

1 Sam. 28:3-25

“Why Then Do You Ask Me?”

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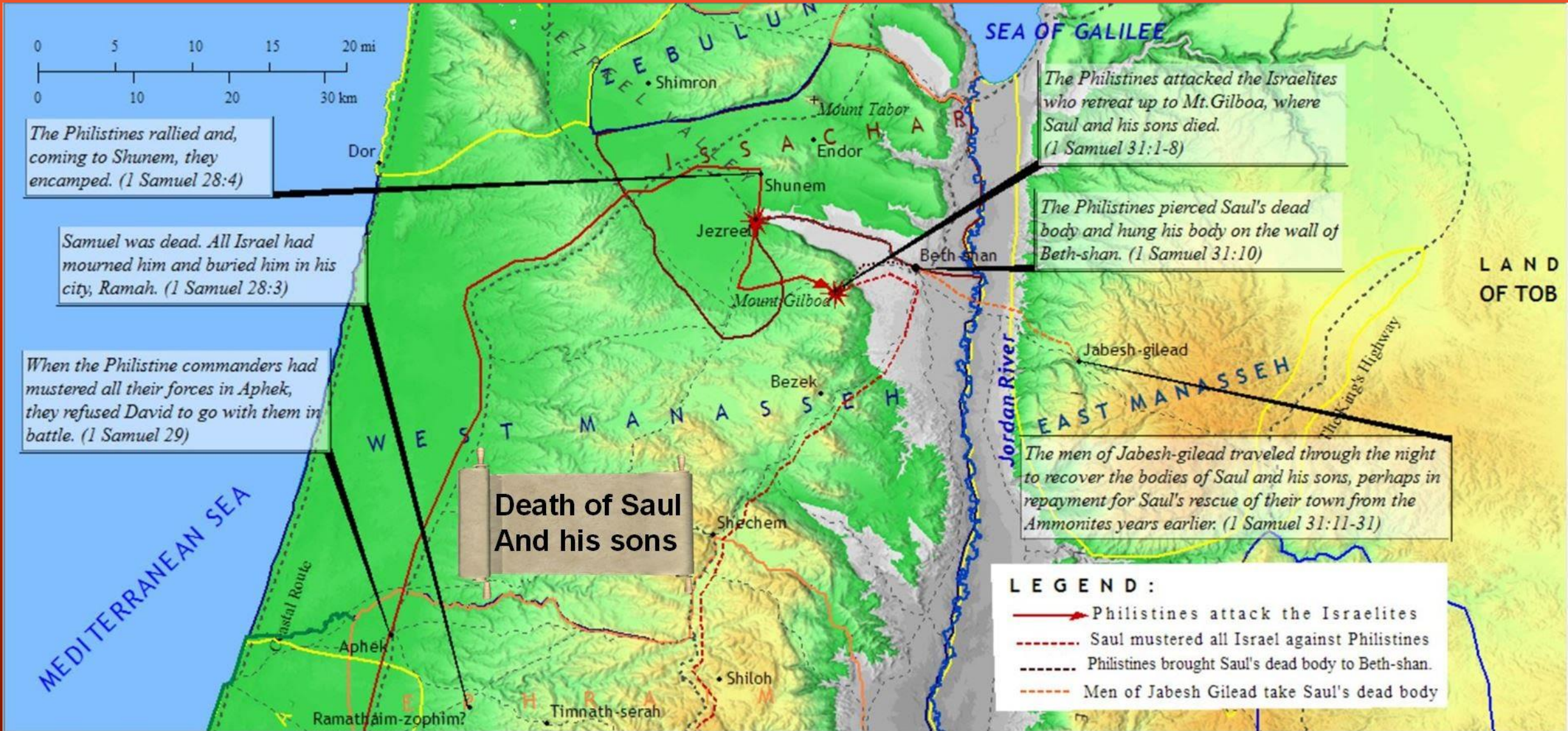
I. God’s Faithfulness: A Two Sided Coin

