

Modern Magic: Now you see me, now you're in hell.

bible teaching on modern topics like: magic, witch craft, astrology, fortune tellers and Wicca

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Information notice board

- 1) About me.** Before I became a devoted Christian, I spent 20 years of my life having grown up in church tradition, knowing about God but not knowing God. God however rescued me to turn me into his servant and I got baptized in May 2017. Since then, he has given me a message, to go and preach the gospel as a preacher and an evangelist including to his servants bound up in traditions. You can read my full testimony [here](#):
- 2) About these series.** The Lord Jesus gave me a single word "Go". This word will define a series of 12 topics he has also given me to tell his church in order to develop mountain moving faith. This message is one of those topics.



Contents

Modern Magic: Now you see me, now you're in hell.	1
<i>bible teaching on modern topics like: magic, witch craft, astrology, fortune tellers and Wicca</i>	1
Introduction: The core framework of this discussion.....	2
About me and this magic/witch craft stuff	2
In the beginning... Satan was a liar	3
So, first things first, what's the big deal with magic and the bible?	5
Is witch craft common in our modern world, is it worth discussing?	5
So what is the connection between "new age" religion or even horoscopes and witch craft?	10
What are these stages of the occult and of magic/witch craft?	10
It's not magic, it's tricks, illusions or healing	11
So what then falls within the category of "real magic"?	12
So why is God of the bible opposed to all this stuff connected to magic?	12
Is there really only one God?	13
And what's the connection with other "gods" or idols?	13
How do you know what is of God?	14
Would God send an innocent person to hell?	15
A bible story on mediums to help illustrate this matter and conclude	15
Let us pray.....	17
Next steps	17
Notes.....	18

Introduction: The core framework of this discussion.

In this discussion, I am going to lay out a few principles which should help you know the lies of the enemy. I will use these throughout the presentation.

1. **There is a war going on and there are only two sides – with no in between.** God, the creator and only God and Satan, the prince of this world, who masquerades as an angel of light. If you are not on God's side, you are on the devil's side. Likewise, If something is not from God, it's from Satan. It's as simple as that. I will show you the battle of the "gods".
2. **Satan has been a liar from the beginning.** Even when he tells you something that seems true, he is hiding the full truth for he simply wants to steal, kill and destroy.
3. Because of the nature of his deceptions, **he will typically take you from something seemingly harmless and then lure you to a point of no return.** This is the reason why magic, witchcraft and similar things are so dangerous.
4. **The best weapon against the devil is to resist him (in Christ) and he will flee.** This starts with rejecting everything connected with him. I will show you some of the ways he has stealthily infiltrated our world with seemingly "good things" but ultimately leads us to destruction.

About me and this magic/witch craft stuff

I have no experience with the occult and I never wanted to deal with this topic but I am commanded by my Lord to deal with the supernatural and more so, he has given me power, as all spirit filled Christians have, over all forces of the devil. The bible says:

I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. Luke 10: 19 (NIV).

He also commands me to cover it in this season as I am fulfilling what Jesus started to do: To set the captives free. Jesus delivered this message when he began his ministry:

*"The Spirit of the Lord is on Me,
because He has anointed Me
to preach good news to the poor.
He has sent Me to proclaim liberty to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to release the oppressed,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."
Luke 4: 18-19 (NIV).*

He wants his people to be free – so they can experience mountain moving faith, which is what this season which he calls "Go" is about.

To confirm his call to me for this area, He has also shown me in dreams/visions things taking place presently and, in the future, around me in relation to this area of magic/witchcraft. For example:

- In April 2019, I seemed to get a confirmation from God on day 1 of a fast that he wanted me to press on to know about the supernatural. A short while later, he showed me a dream which took a dark voodoo turn. I was tricked into a place which had trance like dancing and I was

being dragged by a supernatural chain until God sent like billions of angels to rescue me. 1 man being rescued by an army of billions of angels! What a rescue it was!

- In May 2019, The Lord showed me a dream of 2 men with red eyes like laser beams, courtesy of witchcraft and they wanted to lure in a former work colleague. In the dream I gave her a brand new bible to read after I helped her break the spell of these men over her. In real life, I actually led her to Christ when using this dream, I gave her a gift of a bible. She later got baptised. I praise the Lord for this.
- In April 2020, the Lord showed me a dream of a large brown and white python swimming in a pool with someone I know well. The Lord was showing me that the parent of the child had a spirit of witchcraft/divination and this spirit was causing the child to manifest excessive anger.
- In May 2020, the Lord also showed me in a dream travelling through different African villages with different weird customs and in one of them, I witness a half man/half horse and me and another brother in the Lord, a pastor, we start praying and calling on the name of Jesus until eventually in a spiritual battle we defeat the power of Satan over this person. When we do, the entire village breaks out into clapping!

