

# CHRISTIANITY



&

# THE OCCULT



# CHRISTIANITY & THE OCCULT

**1 JOHN 1:5-7 GOD IS LIGHT AND THERE IS NO DARKNESS IN HIM AT ALL.**

If we say we have fellowship with God and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and live a lie. But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another and the Blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin.

**ACTS 26: 18** Paul says God appointed him to take the Good News about Jesus Christ to people, who didn't know him, **to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God**, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'

**2 CORINTHIANS 4:6** For God, who said, *"Let light shine out of darkness,"* made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

**EPHESIANS 5:8, 11-12** Formerly you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light. Have nothing to do with the things done in darkness, which are worthless, but rather expose them. It is shameful even to talk about what those people do in secret.

**COLOSSIANS 1:13-14** God has freed us from the power of darkness, and brought us into the kingdom of his dear Son. The Son paid for our sins, and in him we have forgiveness.

**1 THESSALONIANS 5:4-5** But you, brothers in Christ, are not in darkness so that the Day of Judgement should surprise you (like a thief in the night). You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness.

**1 PETER 2:9** You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people who belong to God so you may declare the praises of him, who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

**JOHN 3:19-21** [Jesus said] This is the verdict: **LIGHT HAS COME INTO THE WORLD, BUT PEOPLE PREFERRED DARKNESS TO LIGHT BECAUSE THEIR DEEDS WERE EVIL.** <sup>20</sup> Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. <sup>21</sup> **But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light**, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

**DANIEL 2:20,22-23** Daniel praised the God of heaven and declared: *"May the name of God be praised forever and ever, for wisdom and power belong to Him. He reveals the deep and hidden things; He knows what is in the darkness, and light dwells with Him. I offer thanks and praise to You, God of my fathers, because You have given me wisdom and power."*

## DEFINITION: What Is The Occult?

The word "Occult" comes from Latin "*occultum*" = "*hidden/secret*" and covers -

- (a) **Secret supernatural KNOWLEDGE/WISDOM** gained without reference to God  
eg **foretelling the future** through astrology, cards, crystals, divination, fortune telling, horoscopes, stars, tea leaves, etc
- (b) **Secret supernatural POWER** gained without reference to God and **used to control others**  
eg through the use of curses, drugs, hexes, hypnosis, magic, sorcery, spells, witchcraft

In the Garden of Eden Satan deceived Adam and Eve into disobeying God. In our desire to be God/do our own thing, human beings are deceived by Satan into looking for *secret knowledge* and *secret power*, based on four lies Satan told Adam and Eve in **GENESIS 3:3-4**:

- **LIE NO.1 YOU WILL NOT DIE** - the basis of **atheism** and **reincarnation**
- **LIE NO 2 YOUR EYES WILL BE OPENED** - the basis of **occultism** & **esoteric mysticism**
- **LIE NO 3 YOU WILL BE LIKE GOD** - **New Age teaching to find the god within**
- **LIE NO 4 YOU WILL KNOW GOOD & EVIL** - **postmodern moral relativism & a scientific rationalism**

## **GOD'S VIEW OF THE OCCULT**

The Bible makes it clear that any attempt to obtain knowledge or power through occult/secret means is an abomination in God's eyes. Occult practices are specifically forbidden by God in both Old and New Testaments.

### **EXODUS 20:2-6 God's Prohibition of Idolatry**

<sup>2</sup> I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

<sup>3</sup> You shall have no other gods before me. <sup>4</sup> You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. <sup>5</sup> You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, <sup>6</sup> but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

### **DEUTERONOMY 18:9-14 God's Prohibition of Divination, Human Sacrifice, Spiritism & Witchcraft**

<sup>9</sup> When you enter the land the LORD your God is giving you, do not learn to imitate the detestable ways of the nations there.

<sup>10</sup> Let no one be found among you -

(a) who sacrifices their son or daughter in the fire,

(b) who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft, <sup>11</sup> or casts spells,

(c) who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead.

<sup>12</sup> Anyone who does these things is detestable to the LORD; because of these detestable practices the LORD your God will drive out those nations before you. <sup>13</sup> You must be blameless before the LORD your God.

