

spirit from the Lord was to bring him to a place of confession or whatever was needed to make his spiritual life whole. He had every encouragement to be honest with David and no reason to fear him other than that we have mentioned. And these things stifled his effectiveness in almost every part of his reign.

III. Conclusion: We often fail in what we would like to do or attempt to do for the Lord. There are many causes, not to be discussed now. But there is always open a door of confession, repentance and restoration. We do not have to be perfect workers. We need to be worshipful subjects of the King! He has more than enough grace to help us grow in our trials and to grow in fidelity as in other spiritual areas. We can see it in the life of this king and feel it in the lives of others and if we profit by it we are wise indeed, if we fail to profit by it, we are foolish in the strongest sense of the term.

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## **MESSAGE # 6: UNWILLINGNESS TO TRULY REPENT AND CHANGE**

Biblical Passages: 1 Samuel 28

### **I. Introducing the Subject:**

In this final talk on the matter of spiritual ineffectiveness as witnessed in the life of King Saul, our attention is drawn to 1 Samuel 28 and in a special sense to the conversation with the witch of Endor. Among the other areas in which we find Saul guilty is the rather prominent one of his unwillingness to truly repent and change. We are not talking about a moral turnaround but about a movement away from the harmful attitudes and a reaching out to the proper ones. I am not saying he never felt sorry for some of the trials but repentance is more than just feeling sorry....and involves a "new mind", a complete turning from what was offensive. As far as I can see, Saul could repent if he thought it would buy him a few more days in the kingship but if it meant a complete movement of life...that was beyond his scope. We know, of course, that it is the goodness of God that brings us to repentance but Saul had plenty of evidence of that and still did not move to the right level. So in the long run it is more of an unwillingness than an inability but it all works out about the same.