

Halloween...satan's holiday?



300 years before Jesus Christ was born, a civilization of people called the Celts, lived throughout the British Isles, Scandinavia and Western Europe, living around much superstition, and controlled by a secret society of pagan priests called Druids. The Druids were satanist who worshipped and served the demonic god of death, Samhain. These priests controlled peoples' lives by fear and much death. Disease and destruction continually plagued the Celts as a result of the Druid's practices. Each year on October 31st, the Druids celebrated the eve of the Celtic's New Year in honor of their pagan god, Samhain. It is said that the spirits of those who had died in the preceding year roamed the earth on Samhain Eve. The "Festival of Samhain," more accurately called "The Festival of Death," was officially known and is still recognized by all satanists, occultists and devil worshippers, as the "eve of the new year" for witchcraft. When the Romans conquered the Celts, some of the Celtic traditions were absorbed into the Catholic religion, including "The Festival of the Dead." In 835 A.D. Pope Gregory IV sought to replace Samhain with All Saints' Day and from All Saints' Day came Allhallows Eve and later Halloween. People still celebrate All Saints' Day in observance of the dead and hold the dead in high regard. Halloween is a very important night for all satanists, witches and those who participate in the occult, because they report that on this night satanic, occult and witchcraft powers are at their highest potency level.

"Trick or Treat" also came from the Druid priests. In the very beginning of this evil holiday, the Druid priests would go from house to house demanding and taking all sorts of strange food for their own consumption and as offerings to their god, "Lord Samhain" at the "festival of death". If the village people would not give them the foods demanded, they would speak a demonic curse on the home and history claims that someone in the family would die within the year = "trick or treat". The Druids carried with them large turnips, used as lanterns, hollowed out, with candles inside and carved with faces on the front to represent the demonic spirit they depended upon for their power and knowledge. It is believed by the Druids that their familiar spirit (they named the spirit in the turnip "Jock") would inhabit these turnips and assist them in carrying out the spells spoken over the homes and lives of those refusing the Druids' demands. When this practice came to America in the 18th & 19th centuries, turnips weren't that accessible. A vegetable native to America that would make a great substitute...the pumpkin! In America, instead of the name Jock, the more-familiar name "Jack" was given to the spirit of the pumpkin and therefore, "Jack-O-lantern". As you can clearly see, there is nothing Christian about Halloween. It is today what it has always been - a day dedicated to the devil!

Jesus Christ said in John 10:10, "The thief has come to kill, steal and destroy; but I have come that you might have life and have it more abundantly!"

Jesus died for you because He loves you; He doesn't want you serving the devil.

Halloween...satan's holiday?

300 years before Jesus was born, a civilization of people called the Celts lived throughout the British Isles, Scandinavia and western Europe. They lived around and were controlled by superstition and a secret society of pagan priests called the Druids, who were satanists, worshipping and serving the demonic god of death, Samhain (pronounced Sa-man). These priests literally controlled peoples' lives through the mechanism of fear and much death. Disease and destruction continually plagued the Celts as a result of the Druid's practices and their involvement in people's lives. Each year on October 31st, the Druids celebrated the eve of the Celtic's New Year in honor of their pagan god, Samhain. The "Festival of Samhain," more accurately called "The Festival of Death," was officially known and is still recognized by all satanists, occultists and devil worshippers as the "eve of the new year" for witchcraft. Anton Lavey, author of the "satanic bible" and high priest of the church of satan, says there are 3 important days to satanists: 1) their birthday, 2) April 30th and 3) halloween. He says it is on this night that satanic, occult and witchcraft powers are at their highest potency level. Any witch or occultist who has had difficulty with a spell or curse can usually achieve success on October 31st because satan and his powers are at their best that night.

"I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions (demons) and to overcome all the power of the enemy and nothing shall harm you!" (Luke 10:19)
"Greater is He That is in me than he that is in the world!" (1 John 4:4)

The World Book Encyclopedia says it is the beginning of all that is "cold, dark and dead." This "day of the dead" is still celebrated today in Mexico when the people believe that spirits of the departed return to visit the living. During this "celebration" elaborate altars are designed and set up to lure the dead back from beyond.

How did "trick or treat" originate?

In the very beginnings of this evil holiday, the Druid priests would go from house to house demanding all sorts of strange foods for their own consumption and as offerings to their god, "Lord Samhain" at the "Festival of Death." If the village people would not give them the foods demanded, they would speak a demonic curse over the home and history claims that someone in the family would die within the year. Thus you have "trick or treat."