### **2 KINGS 17:13-20 God's Warnings against Idolatry, Divination & Human Sacrifice**

<sup>13</sup> The LORD warned Israel and Judah through all his prophets and seers:

“Turn from your evil ways. .... But they would not listen and were as stiff-necked as their ancestors, who did not trust in the LORD their God.

<sup>15</sup> They rejected his decrees and the covenant he had made with their ancestors and the statutes he had warned them to keep. They followed worthless idols and became worthless. They imitated the nations around them although the LORD had ordered them, “Do not do as they do.”

<sup>16</sup> They forsook all the commands of the LORD their God.

(a) They made for themselves two idols cast in the shape of calves.

(b) They made an Asherah pole to the goddess Astarte

(c) They bowed down to all the starry hosts worshipping the sun, moon & stars instead of their Creator

(d) They worshipped Baal the Canaanite god of fertility

(e) They sacrificed their sons and daughters in the fire to the Canaanite god Moloch or Molech

(f) They practised divination and sought omens through astrology & other means and did evil in the eyes of the LORD, arousing his anger.

### **MARK 1:14-15, 21-28 Jesus' Ministry to Proclaim & Demonstrate the Kingdom of God**

<sup>14</sup> After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. <sup>15</sup> “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”

<sup>23</sup> Just then a man in their synagogue, who was in the grip of an unclean spirit, cried out,

<sup>24</sup> “What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!”

<sup>25</sup> “Be quiet!” said Jesus sternly. “Come out of him!” <sup>26</sup> The unclean spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek.

<sup>27</sup> The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, “What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to unclean spirits and they obey him.” <sup>28</sup> News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee.

**GALATIANS 5:19-21** <sup>19</sup> The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery;

<sup>20</sup> idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions <sup>21</sup> and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

## DOORWAYS TO DANGER: Three Strands To Satan's Occult Web

- A. DIVINATION - counterfeit revelation & prediction;** foretelling the future, including astrology, cartomancy (use of cards including Tarot cards), consulting omens, crystals, horoscopes, pendulums
- B. WITCHCRAFT & SORCERY** - using spells, curses, therapies inducing an altered state of consciousness, hypnosis, *reiki* and other healing therapies involving channelling of spirits and seeking to control others (Wicca is a form of witchcraft) & using charms, music, dancing and drugs in magic [NOTE: The Greek word "*pharmakeia*" can mean both (a) drugs; and (b) sorcery [GALATIANS 5:20; REVELATION 9:21]]
- C. IDOLATRY AND FALSE RELIGIONS & NEW AGE BELIEFS** including Eastern mysticism, Freemasonry, Transcendental Meditation, Yoga, and channelling of demonic spirits. Paganism and Wicca are not the same as Satanism. They are a return to ancient worship of the Female Goddess & the Horned God, who in reality is Satan in disguise.

Satan uses a number of ways to entice people to become involved in the occult by making it seem harmless and attractive.

- (1) **BOOKS & MAGAZINES** eg House of Hell; Harry Potter books; Dungeons & Dragons/Fighting Fantasy games
- (2) **TV HORROR & SUPERNATURAL PROGRAMMES** involving demons
- (3) **FILMS & DVDs** The Exorcist; The Omen; Rosemary's Baby
- (4) **MUSIC** eg ACDC; Black Sabbath; Iron Maiden; Judas Priest; K.I.S.S.; Metallica; Ozzy Osbourne
- (5) **THE INTERNET** programmes encouraging individuals to engage in witchcraft, astrology and New Age beliefs

### Three Levels of Occult Involvement

- (1) **'Dabblers'** play with Ouija boards; horoscopes, crystals, fantasy games, reiki; Tarot cards; yoga
- (2) **'Initiates'** initiated into Levels 1-3 of 'The Craft'; Reiki masters; Tantric yoga; channelling demonic spirits
- (3) **'Devotees'** serious involvement in witchcraft, satanic rituals, 32<sup>0</sup> + Freemasonry

