

# Occult and Idolatry

"... the sacrifices of pagans are offered to demons, not to God, and I do not want you to be participants with demons. You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons too; you cannot have a part in both the Lord's table and the table of demons. Are we trying to arouse the Lord's jealousy? Are we stronger than he?" 1 Corinthians 10:20-22  
"Be innocent of evil" Rom 16:9 "you shall have no other gods before me" Ex. 20:3  
**Watch out for stubbornness, pride, and rebellion tonight!**

## DEFINITION of OCCULT

"To obscure or conceal" An occultic spirit is one who makes claims to do what only God can do, and demands trust that only God deserves, thus obscuring one's view of God's complete provision and protection. It seeks control, destroys faith, and leads to fear.

## DOORWAYS

**Generational!** (look for generational rebellion)  
**Church hurts** or other **abuse** that leaves one feeling powerless  
Imaginary friends or talking to the dead, familiar spirits (companions with access to information) Lev 19:31 "do not turn to mediums or spiritists"  
**Oaths** (see fraternities, military organizations, Hippocratic oath) or promises of **allegiance** (see pledge to the flag) **Matthew 5:33-37 yes be yes**  
Relationships featuring "**common spirits**" / **strongholds**  
False prophecy (from the soul): giving or receiving (Lev 20:6, Eze 13-14, Isa 44: 25, **Jer 14:14**, Jer 29:8-10, **Matt 7:15-16**), **seeking to know the future**, palm readers  
**Defiled objects** (Jeremiah 50:38, "A drought is upon her waters; and they shall be dried up: for it is the land of graven images, and they are mad upon their idols." Also Deut 7:26)  
**Masons, mind-altering medications**, illegal drugs, alcohol, herbs, sorcery, nicotine addiction, caffeine addiction, ESP/ Clairvoyance, Satanism, **superstition**, angel worship, yoga, martial arts, violent movies, **false religions**, acupuncture, Indian ceremony, astral projection, astrology, charms, feminism, false prophets, humanism, hypnotism, KKK, spells and incantations (Harry Potter), magic, occultic/ **evil movies**, mediums, ouija boards, occultic music, rebirthing, voodoo, water witching, biofeedback, some chiropractic, raiki/ chakra, pendulum diagnosis, magnetic healing, psychic healing, therapeutic touch, visualization, numerology, witch doctors

## DESCRIPTION

Occultic spirits are, by definition, deceivers. Their job is to get you to trust in them **instead of (or as a complement to) faith in Jesus**. They set themselves up to be **honored**, compete with Jesus in order to separate us from Him, and ultimately destroy faith.

Occultic practices include **consulting mediums** and psychics (Lev. 19:31 *Do not turn to mediums or seek out spiritists, for you will be defiled by them*), participating in séances and communicating with the dead, channeling, tarot, psychotherapy, automatic handwriting (see Carl Jung, or "Animus, Anima, and Philemon"), but also includes seemingly innocuous practices like **putting one's faith in superstitions, 'lucky' tokens, medicine, governments, the military, talent, humans, churches, psychology, a career, philosophy, intelligence, religious**

practices, St. Christopher tokens, buried St. Joseph in your yard, angels or crosses hanging in your home, etc. FAITH GIVEN TO ANYTHING BUT JESUS IS OCCULTIC, because it's illegitimate and misplaced- obscures pure faith!.

The occult is a promise of *knowledge of secrets*. "Dark arts", "black magic" refer to things which are shrouded in mystery but sure would be great to know, if only we had access. Occult promises access to secrets and access to power. Ouija boards and Magic 8-Balls are the same thing. I even get creeped out at those little folding paper games kids play. It's dangerous stuff.