How did the "jack-O-lantern" originate?

The Druids would carry with them a large turnip, hollowed out on the inside and carved with a face on the front to represent the demonic spirit they depended upon for their power and knowledge. This spirit is called a "familiar spirit." (Acts 16:16-18)

The turnip, lighted by a candle from inside, was used as a lantern for the Druids as they went from house to house at night. It is believed by the Druids that their familiar spirit (they named the spirit in the turnip Jock) would inhabit these turnips and assist them in carrying out the spells spoken over the homes and lives of those refusing the Druids' demands. When this practice came to America in the 18th & 19th centuries, turnips weren't that accessible. But there was a vegetable native to America that would make a great substitute....the pumpkin. In America, instead of the name Jock, the name Jack was given to the spirit of the pumpkin and hence, "Jack-O-lantern." As you can clearly see, there is nothing Christian about halloween. It is today what it has always been ~ a day dedicated to the devil!

Halloween ~ How did it get into the church?

When Constantine became emperor of Rome, he made a law declaring Christianity (which was Catholicism at this particular time in history) to be the official state religion. Having been recently converted by a tremendous martyr of the time, Constantine was zealous in his new-found faith and demanded as emperor that everyone become a Christian or face the penalty of death. Well, you can imagine what happened - the churches were flooded with pagans, not converts, but rather pagan people forced to join the Catholic Church or lose their lives for defying the emperor. As this happened, the priests and especially the pope, faced some serious problems: these people were bringing their pagan practices and ideas into the church including "the festival of Samhain." They DEMANDED that this festival remain a part of their lives. Since the church was unsuccessful in getting the pagan practices out of the people, it was decided to sanctify some of them, especially this October 31st ritual, "the festival of Samhain (festival of death)." In the 19th century, the Pope declared a new day to be celebrated by the church on November 1st, called "All Saints Day." This day in honor of all the martyred saints of the church and October 31st became the Eve of All Saints Day or All Saints Day Eve. Now the church contended that the people could still have their festival on October 31st because November 1st was a "holy day."

The Mass said on All Saints Day is the "all-hallowmans" and over the years the evening before became known as All Hallows Eve = All Hallow E'en = and finally Halloween.

But the problem was that nothing changed. The people didn't lay down their pagan rites and worship of devils for the "new eve" established by the church. They didn't have prayer meetings or worship services to thank Almighty God for the saints already gone. What it was in the beginning it now still is...a day that honors and promotes all that is "cold, dark and dead." When people start making preparations for a "halloween party," they go looking for ghosts, witches, black cats, ghouls, etc. Halloween is a day for devils, not saints. What the Pope attempted to do in the A.D. 800's backfired, because in making "All Hallow Mas" holy, halloween became recognized by the church as a religious holiday, and nothing could be farther from the truth. In reality, all halloween is and ever will be is the "the festival of Samhain," the lord of death. Halloween has not its roots in the church, but is firmly rooted in the occult, witchcraft and satanism. Doreen Irving, who was the ruling witch of western Europe and the British Isles and who was the mistress of the high priest of satan over the same area, is now a born-again spirit-filled Christian. She says, "If Christian parents had any idea of what Halloween really is, they wouldn't even mention the word around their children."

The Bible says, "**Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.**" (Proverbs 22:6) We encourage you to instill in your children godly and holy habits and stay away from things that may bring darkness into their lives. How can we righteously instruct our children in the ways of halloween when everything about halloween is of the devil?

What should our position as a Christian be regarding Halloween?

The most common complaints about anyone taking a stand against halloween is:

- 1) "You're trying to take all the fun out of little children's lives!"
- 2) "You're trying to make something out of nothing because we don't believe in that stuff!"

Listen! Just because you don't think there's anything wrong with halloween does not keep satan from instilling fear and bringing greater danger and harm into your dominion.

"The thief has come to kill, steal and destroy; but I have come that you might have life and have it more abundantly!" (Jesus speaking; John 10:10)
"God has not given us a spirit of fear but of power, love and a sound mind!" (II Timothy 1:7)

The Bible says, **"Train a child in the the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."** (Proverbs 22:6) So we at Derin LIVE! encourage you to instill in your children godly and holy habits and stay away from things that may bring darkness into their lives. How can we righteously instruct our children in the ways of halloween when everything about halloween is of the devil?