### WAYS INDIVIDUALS ARE TRAPPED IN THE OCCULT WEB

- a. **Disillusion with traditional Judaeo-Christian religion** which appears to lack reality, relevance & power
- b. **The attraction of secret things** that promise hidden knowledge & power eg Freemasonry; witchcraft
- c. **Being lured into occultism** through horoscopes, Ouija boards, Tarot cards, Dungeons & Dragons, Warcraft
- d. **Recruited by occultists** at raves, music festivals, drink & drug parties
- e. **Trapped through blackmail** about illegal activities and sexual indiscretions
- f. **Attracted by the idea of nature worship** and a return to ancient worship of nature, sun, moon & stars
- g. **Through generational witchcraft, Freemasonry or occultism down a family line**

### THE DECEPTIVENESS OF THE OCCULT: A Web To Trap The Unwary

A major part of Satan's strategy is to make the occult look attractive and harmless. Nobody really believes in the mediaeval idea of witches and demonic spirits any more, do they? It's all just harmless fun, we are told. But while the world ridicules Jesus Christ and everything holy, Satan is happily snaring more and more people in his occult web through horoscopes, Ouija boards, occult films, and New Age beliefs. Perhaps most successfully and insidiously of all, he has softened up a whole generation of children and adults to the ideas of witchcraft and sorcery through the Harry Potter books and TV series like Merlin and Switch (a 'comedy' involving 'the witches of Camden') that major on the supernatural, which of course nobody believes are real, and so-called 'Horror' (ie occult) films like The Wicker Man.

**The Beltane Fire Festival/Walpurgisnacht (April 30<sup>th</sup>), The Wicker Man Festival (26-27<sup>th</sup> July) in Wigton, and Halloween/Samhain (October 31<sup>st</sup>),** are all examples of how important dates in the occult calendar have been portrayed as a bit of harmless fun for children and adults. Beltane and Halloween are the two Great Sabbats in the Witches' Calendar, while The Wicker Man Festival precedes **Lammas/Lughnasad** on July 31<sup>st</sup> and includes the depiction of human sacrifice as part of a pagan witchcraft ritual dating back to the Roman invasion of Britain and the Druids. **Those who are seriously involved in the occult web are in no doubt about the reality of the supernatural or about the dangers of dabbling. YOU NEVER SEE THE SPIDER UNTIL IT IS TOO LATE.**

## A COMPARISON OF WITCHCRAFT & FREEMASONRY

<i>Features</i>	<i>Witchcraft</i>	<i>Freemasonry</i>
Nickname	'The Craft'	'The Craft'
Open/Secret	Secret	Secret
Meeting Place	'Temple'	'Temple'
Central Point	Pentagram	Pentagram
System	Three Basic Degrees	Three Basic Degrees
Initiation Rites	At each degree	At each degree
Ceremonial Cleansings	Of 'Temple' before each ritual	Of 'Temple' before each ritual
Biblical Symbols/Rituals	Perversion of Biblical symbols	Perversion of Biblical symbols
Candidates Stripped	Of all everyday clothing & metal	Of all everyday clothing & metal
Candidates Blindfolded	'Hoodwinked'	'Hoodwinked'
Candidate's Chest Pierced	By sword	By compasses
Tools Used	Symbols of genitalia	Symbols of genitalia
Passwords	Secret	Secret
Death & Resurrection Ritual	Initiate is heroine	Initiate is hero
Use of Fear for Control	Painful rituals & terror	Painful rituals & terror
Oaths & Curses	At each stage of initiation	At each stage of initiation
Perversion of Truth	Darkness = Light	Darkness = Light
Object of Worship	Goddess & Horned God; satan	TGAOTU; JAHBULON; satan
Destiny	Eternal death	Eternal death

## THE EFFECTS OF OCCULT INVOLVEMENT: From Demonic Affliction To Domination

The Bible does not talk about *demon-possession*. The word sometimes translated as *demon-possessed* is the Greek word *daimonizomai* which means *to be demonised or afflicted by demonic spirits*. People are also described as *having an unclean or evil spirit*. Different degrees of demonization can be seen in the New Testament. These include -

