

# TREASURE IN JARS OF CLAY



Saul

part 1

*"The backslider  
in heart will be  
filled with his  
own ways, But a  
good man will be  
satisfied from  
above."  
Prov. 14:14 NKJV*

God commissioned Samuel to give the Israelites the king they wanted, and picked Saul to fulfill His purpose.

On what grounds did Saul feel unqualified according to 1 Samuel 9: 21? \_\_\_\_\_

Was he considering the merit of himself, or of God? \_\_\_\_\_

What does Samuel say to assure Saul in 1 Samuel 10:6,7? \_\_\_\_\_

When Samuel brought all of the Israelite tribes together to introduce their new king to them, where was Saul? (1 Samuel 10:22) \_\_\_\_\_

Who was he relying on at that point? \_\_\_\_\_

Humility recognizes that it is God that gives us all power, wisdom and ability, while insecurity says "it's all about me." It can easily change to arrogance which is the flip side of the "me" coin. Neither of those holds much resemblance to humility, which says "it's about God". Because Saul did not fully rely on God for his salvation, he felt compelled to make things go his way by taking matters into his own hands.

How did he do this in 1 Samuel 13:5-12? \_\_\_\_\_

In 1 Samuel 13:15, why do you think Saul counted his men after Saul's rebuke? \_\_\_\_\_

What did Saul have to be reminded to do in 1 Samuel 14:36? \_\_\_\_\_

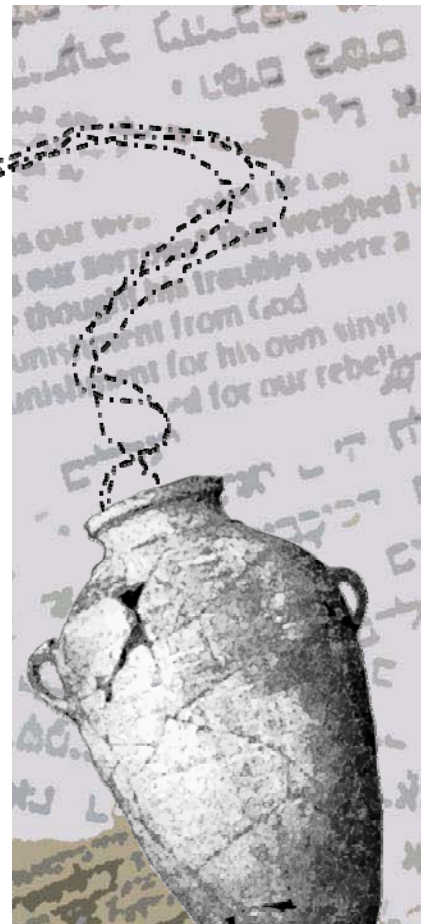
Who had Saul honored according to 1 Samuel 15:12? \_\_\_\_\_

What did Saul get really upset about in 1 Samuel 18:7,8? \_\_\_\_\_

Whose approval did Saul rely on to determine his position and worth? \_\_\_\_\_

How did that lead to the loss of God's Spirit and a murderous jealousy? \_\_\_\_\_

According to Romans 12:3, what is the connection between faith and humility? \_\_\_\_\_



*"But we have this  
treasure in jars of clay  
to show that this all-  
surpassing power is  
from God and not from  
us."*

*2 Corinthians 4:7*

## READ:

• 1 Samuel

## Waiting

How long was Saul to wait in Gilgal for Samuel's instructions in 1 Samuel 10:8? \_\_\_\_\_

What would Samuel do when he got there? \_\_\_\_\_

What did Saul do during this time? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you think it was difficult for Saul to wait? Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_

How long was Saul to wait for Samuel to arrive at Gilgal in 1 Samuel 13:8? \_\_\_\_\_

What was the situation that made it difficult for Saul to wait on Samuel? \_\_\_\_\_

How does patience or impatience expose the degree of our faith in God? \_\_\_\_\_

How patient are you? \_\_\_\_\_

"The thing is to rely on God... Meanwhile, the trouble is that relying on God has to begin all over again every day as if nothing has yet been done."  
C.S. Lewis

## Jealousy

Jealousy. Such an insidious, sneaky little culprit. A couple years ago, my then

eighteen year old son was a senior in high school. He decided that life would be much better if he lived with a different family and so moved out of our home and into

theirs. I felt hurt and angry. They weren't the ones who had cared for him when he was sick, or washed his clothes, or cooked his meals. I was jealous.

