

Modern Spiritualism

Julius H. G. G.



What Does the Bible Say?

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Wiccan Witch)
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*“There shall be false
teachers among you, who
privily (secretly) shall
bring in damnable
heresies” 2 Peter 2:1.*

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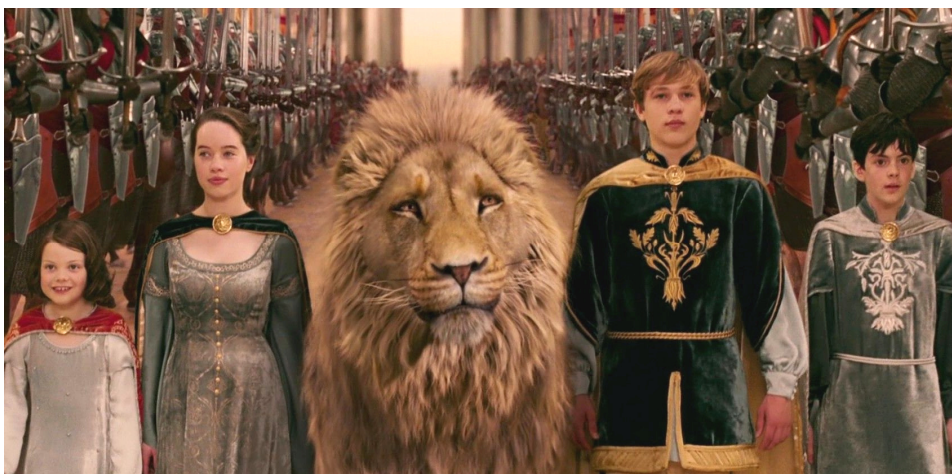
From *The Great Controversy*

“It is Satan’s constant effort to misrepresent the character of God, the nature of sin, and the real issues at stake in the great controversy. His sophistry lessens the obligation of **the divine law** and gives men license to sin. At the same time he causes them to cherish false concepts of God so that they regard Him with fear and hate rather than with love. The cruelty inherent in his own character is attributed to the Creator; it is embodied in systems of religion and expressed in modes of worship. Thus the minds of men are blinded, and Satan secures them as his agents to war against God” p. 569.

“As **spiritualism** more closely imitates the nominal Christianity of the day, it has greater power to deceive and ensnare. **Satan himself is converted, after the modern order of things. He will appear in the character of an angel of light.** Through the agency of spiritualism, miracles will be wrought, the sick will be healed, and many undeniable wonders will be performed. And as the spirits profess faith in the Bible, and manifest respect for the institutions of the church, their work will be accepted as a manifestation of divine power.

“The line of distinction between professed Christians and the ungodly is now hardly distinguishable. Church members love what the world loves and are ready to join with them. Satan determines to unite them in one body and thus strengthen his cause by sweeping all into the ranks of **spiritualism**. Papists, who boast of miracles as a certain sign of the true church, will be readily deceived by this wonder-working power; Protestants, having cast away the shield of truth, will also be deluded. Papists, Protestants, and worldlings will alike accept the form of godliness without the power, and they will see in this union a grand movement for the conversion of the world and the ushering in of the long-expected millennium... .

“[Satan’s] temptations are leading multitudes to ruin. Intemperance dethrones reason; sensual indulgence, strife, and bloodshed follow. Satan delights in war, for it excites the worst passions, ...then sweeps into eternity its victims, steeped in vice and blood” p. 588,589.



Witchcraft for Christians

Note: The main contributor for this article is the late, David Meyer, a former Wiccan witch, and Patti Heinrich, editor of this magazine. Shared by permission.

I am writing this urgent message because our children and grandchildren have opportunity to experience numerous bewitching and deceptive occultic indoctrinations: in games, toys, books, and movies shown not only on television for the whole world to see, but in Christian churches and schools. ***The Chronicles of Narnia*** has paved the way for even more dangerous and deceptive occult phenomena coming to public notice through the ***Harry Potter*** series. We will deal with J.K. Rowlings' books at a later time. This article will have to do with the famous writings of Clive Staples (C.S.) Lewis.

On December 9, 2005 a new Disney movie was released, entitled *The Chronicles of Narnia, The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. It is a sad fact that mainstream Christianity esteems C.S. Lewis as a great Christian author and his writings as edifying, with profound themes of Christian teachings. **The C.S. Lewis books can be found in Christian bookstores everywhere. These same books, however, can also be found in occult bookstores everywhere!**

It is a well-known fact to most Christians that Lucifer fell from heaven and became Satan. See Revelation 12:9. His primary objective is told in Scripture. He is "a roaring lion, ... seeking whom he may devour" 1 Peter 5:8. Luciferian organizations work hand in hand with Satan and his evil angels. Most all of the names given to characters in their movies, books, and games are the actual names of Satan and his imps.

As a former witch, astrologer, and occultist who is being saved daily by the grace of God, I know the works and teachings of C.S. Lewis are required reading by neophyte witches, especially in the United States

and England. The Lewis books teach new witches the basic mindset of the craft. Therefore, millions of Christian believers have been led to think like witches and have become involved in witchcraft through the innocent chronicles of C.S. Lewis, a disguised “Christian” witch (if there really is such a thing).

“But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not” 2 Peter 2:1-3.

The release date of the movie, December 9, 2005 was significant. That was the 13th day before the witches quarter Sabbat of Yule. The full cold moon was midway between the release date and the Sabbat of Yule. (A Sabbat is a secret rendezvous of witches and sorcerers for worship of the devil, characterized by orgiastic rites, dances, feasting, etc. It is also called “The Witches’ Sabbath.”) The waxing moon was also directly on the equinox on December 9, 2005. This is far too precisely occultic to be coincidental; the producers of the movie no doubt consulted upper-level witches regarding the perfect day to have the opening show for *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*.

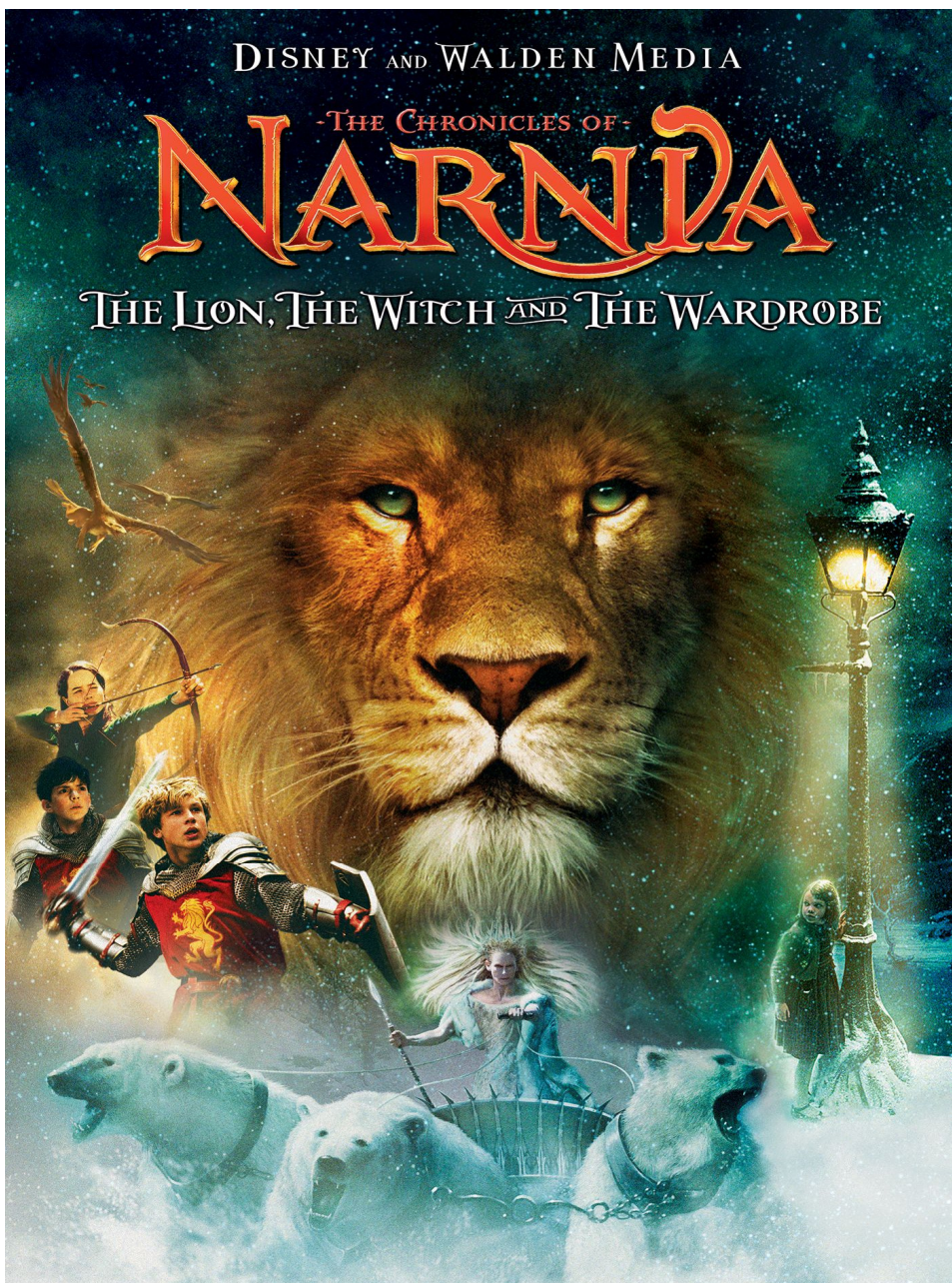
The Narnian Chronicles are a blend of Greek, Roman, Norse, and Celtic witchcraft; not Sunday or Sabbath School material, unless your churches are *defacto* witch covens. It is damnable heresy to consider these writings to be the gospel of Jesus Christ. However, the sad fact is most all of nominal and fundamental Christendom has endorsed them and carried on a love affair of spiritual fornication with C.S. Lewis’ literature. As a former witch, I can see at a glance that this is a masterpiece of Satan and rank blasphemy.

