

# Halloween



## (The Devil's Day)

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When approaching the subject of Halloween, many today, including Christians, will tell you that it is nothing more than an innocent holiday like other holidays on the calendar year. But there is something dark and ominous about Halloween that makes this holiday unchristian in character and symbolism. I'd like to address this subject of Halloween in this study. Of course, as always, when studying a topic such as this it's not to compare ourselves with other Christians who might celebrate Halloween and elevate ourselves on some higher spiritual plain or level than other fellow-believers (2 Cor. 10:12).

That being said, many people view Halloween as nothing more than a harmless holiday of "Trick or Treat." However, there is much more to the holiday of Halloween than meets the eye. I believe that Halloween might better be described as the "Devil's Day" which he uses to promote and honor his own wicked system and works in the last days (2 Tim. 3:1-5).

Before you turn me off, listen to this. Did you know that Halloween is a day that witches celebrate above every other day in the year? Did you know that Halloween is the day of the occult, involving the sacrificing of human people, even babies, to the Devil? Did you know that the symbol of the face on a pumpkin portrays a lost soul that is eternally damned in hell? I'm not trying to be fanatical or sensational today; I am trying to be informative. Halloween is a day of darkness that the Devil continually uses to promote his evil program and agenda for this age. It's a day of satanic symbols and demonic activity.

Yes, Halloween is a satanic holiday – not a Christian holiday. You might have been innocently celebrating Halloween for many years but once you hear the truth about this holiday, you might just want to separate from it and no longer participate in its festivities. Let me state it very clearly today. Every discerning Christian who has “their senses exercised to discern both good and evil” (Heb. 5:14) needs to separate from the satanic symbols and his secular participation with Halloween.

There are three reasons why Christians should not participate with Halloween.

### **I. Because the history of Halloween has not changed.**

I want to say without any apology that America has experienced a revival of Satanism and witchcraft in our country. I think it's rather obvious that Satanism and witchcraft are directly linked to Halloween. No person can deny the bizarre and occult connection with Halloween unless they have their eyes completely closed. We see witches, demons, monsters from hell, vampires, and ghosts walking the streets of our country. All these things have a satanic connotation and are certainly not acceptable for the holy way of life that all Christians are to lead (1 Pet. 1:14-15). Holiness and walking in the light (1 John 1:7) have nothing to do with celebrating and promoting the darkness of demonism and Satanism.

If you doubt the history concerning Halloween, I challenge you to do some research on your own. Public libraries and encyclopedias will talk about the pagan history of Halloween and how this satanic paganism still is the

trademark of this holiday. It is no secret. The history of Halloween is an established historical fact. Even the secular world recognizes this fact. My research is not the work of some biased religious fanatic who is out to promote untrue historical facts to prove a point. I believe I am standing on accurate historical ground and established facts as I share with you the history of Halloween. To deny the facts is to deny history.

“All Saints Day” (All Souls Day) was a day which the Roman Catholic, Anglican churches, and various orthodox churches, during the seventh century, set aside to commemorate the early Christians who had died for their beliefs. They would commemorate the souls of those who had died. This celebration first became established as a church festival early in the 7th century. Pope Gregory IV gave the custom official authorization in 835. It was first celebrated in the month of May. By the year 900 it was celebrated on November 1. Another name for “All Saints Day” was “All Hallows.” November 1 may have been chosen because it was the day of one of the four great festivals of the pagan nations of the north, and it was church policy (some of them only professing churches) to replace pagan observances with Christian observances.

One particular order celebrated their pagan practices on October 31, which was the day prior to November first, or this official church day called “All Hallows.” The day before the Christian celebration was called “All Hallows Eve.” Thus, the celebration of the pagans took place on “All Hallows Eve” and eventually became known as Halloween.

David Brown says:

“Here is how we got the name Halloween. It came from an attempt to “Christianize” this pagan worship day. In A.D. 800 the Roman Catholic Church moved “ALL SAINTS DAY” from May to November 1st. The new day was called All HALLOW’S DAY and it soon became the custom to call the evening before ALL HALLOWE’EN. It was shortened and called HALLOWEEN.”

John MacArthur agrees with this:

“The name “Halloween” comes from the All Saints Day celebration of the early Christian church, a day set aside for the solemn remembrance of the

martyrs. All Hallows Eve, the evening before All Saints Day, began the time of remembrance. "All Hallows Eve" was eventually contracted to "Hallowe'en," which became "Halloween."

### Pagan Holidays?

All holidays have some paganism associated with them – including Christmas and Easter. This brings up a valid question. When should a Christian separate from various practices, customs, symbols, and holidays?

## When to Separate From Pagan Holidays

- When the customs, symbols, and holidays still represent darkness (Eph. 5:11).
- When the customs, symbols, and holidays still represent paganism (Jer. 10:2).
- When the customs, symbols, and holidays still represent, evil, unrighteousness and Satanism (2 Cor. 6:14-17).
- When the customs, symbols, and holidays still promote worldly behavior (Rom. 12:2).

These commands and Bible principles certainly apply to the Halloween holiday. The pagan symbols associated with Easter and Christmas have lost their significance and connection with the past and Christ is now honored during these specific holidays. However, Halloween with its satanic symbols still reflects Satanism and the underworld of the occult. It's pagan and satanic emphasis has never been put away and lost. Halloween is as pagan as it was when it was born in the ancient occult world of the Druid people.

David Brown again comments:

“The important fact to note is that the CHRISTIANIZATION of this Celtic New Year's sacrifice day MISERABLY FAILED. Where is the preeminence of Christ or glory given to the Lord as with Easter and Christmas? It is NOT there but on the contrary, the Devil is dominant!”

This is true. In Good Friday, Easter, and Christmas we have the emphasis on Christ's entrance into the world to bring us salvation and eternal life. But not so with Halloween. The attempt of churches to override this pagan Holiday did fail and Satanism and the world of the occult continue to dominate and significantly promote their wickedness during the holiday of Halloween.

### The Druid People

The main roots of the paganism and Satanism behind Halloween can be traced back to the ancient religion of a Celtic people called the Druids who lived over three hundred years before the birth of Christ. These people practiced a religious system, which even Rome forbade. The Druid people were members of a pagan order in the regions of what are now Great Britain, Ireland, Scotland, France, Germany, and Gaul.



These people (Druids) held a celebration on October 31. It was called the Eve (evening) of the “Festival of Samhain.” Samhain whose name means “summer's end” was called the god of the dead (lord over death) since the people believed he had control over the deaths of people and their eternal destinies. You probably have seen a modern-day version of Samhain without even knowing it. This pagan god was shown

as a ghostly, skeleton holding a sickle in his hand. He later came to be known as THE GRIM REAPER.

Samhain was worshipped as a spirit, which was undoubtedly linked to the Devil himself. These Druid people, who were steeped in their paganism worshipped this spirit of death, or Satan himself, whether they realized it or not. They understood that this spirit had great power as the god of all dead people. During their pagan celebrations these people would try to trick or treat the spirits of damned souls, who were released from hell by Samhain, and who were believed to be roaming the countryside in demonic form to gain revenge on people. All of this related to the celebration on October 31.