Easter – How Satan Duped the Church

(taken from “Babylon, Mystery Religion” by Ralph Edward Woodrow)

What we celebrate as the resurrection of Jesus Christ is in total contradiction to the holiday that the majority of the Christians honor.

Babylonian history – Tammuz was the bastard son of the widow of Nimrod (Gen. 10:8-9) of the biblical account of the tower of Babel. Tammuz was later gored to death by a wild boar. Bible scholars hold to the belief that this area where the tower of Babel was built is what the Bible calls Babylon.

The whole story of Easter is a Babylonian legend. When Nimrod’s widow died, the gods looked favorably on the “mother of god” and sent her back to earth as the spring fertility goddess – always depicted as a bare breasted queen of sexual desire. She was “born again” as the Goddess of Easter as she emerged from a giant egg that landed in the Euphrates river at sunrise on the “sun” day after the vernal equinox. To proclaim her divine authority, she changed a bird into an egg-laying rabbit.

As this cult developed in ancient times (you can read about some of the abominations that the Hebrew people even gave in to in Ezekiel 8: “The women weeping for Tammuz”), The priests of Easter would impregnate young virgins on the altar of the goddess of fertility at sunrise on Easter Sunday. A year later the priest of easter would sacrifice those three-month-old babies on the altar at the front of the sanctuary and dye Easter eggs in the blood of the sacrificed infants.

The forty days of Lent, or weeping for Tammuz, starts the Easter fertility season. The festivities culminate on Easter Sunday, when the priests of Easter slaughtered the wild boar that killed Tammuz and the entire congregation would eat the ham on Easter Sunday. This was celebrated thousands of years before Jesus was crucified and rose again!!

The author states that the vast majority of Christian holidays are directly traceable to the Babylonian and Egyptian roots of sun god worship.

Worship of the sun god - Ra

In later years, Good Friday, the day that the Philistines sacrificed to Dagon, the Philistine fish god, also became an integral part of the Easter pageantry (if you are over 40 years of age, you will recall eating fish on Friday in the public school system in America). Also we must state right here that Good Friday was not the day that Jesus was crucified. Jesus Himself said that He would be in the earth for three days (Mark 8:31). That puts His crucifixion on Thursday, not on “Good Friday,” the fish day.

Jesus Himself said in Matthew 12:40, “for just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the sea monster, so shall the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.”

Jesus was crucified on Thursday, not Friday!

Peter explained somewhat the assignment that Jesus was given when He was in the heart of the earth, “He went and proclaimed to the spirits now in prison, who once were disobedient, when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark....” (I Peter 3:21)

“For the gospel has for this purpose been preached even to those who are dead, that though they are judged in the flesh as men, they may live in the spirit according to the will of God.” (I Peter 4:6)

Ephesians further explains that when Jesus went to the center of the earth to taste death, to take the keys and unloose the shackles, that He brought captives to heaven with Him, “When He ascended on high, He led captive a host of captives, and He gave gifts to men. Now this expression, “He ascended,” what does it mean except that He also had descended into the lower parts of the earth....” (Ephesians 4:8-10) The very fact that He said in Revelation 1:18, “I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore and I have the keys of death and of Hades,” means that He went down to hell and took the keys from satan. Yes!

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

"CHRISTIAN'S POINT OF VIEW"

reviewed by Barbara Carmack

Without a doubt, Harry Potter was written with children in mind. The whole focus of the story is to grab children where they're vulnerable; feelings of rejection, isolation, and victimization capture the emotions. The Sorcerer's Stone centers around a boy who has lost both parents (a powerful, evil curse killed them - strangely on halloween - but Harry wasn't touched because he was a wizard of a special kind - pp. 55). When Baby Harry is rescued from the evil forces, the human relatives who are his guardians, called Muggles in this book, are looked upon as stupid and detestable, while wizards are looked upon with great desire. Harry, who is living with a cruel aunt and uncle and a very mischievous cousin, has a closet for a bedroom and hasn't had a birthday party for 11 years. He is ignored much of the time and teased the rest. (page 53) Speaking of Harry's guardians: "A Muggle, it's what we call nonmagic folk like them. An' it's your bad luck you grew up in a family o' the biggest Muggles I ever laid eyes on." (page 65) Speaking of the Muggles: "Well, their main job is to keep it from the Muggles that there's still witches and wizards up an down the country 'cause everyone'd be wantin' magic solutions to their problems." (page 65; page 67) "I don't know how the Muggles manage without magic"

Continually throughout this book JK Rowlings evokes sympathy for Harry, the underdog. On page 120, they are choosing up teams at Hogwart School and these were Harry's feelings. Which we can identify with: "He was starting to feel definitely sick now. He remembered being picked for teams during gym at his old school. He had always been last to be chosen, not because he was no good, but because no one wanted Dudley (his cousin) to think they liked him."