At what point did Saul begin to become jealous of David? \_\_\_\_\_

How did Saul's attitude toward God's anointed king, David, differ from David's attitude toward God's anointed king, Saul? Why? \_\_\_\_\_

1 Samuel 18:14 indicates that Saul was afraid of David. What was he afraid of? \_\_\_\_\_

Unchecked jealousy can often cost us the very things we fear losing. In Saul's case, he lost the beloved harp player that could soothe him, he forced the divided loyalties of his son Jonathan and daughter Michal. He divided the allegiance of the nation of Israel. Most of all, he did not acknowledge or respect God's plans for the Israelites.

I think it was the recognition that God holds the plans for my family that helped me overcome my jealousy. I realized that there were bigger things at stake than my own hurt feelings. I wanted to maintain a friendship with the other family. I definitely wanted things to turn out well for my son, whoever he chose to live with. In other words, there were issues bigger than me.



## God's Spirit

Why did God's Spirit depart from Saul?

Can God's Spirit depart from us today?

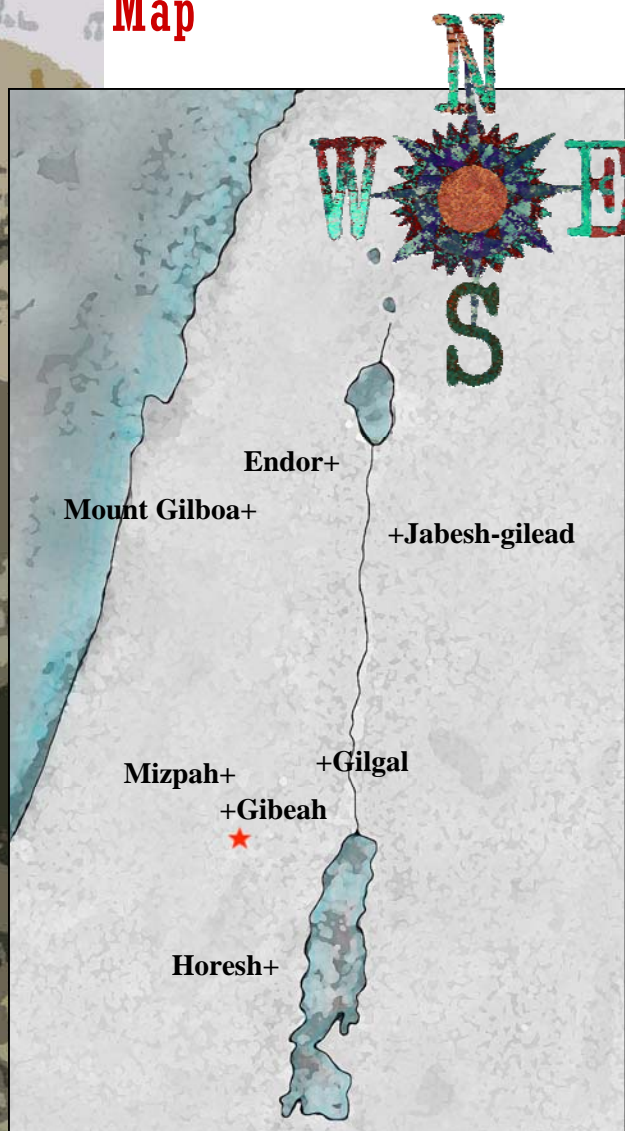
If God changed Saul's heart as is described in 1 Samuel 9:6,9, then why did Saul turn from God?

Why did God choose Saul as Israel's first king when surely He knew that later He would be grieved over the choice (1 Sam. 15:35)?

What is the "evil spirit from the Lord" that came upon Saul in 1 Samuel 19:9?