Deuteronomy 18:9 reminds us of the unchanging Christian principle: "When thou art come into the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations."

As Christians, we should not copy the abominable practices of heathen people, such as the Druids. Their ways of witchery are corrupt and contrary to the sound doctrine or teaching that is found in the Bible (1 Tim. 1:10). In the century preceding the birth of Christ, Caesar conquered the British, and he records very carefully the account of the Druid priests (witches), when writing: "All Gallic nations are much given to superstition...they either offer up men as victims to the gods, or make a vow to sacrifice themselves. The ministers in these offerings are the Druids, and they hold that the wrath of the immortal gods can only be appeased, and man's life redeemed, by offering up human sacrifice, and it is a part of their national institutions to hold fixed solemnities (ceremonies) for this purpose."

In the series edited by Richard Cavendish called, "Man, Myth and Magic" it says, in volume 6, page 720, these words: "...the pagan Celts in Northern Europe held two great fire festivals each year -- Beltane on the eve of 1 May and Samhain on the eve of 1 November -- to mark the beginning of summer and winter."

What did the Druid people or this satanic society really believe? They believed that Samhain (the Devil – lord of death) would release the dead spirits of people on October 31 from their graves. These spirits would then actually rise out of the graves and roam the countryside on the evening of October 31. The spirits would try to return to their homes where they formerly lived to haunt those living there and show their anger toward their eternally doomed state.

## Trick of Treat?

Frightened and superstitious villagers who followed the teaching of the pagan Druid people tried to appease the wrath of these wondering spirits of dead people by offering these damned spirits fruits and nuts. This is where "Trick of Treat" got its roots. It was a custom born out of pagan tradition and superstition of trying to appease the walking spirits of dead people with food. The idea was this. If you did not treat the spirit, then you would be tricked by the spirit in some way.

The Druids believed that the spirit of Samhain, who was the Devil himself, needed to be honored on this evening of October 31 to help appease his wrath on the living. It was on October 31, a night of demonic jubilee, which set off the beginning of winter and darkness. This was when daylight grew noticeably shorter and the nights longer.

"During this interval the normal order of the universe is suspended, the barriers between the natural and the supernatural are temporarily removed, they are opened and all divine beings and the spirits of the dead move freely among men and interfere sometimes violently, in their affairs (Celtic Mythology, p. 127).

It was believed by the Druids that the hordes of hell (walking dead spirits of people) would roam the earth in a wild celebration of darkness and death to commemorate the extended darkness upon the land. These people actually believed there would be walking dead people all over the countryside.

The Druid people also believed that on the evening of October 31, Samhain, the lord of the dead, called forth these hosts of evil spirits. The Druids customarily lit great fires on Halloween apparently for the purpose of warding off all these spirits of damned bygone people. As previously mentioned, the Celts also believed that the spirits of the dead revisited their earthly homes on the evening of October 31. The Celtic tradition of lighting fires on Halloween was done to scare off these demonic spirits of dead and damned people.

In the 11th edition of Encyclopedia Britannica, volume 12, it states: "It was the Druids belief that on the eve of this festival (November 1st, Celtic New Year) Saman, lord of death, called together the wicked souls (Spirits) that within the past twelve months had been condemned to inhabit the bodies of animals."

### Masquerade (Masks)



Why are masks worn on Halloween? The Druids believed that sometimes these spirits would take on the horrifying, half-dead bodies such as decaying skeletons and hideous monsters in the night. They would be creatures of the night roaming about to haunt and taunt people. The Druid people and others stooped in their paganism would wear ugly and gruesome masks to blend in with the supposed appearance of these spirits and escape their harassment.

These superstitious people would try to protect themselves from these horrifying spirits on the eve of October 31 by disguising themselves as one of the spirit demons of hell, so they could blend in with the wicked spirits and not be noticed. They dressed in a dead and demonic way to try and fool or trick the spirits, pretending that they were one of these creatures of the night, which would take on the form of a dead body. They would also leave food for the spirits to appease their anger.

This is why we have the horrible masks associated with Halloween today which portray goblins, vampires, and demons of hell. These masks were originally created to try and scare off the evil spirits and horrifying creatures of hell that Satan had left loose to roam the countryside. This is the real meaning behind the masks of Halloween. It's also why treats are handed out on Halloween. The food was used to appease the anger of the spirits.



The Druids were obsessed with the dead spirits of deceased people who would turn into evil spirits to roam the countryside. Many Halloween customs and traditions point to their superstitious beliefs.

According to Man, Myth & Magic, volume 1, page 68, "The guisers went from house to house, singing and dancing. Their bloodcurdling masks and grotesque costumes may have been meant to keep evil at bay, or more likely, were visible representations of the ghosts and goblins that lurked in the night..."

Here is some real food for thought. Do you want your child pretending to be a demon spirit sent from hell that is roaming about the countryside? Do you really think that, as a Christian parent, you should allow your children to be involved in a holiday which promotes the hideous pagan practices centered upon hell?

1 Timothy 6:11

"But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness."

As mentioned already, the Druid people would also give treats to appease their harassment from these demonic spirits. All of these practices originated with this pagan society. These practices eventually spread throughout the known world and are still common to all Halloween observances. All this celebration was done to pay homage and honor to Samhain, lord of death, who was the Devil. It was done so that these Druid people would not experience his wrath from demonic spirits wandering the countryside.

Dear Christian dad and mom, do you want your child to practice this ancient paganism of the past? Do you want your sons and daughters to dress up and represent walking dead spirits from hell as they receive candy from people? Do you want to participate in this practice of handing out treats to try and appease the anger of the spirit underworld? I ask you honestly, what part can any separated and holy believer have in this pagan practice of Halloween?

## Human Sacrifice

These Druid people would worship the spirit (“Samhain”) by way of animal and human sacrifice on the eve of October 31. They believed they could appease his wrath upon their lives by offering him crop, animal, or human sacrifices. This is why we have both animal and human sacrifices connected with Halloween to this very day. Today this sacrifice is called the Black Mass which historically was invented as a mockery of the Roman Catholic Mass. An upside-down cross is used to mock Christ’s cross and an upside down question mark is used to question the deity of Christ. The Satanist spits upon the cross and then recites the Lord’s Prayer backward in mockery. This whole procedure was known as “The Sacrament of Hell.”

In countryside and rural communities, it is not uncommon to hear farmers talking about the day after Halloween. They awaken to find mutilated remains of farm animals such as cows, calves, pigs, chickens, and even horses that were sacrificed in satanic sacrifices, or blood sacrifices offered to Satan. Dear friend, we had better wake up to what is going on with Halloween and vow to separate and disassociate ourselves from this evil holiday of the Devil.