Now to review the books and show you how occultic they are, through and through. Aslan, the lion, appears in all seven of the Narnian Chronicles. (Aslan is the Turkish word for “lion.”) Christian teachers esteem Aslan to be the Christ figure, but witches know him to be Lucifer.

In the first book, *The Magician’s Nephew*, Aslan creates beings to inhabit the land of Narnia. These are presented as the good creatures and include wood gods, river gods, fauns, and satyrs. In witchcraft and pagan mythology, a faun is one of a class of rural deities represented as men with ears, horns, a tail, and the hind legs of a goat,—clearly the devil’s creation. Satyrs are woodland deities represented as part human and part goat and are noted for riotous, sexual lust. Another is the Wiccan principality known as Pan. In witchcraft, he is over the mind and

causes panic, pandemonium, and nervous disorders. He is also the nature god who is worshipped with lust and fertility rituals. How is it that Aslan can be presented as a type of Christ when he created such creatures as these? This, too, is blasphemous!

In the second chronicle, *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*, Christians again think it was written for them. Rather, it is one of clan-



destine occult mysticism. A child, Lucy, hides in a wardrobe as she is playing a game and suddenly finds herself transported to another world where intelligent, talking animals, and strange creatures dwell. She finds herself having tea with a faun. Now, why would a Christian child be having tea with a pagan deity? Why would a Christian have anything to do with sexual lust and fertility rites? Why would a Christian have anything to do with witches when Leviticus 20:27 says they are cursed by God and are to be stoned!? According to Revelation 21:8 and 22:15, they will be left outside the Holy City and destroyed by fire! Anyone who continues to associate with them by reading their materials and watching their movies will be destroyed with them unless they, by God's grace, repent! This is clearly NOT Christian material!

In the third chronicle, *The Horse and His Boy*, we find the heroine, Arvis, asking her father for permission to go into the woods to offer a secret sacrifice to Zardeena, Lady of the Night. Aslan, the lion, sends one character to the temple of the evil god, Tash to be healed. Tash is a type of Satan. In truth, Christ would never send anyone to Satan to be healed! Also, the names of the characters are truly the names of Satan's imps. And Christians consider these books fit for Christians? I have heard some call them a parable. I'm sorry, these are not just parables! They are occultic phenomena written to entrap more of God's children.

In the fourth chronicle, *Prince Caspian*, Aslan, the supposed type of Christ, leads a wild woodland dance with Bacchus, the god of drunkenness and orgies. The feast of Bacchus was the very feast Belshazzar was celebrating in Daniel 5 when he was found wanting, according to the heavenly handwriting on the wall. (In our day, this celebration is known as Mardi Gras. True Christians have nothing to do with this celebration!) In this book, the Maenads are frenzied, raging women driven to madness in the orgiastic cult rites of Bacchus. They tear apart live animals and humans and devour the raw meat of their victims like dogs gone mad. This book also contains spells with instructions on how to summon tree spirits with so-called white magic. All such things are forbidden in Deuteronomy 18:9-12. And Christians call this reading fit for Christians? It is pure blasphemy!

In the fifth chronicle, *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader*, Lucy summons Aslan by chanting a spell which is found in *The Magician's Book of Spells*. Lucy is surprised that her spell works. Aslan (Christ) tells her, "Do you think I don't obey my own rules?" Since when does Christ cast spells? Here, let it also be noted that a book of personal spells used by witches is known as *The Book of Shadows*, and Aslan (Christ) is supposedly the author of this book. Again, blasphemy!

In the sixth chronicle, *The Silver Chair*, centaurs are teaching astrology. Centaurs are a race of monsters having the head, trunk, and arms

of man with the body and legs of a horse. There is also a blood-letting ritual, which Aslan uses to resurrect the dead body of King Caspian. These are disgusting occultic activities that our true God would never condone, nor would He ask any of His children to be involved in!

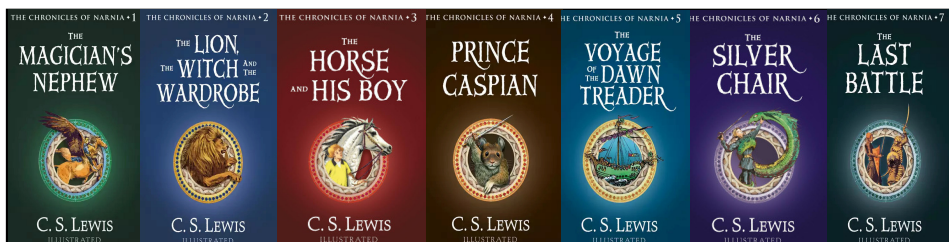
In the seventh chronicle, *The Last Battle*, the Antichrist finds that he was tricked into playing that role and ends up in heaven with Aslan. Another character, who was the faithful servant of the evil god, Tash (Satan), is confused when he finds himself in heaven. Aslan says to him, “Child, all the service thou hast done to Tash, I account as service done to me.” Here we see that no matter what evil you do, you can end up in heaven. And where in the Bible do you find that the antichrist goes to heaven? The very idea is blatant error! And notice another counterfeit—there are seven chronicles, like the sevens in Revelation.

Certainly, by now, enough is known to denounce these books as satanic and blasphemous. I pray that our true Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, will have mercy on the deceived and sleeping remnant and they will fully awake and come out of their deceptions.

Remember, Lucifer is Satan. He is a fallen angel, very handsome but very wicked. He is not a demon with a pitchfork, as often pictured. The Bible says, “And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore, it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed [come across] as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works” 2 Corinthians 11:14-15.

May God help us all, and may He especially protect our children and grandchildren from satanic devices and witchcraft. Earnestly inquire of the Lord to show you any occultic books, movies, video games, figurines, or practices you have been or may be involved and do as New Testament Christians did: “And many that believed came, and confessed, and shewed their deeds. Many of them also which used curious arts brought their books together, and burned them before all men: and they counted the price of them, and found it fifty thousand pieces of silver. So mightily grew the Word of God and prevailed” Acts 19:18-20.

