

Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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Stock#: 98684

(Nuremberg Chronicle) [Saul and Odysseus]

Stock#: 98684 Map Maker: Schedel

Date:

1493

Place: Color: Nuremberg Uncolored

Condition:

VG

Size:

9 x 15 inches

Price:

\$ 295.00



Description:

Biblical Isreal and Mythological Greece

An engraving from the *Nuremberg Chronicle* relating the history of Saul, the first king of Isreal, and Odysseus, the hero of the Greek epic the *Oddessey*.

The first set of engravings features prominent figures from the Book of Judges such as Ibzan, Abyalon, Abdon, and Saul. All figures are depicted wearing contemporary European dress. The three judges are illustrated as monastic and scholarly while Saul appears to be wearing a doublet and crown of a Western monarch.

Drawer Ref: Curiosities - People

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Contrasting the Biblical theme above, the other engraving features an illustration from *The Oddessy*. This scene shows Odysseus (Latinized as "Ulixes") as he sails by the island of the goddess Circe. According to myth, Circe enchanted Odysseus's crew, turning them into swine (or various animals depending on the translation) which explains the animal-human hybrids onboard. Similar to the previous engraving, this scene is somewhat anachronistic, notably replacing the iconic triamine of Classical Greece with a contemporary European vessel.

This engraving was published in 1493 by Hartmann Schedel for the *Nuremberg Chronicle* (*Liber Chronicarum*). The fusion of Biblical and Classical themes in the work is a fine example of Renaissance art and literature of this period. A nice piece of literary and religious history that shows the advancement of Europe into the Early Modern era.

Detailed Condition:

One sheet, printed verso-recto. Expertly repaired tear on top left. Slight toning and foxing as pictured.

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