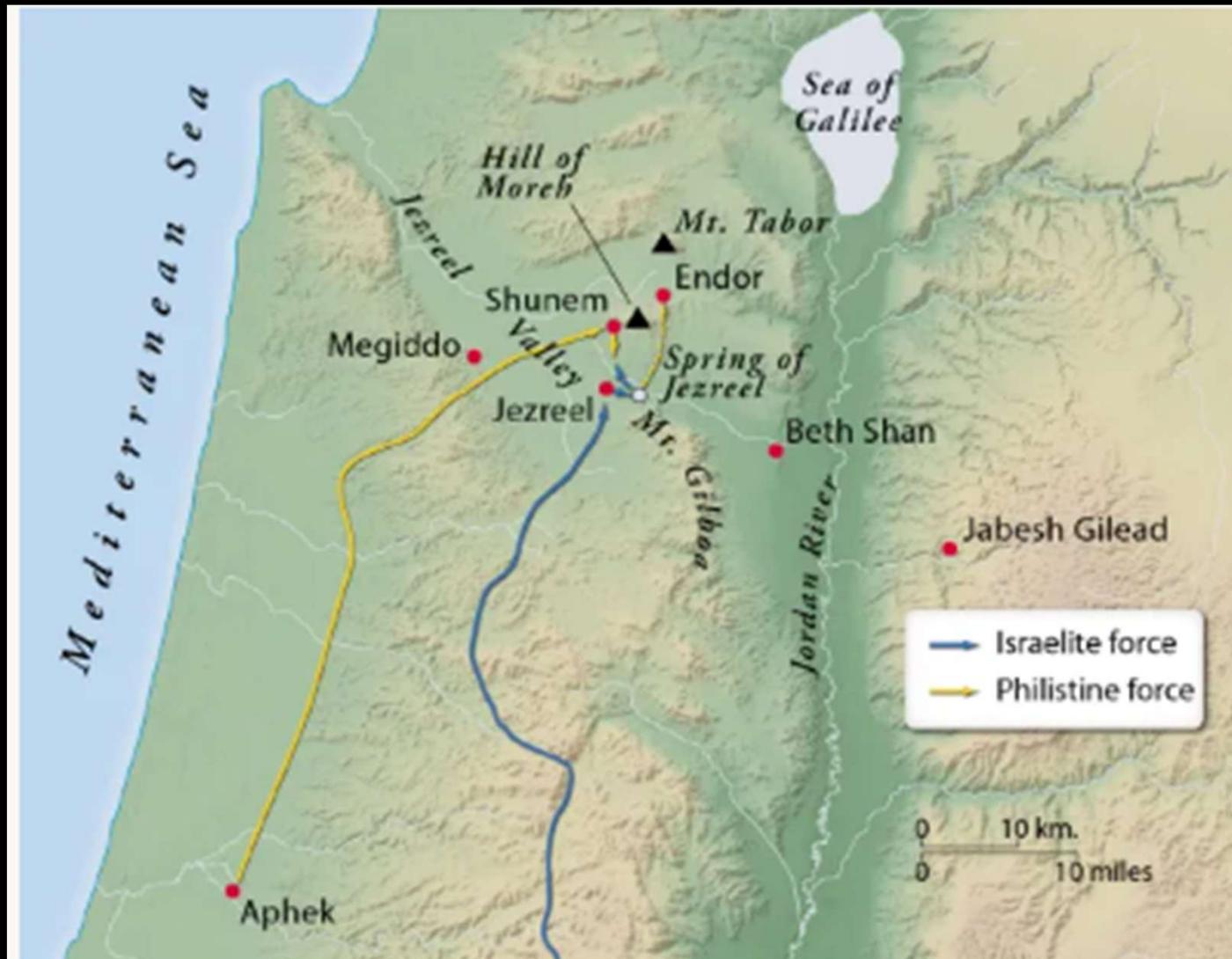
Shunem

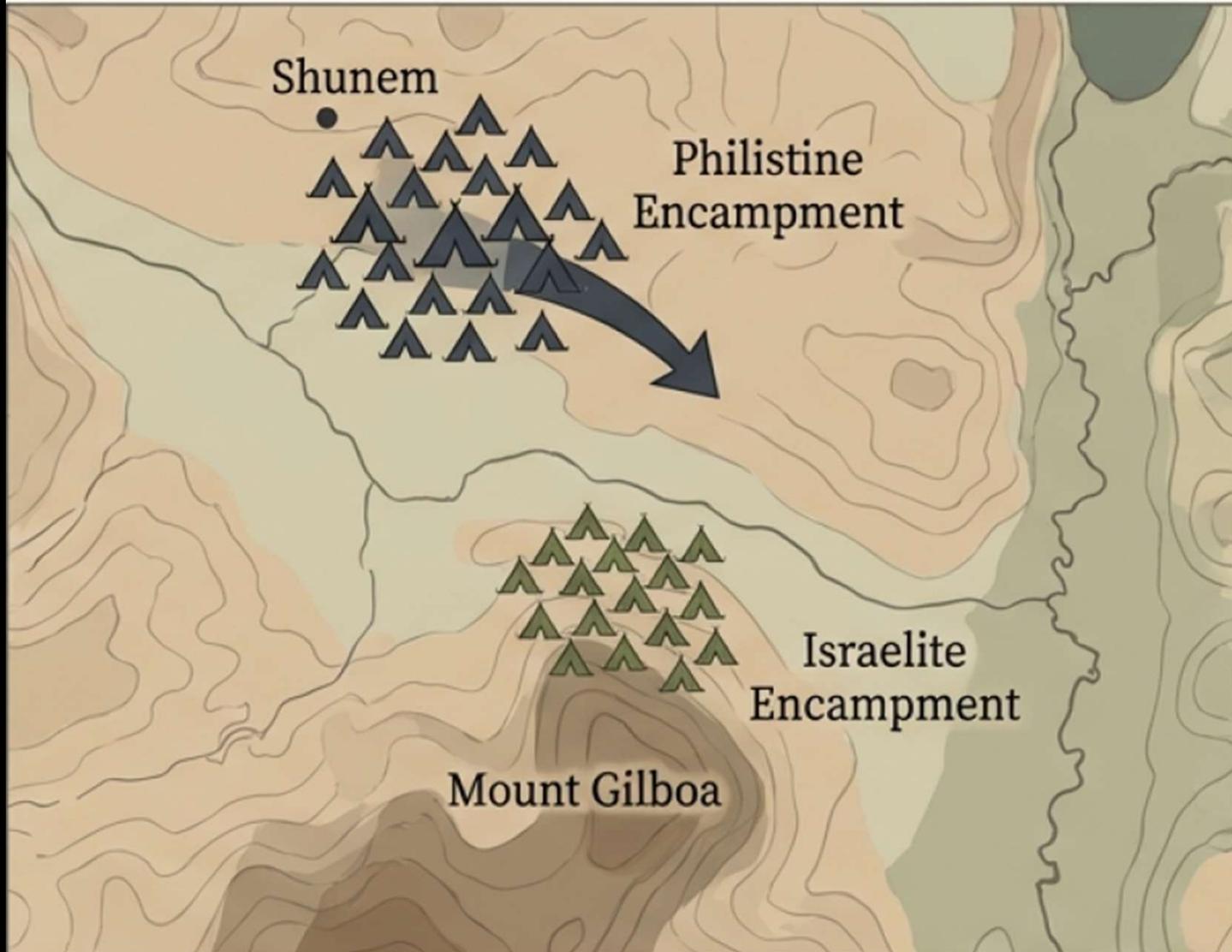
Mt. Gilboa

Jerusalem

Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO
Image Landsat / Copernicus
Image © 2023 Maxar Technologies

Google Earth





A close-up portrait of a man with a grey beard and intense expression, likely Saul from the Bible. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights on his face and deep shadows, emphasizing his weathered features and intense gaze. The background is dark and out of focus.

When Saul saw the army,
he was afraid, and his
heart trembled greatly.

Some Reasons Why the LORD Did Not Answer Saul

- He didn't wait for Samuel to make the sacrifice (13:13-14)
- Rejection of Saul because of failure with the Amalekites (15:23)
- God's Spirit departed from Saul (16:14)
- 10 years of personal vendetta against David (21-27)
- Saul killed all the priests except Abiathar who escaped to David (22)

Galatians 6:7 "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap."

