

WHICH SPIRIT ARE YOU FOLLOWING

LEVITICUS 19:31

There is a phenomenon going on today, that is having disastrous consequences upon the Church. What is it you say? Is it persecution? Is it the loss of tax deductibility for charitable donations? Is it false doctrine? No! No! No! These are the symptoms, and not the causes. Well what is it then? As the expression goes, "I looked for the enemy, and the enemy was within". Even though Paul mentioned the three anothers in 2 Corinthians 11: 4; another gospel, another Jesus, and another spirit; the one we will look at now is the another spirit. But why this, you say? Because, by being off on this is 'leading the Church astray, and also leading people astray on the other main elements of the faith. JESUS CHRIST and the Gospel.

2 Timothy 4: 3 & 4 - For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they multiply to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned to fables.

Is there any evidence to back this up? The proof of the pudding is in the eating. Just check the social statistics. There is no significant difference between believers and non-believers. But couldn't that be only a lack of commitment on the part of Christians. Granted that could be part of it, but I suspect it is a symptom and not the cause.

If an apple is rotten inside, it usually takes a while before you notice it on the surface. When the apple tree is in full bloom, and the fragrance is wonderful; a fly comes & lays its eggs in the flower. As the petals fall off & the apple starts to form; the egg hatches & the worm emerges, surrounded by its food bank. The apple and worm grow until an unsuspecting person picks it to take a bite and... Well you can finish that story.

Are you saying that people have worms inside them? Some do physically, and many do spiritually. That worm is a counterfeit holy spirit, or a familiar spirit. COUNTERFEIT! Yes, counterfeit. You see, there are many substitutes for the real thing today. There is a revival among the Native Indians, getting back to their native spirituality. Included in that is finding their own spirit guide. If it is in the form of an animal, they will not hunt it for the rest of their lives. Silva Mind Control specializes in helping their victims to contact two spirit guides, after only a weekend workshop. They are given a phone book, where they randomly pick two listings. They then send their demons to gather information on the unsuspecting people.

If there is anyone here who has picked any of these up, we are willing to Pray for you in JESUS' NAME to get rid of them.

I hope that you are beginning to see the scope of the situation.

Ephesians 6: 12 says it all. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. The high places are in the heavenlies, and that is where the battle is, in the spiritual realm.

And the devil is after our minds as in Romans 12: 1 & 2 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

If Christians do not believe the true gospel, and protect themselves with spiritual warfare; they will be victims. Some years ago, there was a Christian who went to a Benjamin Creme meeting; he's a big leader of the New Age Movement. The man came away all scrambled up. We prayed with him for a while, but the major breakthrough did not come.

Children seem to be a favourite target for the devil. He plays on their innocence, and tries all the angles to get them. In many schools, young children are taught how to meditate and how to contact their spirit guide, QR or Quiet Reflex.

Have you not seen the media shows for them? Most of the computer games are occult oriented. A lot of the movies are too. There's one called, "A Field of Dreams", which shows children that it's all right to listen to voices in their heads. Chapter 12 of "How to be a Successful Teenager" is entitled, "The Secret about the Voices in Your Head". And they are not from God! Many modern musicians are guided by these demonic voices in their heads, helping them with their music. Many musicians, especially the rappers have sold their souls to the devil as well. Gary North, in his book, "Unholy Spirits", page 183, says that those who are well entrenched in the occult, are guided by "voices and visions".

John had some good advice in 1 John 4: 1 to 3 - Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this ye know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ hath come in the flesh is from God: And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not from God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, of which ye have heard that it should come; & even now already it is in the world.

Even the board games have to be watched. Ouija uses evil spirits to obtain answers to questions. Rubik's cube is a game witches themselves admit to using to increase their intuitional abilities. What are believers doing with it? Jeremiah 10: 2 - Thus saith the LORD, Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed

at them.

God does not honour the realm of the devil, so if it's not God's Holy Spirit, what is it? How about a spirit guide or a familiar spirit. If it wasn't possible to become involved with them, why would Our LORD put prohibitions against them? Deuteronomy 18: 9 to 14 - When thou art come into the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations. There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch, Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer. For all that do these things are an abomination unto the LORD: and because of these abominations the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee. Thou shalt be perfect with the LORD thy God. For these nations, which thou shalt possess, hearkened unto observers of times, and unto diviners: but as for thee, the LORD thy God hath not suffered thee so to do. I know someone who would drive to work reading their Warfare Prayers, with no problems. Have you tried to drive while reading? It takes a miracle; or something else. I expressed my concerns. He said that it was on autopilot. If we neglect to actively use our minds, there is someone eagerly awaiting to.