Note: The main contributor to this, the late, Pastor David J Meyer, 1950-2010, was born into an occultic family and started practicing witchcraft at the age of 13. He became a Christian at age 19. He based his ministry on 1 Corinthians 14:8—using the name: *Last Trumpet Ministries*, in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin.



The Rise of Modern Spiritualism

Few individuals will dispute that spirits communicate with humans. There are supernatural agencies at work performing amazing wonders, regardless of background, religion, or what one believes. What kind of spirits are these? Through spirit mediums (Psychics), warnings are being sent that certain terrible occurrences will take place, warning travelers not to reserve a ticket on an airline or train. This phenomenon is attracting millions of individuals. Often, these appearances by the spirits are religious in nature.

Many who are grieving the loss of a loved one seek solace in the darkness of a séance, where they believe with the help of a spirit medium, their loved ones may emerge. These spirits frequently talk in the same voice and appear in the same manner as did the person who was so important to them. Notwithstanding, is the spiritualism claim true? Are these manifestations the ghosts of the dead? Are these spirits friendly or hostile? Let's have a look at this crucial topic.

There is a global effort to connect our generation to the spirit world, and they are succeeding to some extent. They seek to bring the living and the dead closer together, whether via entertainment or religion. It is this communication with the dead that we understand to be modern spiritualism. Actually, this has been going on for many years. Ever since



television, there have been shows that encourage connection with the dead, such as *Bewitched* and *The Craft*, which are about witches (plus numerous other demonic programs).

We are here for a reason at this point in history. We are called to do a special work as Christians. We are told the second coming of Christ will occur only after the gospel has been preached throughout the world, and God desires that we be saved. He wants all to know the truth because spiritualism is threatening our world from all sides. This is something that churches are doing.



Spiritualism is promoted in schools, as well as by Hollywood and the entertainment industry. There are ouija boards, video games, and movies. We cannot be complacent or passive. We have a mission and must give others the chance to hear what God has to say about this important topic.

What Do the Dead Know?

"For to him that is joined to all the living there is hope: for a living dog is better than a dead lion. For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not any thing, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten. Also their love, and their hatred, and their envy, is now perished; neither have they any more a portion forever in any thing that is done under the sun" Ecclesiastes 9:4-6.

It is good news to know that if we are still alive, there is hope. Many times, we believe God can no longer work with us, that we have reached rock bottom, or our lives are worthless. God says if you are still alive, there is hope. Nevertheless, the second part of this verse is very clear: **"The dead know not anything."** That is why we are forbidden to communicate with the dead; **the dead cannot communicate with a living person.**

It may seem like a comforting feeling to know our loved ones are watching over us in heaven, possibly trying to help us. Many Christian denominations believe our guardian angels are the spirits of our dead friends and loved ones. For some people, having the feeling that their loved ones are protecting them and trying to warn them if something

bad is about to happen is a wonderful thought. Others rejoice at the prospect of having a direct line to God through them.

However, we can see from the Bible **this is not the case**. This concept is not biblical. God warns us that such ideas are dangerous. If we attend a funeral in a large church, the pastor or whomever is giving the message will almost always say the deceased person has passed on to heaven. This is not a new thing. This idea has infiltrated Christian churches, and as already said, a majority of Christians believe this.

Where Did this Idea Originate?

It began way back in the Garden of Eden. This belief asserts that the soul is immortal and will not die—it will continue to live, move, speak, and interact in some way after death. However, examining this in light of God's Word reveals the fallacy of such an idea. God created humanity. "And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul" Genesis 2:7.

From the dust, God fashioned mankind and breathed life into the dust. Man became a living soul only after God breathed His life into him. God did not create an immortal soul for man; rather, **he became a living soul**. At this point, only God is immortal; see 1 Timothy 1:17 and 6:15-16.

This is where the world has strayed from God's Word. The Bible tells exactly what happens to man when he dies. We're talking about the nature of man, the elements of our bodies, and what makes us who we are. "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return" Genesis 3:19.

Whatever Adam was before God breathed into him the breath of life, is to what he returned. By the way, where was Adam before God breathed life into the dust? Where was he before he became a living soul? He did not exist. He wasn't anywhere. He wasn't listening. He wasn't watching what God was doing. He wasn't conscious or aware of any surroundings. It was only after God breathed into the formation of dust that Adam came into existence. (Read Genesis 2:7 again.)

After Adam's sin, God said he would return to dust, his original state. Jesus spoke about this condition when He walked on earth. Christians aspire to follow Christ, who is the founder of the church. He also, is the one who decides what the church should believe.

According to John 11, which is the story of Lazarus' death and resurrection, Jesus got word that Lazarus was very ill. His sisters sent a message for Jesus to come and heal him, but Jesus delayed going. Finally, Lazarus died. The Lord wished to teach many lessons by this incident.

"After that He saith unto them, Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep. Then said His disciples, Lord, if he sleep, he shall do well. Howbeit Jesus spake of his death: but they thought that He had spoken of taking of rest in sleep. Then said Jesus unto them plainly, Lazarus is dead" John 11:11-14.

Jesus described death as a sleep because one day in the future, all the dead will hear His voice and come up, either in the resurrection of life or in the resurrection of damnation. (See John 5:25-29).

The Bible is clear from the very beginning, "As the cloud is consumed and vanisheth away: so he that goeth down to the grave shall come up no more. He shall return no more to his house, neither shall his place know him anymore" Job 7:9-10. This is the condition of those who have died until the morning of the resurrection, when Jesus returns in glory and calls them forth from the grave.

From where did this false teaching come? The Christian church borrowed this theory of immortality from the Greeks. The Greeks got it from the Babylonians. The Babylonians got it from the Egyptians. The Egyptians got it from the Sumerians, who were the first civilization after the flood during the building of the Tower of Babel. The Sumerians got this belief from the generation before the great flood. Finally, the Antediluvians, who lived before the Flood, derived their belief in the immortal soul from the serpent in the Garden of Eden. That's where both views about death and immortality originated.

God told Adam if he ate the forbidden fruit, he would die (see Genesis 2:17). **The serpent contradicted God and said to Eve, "Ye shall not surely die"** Genesis 3:4. The devil told them if they ate the fruit, they would become as gods, knowing good and evil (see Genesis 3:5). In other words, Satan, the serpent, said man does not die. Rather, he continues to live, move, and have a higher existence. King David



told us in Psalms 146:3-4, "Put not your trust in princes, nor in the son of man, in whom there is no help. His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; **in that very day his thoughts perish.**"

God's Word denies the lie of Satan and expressly forbids communication with the dead. It's not because they cannot comfort us; it's because **they are lying spirits**. God's people were not allowed to have communication with "familiar" spirits. That was considered sorcery and witchcraft. The Bible refers to these as the "spirits of devils" (see 1 Timothy 4:1; Revelation 16:14).

"There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch, or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer [one who calls up the dead]. **For all that do these things are an abomination unto the Lord**" Deuteronomy 18:10-12.

Then we are told not to believe every spirit: "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try [or test] the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world" 1 John 4:1.

If a spirit seeks to communicate with us, why does God say not to believe them? Because we must first test those spirits to see if they come from God. This means **the devil has spirits, but they are lying spirits**. Satan is seeking to communicate lies to us, just as he did to Eve in the Garden of Eden.

"And when they say to you, Consult the mediums and the wizards who chirp and mutter, should not a people consult their God? Should they consult the dead on behalf of the living?" Isaiah 8:19, RSV.

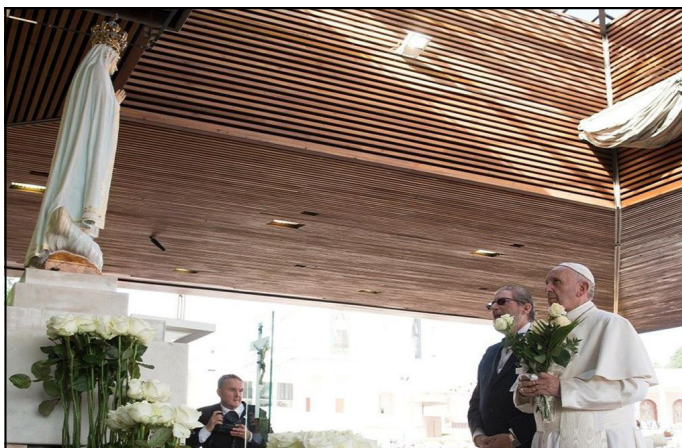
"For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light" 2 Corinthians 11:13, 14. These spirits are used by Satan to deceive people and contradict God's Word. This isn't just a theory. This is happening all around us.

