



Can Christianity and Paganism Work Together? (Part II)

**Exodus 20:1,3: (NASB) ¹Then God spoke all these words, saying
³You shall have no other gods before Me.**



Last week we examined modern day Paganism and compared it with some of the most basic tenants of Christianity as revealed in the Bible. What we found were two fundamentally different approaches to life in the areas of worship and morality. We can see that as Christians, we are to absolutely love those who hold such a contrary belief system to ours, but that does not mean we support the standards they choose to live by. Now, what about Wicca, which is “white” witchcraft and built on the basis of Pagan beliefs? As Christians, we might simply say that our answer here should be obvious. However, there are claims that the Bible is only condemnatory of “black” magic and “black” witchcraft and that Wicca is not included in those verses. Could this be true? What does the Bible really teach on these matters?

Our conversation will center on Wicca and witchcraft. The objective is NOT to tear down anyone who shares Wiccan or witchcraft beliefs, but it is to be truthful about the differences those beliefs have with true Christianity. We stand for being loving and kind to every single human being, as that is the example that Jesus, our Lord and Savior, left for us to follow.

recap
recap

Paganism, witchcraft and Wicca are three separate terms but with much overlap because their definitions are so broad.

- In Part I we talked extensively about Paganism and how it varies greatly between practitioners. In general, it is an earth-based faith, worshipping nature and its cycles. It can also be polytheistic, worshipping many gods, or some consider everything and everyone to be divine.
- Traditional witchcraft is generally defined as the practice of magic, especially for evil purposes, and the use of spells. In a modern context, it is a religious practice involving magic and an affinity with nature, usually within a Pagan tradition.
- Wicca is often called “white” witchcraft, or witchcraft for a beneficial or positive purpose. It is the best-known form of modern Paganism and is often “ditheistic” involving the supernatural powers of two deities - a god and a goddess.

Can you be a Christian and a Wiccan? It depends on whose word you are willing to accept!



Yes, you can, *Can You Be a Christian and a Witch*, Owlvine Green

- *So, I want to talk about something today that has been coming up a lot lately. I've been getting heaps of questions about, and this is something that I have seen since I began practicing, but particularly lately. And that is, can I be a Christian and a witch? Can I be a Christian and explore other faiths? Can I be a Christian and do magic? Yes, you absolutely can. That is the long and short*



of it. There are plenty of people out there who will say no, and honestly, I think a lot of that has to do with their own personal experience and hurts and issues that they have around Christianity.

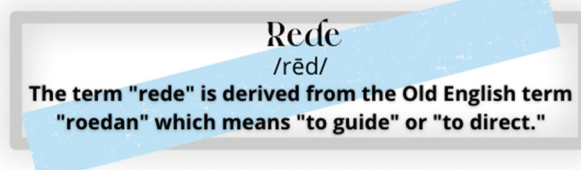
Before we begin to respond to this, let's get a better sense of what Wicca is.

(Source: <https://www.wicca.com/wicca/what-is-wicca.html> - What Wicca Is) Witchcraft is a spiritual system that fosters the free thought and will of the individual, encourages learning and an understanding of the earth and nature thereby affirming the divinity in all living things. Most importantly however, it teaches responsibility. We accept responsibility for our actions and deeds as clearly a result of the choices we make...

We acknowledge the cycles of nature, the lunar phases and the seasons to celebrate our spirituality and to worship the divine. It is a belief system that allows the witch to work with, not in supplication to deities with the intent of living in harmony and achieving balance with all things...

The basis of Wicca is a simple statement called the Wiccan Rede.

(Source: Wikipedia) "Eight words the Wiccan Rede fulfill, An it harm none do what ye will." This is the first published form of the couplet, quoted from Doreen Valiente in 1964.



We have not found evidence that this "Rede" (as a whole) predates the 1950's, so it is relatively new. The similar phrase "do as thou wilt" is originally found in a 16th century novel by François Rabelais:

DO AS THOU WILT because men that are free of gentle birth, well bred and at home in civilized company possess a natural instinct that inclines them to virtue and saves them from vice. This instinct they name their honor.

To a Wiccan, the Rede does not mean they can just do whatever they want. We will expand on this later when we focus on the word "will," meaning what it is I stand for; my internal focus, the expression of my being.

(Source: <https://www.wicca.com/wicca/what-is-wicca.html> - What Wicca Is) ...The spells that we do involve healing, love, harmony, wisdom and creativity. The potions that we stir might be a headache remedy, a cold tonic, or an herbal flea bath for our pets. We strive to gain knowledge of and use the natural remedies placed on this earth by the divine for our benefit instead of using synthetic drugs unless absolutely necessary...

This indicates that Wiccans are about building up, being helpful and many good things come from these sources.



Magic and Christianity harmonize, *Can You Be a Christian and a Witch*, Owlvine Green

- *Any spirituality you have, any faith that you have, one billion percent can be put into the framework of magic; or rather, magic can come into that framework, since I feel like magic is something that's bigger. It's something that's within every culture and every tradition and every time; and in history, magic as we understand it now has been practiced in some form or another. Every religion. If you go back and look at folklore from the UK and places like that from a couple hundred years ago, you can see how, with Christian faith, they were practicing magic. So, they absolutely can get along together and they do harmonize.*



Jesus never specifically talked about witchcraft - doesn't that leave some room for interpretation?

Owlvine just gave us all kinds of interpretation! For instance, she said magic has been practiced by all religions through all historical times. The Jewish Law, for example, specifically forbade all kinds of witchcraft.

While Jesus did not directly comment on witchcraft in any form, we do have a set of verses that give a comprehensive list of what we should NOT do:

Deuteronomy 18:9-14: (NASB) ⁹When you enter the land which the LORD your God gives you, you shall not learn to imitate the detestable things of those nations. ¹⁰There 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, ¹¹or one who casts a spell, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead. ¹²For 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. ¹³You shall be blameless before the LORD your God. ¹⁴For 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. USES DIVINATION
2. ONE WHO PRACTICES WITCHCRAFT
3. INTERPRETS OMENS
4. A SORCERER
5. ONE WHO CASTS A SPELL
6. A MEDIUM
7. A SPIRITIST
8. ONE WHO CALLS [UP THE DEAD]

These verses are important because there are several translations for each of these eight words or phrases. Pagans often point to the differing translations to allege that the Bible is therefore unreliable on this point.

For whoever does these things is detestable to the LORD... but as for you, the LORD your God has not allowed you to do so - think of this as we review each item. This is not a "Well, maybe I can get away with it," kind of list! The Jews were NOT to practice any kind of witchcraft.

We will show each word as it is translated in the New American Standard Version (1995), the New International Version (2011) and the King James Version.

1. USES DIVINATION



NEW AMERICAN STANDARD VERSION (1995) SAYS: **"USES DIVINATION"**

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION (2011) SAYS: **"PRACTICES DIVINATION"**

KING JAMES VERSION SAYS: **"USETH DIVINATION"**

Deuteronomy 18:10: (NASB) *There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, one who **uses** <7080> divination <7081>*

Uses: Strong's Exhaustive Concordance #7080 *qacam*; properly, to distribute, i.e. determine by lot or magical scroll; by implication, to divine



“Determine by lot” is a random method used to make a decision. In John 19:24, the soldiers guarding Jesus cast lots to determine who would get his clothes. In Ezekiel 21:21, Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, used marked arrows in a quiver to determine his next move. (He also examined entrails - specifically the liver - of a dead victim.)

The 11 apostles also cast lots to choose a replacement for Judas, but God ignored their actions. God's choice of the Apostle Paul became obvious.



Clear evidence to prove Paul or Matthias as the 12th Apostle

One way Wicca and other Pagans today determine by lots is through randomly choosing and interpreting rune stones. Having a long ancient history, runes are tiles, stones or cards with carvings or letters that look like primitive markings. Each symbol of the alphabet has a special meaning and helps invoke the deities who can supposedly help you with your problems.

Scripturally, the word **uses <7080>** has one positive and many negative meanings, such as:

God took away wise, competent rulers from Israel when they were sinful:

Isaiah 3:2: (KJV) *The mighty man, and the man of war, the judge, and the prophet, and the prudent <7080>, and the ancient.*

Jeremiah 29:8: (KJV) *For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Let not your prophets and your diviners <7080>, that be in the midst of you, deceive you, neither hearken to your dreams which ye cause to be dreamed.*

Divination: Strong's Exhaustive Concordance #7081 *qesem*; a lot: also divination (including its fee), oracle

Divination is using an object to gain answers or see events not perceptible by the average person. In ancient cultures, an oracle was a priest or priestess acting as a medium through whom advice or prophecy was sought from the gods. It can also refer to the response or message itself.

Wiccans are adamant that divination goes beyond mere fortune telling. One Wiccan website said, “Divination can provide you with divine guidance that allows you to make better choices and have a higher level of control over your future...It is like connecting with a wise old friend who can offer you divine guidance on anything and everything you want to talk about.”



Objects used include Tarot cards, crystal balls, pendulums or, as we just talked about, runes. There is also something called “bibliomancy.” This uses a book, most often the Bible, to tell the future. A Wiccan opens the Bible and points to a random verse with their eyes closed. Upon opening their eyes, they provide a specialized interpretation or prediction. Old family Bibles are said to be especially powerful.

Do not do this at home! Do not take the holy Word of God and make it into a game! This practice shows no understanding of the sacredness of God's word.