Meanwhile in case you think covering this topic somehow makes me have special powers or authority, I want to assure you that what I do is not even popular - many people who know me, some in my family even talk about me behind my back - like one who went before me:

“Son of man, your people talk about you in their houses and whisper about you at the doors. They say to each other, ‘Come on, let’s go hear the prophet tell us what the Lord is saying!’ So my people come pretending to be sincere and sit before you. They listen to your words, but they have no intention of doing what you say. Their mouths are full of lustful words, and their hearts seek only after money. You are very entertaining to them, like someone who sings love songs with a beautiful voice or plays fine music on an instrument. They hear what you say, but they don’t act on it! But when all these terrible things happen to them—as they certainly will—then they will know a prophet has been among them.”
Ezekiel 33:30-33 NLT

Nevertheless, I do my work as a servant of the Lord. So, I cover this topic in various parts, akin to questions and answers to help you grasp it.

In the beginning... Satan was a liar

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth he separated the light from the darkness. In the beginning the prince of the darkness Satan pretended to be an angel of the light. He came to the light and lied to Adam and Eve, but the lie was not fully a lie. The bible shows this:

Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden’?” The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’” “You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman. “For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” Genesis 3: 1- 4 (NIV).

The woman ate the fruit and then gave it to her husband who was besides her.

The serpent, who is that ancient dragon also called Satan actually told her the truth in some ways. For example:

- Half Truth 1. He told her “you will not die”. This was partially true. After they ate the fruit, they did not drop dead, immediately but Satan has always been concerned about only the things of this world. He was indicating they wouldn’t die physically but he deceive them, he didn’t tell them that they would immediately die spiritually – which is what happened immediately and then he didn’t tell them that spiritual death brings physical death. Why? Because the bible says this about the beginning: *“By faith we understand that the entire universe was formed at God’s command, that what we now see did not come from anything that can be seen.”*
Hebrews 11:3 NLT

Humans were created in the same essence as God that is his Spirit whom he breathed into life and thus they became living. The breath here wasn’t just physical breath, but spiritual breath – that’s why the Spirit is called the “breath of God”. God is Spirit. When Adam and Eve sinned, they therefore lost the “breath of God” or his “Spirit” and thus died spiritually and this is what then brought physical death for it’s spirit that sustains physical – not the other way round, as our science driven world thinks.

- Half Truth 2. He also told her “you will be like God, knowing good and evil”. This was partially true, in Genesis 3:22, God himself confirmed when he said this:
Then the Lord God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil.

So Satan did tell a partial truth, indeed man became like God, knowing good and evil, the difference is man now knew evil personally, for evil was now in him! This is the lie. God knows good and evil, but he has never been infected with it.

So because Satan has always been a deceiver, we should not be surprised if we hear truth from him, even accurate information. Why? Because his true intent is not to tell you the truth, to set you free (as Jesus) but to:

Steal, to Kill and to Destroy (John 10: 10). He starts by stealing your peace and truth, then he kills your relationship with God and then he destroys your body and soul when he takes you to hell.

There are numerous examples in the bible to confirm this truth:

One day as we were going down to the place of prayer, we met a slave girl who had a spirit that enabled her to tell the future. She earned a lot of money for her masters by telling fortunes. She followed Paul and the rest of us, shouting, “These men are servants of the Most High God, and they have come to tell you how to be saved.” This went on day after day until Paul got so exasperated that he turned and said to the demon within her, “I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And instantly it left her. Acts 16: 16 – 18 (NLT)

So we see that this slave girl with this spirit of divination, was speaking the truth – that Paul and his associates were servants of God and were there to tell others how to get saved. But there was an ulterior motive. The spirit was ultimately about amassing money for her masters and was causing these masters to be respected and feared – instead of fearing the living God.

This is why Jesus who tells you the Truth that sets you free (John 8: 32) declared that was a liar from the beginning of the world – and the father of lies (John 8: 44). Knowing that Satan is the father of lies and often masquerades as an angel of light (2 Corinthians 11: 14). Knowing that he doesn’t play fair but will take you to hell, means you sit up and learn all the wiles of the enemy – these are the wiles I am going to reveal in this topic about magic. I will be shining the Light of Jesus on this darkness.

So, first things first, what's the big deal with magic and the bible?

The bible is strongly against witchcraft. It warns about avoiding certain practices connected to this topic:

When you enter the land the Lord your God is giving you, be very careful not to imitate the detestable customs of the nations living there. For example, never sacrifice your son or daughter as a burnt offering. And do not let your people practice fortune-telling, or use sorcery, or interpret omens, or engage in witchcraft, or cast spells, or function as mediums or psychics, or call forth the spirits of the dead. Deuteronomy 18: 9-11 (NLT).

'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Woe to the women who sew magic charms on all their wrists and make veils of various lengths for their heads in order to ensnare people. Will you ensnare the lives of my people but preserve your own? Ezekiel 13: 8 (NIV).

'Do not turn to mediums or seek out spiritists, for you will be defiled by them. I am the LORD your God. Leviticus 19: 31 (NIV)

It then warns about the end of all those who practice this stuff. It says:

*But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, **those who practice magic arts**, the idolaters and all liars—they will be consigned to the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death." Revelation 21: 8.*

*Blessed are those who wash their robes. They will be permitted to enter through the gates of the city and eat the fruit from the tree of life. Outside the city are the dogs—the **sorcerers**, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idol worshippers, and all who love to live a lie. Revelation 22: 14 -15 (NLT).*

Is witch craft common in our modern world, is it worth discussing?