Consecration of Russia

Recently, in the news, we heard of the consecration of Russia, Ukraine, and the entire world to the Virgin Mary by Pope Francis. The news item came from *Vatican News*, and all the media outlets covered the story. The whole world was consecrated to the Virgin Mary. What we are seeing is that spiritualism is not just found among those who are atheists, agnostics, or those who hate God; it is also found in churches. Through the ecumenical movement, churches are welcoming shamans, witchdoctors, pantheists, and spirit mediums.

What happened during the world's dedication to the Virgin Mary? It was one big international celebration. **They dedicated the entire world to a person who is sleeping in the grave and has been for a very**

long time! According to the Bible, the dead are sleeping until the day of the resurrection. The dead have no idea what is going on. We can't communicate with them. "For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not any thing, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten. Also their love, and



Pope's Act of Consecration of Russia and Ukraine to Our Lady

The Holy See Press Office releases the official text of the Act of Consecration of Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, which Pope Francis will pray on Friday, 25 March.

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2022-03/pope-francis-prayer-act-consecration-russia-ukraine-mary.html>

their hatred, and their envy, is now perished; neither have they any more a portion for ever in any thing that is done under the sun" Ecclesiastes 9:5-6.

Tragically, what we are witnessing is **pure spiritualism**. Many Christians are actively promoting the occult practice of communicating with the dead. This trend is growing in popularity in this generation.

Is the Virgin Mary Still Alive?

The Virgin Mary is said to communicate with people. They claim to be receiving messages from her all over the world. However, **according to the Bible, she is unable to communicate with anyone**. Don't look for God among the dead. Look for the living God. As we have already learned, the dead cannot communicate with us.

With that said, who is speaking? God's Word warns us: "**They are the spirits of devils**, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world" Revelation 16:14. There we have it. These demonic spirits work miracles in order to deceive the world. This prophecy is taking place NOW! This is exactly what happened when the world was consecrated to the Virgin Mary. And it isn't just bishops and priests who are involved. The members of most all religions are involved as are political and secular leaders around the globe.

"The fallen angels who do [Satan's] bidding appear as messengers from the spirit world. While professing to bring the living into communication with the dead, the prince of evil exercises his bewitching influ-

ence upon their minds. He has power to bring before men the appearance of their departed friends. The counterfeit is perfect; the familiar



look, the words, the tone, are reproduced with marvelous distinctness. Many are comforted with the assurance that their loved ones are enjoying the bliss of heaven, and without suspicion of danger, they give ear 'to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils'" (*The Great Controversy*, pp. 551, 552).

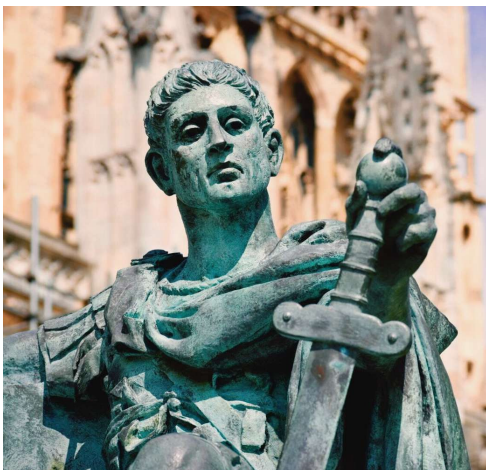
Our deceased loved ones are being impersonated by fallen angels. We want to be comforted, but

we don't want to be consoled by the devil because this isn't true comfort. The words Eve heard in the Garden of Eden sounded good, but she spent the rest of her life regretting that she had listened to that serpent, who was used by Satan as a ventriloquist, making the serpent appear to talk. Eve allowed herself to be swept away by the devil's lies.

An Immortal Soul

It is no secret that the Catholic Church introduced the concept of an immortal soul into Christianity. Emperor Constantine absorbed all of pagan Rome, including its doctrines, into the Christian Church. Sun worship, the immortality of the soul, and many other ideas that were not taught by Christ or the apostles or present in the Christian church for the first three centuries, were integrated by Constantine.

We didn't see this merger until Constantine took a bold political, ecumenical step to unite his kingdom, which was divided between Christians and pagans. That's when God's truth started to be distorted. That is why we must encourage one another to embrace the faith of Jesus and the apostles, the Christian faith's founders. Jesus commanded the following: "Go ye therefore, and



teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen" Matthew 28:19, 20.

Those that were baptized "continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship" Acts 2:42. That is where the original faith was embraced and emphasized. We are also told in the book of Jude that we must "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints" Jude 3. If they didn't teach it or say it, we ought not to believe it.

This is the faith on which we must focus. This is the faith that must be reaffirmed. God is working to restore all of His truth. Unfortunately, there are sincere souls who seek to communicate and connect with the wrong spirits rather than seeking God and His Word.

Let's take a closer look at the outcome of connecting to the spirits. When we connect with God and His true Holy Spirit, real change occurs, but what has happened? According to the Fatima prophecy, when consecration takes place, we should have peace. Some Catholics believe when Pope John Paul II consecrated the entire world, he fulfilled this prophecy. However, our planet has not improved. How much war and anarchy have taken place in this world since 1982?

This time, Pope Francis wanted to make sure they were following the Virgin Mary's instructions, so the consecration included the word "Russia." What has happened? The state of our world continues to deteriorate. What happened to Eve's life when she chose to ignore God's word and instead, listened to the snake? Things have gotten much worse, not better!

Those who follow the Holy Spirit find real solutions to their problems. They find inner peace, joy, and comfort, even when trials come. The closer Christians come to God, even though they still face difficulties in a sinful world, they are enabled to handle huge stressors, even some giving their lives for truth.

The path where God leads the way may lie through the desert or the sea, but it is a safe path.

Ghosts or God?

There is an interesting survey that says more people would rather believe in spirits, such as aliens and ghosts who



More Britons Believe in Ghosts than in God, but the Reverse is True in America

have never done anything for them, rather than connecting with the God of heaven who gave His life in order to save their souls from eternal death. What greater demonstration of love is there? It seems not to matter to the majority in this whole world.

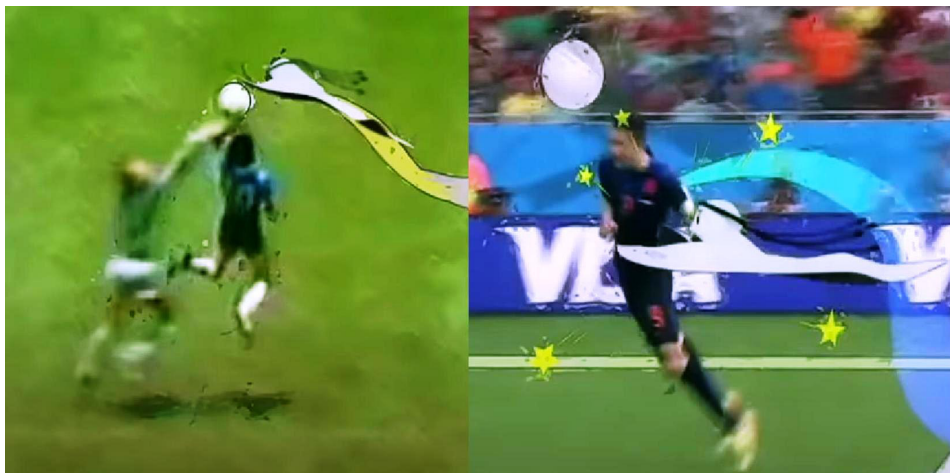
How many well-known musicians are there who have surrendered to demonic forces? We're not describing orchestras that perform beautiful music. We're talking about musicians like Ozzy Osborne who credit Satan for their success. How many musicians and heroes idolized by young people are possessed by evil spirits?