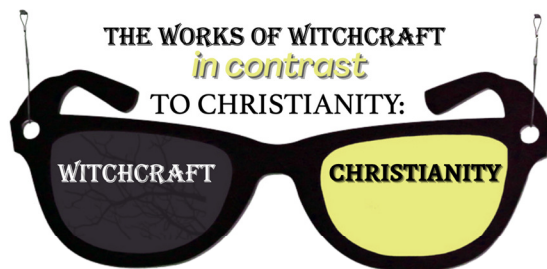


Scripturally, <7081> has one positive and many negative meanings, such as:

Proverbs 16:10: (KJV) *A divine sentence <7081> is in the lips of the king: his mouth transgresseth not in judgment.*

Jeremiah 14:14: (KJV) *Then the LORD said unto me, The prophets prophesy lies in My name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination <7081>, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart.*

This is not something we should be doing - it is on the “never do list” from God Almighty. Those who do these things are not in harmony with Him.



WHILE THE SOCIAL BASIS OF WICCA SHOWS LOVE, CONCERN AND RESPECT FOR OTHERS AND NATURE, THIS IS NOT THE WHOLE STORY.

AS FOLLOWERS OF GOD THROUGH CHRIST, WE SHOULD APPRECIATE THIS WILLINGNESS TO POSITIVELY CONTRIBUTE TO OUR WORLD, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME BEING INFORMED AND ALERT TO THE PROCESSES AND PRACTICES FOR HOW IT GETS DONE.

There is a difference between the goodness someone does and the methods by which they are doing it. We have to be clear on this.

At first glance, the whole idea of white witchcraft seems fascinating and enticing. We need to find the rest of the story.

What exactly were the practices that God told Israel they absolutely had to avoid once in their promised land?

We have already seen that divination, seeking to know the future by some spiritual source other than God, was first on this list (aside from obviously not burning their children to false gods as live sacrifices - *anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire*). Having this instruction first sets the tone for the rest of the commands God told Israel not to do. After all, God was and is our source for anything and everything connected to spirituality. His word works as a unit, not as a randomly picked verse which someone pontificates.

1. USES DIVINATION

In Part I, we talked about how Universalism - simply stated as all roads lead to heaven, no matter your path to get there - is NOT correct. This next audio clip from Owlvine Green suggests belief in Jesus is optional based on the path we feel is right for us.



It's your path do what you will, *Can You Be a Christian and a Witch, Owlvine Green*

- It's your path. You do what you will, right? But that is the thing, as well, with everybody else's path. If someone wants to bring in Christianity or they already are a Christian, or they want to bring Jesus in or whatever it is, that's okay to do. We're all on our own journey. We're all on our own soul path. And what we need to listen to is that voice within, that little guide that we have, those inclinations, all those callings that we have, or you just get sparked by something, and ooooh - you feel a draw towards something. Follow that. That is our inner guidance, and that never, I promise you, never leads us wrong, ever. And even if other people around us are saying this isn't right, this is the voice above all others that we should listen to.*



We take great objection to her statement!

Jeremiah 17:9: (KJV) *The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?*

Unless our conscience is hyper-trained to focus on God's will, we cannot explicitly trust that we will always be drawn to the most God-honoring thoughts and actions.

Let's examine the other practices forbidden by God's specific instructions. For those who might say, "But this is the Old Testament, so it no longer applies," we will see that Jesus often quoted from the Old Testament and believed it to be true.

2. ONE WHO PRACTICES WITCHCRAFT

NEW AMERICAN STANDARD VERSION (1995) SAYS: **"ONE WHO PRACTICES WITCHCRAFT"**

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION (2011) SAYS: **"SORCERY"**

KING JAMES VERSION SAYS: **"AN OBSERVER OF TIMES"**

Deuteronomy 18:10: (NASB) *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 <6049>**, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer,*

One who practices witchcraft: Strong's Exhaustive Concordance #6049 *'anan*; to cover; to cloud over; figuratively, to act covertly, i.e. practice magic

Witchcraft has historically been something practiced covertly, since many cultures throughout time invoked serious penalties for witchcraft, including making it punishable by death. Only recently has witchcraft, Wicca and Pagan practices in general, become more mainstream as society has become more accepting of everything and everyone's personal desires. It has been normalized into our collective consciousness through television, movies and social media. But Wicca is still often a solitary practice or is practiced in small, secret covens of people.



It is often practiced at night because they want to draw the power or energy of the moon into their spells. Covertly literally means under the cover of darkness. There is a reason midnight is called the “witching hour.”

Scripturally, <6049> has one positive use:

Genesis 9:14: (KJV) *And it shall come to pass, when I **bring <6049>** a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud:*

All the other uses are about this covert practice in the darkness, such as:

Jeremiah 27:9: (KJV) *Therefore hearken not ye to your prophets, nor to your diviners, nor to your dreamers, nor to your **enchanters <6049>**, nor to your sorcerers, which speak unto you, saying, Ye shall not serve the king of Babylon:*



I personally know several witches. With some of them, I have had conversations about witchcraft and Christianity. I have been told that the Old Testament does not apply to white witchcraft in this day and time. This is one of the reasons we are going through this so specifically. The Old Testament tells us these are practices that are condemned. It does not specify whether they are done for good or for bad reasons. If someone does this practice, they are out of harmony with God. The witches I know are good people who are not out to hurt anyone. But from my Christian perspective, they are dramatically misguided in what they do to find goodness.

3. INTERPRETS OMENS



NEW AMERICAN STANDARD VERSION (1995) SAYS: **"INTERPRETS OMENS"**

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION (2011) SAYS: **"ONE WHO PRACTICES WITCHCRAFT"**

KING JAMES VERSION SAYS: **"AN ENCHANTER"**

Deuteronomy 18:10: (NASB) *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 <5172>**, or a sorcerer,*

Interprets omens: Strong's Exhaustive Concordance #5172 *nachash*; properly, to hiss, i.e. whisper a (magic) spell; generally, to prognosticate

Casting spells is a big part of Wicca and witchcraft. They are often cast during specific phases of the moon to make the spell more effective. There are protection spells to keep you safe, spells for love, weight loss, wealth and money and many others.

Scripturally, <5172> has one positive use:

Genesis 30:27: (KJV) *And Laban said unto him, I pray thee, if I have found favour in thine eyes, tarry: for I have learned by **experience <5172>** that the LORD hath blessed me for thy sake.*

But it has many negative uses, such as:

2 Kings 17:17: (KJV) *And they caused their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire, and used divination and **enchantments <5172>**, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke Him to anger.*



4. A SORCERER

NEW AMERICAN STANDARD VERSION (1995) SAYS: "**SORCERER**"

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION (2011) SAYS: "**ENGAGES IN WITCHCRAFT**"

KING JAMES VERSION SAYS: "**A WITCH**"

Deuteronomy 18:10: (NASB) *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 <3784>.*

Sorcerer: Strong's Exhaustive Concordance #3784 *kashaph*; properly, to whisper a spell, i.e. to inchant (obsolete variant of "enchant") or practice magic

Wiccan spells are a ritual with intention, said to be driven by your personal power and the help of your god or goddess. Spells are more than just saying words or mixing potions; they are the attachments to the ethereal world of power that is beyond us. It attaches your own WILL to that power. The problem here is that God Almighty is not in this equation. When people want to draw His name in, they are simply insulting Him.

Scripturally, <3784> has no positive uses, such as:

Exodus 7:11: (KJV) *Then Pharaoh also called the wise men and the sorcerers <3784>: now the magicians of Egypt, they also did in like manner with their enchantments.*



Follow your inner guidance, Can You Be a Christian and a Witch, Owlvine Green

- *It can be really tough. It can be really scary, and we have all kinds of opinions and all kinds of experiences, and so do other people, and they're telling us their stuff. But that inner guidance is what we can trust more than anything. And that might be a connection to God. That might be a connection to spirit. That might be a connection to ancestors. That might be a connection to intuition. Whatever it is that you want to call it. So, whatever that is, whatever that connection to higher self-person, God thing is, that's what we need to listen to, because that will never, ever, ever, ever steer us wrong.*

We can understand why this would be especially attractive to the younger generations who have never wanted to listen to others tell them what to do and not to do. Without absolutes, there is so much leeway to do whatever you decide is best for you within Paganism, that it encourages the already prominent pull of ME, ME, ME!

me, me, me

This leaves God out. Even if we technically use His name, He is still left out.

His will is always much higher and purer than our will. The idea that our own inner guidance will never lead us wrong is putting us on a dangerous, godless, Christian-less path.

5. ONE WHO CASTS A SPELL

NEW AMERICAN STANDARD VERSION (1995) SAYS: "**ONE WHO CASTS A SPELL**"

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION (2011) SAYS: "**OR CASTS SPELLS**"

KING JAMES VERSION SAYS: "**A CHARMER**"

Deuteronomy 18:11: (NASB) or *one who casts a spell* <2266> <2267>, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead.

The English translation is from two Hebrew words: <2266> and <2267>

One who casts a spell: Strong's Exhaustive Concordance #2266 *chabar*; to join (literally or figuratively); specifically (by means of spells) to fascinate

PLUS

One who casts a spell: Strong's Exhaustive Concordance #2267 *cheber*; a society; also a spell



Where do we find this concept of "to join, specifically to fascinate PLUS a society" today? Think of the video sharing app, TikTok. It has a section called #WitchTok that as of today has over 28 billion views! It is one of the platform's most recognized subcultures. People are fascinated by watching witches cast spells, perform mass tarot card and aura readings, give tutorials, sell crystals, herbs, "protection salts," and more. It has introduced the term "baby witches," meaning those who are new to practicing witchcraft.

(Source: a WitchTok user) "WitchTok content is so relevant right now because we learned during COVID we cannot control things. All we can control is what we do, all we can control is what we think is truth in the world. We are in this great spiritual renaissance of enlightenment...Many of us are looking inward."

(Source: statepress.com) "The WitchTok community has helped bring about greater acceptance of witch communities, allowing for more people to learn about various practices and become more welcoming."