## Witches

Why are witches associated with Halloween? Under the Mosaic Law, God proclaimed in Exodus 22:18: “Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live.” God showed his sore displeasure against witchery and satanic practices which involved the underworld. On the evening of October 31, the ancient Druid people told pagan stories around the campfires. These were stories that centered upon witches riding through the sky, who could cast spells upon people. A witch was a wise person who could contact the emonic world and send evil spirits upon people. Even today, Halloween is the beginning of the witches’ year. It marks the beginning of the death and destruction of the winter. Halloween is still believed to be associated with the spirits of dead people who are unleashed to walk the earth. It is considered to be the best time to traffic in the spirits, which is sometimes called dabbling.

Witchcraft is associated with Halloween today which is a continuation of the pagan stories and legends passed down through the centuries. The internal Revenue Service gives a tax-exempt status to the church of Wicca, known as the official church of witchcraft. This means that those people who give to witchcraft in any way are giving a tax deductible, charitable donation of a religious nature, such as we would give to our church. So, we have the religion of witches being propagated today. Witches believe in contacting the dead spirit of people, which are really demons. They believe in Black Magic which is used to harm people. They teach Astral Projection, which means the wicked spirit can leap out of the body and move about. They work in paranormal phenomenon and are really Satanists. Witches think they control demons but in reality demons are controlling them.

Acts 17:22 declares:

“Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars' hill, and said, Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious” (stooped in religious paganism).

### Black Cats



What about cats and their connection to Halloween? I'll never forget when on Halloween I actually hit a black cat. I was driving my car when a black cat came right out in front of me. It as a bump and thump and it was all over. A black flat cat!

The Druid people told stories about black cats and linked the dead spirits of people with black cats. They believed that black cats were the reincarnation of a person in a cat body. Some believed that the human soul would depart into a cat at the time of death in order to haunt people as an evil spirit. People came to this conclusion as they looked into the eyes of the cat. They also believed that witches could change into black cats themselves. Thus, an innocent black cat was suspected of being a witch in disguise on Halloween.

The 1959 edition of World Book Encyclopedia states that Druids believed "the cat was sacred and...that cats had once been changed (a human reincarnated into a cat from) as a form of punishment for evil deeds." "Even after Christianity spread to Europe...oxen were sacrificed on October 31st...and in medieval Europe, black cats [were] chosen as victims in the belief that they were witches in disguise [and] were burned on that day (Halloween)" (The American Book of Day, third edition by Hatch).

It is plain to see that cats, particularly black cats, were thought to represent evil. Furthermore, they were a symbol of reincarnation. Many black cats are killed on Halloween. This is why the S.P.C.A. Center does not allow black cats to be adopted until after Halloween.

Countless other stories and legends have been passed down through the paganism and Satanism of the past and were associated with Halloween practices of evil and terror. The world has kept these symbols and stories to this day, and unfortunately they still represent what they did in the past. To deny this is to deny history and the present-day practice of the occult. The practice of Halloween is occult oriented and totally demonic in nature.

### Vampires and Bats



What about vampires and Halloween? The vampire bats that we see associated with Halloween were drinkers of blood and became associated as a creature that possessed occult power. Thus, we have vampires, who were believed to be deceased spirits from

hell, who not only took on human form but could also change into bats. It was thought by some of the pagan practices that the Devil himself assumed the shape of a bat. The vampire Dracula comes from the pagan world of the occult. But the true documentation of Dracula was that He was a living man who was a mass murderer like Jim Jones and Charles Manson. Of course, the point is that only evil and occultism is associated with vampires.

## Jack-O-Lanterns

What is the connection of Jack-O-Lanterns to Halloween? The most famous association with Halloween seems to be the Jack-O-Lantern. This symbol of Halloween sits on the porches of many Christian homes. There is a specific symbolism behind this carved out pumpkin face which has a fire burning inside of it. In reality, the



lighted Jack-O-Lanterns that children carry and that people sit on their porches at Halloween support and represent the passed down pagan legends of the Druid people (occultists) that were associated with lost spirits roaming this earth, awaiting their doom or damnation in hell at the end of time. The fire represents the fire of hell itself in which these damned spirits of people would eventually end up.

One occult legend is that the name Jack-O-Lantern was derived from the mysterious lights found in the bogs and marshes of England whose lights were associated with the pagan stories of seamen roaming the earth awaiting their damnation. Some people called these lights “Lantern Men” because these ghostly lights would bob along like a lantern in a man’s hand. One popular lost seaman named “Jack” was associated with the lights that came from the marshes. Thus, these strange and mysterious lights came to be called Jack-O-Lanterns. Jack came to represent a person’s soul that was awaiting damnation in hell. These strange lights were also called “corpse candles” for it was believed that these mysterious lights or lanterns of damned souls were wandering the countryside awaiting their damnation.

What caused these mysterious and eerie lights was probably the spontaneous combustion of methane or marsh gas that built up from the decaying matter of plants and animals. This gas would burn very easily. These strange flickering lights may have also been caused by the flashing light of phosphorus and display light like the firefly.

In any event, these mysterious Jack-O-Lanterns or corpse candles were said to be the signals from the lost spirits of men at sea. Many believed and taught that these Jack-O-Lanterns or corpse candles were really the damned souls of lost sinners condemned to walk the earth until the end of time. They were the corpses of damned people that roamed the sea of life waiting their ultimate damnation in hell.

Another legend linked to the Jack-O-Lantern portrays a stingy old man named Jack who on one Halloween asked the Devil to have a drink with him. He tricked the Devil into changing himself into a coin so he could pay for the drink. So, when the Devil turned himself into a coin, Jack put the coin into his pocket, beside a replica of a cross. This resulted in the Devil not being able to turn himself back into his regular appearance. Jack said that he would leave the Devil out of his pocket if the Devil would promise not to bother him for one year. So the deal was made and Jack left the Devil out.

The next Halloween Jack met the Devil on a lonely road and Jack had realized that the Devil came to claim his soul. But Jack tricked the Devil once again to spare his soul for ten years. However, Jack died the next year. As the spirit of Jack was ready to enter hell, the Devil said that Jack could not enter hell since he had made the Devil promise that he could not claim his soul until after 10 years.

So the Devil sent Jack's spirit back to earth. Jack's spirit began to try and find his way back to the earth while walking through the wind and the darkness. When Jack left the regions of hell and started on his journey to find a place of rest for his spirit, he was said to be eating a turnip. Legend says that the Devil threw a live coal out of hell to help Jack light his path. Jack made a lantern out of the fire of hell by placing the Devil's hot coal of fire inside his turnip. It was to remind Jack of his certain damnation in the fires of hell when his time on earth was up.

In desperation to find his way back from the regions of hell to earth, Jack put the live coal of fire from hell inside the turnip and used it as a lantern. Ever since that time Jack was said to be roaming the earth trying to find a place of rest. Thus, we have the famous Jack-O-lantern sitting on our

porches today representing Jack's lost spirit which was believed to be roaming around and waiting to be damned eternally in hell. We have the hot coal fires of hell burning on our porches which the Devil gave to Jack! Of course, not literally, but by way of representation, we support the history of this legend about Jack's lost spirit and the fire of Hell, which supposedly gave light to Jack's wondering spirit, until his final doom and damnation in hell.

