

THE SPIRIT WORLD

"The Kingdom of Darkness"

Luke 11:17-20

I. SATAN HAS A KINGDOM

- A. Rules over darkness
- B. Head of hierarchy (Eph. 6:10-13)
 - 1. Spiritual wickedness in high places
 - 2. Rulers of the darkness of this world
 - 3. Powers
 - 4. Principalities
- C. Demons are his messengers
- D. We're to be able to stand against wiles of devil
 - 1. Must know our enemy
 - 2. Exposure greatest tactic
- E. Most will never become grossly involved, but will contact demons, especially of oppression, and perhaps occults, or other seemingly harmless, innocent entities

II. TRUTH ABOUT DEMONS

- A. Fallen beings
- B. Demons are spirits
 - 1. Belong to spirit world
 - 2. Seeks embodiment
 - a. Allows them more mobility in physical world
 - b. Will return from whence I came (after house cleansed)
 - c. Demonic of Gadara (sought to go into swine)
 - 3. No respecter of persons (rich, poor; no respect to nationalities)
- C. Degrees of control
 - 1. Oppression - attack from without
 - a. To keep down by the cruel or unjust use of power or authority
 - b. To crush, trample down
 - c. Overpower, subdue
 - d. To weigh heavily on the mind, spirit, or senses
 - 2. Obsession
 - a. Originally, the act of an evil spirit in possessing or ruling a person
 - b. A persistent idea, desire, emotion
 - c. Mostly in realm of soul (mind, emotion)
 - 3. Possession
 - a. Ownership, occupancy
 - b. Total control
 - c. Dominates spirit, which controls all the rest of us

III. THE OCCULT IS BREEDING GROUND AND CHANNEL OF EXPRESSION OF DEMONIC ACTIVITY

- A. A. Occult means hidden or secret
- B. Offers temptation of forbidden wisdom
 - 1. Satan's ploy against Eve
 - 2. Appeal of Eastern religions
- C. God's warning against involvement in occult
 - 1. Deut. 18:10-12
 - a. Divination - one attempt to obtain illegitimate knowledge of the unknown
 - (1) Ouija boards
 - (2) Necromancy
 - (3) Fortune-telling
 - (4) Astrology
 - b. Observer of times - astrology
 - c. Enchanter - cast spells
 - d. Witchcraft
 - e. Familiar spirits - mimicker of departed spirits
 - f. Wizard - witch, magic
 - g. Necromancer - communication with dead (in conjunction with familiar spirits)
 - 2. Is abomination to God to be punished by death (Lev. 20:27)

IV. APPEAL OF THE OCCULT (Why do people become involved?)

- A. Promise of power
 - 1. Sorcery
 - a. Simon the Sorcerer
 - b. Wise men and magicians of Old Testament
 - c. Same as magic and witchcraft
 - 2. Magic
 - a. Black magic - evil
 - b. White magic - good
 - 3. Witchcraft
 - a. Described as work of flesh - Gal. 5:20
 - b. Forbidden to live under Moses
 - c. Popularized today, especially by television
 - (1) Bewitched
 - (2) Disney movies
 - (3) 8,000,000 witches worldwide
 - (4) A religion that imitates many Christian rites
 - d. Uses sorcery, incantations, and magic to exercise supernatural control over things in material world
 - e. Biblically, witch and sorcerer interchangeable
 - f. Greek for witchcraft is "pharmakia"
 - g. Lev. 19:31- "...neither seek after wizards."

- B. Knowledge (of hidden, mystical things; secret)
 - 1. Fortune-telling; Satan's false prophets
 - a. Palm-reading
 - b. Crystal-ball gazers
 - c. Card-laying
 - d. Fallacies of fortune-telling
 - (1) Frequently wrong
 - (2) Contrary to Scripture
 - (3) Rely on demon forces to give credibility
 - 2. Necromancy - communication with dead. Devil's substitute for resurrection
 - a. Familiar spirits
 - b. Spiritualists
 - c. Use of seances and mediums
 - 3. Astrology
 - a. distortion of astronomy
 - b. Horoscopes can be self-fulfilling
 - c. Forbidden of God
 - (1) Deut. 17:2-5
 - (2) Is. 47:13
- C. Pleasure
 - 1. Inquisitiveness
 - 2. Fantasy games
 - a. Ouija boards
 - b. Dragons and dungeons
 - 3. Sexual perversion
 - 4. Illegal drugs
- D. Peace
 - 1. Good luck charms
 - 2. Grief over loss of loved one

V. OTHER RELATED TOPICS

- A. Halloween
- B. Haunted houses
- C. Ghosts
- D. Hypnosis
 - 1. Demands trance-like state
 - 2. Passive mind-an abdication of self-control that evil powers can take advantage of
 - 3. Question of control
 - a. We're to bring into captivity every thought to obedience of Jesus
 - b. Mind stayed on him brings peace
- E. Reincarnation

VI. SATAN IS USING DECEPTION TO LURE PEOPLE

- A. Deception of "just a game", "fantasy," "fun", "no harm"
- B. Taking advantage of people's desire of spiritual things

VII. SHUN THE VERY APPEARANCE OF EVIL

- A. Renounce hidden things of darkness
- B. Seek for deliverance
- C. Pray for others