CAUTION CAUTION CAUTION

Scripturally, <2266> has many positive and two negative uses, such as:

2 Chronicles 20:35: (KJV) And after this did Jehoshaphat king of Judah *join* <2266> himself with Ahaziah king of Israel, who did very wickedly:

Psalms 58:5: (KJV) Which will not hearken to the voice of charmers, *charming* <2266> <2267> never so wisely.

Charming: Strong's Exhaustive Concordance #2267 *cheber*; a society; also a spell

One example of how else this word is used:

Proverbs 21:9: (KJV) It is better to dwell in a corner of the housetop, than with a brawling woman in a *wide* <2267> house.



An important note from Rick for the analysis of the next three words:

“Please excuse my error in the defining process of three of these eight important actions. I inadvertently moved the definition of one of the Hebrew words under the wrong heading for the on-air presentation. While this did slightly skew two meanings, it does not at all change the clear conclusions of these scriptures. *The audio podcast will not follow along exactly with the corrected versions below.* I apologize for the confusion.”

6. A MEDIUM

NEW AMERICAN STANDARD VERSION (1995) SAYS: **"MEDIUM"**

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION (2011) SAYS: **"A MEDIUM"**

KING JAMES VERSION SAYS: **"A CONSULTER WITH FAMILIAR SPIRITS"**

The English translation is from two Hebrew words: **<7592>** and **<178>**

Deuteronomy 18:11: (NASB) *or one who casts a spell, or a **medium** **<7592><178>**, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead.*

Medium: Strong's Exhaustive Concordance #7592 *sha'al*; or *sha'el*; to inquire; by implication, to request; by extension, to demand

Whether someone claims to practice traditional witchcraft or Wicca, both are based on looking into things we are specifically told are not for us. This whole idea of Paganism and witchcraft is DESIGNED to be attractive. It is supposed to be intriguing, mysterious and special. Satan would love nothing more than to have people completely turn away from the One True God, and if he cannot get you to turn away, he will dilute it, confuse it and counterfeit it. As Christians, this is NOT for us. Walk away!



Scripturally, **<7592>** is used 157 times in a positive way and only twice in relation to the occult.

1 Chronicles 10:13: (KJV) *So Saul died for his transgression which he committed against the LORD, even against the word of the LORD, which he kept not, and also for **asking** **<7592>** counsel of one that had a familiar spirit, to enquire of it;*

It is good to inquire and to ask questions, but not to *ask* counsel of one that had a familiar spirit!



Medium: Strong's Exhaustive Concordance #178 'owb; (apparently through the idea of prattling a father's name); properly, a mumble, i.e. a water skin (from its hollow sound); hence a necromancer (ventriloquist, as from a jar)

Wikipedia:

necromancy: (/ˈnekərəmænsi/)

a practice of magic involving communication with the dead - either by summoning their spirits as apparitions or raising them bodily - for the purpose of divination, imparting the means to foretell future events, discover hidden knowledge, to bring someone back from the dead, or to use the dead as a weapon.

But what about this hollow sound and a ventriloquist, as from a jar?

It refers to an evil spirit, one of Satan's fallen angels, speaking through the person.

(Source: Benson Commentary) "...it is one that consults or inquires of Ob. This word originally means a bottle, and was the name which the Hebrews gave to the spirit, which was supposed to agitate these ventriloquists, because their bodies were violently distended, like leather bottles full of wine and ready to burst."

(Source: Gill's Exposition on the Entire Bible, where this same term is used in Leviticus 19:31) "The word used signifies "bottles", and that sort of diviners here intended go by this name, either because what they sat on when they divined was in the form of a bottle, or they divined by one, or they were swelled and inflated as bottles when they delivered out their answers, or spoke as out of a bottle or hollow place; ...hence they are called masters or mistresses of the bottle: ...such whose voice seemed to come out of their bellies, and even the lower parts of them;"

Multiple Bible commentaries identify this "bottle spirit" as being the spirit of Python, a snake. **For more on this, please see the Bonus Material.**

(Source: <https://historythings.com/take-look-dark-history-ventriloquism/>)

In the Middle Ages, ventriloquism was considered as a form of witchcraft by Christians and was punishable by death. In Latin, the word stems from something that "speaks from the stomach." In this light, the ventriloquist was viewed as a figure who could speak to the dead and subsequently, have them speak to the living.

Scripturally, <178> has only one positive non-occult use referring to an actual bottle:

Job 32:19: (KJV) *Behold, my belly is as wine which hath no vent; it is ready to burst like new bottles <178>.*

An example of a negative use of this word:

1 Samuel 28:8: (KJV) *And Saul disguised himself, and put on other raiment, and he went, and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night: and he said, I pray thee, divine unto me by the **familiar spirit <178>**, and bring me him up, whom I shall name unto thee.*

The negative uses are all about necromancy, or speaking as though the dead speak through them. We cannot do this and honor God at the same time. Participating in such practices is not leading a God-honoring life.

7. A SPIRITIST

NEW AMERICAN STANDARD VERSION (1995) SAYS: "**A SPIRITIST**"

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION (2011) SAYS: "**SPIRITIST**"

KING JAMES VERSION SAYS: "**WIZARD**"

Deuteronomy 18:11: (NASB) *or one who casts a spell, or a medium, or a spiritist <3049>, or one who calls up the dead.*

Spiritist: Strong's Exhaustive Concordance #3049 *yidde`oniy*; properly, a knowing one; specifically, a conjurer; (by impl) a ghost

Scripturally, <3049> only is used negatively, such as:

Leviticus 20:6: (KJV) *And the soul that turneth after such as have familiar spirits, and after wizards <3049>, to go a whoring after them, I will even set My face against that soul, and will cut him off from among his people.*

8. ONE WHO CALLS (UP THE DEAD)

NEW AMERICAN STANDARD VERSION (1995) SAYS: "**ONE WHO CALLS**" (UP THE DEAD)

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION (2011) SAYS: "**ONE WHO CONSULTS**" (THE DEAD)

KING JAMES VERSION SAYS: "**A NECROMANCER**"

Deuteronomy 18:11: (NASB) *or one who casts a spell, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls <1875> up the dead.*

One who calls: Strong's Exhaustive Concordance #1875 *darash*; properly, to tread or frequent; usually to follow (for pursuit or search); by implication, to seek or ask; specifically to worship

This word applies to someone whose profession is to commune with the dead.



Psychic services are said to be over a \$2 billion industry in the United States alone. 2021 Statistics from YouGov.com, a global public opinion and data company, claims 22 percent of Americans have consulted a fortune teller, medium or psychic at some point. It is extremely common in many other countries, as well. For example, according to the Polish Ministry of Education and Science, around 50 percent of the nation's population have seen a fortune teller at some stage in their life. Interestingly, women are more likely to engage in psychic activities. There are hundreds of thousands of items on Etsy that are tagged as "witch." Witch paraphernalia is even sold in mainstream stores.



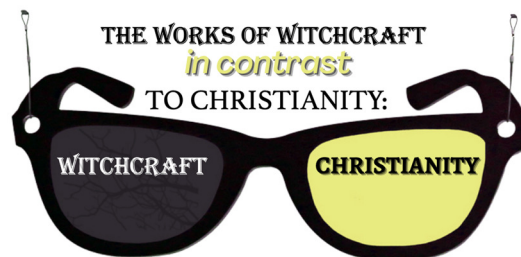
Check out our CQ Kids videos:
**WHY SHOULD WE AVOID FORTUNE TELLING,
WITCHCRAFT AND OUIJA BOARDS?**
christianquestions.com/youtube



It is clear that we cannot do any form of these things and honor God at the same time. This is a big hole in the argument for those who say you can be a witch and a Christian at the same time.

Scripturally, <1875> is used positively 152 times, such as:

1 Samuel 28:7: (KJV) *Then said Saul unto his servants, Seek me a woman that hath a familiar spirit, that I may go to her, and **enquire <1875>** of her. And his servants said to him, Behold, there is a woman that hath a familiar spirit at Endor.*



WE HAVE A COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF WHAT KINDS OF PRACTICES TO AVOID.

As Christians, we should be clear about what to stay away from. Even if any of these practices are done for good and helpful reasons, we have our instructions. God does not bless evil done for a good purpose.

Because the specifics here are blunt and plain, we need to be sound and secure in our stand against such practices.

While the Old Testament teachings regarding witchcraft are obvious, what about the New Testament?

When examining the New Testament, we will find the same clarity but minimally stated. It may be surprising to learn that Jesus never talked about witchcraft. Why? He did not need to as his preaching and mission were to Israel, and they knew the rules. They knew the book of Deuteronomy where their Law was found. We begin to see the subject of witchcraft unfold only occasionally with the apostles as they dealt with Pagan nations.

Since the Old Testament teachings are so obvious, why is everyone so confused? It is impossible to call up the dead. Ecclesiastes 9:10 tells us *...there is no knowledge in the grave...* Satan lied to Eve, telling her she would not die. Also, we do not have a soul separate from our body. Genesis 2:7: *And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.* If you take away the breath, there is no soul.

The fallen spirits are working with Satan. They know the history of every human ever born. When they give a fact about someone through a medium, it sounds like it is the person they were trying to communicate with. **WRONG.** It is a deception! Trust the Old Testament.



We strongly recommend listening to Episode 1201:



Back to Jesus and the New Testament, Jesus was a healer. What is wrong with using magic and energy to bless and heal people and make them feel good? Is not believing that Jesus performed miracles, magical thinking?

It all comes down to the source of the power being used. Jesus did not do miracles to make people feel good. He healed people to show them the power of the kingdom of God and of God's spirit. All of his healing came through one source only - the holy spirit of God (God's power and influence) working through him. It was to perform the will of God, not his own will.

