

The Occult



Sunday Sermon
for July 18, 2010

Hosea 4:6 - my people are destroyed from lack of knowledge

Who is this sermon for?

Three categories:

- 1. Those of us who are actively practicing the Occult**
- 2. Those of us who are carrying baggage and bondage from the Occult**
- 3. Those of us who are 100% free from baggage and bondage from the Occult**

As I go through the sermon, I want you to ask yourself what category you fall into or let me know if I missed one.

1. Practicing cult examples....

2. Either practiced it, had it passed down from previous generations (Exodus 20:5), or have a curse placed on us

3. I would argue that none of us are here.

What is the Occult? (1)

Definition from Dictionary.com:

1. of or pertaining to magic, astrology, or any system claiming use or knowledge of secret or supernatural powers or agencies.
2. beyond the range of ordinary knowledge or understanding; mysterious.
3. secret; disclosed or communicated only to the initiated.
4. hidden from view.
5. (in early science)
 - a. not apparent on mere inspection but discoverable by experimentation.
 - b. of a nature not understood, as physical qualities.
 - c. dealing with such qualities; experimental: occult science.
6. Medicine/Medical - present in amounts too small to be visible: a chemical test to detect occult blood in the stool.
7. the supernatural or supernatural agencies and affairs considered as a whole (usually prec. by the).
8. occult studies or sciences (usually prec. by the).
9. to block or shut off (an object) from view; hide.
10. Astronomy . to hide (a celestial body) by occultation.
11. to become hidden or shut off from view.

This sermon is on the Occult not to be confused with Cult

1. a particular system of religious worship, esp. with reference to its rites and ceremonies. 2. an instance of great veneration of a person, ideal, or thing, esp. as manifested by a body of admirers: the physical fitness cult.

Mind altering drugs

Definition:

Examples: from the bible rebellion is witchcraft. current day examples: pow wow, mind altering drugs

What are the consequences

What is the Occult? (2)

Definitions from the Bible:

Deuteronomy 18:9-14 NASB

(9) When you enter the land which the LORD your God gives you, you shall not learn to imitate the detestable things of those nations. (10) There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, one who uses divination, one who practices witchcraft, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, (11) or one who casts a spell, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead.

(12) For whoever does these things is detestable to the LORD; and because of these detestable things the LORD your God will drive them out before you. (13) "You shall be blameless before the LORD your God. (14) "For those nations, which you shall dispossess, listen to those who practice witchcraft and to diviners, but as for you, the LORD your God has not allowed you to do so.

1 Samuel 15:23 NASB

"For rebellion is as the sin of divination, And insubordination is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He has also rejected you from being king."

The word Occult is not used in the KJV, NKJV, NIV, NASB, NLT, or ESV. It is used four times in The Message and once in the TNIV and the NET.

Is as literally means is equal to.

What is the Occult? (3)

A closer look at Deuteronomy 18:9-14 NASB

Category 1 - [Child Sacrifice](#):

- makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire,

Category 2 - Witchcraft:

- one who uses [divination](#),
- one who practices [witchcraft](#),
- or one who interprets [omens](#),
- or a [sorcerer](#),
- or one who casts a spell,

Category 3 - [Necromancy](#):

- or a medium,
- or a spiritist,
- or one who calls up the dead.

div·i·na·tion [div-uh-ney-shuhn] Show IPA –noun 1. the practice of attempting to foretell future events or discover hidden knowledge by occult or supernatural means.

Why practice the Occult?

Reasons:

1. Fun and entertainment
2. Rebellion and curiosity (Genesis 3)
3. Money (Acts 16:16-19)
4. Popularity (Acts 8:9-11)
5. Love and/or Sex
6. Hatred and/or Jealousy
7. Knowledge / Wisdom (1 Samuel 28:15)
8. Power and Control (Numbers 22:3-6)

Fun: movies, video games, fashion (peace signs), fantasy role playing games, bloody mary, oyija board, music (highway to hell, goats heads soup, the devil's daughter, lyric: I'm not a maniac devil worshiper. I'm just playing the role and having fun with it). Don't also forget mind altering drugs.

Hatred and/or Jealousy

Control - Fear - Adrenaline rush: horror movies

My own definition of the Occult: Acting outside of trusting God to be in control of everything.

How are people affected by the Occult?

Figure 2a: Student occult involvement comparison.

	No Involvement	Astral Projection	Table Lifting	Fortune Telling	Astrology	Dungeons and Dragon	Crystals or Pyramids	Ouija Board	Automatic Writing	Tarot Cards	Palm Reading	Spirit Guides	Blood Facts
1. Presence in room?	864	44	149	180	321	286	72	416	35	99	192	37	100
1. Presence in room?	40%	68%	61%	63%	57%	56%	72%	58%	71%	66%	60%	72%	68%
2. Bad thoughts about God?	43%	72%	63%	69%	63%	66%	73%	62%	54%	70%	67%	72%	67%
3. Hard to pray and read Bible?	31%	50%	48%	43%	39%	40%	51%	37%	51%	43%	45%	45%	53%
4. Heard "voices" or bad thoughts?	58%	79%	82%	83%	80%	77%	77%	76%	85%	84%	81%	89%	82%
5. Thoughts of suicide?	14%	36%	30%	29%	28%	22%	36%	27%	37%	44%	35%	48%	36%
6. Impulsive thoughts to kill?	16%	29%	28%	35%	31%	43%	37%	35%	37%	46%	43%	51%	49%
7. Thought you were different?	67%	86%	73%	82%	79%	79%	77%	76%	85%	78%	77%	81%	81%
8. Do you like yourself?	86%	78%	74%	77%	75%	87%	80%	75%	37%	69%	74%	68%	74%

According to The Seduction of Our Children by Neil T. Anderson & Steve Russo

How are people freed from the Occult?

Back to our Three categories:

1. Those of us who are actively practicing the Occult
 1. Recognize your need to change (Gal 5:19-21) and Stop (John 8:11)
 2. Repent (Luke 23:39-43, Acts 2:38, 3:19, 17:30-31, 26:20, Rev 3:19)
 3. Renounce (2 Corinthians 4:2, James 4:7)
 4. Receive
 1. Be baptized in Water, if possible (Matthew 3:11)
 2. Be baptized by the Holy Spirit (Acts 22:16)
 3. Be justified by His blood (Romans 3:24)
2. Those of us who are carrying baggage and bondage from the Occult
 1. Recognize the problem (Exodus 20:5, Galatians 3:1)
 2. Repent
 3. Renounce
 4. Receive
 5. Pray for others (Matthew 5:4, 10:8)
3. Those of us who are 100% free from baggage and bondage from the Occult
 1. Don't pass critical judgement (Romans 2:1)
 2. Remember we all fall short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23)

Gal 5:19-21 NASB Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, (20) idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, (21) envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Repent: Willfully limiting my capacity to sin again.