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#### Introduction

The Bible is very clear about its condemnation of witchcraft in its various forms. Here is a partial list of passages from the Bible concerning Wicca...witchcraft, seances, necromancy, and other such occultic practices. Needless to say, they are all wrong and under God's Judgement.

#### What Is Wicca?

Wicca is a complex religion that is often associated with witchcraft, occultism and neo-paganism. The way these words overlap can get confusing, so let's dive into the dictionary.

**Wicca:** From the Anglo-Saxon word *wicce*. It means to bend or shape nature to your service.

**Witchcraft:** The practice of magic or sorcery by anyone outside the religious mainstream of a society. This term is used in different ways in different times and places.

Occultism: Belief in practices such as astrology, alchemy, divination and magic that are based on "hidden knowledge" about the universe and its

mysterious forces. Occultists try to tap into this unseen knowledge to bring about whatever effects they desire.

**Neo-Paganism:** The recent revival of ancient polytheistic European and Middle-Eastern religions. Neo-paganism is a loosely defined system of worshiping nature and the gods of nature.

These terms may seem as clear as mud. Since different people use them to mean different things, it can be hard to keep them straight. What's important to notice are the common themes of worshiping nature and using spiritual forces to get results. Most anyone who calls himself or herself a Wiccan, goddess worshiper or witch practices these things. Another important thing to remember is that Wicca is not the same as Satanism. In fact, most witches don't believe in Satan at all.

In addition, Wiccans live by one central rule called The Rede, which says, "Harm no one, do what you will." In other words, witches are free to do whatever seems right to them as long as they avoid harming others. A closely related rule is the Threefold Law, which instructs that "anything you do will come back to you three times over."

### The Bible Comdemns Wicca And All Occult Practices

- **1.** Lev. 19:26... You shall not eat *anything* with the blood, nor practice divination or soothsaying.
- **2. Isaiah 44:25...** Causing the omens of boasters to fail, Making fools out of diviners, Causing wise men to draw back And <sup>3</sup> turning their knowledge into foolishness,
- **3.** Acts 8:9...Now there was a man named Simon, who formerly was practicing magic in the city and astonishing the people of Samaria, claiming to be someone great; Verses 18-22...Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was bestowed through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, saying, "Give this authority to me as well, so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit." But Peter said to him, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money! "You have no part or portion in this matter, for your heart is not right

before God. Therefore repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray the Lord that, if possible, the intention of your heart may be forgiven you.

**4. Acts 13:6...**"And when they had gone through the whole island as far as Paphos, they found a certain magician, a Jewish false prophet whose name was Bar-Jesus."

#### **Mediums**

- **5.** Lev. 19:31..."Do not turn to mediums or spiritists; do not seek them out to be defiled by them. I am the Lord your God."
- **6.** Lev 20:6... As for the person who turns to mediums and to spiritists, to play the harlot after them, I will also set My face against that person and will cut him off from among his people."
- 7. Lev. 20:27...'Now a man or a woman who is a medium or a spiritist shall surely be put to death. They shall be stoned with stones, their bloodguiltiness is upon them.'
- **8. Isaiah 8:19-20...**"And when they say to you, "Consult the mediums and the spiritists who whisper and mutter," Should not a people consult their God? Should they consult the dead on behalf of the living? To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because they have no dawn."

# Sorcery Attempting To Influence People Through Occult Means

- **9. Exodus 20:18**..."You shall not allow a sorceress to live."
- **10. Isaiah 47:12-14...**" Stand fast now in your spells and in your many sorceries with which you have labored from your youth; Perhaps you will be able to profit, perhaps you may cause trembling. You are wearied with your many counsels; Let now the astrologers, those who prophesy by the stars, those who predict by the new moons, stand up

and save you from what will come upon you. "Behold, they have become like stubble, fire burns them; they cannot deliver themselves from the power of the flame; there will be no coal to warm by, nor a fire to sit before!"

- 11. Rev. 20:18..."But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."
- **12. Rev. 22:15...**"Outside are the dogs and the sorcerers and the immoral persons and the murderers and the idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices lying."