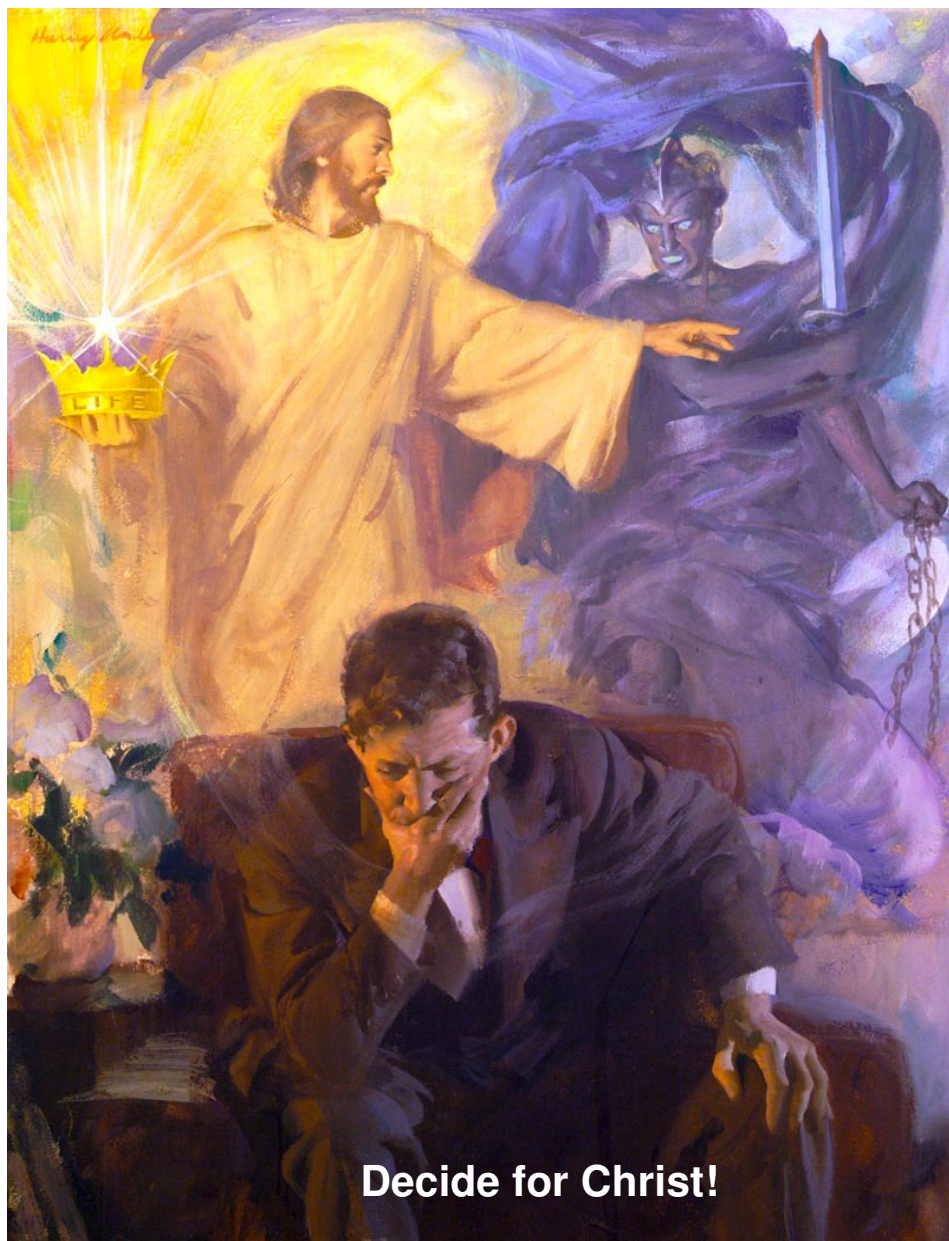
Satan is unconcerned as to how he seduces a person. He is unconcerned whether he uses music, sex, drugs, alcohol, or spiritualism. Satan is perfectly content for souls to embrace whatever will lead them to eternal death. This is something about which God's people should be warning others. Rather than embracing spiritualism, we should issue a warning to the world about the devil's schemes. Unfortunately, spiritualism is infiltrating far too many people's lives and homes.

Spiritualism is bringing a counterfeit gospel—a counterfeit promise of peace and fortune—a counterfeit version of everything good God has given us. Spiritualism is a falsified version of God's true gospel power. Yes, we can easily lose sight of God's wonderful, glorious message of salvation. Satan uses spiritualism to divert attention away from God and His message. It creates so many distractions we lose complete sight of what God wants for us.

Sports and Spiritualism

The mascot of the 2022 FIFA World Cup (Federation International Football Association) is a ghost named La'eeb. The 2022 World Cup was broadcast to more than half the world and is one of the most watched events. In fact, some European countries, such as Spain, go into lockdown during the games, especially if their team is advancing to





Decide for Christ!

the finals. Football is the most popular sport in the world, and it's no coincidence they are incorporating spiritualism into this sporting event, because billions of people will be introduced to their mascot and subconsciously believe there is something beyond on the other side.

Spiritualism is no longer relegated to a few books in the library, or to a secret practice carried on in a corner among a fringe community of new-agers. No, it has reached the international stage. The 2022 FIFA

World Cup is telling us a ghost, La'eeb, is capable of possessing the players. This ghost is said to assist in the scoring of some of the game's most important goals. This spirit will not only welcome you to the World Cup, but will also aid players in learning the game.[1]

The Wine of Babylon

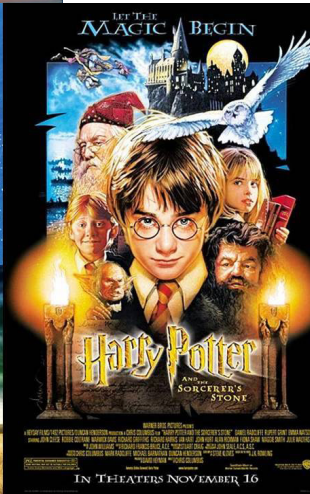
This is all a part of the wine of Babylon; a part of ancient Babylonian doctrines and teachings. The **immortality of the soul** and **sun (Sunday) worship** are among the ancient teachings that have spread throughout the world. People's minds are being prepared to accept spiritualism. The devil is working overtime, for "he knoweth that he hath but a short time" Revelation 12:12. There are dangerous days coming. Christians must examine the Scriptures more than ever before. We will need God's truth to stand in the days ahead.

Hollywood and Disney

For years, the entertainment industry has pushed occult practices on our culture. Spiritualism is marketed to children as soon as they are a year old. They consume these entertainment shows that promote magic, witchcraft, and sorcery on a daily basis. Disney is

one of the greatest providers of spiritualism. Mickey Mouse is, in fact, a sorcerer.

It's not just Disney, though. Harry Potter is a sorcerer as well. Sorcery is everywhere. It can be found in films, books, music, video games, and amusement parks. Through the entertainment industry, we are being



bombarded with witchcraft. Through casting spells and invoking the spirits, Hollywood is aggressively drawing our young people into the occult. God's Word forbids such activities. Many producers, actors, and content creators are deeply rooted into satanism. They know exactly what they are doing. This is a war against the God of heaven and truth.

Yoga and Martial Arts Testimony, A Dangerous Spiritual Path

Mark McGee was a former atheist [2] who was led away from his Christian upbringing by the philosophies he learned in yoga and martial arts. He shares his story to help warn Christian parents of the possible spiritual dangers of these disciplines:

“Breathe in slowly, breathe out slowly. Feel your breath. Feel the energy growing through each shakra.” I sat on the floor of a small room in the local YMCA with my legs crossed in an unusual fashion, eyes closed, breathing “into my belly.” Other thoughts tried to enter, but I did not need to think about any thing else right then. I just needed to breathe in and breathe out. I was 12 years old and yoga offered something I had never experienced before: a feeling of personal power and a purpose beyond myself. My mother had enrolled me in the program believing it would be good for my health. Like many Christian parents, she didn't know the hidden spiritual dangers that lie beneath the surface.