## Map

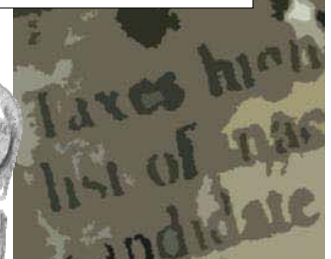
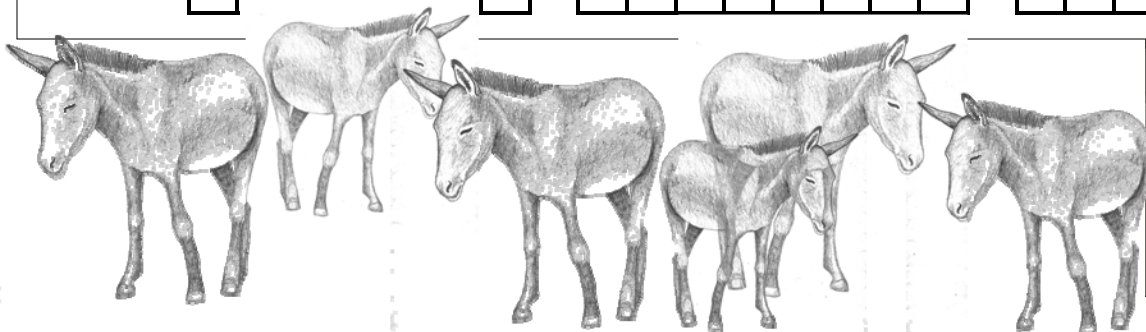
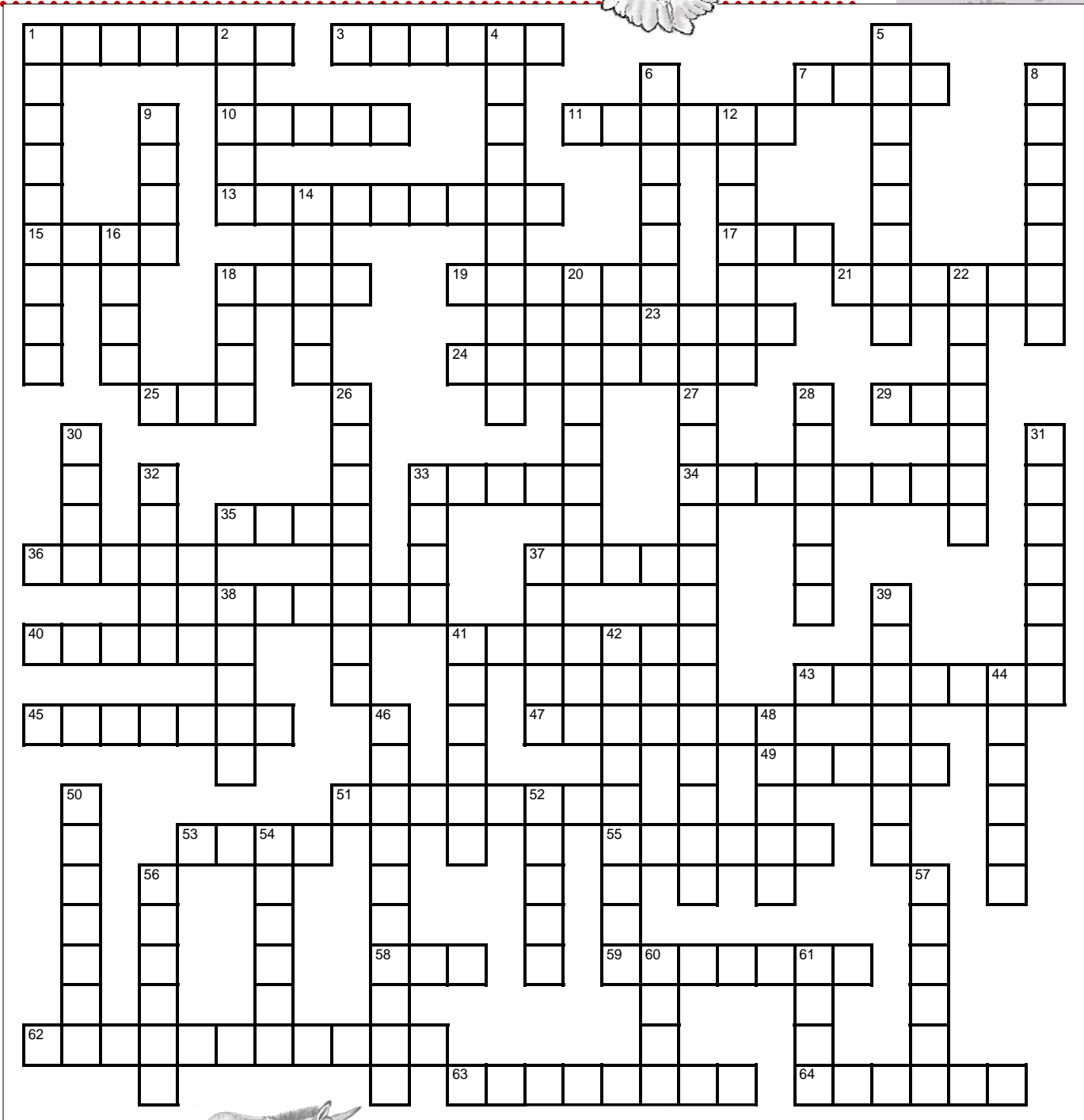
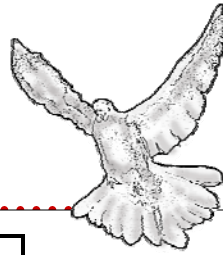


Draw a line from the event to its proper location on the map.