Dr. John MacArthur, Jr. concurs with this legend:

"Jack-O-Lanterns were named for a man called Jack, who could not enter heaven or hell. As a result, he was doomed to wander in darkness with his lantern until judgment day."

The carved-out turnips, rutabagas, potatoes, and pumpkins that have fire burning within them throughout the world on Halloween follow the mysterious and devilish legends described above. First, they represent the corpse candle of damned spirits roaming the sea of time, awaiting their damnation in hell. Second, they represent Jack's spirit, which was at one time wondering the earth awaiting his damnation in hell.

All of these roaming spirits, like Jack's, were believed to take on the form of demons or wicked spirits, which were hideous and eerie in their ghostly appearance. It was believed that these lost people became like demonized spirits wondering the earth. Sometimes these spirits were believed to take on bodily form and haunt people as they try to find a resting place. Thus, the demonic faces carved on pumpkins in America represent the demonic spirits of Jack and many other lost people who supposedly are roaming the earth, awaiting the arrival of their damnation in hell, at the end of time, on Judgment Day.

Just as people once offered gifts of food to these alleged dead spirits, people today also offer treats to children, who represent these dead spirits of the underworld, which are supposedly still awaiting their damnation in hell. Again, I must ask this important question. Should the children which God gave to us represent the demonic spirits of hell and follow the cultic pagan practices of the past? Or should our children represent the Lord Jesus Christ and the light of His righteous ways?

## Following God or the Devil?

Ephesians 5:1 says:

“Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children.”

How can we be a follower of God when we decide to participate with a holiday that is Satanic and demonic? We should be a committed follower of God and His ways instead of following the Devil’s ways and practices. The Bible says we are to keep “Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord” (Eph. 5:10). Are we really following and representing Christ when we portray the dead spirits of people in hell who have come back to haunt us? Are we really representing Christ when we allow our children to draw pictures of the symbols associated with the occult world and works of the Devil at Halloween, such as black cats, witches, bats, and pumpkin faces?

Is God really pleased when we have pumpkins, with carved out faces, sitting on our porches, which represent the souls of spirits roaming the world, awaiting their damnation in the end of time? Can we glorify God while portraying the fires of hell on our front porches and the demonic spirits of roaming dead people in the carved out faces on a pumpkin? I honestly ask you today, can God be glorified with the practices of Halloween? Can we follow or represent these satanic practices and do them for the glory of God?

1 Corinthians 10:31 says:

“Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.”

Halloween does not represent God in any way. It totally misrepresents God. To glorify God means we are to honor God’s name through uplifting His character or reputation of holiness and righteousness in all that we do and speak. Can we honestly conclude that we are honoring God and representing His name while at the same time honoring the spirits of demons and damned people? Can we honestly say that God is pleased with our lives when we follow such devilish and occult practices associated with Halloween?



Why do Christians associate themselves with the practices of Halloween? Christians often do this out of ignorance (Lev. 4:2, 13). However, we must remember that the Devil is honored by these types of ignorant practices! The Devil knows when his program is being pushed and he will keep us in ignorance about the things associated with his program of evil. The Devil wants believers to promote his evil program instead of God's glory and righteous ways. This is why believers today must be informed on the pagan and satanic history of Halloween. They must understand that Halloween still represents the same things which have historically been associated with this pagan holiday. It represents hell, the damnation of spirits, the occult, and Satanism.

Dear Christian friend, Halloween is a demon-inspired and Devil-glorifying occult festival. We cannot get passed the history of Halloween. We must realize the past history and the present-day desire to promote the wickedness of these pagan practices. How can God be pleased with us when we do these things? Jesus said in John 8:29, "For I do always those things that please him." This should be our heart's desire as well.

It is time that we as parents inform our children on the history of Halloween and separate them and ourselves from such a wicked and hellish practice! God wants us to be holy - not hellish! God wants us to represent God and His light – not hell and darkness. God wants us to uplift His righteous character and represent His name on earth instead of the occult practices of the Devil and Druid people of the past. Christ said in Matthew 5:13 says, "Ye are the salt of the earth." We can't be the salt of the earth (preserving truth and righteousness) when we are representing and participating with the satanic works and devilish practices of Halloween.

Believers and fundamental churches should separate from all the pagan and satanic practices associated with Halloween. My prayer is that all of us would stop serving the Devil's interests and associating with the occult and demonic darkness of Halloween.

James 4:17

"Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

## II. Because the heresies that are associated with Halloween.

A second reason why we should separate from Halloween practices cannot be overstated. There are many heresies associated with this pagan holiday which are devilish, demonic, and diametrically opposed to Christ and Christianity.

### 1. There is the heresy of human sacrifice.

As we have mentioned, human sacrifice has always been associated with the pagan practices of Halloween. Let me say in unmistakable terms that God hates human sacrifice! American Family Association reported in June, 2008, that since abortion was legalized nationally in the Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision in 1973, over 50 million babies have been killed. America is a pagan nation that is seen to sacrifice children in the wombs of mothers. Since 2008, the numbers have risen dramatically. Let me convey something that is absolutely true. All human sacrifice, whether it occurs in the womb or in the practice of Halloween is satanic. Satan is behind abortion! A man must be demon inspired to kill a living baby within the womb of a mother! All human sacrifice is demon and Devil inspired.

### Satanic Sacrifices

Halloween sacrifices have traditionally been performed to Satan. These satanic sacrifices occur all over this land. People drink animal and human blood as well as urine. They digest organs and often abuse drugs. This kind of practice is horribly satanic and is the practice associated with the pagan day of Halloween. Let me ask you today, do you want to associate with such an evil practice as this when you support the holiday of Halloween? Do you want to promote a holiday that is presently linked to the satanic underworld and the practice of child sacrifice?

Leviticus 18:21

“And thou shalt not let any of thy seed pass through *the fire* to Molech, neither shalt thou profane the name of thy God: I *am* the LORD.”

Leviticus 20:1-5

“And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Again, thou shalt say to the children of Israel, Whosoever *he be* of the children of Israel, or of the strangers that sojourn in Israel, that giveth *any* of his seed unto Molech; he shall surely be put to death: the people of the land shall stone him with stones. And I will set my face against that man, and will cut him off from among his people; because he hath given of his seed unto Molech, to defile my sanctuary, and to profane my holy name. And if the people of the land do any ways hide their eyes from the man, when he giveth of his seed unto Molech, and kill him not: Then I will set my face against that man, and against his family, and will cut him off, and all that go a whoring after him, to commit whoredom with Molech, from among their people.”

Jeremiah 32:35

“And they built the high places of Baal, which *are* in the valley of the son of Hinnom, to cause their sons and their daughters to pass through *the fire* unto Molech; which I commanded them not, neither came it into my mind, that they should do this abomination, to cause Judah to sin.”

