

When Faced with Darkness 面对黑暗

1 Samuel 28

撒母耳记上 28章

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8-2-2020 讲道

If you'd taken pictures of Saul, the first king of Israel, in the beginning of his reign, you would never have seen a fool in the making. Saul was the people's choice for king. It all began well. But everything began to slowly erode away. Saul reached an all-time low in 1 Samuel 28 when he sought the counsel of a witch in Endor.

如果你在以色列的第一个国王扫罗在位之初拍下他的照片，你就永远不会看到一个傻瓜在作祟。扫罗作王是百姓的选择。一切开始得很好。但一切都开始慢慢消失。扫罗在撒母耳记上28章，寻求隐多女巫的建议，达到了历史上的低谷。

Saul is an unlikely man to teach us the gospel of God's grace in those times when we are struggling with anxiety. Yet from Saul we learn the faithfulness of God to provide his promised Savior and Kingdom in which his children will know the strength of God, not the isolation of anxiety and fear.

当我们在焦虑中挣扎的时候，扫罗不太可能教我们上帝恩典的福音。然而，我们从扫罗那里学习神的信实，就是通过提供他所应许的救主和国，使他的儿女知道神的大能，而不是孤立的忧虑和恐惧。

I. Saul's nighttime séance with the witch of Endor revealed his heart's resistance against God.

扫罗与隐多珥的女巫在夜间谈话揭示了他内心对上帝的反抗。

II. It took years to see the real man. That's the way it is when erosion occurs and anxiety reigns as king in your heart. That's also the way it is for some of you who are struggling deeply with anxiety. You probably did not choose to seek advice from the dead. Yet you're tempted to take things into your own hands, to try to make things happen in your own power. Anxiety tempts us to circumvent God's work. It's not obvious to other people, but you know you are drifting. We need the truths of the gospel at those times.

要花很多年才能见到真正的男人。当侵蚀发生，焦虑在你心中为王时，就是这样。这也是你们中的一些人在焦虑中挣扎的方式。你可能没有选择向死者寻求建议。然而，你总想把事情掌握在自己的手中，试图让事情发生在你自己的力量之下。焦虑诱惑我们绕开神的工作。别人看不出来，但你知道你在漂泊。在那些时刻我们需要福音的真理。

III. We may instead trust in God's grace, depending upon his work to complete his plans in Christ for our circumstances.

相反，我们可以相信神的恩典，依靠他的工作来完成他在基督里为我们的处境所作的计划。