*The occult appears throughout the Bible.* Numbers 22:6 (Sorcerer), I Samuel 28:3-8 (King Saul seeks a medium), II Kings 21:6, II Chr 33:6, Acts 8 (Simon the Sorcerer) Mark 5:5 Legion (cf Baal rituals in I Kings 18:26-28)

LoR clip: Elrond calls Aragorn a "ranger" as an insult. Heb 13:13

## UNDERLINGS

Drunkness, addiction, pharmakeia, divination, religion, control, pride, matriarchal control, Jezebel (define), oppression, lying spirit, rebellion, self-rejection, death, fortune-telling spirit, humanism, ecumenism (all religions are equal), unclean spirit, sexual perversion, homosexuality, adultery (idolatry), FEAR (Ozzy story)

## HEALTH CONSEQUENCES (result of separation from God's word)

Mental illness/insanity, ADD, dyslexia (matriarchal), Multiple Chemical Sensitivity/Environmental Illness (occult w/fear), premature death (like Saul I Chr 10:13). REPENT if they're in your family line!

## GOD SAYS...

**Not all power is from Him.** II Thes. 2:9 The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with the work of Satan displayed in all kinds of counterfeit miracles, signs and wonders... **Rev 13:13-14, Matt 24:24**, 2 Cor 11:12-15 ("masquerading as angels of light"), Acts 16:16-18 (fortune-telling spirit)

Occultic power is real and dangerous. Psychics, for instance, are often have real power stemming from real gifts not being used for God's glory, so cannot point to Him. Romans 11:29 "...God's gifts and calling are irrevocable [have no repentance]." I was once prophesied to by a drag queen! Deut 18:9-14 *When you enter the land the LORD your God is giving you, do not learn to imitate the detestable ways of the nations there. 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. You must be blameless before the LORD your God. The nations you will dispossess listen to those who practice sorcery or divination. But as for you, the LORD your God has not permitted you to do so.*

*Isaiah 44:13-17 We can create haunts for devils.*

Secrets belong to God (Deut 29:29) and he alone is the revealer. He is the only access to power you will ever need. Daniel 2:28-29 *there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries. He has shown King Nebuchadnezzar what will happen in days to come... "As you were lying there, O king, your mind turned to things to come, and the revealer of mysteries showed you what is going to happen.*

Physical spaces and objects can be spiritually defiled (Revelation 18:2, "And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become

the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit", Lev. 18:25, Jer 2:7, 7:30) and used by the enemy. **STORY** Peb's friend Matt woke in the middle of the night with an evil presence in the room- cold wind over him (knew nothing about demons). Read the Bible for 2 hours, then turned the light off. The room lit up with a holy glow so bright he could read by it. "I don't ever want that in my room again." "Well, what's in your room?" Heavy rock music. Got rid of it, but it came back. Peb went in there with him, "tequila, gift of the gods"- the shirt he always got drunk in. Got rid of the shirt, and it never came back. GET RID OF pornography, spooky photos or films, skulls, occult books, rings, dreamcatchers, idols, etc. Even crosses, if you put faith in them to keep you safe or provide for you. **Acts 19:19** (\$15M)

Cast down every impure faith in your life. *Deut. 7:21-26 Do not be terrified by them, for the LORD your God, who is among you, is a great and awesome God. The LORD your God will drive out those nations before you, little by little. You will not be allowed to eliminate them all at once, or the wild animals will multiply around you. But the LORD your God will deliver them over to you, throwing them into great confusion until they are destroyed. He will give their kings into your hand, and you will wipe out their names from under heaven. No one will be able to stand up against you; you will destroy them. The images of their gods you are to burn in the fire. Do not covet the silver and gold on them, and do not take it for yourselves, or you will be ensnared by it, for it is detestable to the LORD your God. Do not bring a detestable thing into your house or you, like it, will be set apart for destruction. Utterly abhor and detest it, for it is set apart for destruction.* **Break all allegiances and treaties with any but the Kingdom of God. Fraternity pacts, secret societies, school spirits, etc.** I Cor 15:28! All in All!