Molech was the national god of the Ammonites. Child sacrifice by burning is probably in view here, where human sacrifice was given in honor of this god. Satan has always inspired human sacrifice. Even the history in the Bible verifies this to us. Human sacrifice is nothing new. Through the centuries Satan has always coaxed people to worship other gods, so they in return would actually worship Satan, who was behind all of the idolatry (1 Cor. 10:20). Although these gods were given different names, but they were really summed up in one name – Satan. The Druids practiced satanic sacrifice but so did the Jews when they followed other gods. To think that people can stoop to the place of sacrificing babies or children demonstrates how people can be deceived by Satan. Today baby and human sacrifice is performed in satanic rituals. The history of Halloween has always supported the satanically inspired act of human worship.

I remember talking to a brother who shared with me some of the huge problems that landfills have on Halloween night. The problem involves sacrifice. The news stories and papers talk about the gory and grotesque details that take place in landfills. These stories of animal and even human

sacrifice are heart wrenching to say the least. Why would any God-fearing and God-honoring Christian want to associate with the satanic ritual of sacrifice which is an integral part of the holiday of Halloween?

One converted witch writes:

“As a former witch high priest now saved by Jesus, I was astonished by how many Christians let their kids celebrate Halloween. Some churches even sponsor "haunted houses" and similar events on what is the Number One satanic "hellishday" of the year. Halloween used to be called Samhain, and is still celebrated as an ancient pagan festival of the dead by witches all over the world. Halloween is an occasion when the ancient gods (actually demons) are worshiped with human sacrifice.”

Paul warns us in 1 Corinthians 10:20:

"But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils.”

2. There is the heresy of the resurrection before Judgment Day.

Those who follow and support Halloween claim that the spirits of dead people can sometimes take on a demonized human form through a type of bodily resurrection. The resurrections of these people are usually in the form of hideous creatures which come back to haunt the previous homes where they have lived. It is also believed that these hideous resurrected zombies and half dead walking people roam planet earth on the Eve of October 31 to haunt and harass people all over the world. The Bible condemns these pagan beliefs of the resurrection of demonized people.

### No Roaming

The Scriptures clearly teach that no person who is presently damned in hades will be resurrected to roam planet earth.

Hebrews 9:27

“And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.”

The Bible teaches that when an unsaved person dies, they enter their appointed place of judgment which is the fires of hades. They do not get the opportunity to leave their place of damnation and roam about the earth. There is no such thing as a Jack-O-Lantern or the spirits of demonized people roaming the earth, awaiting their damnation in hell. In fact, no unsaved person will experience resurrection until the Great White Throne Judgment.

### Judgment Day

Revelation 20:12-15

“And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is *the book* of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.”

There is a resurrection that will occur in the future, at the end of earth's history, as we now know it. The point is well made by John. The term “dead” refers to the bodily resurrection of the unsaved. Their lost spirits were once in hades but now are reunited with their bodies. The term “death” refers to the body of the unredeemed and the term “hell” (literally - “hades”) is a reference to their spirit which now resides in this holding tank of judgment called hades awaiting resurrection. Someday both the spirit and body will be brought together to experience a bodily resurrection. This will result in their eternal judgment and torment in a body that will never be consumed throughout eternity. The second death speaks of a final death (separation) in reference to both the spirit and body of a person, whereby they will suffer the eternal vengeance of God, in the place called Hell or Gehenna.

Several things must be noted about this resurrection. First, the resurrection of the lost only occurs once and cannot occur before this time. Second, those who are lost are resurrected to be judged immediately by Christ. They are not freed to roam planet earth as Halloween suggests and

promotes. Resurrection is according to God's timetable and not the Devils since Jesus Christ holds the keys to death and hades.

### God's Authority

Revelation 1:18 declares:

"I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death."

Satan does not have the power or authority to raise people from their state of death or damnation. Only the Son of God has that authority given to Him by the Father.

John 5:21

"For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickeneth *them*; even so the Son quickeneth whom he will."

Only Jesus Christ has the keys of authority to open the graves and give resurrection to people. Satan does not have this power or right. God alone holds the authority over hell or hades (spirits of dead people) and death (their body). This means that people are raised according to God's timetable and not according to the legends associated with Halloween. There are no resurrected demonized zombies roaming the earth. Furthermore, when resurrection of the lost does occur, God will immediately judge them. They will stand before God's Great White Throne - not wander around the earth to haunt people. Instead of these resurrected lost people haunting other people, God will haunt them in hell forever and forever. Furthermore, their sins will haunt them for eternity as they suffer their degree of punishment in hell according to their sinful works (Rev. 20:12).

3. There is the heresy of witchcraft and the occult.

Unless you refuse to see the darkness, you can readily see that witchcraft and the occult are associated with Halloween. This has always been true throughout the History of Halloween. The Word of God calls witchcraft and occult practices an abomination.

Deuteronomy 18:9-14 says:

“When thou art come into the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations. 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. For all that do these things *are* an abomination unto the LORD: and because of these abominations the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee. Thou shalt be perfect with the LORD thy God. For these nations, which thou shalt possess, hearkened unto observers of times, and unto diviners: but as for thee, the LORD thy God hath not suffered thee so *to do.*”

God in His moral and ethical laws is very clear on the matter of association with the occult and underworld of demons. Did you catch what God is telling His people in this text? Holy people should not associate with the evil abominations of pagan people. Halloween with its satanic origins and occult connections must not be associated with in any way or fashion. Of course, you may not outwardly practice these occult phenomena, but using the symbols that represent the practices of pagans and promoting occult practices becomes an abomination before the Lord as well. The word “abominations” speaks of things that are absolutely detestable in His sight. They speak of things that God utterly hates and what we should hate as God’s people. Yes, we are to detest the practices and legacies of the occult. There are some things Christians must hate.

Psalms 97:10

“Ye that love the Lord, hate evil ...”

Amos 5:14 adds: “Seek good and not evil...”

The word occult comes from a Latin word which means secret or hidden. It points to those secret or hidden things revealed through the world of spirits or paranormal phenomena. The list in Deuteronomy 18 speaks of the occult practices that have always been taking place within the world.

## Satan's Sinister List

Let's briefly study this listing of devilish things in Deuteronomy 18. What is the Devil up to? What is he doing? What is he behind? Below is a list of his sinister works. I call it Satan's sinister list.

### ➤ Child sacrifice (vs. 10)

We have already talked about this. Satan promotes child and human sacrifice, and we must understand that this kind of sacrifice is linked with the world of the occult. This Halloween people will be held captive for human religious sacrifice.

Dave Benoit tells of a mother finding a strange diary, called "The Book Of Shadows" in her son's room. She with fear and trembling leafed through pages filled with Satanic drawings. Then her eyes fell on these horrifying words, "Last year I stole a car at Halloween and ran over a kid and killed him. This year, at Halloween, I plan to do the same thing!" The words in his satanic diary proved to be true. The teenager is now incarcerated. He murdered a child as a sacrifice to Satan.

Halloween is an evil day. Halloween honors Satan, idol worship, immorality, demonic rituals, and human sacrifice. Halloween is not a day I want to celebrate because of what it has stood for and what it stands for today.