- a. **AFFLICTION** Being attacked by demonic spirits from outside resulting in spiritual oppression
- b. **INFILTRATION** Being infiltrated by demonic spirits inside ie *having an unclean or evil spirit* which controls certain aspects of the person's life/behaviour  
**MARK 9:14-29** a young boy with a deaf & dumb spirit  
*NOTE* The NLT heading *Jesus Heals A "Demon-Possessed" Boy* should read "*Demonised*"
- c. **COMPLETE CONTROL/DOMINATION** by evil spirits  
**LUKE 8:26-38** The Gadarene Demoniac who was inhabited and controlled by a 'Legion' of (5000) demons

## FOUR WAYS A CHRISTIAN MAY BE AFFLICTED BY DEMONIC SPIRITS

- A. **GENERATIONAL SIN** through family idolatry, including Freemasonry; immorality; or occultism
- B. **IDOLATRY & FALSE RELIGIONS** including Freemasonry and New Age beliefs based on Hinduism
- C. **SEXUAL IMMORALITY** breaking God's laws regarding sexual relationships
- D. **OCCULTISM** involving **seeking secret knowledge and power through ways God forbids**: these include
  - **KNOWLEDGE** Astrology, fortune-telling, horoscopes, & Ouija boards to seek knowledge about the future
  - **POWER** Magic, sorcery & witchcraft seeking to control others using occult power, including fantasy games
  - **WORSHIP OF THE CREATED INSTEAD OF GOD AS CREATOR** Worship of sun, moon and stars
  - **THE DELIBERATE WORSHIP OF SATAN** through rituals such as the Black Mass

## **THE WAY OF FREEDOM: The 3 R's - Repentance, Renunciation & Reconciliation with God**

**COLOSSIANS 2:13-15** At the Cross the LORD Jesus Christ won the victory over all the powers of darkness as -  
(1) a demonstration of the inbreaking of the Kingdom-rule of God in the Person of Jesus Christ; and  
(2) the reversal of the disastrous consequences of Adam and Eve's disobedience in The Garden of Eden  
We live between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Arrival of the LORD Jesus Christ. God has given all Spirit-filled Christians  
(a) authority (*exousia*) and (b) power (*dunamis*) over all the forces of the enemy, but the final defeat and  
punishment of Satan and his forces is still to be executed on the Day of Judgement.

**LUKE 10:1-20** Jesus sent out 72 disciples in pairs to proclaim the arrival of God's kingdom-rule, heal the sick  
and set the captives free

In vv17-20 the 72 return excited because they had witnessed people being delivered of demonic spirits. In  
response Jesus said: *Don't be excited that the demons obey you. I saw Satan fall from heaven like lightning. Just  
be glad that your names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.*

**ACTS 26:17-18** [Jesus said to Saul]" *I am sending you to the Gentiles to open their eyes and turn them from  
darkness to light, from the power of Satan to God so they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among  
those who are sanctified by faith in Me."*

The way to freedom from occult bondage is by taking three simple steps:

- 1. REPENTING OF THE SIN** of seeking knowledge and power through ways God forbids  
Repentance means turning away from sin and being willing to go God's way from now on  
(see prayer below)
- 2. RENOUNCING ALL INVOLVEMENT IN OCCULT ACTIVITIES** including oaths and curses  
Renouncing all the works of darkness (see prayer below) eg by revoking all oaths and curses that I may  
have brought on myself through occultism, including Freemasonry, or that have come down the family line
- 3. RECONCILIATION WITH GOD**  
Being reconciled with God by inviting Jesus Christ to be LORD of every area of my life from now on  
(see prayer on back page)

### **A PRAYER REPENTING OF & RENOUNCING ALL INVOLVEMENT IN THE OCCULT**

**Almighty God,**

**I confess and repent of** my attempts to meet my needs for security, self-worth and significance by seeking  
supernatural knowledge and power that are ultimately from Satan rather than from You.

**I utterly renounce** all involvement in false religions, including Freemasonry, and occult practices such as  
astrology, horoscopes, divination using cards, pendulums, tea-leaves, Tarot cards, all forms of magic, witchcraft  
and sorcery, and everything that is ultimately from Satan.