1 Kings 22: 22 & 23 - And the LORD said to him, By what means? & he said, I will go forth, and I will be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets. And he said, Thou shalt persuade him, & prevail also: go forth, & do so. Now therefore, behold, the LORD hath put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these thy prophets, & the Lord hath spoken evil concerning thee.

"War on the Saints", has some excellent information on passivity. Believers are divided into three classes. The breakdown is found on page 72. Class Number 1 is "surrendered" in will, but not surrendered in fact, in the sense of being ready to carry out "obedience to the Holy Ghost" at all costs. They consequently know little of conflict, and nothing of the devil, excepting as a tempter or accuser. They do not understand those who speak of the on-slaughts of Satan, for, they say, they are not attacked in this way.

Class Number 2 is surrendered in such a measure that they are ready to obey the Spirit of God at all costs, with the result that they become open to a passivity which gives ground for the deception and possession of evil spirits.

They fall into passivity after the Baptism of the Holy Ghost, (1) because of their determination to carry out their "surrender" at all costs; (2) their relationship with the spiritual world, which opens to them supernatural communications, which they believe to be all of God; (3) their "surrender" leading them to submit, subdue & make all things subservient to this plane.

The origin of the evil passivity which gives the evil spirits opportunity to deceive, and then possess, is generally a wrong interpretation of Scripture, or wrong thoughts or beliefs about Divine things. The passivity may affect the whole man-, in spirit, soul and body.

Class Number 3 have their minds liberated, and all the faculties are operating. They are open to light and all that is Divine, but they seek watchfully to close themselves to all that is satanic.

Well what exactly is this familiar spirit? In Strong's Concordance, 0178 obe AV - familiar spirit(s) 16, bottles 1; 17

1) water skin bottle 2a) necromancer 2b) necromancer, one who evokes the dead 2c) ghost, spirit of a dead one 2d) practice of necromancy

3) one that has a familiar spirit

What is God's way? Acts 2: 17 to 21 - And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke: The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come: And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Are there any other Scriptures to give a fuller view on the subject?

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

Exodus 22: 18 - Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live.

Leviticus 19: 26 - Ye shall not eat any thing with the blood: neither shall ye use enchantment, nor observe times.

Leviticus 20: 6 & 7 - And the soul that turneth after such as have familiar spirits, 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. Sanctify yourselves therefore, and be ye holy: for I am the LORD your God.

v27 A man also or woman that hath a familiar spirit, or that is a wizard, shall surely be put to death: they shall stone them with stones: their blood shall be upon them.

1 Samuel 28: 3 - 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, out of the land.

v7 to 20 - Then said Saul unto his servants, Seek me a woman that hath a familiar spirit, 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 at Endor. 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, and bring me him up, whom I shall name unto thee. 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, out of the land: wherefore then layest thou a snare for my life, to cause me to die? And Saul sware to her by the LORD, saying, As the LORD liveth, there shall no punishment happen to thee for this thing. Then said the woman, Whom shall I bring up unto thee? And he said, Bring me up Samuel. And when the woman saw Samuel, she cried with a loud voice: and the woman spake to Saul, saying, Why hast thou deceived me? for thou art Saul. And the king said unto her, Be not afraid: for what sawest thou? And the woman said unto Saul, I saw gods ascending out of the earth. And he said unto her, What form is he of? And she said, An old man cometh up; and he is covered with a mantle. And Saul perceived that it was Samuel, and he stooped with his face to the ground, and bowed himself. And Samuel said to Saul, Why hast thou disquieted me, to bring me up? And Saul answered, I am sore distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God is departed from me, and answereth me no more, neither by prophets, nor by dreams: therefore I have called thee, that thou mayest make known unto me what I shall do. Then said Samuel, Wherefore then dost thou ask of me, seeing the LORD is departed from thee, and is become thine enemy? And the LORD hath done to him, as he spake by me: for the LORD hath rent the kingdom out of thine hand, and given it to thy neighbour, even to David: Because thou obeyedst not the voice of the LORD, nor executedst his fierce wrath upon Amalek, therefore hath the LORD done this thing unto thee this day. Moreover the LORD will also deliver Israel with thee into the hand of the Philistines: and to morrow shalt thou and thy sons be with me: the LORD also shall deliver the host of Israel into the hand of the Philistines. Then Saul fell straightway all along on the earth, and was sore afraid, because of the words of Samuel: and there was no strength in him; for he had eaten no bread all the day, nor all the night.