The very first part of the book captivates the reader by describing magical things going on (ie. a cat that turns into a woman. pp. 9), "He turned to smile at the tabby (cat), but it had gone. Instead he was smiling at a rather severe-looking woman who was wearing square glasses exactly the shape of the markings the cat had had around its eyes."

**I Corinthians 15:39, "All flesh is not the same flesh,
but there is one flesh of men and another flesh of beasts,
and another flesh of birds and another of fish." Genesis 1:11 & 21**

JK Rowlings continues to create a story line that gives the reader the idea that adults are not to be taken seriously. Albus Dumbledore (the Headmaster at Hogwart) was beaming at the students, his arms opened wide, as if nothing could have pleased him more than to see them all there. "Welcome!" he said. "Welcome to a new year at Hogwart! Before we begin our banquet, I would like to say a few words and here they are: Nitwit! Blubber! Oddment! Tweak!" (page 125) This kind of idiotic jabber is found throughout the book in poem and prose and shows disrespect of adults.

At Hogwart School, the grounds keeper, Hagrid, who is a dirty, foul-mouthed giant is portrayed as a kind of savior to Harry. His language is very coarse; for instance, "Ah, go boil yer heads, both of yeh..." (page 50) On page 71, Hagrid comments on one of the Professors: "Poor bloke. Brilliant mind. He was fine while he was studyin' outta books but then he took a year off ter get some first hand experience...they say he met vampiers in the Black Forest, and there was a nasty bit o' trouble with a hag - never been the same since!" JK Rowling used descriptive adjectives that many people would find very entertaining; and not only that but the minds of the young readers are captivated and delighted with these descriptions and find them 'funny:' "Harry often said that Dudley looked like a pig in a wig." "A little man in a top hat was talking to the old bartender, who was quite bald and looked like a 'toothless walnut.'" (page 21)

**But the Bible says that coarse jesting and name calling are sinful.
Ephesians 5:4, “and there must be no filthiness and silly talk or coarse jesting which are not acceptable
but rather giving of thanks.” Also Matt. 12:36 mentions that we will be held
accountable and judged for every idle word.**

Rowlings is very clever to introduce children to unacceptable things and label them ‘normal’ as well as describing familiar things, that we are comfortable with; just to mention two: “Opening a bag of Bertie Bott’s Every Flavor Beans, Ron warned Harry, ‘You want to be careful with those. When they say every flavor, they mean every flavor - you know, you get all the ordinary ones like chocolate and peppermint and marmalade, but then you can get spinach and liver and tripe. George reckons he had a booger-flavored one once.’” (page 103) “Ah! Bertie Bott’s Every Flavor Beans! I was unfortunate enough in my youth to come across a vomit-flavored one, and since then I’m afraid I’ve rather lost my liking for them - but I think I’ll be safe with a nice toffee, don’t you?” He smiled and popped the golden brown bean into his mouth. Then he choked and said, “Alas! ear wax!” That may sound cute, but it isn’t!

It is very apparent that Ms. Rowlings is well versed in Greek mythology for she used not only names but creatures from Greek myths. She as well has an affinity for death and the dark kingdom: Voldemort (lt. mortis = death); Harry’s adult friend, the groundskeeper, Hagrid (hag = sorcerous, witch); even the popular sport they play at Hogwarts, ‘Quidditch,’ comes from a latin word meaning “one curious to know everything that passes;” (the worldly desire to know everything has its roots in witchcraft); Scabber, the name for the cat, means disease, vile sores; Malfoy, an obnoxious student at Hogwarts, has a name which means evil (mal = evil); just the exchange of letters in several names yields things like: Prof. Snape = snake; Slytherin (Harry’s Dorm) = slithering; one professor’s name is Flamel which sounds a lot like flame = fire (many ancient religions worship fire); Prof. Vindictus Viridian sounds like vindictive which means revengeful spirit; a centaur’s (1/2 horse, 1/2 man) name is Firenze (fire worship is one of the highest ancient orders of those who worship the sun) Harry says things like “Gulpin’ gargoyles” (fr. a grotesque figure from whose mouth water gushes) throughout the book. .” The phrase “good luck” is used throughout the book.