II. Inquiring Minds Want to Know (28:3-14)

A. Crises create seekers

1. A lack of spokespeople for the supernatural + a Philistine horde =
A troubled king!

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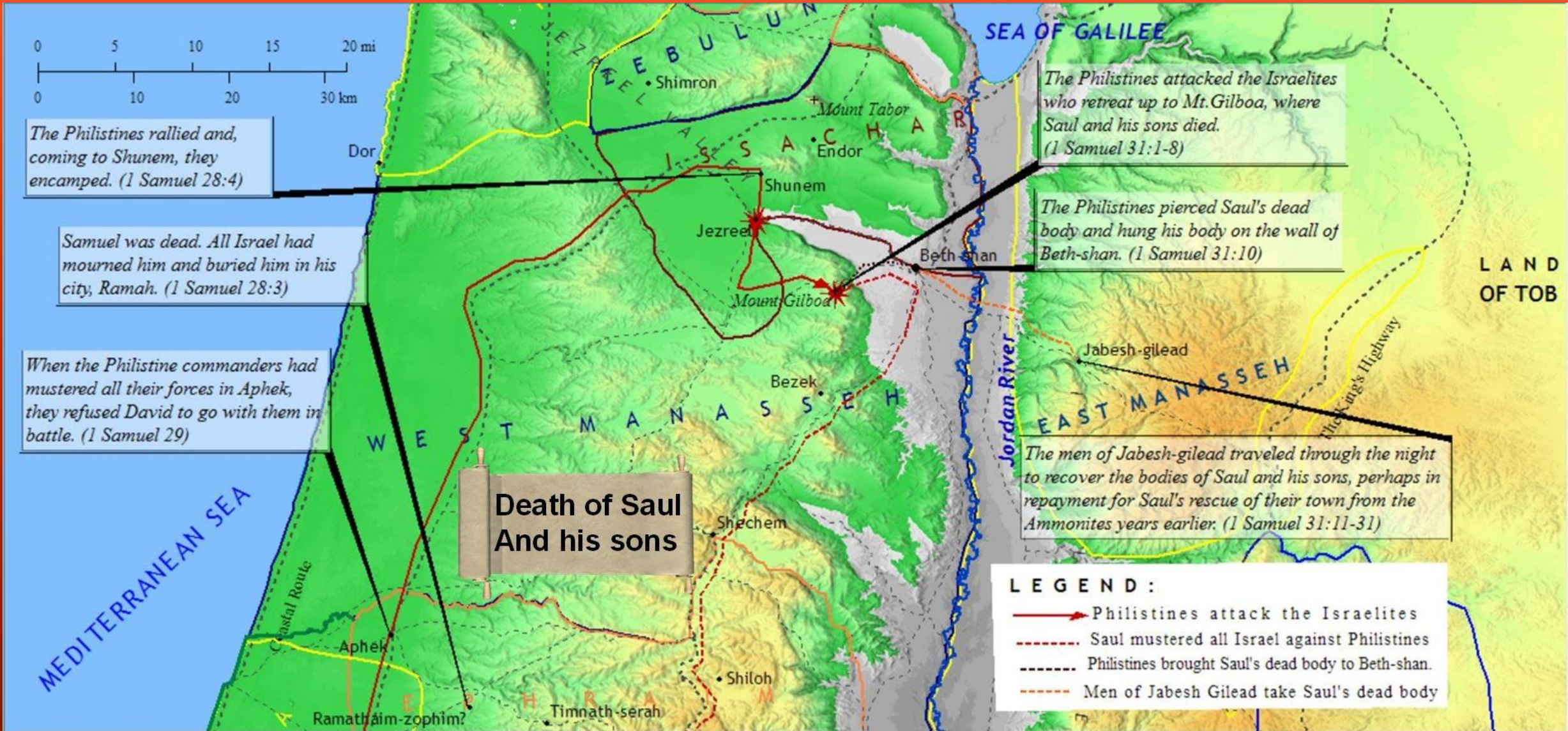
A. Crises create seekers

1. A lack of spokespeople for the supernatural + a Philistine horde =
A troubled king!
2. What does it take in your life before you say, “I need answers”?
 - a. Crisis of subsistence?
 - b. Crisis of relationship?
 - c. Crisis of faith?
 - d. Crisis of meaning?

