

1 Samuel 28:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And she brought it before Saul, and before his servants; and they did eat. Then they rose up, and went away that night.

Analysis

The departure into the night completes this dark chapter. The phrase 'they rose up, and went away that night' emphasizes the nocturnal setting that has characterized this entire episode. Saul leaves the medium's house to return to his army and face the battle he knows will kill him. No words of hope or encouragement accompany his departure. The meal provided physical strength but could not address his spiritual condition. Saul goes to meet his prophesied death with full knowledge of what awaits.

Historical Context

The night journey back through or around enemy lines would have been treacherous. Saul's return to Gilboa to lead his army into certain defeat demonstrates either fatalistic acceptance or the last vestiges of royal duty.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How do we face inevitable outcomes we cannot change?

2. What does Saul's return to battle suggest about duty in hopeless circumstances?

Interlinear Text

וַתֵּבֵא שׁ	וּלְפָנַי י	שָׂא וּל	וּלְפָנַי י	עֲבָדָיו	וַיֹּאכְלוּ
And she brought	and before	Saul	and before	his servants	and they did eat
H5066	H6440	H7586	H6440	H5650	H398
וַתֵּקֹמְדוּ	וּלְכֹל ו	בַּלַּיְלָהָ	הַהוּא:		
Then they rose up		that night			
H6965	H1980	H3915	H1931		

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