

# 1 Samuel 9:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Samuel answered Saul, and said, I am the seer: go up before me unto the high place; for ye shall eat with me to day, and to morrow I will let thee go, and will tell thee all that is in thine heart.

## Analysis

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**And Samuel answered Saul, and said, I am the seer: go up before me unto the high place; for ye shall eat with me to day, and to morrow I will let thee go, and will tell thee all that is in thine heart.**

Samuel's self-identification, 'I am the seer' (anoki haro'eh), initiates the revelation that will transform Saul's life. The command to 'go up before me' inverts normal social order: typically a lesser person would follow, not precede, a dignitary. This inversion signals Saul's impending elevation while testing his response to unexpected honor. Samuel's promise to reveal 'all that is in thine heart' (kol asher bilvaveka) demonstrates prophetic insight that transcends natural knowledge. Saul came with questions about donkeys; Samuel promises answers about his deepest concerns and hidden thoughts. The invitation to eat together carries covenant significance in ancient Near Eastern culture: sharing a meal established or confirmed relationship. Samuel thus initiates Saul into a new relationship that would soon be formalized through anointing.

## Historical Context

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Prophetic knowledge of hidden thoughts demonstrated authentic divine communication, distinguishing true prophets from false ones who relied on

manipulation or guesswork. The invitation to share a meal was a significant honor and social commitment in ancient culture, often sealing agreements or marking the beginning of important relationships.

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

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1. How does God's knowledge of 'all that is in your heart' comfort or challenge you?
2. What does it mean to be invited to 'go before' God into His presence?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיַּעַן	וַיַּעַן	וַיַּעַן	וַיַּעַן	וַיַּעַן	וַיַּעַן	וַיַּעַן
answered	And Samuel	H853	Saul	and said	H595	I am the seer
H6030	H8050		H7586	H559		H7200
וַיַּעַן	וַיַּעַן	וַיַּעַן	וַיַּעַן	וַיַּעַן	וַיַּעַן	וַיַּעַן
go up	before	me unto the high place	for ye shall eat	H5973	with me to day	
H5927	H6440	H1116	H398		H3117	
וַיַּעַן	וַיַּעַן	וַיַּעַן	וַיַּעַן	וַיַּעַן	וַיַּעַן	וַיַּעַן
I will let thee go	and to morrow	H3605	H834	thee all that is in thine heart		
H7971	H1242			H3824		
וַיַּעַן	וַיַּעַן	וַיַּעַן	וַיַּעַן	וַיַּעַן	וַיַּעַן	וַיַּעַן
and will tell	H0					
H5046						

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Corinthians 14:25** (Parallel theme): And thus are the secrets of his heart made manifest; and so falling down on his face he will worship God, and report that God is in you of a truth.

**John 4:29** (Parallel theme): Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?

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