

**Halloween**  
**This the season to be evil...**  
**By William Schnoebelen**

*“Ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils.”*  
*- 1 Corinthians 10:21*

When I was a new Christian in the 1980's I was astonished at how many churches celebrated **Halloween**. Some had costume parties. Others went so far as to sponsor “haunted Houses” to thrill the kids and raise funds for projects.

Perhaps I was more sensitive than most because I had been an *actual* witch! Though many Christians think of witches as fairy tales with no more reality than Tinker Bell, the fact is that witchcraft, or “Wicca” as it is known, is a major religion with hundreds of thousands of worshipers. I wondered how many parents would let their children partake of Halloween if they knew its sinister history.

**GRISLY ORIGINS**

Halloween may have begun in Britain with the Druids, an ancient pagan priesthood and one of the fountainheads of Wicca. They considered Halloween to be the highest festival of the year *Samhain*. In this, it was named after Saman, god of the Dead.<sup>1</sup> It was *Fele na Marbhn*, the feast of the Dead.

Druids worshiped the sun god, called by names like Bel (Ba'al?) or Chrom. On October 31, they believed that he died and went into the kingdom of the dead, *Anwynn*. The purpose of Samhain was to insure his return. Even witches admit this involved human sacrifice.<sup>2</sup> Both animal and human blood were believed to be needed to resurrect Bel on Samhain.

Human blood was believed to open the gates of *Anwynn* and released the spirits for a night. Thus, October 31 came to be associated with ghosts. This is not just history. Samhain is still celebrated by Pagans and is the most solemn ceremony on their “religious calendar”.

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<sup>1</sup> Baskin, DICTIONARY OF SATANISM 1972, P 285 & Walker, THE WOMAN'S ENCYCLOPEDIA OF MYTHS & SECRETS, 1983, p 372.

<sup>2</sup> Farrar & Farrar, EIGHT SABBATS FOR WITCHES, 1981, p 122 and Spence, THE HISTORY ORIGIN OF DRUIDISM, 1976, p 104

In America, many folks do not know that the Founding Fathers forbade Halloween. It was not celebrated until the 1900's when Irish immigrants brought it over. Something once forbidden has now become part of our culture. But does this mean that Christians should partake of it?

## **IDOLATROUS SYMBOLS?**

Are the symbols of Halloween innocent – the cardboard black cats and Jack-o-Lanterns? Let's see what history says:

**The Jack-o-Lantern:** Here it's a pumpkin, but in Europe it was often a turnip, or a skull with a candle in it. This serves two symbols, 1) the lord of the Dead, a "god" just like a Buddha – in short, an idol. 2) The fearsome face represented the god, Samhain, who would drive off less powerful demons that night. The lights in the Jack-o-Lantern symbolize the "faery fires" or "Will'o the Wisps" which were believed to be the lost souls flitting through the night. They also harken back to the huge Samhain "balefires" which were lit to help conjure back the god from the darkness.

**Broomsticks & Witches:** This image (however cartoon-like) shows an *actual ritual* in which witches mount broomsticks (symbol of the male) and leap high around the fields on them to "teach" the crops how high to grow.<sup>3</sup> More recently, they have also become associated with the hugely popular Harry Potter books and films

In our drug-conscious society, it should be noted that the flying witch actually relates to the fact that witches believed they *COULD FLY* great distances too their feats by smearing their bodies with "flying ointment." This ointment actually contained drugs like belladonna, aconite, and cinquefoil and gave them psychedelic "trips" so that they *thought* that they flew distances.<sup>4</sup> ARE THESE IMAGES WE WISH TO CONVEY TO OUR CHILDREN?

**Black Cats:** the black cat is also both the witch's "familiar" or magic helper, and is the chief totem (idol) of the goddess of Wicca, Diana.<sup>5</sup> In the celebrated Gospel

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<sup>3</sup> Valentine, ABC'S OF WITCHCRAFT, 1973 p 48-49.

