



Priests KINGS & *Extraordinary* THINGS

Sermons in 1 Samuel

Good Advice, Bad Advice

1 Samuel 28

For a better start in life
start **COLA** earlier!



- Promotes Active Lifestyle!
- Boosts Personality!
- Gives body essential sugars!

How soon is too soon?

Not soon enough. Laboratory tests over the last few years have proven that babies who start drinking soda during that early formative period have a much higher chance of gaining acceptance and "fitting in" during those awkward pre-teen and teen years. So, do yourself a favor. Do your child a favor. Start them on a strict regimen of sodas and other sugary carbonated beverages right now, for a lifetime of guaranteed happiness.

The Soda Pop Board of America
1515 W. Hart Ave. - Chicago, ILL.

For **PLEASURE**



AND

Popularity



**PLAY THE
PIANO ACCORDION**

In today's story, Saul is so desperate for advice that he does the unthinkable, he visits a sorcerer... a medium in an attempt to have one final conversation with his old (and dead) friend Samuel. By the time it is over he regrets it.

It is tempting to turn to dark places for answers... but what can darkness do to help shine light on the struggles of your life? What if we determined to 1) live in the light and; 2) seek the Lord consistently...? We would never wind up in Saul's situation.

¹ In those days the Philistines gathered their forces for war, to fight against Israel. And Achish said to David, “Understand that you and your men are to go out with me in the army.”

² David said to Achish, “Very well, you shall know what your servant can do.” And Achish said to David, “Very well, I will make you my bodyguard for life.”

³ Now Samuel had died, and all Israel had mourned for him and buried him in Ramah, his own city. And Saul had put the mediums and the necromancers out of the land.

⁴ The Philistines assembled and came and encamped at Shunem. And Saul gathered all Israel, 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 prophets.

⁷ Then Saul said to his servants, “Seek out for me a woman who is a medium, that I may go to her and inquire of her.” And his servants said to him, “Behold, there is a medium at En-dor.”

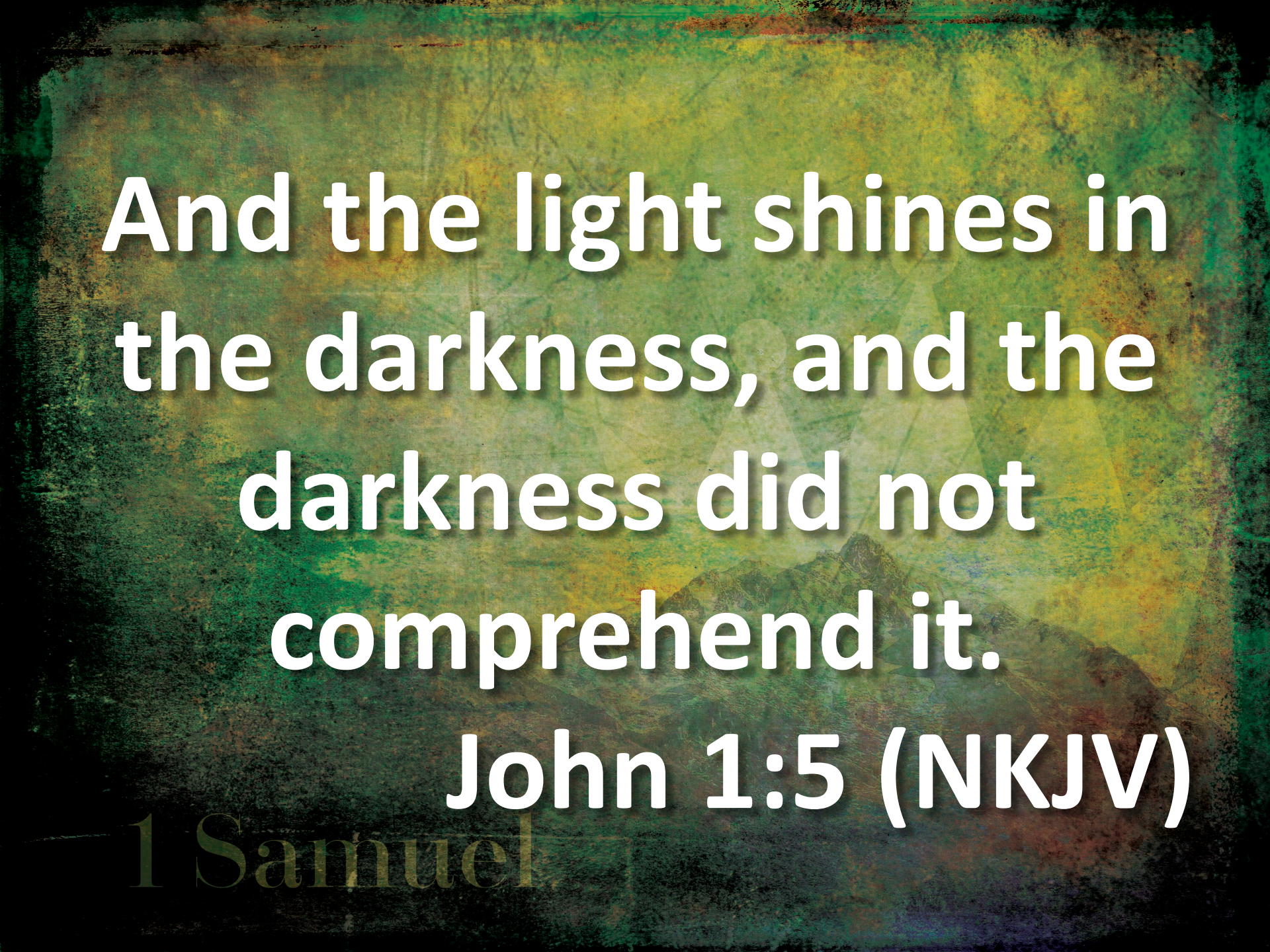
**1. When afraid, you may
be tempted to turn to the
dark for comfort or for
answers, but know this:
the darkness can't
comprehend the light!**

