

(2) If the stranger did entrap her, it could mean death to her.

(3) Did the stranger offer her such a large fee that she was willing to risk her life for it? And how large would such a fee need to be? (Incidentally, if he did offer her a large fee, there is no indication of it in the passage.)

(4) When the stranger assured her that no harm would come to her, and did so with a vow, how could he back up this assurance? Even with a vow, how could he protect her against the wrath of King Saul? The only way this stranger could back up such an assurance was if he was as powerful as Saul! And the only man in the kingdom at this time who was as powerful as Saul was Saul himself! *He alone* could make her willing to take her life into her hands and attempt to consult the dead!

What would make the medium willing to risk her life by doing what this stranger asked? The only answer that fits the situation is that the medium must have known that it was Saul who had come to consult her. When she looked at him and saw that he was head and shoulders taller than his companions (recall in 1 Samuel 9:2 that Saul, "from his shoulders and up was taller than any of the people"), and that he carried himself and spoke like a king, she probably saw right through his disguise, and was sure that it was none other than Saul himself. Then she took heart, trusted his vow, and agreed to do a consultation for him.

*Verse 11* -- "Then the woman said, 'Whom shall I bring up for you?' And he said, 'Bring up Samuel for me.'"

The medium asked Saul whom he wished her to contact, and Saul said, "Samuel." The woman then went into some altered state of consciousness -- probably a trance -- and probably called for the spirit of Samuel to contact her.

*Verse 12* -- "When the woman saw Samuel, she cried out with a loud voice; and the woman spoke to Saul, saying, 'Why have you deceived me for you are Saul.'"

The medium, in her trance state, saw a spirit apparition and cried out with a loud voice. Why did she cry out with a loud voice?

(1) Did she cry out with a loud voice of *surprise*? Surprise at what?