1. Samuel called the Israelites to gather here and anointed Saul as their first king. 1 Samuel 10:17
2. Saul waited here for seven days, then made his own offerings 1 Samuel 13:7-9
3. The people of this town asked for Saul's help against the Ammonites. 1 Samuel 11
4. Saul's home 1 Samuel 10:26
5. Where Saul and his sons died in battle. 1 Samuel 31:8
6. Where Saul took 3,000 men to hunt for David. David had the opportunity to kill Saul here, but refused. 1 Samuel 26
7. Saul visited a medium here to get advice from the deceased Samuel. 1 Samuel 28



# PUZZLE PAGE



# Clues

## Across

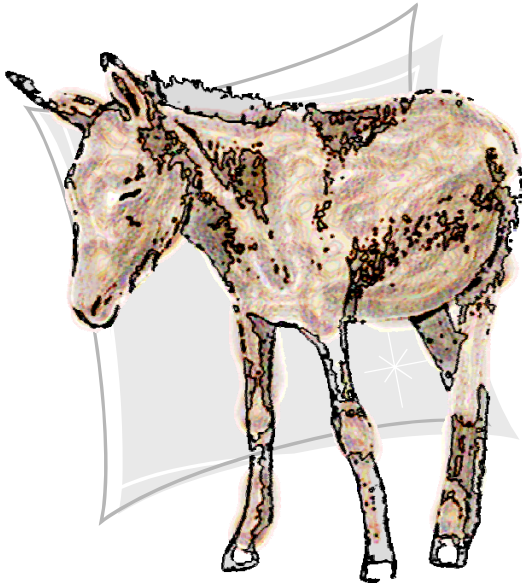
- 1 he feared David's \_\_\_\_\_ (7)
- 3 his kingship was reaffirmed here (6)
- 7 his head shepherd (4)
- 10 commander of his army (5)
- 11 met prophets here (6)
- 13 his army was \_\_\_\_\_ after striking down the Philistines (9)
- 15 his troops hadn't had any (4)
- 17 he killed men, women, and children, of this town (3)
- 18 \_\_\_\_\_ of Israel (4)
- 19 Samuel introduced the people to their new king here (6)
- 21 mount where he died (6)
- 23 put to death by Samuel rather than Saul (4)
- 24 his reaction to the giant Philistine (6)
- 25 poured on his head (3)
- 29 David took his spear and this (3)
- 33 what he hurled at David when he came to play the harp (5)
- 34 he made this in Samuel's place (8)
- 35 his body was displayed on the \_\_\_\_\_ of Beth Shan (4)
- 36 he built one to the Lord (5)
- 37 his oldest daughter (5)
- 38 prophet he sought advice from (6)
- 40 followed his son into this (6)
- 41 Samuel gave God's to him (7)
- 43 he killed these (7)
- 45 the Israelite men \_\_\_\_\_ Jonathan from death at his father's hand (7)
- 47 he did not keep the Lord's (7)
- 49 his son (5)
- 51 Saul's son (8)
- 53 his dad (4)
- 55 loved David (6)
- 58 what he called David (3)
- 59 what Saul's men began to do at Gilgal (7)
- 62 who Jonathan attacked at Geba (11)
- 63 he set one up in his own honor at Carmel (8)
- 64 anointed as this (6)

## Down

- 1 forbidden plunder taken in order to make a \_\_\_\_\_ to God (9)
- 2 he intended Michal to be this to David (5)
- 4 God used him to punish these people (10)
- 5 he was of this tribe (8)
- 6 escaped his massacre (8)
- 8 where he first approached Samuel (7)
- 9 he was this much taller than any others (4)
- 12 his wife (7)
- 14 Jonathan ate some (5)
- 16 he did not \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord (4)
- 18 he wanted to do this to David (4)
- 20 he called his wife this (8)
- 22 he hid himself among this (7)
- 26 what he felt toward David (8)
- 27 despised him (13)
- 28 Israel had become this to the Philistines (6)
- 30 said he had acted like one (4)
- 31 looked for these as a young man (7)
- 32 said his clan was this (5)
- 33 "an impressive young man without equal" (4)
- 37 he was soothed by this (5)
- 38 number of days he was to wait for Samuel at Gilgal (5)
- 39 what the Lord felt about making him king (7)
- 41 his younger daughter (6)
- 42 his first victory was against these people (9)
- 44 his age when he became king (6)
- 46 he did this as he walked to Naioth (10)
- 48 he did this with Samuel (5)
- 50 giant Philistine (7)
- 52 where change was made in him (5)
- 54 the Lord's left him (6)
- 56 who he was afraid of (6)
- 57 he admitted he had done this (6)
- 60 David spared his life here (4)
- 61 Samuel accused him of doing this in the eyes of the Lord (4)