Now of course you are probably wondering why God is asking me to cover this topic as a "modern topic" yet magic is hardly dominating the news, perhaps except in rural Africa where you hear of witch doctors being burnt in villages or if the stories are in Europe, they are Old time news like the Spanish Inquisition of the 1400s which included finding heretics but also those practicing witch craft, or maybe you watched a movie called the Crucible which was about the Salem witch trials of Massachusetts in the US in the 1600s. ⁱⁱ

But consider this fore runner to magic – which is happening in our day to day lives – we are captive to demon teaching and doctrines, which is a gateway to magic as explained below.

Many of us self-identify as Christian according to Pew Research but we also hold on to the teaching of demons (1 Timothy 4:1). Now these doctrines are not called "demon teaching" with a label, but they are presented innocuously as things such as:

- "New age" – and they cover belief in all or one of: reincarnation, astrology, psychics and the presence of spiritual energy in physical objects like mountains or trees.
- "Wellness" – which has been labelled to include mental, physical and spiritual wellbeing, but strangely the spiritual wellbeing seems to focus most on meditation and yoga. Yoga in case

you are unaware has at its roots Hinduism. Hinduism has a lot of idol worship. Behind these idols are demons. I will come back to this later.

Even many of those who label themselves as agnostics or atheists research shows, actually hold on to these new age beliefs. Reputable Pew Research shows that as example in Americaⁱⁱⁱ:

- 22% of atheists actually hold onto one of these 4 new age beliefs (reincarnation, astrology, psychics and the presence of spiritual energy in physical objects like mountains or trees).
- 56% of agnostics believe in one of these 4 new age beliefs
- 80% of those who say they believe in “nothing in particular” actually believe in one of these 4 beliefs.

So contrary to what many people tell you about being “agnostic” or “atheist” or having “no religion” – many of them are actually spiritual, just not mainstream religion (e. g Christian) and therefore their beliefs are manifesting as teaching of demons – but they don’t know it OR scarier, they know it, but refuse to glorify him as God and they *“changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things. Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness”* (Romans 1: 21- 24)

Tied to this confusion or rebellion in our world, many of us in our modern world think that life is all about what we see. But the bible says:

“By faith we understand that the entire universe was formed at God’s command, that what we now see did not come from anything that can be seen.”
Hebrews 11:3 NLT

Interestingly science, which many of us hold on to subscribes to this as follows: The predominant theory for how our universe came about is through the Big Bang Theory.

If you think of the Big Bang Theory, it really indicates that something was created out of nothing – Only that they use words like “singularity” to mean that point at which from nothing, something came.

So in reality, **scientific thought has elements of faith – you just believe that nothing created something**. Scientists just call it a “theory” while we call it “faith in God” – we know that the spiritual - God, created the physical - the universe. This causes us to know that life has a supernatural side or a spiritual side and it’s not just physical and not all this supernatural force is good.

As described above, you might not know it but witch craft and gateway practices are still prevalent in our modern world, only that it’s no longer called that: Instead, it manifests itself in names such as:

- **Wicca**. These prefer to call themselves “white witches” as opposed to “black magic” – meaning they are all about good. In Wicca, while they may not call on the devil or evil spirits, they often appeal to “mother earth,” angels, and/or the elements. The central Wiccan theme is, “if it does no harm, do your own will.”^{iv}

In fact, where in the past witches for example in Africa or elsewhere were hidden, today it is in the open. Today, a number of public online communities dedicated to Africana practices have emerged in places like Tumblr, Twitter, Instagram, and recently TikTok, where the tag #WitchTok has gained [over 1.7 billion views](#). These groups “are using technology to say what authenticity is all about. It gives them the freedom to practice how they want to practice.”^v

The Hoodwitch, for example, is a bona fide witch influencer, with 329K Instagram followers. Some modern witches, such as Courtney Brooke, place themselves in a subset of witches that adhere to a feminist dogma and identify specifically as “feminist witches”.

There is even a story of cosmetics giant Sephora actually created a “starter witch kit” to show that witchcraft is not fringe but mainstream. While in the US in 1990 for example only 8,000 identified as Wiccan, by 2014, Pew research was showing that 1.4 million Americans identify as Wicca or pagan. ^{vi}



- Within the \$4.5 trillion “**Wellness industry**”^{viii} we have chants and meditation with Yoga origins all as part “spiritual well-being”. As an example, one of the Yoga chants or meditation phrases used is: Maha Mrityunjaya Mantra ~ Om Triambakam Mantra. The words of this chant when translated mean this: *We worship You, All-seeing one. Fragrant, You nourish bounteously. From fear of death may You cut us free, to realize immortality*^{viii}. Whether you realise it or not, Yoga is part of a religion and at its core there is worship. You think it’s just all about different postures? Hmm.
- **Self-help.** Similar to this wellness industry is the self-help industry with new age roots as well. As an example, the hashtag #manifest has over a billion views on TikTok alone. ^{ix} Techniques to manifest involve imagining something has already happened, visualising it, writing it down (for example, write down a name 3 times, it is possible to manifest someone back in your life),

and using positive language such as “I have” rather than “I want”. To be successful at manifestation, belief and positivity are key. Manifestation draws on a long-favoured new age philosophy of universal inter-relatedness: the belief that everything in the universe is related in a network without a deity at the centre.