#### Witchcraft

Witchcraft is a **pagan religion**. Pagan religions worship multiple deities rather than a single god. Paganism is one of the oldest religions and includes all religions that are not Christian, Muslim or Jewish, meaning Paganism includes the Hindu, Buddhist, Taoist, Confucian and American Indian religions as well as all other nature-oriented religions. Wicca is a modern Pagan religion that worships the Earth and nature.

- 13. **Deuteronomy 18:10–14...** There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, one who uses divination, one who practices witchcraft, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, or one who casts a spell, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead. "For whoever does these things is detestable to the LORD; and because of these detestable things the LORD your God will drive them out before you. "You shall be blameless before the LORD your God. "For those nations, which you shall dispossess, listen to those who practice witchcraft and to diviners, but as for you, the LORD your God has not allowed you *to do* so.
- **14. 2 Kings 21:16...** "And he made his son pass through the fire, practiced witchcraft and used divination, and dealt with mediums and spiritists. He did much evil in the sight of the Lord provoking Him to anger." (see also 2 Chron. 33:6)

## Witchcraft An Attack On The Mind

Witchcraft attacks often start with imaginations. Witchcraft plants seeds of deception through imaginations. These voices tell you things like "What's the use?", "Nothing will ever change," "I can't do anything right," and "I don't feel like going to church. I want to be alone." These are obvious attacks of the devil to put you in depression and hopfullness with the ultimate end of suciside.

You're sick and tired of your circumstances, but what you don't realize is that the enemy is magnifying your circumstances with distorted mirrors and smoke that clouds reality. When this happens, just keep acknowledging the Lord. He will make your paths straight (**Prov. 3:6**).

The devil brings what **Jonah 2:8** calls "lying vanities" against you to make you think something is wrong so you'll confess it out of your mouth and open the door for it to settle.

#### **Hidden Traps**

Catherine Sanders of Focus on The Family writes about The Hidden Traps of Wicca. Here are excerpts from her website article.

Rebecca is one of the growing number of teenage girls who practice Wicca. For the past half-century, this religion has been growing by leaps and bounds in Europe and North America. Drive to the mall and you'll see cars with bumper stickers declaring, "The goddess is alive. Magic is afoot!" Flip on the tube or go to the movies and you'll find witches portrayed as young, powerful and glamorous. From "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" to *The Craft*, something is definitely "afoot" in American culture.

The Bible is our source of wisdom and knowledge. I have shown already how it condems the Occult and all its various factions. There are defenses against such attacks. The one I like best is found in the Old Testament in **Isaiah 54:17**, "No weapon that is formed against you shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against you in judgment you shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, said the LORD. God said it and I believe it."

#### **Other Wiccan Beliefs**

- Wiccans worship "the mother goddess" and her companion "the horned god." They say both of these deities manifest themselves in nature. For instance, Rebecca's prayer acknowledged the sun as the female goddess and the moon as the god. You may also have heard the goddess referred to as Mother Nature. Wiccans believe that the goddess is in everything in rocks and in trees, the earth and the sky.
- Sometimes, the goddess is represented by specific female deities such as the ancient Greek goddesses Artemis (the goddess of the wilderness) or Gaia (the goddess of the Earth), who was celebrated in the film *Final Fantasy: The Spirits Within*. Some Wiccans even claim that the goddess is Mary, the mother of Jesus. The horned god is often represented by the lusty Greek god Pan or the Egyptian god of the dead, Osiris.
- Most Wiccans celebrate eight holidays or "sabbats" centered on the solar cycles and "esbats" centered on the lunar cycles. These celebrations are supposedly times of heightened interaction between the natural and supernatural worlds.
- Magic and spell-casting are an integral part of Wicca. Wiccans say
  that spells are symbolic acts performed in an altered state of
  consciousness in order to cause a desired change. There are spells to
  overcome loneliness, to attract money, to bring inner power and to
  bind an enemy, among others. Witches acknowledge that spells can be
  used to do good or harm.
- Wicca has no central book (like the Bible) that spells out its beliefs, so witches practice their religion in different ways. Some witches meet in groups called covens or circles, while others practice alone.