1 Samuel 28

7 Then Saul said to his servants, “Find me a woman who is a medium, that I may go to her and inquire of her.” And his servants said to him, “In fact, *there is* a woman who is a medium at En Dor.” 8 So Saul disguised himself and put on other clothes, and he went, and two men with him; and they came to the woman by night. And he said, “Please conduct a séance for me, and bring up for me the one I shall name to you.” 9 Then the woman said to him, “Look, you know what Saul has done, how he has cut off the mediums and the spiritists from the land. Why then do you lay a snare for my life, to cause me to die?” 10 And Saul swore to her by the LORD, saying, “As the LORD lives, no punishment shall come upon you for this thing.” 11 Then the woman said, “Whom shall I bring up for you?” And he said, “Bring up Samuel for me.” 12 When the woman saw Samuel, she cried out with a loud voice. And the woman spoke to Saul, saying, “Why have you deceived me? For you are Saul!” (NKJV)

1 Samuel 28

13 And the king said to her, “Do not be afraid. What did you see?” And the woman said to Saul, “I saw a spirit ascending out of the earth.” 14 So he said to her, “What *is* his form?” And she said, “An old man is coming up, and he is covered with a mantle.” And Saul perceived that it *was* Samuel, and he stooped with *his* face to the ground and bowed down. 15 Now Samuel said to Saul, “Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up?” And Saul answered, “I am deeply distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God has departed from me and does not answer me anymore, neither by prophets nor by dreams. Therefore I have called you, that you may reveal to me what I should do.” (NKJV)

1 Samuel 28

16 Then Samuel said: “So why do you ask me, seeing the LORD has departed from you and has become your enemy? 17 And the LORD has done for Himself as He spoke by me. For the LORD has torn the kingdom out of your hand and given it to your neighbor, David. 18 Because you did not obey the voice of the LORD nor execute His fierce wrath upon Amalek, therefore the LORD has done this thing to you this day. 19 Moreover the LORD will also deliver Israel with you into the hand of the Philistines. And tomorrow you and your sons *will* be with me. The LORD will also deliver the army of Israel into the hand of the Philistines.” 20 Immediately Saul fell full length on the ground, and was dreadfully afraid because of the words of Samuel. And there was no strength in him, for he had eaten no food all day or all night. (NKJV)

“FIND ME A WOMAN
WHO IS A MEDIUM.” (28:7)

“SO SAUL DISGUISED HIMSELF AND
PUT ON OTHER CLOTHES.” (28:8)