My Yoga classroom was next to a larger classroom where another group of children and teens were learning one of the martial arts called Judo. I was a small child often bullied by larger boys. I was fascinated that the small children in Judo were throwing large children, teens, and even adults over their shoulders and hips as if they were ragdolls. I wanted to do that too. My mother thought it would be good for me. So she enrolled me.

Classes in Judo, and later in Aikido, Karate and Kung Fu introduced me to other eastern philosophies. The one that impacted me most was Buddhism. A primary focus of Buddhism is “right living”—doing right things toward the cessation of suffering and achieving self-realization or awakening. My years of training in Hinduism, Buddhism and Taoism as a teenager and young adult always began with a time of meditation and often continued throughout the class. Meditative practices of Hinduism, Buddhism and Taoism focus on a power that adherents believe everyone possesses and can tap into. I was taught that martial arts would be the pathway to spiritual enlightenment.

As it turned out, meditation did put me on a pathway, but it wasn't to spiritual enlightenment. After five years of training, I became an atheist. So why did I become an atheist? One reason was meditation in yoga and martial arts focused on me and what I wanted from life. Christianity focused on God and what He wanted of my life.

Yoga and martial arts taught me that I was intrinsically good and could



accomplish anything I put my mind to. Christianity taught me I was intrinsically bad and needed God to save me from myself. Then I had an atheist professor in my freshman year of college. His attacks on religion had a powerful impact on me. I had experienced the teachings of monotheism and polytheism and found both to be hypocritical and ineffective. Buddhism was

the closest to what I thought could possibly be true, and becoming an atheist was an easy step from Buddhism.

I became a radio announcer, journalist and talk show host after college and used the power of the microphone to argue with Christians who called in to my show. Anger toward religion and believers continually grew within me until I was well-known as an outspoken atheist. My atheism was very hard on my parents, but they never gave up believing God could and would save me. My mother told me she was praying for me and knew I would soon be a Christian. I laughed and told her not to waste her time.

I challenged God during one of my shows to sit down in the radio studio and let me interview Him if He really existed. I waited quietly for several seconds, then told my audience God must be sick or on vacation. He did show up on my show several months later in His own way. I saw a leader in creation research, Dr. Henry Morris, was coming to our city to talk about his search for Noah's Ark in Turkey. I invited him to appear on my show so I could make fun of him. What I didn't take into account was the power of the Holy Spirit to use biblical and scientific evidence to put a chink in my atheistic armor.

I invited another Christian on my show soon after. This man had just written a book about archaeology and the Bible. After investigating the claims of Christianity for several months, I finally asked God to forgive me. I came to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and His saving power. I was one of the fortunate atheists who God touched by His grace. I am so grateful for His love, but I can't help but think of the ten years I spent involved in eastern mysticism, atheism and martial arts. I view those years

as a loss of precious time when I could have been serving God.

What can you do as a Christian parent to protect your child from the many spiritual and philosophical dangers in the world? Know as much as you can about what your children are involved and what their instructors are teaching them. The more Christian parents and grandparents know of how the spiritual enemy will attack their children, the more they can do to prepare them to defend against those attacks. And, always keep praying and trusting God for your child's eternal future. We are all in this together.

As the apostle Paul wrote, "If one member suffers, all the members suffer with it" 1 Corinthians 12:26. Our prayers are with you as you raise your children to become faithful followers of Jesus Christ.

Testimony of Response

I appreciate this article very much. A while back, our daughter expressed interest in karate classes, and we began searching for one near our home. We felt it would be a positive thing for her to know self defense. We were unable to find a class we were comfortable with, but we didn't really understand why. None of them felt "right" to us, so we explained as best we could that we just didn't think it was the right atmosphere for her. I am so thankful for the Holy Spirit who guides with a steady hand, even when we are unaware of it.[\[3\] - This link is important!](#)

Conclusion

We have been warned of an increase in Satan's activities right before Jesus' second coming. Spiritualism is much more than having fun; it is not just a baby-sitter. As already stated, it is a powerful delusion that will lead a person to accept a lie and cause them to lose eternal life. It involves horrific satanic rituals, torture, and finally, death.

"Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: that they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness" 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12.

When we embrace the lies of spiritualism, it causes the pure, ennobling truths of God's Word to have no effect in our lives. How can the Holy Spirit speak to us when our hearts and minds are filled with lying spirits? When children and youth are mesmerized, through video games or mobile devices, or hypnotized through spiritualistic phenomena, how can the Holy Spirit speak?

Read 2 Thessalonians 2:1-13 in its entirety. Satan will deceive souls through signs and lying wonders just before the second coming of Jesus. People will reject truth as a result. Our lives will be so chaotic we will be

unprepared to be filled with the holiness of God so we can be used to help finish the work and go home to be with our Saviour.

None of these things will be experienced by God's faithful, command-keeping people who have faith in Jesus (see Revelation 14:12). Witchcraft and demon possession cannot be reconciled, justified, or accepted. We cannot be entertained with these things. How can we accept this without explicitly rejecting God's Word?

"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be My sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty" 2 Cor. 6:14-18.

"Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils" 1 Cor. 10:21.

Unfortunately, many Christians in this generation believe they can do both, but, it is not possible. We must evaluate our lives in light of God's Word. When we take the time to do this, we will see there is no biblical justification for supporting modern spiritualism. There is nothing a pastor or a preacher can say to make this acceptable. **Jesus didn't work in partnership with the devil to fulfill His gospel mission.**

We have to realize as we get closer to the end of time, these temptations and delusions will only get stronger and grow greater. As Jesus says, "Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man" Luke 21:36.

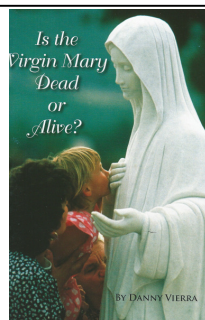
[1] <http://adventmessenger.org/the-2022-fifa-world-cup-has-welcomed-spiritualism/>

[2] <https://natashacrain.com/yoga-and-martial-arts-for-children-a-dangerous-spiritual-path/>

[3] For further research on this subject: <https://jashow.org/articles/the-occult-potential-and-spiritual-dangers-of-martial-arts-part-1/> -

Be sure to read this link if you are involved or planning to be involved in martial arts!

What is it about Mary? Why have thousands of billboards appeared urging persons to call for a message from the Virgin Mary? Why are two billion "Hail Marys" said daily? Why did more than 10 million people trek to Guadalupe to pray to Our Lady? Why have 15,000 priests gone to Medjugorje since 1981? Why the need to talk with her? Where is the Virgin Mary right now? What about all the reported miracles, visions, appearances, messages, predictions, weeping statues, and bleeding icons? Is it really Mary?





Clothes and Toys

Encourage Demonic Possession

Welcome the Spirits Back to the World of the Living

At this moment, when God is trying to save the souls of men and women, Target stores want to help customers welcome departed spirits of the dead into their homes. They are promoting ancestor worship and communication with the dead through their *Día de los Muertos*, “Day of the Dead” merchandise.^[1] This holiday is celebrated on November 1 throughout Latin America. Another name for it is “All Saints Day” or “All Souls Day,” an annual Catholic celebration that commemorates those who have died.

On the “Day of the Dead,” celebrants believe the dead are awakened, so they welcome the spirits with food, drink, music, and festivities. This is pure spiritualism, which means Target stores are actively promoting the occult practice of receiving the dead. This is divination, a demonic movement that is becoming more and more popular. We have been warned of this very work Satan would do just before the second coming of Jesus.

“Fallen angels who do [satan’s] bidding appear as messengers from the spirit world. While professing to bring the living into communication with the dead, the prince of evil exercises his bewitching influence upon their minds. He has power to bring before men [and women] the appearance of their departed friends” (*The Great Controversy*, p. 552).