Strange things happen around Harry, including creatures who have the same intellect as wizards. One day at the zoo, as Harry looks at a boa constrictor behind a glass partition, the glass immediately disappears and the boa escapes. But right before he slithers into freedom he is heard saying to Harry, “Brazil, here I come...Thanksss, amigo.” (page 28) “When he pointed an umbrella at his cousin, Dudley, a flash of violet light pierced Dudley and the very next instant Harry saw a curly pig’s tail poking through a hole in Dudley’s trousers.” (page 59)

Throughout the book we see a total disrespect for God’s order of things.

Romans 1:22-25, “Professing to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man, of birds, four-footed animals and crawling creatures....For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, Who is blessed forever.” Amen

The author is wanting the reader to believe that there are good wizards and witches and evil witches: The headmaster, Albus Dumbledore, is a ‘good witch’ and is of the order of Merlin, First Class, Grand Sorcerer, Chief Warlock (a male witch, deceiver) Supreme Mugwump, (mugwump: a person who takes an independent position in politics; a highly superior person in his own eyes; very prideful); International Confederacy of Wizards (one adept in the black art) page 51

**Deuteronomy 18:9-12 prohibits any associations with witches, sorcerers,
“You shall not learn to imitate the detestable things:
passing your children through the fire, using divination, practicing witchcraft,
casting spells, calling up the dead....”**

Classes at Hogwart School:

The Standard Book of Spells (grade 1) by Miranda Goshawk

A History of Magic by Bathilda Bagshot

Magical Theory by Adalbert Waffling

A Beginners' Guide to Transfiguration by Emeric Switch

One Thousand Magical Herbs and Fungi by Phyllida Spore

Magical Drafts and Potions by Arsenius Jigger,

Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them by Newt Scamander

Dark Forces: a Guide to Self-Protection by Quentin Trimble

Titles of books at the corner bookstore: "Curses and Counter-curses (Bewitch Your Friends and Befuddle Your Enemies with the Latest Revenges: Hair Loss, Jelly-Legs, Tongue-Tying and Much, Much More) by Prof. Vindictus Viridian.

Potion's Class took place down in one of the dungeons. "It was colder here than up in the main castle and would have been quite creepy enough without the pickled animals floating in glass jars all around the walls." (page 136)

Quoting a teacher in class: "I don't expect you will really understand the beauty of the softly simmering cauldron with its shimmering fumes, the delicate power of liquids that creep through human veins, bewitching the mind, ensnaring the senses....I can teach you how to bottle fame, brew glory, even stopper death - if you aren't as big a bunch of dunderheads as I usually have to teach." And this is acceptable and appropriate language for a teacher? (page 137) He [the teacher] was just telling everyone to look at the perfect way Malfoy had stewed his horned slugs when clouds of acid green smoke and a loud hissing filled the dungeon...." (page 139) The ghosts at Hogwart School would drop wastepaper baskets on their heads, pull rugs from under their feet, pelt them with bits of chalk or "sneak up behind you, invisible, grab you nose and screech, 'got your conk!'" Fun, huh? pp.132

JK Rowlings seems to have a real fixation on death all through the book. Near the end of the Sorcerer's Stone, she describes death in a very macabre way in the account of the dead unicorn: "Harry had taken one step toward it (dead unicorn) when a slithering sound made him freeze where he stood. A bush on the edge of the clearing quivered....Then, out of the shadows, a hooded figure came crawling across the ground like some stalking beast. Harry, Malfoy and Fang stood transfixed. The cloaked figure reached the unicorn, lowered its head over the wound in the animal's side, and began to drink its blood." pp. 256

Leviticus 17:11-14 tells the Believer "For the life of the flesh is in the blood...it's blood is identified with its life. Therefore I say to the sons of Israel, 'You are not to drink the blood of any flesh, for the life of all flesh is its blood; whoever drinks it shall be cut off.'"

