

The Truth about Witchcraft/Sorcery/Astrology Deuteronomy 18:10-14

- I. ⁹“When you enter the land the Lord your God is giving you, do not imitate the detestable customs of those nations. ¹⁰No one among you is to sacrifice his son or daughter in the fire, practice divination, tell fortunes, interpret omens, practice sorcery, ¹¹cast spells, consult a medium or a spiritist, or inquire of the dead. ¹²Everyone who does these acts is detestable to the Lord, and the Lord your God is driving out the nations before you because of these detestable acts. ¹³You must be blameless before the Lord your God. ¹⁴Though these nations you are about to drive out listen to fortune-tellers and diviners, the Lord your God has not permitted you to do this. Deuteronomy 18:9-14
- II. Key words:
 - a. Astronomy: is a natural science that studies celestial objects and the phenomena that occur in the cosmos. It uses mathematics, physics, and chemistry.
 - b. Astrology is the belief that the positions of celestial bodies like the sun, moon, and planets at the time of a person's birth can influence their personality and life events
 - c. Cults: a relatively small group of people having beliefs or practices, especially relating to religion, that are regarded by others as strange or sinister or as imposing excessive control over members.
 - d. Occult: clandestine, hidden, or secret. In its modern iteration, occult practices center on

harnessing these hidden powers and bending the laws of nature to benefit oneself.

- e. Horoscope an astrological chart or diagram representing the positions of the Sun, Moon, planets, astrological aspects and angles at the time of an event
- f. Sorcerer is a person who uses magic, often by seeking to control and wield supernatural power.
- g. Witch witches typically gain their power through ritual, nature, and sometimes pacts with supernatural entities while Sorcerers are born with innate magical abilities,
- h. Zodiac: an imaginary belt in the heavens that includes the apparent paths of most of the planets and is divided into 12 star groups or signs.

III. Witchcraft: the practice of magic, especially for evil purposes; the use of spells:

- a. Witchcraft is Divination: ⁶They saw false visions and their divinations were a lie. They claimed, "This is the Lord's declaration," when the Lord did not send them, yet they wait for the fulfillment of their message. ⁷Didn't you see a false vision and speak a lying divination when you proclaimed, "This is the Lord's declaration," even though I had not spoken? Ezekiel 13:6-7
- b. Witchcraft is Rebellion **1** : opposition to one in authority or dominance, rebellion occurs when someone rejects the authority of God or the legitimate authorities established by God. Romans 13:1-4
- c. ²³For rebellion is like the sin of divination,

and defiance is like wickedness and idolatry.
Because you have rejected the word of the Lord,
he has rejected you as king. 1 Samuel 15:23

IV. Astrology: the study of the movements and relative positions of celestial bodies interpreted as having an influence on human affairs and the natural world.

a. Astronomy is the branch of science which deals with celestial objects, space, and the physical universe as a whole. Not the focus of this lesson.

b. Horoscopes: a forecast of a person's future, typically including a delineation of character and circumstances, based on the relative positions of the stars and planets at the time of that person's birth.

- ⁸Be careful that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit based on human tradition, based on the elements of the world, rather than Christ. Colossians 2:8
- ¹⁰No one among you is to sacrifice his son or daughter in the fire, practice divination, tell fortunes, interpret omens, practice sorcery, ¹¹cast spells, consult a medium or a spiritist, or inquire of the dead.
Deuteronomy 18:10

c. Astrology is weak:

- ⁴I, Nebuchadnezzar, was at ease in my house and flourishing in my palace. ⁵I had a dream, and it frightened me; while in my bed, the images and visions in my mind alarmed me. ⁶So I issued a decree to bring all the wise men of Babylon to me in order that they might make the dream's interpretation

known to me. ⁷When the magicians, mediums, Chaldeans, and diviners came in, I told them the dream, but they could not make its interpretation known to me. Daniel 4:4-7

d. Astrology can not one save from the future:

- ¹³You are worn out with your many consultations. So let the astrologers stand and save you— those who observe the stars, those who predict monthly what will happen to you. ¹⁴Look, they are like stubble; fire burns them. They cannot rescue themselves from the power of the flame. This is not a coal for warming themselves, or a fire to sit beside! Isaiah 47:13-14

V. Sorcery

- a. The use of witchcraft or magic; communication with the devil or with a familiar spirit; an irresistible influence or fascination
- b. Satanic Control, Period!
- c. The traditional view of sorcery is what the devil wants us to see. A sorcerer/witch is no more a woman in a black hat or a man in a hood than the devil is a creature in a red suit with a pitch fork.
- d. An Abomination to God: ¹⁰No one among you is to sacrifice his son or daughter in the fire, practice divination, tell fortunes, interpret omens, practice sorcery, ¹¹cast spells, consult a medium or a spiritist, or inquire of the dead. ¹²Everyone who does these acts is detestable to the Lord, and the Lord your God is driving out the nations before you because of these detestable acts. Deuteronomy 18:10-12
- e. Sorcery pervert judgment.

- A man named Simon had previously practiced sorcery in that city and amazed the Samaritan people, while claiming to be somebody great. Acts 8:9
- You foolish Galatians! Who has cast a spell on you, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified? Galatians 3:1

f. Sorcery can be among believers Acts 8:11-25

- ...¹³ Even Simon himself believed. And after he was baptized, he followed Philip everywhere and was amazed as he observed the signs and great miracles that were being performed. Acts 8:12-13
- ¹⁸ When Simon saw that the Spirit^[c] was given through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, ¹⁹ saying, "Give me this power also so that anyone I lay hands on may receive the Holy Spirit.", Acts 8:18
- ²² Therefore repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray to the Lord that, if possible, your heart's intent may be forgiven. Acts 8:22

g. Primary tools of sorcery and witchcraft are:

- 1. Manipulation:** Manipulators use position and power to dictate the outcome of a situation thereby reducing or removing the Holy Spirit Role in a believers life
 - There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. Romans 8:1 KJV
- 2. Intimidation** frightens or overawes (someone), especially in order to make them do what one wants.

- 10 Then the Philistine said, “I defy the ranks of Israel today. Send me a man so we can fight each other!” 11 When Saul and all Israel heard these words from the Philistine, they lost their courage and were terrified.. 1 Samuel 17:10
- 3. Domination is to having a commanding influence on or exercising control over someone.
 - You foolish Galatians! Who has cast a spell on you, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified? Galatians 3:1

VI. How to survive Witchcraft, Sorcery and Astrology

- a. Know that you are saved Therefore, brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election, because if you do these things you will never stumble·2 Peter 1:10
- b. Know that witchcraft(Evil Control) is a Sin: 19 Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, moral impurity, promiscuity, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hatreds , strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambitions, dissensions, factions, 21 envy, drunkenness, carousing, and anything similar. I am warning you about these things—as I warned you before—that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God· Galatians 5:19-21
- c. Repent of your sin: 2 And he[a] responded to them, “Do you think that these Galileans were

more sinful than all the other Galileans because they suffered these things? 3 No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as well. Luke 13:2-3

- d. Immerse yourself in the Word of God: ¹¹I have treasured your word in my heart so that I may not sin against you. Psalm 119:11
- e. Stand in the Name of Jesus: ...¹⁴Stand, therefore, with truth like a belt around your waist, righteousness like armor on your chest..., Ephesians 6:13-18