The King Becomes the Criminal



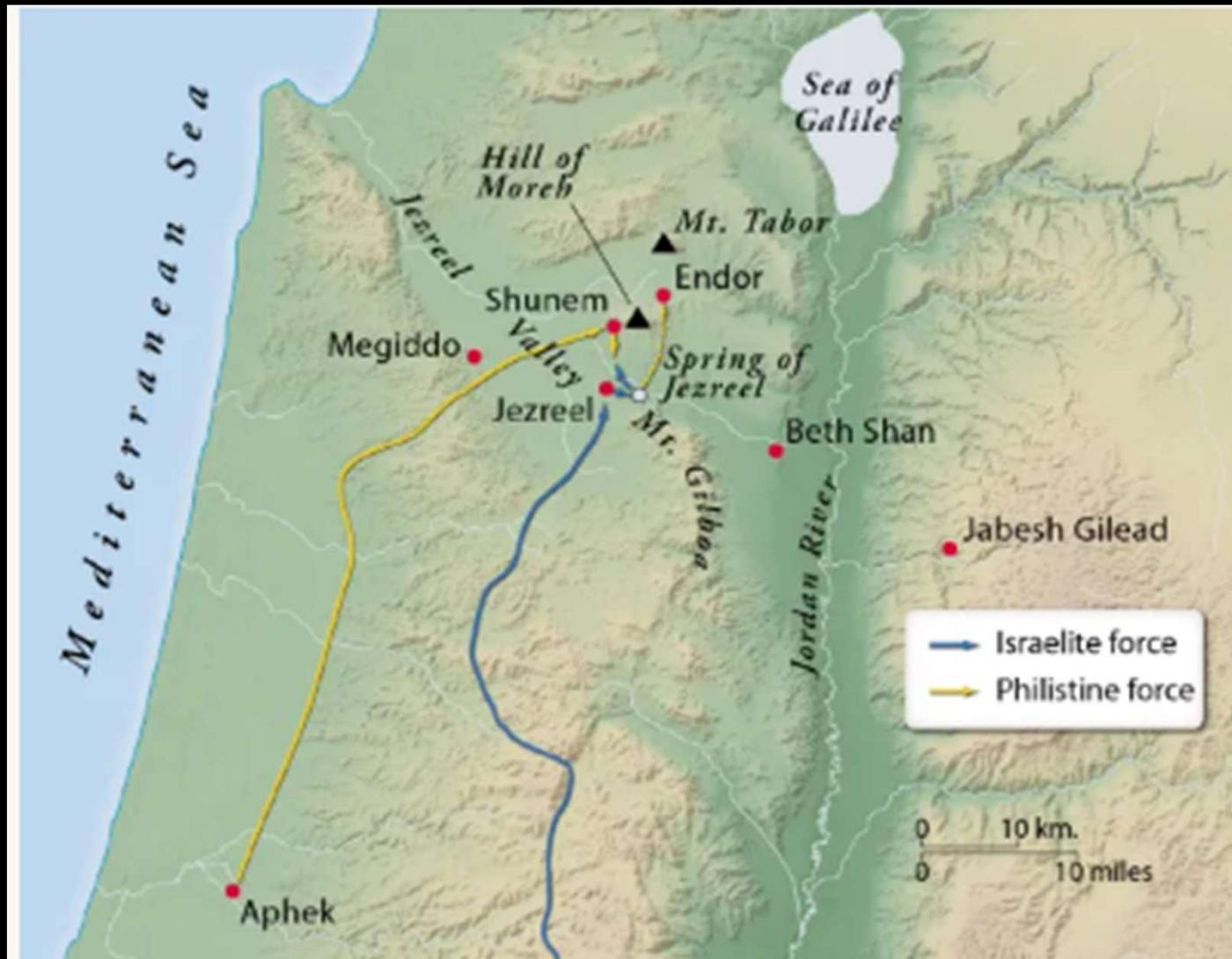
The Law

"And Saul had put the mediums and the spiritists out of the land." (v. 3)



The Transgression

"Then Saul said to his servants, 'Find me a woman who is a medium, that I may go to her and inquire of her.'" (v. 7)



A dimly lit, rustic interior, possibly a traditional dwelling or a place of ritual. In the center, a woman in a dark, long robe stands in a doorway, looking towards the camera. The room is filled with various objects: bundles of dried herbs and flowers hang from the ceiling, a animal skin hangs on the left wall, and several large earthenware pots are scattered around. In the foreground, a person is seated at a wooden table, their back to the camera, wearing a heavy, textured shawl. On the table in front of them sits a small, lit oil lamp, casting a warm glow. The overall atmosphere is mysterious and ancient.

• Please conduct a séance for me.

A close-up, high-contrast photograph of a man's face, focusing on his eyes. The lighting is dramatic, with one side of his face in deep shadow. His eyes are a light, greenish-brown color. The right eye (viewer's right) is heavily red and appears to be bleeding or has a significant injury. The man has a serious, intense expression.

“Bring up Samuel.”

