

# Myths About Witchcraft

10-26-14

## Deuteronomy 18:9-15

### Introduction:

- Modern day witches
  1. Look no different than you and me
  2. Call themselves p\_\_\_\_\_
- An article by a modern witch in our local paper
  1. W\_\_\_\_\_ly quoted O.T. scripture to support witchcraft
  2. R\_\_\_\_\_ly pointed out that many Christians participate in witchcraft or pagan rituals.
- Would you ever dabble in witchcraft rituals on purpose?
  1. If a tradition in your life was revealed to be witchcraft, would you rid it from your life?
  2. If your kids dabbled in witchcraft, would you let them?

### Myth #1 – It's Harmless

- Gal 5:19,20 lists witchcraft (or sorcery)
  1. It is a deed of the f\_\_\_\_\_ - verse 19 (referring to the sinful nature, which is ALWAYS in opposition to the S\_\_\_\_\_ - see verse 17)
  2. To the Galatians witchcraft as a deed of the flesh was o\_\_\_\_\_ - verse 19 (they came from a background of paganism or witchcraft)
  3. All who practice witchcraft cannot enter God's k\_\_\_\_\_ - v. 20
- Witchcraft is a r\_\_\_\_\_ that leads away from the true God
  1. It is a recognized religion by our g\_\_\_\_\_
  2. The Wiccan website will inform you that
    - a. Witchcraft is tapping into the forces of nature and becoming in t\_\_\_\_\_ with them
    - b. Pre-Christian gods and goddesses are h\_\_\_\_\_ by them as part of these natural forces.
- Acts 19:19 records people repenting from witchcraft by b\_\_\_\_\_ their books of witchcraft (valued in today's standards over three million dollars!)
- Does the Bible paint witchcraft as harmless? It is spiritually harmful!

### Myth #2 – It's Powerless

- I Sam 28 is a record of King Saul's inquiry
  1. Saul rightly asked G\_\_\_\_\_ if he should attack or run from the Philistines. But God did not answer him by (see verse 6)
    - a. D\_\_\_\_\_
    - b. P\_\_\_\_\_
    - c. Casting of l\_\_\_\_\_ (the Urim)
  2. Saul wrongly asked a w\_\_\_\_\_ to get the answer for him
    - a. She conjured up what was from her perspective a d\_\_\_\_\_ being (v. 13)
    - b. She conjured up from Saul's perspective the dead prophet S\_\_\_\_\_ (v. 14) – the narration continues to view it from Saul's perspective (See Gen 3 – the serpent was really S\_\_\_\_\_ [Rev 12:9] and Gen 19 – the men were really angels)
    - c. Actually this being was a d\_\_\_\_\_ disguising itself as Samuel (see 2 Cor 11:14).
  3. Saul resigned himself to the d\_\_\_\_\_ predicted by the disguised demon. He attacked the Philistines and died along with his sons as predicted (chapter 31).
- Acts 16:16-24 is a record of a slave girl who practiced witchcraft
  1. She had a s\_\_\_\_\_ of divination – v. 16
  2. The spirit was a d\_\_\_\_\_ - v. 18
  3. The slave girl must have been a successful fortune teller since she brought in much p\_\_\_\_\_ - v. 16

4. When Paul cast the demon out she lost her ability to predict the future
  5. Note: Satan, demons, cannot see into the future they can only manipulate people and things to make things happen within the parameters that God allows (see Eph 2:2; Job 1:12)
- Witchcraft is inviting the demon world in
    1. Demons can only enter an un\_\_\_\_\_ body (Matt 12:43,44)
    2. A true believer's body is occupied by the \_\_\_\_\_ Spirit (I Cor 6:19) and so cannot be possessed
    3. We need not fear demonic power because of I Jn 4:4

### Myth #3 – It's Absent from Christianity

- Deut 18:9-14
  1. Shows that ancient Israel had the tendency to i\_\_\_\_\_ pagan practices
  2. Calls these practices d\_\_\_\_\_ to the Lord
- Many Christians unknowingly d\_\_\_\_\_ in witchcraft rituals
  1. E\_\_\_\_\_
    - a. Webster's dictionary states that the name was the name of a s\_\_\_\_\_ goddess
    - b. Originally, Easter was a totally pagan festival in ancient Britain celebrating f\_\_\_\_\_ (rituals with eggs and bunnies honored the goddess)
    - c. When Christians migrated to Britain they instituted the celebration of the r\_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus, since the time of Easter and the time of the resurrection was about the same.
    - d. Over time, pagan rituals honoring the goddess Easter were adopted by Christians, which overshadowed the resurrection.
    - e. The pastor of LBC does not want to honor Easter but Jesus, do you? (call the Christian celebration "Resurrection")
  2. H\_\_\_\_\_
    - a. Celebrated by modern day witches as the highest day of p\_\_\_\_\_ (pagan rituals more effective on this day)
    - b. Historically traced back to the ancient Druids (3<sup>rd</sup> century B.C.) who were pagan p\_\_\_\_\_ that taught
      - 1) That the spirits of dead people returned to their homes on Oct \_\_\_\_\_
      - 2) That some of these spirits were e\_\_\_\_\_ and would go after good people
      - 3) That one could avoid the evil spirits by:
        - a) Dressing up as an a\_\_\_\_\_
        - b) Wearing a m\_\_\_\_\_ making you look evil
        - c) Giving them a t\_\_\_\_\_
        - d) Lighting a f\_\_\_\_\_ inside a pumpkin

**Conclusion - *What will you do with these words of the Lord in your home, in the teaching of your children, and in your relationship to the Lord who saved you?***