Jack Roper put it simply enough:

"You would never see Jesus at a Halloween party. Halloween parties in churches are an abomination to the Lord. "

### ➤ Divination (vs. 10)

This was the occult practice of receiving hidden information or knowledge from the underworld of spirits (dabbler) and being able to foretell the future of a person's life or particular events associated with their life. This might also be called clairvoyance and E.S.P.



We had a tract stand at our annual street fair this year. When I went to get something to eat, I noticed that I could have my palm read for the small fee of \$19.95. Palm readers and psychics today claim to receive hidden information from spirit guides, which are nothing more than demons. The U.S. government even uses psychics today for their war efforts and other government related work. Let me tell you what the Bible says about horoscopes, psychics, palm readers, fortunetellers, Ouija boards and such like. The Word of God says that they are all an abomination to the Lord. God detests the practice of tapping the underworld of spirits.

➤ Observer of times (vs. 10)

This is not talking about the young boy who was sitting in church watching the minutes' tic by while the preacher was preaching! The "observer of times" within the world of the occult was a person who attempted to foretell the future by observing signs and omens such as the wind, rain, fire and the seasons. These are people who claim to have special insight through their study of world events. We have these kinds of people in our world today. They are always looking for hidden meanings behind every world catastrophe and destructive force. If they would not be so blind, they would observe that God is behind the world events in a sovereign way and that He is trying to get the attention of people.

➤ Enchanter (vs. 10)

This was a person involved within the occult who would cast spells on people. There are people who still practice this enchantment today. They attempt to cast spells on other people to bring harm to them and manipulate them. This is nothing more than the practice of voodoo.

I was on vacation in Florida several years ago. We were in Orlando, and I went into some mall. I happened to walk into a strange store. I began looking around and came to realize that I had wandered into some kind of weird store that was promoting totem poles, strange looking statues, and voodoo-type enchantments. They were playing repetitive drum music. It was weird and I got out of there in a hurry. I like to steer clear of Satan's territory.

➤ Witch (vs. 10)

The witch is a common symbol related to Halloween. Do you have a picture of a witch hanging on your door? Do you really know what a witch is? A witch is a person who practices magic. A witch is a sorcerer. This is someone who contacts the spirit world to practice magic which involves casting spells on people. Their spells were called incantations. I know that there are witches that wear black that practice Black Magic (evil magic) and witches who wear white and practice White Magic (good magic). Let me convey today that a witch is a witch no matter which way you look at a witch.

I don't care what kind of magic they are practicing. Magical practices are connected with the Devil! That's why I personally don't promote magic shows within the church. I could never understand why magic shows are done in the name of Christ. It may be true that Christians are only promoting a fun thing to entertain children. But what are we representing in doing this kind of activity? Who are we trying to mimic in doing magic? Are we not at least outwardly representing and promoting the art of sorcery in some sense? That is why all magic was banned in the church until this modern church era with its multitudes of compromises. Why on earth must we entertain children with magic or the world of allusions? We might be opening our children up to the world of magic and sorcery by our commendation of such things as magic.

Dear Christian friend, Halloween is only one day of the year. What about the cartoons today that your children watch on TV? Many of them are outwardly demonic and promote wizards, witches, and the magical arts. As parents, we must screen what we allow our children to view on television and the dark world of the internet. Do you honestly want your child to watch those cartoons and shows that promote Halloween and the Devil's occult agenda in this day? Some of you reading this study may think that I am square. Dear friend, I am trying to honestly inform you about what is going on today in our world. We cannot keep turning a blind eye to everything. We need to possess spiritual discernment today as we see the Devil's work increasing during these last days.

Probably the best documentation as to whether modern day witches actually celebrate Halloween comes from their own testimony. When asked "Does anyone today celebrate Samhain (Halloween) as a religious Holiday?" a major witches' organization responded, "Yes, many followers of various pagan religions, such as Druids and Wiccans (witches), observe this day as a religious festival. They view it as a memorial day for their dead friends similar to the national holiday of Memorial Day in May. It is still a night to practice various forms of divination concerning future events. Also, it is a time to...initiate new projects." (from Cult Watch Response, October 1988, Vol. 1, No. 1).

Witches and Satanists love Halloween. Why would Christians want to love and celebrate this day? Witches get a lot of media coverage around Halloween. It's good P.R. (public relations) for them. This coverage usually portrays them in a favorable light. In addition, it generates interest in "the craft" and is good for recruitment purposes. As Craig Hawkins put it, "...with increasing vigor, witchcraft is coming `out of the broom closet.' Many witches are actively seeking public understanding and acceptance." (quote from an article in Christian Research Journal; Winter/Spring 90 entitled "The Modern World of Witchcraft" by Craig S. Hawkins.)

➤ Charmer (vs. 11)

The charmer was a person who claimed to have power over snakes or serpents. I remember, as a boy how my grandmother used to kill snakes with her hoe or shovel. These water snakes used to live near the creek and water that flowed down by the house. She was not a friend of the snakes. She was the enemy of the snakes. However, the occult charmer was a friend with snakes. This person would claim to cast spells upon snakes and control the power of the snake. Why a snake? That's easy to answer. It's because the Devil was the original snake charmer that associated himself with a snake in the Garden of Eden. The Devil in one sense charmed a snake in order to use its body for his own evil purpose. Therefore, the followers of the Devil associate themselves with snakes like the Devil originally did in the Garden of Eden. They are fascinated with controlling the power of the snake just like the Devil was.

Today we have these wingnut preachers who shake and dance with snakes. They claim to be fulfilling Mark 16:18 which says, "They shall take up serpents." Let me tell you something today. Mark 16:15 was only given as a protective promise to the early apostles as they went abroad establishing the early church. The promise was that they would not be harmed by snakes in all their travels. It had absolutely nothing to do with the actual picking up snakes and handling of snakes like some of these extreme Southern preachers do today.

If you think the apostles went around putting on snake shows, then you are fooled! This kind of action is tempting God. I want to convey something that may be unpopular but true. Any person who plays around with snakes in a religious manner is nothing more than an occult snake charmer! They are playing with ancient pagan and occult practices, attempting to overcome the power of snakes, just like the Devil did in Garden of Eden.

➤ A consulter with familiar spirits

This is the occult practice of "trafficking in the spirits." Those who tap into the spirit world would develop relationships with demonic spirits. They would contact them on a regular basis and develop a close and relationship with them. Sorcerers, who professed to call up the dead to answer questions, were said to have a "familiar spirit" (Deut. 18:11; 2 Kings 21:6; 2 Chr. 33:6; Lev. 19:31; 20:6; Isa. 8:19; 29:4). The word "familiar" was intended to express the idea that sorcerers had personal spirits (demons) that were their servants, ready to their bidding and follow their commands.

➤ Wizard (vs. 11)

A wizard is literally "a knowing one." It was a person involved with the occult world who claimed to possess supernatural knowledge through communication with the evil world of spirits. Warlocks and wizards are simply another form of the occult which means to gain secret and hidden knowledge through the world of evil spirits.