Self help is good in some way – for example teaching you time management skills. But in other ways, it can be anti-biblical with demon doctrine for example: It focuses on you improving yourself, instead of praying to God for help, so it’s prayerless, likewise instead of relying on the Holy Spirit who is the teacher of everything, (John 14:26), it teaches you to rely on the self, yourself – which can turn into idolatry (self-worship) with you at the centre, instead of God at the centre.

- **Astrology.** Astrology has made a big comeback, particularly in the COVID-19 pandemic where fear and uncertainty is making people long for assurance. Apps like “Co- star” received financing of \$15 million from venture capitalists. ^x Why would investors pour all this money into something which is “old news”, well, it’s actually quite big time and modern. Co-star for example claims: it has more than 20 million app downloads without any real marketing efforts, and has been downloaded by a quarter of all young women ages 18-25 in the U.S.

In case you are wondering, the bible would classify “astrology” as part of reading the stars and hence falls within “reading the omens” – and so saint, this too is well into the territory of magic. So, if you thought this was a fringe topic, no it is very much alive and well and soaring and this shouldn’t surprise you, we have been curious about magic for a while now. The Harry Potter books about that famous boy Wizard have for example sold 500 million copies making it likely to be the best-selling book series of all time. ^{xi}

- **QAnon and similar conspiracy websites.** Many of us don’t know that a lot of conspiracy theories like QAnon actually have their roots in new age religion^{xii}. The core of conspiracy theory beliefs is that: “1) a secret group covertly controls, or is trying to control, the political and social order, and 2) humanity is undergoing a ‘paradigm shift’ in consciousness. This is the reason why groups like Qanon reject “big government” “organised religion” and “authority” and want to return to their roots and traditional sources of wisdom like Hinduism or other ancient pagan religions. As an example, the insurrection at the US capital had a unique figure amongst the crowd. The so-called QAnon Shaman: 33-year-old Jake Angeli. He was bare-chested and covered in Nordic tattoos, at least one of which, the Valknot, is a Norse symbol sometimes associated with white supremacy. But he was also, infamously, wearing a headdress fashioned from buffalo horns and coyote skin — elements associated with the American West that seemed to telegraph a pagan spirituality. A shaman in American Indian culture is a spirit guide. Shamans are known to practice witch craft.



So witch craft and its tentacles is very alive and well in our society today, it's just hiding in plain sight.

So why am I calling all this “New age” and “Wicca” and “Self-help” “demon doctrine” and what does it have to do with witchcraft?

Well first:

Anything that exalts itself against the knowledge of Christ (for example in Self help or Wellness with its meditation based on Hinduism and Yoga) is the spirit of the anti-Christ. The bible says this:

Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world. 1 John 4: 1- 3.

Now this spirit of the anti-Christ is more pre dominant than we think because according to the humanists, in the UK for example^{xiii}:

- Among people aged between 18 and 24, the incidence of religious affiliation is only 30.7%.
- just 27% of the population believe that Jesus Christ was the son of God
- just 26% believe in the Biblical account of the crucifixion
- just 22% believe in the devil and just 33% believe in life after death.
- A 2014 YouGov survey [found](#) 10% saying religion is ‘very important’ to their own lives, 19% ‘fairly important’, 24% ‘not very important’ and 44% ‘not important at all’.

Any religion or belief system that doesn't teach that Jesus is the son of God, is the spirit of the antichrist and Satan is the Lord of the anti-Christ and therefore this is teaching of demons and it comes from Satan himself – as expected in these last days. In fact the bible says this:

The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. 1 Timothy 4: 1 (NIV).

So, the irony is that while we are certainly saying “religion is not important”, we are downloading 25 million downloads of an app and we are buying 500 million copies of *Harry Potter*, not forgetting all the movies, such as Marvel’s *Wanda vision* or *Game of Thrones* and all the other supernatural series. So in reality, we haven’t lost our interest in the super natural, we just don’t think that for example horoscopes fit within the category of magic and yet they do! These are things the Lord God wants us to know about in our age because the tricks of the enemy are still the same.

So what is the connection between “new age” religion or even horoscopes and witch craft?

When someone wants to lure you in, like the fable of a frog being boiled in water^{xiv}, the water starts mild, the frog never jumps out until its boiled alive in the water. So likewise, the demons do this. They will often take you into the occult in levels. To make you initially comfortable, they start with things like new age chants/meditation but gradually they will take you to stage 2 and then finally stage 3.

As Wicker noted, witchcraft is the perfect religion for liberal millennials who are already involved in yoga and meditation, mindfulness, and new-age spirituality. With that foundation, they might show up for pagan holidays or new moon gatherings, or begin to explore the more serious spiritual concepts at the root of these practices.

