

This guide for 25 lines double-space Elite 48 Pica 48

1 I Sam 19:18-24. All that is said here about the
 2 prophets is that Saul's messengers "saw the com-
 3 pany of the prophets prophesying and Samuel
 4 standing as appointed over them." Jewish tradi-
 5 tion saw in this account a group of men studying
 6 under the direction of Samuel as the great pro-
 7 phetic teacher. Whether this was the situation,
 8 or whether the prophets were merely praising God
 9 in various ways, there is nothing in the state-
 10 ment to suggest that they were engaged in highly
 11 emotional or ecstatic activities. The ground
 12 for reaching such conclusions is based upon what
 13 was done by the three groups of messengers that
 14 Saul sent, and more particularly on what was
 15 done by Saul himself.

16 Verse 20 says that when Saul's messengers
 17 "saw the company of the prophets prophesying,
 18 and Samuel standing as appointed over them, the
 19 Spirit of God was upon the messengers of Saul,
 20 and they also prophesied." This also happened
 21 in the case of the second and third groups of
 22 messengers. It should be noticed, however, that
 23 there is here no clear evidence of anything psy-
 24 chologically strange or ecstatic. These messen-
 25 gers may well have been men who truly believed

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