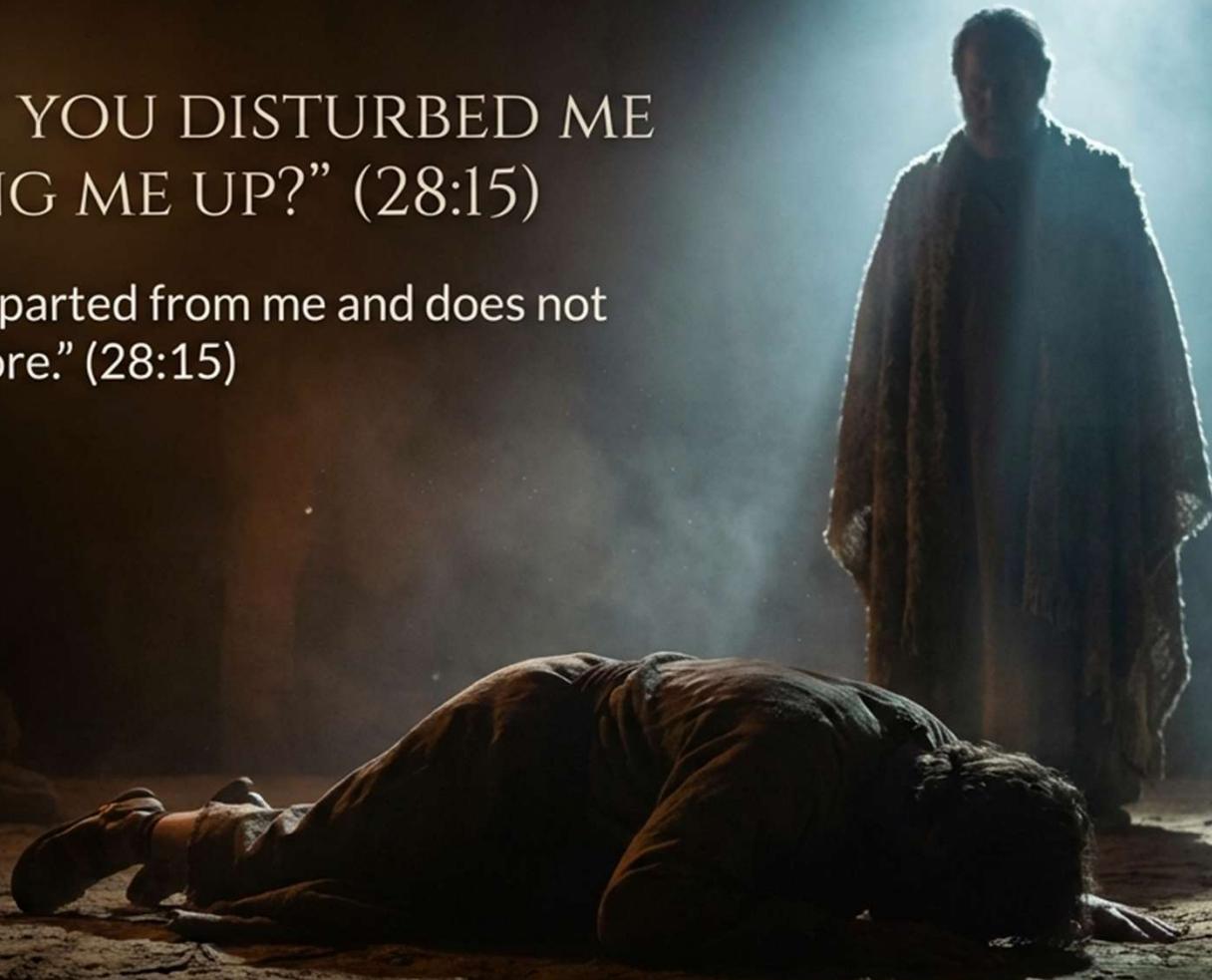


Why have you deceived me?

For you are Saul!

“WHY HAVE YOU DISTURBED ME
BY BRINGING ME UP?” (28:15)

SAUL: God has departed from me and does not
answer me anymore.” (28:15)