Those who think their will can magically make things the way they want them to be or make them different, think they are God, or equal to God. This is the problem with this whole philosophy; it is completely confused and backwards.



Son of God and Thomas' Gospel, *Can You Be a Christian Witch? How to Deal with Religious Guilt on Your Spiritual Way, The Mindful Mage*

- The traditional gospels teach us that Jesus Christ is the only son of God. But Thomas' gospel suggests that we can all become children of God. It says that when you know yourself, then you will be known and you will understand that you are the children of the living father. But if you will not know yourself, then you dwell in poverty and it is you who are that poverty. Which tells us that we are in control of our relationship to God and we do not necessarily need a pastor, a Pope, a priest, or a church to guide us to that relationship. I personally believe that we all have a direct line to the divine. What else could your soul be if not a piece of God? A spark of divinity. A beacon of light that can and will guide you if you learn to listen and connect to it.*

She talks about Jesus being the only son of God, which is incorrect. Jesus is certainly the son of God, but his faithful followers are also called *sons of God*.

She also talked about all of us having a direct line to God. The only line we have to God is through Jesus Christ himself. There is no compromise. The Bible is clear that Jesus is our high priest. Jesus tells us to pray in his name, meaning HE is our direct line; we do not have one on our own.

"...What could our souls be if they are not a piece of God, a spark of divinity?"

It is important to scripturally understand what the soul is and is not, and what happens to it after we die. We do not have a "piece of God" or "spark of divinity" within us.



Defining what the human soul is and is not, and its destiny at death



1 John 3:1: (KJV) *Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.*

(Source: Wikipedia, the Gospel of Thomas) Modern scholars do not consider Thomas the Apostle the author of this document and the author remains unknown. J. Menard produced a summary of the academic consensus in the mid-1970s, which stated that the gospel was probably a very late text written by a Gnostic author, thus having very little relevance to the study of the early development of Christianity. Scholarly views of Gnosticism and the Gospel of Thomas have since become more nuanced and diverse.

The theology in that book does not reflect that which is taught in the New Testament. The Gospel of Thomas encourages believers to “know themselves” when we know the overall message of the gospel writings is to forget oneself, believing in Christ’s death as the only atonement for sin. Its style is very different from the New Testament writers, using ambiguous and circuitous language. It is not part of the recognized biblical canon for good reason.



Where is our loyalty?

Exodus 20:1-3: (NASB) *¹Then God spoke all these words, saying, ²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. ³You shall have no other gods before Me.*

Violation of this first commandment is the beginning of the downfall of any civilization. This can be subtle, as it first happens in your mind.

In Part I, Episode 1235, we looked at Lucifer (Satan before his fall) as the origin of Paganism. Pagan thinking is modeled after Lucifer’s statement that he would be *like the Most High*. Pagans seek to NOT be submissive to Jehovah God, and many believe everything and everyone is divine.

1 Corinthians 8:5-6: (NASB) *⁵For even if there are so-called gods whether in heaven or on earth, as indeed there are many gods and many lords, ⁶yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom are all things and we exist for Him; and one Lord, Jesus Christ, by whom are all things...*

What is the object of our worship, the reason for our worship and the methods by which we worship? Everything outside of God is just white noise. Do not look over there; your focus is on the one God. We need tunnel vision.

Which path are we on? Is it God’s path or this one that seems to be so well lit? However, it is lit with the light of deception. We cannot combine these two philosophies.

What about the example of Elymas the magician? He was a Jewish sorcerer and false prophet who spoke against Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey. Paul looked at the man and declared he would be blinded for a time.

Some would say this is a prime example of Paul himself casting a spell:

Acts 13:8-11: (NASB) *⁸But Elymas the magician...was opposing them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. ⁹But Saul, who was also known as Paul, filled with the holy spirit, fixed his gaze on him, ¹⁰and said, You who are full of all deceit and fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease to make crooked the straight ways of the Lord? ¹¹Now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you will be blind and not see the sun for a time. And immediately a mist and a darkness fell upon him, and he went about seeking those who would lead him by the hand.*



This is not magic. *Paul, filled with the holy spirit* - the influence of God; not Paul's will or Paul's magic! It was the will of God that this man be blinded for a time because of his hypocritical and fraudulent preaching of the Jewish faith. Paul put him in his place at God's direction.

God's spirit drove this proclamation. Paul was following God, not leading his own spiritual energy to do something - exactly the opposite of magic.

1 John 4:1: (NASB) *Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.*

How do we test the spirits? Jesus did by quoting God's word over and over again. We need to do the same and prove all things through God's word to see if what we are contemplating is in harmony with His plan.



It is thought that modern Paganism and witchcraft is on the rise for Millennials and Gen-Z - especially with females - for a variety of reasons. These include their frustration with traditional religions, wanting to connect with the world around them, and the idea of a "witch" being redefined as a rebellious symbol of feminine power. And if it can help you get what you want, all the better. This next audio clip talks about the alluring concept of manifestation.



**Thought, emotion and manifestation, *Can You Be a Christian Witch?*
*How to Deal with Religious Guilt on Your Spiritual Way, The Mindful Mage***

- You think the thought of achieving a certain goal and allow yourself to feel as though that goal is already obtained, dwell in that, okay? Dwell in it. When you feel the two things so strongly, the two become one, and then you focus. You really focus on the thought of what you desire, and you feel as though what you desire has already come to pass. That is the power of thought and emotion. That is the power of manifestation. Manifestation and intentions are the entire basis of witchcraft.*

The so-called "law of attraction" says you will get whatever consumes your thoughts. Years ago this was made popular by a book called The Secret and is very much a part of the Prosperity Gospel teachings. This is not prayer!



Is prayer the same as spellcasting? After all, isn't prayer using one's intentions, speech, energy, or otherwise to communicate with another being or power in order to obtain a certain outcome? Is "sending thoughts and prayers" the same thing as, "I'm going to cast a protection or healing spell on you"?

Nonsense! They are opposite actions. Casting a spell is imposing OUR will. It is the thought, emotion and "manifestation" of OUR will. Whereas prayer is to ask the heavenly Father for His will to be done. Let's let God's will rule in our lives instead of putting OUR will forward! Again, these are opposite actions with no connection on any level.



Any sinful pattern of godlessness and misplaced worship and devotion always eventually produces the same negative results:

2 Timothy 3:1-5: (NASB) ¹*But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. ²For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, ⁴treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, ⁵holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; avoid such men as these.*

This is a self-focused religion - *lovers of self... rather than lovers of God.* Wicca is *ungrateful* since they ignore the word of God that has been given to us. Those that deal with spirits are certainly *reckless*. *Holding to a form of godliness* certainly fits.

Interestingly, the Apostle Paul draws a parallel to sorcery as he finishes this teaching:

2 Timothy 3:8-9: (NASB) ⁸*Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these men also oppose the truth, men of depraved mind, rejected in regard to the faith. ⁹But they will not make further progress; for their folly will be obvious to all, just as Jannes' and Jambres' folly was also.*

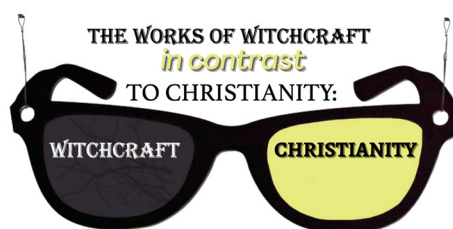
Although not mentioned by name, it is believed Jannes and Jambres were the chief magicians who withstood Moses and Aaron in **Exodus 7**. They were able to duplicate some of the plagues like water turning into blood as well as producing frogs. This was the first mention of sorcery in the Bible.

Though mighty before Pharaoh, these two sorcerers were no match for God's representative, Moses.

The New Testament teaches there are two categories of deeds. Witchcraft falls into the wrong one:

Galatians 5:19-21: (NASB) ¹⁹*Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰idolatry, sorcery (by extension, magic), enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, ²¹envying, 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.*

These are ways one will be excluded from the kingdom of God. If we are Christians, Pagan practices simply do not work. There is no middle ground in this.



WITCHCRAFT IS ALL ABOUT ME AND THE MANIFESTATION OF MY INTENTIONS.

All TRUE disciples of Christ are simply and unequivocally focused on serving only our heavenly Father through our Lord Jesus. We are to have no other agenda, no other focus and no other loyalty.

The differences between witchcraft and Christianity are scarily obvious! We need to be clear and focused on where we stand!

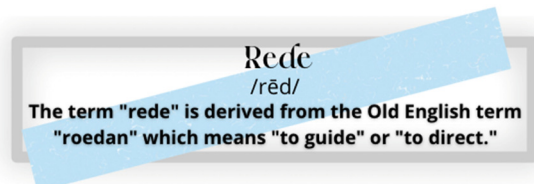


Even though Jesus did not address witchcraft, how does the Bible tell us he would respond to it?

This is an important question. Through his words and actions, Jesus painted a clear and focused picture of his stance regarding witchcraft. It will be important to note that what we see in Jesus' ministry is exactly the same regarding both well-meaning and deceitful Pagan beliefs and rituals.

Let's go back to the Wiccan Rede that teaches to "do what you WILL," and to WILL only that which is not harmful.

The issue is that Wicca leaves such judgment of harm or help to YOUR WILL and not to a higher source of guidance. There are no absolutes of right and wrong, thereby allowing you to mix and match your religion. This can be especially appealing to teenagers.



A Wiccan saying, "do what you will" does not mean having no morals; that you just get to do whatever you want. "Harming none" means having respect for all creatures, the earth and yourself. In other words, "As long as your thoughts and actions harm none, the divine is fine with what you choose to do." They say a certain type of karma applies called the "rule of three" where whatever you do, it is returned to you three times either in number or intensity. This is incentive, they say, for white witches to do good.