➤ Necromancy (vs. 11)

Necromancy was the occult art of contacting the dead through the use of spirit guides. Of course, this is simply modern day spiritism and is another

form of trafficking in the spirits. The necromancer will claim to be able to contact the deceased through the use of spirit guides and give information to the living about their dead relative, husband, wife or poor Aunt Betsy.

All these occult practices were said to be an abomination before God. "For all that do these things *are* an abomination unto the LORD" (Deut. 18:12). These occult people and practices were detestable and disgusting in God's sight because they looked to the Devil for wisdom and guidance instead of to God and promoted the Devil's evil agenda, instead of God's. The Black Magic of the occult world of witches, wizards and warlocks is an abomination in God's sight. Why then should the Christian promote these very things by hanging up pictures that are associated with Halloween, and the practice of the occult?

God cannot be pleased with His people when they promote these devilish occult practices by associating with the pictures and programs of Halloween. Is not God offended when He sees our participation with the occult world? Is God pleased when He sees His people associated with demonic spirits awaiting their doom in hell, witches riding on brooms, and pumpkins which represent the fires of hell glowing inside of them? Let's call Satan's bluff! Let's stop fooling around with the Devil's Day and promoting the things that glorify Satan and sin.

Deuteronomy 18:9 says:

"...thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations."

The practices associated with Halloween still maintain their satanic symbolism which is a stench in the nostrils of God. When we practice these ancient satanic customs and legends, we continue to promote them and associate ourselves with the underworld of the occult.

Deuteronomy 18:12 says: "...and because of these abominations the LORD thy God doth drive them (the occult workers) out from before thee." God drove those who practiced the occult out of the presence of His people and away from the land that He had given to them. This is because God did not want His people associated with any pagan occult practices. In light of what God taught His people long ago, Christians should disassociate themselves with the world of the occult and disavow the holiday of Halloween entirely.

We cannot drive the occult out of the land of America but we can take the signs and symbols that are associated with Halloween out of our Christian homes. It is our responsibility as Christians to remove the occult symbols from our households and porches. We should rid our homes of everything that has to do with the world of the occult. Refusing to celebrate Halloween and using the symbols associated with Halloween is one way we can drive the occult from our own households and not portray our acceptance of these ancient practices.

Deuteronomy 18:12-13 once again says:

“For all that do these things *are* an abomination unto the LORD: and because of these abominations the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee. Thou shalt be perfect with the LORD thy God.”

The word “perfect” (without blemish or spot) means to be morally complete and sound in our manner of conduct and living. It means to be wholesome and healthy from a spiritual standpoint in life. If we as Christians are going to maintain our wholesome, healthy, and holy manner of Christian living, then we must separate from Halloween and all its occult customs. They will have no place in our lives and homes. This brings us to our next point.

### **C. Because the holiness of God must oppose Halloween.**

Here is the third reason why we should never associate with Halloween. Christians are to have a deep reverence for God and His holiness and not practice or participate with anything that diametrically opposes God’s holiness, such as the practices of witchcraft, the occult, and Satanism. It’s not being narrow-minded and mean-spirited to say that God’s holiness prevents the separated Christian from participating with Halloween parties and practices.

1 Peter 1:14-15

“As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation.”

Holiness is a command to be obeyed, a course to be followed, and a commitment to be kept. Let me reiterate something I said earlier. God want us to be holy – not hellish! When we participate with a satanic holiday that promotes devilish sacrifices and glorifies the occult, we have made a travesty or mockery out of God’s holiness. Halloween is simply a Devil glorifying, God defying, and demon inspired holiday. A Christian violates the principle of God’s holiness when participating with such a wicked and dastardly holiday, such as this.

Psalm 141:4 says:

“Incline not my heart to *any* evil thing, to practise wicked works with men that work iniquity: and let me not eat of their dainties.”

If your heart is bent on participating with Halloween and promoting the occult customs associated with Halloween, then your heart is inclined to do evil works instead of good works that glorify God. Many Christians feast on the “dainties” or delicacies of worldly people who are following Satan’s agenda or program. The Psalmist wanted to be led “in the paths of righteousness” (Ps. 23:3). Celebrating an occult holiday and participating with a day that glorifies Satan could never be deemed as the path of righteousness.

Amos 5:15 says:

“Hate the evil, and love the good, and establish judgment in the gate.”

Christians need to react to the light of God’s holiness (1 John 1:5-7). God’s holiness will reshape and redirect our lives. The holiness of God will lead us away from anything that resembles the world, the flesh, and the Devil (1 John 2:15-17). The holiness of God demands a response from our lives. Let’s break this down into a simple outline.

God’s holiness demands a three-fold response from our lives.

➤ Separation from wicked customs.

Jeremiah 10:2-3 says:

“Thus saith the LORD, Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not

dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them. For the customs of the people *are* vain: for *one* cutteth a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the axe.”

The way of the heathen referred to their pagan idol worship or the worship of other gods. The heathen thought that the “signs” in the sky, such as the unusual occurrences of eclipses or comets, were actually designed to be omens of coming events given by their heathen gods. This parallels to the world of the occult where the “observer of times” (Deut. 18:10) would look for omens in the sky to foretell coming events. God’s people were not to learn the way of the heathen people around them. They were not to practice their “customs” which were filled with idolatry and occult phenomena. God says that we are not to copy the evil system!

There can be no question about this. The Christian is not to copy the system of Satan in any way. We are not to pattern our lives after Satanism, darkness, and evil of any kind. The problem in the modern church today is that Christians want to mimic the world system in every way they possibly can and still call themselves Christians. God says that we are not to learn the way of the heathen. To celebrate Halloween would be a gross violation of the doctrine of God’s holiness or separation. My prayer is that God would give us a new heart for separation in these last days of compromise and callousness toward the Devil’s schemes.

➤ Separation from the works of darkness.

Ephesians 5:11 says:

“And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove *them*.”

The Bible teaches we are to have no fellowship or contact with the unfruitful works of darkness. In case you haven’t noticed, Halloween, Satanism, and demons are part of a wicked system of evil and darkness which is diametrically opposed to God (Eph. 6:12). We are living in a dark world today. The world is getting darker, but the Word is shining brighter (2 Peter 1:19).



Let's state something that cannot be overturned. Promoting Halloween is categorically promoting darkness! You just cannot get around it. Halloween is one big dark room that is filled with the world of the occult and Satanism. There are no lights of holiness associated with this dark holiday. There is not one ray of light beaming through the keyhole which leads into the dark room of Halloween. There is no light at all in Satan and there is no light in Halloween which represents Satan and evil in every way.

The Bible reminds us that we are to actually "reprove" the evil darkness that surrounds us. This means that we should rebuke, refute, and correct these degrading and devilish practices of darkness associated with Halloween. We are not to associate or condone them by hanging pictures of bats, vampires, ghosts, witches, and black cats all over our front window. We are not to promote the pagan legends of Halloween by putting ceramic pumpkins with carved out faces inside our homes. All of these figures promote the season of darkness, or this day of the Devil called Halloween.

