

1700 feet above sea level, southwest of the Sea of Galilee and east of the Carmel range in north-central Palestine. Saul was very fearful of defeat at the hands of the Philistine army.

*Verse 6* -- "When Saul inquired of the Lord, the Lord did not answer him, either by dreams or by Urim or by prophets."

Saul inquired of the Lord, probably for guidance and concerning the outcome of the battle, but the Lord did not answer him by any of the usual modes of special revelation that were familiar to Saul.

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

Saul decided that he *had to know* how the battle would go. And if the *Lord* would not tell him, he would find out by some other means, whether lawful or not! He asked his servants to locate a medium for him, and they found one in the village of En-dor, a few miles north of Mount Gilboa, on the north side of the Hill of Moreh.

*Verse 8* -- "The Saul disguised himself by putting on other clothes, and went, he and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night; and he said, 'Conjure up for me, please, and bring up for me whom I shall name to you.'"

Saul disguised himself, took only two servants, and went by night to consult the medium and to ask for a message from the dead. Since the Philistines were camped at the southwestern foot of the Hill of Moreh, Saul doubtless went around the east end of the Hill of Moreh, disguised and at night. By going to consult the medium, Saul showed that he believed that spirit mediums can contact, ask questions of, and receive messages from, the dead. This suggests that Saul knew something about spirit mediums: something about the way they worked, and something about the kinds of information they claimed to receive from their spirit "familiaris." Saul probably knew that some of the information they gave their clients was derived from careful observations of the clients' behavior and responses, some unobtrusive probing, and some clever leading questions coupled with some educated guesswork. Yet he must also have believed that at least some of the mediums were able to know things that