According to its own myths, Wicca began more than 35,000 years ago within earth's very first civilization. In this culture, women ruled. Life was peaceful and prosperous, and people worshiped nature and the goddess. The serene existence was supposedly shattered when male warriors invaded the nurturing female-led communities.

Wiccans say that throughout history, they have been fighting to overcome the oppression of a male-ruled society. Today, Wiccans claim there is a goddess revival. They say women are reclaiming their power after living under male domination for too long. They call for women to usher in a new era of peace by throwing off the "shackles" of "male-dominated monotheistic religions" such as Christianity and follow the goddess again in all her forms. It's easy to see why this myth has huge feminist appeal.

## What Does God Think About Witchcraft?

You're probably curious about how Wicca measures up to the Bible. Can you be a Christian and dabble in Wicca? What does God have to say about magic and the supernatural world? Keep reading!

#### The Spiritual World Is Real, And So Is Satan

One thing Wiccans have right is that there is a supernatural world that interacts constantly with the world we see, touch and smell. Unfortunately, they believe it's okay for humans to interact with spirits and spiritual forces any way we choose. To the contrary, the apostle Paul writes that the spiritual realm is potentially dangerous. Therefore, we need to treat it the way God tells us to and be prepared for spiritual battles of good versus evil.

#### The Bible says:

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. (**Ephesians 6:12-13**)

Many Wiccans say that Wicca is harmless and nature-loving — that it has nothing to do with evil, Satanism and dark forces. But that is exactly what Satan wants them to believe! Intent on deceit, "Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light," says Paul. "It is not surprising, then, if his servants masquerade as servants of righteousness." Paul says that if they don't turn toward God and repent, "their end will be what their actions deserve" (2 Corinthians 11:14-15).

#### We Should Worship God, Not His Creation

Wiccans are also right to care for and appreciate nature. But they go too far when they start worshiping it. Jesus tells His followers in the Gospel of Luke, "Worship the Lord your God and serve Him only" (Luke 4:8). Creation is merely a reflection of His glory and is not to be worshiped.

#### The Bible says:

For although they knew God, they neither glorified Him as God nor gave thanks to Him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles.... They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator — who is forever praised. Amen. (Romans 1:21-23, 25)

## **Don't Try To Contact or Control Supernatural Forces**

Magic and spells depend on what Wiccans call a psychic link. Psychic development can involve training in divination — the attempt to obtain information about the past, present or future by occult means or one's own psychic abilities.

The Bible is very clear that divination and any other form of supernatural contact (other than prayer, of course!) is forbidden, since it relies on a supernatural power apart from God. In other words, there is no such thing as "white magic."

#### The Bible says:

Let no one be found among you who sacrifices his son or daughter in the fire, who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft, or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead. Anyone who does these things is detestable to the Lord, and because of these detestable practices the Lord your God will drive out those nations before you." (Deuteronomy 18:10-12) Do not practice divination or sorcery. (Leviticus 19:26)

#### Wiccans Are Critical of The Church's View of Women

Many Wiccans are critical of the church's view of women. They claim that Christianity does not empower women, whereas Wicca does. While it's true that some Christians have distorted God's Word and not honored women, the Bible says that men and women are equally important in the eyes of God.

#### The Bible says:

So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. (Genesis 1:27)

Because God places a high value on women as bearers of His image, Christianity honors women in a way that's unique. That's why women were often with Jesus during His ministry. And in John 4 we see Jesus treating a Samaritan woman with utmost respect, even though men weren't supposed to talk to women, and Samaritans were considered outcasts in Jewish society.

#### We Don't Need To Make Up Our Own Rules

In Wicca, each follower is told to do as she wills. Their only standard is that no one should do harm. In other words, *there is no absolute truth*. But this presents several problems.

First, how can one be sure that no harm is being done? Is there any way to know *all* the consequences of an action? No! And aren't personal feelings a wishy-washy method of determining right and wrong? After all, Alex Sanders, a well-known Wiccan who died in the 1980s, wrote, "A thing is good for me until I feel it is not right for me." Another witch named Stewart Farrar elaborated, "The witch's own conscience must be the final arbiter."