Aspire to humility. Never grasp at glory. Mt 23:12

## RECEIVE GOD'S RIGHTFUL LORDSHIP

Isaiah 30:1-3, 9-19 "Woe to the obstinate children," declares the LORD, "to those who carry out plans that are not mine, forming an alliance, but not by my Spirit, heaping sin upon sin; who go down to Egypt without consulting me; who look for help to Pharaoh's protection, to Egypt's shade for refuge. But Pharaoh's protection will be to your shame, Egypt's shade will bring you disgrace... These are rebellious people, deceitful children, children unwilling to listen to the LORD's instruction. They say to the seers, "See no more visions!" and to the prophets, "Give us no more visions of what is right! Tell us pleasant things, prophesy illusions. Leave this way, get off this path, and stop confronting us with the Holy One of Israel!" Therefore, this is what the Holy One of Israel says: "Because you have rejected this message, relied on oppression and depended on deceit, this sin will become for you like a high wall, cracked and bulging, that collapses suddenly, in an instant... This is what the Sovereign LORD, the Holy One of Israel, says: "In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it. You said, 'No, we will flee on horses.' Therefore you will flee! You said, 'We will ride off on swift horses.' Therefore your pursuers will be swift! A thousand will flee at the threat of one; at the threat of five you will all flee away, till you are left like a flagstaff on a mountaintop, like a banner on a hill."

Yet the LORD longs to be gracious to you; he rises to show you compassion. For the LORD is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him! O people of Zion, who live in Jerusalem, you will weep no more. How gracious he will be when you cry for help! As soon as he hears, he will answer you. Although the Lord gives you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, your teachers will be hidden no more; with your own eyes you will see them. Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way; walk in it." Then you will defile your idols overlaid with silver and your images covered with gold; you will throw them away like a menstrual cloth and say to them, "Away with you!" Also Ps 34:5-10, Rom 8:31-39. "Unless you hate your father and mother..." Luke 14:25-33

Surrender, submission, humility ("I don't need to know, God. I need You.")

**Sing All That We Need, I Lift My Eyes Up**

## OBEY THIS WEEK

What in your life promises provision or protection? What have you looked to for those things? Where do I seek peace other than in my Father?

Where are your allegiances? Church, school, fraternity, company

Are there people in your life with common strongholds as you? Identify who takes you down into the same pit they're in and obscures your view of Jesus.

Is there any thing in your house (or *place*) that's been 'given over' and defiled? Has anything in your life become an idol? GET RID OF IT or, if it's a location, REPENT and reclaim the space.

Where's the FIRST place you go for healing? Where does my help come from?

With whom have you had soul ties? Who has a strange connection to your heart and you can't seem to 'just walk away'?

Where have I made secret oaths or kept family secrets?

What is your access to information? Where do you get the big questions of life answered? Identify ANY place you get that besides Jesus.

## MEMORIZE

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.

–Acts 4:12

(read angel/demon story from *Unwrapping the Gifts*)

Religious spirit – seeks to substitute religious activity for the power of the Holy Spirit in a believer's life.

- Diverts from love to good deeds.
- Keeps us from hearing God's voice by assuming we already know what God is saying.
- Founded on zeal for God.
- Built on fear and pride.
- Gets us to "seek God's approval."
- Everything is black and white.
- Seeks to divide The Church.
- the enemy uses everything Christians cling to that is not an actual relationship with christ and tried to turn it into an idol. Men, crosses, bibles.

Jezebel spirit – (I Kings 16, 18)

- Rooted in control and manipulation
- Seeks to destroy the church.
- Person doesn't know they have it.
- Found in religious circles.
- Will go directly against the prophetic.
- Loves to project a sense of power they do not have.
- Lots of confusion.
- Flattery, self-pity, hinting for something (can even be sexual).
- Collects ammunition of "wrongs" to build a case against someone.

NOTE- ch 27 in Fellowship of the Ring, disc 1: Legolas says that Aragorn is the heir to the throne, and Boromir won't recognize his authority, because he's not grand enough. Is 53. He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he took up our

infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.

Don't be offended by the fact that God's power comes in meekness! He doesn't always look like the most powerful.