This book is teaching children things that are totally anti-God. Jesus came to give us life and life abundantly. Satan is the one who brought darkness to our world and everything that is in opposition to God. Because of the onslaught of occult influences attacking all levels of society in our culture, we at "Derin LIVE!" strongly stand against books such as the one reviewed here, "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone," and we DO NOT recommend it at any level! In the Book of Matthew, Jesus exhorted His disciples to be watchful and very discriminatory when He said, "Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves; therefore show yourselves to be as shrewd (wise) as serpents and innocent as doves." (Matt. 10:16)

Deuteronomy 18:9-12 specifically lists those things which God's people should not enter into because they are an abomination:

1) Anyone who practices divination, sorcery, which uses sing-song incantations usually done in secret or in a whispered tone

- 2) Fortune-telling, which means to give a false vision or reading (deception of their own mind)
- 3) One who practices witchcraft or predicts omens which means to prognosticate, which means to indicate something future by signs or symptoms, to predict.

God will not allow spell-casting or mediums or spiritists or those who call up the dead in His Church! He says in Jeremiah 27:9, "Do not listen to your diviners, your dreamers, your soothsayers, or your sorcerers who speak to you lies."

Usually we find that satan cannot get God's people to practice outright seances or read tarot cards, so he introduces the holidays devoted to him and by doing so brings idolatry into the church. We would like to give an explanation of that by directing you to a scripture in Numbers 22 - 25. This is a story about a king who wanted Israel destroyed, but first of all he wanted to put a curse on her. So he hired a man by the name of Balaam from the country of Mesopotamia to come to Moab and curse Israel, because Balak, King of Moab said to Balaam, "for I know that he whom you bless is blessed and he whom you curse is cursed." Although Balaam had these occultic powers, he refused to curse Israel because he recognized that the God of Israel was real. Instead of cursing Israel, he blessed Israel, which infuriated Balak, King of Moab. Although Balaam eventually dies in a battle between Israel and Moab, one of his most remembered blessings is written in Numbers 23:19,

"God is not a man that He should lie, nor a son of man that He should repent; has He said and will He not do it? Or has He spoken and will He not make it good? (what a great line!) Behold, I have received a command to bless; when He has blessed, then I cannot revoke it!"

We learn in Numbers 25 that King Balak realized that the only way he could bring Israel to their knees was to distract them with a 'party' and this devious plan worked! Israel came to a party, hosted by Moab and fell into the deception of meeting people and having a good time of celebration. It cost them 24,000 lives! When Numbers 25:3 says, "So Israel joined themselves to Baal," this means that they became sexually involved with an idol-worshiping nation. God will not tolerate a people who are out looking for a good time at the expense of their spirituality.

This is why we feel a holiday like halloween and books about a little boy named Harry Potter can be so deceptive. It looks very harmless on the outside. But this is exactly the way satan works! he knows that he cannot get you with the obvious things so he introduces compromise...and he's got you!

We at Derin LIVE! believe that the very best thing you can do regarding holidays like halloween, and yes, going to Harry Potter movies, is to do a little research and find out how the Lord feels about these things. He's a loving God and wants to keep you from falling into the hands of the enemy and becoming defiled and experiencing even worse things.

May you be blessed in everything you do and may you keep yourself from defilement!

BIRTHRIGHT BANDITS"

are they robbing you of your destiny?

"Our society is motivated more by negative report rather than good reports;" ie. our family writes when there is good news and calls when there is bad news ⚡

Is your life like that of Esau, who gave his birthright away to his younger brother? Yes, Jacob didn't take it; Esau gave it away! In several places in the Bible God said, "Jacob I have loved but Esau I have hated." And then in Hebrews 12:16 it is written, "Look diligently (examine yourself) lest you fail in the grace of God, lest any root of bitterness spring up in you and trouble you (NASB: and more troubles come as a result of bitterness) and many be defiled; lest there be any fornicator (adulterer) or profane person like ESAU, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright!"

So many of you have already given up; "Our potential is abandoned for the path of least resistance;" ie. refusal to discipline our thought life, we go for the path of least resistance...the easy way out (or is it?)

We don't want this to happen to you so we have listed some robbers of your birthright and your dreams that God has given you for your life. Our answer to this kind of lifestyle is found in the Bible:

II Cor. 10:5,6, "We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ!"

Romans 12:1,2 "I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable (well-pleasing) to God which is your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing (renovation or remodeling) of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is GOOD AND ACCEPTABLE AND PERFECT."