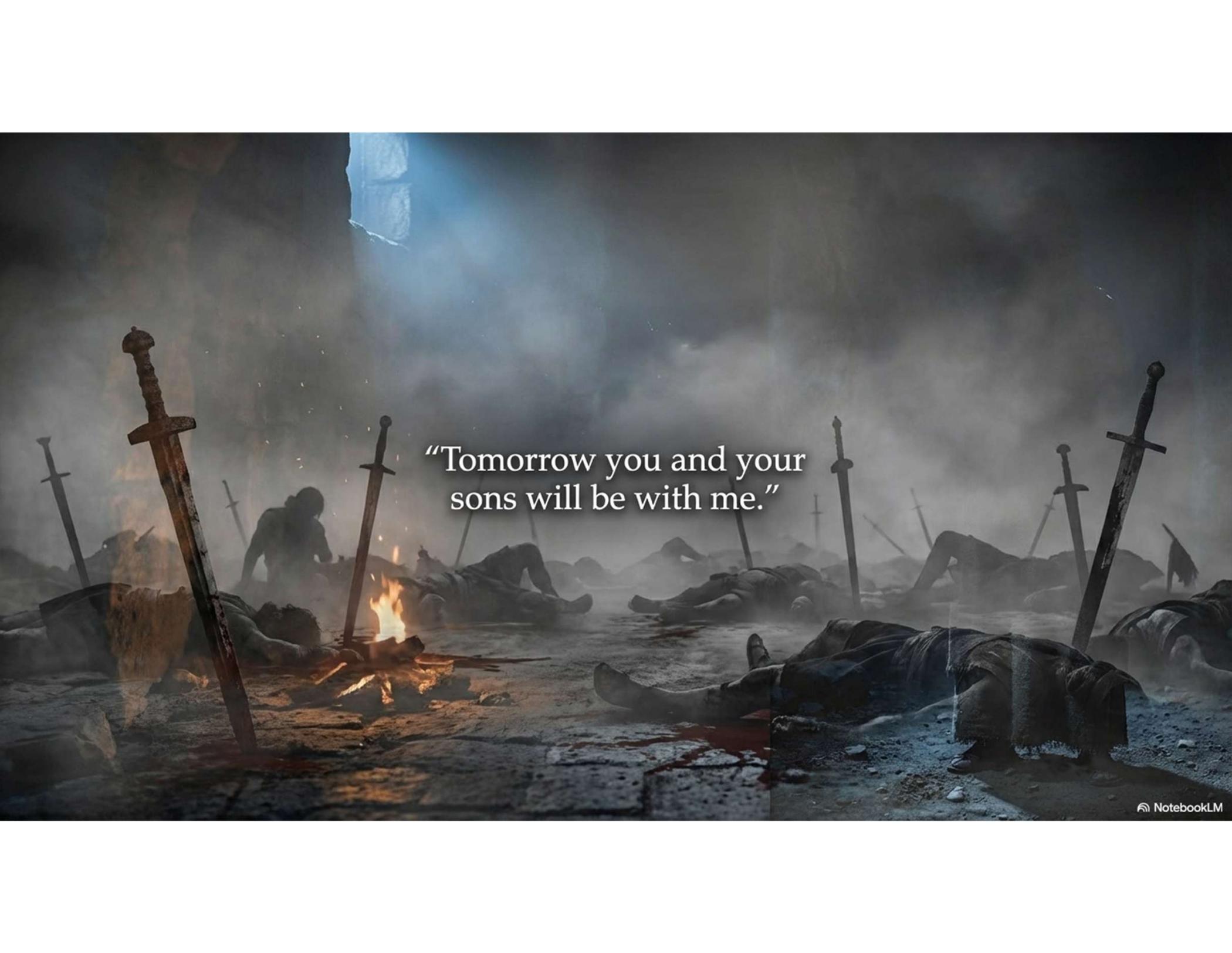




The LORD has
departed from you
and has become
your enemy.



“THE LORD HAS TORN THE KINGDOM
OUT OF YOUR HAND.”



“Tomorrow you and your
sons will be with me.”

3 Scriptural Principles Found in Samuel's Message

- We must seek Him: “Seek the LORD while He may be found” (Isaiah 55:6-7)
- God doesn't forget: “Be sure your sin will find you out” (Numbers 32:23)
- There is a final reckoning coming: “And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment” (Hebrews 9:27)

Reasons why we should seek out the Lord

- Because we are fearful
- Because we are sinful
- Because we are lost

Hebrews 3:15

Today, if you will hear His voice,
Do not harden your hearts as in the
rebellion (NKJV)

It is Well with My Soul

**1 When peace like a river attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot Thou hast taught me to say,
“It is well, it is well with my soul!”**

**2 Though Satan should buffet, though trials
should come,
let this blest assurance control,
that Christ hath regarded my helpless estate,
and hath shed His own blood for my soul.**

**3 My sin—oh, the bliss of this glorious
thought—
my sin, not in part, but the whole,
is nailed to His Cross, and I bear it no more;
praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!**

**4 O Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be
sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
the trump shall resound and the Lord shall
descend;
even so, it is well with my soul.**

Horatio Spafford

It is Well with My Soul

1 When peace like a river attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot Thou hast taught me to say,
“It is well, it is well with my soul!”

2 Though Satan should buffet, though trials
should come,
let this blest assurance control,
that Christ hath regarded my helpless estate,
and hath shed His own blood for my soul.

3 My sin—oh, the bliss of this glorious
thought—
my sin, not in part, but the whole,
is nailed to His Cross, and I bear it no more;
praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

4 O Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be
sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
the trump shall resound and the Lord shall
descend;
even so, it is well with my soul.

Horatio Spafford

1 Samuel 29

1 Then the Philistines gathered together all their armies at Aphek, and the Israelites encamped by a fountain which is in Jezreel. 2 And the lords of the Philistines passed in review by hundreds and by thousands, but David and his men passed in review at the rear with Achish. 3 Then the princes of the Philistines said, “What *are* these Hebrews *doing here?*” (NKJV)

Reasons why we should seek out the Lord

- Because we are fearful
- Because we are sinful
- Because we are lost