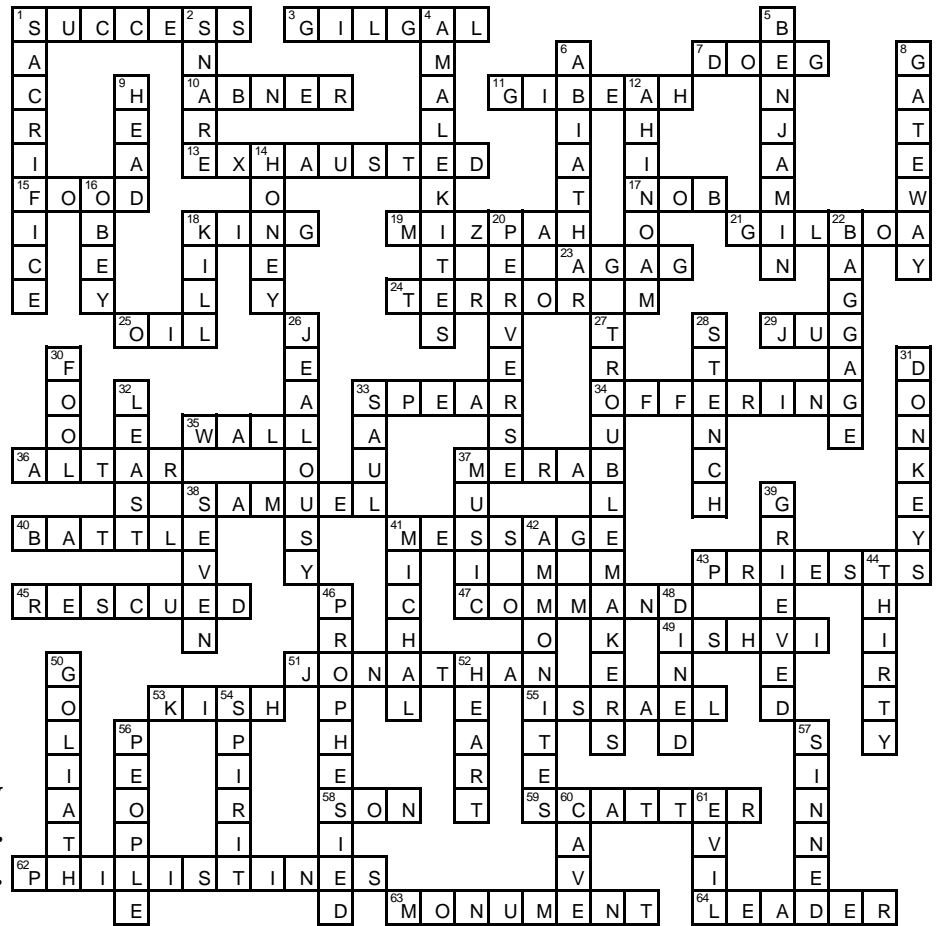
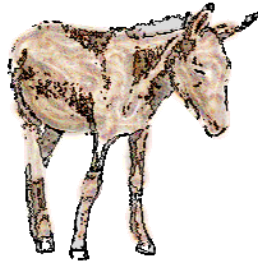


## Puzzle answers:

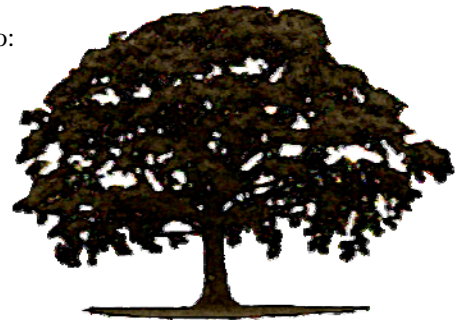


*"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you. Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you. Many are the woes of the wicked, but the Lord's unfailing love surrounds the man who trusts in Him."*

*Psalm 32:8-10*



For more studies, go to:



**Down Victory Road**  
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Answers to Map Quiz on page 3:

1. Mizpah
2. Gilgal
3. Jabesh-gilead
4. Gibeah
5. Mount Gilboa
6. Horesh
7. Endor

## Sources:

Tyndal maps