“God has expressly forbidden all pretended communication with departed spirits. In the days of the Hebrews there was a class of people who claimed, as do the spiritualists [psychics] of today, to hold





This sign is in English and Spanish.

communication with the dead. But the ‘familiar spirits,’ as these visitants from other worlds were called, are declared by the Bible to be ‘the spirits of devils’” (*The Great Controversy*, p. 556).

Tragically, the world seeks to communicate with evil spirits rather than with God. It is not just the world; spiritualism has taken on a new form and seeks to deceive the Christian world as well.

“As spiritualism more closely imitates the nominal Christianity of the day, it has greater power to deceive and ensnare. Satan himself is converted after the modern order of things. He will

appear in the character of an angel of light” (*Ibid.*, p. 588).

The purpose of spiritualism is to do the same work the serpent did to Eve in the Garden of Eden; Satan aims to destroy faith and confidence in the Word of God, the Holy Scriptures:

“Warnings of the word of God regarding the perils surrounding the Christian church belong to us today. As in the days of the apostles men tried by tradition and philosophy to destroy faith in the Scriptures, so today, by pleasing sentiments of higher criticism, evolution, spiritualism, theosophy, and pantheism, the enemy of righteousness is seeking to lead souls into forbidden paths ... By spiritualism, multitudes are taught to believe that desire is the highest law, that license is liberty, and that man is accountable only to himself” (*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 474).

Vans is a popular footwear and apparel company for young people. They have just introduced a new “Vans X Horror” line that celebrates horror movies like *The Exorcist*, *A Nightmare on Elm Street*, *Friday the 13th*, *It*, *The Shining*, and *The Lost Boys*.^{[2] [3]} In truth, we have a generation of lost boys and girls; we are losing them to spiritualism and demon possession. Thanks to Vans, kids across America can now shop for hats, socks, shoes, shirts, and backpacks that glorify horror, murder, and exorcism.

It’s no wonder why nearly half of American millennials “don’t know, believe in, or care if God exists.”^[4] And tragically, that number is growing. This is what happens when we remove God from our lives. We no longer have a nation, thanks to secular leftists who want to destroy our spirituality. Progressive liberals have demonized religion for more than 50 years. Since the 1960s, they have eliminated God, the Bible, and

prayer from public schools and ensured that the average young person learns nothing about our nation's Judeo-Christian history and values.

There are many reasons for the lack of biblical faith among the youth today. Most of the blame can be laid at the feet of our ungodly schools, governments, parents, and churches. The churches in America are also in a state of crisis as they are losing our Christian religion and identity. This problem is compounded because the watchmen are asleep and continue on with a "business as usual" attitude, as if nothing is wrong. Jesus predicted a crisis of faith would occur at the end of the world. Therefore, He asked this question as a warning for our day:

"Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall He find faith on the earth?" Luke 18:8.

Jesus was looking down to the final generation—the one that would see Him return in the clouds of glory. He wondered if there would be true, genuine faith on the earth. And just as He predicted, there is not much. We are certainly living in the ungodly age of the antichrist. This is a topic that is contained throughout the Bible:

"Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, ... saying, Where is the promise of His coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation" 2 Peter 3:3, 4.

"For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they did not know until the flood came and swept them all away; so will be the coming of the Son of man" Matthew 24:38, 39, RSV.

This generation is like the one that lived in the days of Noah. Although



Noah warned of a coming flood, they did not believe until the flood came and took them all away. However, this time, it will not be a flood; it will be destruction by fire. The human race has degenerated since they began to abandon God and His Word. If we continue to ignore Him, we do so at our own risk and the peril of our lives.

We wish to say to every millennial, What do you have to lose by believing in Jesus? If there is no God, then it will make no difference if He does not return or if you die. You would have lived a wonderful life of love and compassion as a Christian believer. However, if you are an unbeliever, if there is a God, it will make a big difference when you see Him coming in the clouds of glory. How are you going to make sure there is no God? It is certain He is coming again when people least expect.

Unfortunately, the Bible already records the words all unbelievers will say when they see Jesus Christ return again:

“And [they] said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: for the great day of His wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?” Revelation 6:16, 17.

Then they will lament, “The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved” Jeremiah 8:20.

[1] <https://www.target.com/c/dia-de-muertos/-/N-fvppu>

[2] <https://www.vans.com/shop/vans-x-horror/vans-x-the-exorcist-old-skool-horror#hero=2>

[3] <https://www.vans.com/shop/vans-x-horror>

[4] <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/millennials-believe-god-poll-b1852009.html>

The World is Being led to Spiritualism

Two thousand years of gospel truth is being replaced before our eyes with the new *Laudato Si'* chapels, temples, and gardens that are being constructed all over the world. These worship centers are spear-headed by two organizations: The Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development [DPIHD], a department within the Vatican in charge of promoting Catholic social doctrine,[1] and the United Nations.

The *Vatican News* recently reported these sanctuaries are a “concrete fruit of the commitment to creation proposed by Pope Francis in *Laudato Si'*.”[2] In other words, these “sacred” green spaces are a fulfillment of the pope’s encyclical. Notice how the United Nations is now involved in the creation of these shrines and spaces:

“Living Chapel is a team effort, sponsored by the DPIHD, and the contributions of Canadian architect Gilleen Denny, one hundred students from Pennsylvania State University, Rome’s La Sapienza University, the United Nations, and the Global Catholic Climate Movement.”[2]



Therefore, the United Nations has become an agency to promote *Laudato Si'*. Secular civil leaders are working to promote the decrees of Rome. Biblical prophecy has actually predicted all of these events in Revelation 13 and 17. Notice how the UN describes the *Laudato Si'* sanctuaries in their own words:

"The Living Chapel unites concepts of nature, art, music, and architecture to inspire people to join together in caring for our world. A sacred space of serene harmony inspired by Saint Francis of Assisi, Pope Francis, and the UN's Sustainable Development Goals ... Furthermore, through the creation of *Laudato Si'* Gardens and Living Sacred Spaces globally, the Living Chapel will encourage collaboration to protect and rehabilitate the natural environment through concrete actions."^[3]

The Pope's encyclical, *Laudato Si'*, has a provision for Sunday rest. Now we see the United Nations is not only promoting "climate change" but also the "Sunday encyclical." Therefore, we see church and state coming together to promote doctrines of Rome.

The sacred spaces *Laudato Si'* are teaching that Mother Earth is the light of the world. That's what the news sources are saying. The new light, the new gospel, the new global emphasis, and the new object of our worship is not Jesus, but Mother Earth—pantheistic spiritualism.

Rome's Dicastery has been coordinating the establishment of other *Laudato Si'* garden sanctuaries around the world. In addition to the one in Rome, a second sacred



space has just been dedicated in Rosolina, Italy, near Venice. During the dedication of this special garden, civic and religious leaders gathered to commemorate Pope Francis' vision.

We are seeing a union of worship to the Creator with reverence to the earth. This includes everyone, including plants, rocks, fire, trees, animals, water, and air. Rome's agent on climate change is asking us to participate in pagan spiritualistic celebrations with the "earth." Where does God sanction this in His Word? In John 17:22 we are told to be one with Jesus and the Father, not with the earth. This is pure pantheism.

The garden sanctuaries are offerings made to the new gods of nature. This is strange fire according to Leviticus 10:1-2. This is spiritualism—not an offering to the Creator God. Pagan idolatry is being advocated rather than preparation for the eternal, final home God is preparing for His faithful children (see John 14:1-3). The new mission is to shape and mold this present world with nature worship, religious mysticism, and radical environmentalism.

The inspiration for these pagan nature temples came from Pope Francis' encyclical, *Laudato Si'*. The news and images come from an organization called, "Living *Laudato Si'*."^[5]

The sun is setting. What happens next? Are the *Laudato Si'* sacred

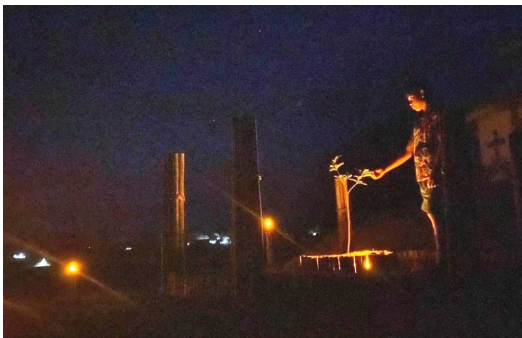


spaces closed at night? Is pantheistic spiritualism limited to just daylight hours? Not at all. Rome is on a mission to transform churches into more loving, more inclusive, more culturally diverse forms of worship. They are working to unite the entire religious world into one pantheistic family. Rome, of course, will be at the head of this Green Religious New World Order. This is how Rome says we can end division and hostilities between different religions. The pope is seeking for a one world church and it is coming together faster than we can blink an eye.