It is for this reason that the Lord wants you to stay away in the first place for these things open you up to the spirit world.

What are these stages of the occult and of magic/witch craft?

From the broad spectrum of magic and witch craft practices globally, we can fit these stages within the bible pattern of what is forbidden. In particular we are using this anchor verse to help you see this pattern:

When you enter the land the Lord your God is giving you, be very careful not to imitate the detestable customs of the nations living there. For example, never sacrifice your son or daughter as a burnt offering. And do not let your people practice fortune-telling, or use sorcery, or interpret omens, or engage in witchcraft, or cast spells, or function as mediums or psychics, or call forth the spirits of the dead. Deuteronomy 18: 9-11 (NLT).

These stages or progression are generally as follows

- **Stage 1. Mild. Consulting the elements/fortune telling/divination:**
 - **Consulting the human body/earthly things.** tarot cards, face or palm reading, *feng shui*, dream interpretation. Many people don’t know that the term 'feng shui' literally translated as "wind-water" in English, is taken from a passage of the now-lost Book of Burial recorded in Guo Pu's commentary. Historically feng shui was used to orient spiritually significant buildings – often tombs.^{xv}

- **Consulting heavenly things/omens.** Astrology/horoscopes/Zodiac (consulting the stars). The Bible teaches that God arranged the stars into recognizable groups that we call constellations. The Bible mentions three of these: Orion, the Bear (Ursa Major), and “the crooked serpent” (most likely Draco) in [Job 9:9](#); [26:13](#); [38:31-32](#); and [Amos 5:8](#). The Bible says that stars, along with the sun and moon, were given for “signs” and “seasons” ([Genesis 1:14](#)); that is, they were meant to mark time for us. They are also “signs” in the sense of navigational “indicators,” and all through history men have used the stars to chart their courses around the globe. Astrology is a misuse of God’s purpose. It is the “interpretation” of an assumed influence the stars (and planets) exert on human destiny. According to astrology, the sign you were born under, Aquarius, Pisces, Aries, Taurus, Gemini, Cancer, Leo, Virgo, Libra, Scorpio, Sagittarius, or Capricorn, impacts your destiny. This is a false belief. ^{xvi}
- **Stage 2. Moderate. Consulting the dead:** medium/psychics, voodoo, trance, Ouija boards, seance.
It is typical for such practices to involve someone using objects like a crystal ball, bones, the Ouija board, smoking a pipe, using substances say LSD, Miraa and other recreational drugs as and similar objects as part of an event to attempt to reach the spirits of the dead.

In a previous message on death, I have covered this topic of death. In short, on death, a form of judgment takes place and the righteous dead are in a place of comfort – called Paradise and the ungodly are in a place of torment, often called Hades/Hell. A story from Jesus in Luke 16: 19-31 shows that the dead cannot typically contact us. This means that any contact with the dead is often a demon, masquerading as your long lost relative. This as I have said is not surprising, the bible says Satan is a liar and if he can masquerade as an angel of light, he can certainly masquerade as a departed loved one. I am going to later cover a story in the bible about a medium raising someone’s spirit so hold on.
- **Stage 3. Hard core. Connecting with the demonic:** charms or fetishes, spells, incantations including: cutting the body/blood, animal or human sacrifice. It is typically at this level that you will have supernatural abilities such as flying/astral projection, out of body experiences and changing from one form to the other (e.g. animals to human). These powers being given by demons.

It's not magic, it's tricks, illusions or healing

Entertainers or illusionists

Many people correctly point out that there are two different kinds of “magic,” and it is good to distinguish between the two. Entertainers who use sleight-of-hand and illusions in their performance are often called “magicians,” but they are actually illusionists, which is what most of them prefer to be called. An illusionist’s audience does not consider what they see to be “real” magic; they understand it is a trick, and they delight in the fact they cannot figure out how the trick is done. The other kind of magic is what some might call “real” magic; it draws on occult, demonic power. The Bible speaks of “lying wonders” in [2 Thessalonians 2:9](#). The Antichrist’s coming “will be in accordance with how Satan works. He will use all sorts of displays of power through signs and wonders that serve the lie.” This type of magic, sometimes spelled *magick* to distinguish it from sleight-of-hand, is associated with divination, conjuring, and sorcery and is condemned in Scripture^{xvii}

It doesn’t mean those who use tricks or at worst deceit are good, for deceit, particularly to hoodwink innocent victims is a sin, but it cannot be classified as magic, its simply that, lies.

Traditional healers

Connected with this, it is true that some traditional healers are called “witch doctors” and yet they really specialise in herbal medicine. If someone is genuinely only dealing with herbal healing, as opposed to stuff like amulets and charms then yes, they wouldn’t be classed as part of magic.

The core of this teaching is therefore not really about the “illusions” or herbal medicines, but about the “dark arts” if you like or the magic which draws its power from the occult or the demons – including what we don’t see clearly.

So what then falls within the category of “real magic”?