**I ask You now, Almighty God,**

- **to apply the precious Blood of Jesus Christ to every area of my body, soul & spirit affected  
by these occult ties**
- **to forgive my sins, and**
- **to break all satanic bondages and curses, including all generational ties with family members living or dead**

**I renounce all oaths and curses taken upon myself or from others** and ask You, Almighty God, to break their  
power over me once and for all.

**I choose life rather than death, blessings rather than curses,** and acknowledge You alone are the Almighty  
Creator God of the universe and that Jesus Christ, Your Son, who came in the flesh as a man and died for sinners  
like me, has defeated sin, death and Satan by his death on the Cross, resurrection from the grave and ascension  
to Your right hand.

**I acknowledge that at the Name of Jesus Christ every knee must bow and every tongue confess that Jesus  
Christ is King of kings and LORD of lords to Your glory, O God. Amen.**

## CHECKLIST OF OCCULTISM & NON-CHRISTIAN SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCE

### OCCULTISM

- astrology
- astral projection
- automatic writing
- black magic
- black mass
- blood pacts
- channelling
- charms
- clairaudience (hearing)
- clairsentience (feeling)
- clairvoyance (seeing)
- conjuring up spirits
- coven membership
- crystal ball gazing
- crystal therapy
- death magic
- demon worship
- divination
- dream interpretation
- Dungeons & Dragons
- E.S.P.
- fetishism
- Findhorn
- fortune-telling
- gothic rock/heavy metal
- gypsy curses
- homeopathy
- horoscopes
- hypnosis
- idols
- incantations
- incubi & succubae
- levitation
- lucky charms
- martial arts
- mediums
- mind control (eg Silva)
- nightmares/night terrors
- numerology
- occult literature
- ouija board
- palmistry
- psychic healing
- pyramidology
- reiki

- soul travel
- table rapping/tipping
- tarot reading
- tea-leaf reading
- telepathy
- thought transference
- transcendental meditation ( T.M.)
- trances
- white magic
- wicca
- witchcraft
- yoga
- zodiac signs

### NON-CHRISTIAN SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCE

- Armstrongism
- Baha'ism
- Buddhism
- Children of God
- Christadelphians
- Christian Science
- Confucianism
- Druidism
- Eastern mysticism
- Eastern Star
- Eckankar
- Elks
- Freemasonry
- Gurus
- Hare Krishna
- Hinduism
- Inner Peace Movement
- Islam
- Jehovah's Witnesses
- Kabbala
- Latter Day Saints
- Moonies
- Mormonism
- New Age
- Rastafarianism
- Roscicrucianism
- Scientology
- Swedenborgianism
- Unification Church
- Unitarianism
- Zen Buddhism

## **A PRAYER INVITING JESUS CHRIST TO BE LORD OF EVERY AREA OF MY LIFE**

**LORD Jesus Christ, I acknowledge You are the Son of God who came in the flesh as a man.**

### **I acknowledge**

- You alone are the Way, the Truth and the Life
- Nobody comes to God the Father except through faith in You
- You died on the Cross in my place for my sins to satisfy the just demands of a holy God, who loves sinners but hates sin and that You came to set the captives free from all satanic bondage by the power of Your redeeming Blood
- You rose from the grave as promised and are alive, seated at the right hand of God the Father, far above all principalities and powers, and have conquered sin, death and Satan.

### **I acknowledge, LORD Jesus,**

that I am a sinner in need of you and confess

that You alone can save me from the **penalty** my sins deserve in the eyes of a holy God.

I ask You, LORD Jesus to be my Saviour now and for ever because Your Blood was shed for me.

### **I invite You now, LORD Jesus, to be LORD of**

- my body and all my actions
- my mind and all my thoughts
- my feelings and all my emotions
- my will and all my decisions
- my spirit and all my spiritual life
- my family
- my home
- my possessions
- my work
- my leisure pursuits
- my relationships

**Thank You that Your Blood was shed for me at Calvary to set this captive free. I ask You now**

- to **forgive** my sins
- to **cleanse** me by Your Blood
- to **break** all bondages
- to **fill** me with Your Holy Spirit

because I ask it in Your Name which is above all other names in heaven, on earth, or under the earth.

Amen.