

1 Chronicles 10

King James Version (KJV)

(The downfall of Saul – the first king of Israel)

10 Now the Philistines fought against Israel; and the men of Israel fled from before the Philistines, and fell down slain in mount Gilboa. (Israel is losing because they are not obeying God's commands. The priesthood <Eli and his two sons> and the king <Saul> became corrupt) see 1Samuel-2:12-36, 1Samuel-3, 1Samuel-4:1-22

Leviticus-26, Deuteronomy-28 (The blessings and cursing from God. Be loyal to God and be blessed. Abandon God and lose His blessings)

²And the Philistines followed hard after Saul, and after his sons; and the Philistines slew Jonathan, and Abinadab, and Malchishua, the sons of Saul. (Saul was the first man king of Israel. Before him were the Judges. They were appointed by God, in times of trouble)

Note: (Jonathan and David were very close – almost as brothers. Yet even by now, Saul was still trying to kill David)

³And the battle went sore against Saul, and the archers hit him, and he was wounded of the archers. (Israel had lost the battle and were fleeing to Mount Gilboa)

⁴Then said Saul to his armourbearer, Draw thy sword, and thrust me through therewith; lest these uncircumcised come and abuse me. But his armourbearer would not; for he was sore afraid. So Saul took a sword, and fell upon it. (To kill a king was a death sentence and a disgrace for the armor bearer. The armor bearer was the king's most trusted soldier)

⁵And when his armourbearer saw that Saul was dead, he fell likewise on the sword, and died.

⁶So Saul died, and his three sons, and all his house died together. (Those of his family who were present at this battle died. His youngest son <Ishbosheth> was at home and survived)

⁷And when all the men of Israel that were in the valley saw that they fled, and that Saul and his sons were dead, then they forsook their cities, and fled: and the Philistines came and dwelt in them. (This is just as the 12 tribes had done when they entered the Promised Land.

Now, when they abandoned God, He abandoned them. Without God's protection, they lost everything to the Philistines)

⁸And it came to pass on the morrow, when the Philistines came to strip the slain, that they found Saul and his sons fallen in mount Gilboa.
(Gilboa = a bubbling spring)

⁹And when they had stripped him, they took his head, and his armour, and sent into the land of the Philistines round about, to carry tidings unto their idols, and to the people. (They were bragging for killing Saul – commonly practiced among the heathen)

NOTE: (It still happens today by the Muslims when they murder Jews and Christians)

¹⁰And they put his armour in the house of their gods, and fastened his head in the temple of Dagon. (Dagon was a fish god of the Philistines – a fish body with the arms and head of a man. This temple was in Ashdod, a Philistine city)

¹¹And when all Jabeshgilead heard all that the Philistines had done to Saul, (Saul had helped them earlier, against Nahash, king of the Ammonites. They owed Saul a great debt) see 1Samuel-11

(Nahash = a snake)

¹²They arose, all the valiant men, and took away the body of Saul, and the bodies of his sons, and brought them to Jabesh, and buried their bones under the oak in Jabesh, and fasted seven days.

1Samuel-31:12 (They cremated the bodies and then buried them. The 7 day fast was to mourn the death of the king and his sons)

¹³So Saul died for his transgression which he committed against the LORD, even against the word of the LORD, which he kept not, and also for asking counsel of one that had a familiar spirit, to enquire of it; (familiar spirit – necromancer – one who pretends to "contact the dead". This is witchcraft. It is totally against God's Laws)

(Saul asked the witch of Endor to contact the ghost of Samuel. This was a very serious offence to God, punishable by death. Saul should have asked God for guidance; not witch) 1Samuel-15:23

¹⁴ And enquired not of the LORD: therefore he slew him, and turned the kingdom unto David the son of Jesse. (David was a good king; loyal to God his whole life)

NOTE: (Saul had been a good king while Samuel lived and advised him. After Samuel died, Saul became corrupt and abandoned God)