<sup>4</sup>Valentine, pp 142-146

<sup>5</sup>The "Alex Sanders Lectures on Witchcraft" Part 10, the Legend of the goddess. See also the author's book, WICCA: SATAN'S LITTLE WHITE LIE, available from this ministry, for a more detailed discussion of this issue.

of the Witches (*Il Vangelo della Strega*), she turns into a black cat to commit *incest* with her brother, Lucifer. It is also a form of Egyptian goddess, Bast or Bastet.<sup>6</sup>

**Ghosts & Skeleton:** Christians are forbidden to have anything to do with supposed ghosts. (You should read **Deut. 18:10-13** and **Is. 8:19-20**). The skeleton is a form of the god of the dead, the witches' "Horned god". It is interesting to note that Halloween has spread over the centuries to other cultures. In many Latin American countries they now have the "Day of the Dead" on the same day, and towns are festooned with skeleton and skull-type imagery. Again, why should Christian parents wish to cultivate this sort of thinking in their child? Yah'shua (Jesus) came to destroy death and to bring us abundant LIFE!

### **THE MINISTRY OF FEAR**

Trick or treat and haunted houses are deeper issues. These haunted houses are used to frighten kids. For a church to sponsor one should be *unthinkable*! Children are very sensitive, and we cannot know what damage we do to them by exposing them to bone-rattling terror. Innocent thrills are one thing, but in many cases terrifying experiences can open up doorways for Satan to come in and mess around with their minds. I know that my first attraction to witchcraft came right that my being utterly terrified during a Halloween night experience.

Perhaps some have heard my account. I was around ten years of age and out trick or treating with my friend. It was a clear October night, and I chanced to look up at the stars. When I did, the stars were not there, but were replaced with a sky full of dark, leathery bat-like creatures. I stood there, transfixed. These beings, whatever they were, opened their eyes. Dark ruby-red slits of light burned into my soul and I felt an unholy thrill. I believe that at that moment, I was defiled by occult power. It began a long, slow slide into evil that would end with me becoming a witch and a Satanist.

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<sup>6</sup> Valentine, P 54-55

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To induce terror in a child is emphatically NOT a Godly ministry! ***“God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.”- 2 Tim. 1:7.*** We are promised that ***“Perfect love casteth out fear” – 1 John 4:18.*** Haunted houses (real or for show and “fun”) are the farthest things from these precious promises.

Far too many former witches who are now Believers share testimonies of having their innocent little souls cracked open as kids by Halloween activities and the floodgates of hell pouring in! Hear our warning and offer your children some godly alternative to Halloween.

Fear has also become part of trick or treat because of the placing of razor blades, etc. in candy by some perverted Satanists. They are using this to help provide the human sacrifices for Samhain, spreading fear through spiritual terrorism.

As witches we used to also fill our candy with *familiar spirits* and then feed it to trick or treaters, hoping that in eating the candy, the child will take the controlling spirit within, and thus “evolve into a higher state of consciousness”. Does your child partake of this **“table of demons”**?

Even more fear has emerged recently with the realization of the very real danger of children being kidnapped for Samhain sacrifices at this season. Our ministry has dealt with dozens of cases of either alleged ritual kidnapping or ritual abuse by witches and Satanists.

### **“GREATER IS HE THAT IS IN US”?**

In the midst of all this, we Christians can know that if we bring up our children prayerfully, in the knowledge and fear of the Lord and do *NOT* expose them unnecessarily to Satan’s ministry of fear, we have in us a power that can effortlessly turn aside Halloween’s evil.

Yah’shua (Jesus) said, **“In the world, ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.” – John 16:33.** Plead the blood of Yah’shua and the victory of His cross and resurrection over your children daily. Send them out into the world with a hug and the knowledge that you love them and He loves them and lives within them. Do Spiritual warfare against Samhain and against all the wiles of the devil and know that in Yah’shua we can tear down and smash all of the machinery that Satan has devised to come against our families and us.

Take back this night for the glory of God and remember that, **“greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world!”** – 1John 4:4