**John 16:23-24 as your power source, *Can You Be a Christian Witch?*
*How to Deal with Religious Guilt on Your Spiritual Way, The Mindful Mage***

- *John 16 passages 23 to 24 of the New Testament have been edited. The passages originally read, "All things that you asked straightly and directly from inside my name, you shall be given. So far you have not done this. Ask without hidden motive and be surrounded by your answer. Be enveloped by what you desire, that your gladness be full." To me, this translates as, ask from the heart and not from the ego, and be enveloped by what you desire because that is when your thought and your emotion become one. And within that is your power.*



We could not find any evidence of this passage being edited from the translation she quotes.

Here is the passage as it reads in the New American Standard Bible:

John 16:23-24: (NASB) ²³In that day you will not question me about anything. Truly, truly, I say to you, if you ask the Father for anything in my name, He will give it to you. ²⁴Until now you have asked for nothing in my name; ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be made full.

"...Ask from the heart, not the ego. Be enveloped by what you desire. Thought and emotion become one and therein lies your power..."

This is not biblical teaching.



Let's compare this to gospel teaching:

Ephesians 5:10-12: (NASB) ¹⁰*trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them; ¹²for it is disgraceful even to speak of the things which are done by them in secret.*

It is spiritually inappropriate and God-dishonoring to mix Christianity with any type of witchcraft.

A Christian response to the audio clip:

1 Corinthians 10:20-21: (NASB) ²⁰*No, but I say that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons and not to God; and I do not want you to become sharers in demons. ²¹You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons.*

Shouldn't I be able to worship God in any way I feel is right for ME?



Instead of calling on one's own inner magic from the elements like a goddess, fairies, spirit animals or our ancestors, Christian witches call upon God to guide their practice and believe their power comes from Him.

As long as we are attributing power to the right source, what is the problem?

We can worship God however we want, but will not receive His blessing on the matter unless it is done in the way He has prescribed, through a righteous and appropriate biblical way. He is not to be used as a figurehead for what we want to believe and want to bring into our lives.

With the normalization of Pagan practices including Wicca, and with people adding an overlay or veneer of Christianity, it is scary to think of how easily someone could be deceived into "drinking from the cup of demons" and "eating at their table" without realizing it. This is a clear warning to simply avoid all of it in every way possible.

How did Jesus treat his WILL relating to a legitimate physical need? How did he express his heart?

Matthew 4:2-4: (NASB) ²*And after he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he then became hungry. ³And the tempter came and said to him, If you are the son of God, command that these stones become bread. ⁴But he answered and said, it is written, man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.*

Jesus was hungry, but his ONLY reaction was to quote Scripture. Here he quoted from Deuteronomy 8:3.

How did Jesus treat his WILL relating to expressing the power within him?

Matthew 4:5-7: (NASB) ⁵*Then the devil took him into the holy city and had him stand on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶and said to him, If you are the son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, He will command His angels concerning you; and on their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone. ⁷Jesus said to him, On the other hand, it is written, you shall not put the Lord your God to the test.*

Jesus did not enter into any debate. Again, Jesus' ONLY reaction was to quote Scripture, this time from Deuteronomy 6:16. His WILL in expressing the power within him was of no consequence as he ONLY did the WILL of his Father.



When we put our own WILL forward, we are being contrary to the WILL of God, which is exactly what Satan did and continues to do.

Third temptation - How did Jesus treat his WILL relating to claiming what he came to claim?

Matthew 4:8-10: (NASB) ⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory; ⁹and he said to him, All these things I will give you, if you fall down and worship me. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to him, Go, Satan! For it is written, you shall worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only.

Again, Jesus' ONLY reaction was to quote Scripture, this time from **Deuteronomy 6:13**. His WILL was utterly silent. It was to do only that which God implicitly directed, in God's time frame and precisely how God directed it!



This is the opposite of witchcraft in all its forms. To think we can combine any type of witchcraft with true Christianity is a complete fallacy. The Bible is resounding in this truth.



Check out our CQ Kids videos:
DID JESUS EVER DO ANYTHING WRONG?
 THE THREE TEMPTATIONS IN THE WILDERNESS
christianquestions.com/youtube

How did Jesus treat his WILL relating to his final excruciating trials?

He DID make it known:

Matthew 26:39, 42: (NASB) ³⁹And he went a little beyond them, and fell on his face and prayed, saying, my Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not as I will, but as You will. ⁴²He went away again a second time and prayed, saying, my Father, if this cannot pass away unless I drink it, Your will be done.



Witchcraft presses YOUR WILL forward



Jesus pressed GOD'S WILL forward



Witchcraft presumes YOU know



True Christian disciples understand GOD knows



**WITCH
CRAFT**

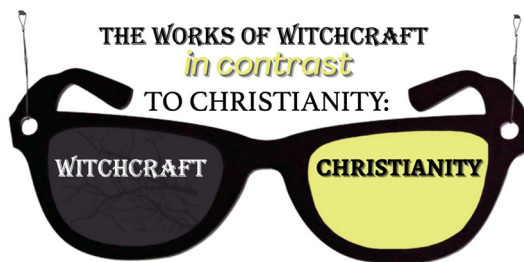
Witchcraft tells the universe what to do

**TRUE
CHRISTIANITY**

True Christian disciples ASK GOD what to do

Our lives are to be focused on developing spiritual fruit, at the expense of our WILL:

Galatians 5:22-24: (NASB) ²²*But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.*



WITCHCRAFT SEEKS TO UNLOCK SPIRITUAL POWER BASED ON OUR OWN WILL.

True Christian disciples understand that our WILL is of no consequence and following the WILL of God through Christ produces peace and blessing far beyond the WILL and desire of any human being at any time!

*So, can Christianity and Paganism work together?
For Jonathan, Rick, Julie and Christian Questions...
Think about it...!*

All quoted scriptures are from the 1995 version of NASB unless otherwise indicated.



Join us next week for our podcast on July 11, 2022
Ep. 1237: Will I Survive God's Final Judgment?

Bonus Material and Study Questions

As used in Deuteronomy 18:11, more on:

6. A MEDIUM

NEW AMERICAN STANDARD VERSION (1995) SAYS: **"MEDIUM"**

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION (2011) SAYS: **"A MEDIUM"**

KING JAMES VERSION SAYS: **"A CONSULTER WITH FAMILIAR SPIRITS"**

Multiple Bible commentaries reference this "bottle spirit" as being the spirit of Python, a snake.

Gill's Exposition on the Entire Bible: (on Deuteronomy 18:11) *or a consulter with familiar spirits* - or the inquirer of "Ob", or the bottle, **which the Jews interpret of Python, or one that has the spirit of Python**; see Acts 16:16, a ventriloquist, one that spoke or seemed to speak out of his belly, or from under his armpits; so it is said in the Misnah of Ob, **this is Python, one that speaks out of his arm holes; agreeably to which, Jarchi says, this is that sort of witchcraft which is called Python, and he speaks from his arm holes, and brings up the dead thither**: of Baal Ob, or the master of the bottle, say some Jewish writers, one way he uses is, he takes the skull of a dead man, the flesh of which is consumed from it, and he hides it and burns incense to it, and mutters words by it, and hears from it, as if from a dead man or a wizard: a knowing one, as the word signifies, such an one as we call a cunning man.

Gill's Exposition on the Entire Bible: (on Leviticus 19:31) *Regard not them that have familiar spirits* - the word used signifies "bottles", and that sort of diviners here intended go by this name, either because what they sat on when they divined was in the form of a bottle, or they divined by one, or they were swelled and inflated as bottles when they delivered out their answers, or spoke as out of a bottle or hollow place; hence they are called masters or mistresses of the bottle: they seem to be the same with the ventriloquists, and so the Septuagint version here calls them; such whose voice seemed to come out of their bellies, and even the lower parts of them; **and such was the Pythian prophetess at Delphos, and very probably the maid in the times of the apostles, who had a spirit of divination, or of Python, Acts 16:16; and so the words may be rendered here, "look not to the Python", or those who have the spirit of Python; so Jarchi from the Misnah interprets the word here used, "Baal Ob" or the master of the bottle, this is Python, one that speaks from under his arm holes**:

Ellicott's Commentary for English Readers: (on Leviticus 19:4) *Them that have familiar spirits* - this phrase represents the single word *oboth* in the original, and the translators of our Authorized Version by adopting it implied that those who practiced this craft were supposed to be attended by an invisible spirit who was subject to their call to supply them with supernatural information. According to the authorities during the second Temple it denotes one who has a spirit speaking from under his arm-holes, or chest, with a hollow voice, as if it came out of a bottle, which is the meaning of ob in Job 32:19. **They identified it with the spirit of Python**, by which the ancient Chaldee Version renders it.

- In Greek mythology, Python (or Pytho) was a great serpent with the power to tell a person's fortune who guarded the oracle of Delphi. The Greek god Apollo is said to have killed Python.



- The Python was a spirit worshipped at Delphi as a spirit of wisdom. It was applied to a ventriloquistic necromancy, whether really possessed by a spirit or feigning to be so.
- In the New Testament <4436> *divination*, the Greek word *pythōn* is used once in Acts 16:16.

The slave girl with the spirit of divination made her owners rich by fortune telling:

Acts 16:16: (NASB) *It happened that as we were going to the place of prayer, a slave-girl having a spirit of *divination* <4436> ("spirit of Python" in Darby Translation and Young's Literal Translation) met us, who was bringing her masters much profit by fortune-telling.*

Divination: Strong's Exhaustive Concordance #4436 *pythōn* or *Puthōn* (the name of the region where Delphi, the seat of the famous oracle, was located); a Python, i.e. (by analogy, with the supposed diviner there) inspiration (soothsaying):—divination

Thayer's Greek Lexicon:

1. in Greek mythology the name of the Pythian serpent or dragon that dwelt in the region of Pytho at the foot of Parnassus in Phocis, and was said to have guarded the oracle of Delphi and been slain by Apollo.