1 Samuel

**This is the verdict: Light
has come into the world,
but people loved darkness
instead of light because
their deeds were evil.**

John 3:19

1 Samuel



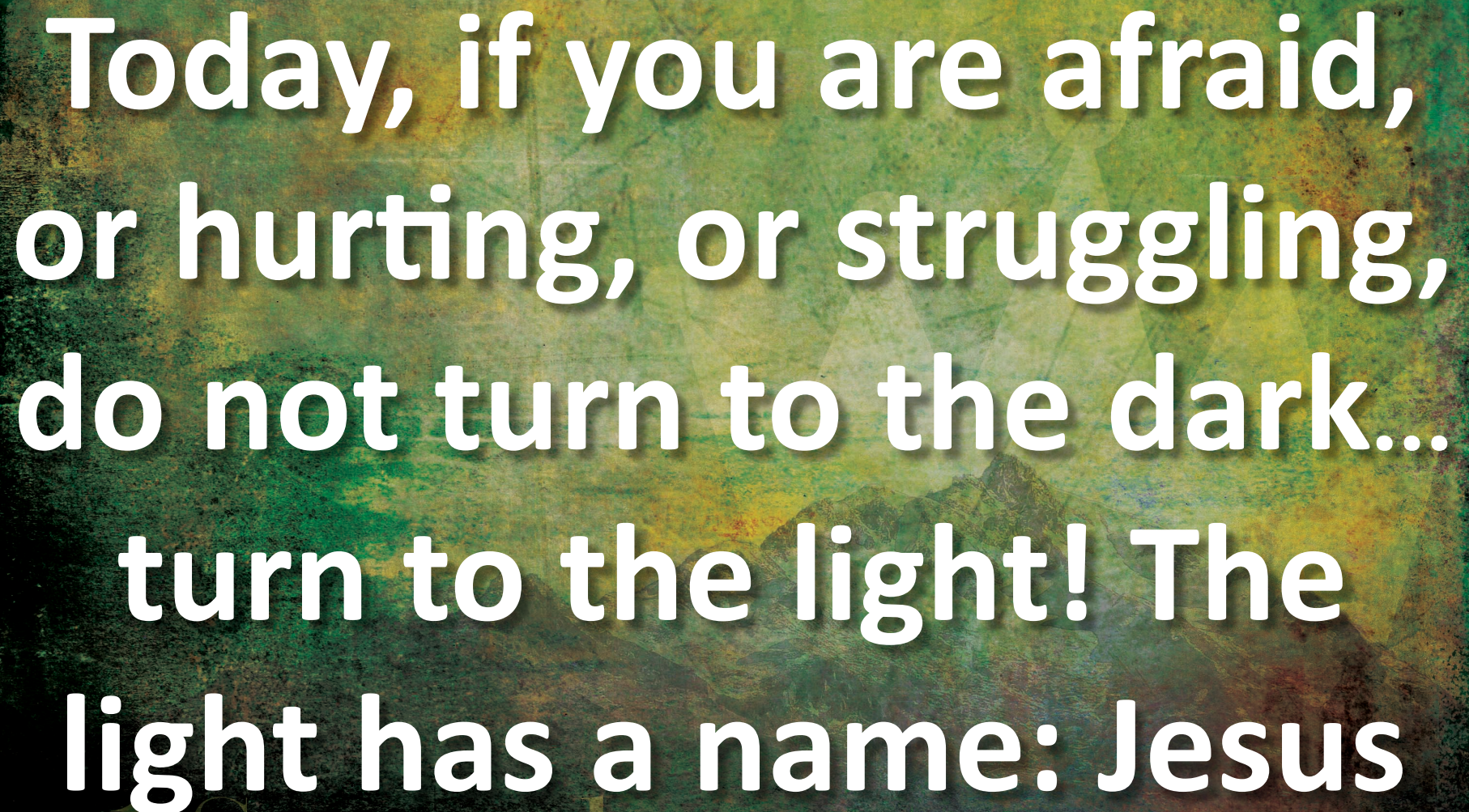
**And the light shines in
the darkness, and the
darkness did not
comprehend it.**

