

DEMONOLOGY (14)

What apparently happened in Acts 16:16 is that a woman was in contact with the evil spirit world and could make prophecies concerning the fate of a person by soothsaying or fortune telling. She undoubtedly was very skilled in this type of evil for she made her owners a great deal of money. When she was delivered from the demonic power, she no longer had the ability to do this (Acts 16:19). What makes this person false is not so much the prediction for the prediction may actually come true; it is the source of the information which is not the Word of God, but contact with the evil spirit world and deception of their own minds (Jer. 14:14).

(Contact Way #6) - Witchcraft .

Here is the Hebrew word from which sorcery is derived. The word speaks of one who offers prayers and worship of Satan and his demons and practices sorcery and magic. God is very clear to specifically reveal in writing how He views one who does this (Deut. 18:10-12; Ex. 22:18). Very closely connected to this word is the word “medium,” which refers to one who can contact the spirit world (I Sam. 28:7; I Chron. 10:13-14). It seems that one reason why people get involved with this is because they want power and knowledge beyond that which God gives (I Sam. 28:7; Is. 8:19).

A believer who would consult with or contact a witch or medium actually risks physical execution by God (I Chron. 10:13-14). Our responsibility is to carefully understand God’s Word and to prayerfully wait on the Lord, trusting only in Him. We must not ever consult with witches or mediums (Is. 8:17).

(Contact Way #7) - Charmer .

This word particularly has to do with one who has fellowship with satanic and demonic forces and is specifically able to verbally communicate with these forces and cast spells over people (Deut. 18:11; Is. 47:9, 12). The actual word “charmer” is closely connected with speaking or chanting in almost a whisper-type manner. It is some form of satanic muttering. The Bible indicates that “charmings” can be very powerful even, at times, having control over deadly serpents (Ps. 58:4-5). There is no question that many who actually charm deadly snakes do so by aid of demonic power.

(Contact Way #8) - Necromancy .

This is a very difficult Hebrew word, which seems to imply an ability to consult with forces of darkness in regard to death (Deut. 18:11). It is possible that this refers to one who claims he can make contact with dead spirits; that is, with people who have died. It is also possible that this person would claim that he could contact the spirit world in pronouncing death on an individual. The word is closely connected with evil spirits and death.

DEMONOLOGY (15)

(Contact Way #9) - Spiritist .

The word (translated in AV “wizard”) refers to one who can gain knowledge of something or foreknow something prior to it happening. This knowledge comes from the spirit world. The term is always used in a bad sense in Scripture: Lev. 19:31; 20:6, 27; Deut. 18:11-12; I Sam. 28:3, 9; II Kings 21:6; 23:24; II Chron. 23:6; Is. 8:19; 19:3. **From Isaiah 8:19 we learn that spiritists consult with evil spirits by whispering and muttering.** This implies that there may be a change in voice and language when one is in contact with demons.

(Contact Way #10) - Medium .

The word (translated in AV “familiar spirits”) refers to one who can summon the spirit world, particularly those spirits connected to those dead. Mr. Gesenius, in his Hebrew Lexicon, says this is done through various incantations and songs. He goes on to say the purpose for contacting these spirits is to ascertain information of the future and things unknown (p. 31). Several passages mention a “medium”—Lev. 19:31; 20:6; II Kings 21:6; II Chron. 33:6; Is. 8:19.

Dr. Kurt Koch, who has studied the issue of God’s Word as it pertains to the occult, has concluded that there are at least 99 occultist-type practices. He lists things such as acupuncture, astrology, black masses, charismatics, clairvoyance, homosexuality, meditation, Ouija board, rock music, rod and pendulum, Satan worship, speaking in tongues, spirits healing and yoga.

Dr. Koch has also concluded that the person who is connected to this type of activity often demonstrates the same symptoms:

- 1) Their children often end up with some connection to the spirit world.
- 2) They continually demonstrate a major resistance to the Word and will of God, particularly when God’s Spirit is powerfully at work.
- 3) They have a distortion of personality, some area in their personality over which they do not ever gain control.
- 4) They manifest depression that tends to lead toward suicide.

Dr. Koch gives the following advice to those involved in occult activity:

- 1) If an unbeliever—ask Jesus Christ to be your personal Savior and forgive your sin—Acts 19:18.
- 2) If a believer—confess the sin to God and ask for His cleansing grace—I John 1:9.
- 3) Destroy all occult-type of objects—Acts 19:19.
- 4) Break off any fellowship with any person connected with occult practices—Prov. 1:15.
- 5) Actively involve yourself in prayer and Bible Study.
- 6) Actively involve yourself in a church with the people of God.

(All of the above information was taken from Dr. Kurt Koch, *Occult ABC*, Kregel Publications)

DEMONOLOGY (16)

Rebecca Brown, a woman who has dealt extensively with the occult and those in Satanism, lists the following ways that people actually will come in contact with demons:

- 1) Horoscope
- 2) Fortune Teller
- 3) Tea Leaf Reader
- 4) Palm Reader
- 5) Séance
- 6) Ouija Board
- 7) Occult Books
- 8) ESP
- 9) Psychic experiences
- 10) Astral Projection
- 11) Magic—Black magic does negative; White magic does positive
- 12) Prayers with candles
- 13) Any kind of spell
- 14) Levitation
- 15) Moving Objects without touching
- 16) Consult with medium, spiritist or witch
- 17) Yoga
- 18) Visualization
- 19) Self-Realization
- 20) Unbiblical Meditation
- 21) Hypnosis
- 22) Subliminal tapes
- 23) Water Witching
- 24) Dungeons & Dragons
- 25) Sex Outside of Marriage
- 26) Sex with animals
- 27) Sex with members of same sex
- 28) Sex with family members
- 29) Certain forms of martial arts
- 30) Occult objects
- 31) Rock Music
- 32) Abortion
- 33) Pornography
- 34) Tongues
- 35) Faith Healings

Dr. Brown suggests the following steps for anyone involved in these things:

- 1) If an unbeliever—Ask Jesus Christ to be your personal Savior and take away your sin.
- 2) If a believer—Confess the sin to God and ask for His cleansing grace
- 3) Destroy and get rid of objects or behavior that would link one to the spirit world

(Data compiled from Dr. Rebecca Brown, *Prepare for War*, Chick Publications, 1987)