Generally magic like witchcraft involves using supernatural skills and abilities and spells.

In different parts of the world^{xviii}, there are different names and manifestations of the practices for this stuff. For example:

- **Africa.** In Ghana and DRC, witchcraft includes “penis snatchers”, “child sacrifices” or “child witches”. In Malawi it is believed that any contact with cash will snap their spell and leave the wizard naked and confused, so placing cash, such as kwacha around a room or bed mat will protect the resident from their malevolent spells. In Tanzania – Albinos are killed for their body parts, thought to bring good luck. In South Africa, the *Sangoma* are witches who protect people against evil spirits, while another type of witch, the “Inyanga” are witch doctors who heal using animal and plant parts. It is claimed that 80% of Zulus contain the Inyangas.
- **Americas.** Among the Navajo, it is said that there is a type of witch called a “skin walker”, they take the form of animals in order to travel in secret and do harm to the innocent. There is also use of corpse powder – powder used by the witches from dead bodies to curse their victims.
- **Latin America.** Across the Afro-Latin diaspora, many forms of spiritual practices have emerged: *Haitian Vodou*, *Cuban Santería*, and *Brazilian Candomblé and Umbanda*. What sets the witches of Latin America apart from their European counterparts is the blend of religiosity (typically Catholicism) and spirituality. The witches in Latin America’s ‘magic’ are rooted in African magic, European spiritualism, and Taino practices, making them practice an integrated version of spirituality^{xix}
- **Asia.** In India witches are called “dayan” and those often accused of it are usually hacked, lynched and burned or if not stripped naked and forced to eat excrement. In Japan, it is typically those who employ snakes or foxes who are classed as witches. In the Philippines, for example Filipino Shamans^{xx}, commonly called Babaylan often women or feminised men were believed to be spirit guides – they could contact the spirits and gods. They were primarily mediums.

So why is God of the bible opposed to all this stuff connected to magic?

it comes down to worship and idolatry. When God gave the 10 commandments, these issues are covered in the first and second commandment which say (Exodus 20: 3-6, NIV):

- *You shall have no other gods before me.*
- *You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I,*

the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

Magic, witchcraft, consulting the dead and even the stars at their core have to do with trusting someone or something other than God and this is the core of the issue – God sees it akin to adultery or worse still prostitution – as if a husband/wife is breaking the covenant of faithfulness.

Whether we believe it or not, there are two forces in the world, good and evil. God the creator of heaven and earth is the only God. He created Satan who rebelled. The prince of this evil world is Satan who since the beginning wants God's other creatures to rebel against him and witchcraft, magic and all these others are part of the rebellion.

Anything not from God is from Satan and so this is what it comes down to.

Is there really only one God?

Various bible verses confirm this for example:

*"This is what the Lord says—
Israel's King and Redeemer, the Lord Almighty:
I am the first and I am the last;
apart from me there is no God.
(Isaiah 44: 6, NIV).*

*Look now; I myself am he!
There is no other god but me!
I am the one who kills and gives life;
I am the one who wounds and heals;
no one can be rescued from my powerful hand!
(Deuteronomy 32: 39, NLT).*

*"But you are my witnesses, O Israel!" says the Lord.
"You are my servant.
You have been chosen to know me, believe in me,
and understand that I alone am God.
There is no other God—
there never has been, and there never will be.
(Isaiah 43: 10, NLT).*

And what's the connection with other "gods" or idols?

If there is only one God, what about the other "gods" or "idols" the bible speaks of?

The bible says in Deuteronomy 32: 16 – 17

"They stirred him to jealousy with strange gods; with abominations they provoked him to anger. They sacrificed to demons that were no gods, to gods they had never known, to new gods that had come recently, whom your fathers had never dreaded".

In other words, every time we sacrifice to an idol or pay attention to anything that is not from God, we are practicing idolatry or worshiping demons. These demons are the ones people class as “gods”.

God also makes it clear he can have no connection with idols – which are really demons behind them. The bible shows that light and darkness cannot be together and have no common ground. A believer cannot give their body which is God’s temple to both God and Satan. It says:

“And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: “I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people.” 2 Corinthians 6: 16 (NLT)

Therefore, if you encounter any supernatural being who is not from God (for example Jesus or his holy angels), you are encountering Satan or his demons – EVEN IF THEY SEEM GOOD!

This is pretty serious stuff! It means anything not of God, that causes worship, is a demon – yes even when it doesn’t have red skin and a horn and a tail – because it’s not always what you see. The bible says: *And no wonder! Even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. (2 Corinthians 11: 14, CEB).*

So you can expect that magic and witchcraft and all this stuff has deception behind it!

So to recap, there is only one God, everything else is an idol and behind that idol or other god is a demon and behind that demon is Satan, whose path will lead to hell and he wants to take you to hell, whether you see him or you don’t. This thief has one purpose, to steal, to kill and to destroy (John 10:10). Even if, it seems good, he indeed masquerades as an angel of light for he is the father of lies and has been a liar from the beginning (John 8: 44). Magic will therefore often masquerade as something else, because the author of lies does this as part of his nature. It’s why we have to do the work of revealing the deceptions.