2. ...Acts 16:16; some interpreters think that the young woman here mentioned was a ventriloquist...

(Source: <https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/words/Python>)

The "spirit of Python" shows up in the Darby translation of the Bible six times.

(Source: <https://www.etymonline.com/word/witch#>)

The etymology of the word Wicca includes the Anglo-Saxon glossaries *wicce*, or "pythoness."



Here is the in-depth word study on the various descriptions of forbidden behaviors in Deuteronomy 18. We quote the New American Standard Bible first, the New International Version second and the King James Version third. Following these are the words in question, their definitions and their uses.

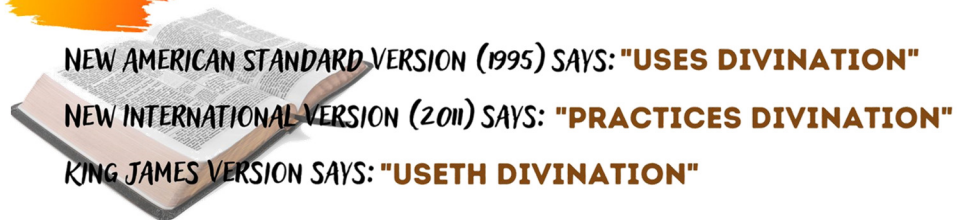
Deuteronomy 18:10-12: (NASB1995) ¹⁰*There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, one who uses divination, one who practices witchcraft, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, ¹¹or one who casts a spell, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead. ¹²For 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.*

Deuteronomy 18:10-12: (NIV2011) ¹⁰*Let no one be found among you who sacrifices their son or daughter in the fire, who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft, ¹¹or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead. ¹²Anyone who does these things is detestable to the LORD; because of these same detestable practices the LORD your God will drive out those nations before you.*

Here is the King James Version showing the Strong's Exhaustive Concordance numbers for the Hebrew words. We start our review with **<7080>**:

Deuteronomy 18:10-12: (KJV) ¹⁰There shall not be **found <4672>** among you any one that maketh his **son <1121>** or his **daughter <1323>** to **pass <5674>** through the **fire <784>**, or that **useth <7080>** **divination <7081>**, or an **observer of times <6049>**, or an **enchanter <5172>**, or a **witch <3784>**, ¹¹Or a **charmer <2266><2267>**, or a **consulter <7592>** with **familiar spirits <178>**, or a **wizard <3049>**, or a **necromancer <1875> <4191>**. ¹²For all that **do <6213>** these things are an **abomination <8441>** unto the **LORD <3068>**: and **because <1558>** of these **abominations <8441>** the **LORD <3068>** thy God **<430>** doth **drive them out <3423>** from before **<6440>** thee.

1. USES DIVINATION



Strong's Exhaustive Concordance #7080 *qacam*; properly, to distribute, i.e. determine by lot or magical scroll; by implication, to divine

The King James Version translates this word as divine (-r, -ation), prudent, soothsayer, use [divination]

Scripturally, **<7080>** has one positive and many negative uses:

Deuteronomy 18:10: (KJV) *There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth <7080> divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch,*

Deuteronomy 18:14: (KJV) *For these nations, which thou shalt possess, hearkened unto observers of times, and unto **diviners <7080>**: but as for thee, the LORD thy God hath not suffered thee so to do.*

Joshua 13:22: (KJV) *Balaam also the son of Beor, the **soothsayer <7080>**, did the children of Israel slay with the sword among them that were slain by them.*

1 Samuel 6:2: (KJV) *And the Philistines called for the priests and the **diviners <7080>**, saying, what shall we do to the ark of the LORD? Tell us wherewith we shall send it to his place.*

1 Samuel 28:8: (KJV) *And Saul disguised himself, and put on other raiment, and he went, and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night: and he said, I pray thee, **divine <7080>** unto me by the familiar spirit, and bring me him up, whom I shall name unto thee.*

2 Kings 17:17: (KJV) *And they caused their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire, and **used <7080>** divination and enchantments, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger.*

Isaiah 3:2: (KJV) *The mighty man, and the man of war, the judge, and the prophet, and the **prudent <7080>**, and the ancient,*

Isaiah 44:25: (KJV) *That frustrateth the tokens of the liars, and maketh **diviners <7080>** mad; that turneth wise men backward, and maketh their knowledge foolish;*



Jeremiah 27:9: (KJV) *Therefore hearken not ye to your prophets, nor to your **diviners <7080>**, nor to your dreamers, nor to your enchanters, nor to your sorcerers, which speak unto you, saying, Ye shall not serve the king of Babylon:*

Jeremiah 29:8: (KJV) *For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Let not your prophets and your **diviners <7080>**, that be in the midst of you, deceive you, neither hearken to your dreams which ye cause to be dreamed.*

Ezekiel 13:9: (KJV) *And mine hand shall be upon the prophets that see vanity, and that **divine <7080>** lies: they shall not be in the assembly of my people, neither shall they be written in the writing of the house of Israel, neither shall they enter into the land of Israel; and ye shall know that I am the Lord GOD.*

Ezekiel 13:23: (KJV) *Therefore ye shall see no more vanity, nor **divine <7080>** divinations: for I will deliver my people out of your hand: and ye shall know that I am the LORD.*

Ezekiel 21:21: (KJV) *For the king of Babylon stood at the parting of the way, at the head of the two ways, **to use <7080>** divination: he made his arrows bright, he consulted with images, he looked in the liver.*

Looked in the liver - (Source: Ellicott's Commentary for English Readers) the inspection of the entrails of sacrificial victims and especially the liver is familiar to every reader of classical literature.

Ezekiel 21:23: (KJV) *And it shall be unto them as a false **divination <7080>** in their sight, to them that have sworn oaths: but he will call to remembrance the iniquity, that they may be taken.*

Ezekiel 21:29: (KJV) *Whiles they see vanity unto thee, whiles they **divine <7080>** a lie unto thee, to bring thee upon the necks of them that are slain, of the wicked.*

Divination: Strong's Exhaustive Concordance #7081 *gesem*; a lot: also divination (including its fee), oracle

The King James Version translates this as (reward of) divination, divine sentence, witchcraft

Scripturally, **<7081>** has one positive and many negative meanings:

Numbers 22:7: (KJV) *And the elders of Moab and the elders of Midian departed with the rewards of **divination <7081>** in their hand; and they came unto Balaam, and spake unto him the words of Balak.*

Numbers 23:23: (KJV) *Surely there is no enchantment against Jacob, neither is there any **divination <7081>** against Israel: according to this time it shall be said of Jacob and of Israel, What hath God wrought!*

Deuteronomy 18:10: (KJV) *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 <7081>**, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch,*

1 Samuel 15:23: (KJV) *For rebellion is as the sin of **witchcraft <7081>**, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king.*

2 Kings 17:17: (KJV) *And they caused their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire, and used **divination <7081>** and enchantments, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger.*



Proverbs 16:10: (KJV) A divine **sentence <7081>** is in the lips of the king: his mouth transgresseth not in judgment.

Jeremiah 14:14: (KJV) Then the LORD said unto me, The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and **divination <7081>**, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart.

Ezekiel 13:6: (KJV) They have seen vanity and lying **divination <7081>**, saying, The LORD saith: and the LORD hath not sent them: and they have made others to hope that they would confirm the word.

Ezekiel 13:23: (KJV) Therefore ye shall see no more vanity, nor divine **divinations <7081>**: for I will deliver my people out of your hand: and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

Ezekiel 21:21: (KJV) For the king of Babylon stood at the parting of the way, at the head of the two ways, to use **divination <7081>**: he made his arrows bright, he consulted with images, he looked in the liver.

Ezekiel 21:22: (KJV) At his right hand was the **divination <7081>** for Jerusalem, to appoint captains, to open the mouth in the slaughter, to lift up the voice with shouting, to appoint battering rams against the gates, to cast a mount, and to build a fort.

2. ONE WHO PRACTICES WITCHCRAFT

NEW AMERICAN STANDARD VERSION (1995) SAYS: **"ONE WHO PRACTICES WITCHCRAFT"**

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION (2011) SAYS: **"SORCERY"**

KING JAMES VERSION SAYS: **"AN OBSERVER OF TIMES"**

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance #6049 *`anan*; to cover; to cloud over; figuratively, to act covertly, i.e. practice magic

The King James Version translates this as bring, enchanter, Meonenim, observe (-r of) times, soothsayer, sorcerer

Scripturally, **<6049>** has one positive and many negative uses:

Genesis 9:14: (KJV) And it shall come to pass, when I **bring <6049>** a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud:

Leviticus 19:26: (KJV) Ye shall not eat any thing with the blood: neither shall ye use enchantment, nor observe **times <6049>**.

Deuteronomy 18:10: (KJV) 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 <6049>**, or an enchanter, or a witch,

Deuteronomy 18:14: (KJV) For these nations, which thou shalt possess, hearkened unto observers of **times <6049>**, and unto diviners: but as for thee, the LORD thy God hath not suffered thee so to do.

Judges 9:37: (KJV) And Gaal spake again and said, See there come people down by the middle of the land, and another company come along by the plain of **Meonenim <6049>**.

2 Kings 21:6: (KJV) And he made his son pass through the fire, and observed **times <6049>**, and used enchantments, and dealt with familiar spirits and wizards: he wrought much wickedness in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger.



