

God Departed

Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

1 Samuel 28:15-16. "And Samuel said to Saul, Why hast thou disquieted me, to bring me up? And Saul answered, I am sore distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God is departed from me, and answereth me no more, neither by prophets, nor by dreams: therefore I have called thee, that thou mayest make known unto me what I shall do. Then said Samuel, Wherefore then dost thou ask of me, seeing the Lord is departed from thee, and is become thine enemy?"

This is a sad story from the scriptures. It tells of one who has lost his way in life and most importantly, his relationship with God. Saul was chosen by the Lord to be the first king of Israel. He was a good man, at least at first, with a humble heart. Perhaps it is as the saying goes, "Power corrupts." Maybe Saul would have been better if he had never become king.

Soon after being anointed king and leading the people Saul was victo-

rious over the Ammonites in battle. Then he ruled for two years without trouble, or war. What he did during this time we are not told, but then things started to happen. He attacked a garrison of the Philistines. The Philistines gathered a large army to fight Israel. As usual Israel was greatly outnumbered by their enemy. They, the Philistines, had thirty thousand chariots, plus a great multitude of soldiers. Many men of Israel hid in caves and scattered before this great army.

Saul had been told to wait seven days for Samuel to come and offer sacrifices to God. When he didn't come when Saul thought he should have come, he offered the sacrifice himself. Then Samuel came and rebuked Saul for doing this because he was king, not a priest, or prophet. There are some offices that a person is not to undertake unless called of God. Then Saul didn't obey the Lord's commands in the war with the Amalekites. Told to destroy everything he spared the king and the best of the sheep and cattle. God departed from Saul because he had become a rebellious king, showing an outward concern for God but not obeying his word. Since he wouldn't walk with God, the Lord departed from him.

Amos 3:3. "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?"

Saul made a show of trying to ask God's counsel, but God didn't answer him. Why should he? King Saul had shown several times that he would do as he wished anyway. God will not go along with someone who is a hypocrite, only having an outward show of faith. When God didn't give Saul an answer, Saul went to a woman with a familiar spirit. He thought that she might bring Samuel up from the dead and get advice from him. God allowed Samuel to talk to Saul, surprising both Saul and the woman.

What kind of answer should Saul have expected? If God wouldn't talk with him did he seriously think that Samuel, a prophet of God, would be giving him what God would not? As he turned away from God he shut himself off from God's protection and blessing. Had he only obeyed the Lord his kingdom would have endured. His sin of rebellion put an end to that and brought about not only his death, but that of his sons too.

The lesson is that if a man turns from God he will be on his own and headed for destruction. God will not be used for the glory and self will of any man. Saul wanted to do things his own way instead of doing God's will. No wonder God departed from him.

Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

Advertise Here!
Call 723-5012
The Estill County Tribune

Stanton Florist
495 Main Street, Stanton, Ky.
Call (606) 663-4078
Winnie McIntosh Marcum, Owner

Owl Head's Grocery & Feed
Phone 723-7473 South Irvine, Ky.
Novelties - Open 7 Days A Week
Donald & Katherine Dixon, Owners

Hardy Oil Company, Inc.
74 River Drive
Irvine, Kentucky
Phone 723-3664

RAVENNA Food Mart
314 Main Street
Ravenna, KY
Phone 723-6333

Dunaway United Methodist
11840 Irvine Road (Trapp)
Winchester, Clark County, Ky
Church Services
Morning Worship 10am • Sunday School 11am
Bro. Robbie ShROUT, pastor. Call 859-595-6028

Gum Springs Church of God
Highway 213 (Furnace Junction)
Pastor Glenn Case • Call 723-4180
Church Services
Sunday School 10 am • Morning Worship 11:15 am
Sunday Night 6 pm • Wednesday Night 6 pm

Harg First Church of God
Hwy. 82, Irvine, KY
Sunday School 10:00 am
Morning Worship 11:00 am
Sunday Evening 6:00 pm
Wednesday Evening 6:00 pm
Last Sunday Singing 6:00 pm
Everyone Is Welcome!
Forrest Turpin, Pastor

CASH IN A DASH Payday Loans
Buy Gold-Silver
Phone 723-0799
(Irvine, next to Bunt Gross)

509 Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the Book of Genesis intending to show some of the customs of these ancient and traditional times.

JACOB'S TOIL

AS WAGES FOR HIS SERVICES, LABAN HAS TOLD JACOB HE MAY HAVE ALL THE SPOTTED AND SPECKLED CATTLE FROM HIS FLOCKS—JACOB DULY SEPARATES THEM, AND NOW...

SAVE THIS FOR YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL SCRAPBOOK

High Street Full Gospel Church
Irvine, Kentucky
Sunday School 10:00 am
Morning Worship 11:00 am
Sunday Evening 6:00 pm
Wednesday Evening 7:00 pm
Welcome!
Pastor David Woosley
(859) 369-5354

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church
322 5th St., Ravenna, KY
Sunday Mass 9:00 am
Wednesday Mass 6:00 pm
Thursday Mass 6:00 pm
Contact: Father Al Fritsch, S.J.
(606) 723-4705

Honchell's Men's & Boys' Clothing & Shoes
Tuxedo Rental Available
West Irvine Plaza
Irvine, Kentucky
Phone 723-7316

Prayer Circle at Knowlton Church
Call for Prayer
726-9705
663-0783
(859) 432-0939
(859) 498-0456
(606) 359-1119
(606) 359-1590

Advertise Here!
Call (606) 723-5012
The Estill County Tribune

SAVE-A-LOT
1290 Richmond Road
Irvine, Kentucky
Phone 723-6372

Warren F. Toler Funeral Home
Family Owned and Operated
99 Cedar Grove
www.tolerfuneralhome.com
Phone 723-2183
Obituary Line Phone 723-4242

Roadside Mission Church of God
Welcomes You!
A Bible Teaching Church
Furnace Junction Ravenna, KY
Sunday School & Morning Worship, 10 am
Sunday Evening Evangelistic Service, 6 pm
Wed. Prayer Meeting & Bible Study, 6 pm
Radio Ministry
Sundays, 2:00 p.m. WSKV 104.9 FM
Henry T. Johnson, Pastor

Advertise Here!
Call (606) 723-5012
The Estill County Tribune

Advertise Here!
Call 723-5012
The Estill County Tribune

Lewis-Abner Home For Funerals
Since 1929
www.lewisfh.com
224 Main Irvine, KY
Pre-Need Services Available
723-2151

Inner Beauty Hair, Nails & Day Spa
363 Richmond Road, Irvine
Phone 723-0118
Joanna Jernigan
Owner & Master Stylist
Stephanie Isaacs
Master Stylist & Nail Tech
Sherry Harrison
Master Stylist
"For All Your Spa Needs"

Advertise Here!
Call 723-5012
The Estill County Tribune

Emmanuel Baptist Church
Now at 106 Tyler Lane
Irvine, Kentucky 40336
Pastor: Sherl Thomas
Services
Sunday School 10:00 am
Sunday Worship 11:00 am
Sunday Evening 6:00 pm
Wednesday Evening 7:00 pm
Established September 12, 1999