

God's Conversational Guidance

"Inquired of the Lord"

Therefore David inquired of the LORD, saying, "Shall I go and attack these Philistines?" And the LORD said to David, "Go and attack the Philistines, and save Heilah." 1 Samuel 23:2

Somehow we Christians have gotten the idea that talking with God needs to be in a religious form. Many of us expect not to hear back from Him at all or after a long wait and in a distant way. These examples from Scripture inform us that talking with God can be transparent and intimate. Notice that in these, God's answer is immediate and clear. In Immanuel, we experience Jesus this way. He is real, conversational and deeply connected to us.

Included in this article are: Israel Inquired of the Lord And The Lord Answered; David Inquired of God and God Answered; Israel Did Not Inquire Of The Lord; Israel Inquired of the Lord And God Did Not Answer.

For more on God's Guidance please see: ["Various Ways God Guided His People In The Past"](#)

Israel Inquired of the Lord And The Lord Answered

Judges 20:27-28 So the children of Israel inquired of the LORD (the ark of the covenant of God was there in those days, and Phinehas the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron, stood before it in those days), saying, "Shall I yet again go out to battle against the children of my brother Benjamin, or shall I cease?" And the LORD said, "Go up, for tomorrow I will deliver them into your hand."

1 Samuel 10:22 Therefore they inquired of the LORD further, "Has the man come here yet?" And the LORD answered, "There he is, hidden among the equipment."

1 Samuel 22:10 And he [Ahimelech] inquired of the LORD for him [David], gave him provisions, and gave him the sword of Goliath the Philistine.

1 Samuel 22:13 Then Saul said to him, "Why have you [Ahimelech] conspired against me, you and the son of Jesse, in that you have given him bread and a sword, and have inquired of God for him, that he should rise against me, to lie in wait, as it is this day?"

1 Peter 1:10, 12 Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you... To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things which angels desire to look into.

David Inquired of God and God Answered

1 Samuel 23:2 Therefore David inquired of the LORD, saying, "Shall I go and attack these Philistines?" And the LORD said to David, "Go and attack the Philistines, and save Keilah."

1 Samuel 23:4 Then David inquired of the LORD once again. And the LORD answered him and said, "Arise, go down to Keilah. For I will deliver the Philistines into your hand."

1 Samuel 30:8 So David inquired of the LORD, saying, "Shall I pursue this troop? Shall I overtake them?" And He answered him, "Pursue, for you shall surely overtake them and without fail recover all."

2 Samuel 2:1 It happened after this that David inquired of the LORD, saying, "Shall I go up to any of the cities of Judah?" And the LORD said to him, "Go up." David said, "Where shall I go up?" And He said, "To Hebron."

2 Samuel 5:19 So David inquired of the LORD, saying, "Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will You deliver them into my hand?" And the LORD said to David, "Go up, for I will doubtless deliver the Philistines into your hand."

2 Samuel 5:23 Therefore David inquired of the LORD, and He said, "You shall not go up; circle around behind them, and come upon them in front of the mulberry trees."

2 Samuel 21:1 Now there was a famine in the days of David for three years, year after year; and David inquired of the LORD. And the LORD answered, "It is because of Saul and his bloodthirsty house, because he killed the Gibeonites."

1 Chronicles 14:10 And David inquired of God, saying, "Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will You deliver them into my hand?" And the LORD said to him, "Go up, for I will deliver them into your hand."

1 Chronicles 14:14 Therefore David inquired again of God, and God said to him, "You shall not go up after them; circle around them, and come upon them in front of the mulberry trees."

Israel Did Not Inquire of The Lord

Zephaniah 1:6 Those who have turned back from following the LORD, And have not sought the LORD, nor inquired of Him.

Israel Inquired of the Lord And God Did Not Answer

1 Samuel 28:6 And when Saul inquired of the LORD, the LORD did not answer him, either by dreams or by Urim or by the prophets.

Ezekiel 14:3 Son of man, these men have set up their idols in their hearts, and put before them that which causes them to stumble into iniquity. Should I let Myself be inquired of at all by them?

Ezekiel 14:10 And they shall bear their iniquity; the punishment of the prophet shall be the same as the punishment of the one who inquired.

Ezekiel 20:3 "Son of man, speak to the elders of Israel, and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Have you come to inquire of Me? As I live," says the Lord GOD, "I will not be inquired of by you."'

Ezekiel 20:31 "For when you offer your gifts and make your sons pass through the fire, you defile yourselves with all your idols, even to this day. So shall I be inquired of by you, O house of Israel? As I live," says the Lord GOD, "I will not be inquired of by you."

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