

העלאת האוב בעין-דור

אבנר רמו



Washington Allston 1843 (Mead Art Museum. Amherst Collage).

- את-שמואל העלי-לי - את-שמואל העלי-לי - "Bring me up Samuel" (1 Sam 28:11).

Now we read: ותרא האשה את-שמואל, ותזעק בקול גדול - "And the woman saw Samuel, and she cried with a loud voice" (1 Sam 28:12).

Yet when Saul asked her: "what did you see?" she answered: אלהים ראיתי עלים מן-הארץ - "I saw gods coming up out of the earth" (1 Sam 28:13). We may wonder why, in spite of the fact that she saw Samuel, would she give that answer. It is also odd to hear Saul response to her answer: ויאמר לה, מה-תארו - "And he said to her: How he looks?" (1 Sam 28:14).

The fact that Saul does not respond correctly to the information that he just heard, suggests that in all likelihood the diviner response in verse 1 Sam 28:13 is faulty. It is therefore suggested that אלהים ראיתי עלים מן-הארץ is a letter-substitution, and an order-type error of: הלא ראיתיו עולה מן-הארץ - "for I have seen him coming up from the earth."