How do you know what is of God?

First, as highlighted above, any supernatural being from God will acknowledge Jesus as Lord and will acknowledge that Jesus came on earth. He died, was buried and resurrected. That is that is the test of the Spirit of God. Any thing else is the spirit of the anti-christ – which is of Satan.

Some people will claim that when the bible speaks of “miracles” then these are just some form of “magic”. Well, how do you know which is which? It comes down to the source of the supernatural phenomenon.

Everything of God is in the light - like a city on a hill. The bible describes those who walk in light like this:

““You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father. “Don’t misunderstand why I have come. I did not come to abolish the law of Moses or the writings of the prophets. No, I came to accomplish their purpose.” Matthew 5:14-17 NLT

So for example, the bible and all we teach is in the light and clear for all to see. By comparison, if what you believe is somehow shrouded in darkness or mysticism, then it's likely you are part of the occult system whose prince is Satan.

Knowing that anything not of God is of Satan will help as we delve into some of the issues which often move on a grey or sliding scale from innocent stuff in popular culture like wellness chants in yoga to astral projection done by the 39th Oracle and his successor the 40th oracle of the Bujjagali falls of Jinja where I grew up.^{xxi}

Would God send an innocent person to hell?

If you have been following this stuff innocently (for example horoscopes), then God wouldn't want you to go to hell. He is kind and compassionate and clear that he wants no one to die. If you are hearing this, God is in fact warning you and that's an act of love. He himself explains:

"As surely as I live, says the Sovereign Lord, I take no pleasure in the death of wicked people. I only want them to turn from their wicked ways so they can live. Turn! Turn from your wickedness, O people of Israel! Why should you die?" Ezekiel 33:11 NLT

So typically, when someone dies in sin- or in magic or witch craft for this matter, it's because God has tried and tried to give them warning, but as they have free will, they have rejected God's salvation, which is contained in Jesus and Jesus alone.

If this message is somehow causing you to have holy fear in your heart, where you want to get right with God, that's the right response but if this message causes you to mock me, troll me, criticise me for believing in a God, perhaps even cast a spell on me, then you are exhibiting the spirit of the anti-Christ and all such have their place in the lake of fire.

A bible story on mediums to help illustrate this matter and conclude

The bible gives a very interesting example of a story of someone consulting a witch or medium so they can consult the dead, perhaps in a seance. The story is told here:

Now Samuel was dead, and all Israel had mourned for him and buried him in his own town of Ramah. Saul had expelled the mediums and spiritists from the land.

The Philistines assembled and came and set up camp at Shunem, while Saul gathered all Israel and set up camp at Gilboa. When Saul saw the Philistine army, he was afraid; terror filled his heart. He inquired of the Lord, but the Lord did not answer him by dreams or Urim or prophets. Saul then said to his attendants, "Find me a woman who is a medium, so I may go and inquire of her."

"There is one in Endor," they said.

So Saul disguised himself, putting on other clothes, and at night he and two men went to the woman.

"Consult a spirit for me," he said, "and bring up for me the one I name."

But the woman said to him, "Surely you know what Saul has done. He has cut off the mediums and spiritists from the land. Why have you set a trap for my life to bring about my death?"

Saul swore to her by the Lord, "As surely as the Lord lives, you will not be punished for this."

Then the woman asked, "Whom shall I bring up for you?"

"Bring up Samuel," he said.

When the woman saw Samuel, she cried out at the top of her voice and said to Saul, "Why have you deceived me? You are Saul!"

The king said to her, "Don't be afraid. What do you see?"

The woman said, "I see a ghostly figure[a] coming up out of the earth."

"What does he look like?" he asked.

"An old man wearing a robe is coming up," she said.

Then Saul knew it was Samuel, and he bowed down and prostrated himself with his face to the ground.

Samuel said to Saul, "Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up?"

"I am in great distress," Saul said. "The Philistines are fighting against me, and God has departed from me. He no longer answers me, either by prophets or by dreams. So I have called on you to tell me what to do."

Samuel said, "Why do you consult me, now that the Lord has departed from you and become your enemy? The Lord has done what he predicted through me. The Lord has torn the kingdom out of your hands and given it to one of your neighbors—to David. Because you did not obey the Lord or carry out his fierce wrath against the Amalekites, the Lord has done this to you today. The Lord will deliver both Israel and you into the hands of the Philistines, and tomorrow you and your sons will be with me. The Lord will also give the army of Israel into the hands of the Philistines."

Immediately Saul fell full length on the ground, filled with fear because of Samuel's words. His strength was gone, for he had eaten nothing all that day and all that night.