2 Chronicles 33:6: (KJV) *And he caused his children to pass through the fire in the valley of the son of Hinnom: also he observed **times <6049>**, and used enchantments, and used witchcraft, and dealt with a familiar spirit, and with wizards: he wrought much evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger.*

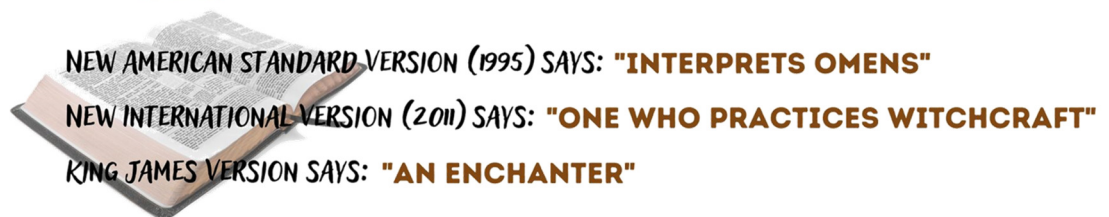
Isaiah 2:6: (KJV) *Therefore thou hast forsaken thy people the house of Jacob, because they be replenished from the east, and are **soothsayers <6049>** like the Philistines, and they please themselves in the children of strangers.*

Isaiah 57:3: (KJV) *But draw near hither, ye sons of the **sorceress <6049>**, the seed of the adulterer and the whore.*

Jeremiah 27:9: (KJV) *Therefore hearken not ye to your prophets, nor to your diviners, nor to your dreamers, nor to your **enchanters <6049>**, nor to your sorcerers, which speak unto you, saying, Ye shall not serve the king of Babylon:*

Micah 5:12: (KJV) *And I will cut off witchcrafts out of thine hand; and thou shalt have no more **soothsayers <6049>**:*

3. INTERPRETS OMENS



Strong's Exhaustive Concordance #5172 *nachash*; properly, to hiss, i.e. whisper a (magic) spell; generally, to prognosticate

The King James Version translates this as certainly, divine, enchanter, (use) enchantment, learn by experience, indeed, diligently observe

Scripturally, **<5172>** has a few positive and many negative uses:

Genesis 30:27: (KJV) *And Laban said unto him, I pray thee, if I have found favour in thine eyes, tarry: for I have learned by **experience <5172>** that the LORD hath blessed me for thy sake.*

Genesis 44:5: (KJV) *Is not this it in which my lord drinketh, and whereby **indeed <5172>** he **divineth <5172>** ye have done evil in so doing.*

Genesis 44:15: (KJV) *And Joseph said unto them, what deed is this that ye have done? wot ye not that such a man as I can **certainly <5172>** **divine <5172>**?*

Leviticus 19:26: (KJV) *Ye shall not eat any thing with the blood: neither shall ye use **enchantment <5172>**, nor observe times.*

Deuteronomy 18:10: (KJV) *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 <5172>**, or a witch,*

1 Kings 20:33: (KJV) *Now the men did diligently **observe <5172>** whether any thing would come from him, and did hastily catch it: and they said, Thy brother Benhadad. Then he said, Go ye, bring him. Then Benhadad came forth to him; and he caused him to come up into the chariot.*



2 Kings 17:17: (KJV) *And they caused their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire, and used divination and **enchantments** <5172>, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger.*

2 Kings 21:6: (KJV) *And he made his son pass through the fire, and observed times, and used **enchantments** <172>, and dealt with familiar spirits and wizards: he wrought much wickedness in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger.*

2 Chronicles 33:6: (KJV) *And he caused his children to pass through the fire in the valley of the son of Hinnom: also he observed times, and used **enchantments** <5172>, and used witchcraft, and dealt with a familiar spirit, and with wizards: he wrought much evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger.*

4. A SORCERER



NEW AMERICAN STANDARD VERSION (1995) SAYS: "**SORCERER**"

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION (2011) SAYS: "**ENGAGES IN WITCHCRAFT**"

KING JAMES VERSION SAYS: "**A WITCH**"

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance #3784 *kashaph*; properly, to whisper a spell, i.e. to enchant or practise magic

The King James Version translates this as sorcerer, (use) witch (-craft)

Scripturally, there are no positive uses of <3784>!

Exodus 7:11: (KJV) *Then Pharaoh also called the wise men and the **sorcerers** <3784>: now the magicians of Egypt, they also did in like manner with their enchantments.*

Exodus 22:18: (KJV) *Thou shalt not suffer a **witch** <3784> to live.*

Deuteronomy 18:10: (KJV) *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** <3784>,*

2 Chronicles 33:6: (KJV) *And he caused his children to pass through the fire in the valley of the son of Hinnom: also he observed times, and used enchantments, and used **witchcraft** <3784>, and dealt with a familiar spirit, and with wizards: he wrought much evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger.*

Daniel 2:2: (KJV) *Then the king commanded to call the magicians, and the astrologers, and the **sorcerers** <3784>, and the Chaldeans, for to shew the king his dreams. So they came and stood before the king.*

Malachi 3:5: (KJV) *And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the **sorcerers** <3784>, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the LORD of hosts.*

5. ONE WHO CASTS A SPELL



NEW AMERICAN STANDARD VERSION (1995) SAYS: "ONE WHO CASTS A SPELL"

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION (2011) SAYS: "OR CASTS SPELLS"

KING JAMES VERSION SAYS: "A CHARMER"

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance #2266 *chabar*; to join (literally or figuratively); specifically (by means of spells) to fascinate

The King James Version translates this as charm (-er), be compact, couple (together), have fellowship with, heap up, join (self, together), league

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance #2267 *cheber*; a society; also a spell

Scripturally, <2266> has two negative uses out of 25 total:

Deuteronomy 18:11: (KJV) Or a **charmer** <2266>, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer.

2 Chronicles 20:35: (KJV) And after this did Jehoshaphat king of Judah **join** <2266> himself with Ahaziah king of Israel, who did very wickedly:

2 Chronicles 20:36: (KJV) And he **joined** <2266> himself with him to make ships to go to Tarshish: and they made the ships in Eziongeber.

2 Chronicles 20:37: (KJV) Then Eliezer the son of Dodavah of Mareshah prophesied against Jehoshaphat, saying, Because thou hast **joined** <2266> thyself with Ahaziah, the LORD hath broken thy works. And the ships were broken, that they were not able to go to Tarshish.

Job 16:4: (KJV) I also could speak as ye do: if your soul were in my soul's stead, I could **heap up** <2266> words against you, and shake mine head at you.

Psalms 58:5: (KJV) Which will not hearken to the voice of charmers, **charming** <2266> never so wisely.

Scripturally, <2267> has four negative uses out of seven total:

Deuteronomy 18:11: (KJV) or a **charmer** <2267>, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer.

Psalms 58:5: (KJV) Which will not hearken to the voice of charmers, **charming** <2267> never so wisely.

Proverbs 21:9: (KJV) It is better to dwell in a corner of the housetop, than with a brawling woman in a **wide** <2267> house.

Proverbs 25:24: (KJV) It is better to dwell in the corner of the housetop, than with a brawling woman and in a **wide** <2267> house.

Isaiah 47:9: (KJV) But these two things shall come to thee in a moment in one day, the loss of children, and widowhood: they shall come upon thee in their perfection for the multitude of thy sorceries, and for the great abundance of thine **enchantments** <2267>.

Isaiah 47:12: (KJV) Stand now with thine **enchantments** <2267>, and with the multitude of thy sorceries, wherein thou hast laboured from thy youth; if so be thou shalt be able to profit, if so be thou mayest prevail.

Hosea 6:9: (KJV) *And as troops of robbers wait for a man, so the **company <2267>** of priests murder in the way by consent: for they commit lewdness.*

6. A MEDIUM

NEW AMERICAN STANDARD VERSION (1995) SAYS: "**MEDIUM**"

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION (2011) SAYS: "**A MEDIUM**"

KING JAMES VERSION SAYS: "**A CONSULTER WITH FAMILIAR SPIRITS**"

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance #7592 *sha'al*; or *sha'el*; to inquire; by implication, to request; by extension, to demand

The King James Version translates this as ask (counsel, on), beg, borrow, lay to charge, consult, demand, desire, earnestly, enquire, greet, obtain leave, lend, pray, request, require, salute, straitly, surely, wish

Scripturally, **<7592>** is used 157 times, but only twice in relation to the occult:

Deuteronomy 18:11: (KJV) *Or a charmer, or a **consulter <7592>** with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer.*

1 Chronicles 10:13: (KJV): *So Saul died for his transgression which he committed against the LORD, even against the word of the LORD, which he kept not, and also for **asking <7592>** counsel of one that had a familiar spirit, to enquire of it;*

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance #178 *ob*; (apparently through the idea of prattling a father's name); properly, a mumble, i.e. a water skin (from its hollow sound); hence a necromancer (ventriloquist, as from a jar)

The King James Version translates this as bottle, familiar spirit

Scripturally, **<178>** has only one positive, non-occult use only:

Leviticus 19:31: (KJV) *Regard not them that have **familiar spirits <178>**, neither seek after wizards, to be defiled by them: I am the LORD your God.*

Leviticus 20:6: (KJV) *And the soul that turneth after such as have **familiar spirits <178>**, and after wizards, to go a whoring after them, I will even set my face against that soul, and will cut him off from among his people.*

Leviticus 20:27: (KJV) *A man also or woman that hath a **familiar spirit <178>**, or that is a wizard, shall surely be put to death: they shall stone them with stones: their blood shall be upon them.*

Deuteronomy 18:11: (KJV) *Or a charmer, or a consulter with **familiar spirits <178>**, or a wizard, or a necromancer.*