What if a witch one day feels that incest or murder is the right thing to do? Is there anything to stop him? Even though most Wiccans would say that these things are wrong, they have no firm basis for saying so.

Christianity, on the other hand, provides a powerful authority for denouncing racism, crime or any other moral wrong: God's holy character and His Word, the Bible.

#### The Bible says:

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

Wiccans do not believe in sin as Christians do. They see sin as an outdated, constraining concept. Therefore, they see no need for God. Wiccan high priestess Starhawk says, "We can now open new eyes and see there is nothing to be saved from, no struggle of life against the universe, no God outside the world, to be feared and obeyed." Through spiritual self-improvement, Wiccans hope to reach their equivalent of heaven, called the Summerland or the Land of Eternal Youth.

On the other hand, the Bible tells us that no amount of good work can earn us eternal life. Through Christ alone we are saved.

#### The Bible says:

"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." (Jesus in John 14:6)

# Witches And Sorcerers Cannot Duplicate The Powers And Miracles God Did Through Inspired Men

The Bible often warns us to avoid being deceived by lying wonders 2 Thess. 2:9; Matt. 24:24; Deut. 13:1-5. Many Bible events involved confrontations between those who did true miracles from God and those who practiced forms of sorcery or magic.

Exodus 7-9; read 8:18,19 — Pharaoh's magicians and sorcerers tried to duplicate the signs and plagues God caused through Moses and Aaron (7:11,22; 8:7,8,18; 9:11). For a while they seemed to succeed, but soon they failed and admitted Moses had the power of *God*.

**Daniel 1:20** — In all matters of wisdom and understanding the king found Daniel and his friends ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers.

**Daniel 2:1-13,27,28** — None of the magicians in Babylon could tell the king his dream and interpret it. But by the power of God, Daniel could both state and interpret the dream accurately [cf. 4:7,9]. Later he likewise interpreted the handwriting on the wall that predicted the downfall of Belshazzar (5:7,11). **[Cf. Gen. 41:8,24]** 

Acts 8:9-13 — When Simon used sorcery to amaze the Samaritans, they believed he had great power from God. But when Philip preached Jesus and did true miracles by the power of God, both the people and Simon himself believed and were converted [cf. vv 5-7].

Acts 13:6-11 — Elymas the sorcerer was powerless to resist the superior power God worked through Paul.

#### **Psychics and Fortune-tellers**

This includes all those who attempt to predict the future by supernatural, spirit powers: fortune-tellers, crystal ball readers, palm readers, mind readers, reading tarot cards, silent "t" in tarot, reading tea leaves, or Ouija board reading animal livers — **Ezek. 21:21.** 

#### The Bible says:

#### Only God Can Read The Minds of Men

1 Corinthians 2:11 — For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God.

**John 2:25** — Jesus had no need that anyone should testify of man, for He knew what was in man.

1 Kings 8:39 — Only God knows the hearts of man [Jer. 17:10].

Psychics and mind readers pretend to read men's minds, but only God has this power, and He no longer gives it to men (see 1 Cor. 13 below). When men claim supernatural power to read the minds of others, they are involved in a form of witchcraft and divination, condemned in the passages above.

## Only God Can Know & Predict The Future

**James 4:14** — You do not know what will happen tomorrow.

**Proverbs 27:1** — Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring forth. So, no human can predict the future by natural law. Any effort to predict the future must be based on supernatural powers.

**Isaiah 41:21-23; 42:8,9** — God challenged the idols to prove they are gods by predicting the future. He rested His claim to Deity on His ability to predict the future.

So, God says no power but His can really predict the future. When people claim to be able to do it by occult means, they are claiming the power of God (regardless of their intent).

1 Corinthians 13:8-10 — God did miracles in the age when His written word was not complete. By God's supernatural power, men revealed His will and confirmed by miracles that it was from God (Mark 16:20; Acts 14:3; Heb. 2:3,4). Since the written word (that which is perfect — James 1:25) has come, God no longer gives men the power of prophecy.

So, no one today can predict the future by the power of God. Anyone who claims such a power is not doing it by God's power. Whatever power he claims, it must be a form of occult divination, condemned by God.

