

# 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

**Psalm 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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אֱלֹהִים יְמִינָה יְמִינָה  
said servants And Saul's H413 H2009 H4994  
H559 H5650 H7586

בְּעֵת הַזֶּה  
unto him Behold now an evil H7451  
מִבְעָתָה  
troubleth H1204

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