This story in the bible shows a number of things:

1. *People don't often go to the spirit world to "cast evil spells".* They often go there for good purposes. In this case, Saul wanted to know if he would win a battle. Many of us do the same, we want to know if our marriages or a new romance will succeed, if we will get the job, if our children will heal, if we can be protected from bad things. It's usually "normal everyday" things. In this case, the King probably wanted protection from his enemies.
2. *The spirit world can indeed be terrifying.* In this case, even a witch/medium was screaming in terror.
3. *There is indeed a spirit world of the dead.* So many mediums/spiritists often are not fakes. For Samuel clearly said "why have you disturbed me".
4. *Predictions from the spirit world can often be accurate.* Samuel accurately predicted what was going to happen to Saul, for the bible shows Saul died the next day indeed.

This particular story is complicated because Samuel in this story was righteous, so there is a possibility, God used this instance of a medium/witch to speak to Saul but despite these accurate predictions, the bible is clear, God forbids this thing and that's why the bible passes judgment on Saul, it says: *Saul died because he was unfaithful to the LORD; he did not keep the word of the LORD and even consulted a medium for guidance. 1 Chronicles 10: 13 (NIV).*

The accuracy of the prediction notwithstanding, God passed judgment on Saul and as part of his death, was judgment for consulting a medium. We therefore need to be careful – just because we get correct predictions, doesn't mean it is the right thing and that's what a lot of people miss about the magic stuff.

- It often does feel good
- It often could seemingly convey good benefits
- But at the end it leads to death – for God forbids it and he knows that the purpose of the enemy is to lure you in, just like he did to Eve at the beginning, he tricked her to eat the forbidden fruit by making it seem like God was hiding something but it led to death, it's the same here, he has been a liar from the beginning. Magic will seem sweet – giving you unusual powers but the end leads to death.

Be careful Christian, be careful!.

Let us pray.

How can I pray for you?

- **You are faithfully searching for the Kingdom of God** – but you can not see it clearly owing to all the magic spells holding you captive. Jesus wants you to see clearly! Receive your sight back in Jesus' name.
- **You are a prodigal son/daughter**– You used to believe but now you have fallen away. Thankfully Jesus is warning you to return to him, stop sinning before something worse happens(John 5: 14).
- **You have never received the gift of Christ**, being eternal life and neither have you received Jesus' Holy Spirit, the one who will give you the gift of faith to believe without seeing.

Write to me so I can pray further for you: dwasake@shaweleroad.com

Next steps

- Visit our website which shows the steps it takes to get to know Jesus and be saved from this wicked generation. <https://www.shaweleroad.com/what-must-i-do-to-get-saved>
- Our work is freely given for we received freely from the Lord. If you however like what we are doing: [Then you can partner with us by giving to our work.](#)

Information notice board (continued)

Pray for us! Without the Lord, our effort is in vain. Pray that we remain faithful, humble servants.

Subscribe to our [YouTube Channel](#) and keep up with our videos which support the website.

Looking for a ministry to partner with (pray, volunteer, give, subscribe to)?

<https://www.westernseminary.edu/>

Western's vision is to provide education that is thoroughly biblical in its conviction, faithfully conservative in its theology, passionately spiritual at its core.

The above ministry/website has not paid us to provide this recommendation and so the views expressed here do not necessarily represent the views of the ministry promoted above. Likewise the views therein do not necessarily reflect those of this ministry.

Notes

- ⁱ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spanish_Inquisition#Witchcraft_and_superstition
- ⁱⁱ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salem_witch_trials
- ⁱⁱⁱ <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2018/10/01/new-age-beliefs-common-among-both-religious-and-nonreligious-americans/>
- ^{iv} <https://www.gotquestions.org/white-magic.html>
- ^v <https://www.bu.edu/articles/2020/from-secrecy-to-witchtok-how-the-internet-is-demystifying-africana-religions/>
- ^{vi} <https://qz.com/quartz/1411909/the-explosive-growth-of-witches-wiccans-and-pagans-in-the-us/>
- ^{vii} <https://globalwellnessinstitute.org/press-room/statistics-and-facts/>
- ^{viii} <https://wholesomeresources.com/library/yoga-mantras-chants/>
- ^{ix} <https://theconversation.com/manifestation-some-businesses-use-this-new-age-spirituality-to-hold-employees-accountable-147289>
- ^x <https://www.axios.com/astrology-app-co-star-raises-15-million-funding-906179f9-b3db-40d8-88c0-883e121fab9d.html>
- ^{xi} <https://www.investopedia.com/highest-selling-book-series-5087534#:~:text=The%20Harry%20Potter%20series%20is,the%20next%2Dhighest%20selling%20series.>
- ^{xii} <https://www.washingtonpost.com/magazine/2021/03/29/qanon-new-age-spirituality/>
- ^{xiii} <https://humanists.uk/campaigns/religion-and-belief-some-surveys-and-statistics/>
- ^{xiv} https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boiling_frog
- ^{xv} https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Feng_shui
- ^{xvi} <https://www.gotquestions.org/astrology-Bible.html>
- ^{xvii} <https://www.gotquestions.org/difference-miracles-magic.html>
- ^{xviii} <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Witchcraft>
- ^{xix} https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Witchcraft_in_Latin_America
- ^{xx} https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Filipino_shamans
- ^{xxi} <https://observer.ug/news/headlines/62732-new-budhagali-oracle-to-inherit-deceased-s-wife>