#### **A Test For Impostors**

The test to expose an imposter is to examine their perdictions to see if any have not come true. The Man of God's prophecy will always, 100%, be true. None will fail.

**Deuteronomy 18:20-22** — After rebuking all forms of the occult (vv 9-14), God predicted the coming of the true prophet (Jesus) in whom people should trust (vv 15-19). Then He explained some ways people could recognize false prophets. A prophet is not from God if he claims to speak in the name of some other god or if his predictions of the future do not come true.

Occult diviners, psychics, and fortunetellers often speak in the name of supernatural beings other than the God of the Bible. All who do so are false

prophets. Other occult prognosticators are proven to be false teachers when their predictions fail to come true. Here are some examples:

#### **Spiritism And Necromancy**

Necromancy (NECK-re-man-see) is the alleged power to communicate with the spirits of dead people ("ghosts"). Other terms for those who claim this power are: "medium," having a "familiar spirit," "spiritist," or "spiritualist."

Literally hundreds of thousands of people claim this power in the US, many of whom are members of spiritualist or spiritist churches (*Kingdom of the Cults*, Martin, p. 199). Many "Christians" claim this is approved of God. I had a former sister-in-law who attended meetings of such a group.

#### What does the Bible say?

**Deuteronomy 18:11** — The occult practices that are an abomination to God include mediums, spiritists and those who call up the dead (NKJV; "consulter with a familiar spirit ... necromancer" — ASV, KJV).

Leviticus 19:31; 20:6,27 — God's people must not seek out mediums or familiar spirits. If they do, they should be cut off. Those who are mediums or have a familiar spirit should be stoned.

Ecclesiastes 9:6 — Those who are dead have no more portion in *anything* done under the son *forever*.

Luke 16:27-31 — Abraham refused to let Lazarus go back from the dead to warn the rich man's brothers. Why? Because God had already sufficiently revealed His will through prophets in the Scriptures.

God's inspired prophets have provided all the Divine revelation people need. When people seek further information through people who return from the dead, they are wicked like the rich man in Hades. Those who trust the Bible know that they do not need people to return from the dead to give them supernatural knowledge.

**1 Samuel 28:3-14** — Saul consulted a woman from Endor who had a familiar spirit, to get her to call up Samuel. Some think this proves the practice is valid. But note v12 — When the woman saw Samuel she cried out with a loud voice. Why? She had agreed to call him up. If she had expected him to come, why be surprised when he came?

1 Chronicles 10:13,14 — Saul died because he was unfaithful and because he consulted with this familiar spirit. However one explains the means by which the woman called Samuel back, the fact is that God disapproved of Saul for appealing to a medium, and it led to Saul's death.

[2 Kings 21:6; 2 Chron. 33:6; Isa. 8:19,20; 2 Kings 23:24; Isa. 19:3; 29:4]

#### **Conclusion**

Witchcraft and every aspect of the occult are plainly condemned by God. But why? Because they are a counterfeit substitute for the power of God.

Wicca is primarily a religion that worships nature, and sees all creation as sacred. ... Wicca also worships both a male and female deity, a female Goddess and a male God, who had together created the world and everything in it. ... Spells are used by Wiccans, and are a series of rituals and prayers that are conducted in witchcraft to ask for divine help in a certain aspect of life.

Witchcraft is a **pagan religion**. Pagan religions worship **multiple deities** rather than a single god.

Occult practitioners serve gods other than the God of the Bible. They appeal to other spirit powers to provide "divine help," which they ought to trust in God to provide.

They "worship and serve the creature ('nature,' 'all creation'), rather than the Creator" - Romans 1:25.

God has made it clear that Wicca is dangerous and incompatible with Christianity. He made His creation for us to enjoy as a reflection of His character, but not to be worshiped *instead* of Him. Wicca may seem attractive, magical and different, but it does not give eternal life and a relationship with the God of the universe. If you choose Wicca, you cannot choose God as well, because He will not tolerate worship of anything but Himself. He is perfect and holy. Study God's Word and you will find that a life centered on the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who gave His life for us on the Cross is better than anything we could ever find here on earth.

#### To God Be The Glory