1 Chronicles 10: 13 - 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, to enquire of it;
2 Kings 21: 6 - And he (Manasseh) made his son pass through the fire, and observed times, 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 - And he (Manasseh) 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: he wrought much evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger.

Isaiah 29: 4 - And thou shalt be brought down, and shalt speak out of the ground, and my speech shall be low out of the dust, and thy voice shall be, as of one that hath a familiar spirit, out of the ground, and thy speech shall whisper out of the dust.

Isaiah 47: 13 - Thou art wearied in the multitude of thy counsels. Let now the astrologers, the stargazers, the monthly prognosticators, stand up, and save thee from these things that shall come upon thee.

Under the Old Covenant, God dealt severely with the occultists.

However with grace, we are now under the New Covenant, we do not kill them. Acts 8: 9 to 25 - But there was a certain man, called Simon, which beforetime in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one: To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great power of God. And to him they had regard, because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries. But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done. Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost: (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.) Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost. And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money, Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost. But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money. Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God. Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee. For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and [in] the bond of iniquity. Then answered Simon, and said, Pray ye to the Lord for me, that none of these things which ye have spoken come upon me. And they, when they had testified and preached the word of the Lord, returned to Jerusalem, and preached the gospel in many villages of the Samaritans.

Galatians 3: 1 - O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you?

Acts 13: 6 to 12 - And when they had gone through the isle unto Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew, whose name was Bar-jesus: Which was with the deputy of the country, Sergius Paulus, a prudent man; who called for Barnabas and Saul, and desired to hear the word of God. But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith. Then Saul, (who also is called Paul,) filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him, And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord? And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand. Then the deputy, when he saw what was done, believed, being astonished at the doctrine of the Lord.

Acts 16: 16 to 18 - And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying: The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation. And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.

Acts 19: 19 & 20 - Many of them also which used curious arts brought their books together, and burned them before all men: and they counted the price of them, and found it fifty thousand pieces of silver. So mightily grew the word of God and prevailed.

Galatians 5: 19 to 21 - Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lascivious-ness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

Revelation 21: 8 - But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

What would you do if you were raised in an environment of familiar spirits, such as spiritualism? We know one lady who was, who even went to a "deliverance church", but did not receive any prayer for her condition. The

church is gone, and the lady has drifted away. without getting the help she needed. This church also had a workshop some years ago, where half the people there were spiritualists. Needless to say, the deliverance was stifled. Only after was it revealed who they were. By the way, the previous passage applies especially to those calling themselves "Christian Spiritualists". They are deceived!

Another thing to watch out for, especially for those in deliverance, is the lure of familiar spirits. When praying, we must be wary that we are not either using those spirits ourselves, mistaking it for God's discernment; or playing with the familiar spirits, instead of getting to the root of the problem. We have seen that happen in the past, when people were praying for those with multiple personalities. We have found that they are indeed familiar spirits! Modern psychology tries to fuse the demons together, to produce a single personality. So if praying for someone like that, don't forget to break apart the ungodly personality, and cast out each part. Don't let the demons deceive you into letting them stay, saying that this personality is needed. Its a lie. Go for complete deliverance in this area!

Maxwell Whyte has written a book, "The Kiss of Satan", where he describes his growing up in a spiritualist family. He has an interesting quote in it, on page 60. "In church circles there is a more subtle form of witchcraft. This concerns the false prophet with false occult gifts. They creep into churches manifesting the supernatural; but they are healing by "the spirits" and not by the Holy Spirit. They preach a very light message with very little Scriptural backing, and then healings occur which charm the people (literally) and they conclude he must be "a man of God". He is it reality a wizard! This is a religious spirit and when cast out has been known to reveal itself as a "spirit of witchcraft." I heard one friend who is a pastor explaining that their faces seemed to have a "plastic look," and this exactly describes their mask-like, unnatural "holy" look! It reveals the seducing spirit inside. It is false and it simulates the things of God by counterfeit." How does Strong's define a wizard? 03049 yid-deh-o-nee'

AV - wizard 11; 1) a knower, one who has a familiar spirit

1a) a familiar spirit, soothsayer, necromancer

So if there is any final advice, it would be: Leviticus 19: 31- Regard not them that have familiar spirits, neither seek after wizards, to be defiled by them: I am the LORD your God.

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