As a Christian we should refuse to associate ourselves with these symbols of darkness. Rather, we are to clearly refute them and identify them for what they really are. What are they? They are the occult pagan practices of the past that were associated with the ancient practice of the Druids. They are occult legends that have been passed down through the centuries to glorify evil and Satan. These practices still maintain their ancient pagan meaning and significance which is totally satanic and demonic, and which oppose God's holiness. To practice Halloween identifies us as God's people with the darkness. In many ways it places us in the same camp with the Druid people. We must remember that we can and do in some measure "fellowship" or associate and participate with the "unfruitful works of darkness" when we allow Halloween customs and practices to be part of our homes and lives.

Ephesians 5:8 declares:

"For ye were sometimes darkness, but now *are* ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light."

The Christian should no longer associate with the things of darkness in any way or fashion. Certainly, Halloween would be at the top of the list when it

comes to things that represent darkness, sin, and wickedness. The believer is only to associate with the things that represent holiness or light. When we promote darkness we are walking like the unsaved of this world instead of living out our calling to be children of light. God is looking for the light of holiness within our lives today as Christians.

Jesus said in Matthew 5:14-16

“Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”

How can Christians be light when they are representing and participating with a satanic holiday? How can we represent light when we represent hell? What light can be found in the hellish holiday of Halloween?

Colossians 1:13

“Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son.”

We have come from the darkness of sin and unbelief – don’t go back to it! God has delivered us from the world of darkness. We have come from the darkness of Satan’s power (Eph. 2:1-2), which overruled our lives in the past, and have been given a newfound freedom in Christ. Every Christian should want to dissociate themselves from the works of darkness, like Halloween, out of gratitude and love for God’s deliverance from Satan’s kingdom. We should not longer want to be part of something or represent something that resembles our past lives (2 Cor. 5:17).

Romans 13:12 commands:

“The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.”

Refusing to participate with Halloween is one way we can cast off the works of darkness and put on the protective armour of light. We are called upon to shine for Jesus instead of promoting the darkness of the underworld.

Paul's command in 2 Corinthians 6:14-15 certainly applies to Halloween when it asks these questions, "What fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness...what communion hath light with darkness? And what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?..." Christian friend, what part can you honestly have with Halloween, since it represents darkness, demonism, and devilish works? Why would you want to fellowship, participate, and promote such a wicked and satanic holiday as Halloween? Why would you want to take part with the infidel pagan works of darkness? God calls us to separation and holiness. His holiness demands a response from our lives which is to separate from the Devil's Day of Halloween. This brings us to our final point.

➤ Separation from the ways of evil.

1 Thessalonians 5:21-22 says:

"Prove all things; hold fast that which is good. Abstain from all appearance of evil."

The word "prove" means to discern, examine, or scrutinize. We are to place everything under the scrutiny and test of God's Word to see whether it passes the test of God's approval. This means that we must put Halloween through the test of God's Word. Guess what, Halloween has failed the test! It has gotten an "F" minus. As we have seen, Halloween with its cultic connections and present-day evil overtones is not wholesome or good by any stretch of the imagination. What is found to be "good" is to be wholeheartedly embraced. What is "evil" or unbiblical is to be shunned. The discerning Christian has no choice on the matter. Halloween must be shunned or forsaken in every way.

The word "appearance" means the form, figure, or shape of something. The idea is that Christians are to abstain from every kind of evil – whatever form it takes. They are to never take part or participate with any evil way or work. However, what may only appear to be bad may also fall under this warning. To "abstain from the appearance of evil" also suggests that God's saints must refrain from taking on the outward or visible display of promoting evil in their lives by wrongly associating with questionable practices, wicked people, and personal holidays such as Halloween.

By participating with the symbols and secular activities of Halloween, we send forth the clear message that we agree with the satanic paganism and practices which are clearly promoted by this holiday. You might say, "But my children don't dress up as goblins or demons?" The matter of dress is not really the issue. The issue is your participation and association with this hellish holiday. Even if your children walk around with a white mask on their face they are still taking on the "appearance" or "form" of evil by associating with such a devilish day as Halloween. Guilt by association is still a Biblical principle that must be followed.

1 Corinthians 10:20 says:

"But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils (*demons*)."

The Corinthians who attended the religious pagan festivals within the setting of the market feasts were actually fellowshiping with demons. How could this be? They were not actually sacrificing meat to the demons which were behind the idols. The unsaved Gentiles were practicing this. How could these believers possibly be fellowshiping with this pagan ritual which involved demonism, if they were not doing anything but eating filet mignon during this religious ceremony? The answer lies in their association or presence within these pagan festivals.

The Bible clearly teaches that our presence or association with evil speaks volumes of our acceptance and condoning of it. Our presence with evil sends a message that we approve of all that is going on or taking place. This is why it does not matter whether or not your child dresses like a demon from hell or a Bible character when walking the streets on Halloween night. You must understand that it's the association with the world of the occult that is evil. Any practice or association with such a satanic holiday, as Halloween, puts your stamp of approval on the entire holiday and all that goes with it. This includes Satanism, the occult, demonic activity, and human sacrifice.

The truth that Paul stated in this verse fits into the holiday of Halloween. The Bible says, "I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils" (*demons*). Imagine that! When we as a Christian participate with demon

inspired false teaching, or demon inspired occult paganism, we are in some sense fellowshiping with demons. Since demons are the primary focus of Halloween, we are in some measure fellowshiping and sharing in their evil work when we promote and sanction Halloween.

Dear Christian friend, will your home and life represent the evil of the occult world, or will you refuse to identify with Halloween and represent Christ and righteousness? Dad, this is a decision that you must make for your family (Joshua 24:15). Mom, you must teach your children the wickedness and dangers of the occult world which is represented in Halloween.

It seems strange that people who would never involve themselves with the occult at any other time will experiment at Halloween parties with seances, Ouija boards, levitation, satanic rituals, and ritual sex. Halloween is harmful because it lures people into the occult. Many children are introduced to occult practices at Halloween parties. After the initial exposure to the occult some children are attracted to the occult because of the power it offers them. Others see it as the ultimate means of rebelling against their parents.

Halloween is the Devil's day! Pause for a moment. Dig beneath the candy. What is the primary focus of Halloween, even in our day? The primary focus of Halloween revolves around the occult, witchcraft, darkness, demonism, and the devil. It's no wonder that a onetime witch, Tom Sanguinet, former high priest in the Celtic tradition of Wicca (witchcraft) said: "Halloween is purely and absolutely evil, and there is nothing we ever have or will do that would make it acceptable to the Lord Jesus."

I will give a hearty "Amen" to this!

On the final page is a prayer which I think is appropriate for all Christians to pray if they have been involved in the celebration of Halloween, whether it's a casual or more committed association with the world of Satanism. You may want to sincerely pray this prayer and renounce your wicked association and involvement with Halloween.

“Lord Jesus, I renounce any involvement I have had with this pagan holiday, Halloween. I renounce my association with the hidden things of darkness. I serve Satan notice that I will not be involved in the things that represent him and his evil ways, and I choose to do only that which represents my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”