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# THE TRUTH ABOUT THAT TRADITION

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Tricks, treats, painting faces, bobbing apples, carving pumpkins... “good witches”, “friendly ghosts”, gruesome costumes, haunted houses... it’s all things Halloween! The Halloween celebration is popular worldwide, and is considered (by most) to be a time for a little spooky fun! However, the study of the origin of Halloween would reveal that there is something much more sinister (dark and evil) about this popular fall celebration; there are things associated with it, so perverse, that one would question whether Christians should even be involved.

## **The History and Origin of Halloween [History.com](#) (article, Halloween 2020)**

Halloween is a holiday celebrated each year on October 31st. The tradition originated with the ancient Celtic festival of *Samhain*, when people would light bonfires and wear costumes to ward off ghosts. In the eighth century, Pope Gregory III designated November 1st as a time to honor all (Catholic) saints. Soon, *All Saints Day* incorporated some of the traditions of *Samhain*. The evening before was known as *All Hallows Eve*, and later *Halloween*.

The Celts, who lived 2,000 years ago, mostly in the area that is now Ireland, the United Kingdom and northern France, celebrated their new year on November 1st. This day marked the end of summer and the harvest, and the beginning of the dark, cold winter, a time of year that was often associated with human death. *Celts believed that on the night before the new year, the boundary between the worlds of the living and the dead became blurred. On the night of October 31 they celebrated Samhain, when it was believed that the ghosts of the dead returned to earth.*

To commemorate the event, Druids built huge sacred bonfires, where the people gathered to burn crops and animals as sacrifices to the Celtic deities. During the celebration, the Celts wore costumes, typically consisting of animal heads and skins, and attempted to tell each other's fortunes.

### Christians and Compromise

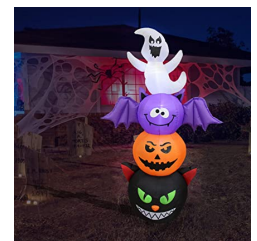
It is ironic that America, a country supposedly founded upon Protestant Christian beliefs (such as "one nation under God" and "In God We Trust") would adopt traditions so grossly intertwined with pagan and occultist practices. Even "Christians" with otherwise strong religious convictions, have fallen into the snare of compromise concerning Halloween; perhaps, to appease others. Many contemporary Christian organizations have now adopted their own form of Halloween traditions, conveniently disguised under various other names, e.g. "Hallelujah Night" (having parties for the church, usually on or around October 31st, with everyone dressed in costumes depicting Bible characters); "Trunk-or-Treat" (distributing treats to trick-or-treaters from the trunk of cars, often in the church parking lot); and "Tract or Treat", where religious tracts (pamphlets) are given with treats to those who are trick-or-treating.

Even though the intentions of church leadership may be good, this type of compromise with the kingdom of darkness may be prove to be a huge snare for Christian believers. In 2 Corinthians 6:14-18, we are told that *there should be no communion (fellowship) of light with darkness... no agreement between Christians and "Belial" (Satan), nor the temple of God with idols!* The church is emphatically commanded, **"be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean**

**thing!"** What many fail to realize is that God hates compromise! In Revelation 3:14-19, the church of Laodicea is rebuked for being lukewarm. The Lord states that He knows their works, and that they are neither cold, nor hot. He says that He will spue (spit) them from His mouth, rejecting them because they are lukewarm and walk in compromise with the world. Just as the church of Laodicea was called to repent, God calls all those who mix good with evil (or light with darkness) to REPENT!



**"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..."**  
**Deuteronomy 18:10-12**



## Halloween and The Spirit of Fear

It is definitely a clever trick of the Enemy (Satan) to stroud his evil, mystical “holy day” in a cloak of, seemingly innocent, seasonal fun. I, and many who grew up in my day, celebrated Halloween blissfully, while quite ignorant of the meaning behind its many demonic traditions. As an adult, I was surprised to find that trick-or-treating, wearing costumes, carving jack-o-lanterns, and even bobbing for apples all originated from ancient pagan practices associated with All Hallow’s Eve (do the research). As I think about the darkness associated with Halloween, such as ghosts, witches, haunted houses, and devils, I notice that they all have something in common... the prevailing spirit of Halloween, which is *the spirit of fear!*



As an informed believer, I have now come to understand that ignorance of Satan’s vices does not avert (prevent) the powers thereof. As a matter of fact, 2 Corinthians 2:11 lets us know that the devil can gain an advantage over us when we, as Christians, are ignorant of his devices; and the spirit of fear is one of his greatest weapons. Why? Because fear cancels out faith; and without faith, it is impossible to please God (Hebrews 11:6).

In an article published by Purdue University (October 17, 2017) parents are cautioned about the negative emotional effects of Halloween, especially upon children... “That (Halloween) can really affect children’s sense of well-being, which can lead to health issues such as sleep disturbances and high anxiety”. A deeper look at the spiritual implications associated with devils, witchcraft, and fear is the understanding that ***a door opened to spirits of darkness can result in spiritual oppression, or even possession, sometimes hard to be reckoned with.*** The spirit of fear sometimes manifests itself in other ways, more common among adults, such as nightmares, extreme insecurities, reclusion (being shut up in seclusion because of fear), spiritual apparitions (seeing ghosts), and many other forms of demonic harassment.



Of course, the Lord provides a way of deliverance from the bondage of spiritual oppression, for those who repent of their sins, and are willing to close the doors that they opened to devils. 2 Corinthians 10:4 tells us that *“the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds”*, by the power of the Holy Ghost! Therefore, concerning Halloween, and anything we may be uncertain of in our walk of righteousness, I believe the best defense against the powers of darkness is a good offense...

***“Prove all things; hold fast that which is good. Abstain from ALL appearance of EVIL. And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly...” 1 Thessalonians 5:21-23a***