B. By any means necessary . . .

1. Saul exhausts the legitimate channels.
2. In desperation, he turns to forbidden sources.

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a. “Seek for me a woman who is a medium . . .”

1a. Lev. 19:31; 20:6

C. Religious rebels reveal that they haven’t surrendered agendas.

1. Saul’s problematic piety

2. Still trying to pull God into his agenda instead of submitting to God’s.

a. Our human tendency

b. Where do you need to lay down your agenda?

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III. God’s Infallible Fidelity to His Own Word (28:15S-25)

A. Samuel speaks

B. Picking up where we left off

1. 1 Sam. 15:10-29

2. “Why then do you ask me?”—a pregnant interrogative!

3. What God said He would do, He is doing.

C. Saul is hoping for 2nd opinion.

1. Jer. 37:15-17

2. “The gods of the Copybook Headings” –Rudyard Kipling

D. Looking for a way around the fact that God is God

E. The mundane underscores the traumatic.

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IV. The Fingerprint of Mercy

A. Where’s the hope?

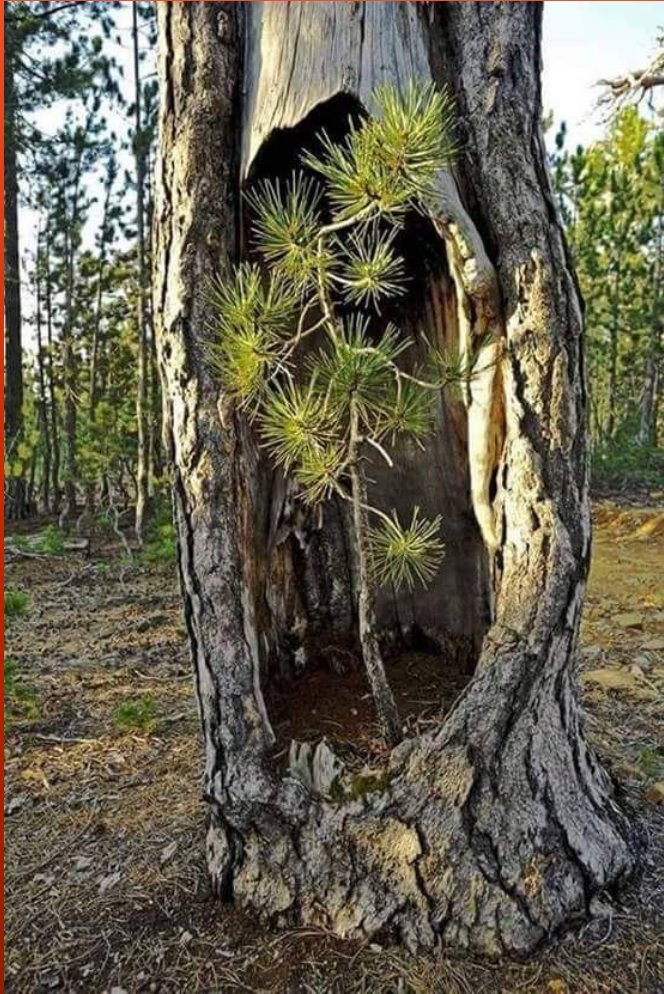
1. Need to resist the reflexive grab for a warm fuzzy
2. However, there is hope here.

B. Hope in the warning.

1. Saul is a monument, warning us to turn back.
 - a. 1 Cor. 10:1-13
2. A leaflet from WWII
3. God cares about you and calls you to turn.

C. The promises to David come to pass.

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D. Heb. 10:35-39