

# 1 Samuel 16:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Saul's servants said unto him, Behold now, an evil spirit from God troubleth thee.

## Analysis

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**And Saul's servants said unto him, Behold now, an evil spirit from God troubleth thee.**

The servants' diagnosis reflects ancient understanding of spiritual causes for psychological disturbance. Their attribution to 'God' (Elohim) rather than 'the LORD' (Yahweh) may indicate less theological precision or simply common parlance. Their recognition of the problem's spiritual nature led to seeking a spiritual remedy - music's power to affect the soul. This passage becomes foundational for understanding music's ministry to troubled minds.

## Historical Context

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Court servants would have observed Saul's transformation from capable king to tormented ruler. Their willingness to name the problem suggests it was publicly evident and concerning to the administration. Ancient cultures widely recognized music's therapeutic properties.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

### Study Questions

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1. How do you discern between physical, psychological, and spiritual causes of mental distress?
2. What role does music play in your spiritual and emotional health?

### Interlinear Text

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וַיֹּאמֶר	עֲבָדַי	וְשָׂא וְלֹ	אֵל יוֹ	הִנֵּה	נָ אֵ	רוּחַ	אֱלֹהֵי יִם
said	servants	And Saul's	H413	H2009	H4994	spirit	from God
H559	H5650	H7586				H7307	H430
	רָעָה	מִבְּעֵתְךָ:					
unto him	Behold now an evil	troubleth					
	H7451	H1204					

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