1 Samuel 28:3: (KJV) *Now Samuel was dead, and all Israel had lamented him, and buried him in Ramah, even in his own city. And Saul had put away those that had **familiar spirits <178>**, and the wizards, out of the land.*

1 Samuel 28:7: (KJV) *Then said Saul unto his servants, Seek me a woman that hath a **familiar spirit <178>**, that I may go to her, and enquire of her. And his servants said to him, Behold, there is a woman that hath a **familiar spirit <178>** at Endor.*



1 Samuel 28:8: (KJV) *And Saul disguised himself, and put on other raiment, and he went, and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night: and he said, I pray thee, divine unto me by the **familiar spirit <178>**, and bring me him up, whom I shall name unto thee.*

1 Samuel 28:9: (KJV) *And the woman said unto him, Behold, thou knowest what Saul hath done, how he hath cut off those that have **familiar spirits <178>**, and the wizards, out of the land: wherefore then layest thou a snare for my life, to cause me to die?*

2 Kings 21:6: (KJV) *And he made his son pass through the fire, and observed times, and used enchantments, and dealt with **familiar spirits <178>** and wizards: he wrought much wickedness in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger.*

2 Kings 23:24: (KJV) *Moreover the workers with **familiar spirits <178>**, and the wizards, and the images, and the idols, and all the abominations that were spied in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem, did Josiah put away, that he might perform the words of the law which were written in the book that Hilkiah the priest found in the house of the LORD.*

1 Chronicles 10:13: (KJV) *So Saul died for his transgression which he committed against the LORD, even against the word of the LORD, which he kept not, and also for asking counsel of one that had a **familiar spirit <178>**, to enquire of it;*

2 Chronicles 33:6: (KJV) *And he caused his children to pass through the fire in the valley of the son of Hinnom: also he observed times, and used enchantments, and used witchcraft, and dealt with a **familiar spirit <178>**, and with wizards: he wrought much evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger.*

Job 32:19: (KJV) *Behold, my belly is as wine which hath no vent; it is ready to burst like **new bottles <178>**.*

Isaiah 8:19: (KJV) *And when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have **familiar spirits <178>**, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter: should not a people seek unto their God? for the living to the dead?*

Isaiah 19:3: (KJV) *And the spirit of Egypt shall fail in the midst thereof; and I will destroy the counsel thereof: and they shall seek to the idols, and to the charmers, and to them that have **familiar spirits <178>**, and to the wizards.*

Isaiah 29:4: (KJV) *And thou shalt be brought down, and shalt speak out of the ground, and thy speech shall be low out of the dust, and thy voice shall be, as of one that hath a **familiar spirit <178>**, out of the ground, and thy speech shall whisper out of the dust.*

7. A SPIRITIST

NEW AMERICAN STANDARD VERSION (1995) SAYS: "**A SPIRITIST**"

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION (2011) SAYS: "**SPIRITIST**"

KING JAMES VERSION SAYS: "**WIZARD**"

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance #3049 *yidde`oni*; properly, a knowing one; specifically, a conjurer; (by impl) a ghost

The King James Version translates this as wizard or wizards

Scripturally, **<3049>** has only negative uses:

Leviticus 19:31: (KJV) *Regard not them that have familiar spirits, neither seek after **wizards <3049>**, to be defiled by them: I am the LORD your God.*



Leviticus 20:6: (KJV) *And the soul that turneth after such as have familiar spirits, and after **wizards <3049>**, to go a whoring after them, I will even set my face against that soul, and will cut him off from among his people.*

Leviticus 20:27: (KJV) *A man also or woman that hath a familiar spirit, or that is a **wizard <3049>**, shall surely be put to death: they shall stone them with stones: their blood shall be upon them.*

Deuteronomy 18:11: (KJV) *Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a **wizard <3049>**, or a necromancer.*

1 Samuel 28:3: (KJV) *Now Samuel was dead, and all Israel had lamented him, and buried him in Ramah, even in his own city. And Saul had put away those that had familiar spirits, and the **wizards <3049>**, out of the land.*

1 Samuel 28:9: (KJV) *And the woman said unto him, Behold, thou knowest what Saul hath done, how he hath cut off those that have familiar spirits, and the **wizards <3049>**, out of the land: wherefore then layest thou a snare for my life, to cause me to die?*

2 Kings 21:6: (KJV) *And he made his son pass through the fire, and observed times, and used enchantments, and dealt with familiar spirits and **wizards <3049>**: he wrought much wickedness in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger.*

2 Kings 23:24: (KJV) *Moreover the workers with familiar spirits, and the **wizards <3049>**, and the images, and the idols, and all the abominations that were spied in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem, did Josiah put away, that he might perform the words of the law which were written in the book that Hilkiah the priest found in the house of the LORD.*

2 Chronicles 33:6: (KJV) *And he caused his children to pass through the fire in the valley of the son of Hinnom: also he observed times, and used enchantments, and used witchcraft, and dealt with a familiar spirit, and with **wizards <3049>**: he wrought much evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger.*

Isaiah 8:19: (KJV) *And when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto **wizards <3049>** that peep, and that mutter: should not a people seek unto their God? For the living to the dead?*

Isaiah 19:3: (KJV) *And the spirit of Egypt shall fail in the midst thereof; and I will destroy the counsel thereof: and they shall seek to the idols, and to the charmers, and to them that have familiar spirits, and to the **wizards <3049>**.*

8. ONE WHO CALLS [UP THE DEAD]

NEW AMERICAN STANDARD VERSION (1995) SAYS: **"ONE WHO CALLS" (UP THE DEAD)**

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION (2011) SAYS: **"ONE WHO CONSULTS" (THE DEAD)**

KING JAMES VERSION SAYS: **"A NECROMANCER"**

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance #1875 *darash*; properly, to tread or frequent; usually to follow (for pursuit or search); by implication, to seek or ask; specifically to worship

The King James Version translates this as ask, at all, care for, diligently, inquire, make inquisition, [necro-] mancer, question, require, search, seek [for, out], surely



Scripturally, <1875> is vastly positive in its 152 uses:

1 Samuel 28:7: (KJV) *Then said Saul unto his servants, Seek me a woman that hath a familiar spirit, that I may go to her, and **enquire <1875>** of her. And his servants said to him, Behold, there is a woman that hath a familiar spirit at Endor.*

2 Kings 1:2: (KJV) *And Ahaziah fell down through a lattice in his upper chamber that was in Samaria, and was sick: and he sent messengers, and said unto them, Go, **enquire <1875>** of Baalzebub the god of Ekron whether I shall recover of this disease.*

Isaiah 8:19: (KJV) *And when they shall say unto you, **Seek <1875>** unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter: should not a people **seek <1875>** unto their God? for the living to the dead?*

Isaiah 19:3: (KJV) *And the spirit of Egypt shall fail in the midst thereof; and I will destroy the counsel thereof: and they shall **seek <1875>** to the idols, and to the charmers, and to them that have familiar spirits, and to the wizards.*

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See:  **CQ Rewind**
SHOW NOTES

<https://christianquestions.com/doctrine/1236-wicca/>

1. What is Wicca? How is it said to differ from witchcraft? What is the Wiccan Rede? What forbidden practices does Deuteronomy 18:9-14 list as part of the Jewish Law? How does God look at these practices?
2. The word “uses” in Deuteronomy 18:10 has the thought of “determining by lot” and is paired with “divination.” What practice of Wicca is similar to throwing lots? How is “divination” used in Wicca? Why should Christians be uncomfortable with these activities? How does the practice of “bibliomancy” dishonor God and weaken the understanding of His word? (See Jeremiah 14:14, 29:8, John 19:24, Ezekiel 21:21)
3. Why is trusting inner guidance, that “voice within,” a dangerous undertaking? (See Jeremiah 17:9)
4. If Jesus is considered optional in Wicca yet mandatory in Christianity, how would Christians fit in with Wiccans who do not see Jesus as the vital link to God and His plan? (Hebrews 12:2, Philippians 2:9-11)
5. How would you respond to someone saying the Old Testament warnings do not specifically address “white” or “good” witchcraft? What gives spells their power? Why could this power be dangerous? (See Isaiah 8:19, Acts 13:10, Ephesians 6:12)
6. Is God found anywhere in spellcasting? Whose will should we trust and why? (See Deuteronomy 18:10,11, 2 Kings 17:17, Exodus 7:11, Psalm 58:5)
7. What is “necromancy”? How do we know it is impossible to call up the actual dead? How could an evil spirit impersonate a dead person? (See Deuteronomy 18:11, Ecclesiastes 9:10, Genesis 2:7, Jeremiah 27:9, Ep. 1201: “Can the Dead Communicate With Us?”)
8. What is the difference between the healings of Jesus and someone casting a healing spell to make someone feel good? What was the purpose of Jesus’ healing? When we send our thoughts and prayers to others, are we essentially casting a protection or healing spell? Explain the danger here.
9. Do individual Christians have a direct line to God or must we go through Jesus? (See John 14:13-14, 15:16, 16:23-24, 16:26) Are humans all divine in that we have a “spark of divinity” within us? (See Ep. 1227: “Where Do the Human Soul and Spirit Go When We Die? (Part I)”)
10. Why is quoting from the Gospel of Thomas not a valid method for sanctioning any form of witchcraft?
11. Can we worship God however we want and still be acceptable to Him? (See Hebrews 12:28, Romans 12:1,2, Colossians 3:17)
12. How did Jesus treat his own will during the temptations from Satan in the wilderness? Why did Jesus quote from Deuteronomy? (See 1 John 3:1, 4:1, Galatians 5:19-21, Ephesians 5:10-12, 1 Corinthians 10:20-21, Matthew 4:2-10, 26:39,42, Deuteronomy 6:13,16)