A rejection of divine revelation leads to relativism, then to pantheism and spiritualism. Biblical faith and truth are being eliminated. The Word of God is no longer the way to salvation. The Bible has become nothing more than a mere illusion. What is left? Paganism, nature worship, and Sunday laws. This is always the result when biblical truth is rejected.

Spiritualism is about to take the world captive. Signs and wonders will become more and more pronounced as the professed Christian world rejects the plainly revealed truths of the Word of God, and refuse to be guided by a plain "Thus saith the Lord," accepting instead the doctrines and commandments of mankind.

A three-fold union is more apparent all the time. Spiritualism, Catholicism and Apostate Protestants are joining hands. Who will stand for God?



Above: The veneration continues into the night. **Below:** The occult/witchcraft also venerates all of nature: water, earth, fire, and air.



[1] <http://www.humandevlopment.va/en/il-dicastero/chi-siamo/la-missione.html>

[2] <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/church/news/2020-12/laudato-si-story-living-chapel-rome-botanical-garden.html>

[3] <https://www.unenvironment.org/events/conference/living-chapel-unites-concepts-nature>

[4] <https://www.artemide.com/en/journal/19/laudato-si%E2%80%99garden-the-living-chapel>

[5] <https://livinglaudatosi.org.ph/first-living-chapel-in-asia-rises-in-romblon/>

The Lions Came

Everything was going wrong. First, the porters had taken far too long to load the goods in Bulawayo. Then the oxen were uncomfortable with the heavy wooden yoke and refused to work together. Then the water ran out, and now one of the wheels had hit a large rock and nearly fallen off the axle. Traveling hundreds of miles through rough and hilly Africa was always difficult, but on this trip the devil seemed to be pushing them backwards.

Pastor Anderson wiped the sweat-stained cloth across his forehead once more, breathed deeply, and aimed the wooden mallet at the peg he'd cut to fix the wheel. I didn't need to hit it that hard, he thought as the peg split into three useless pieces.

Pastor Harry Anderson, along with a young African helper, was taking a heavy wagonload of supplies from the end of the railroad, up through the desert, across the Zambezi River, then through roadless dust to the new school at Rusangu. Anderson was a missionary from America, one of the founders of the school at Solusi, one of the kindest men to walk the dust of Africa, and a Christian leader the local people had learned they could trust.

The Rusangu school would be the fulfillment of a dream, a call God had given him several years earlier. The classes would bring the truth of God's love to thousands of Batonga people who had never heard the gospel. It seemed God was leading every step of the way. Already, students had come, begging to be taught by the missionary from America. The books, salt, sugar, dried fruit, and other supplies in the wagon would give the school new life.

His knife carved a new peg from the dead branch he found near a tall ant-hill. This time he whacked it softly. Hit it square, without anger, he thought to himself. The peg stuck, and with the wheel rolling smoothly again, Pastor Anderson and his young helper drove on toward the Zambezi River crossing. There were no roads near the Zambezi River at that time, only a winding, twisting native footpath through tall grass and woods. They followed this, dodging trees if they could, cutting down those that fully blocked their path.

"This is not a vacation," Pastor Anderson wrote home. "The halo of travel disappears the fourth day one is stalled in the sand or stuck in a mudhole."

"We need to get to the river crossing before sundown," Anderson said to the young man, just as he had already said to him a dozen times that day. "The old British sea captain who runs the ferry will take us across if we're there before the sun goes down. If we don't get there in time, he'll be gone, and we'll have to camp on this side of the river. I do not like the campsites on this side. I want to go across and camp where there's a large acacia grove on the low hill just across the Zambezi. There's good grass there, and strong trees we can use to tie down the tent."

The helper listened to the pastor's voice, understanding enough of the words to know that he must keep the oxen moving forward, yet wondering what it would be like to see a real sea captain.

When the road dipped through an ancient streambed and the oxen struggled in the deep sand, they both got off and walked beside the lead team, encouraging the oxen onward. It was slow-going, hard, and frustrating.

The old sea captain was just lowering his flag as they drove down the road to the ferry. "Too late, Anderson," he shouted. "I'm done for the day and going

home right now. See you tomorrow.”

Pastor Anderson begged, cajoled, argued, and even offered to pay extra. Nothing changed the captain’s mind. When he began to walk down the path to his home, the pastor lost it and shouted many salty words in the captain’s direction. The old man stopped, started to say something, then took a



puff on his pipe and walked on home. Pastor Anderson and the young man made a silent camp in the nettles above the river.

In the morning they were first in line at the ferry. The old sea captain smiled, welcomed them, and carried them safely across the river. Anderson was silent, paying the bill with a frown.

“I want to show you where we should have spent the night,” he muttered to his young helper as he drove the oxen up the green hill toward the grove of tall acacia trees. There was a tent, a large wooden wagon, and a still smoldering fire in a clearing at the top of the hill. Pastor Anderson called a greeting, but there was silence in the acacias.

The young man found them first. The well-worn soles of a pair of leather boots; that was all they found, except for the obvious prints left by a pride of lions who had visited the camp during the night. The trader who had camped here last night was gone—taken by the lions.

Pastor Anderson knelt beside the tent, put his hands in the paw prints, and wept. While the young helper watched, Pastor Anderson confessed his pride, his anger, his frustration, and his cruelty to the old sea captain.

Later, much later, Pastor Anderson and the young African helper drove the oxen back down the hill toward the ferry landing, where they waited patiently for the old sea captain to bring the ferry to their side of the Zambezi.

“I was wrong, sir,” Pastor Anderson said when the old sea captain looked down at him from the ferry’s deck. “I was wrong in the way I treated you. I was wrong in the way I spoke to you. I was late, and I was angry because I wasn’t getting my way. This morning God reminded me that He knows best and is always walking ahead of me to protect me. Please forgive me.”

The old sea captain took a long pull on his pipe and then nodded acceptance of the apology. “Anderson, today you are once again like the Man you follow. I’m glad you are still with us.”

“Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you. Be sober, be vigilant; because **your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour**” 1 Peter 5:7, 8.

Note: by Dick Duerksen, reprinted from *Adventist World*, February 2023.



The Author of Sin

By Harry Armstrong, 1897

The author of sin, since the day of his fall,
Has been working away on the very same plan
Which, when practiced in Eden, effected the fall,
By causing the sad disobedience of man.
He is not, as we have been led to suppose,
A demon-like being, with red, glaring eyes,
Whose breath is a fire of hot brimstone, which grows
Into blasphemous words 'gainst the God of the skies.

He smiles as he talks, and his features are calm;
He assumes for his person a pleasant disguise;
A parcel of books is under his arm,
While fine gold-rimmed spectacles cover his eyes.
He minces along with a musical sound,
Assisting the church in the festival hall;
With high-toned society, too, he is found,
Suggesting so kindly a charity ball.

He's clever and witty, and cunning to make
The sweetest suggestions to favor his plan.
As he says, "Just this once, for old friendship's sake,"
In this case he's termed a society man.
But oh, it would fail me the mischief to trace,
As he weaves, like an expert, his intricate chain
Around a bewildered and downfallen race,
And stamps on their lives an indelible stain.

The time is now near for his working to cease;
Soon he'll have to account for the schemes he has laid,
And be forced, till the enemy – death shall release,
To exist 'mid the evil his scheming has made.
Now, one word to those who are burdened within,
Who are longing for rest from all sin and its strife,
Just step from the chain of the author of sin,
And walk 'neath the smile of the Author of life!