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# The Fall of King Sha’ul
# First Samuel 21:1 to 31:13
# First Chronicles 10:1-14 and 12:1-22



The more **Sha’ul** tried to hold on to **his** kingship, the tighter **he** gripped the crown, the more it seemed to slip through **his** fingers. **Samuel** had already rebuked **him** (**to see link click Cc – Samuel Rebukes Sha’ul**), and told him that **God** would raise up another **after His own heart** to lead the nation. More importantly, **ADONAI** had also rejected **him** (see **Ck – God Rejects Sha’ul**); nevertheless, **Sha’ul**, becoming more and more paranoid, thought the answer to **his** problems was to kill **David** (see **Cz – Sha’ul Pursues David**). As **he** moved further and further away from **ADONAI**, **he** became more and more under the control of **Satan**. The Bible teaches us that **the thief comes only to kill and steal and destroy (John 10:10a),** and the first thing **Sha’ul** does in this section was to **kill** all **the priests of Nov**, including **their wives**, **their children**, and **their cattle**, **donkeys** and **sheep** (see **Cx – Sha’ul Kills the Priests at Nov**). Then, the last thing **he** did was to consult **a medium** (see **Dj – Sha’ul and the Medium of Endor**), before

**killing himself** (see **Dk – Sha’ul Takes His Own Life**). **Sha’ul died because he was unfaithful to ADONAI.** The accusation of **faithlessness** is especially severe. The Hebrew word used is *ma’al*, which is normally reserved for serious sin against **God**, often associated with idolatry and carrying with it the **death** sentence. It is the seriousness, rather than the particular kind of sin, that the word implies.[380] **He did not keep the word of the LORD and even consulted with a medium for guidance, nor did he inquire of YHVH,** but **did what was best in his own eyes (Judges 21:25). So Ha’Shem put him to death and turned the Kingdom over to David son of Jesse (First Chronicles 10:13-14). His** career began with promise, but ended in tragedy; it began with victory, but ended in defeat; it began with hope but ended with despair.[381]