John 1:5 (NKJV)

1 Samuel

Reasons why it gets hard to hear from God

- We surround ourselves with lies and liars
 - We get out of practice, after all communication is a skill improved with consistency
- We've decided deep in our heart that our own way is better than God's way



Today, if you are afraid,
or hurting, or struggling,
do not turn to the dark...
turn to the light! The
light has a name: Jesus

1 Samuel

⁸ So Saul disguised himself and put on other garments and went, he and two men with him. And they came to the woman by night. And he said, “Divine for me by a spirit and bring up for me whomever I shall name to you.”

⁹ The woman said to him, “Surely you know what Saul has done, how he has cut off the mediums and the necromancers from the land. Why then are you laying a trap for my life to bring about my death?”

10 But Saul swore to her by the Lord, “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?” He said, “Bring up Samuel for me.”

12 When the woman saw Samuel, she cried out with a loud voice.

And the woman said to Saul, “Why have you deceived me? You are Saul.”

13 The king said to her, “Do not be afraid. What do you see?” And the woman said to Saul, “I see a god coming up out of the earth.”

14 He said to her, “What is his appearance?” And she said, “An old man is coming up, and he is wrapped in a robe.” And Saul knew that it was Samuel, and he bowed with his face to the ground and paid homage.

2. God speaks through fire, whirlwinds, bushes, and donkey's mouths, so the surprise here is not that God invaded this scene with a word of truth and light... The surprise is that after all God has said, we still refuse to listen, and we continue to seek "answers" in the darkness

Was the medium successful... not really. She was likely a scam artist. But a sovereign God decided to deliver a message to Saul through her anyway.

1 Samuel

Indications that you are getting a word from God...

- God's word brings light
- God's words are consistent
with God's words
- God's words point to the

1 Samuel Word

15 Then Samuel said to Saul, “Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up?” Saul answered, “I am in great distress, for the Philistines are warring against me, and God has turned away from me and answers me no more, either by prophets or by dreams. Therefore, I have summoned you to tell me what I shall do.”

16 And Samuel said, “Why then do you ask me, since the Lord has turned from you and become your enemy?”

17 The Lord has done to you 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 and did not carry out his fierce wrath against Amalek, therefore the Lord has done this thing to you this day.

19 Moreover, the Lord will give Israel also with you into the hand of the Philistines, and tomorrow you and your sons shall be with me.

The Lord will give the army of Israel also into the hand of the Philistines.”

3. Saul is reminded of the eternal truth all of us must consider... Our ultimate aim and success in life is to know, love, and obey God! And one day we must give account for the choices we have made!

And just as it is
appointed for man to
die once, and after
that comes judgment

1 Samuel

Hebrews 9:27, ESV

20 Then Saul fell at once full length on the ground, filled with fear because of the words of Samuel. And there was no strength in him, for he had eaten nothing all day and all night.

21 And the woman came to Saul, and when she saw that he was terrified, she said to him, “Behold, your servant has obeyed you. I have taken my life in my hand and have listened to what you have said to me.

22 Now therefore, you also obey your servant. Let me set a morsel of bread before you; and eat, that you may have strength when you go on your way.”

23 He refused and said, “I will not eat.” But his servants, together with the woman, urged him, and he listened to their words. So he arose from the earth and sat on the bed.

24 Now the woman had a fattened calf in the house, and she quickly killed it, and she took flour and kneaded it and baked unleavened bread of it,

25 and she put it before Saul and his servants, and they ate. Then they rose and went away that night.

Today's remarkable account should cause us to consider the following:

- **Instead of hoping God will change his mind about our condition, what if we changed our heart toward God**
- **Instead of 'hoping' that somehow everything will work out for you after death, what if you absolutely guaranteed it today, by coming to God through faith in Christ?**

1 Samuel