PRIDE: "I can do it better than You can; I know how this works; God, I don't want to bother You...inordinate self-esteem. Prov. 16:18, "Pride goes before a fall and a haughty spirit before stumbling." Mark 7:22, I John 2:16

CURSES: denial or acceptance of manifested "family traits"; confusion; closed doors to everything you try; sickness; oppression; never quite making it Deut. 28:15-49, Ps. 51:5

HABITUAL SINS: refusal to use God's Word to bring a heart change; continuing the loop Numbers 32:23, "Be sure your sin will find you out!" Hebrews 12:1, "...let us lay aside every encumbrance and the sin (action by which you keep missing pleasing God and His blessings for you), which so easily entangles us..."

GUILT: holding yourself to blame after you have been forgiven=false guilt; speaking the problem rather than the answer; refusal to believe the Word Ezra 9:6, James 2:10, "For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in ONE POINT, he has become guilty of all." the prayers of repentance and confession are for everyone!

FEAR and WORRY: allowing worry and anxiety to take over your life; Isaiah 41:10, "DO NOT FEAR, for I Am with you; do not anxiously look about you, for I AM your God." Fear is a spirit from satan, not from God! II Timothy 1:7; Matt.6:25 "Stop being anxious for your life..." STOP DOING THE LOOP; Proverbs 12:25; it really is a form of pride

COMPLAINING: grumbling and murmuring against God's plan for them kept the children of Israel out of the promised land. Is it keeping you out of your promised land? Deut. 28:47, "Because you did not serve the Lord with joy and gladness for the abundance of all things, you will serve your enemies!"

UNBELIEF: (lack of faith) things appearing in the natural or physical realm have more influence than the spiritual; cynicism=a sneering fault-finder; it's the "in thing" in today's national arena of telecommunications and media to question everything; Mark 6:6, "He wondered at their unbelief (mistrust)." Romans 11:23, "and if they do not continue in their unbelief, they will be grafted in..."; Hebrews 3:19, "And so we see that they were not able to enter [into the promised land] because of unbelief (evil and hardened heart influenced by grumbling and complaining)

PAST FAILURES and LOSSES: fear of failing again so there is no motivation to try again ei. "I'm getting too old; it didn't work before, it won't work again;" victim mentality; James 4:17, "Therefore to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin." perseverance does bring a reward: perfection and righteousness! James 1:4

INFERIORITY: unworthiness and inferiority carry a false identity; it believes satan' lies rather than God's promises; it is a form of false pride (self hate) and may be one of the most dangerous. King Ahaz in II Chronicles 28:19

UNFORGIVENESS AND BITTERNESS: not disposed to overlook or pardon offences; Matt. 6:12, "And forgive us our debts as we forgive those who have offended us." v. 15, "If you do not forgive men, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions." #863 to dismiss or liberate an offender from offence; root of bitterness

Hebrews 12:15

DEPRESSION and ANGER: a violent passion or emotion of the mind, excited by a real or supposed injury to one' self or to others; when one allows himself to fall to a lower state or position; adverse to what God wants us to be; Proverbs 22:24, "Do not associate with a man given to anger...lest you learn his ways and find a snare for yourself." Ephesians 4:26 "Do not let the sun go down upon your anger." Depression comes as a result of not getting things that we were expecting without knowing God's plan for our lives; close association to rebellion; forgiveness is a vital part of the anger, depression package ei. Cain, Gen. 4:6, King Saul: I Sam 18:10;

MISPLACED VALUES: putting more importance on the things of this world=the pride of life, the lust of the eyes and the lust of the flesh Genesis 3:6 "the love of money is the root of ALL EVIL!" I Timothy 6:10; That which begins in the spirit can wind up in the flesh; ie. King Saul was a prime example of one who lusted after power and prestige more than obedience to God (I Samuel)

POVERTY MINDSET: low-level thinking; no motivation because of refusal to discipline the mind [flesh] to the Word of God; "I'm poor but I'm proud" is stinkin' thinkin' " Proverbs 23:21; Proverbs 30:8

LAZINESS: (lack of motivation) adverse to labor or exertion; the country's welfare system as a whole has brought a spirit of laziness upon a nation of people; Proverbs 6:6, Proverbs 13:4, "the soul of the sluggard craves and gets nothing!" Matthew 25:14-29 the parable of the talents

JEALOUSY: uneasiness from fear of being supplanted by a rival; envious or resentment of others success, position, wealth, happiness or health; I Cor. 13:4, "Love is patient, love is kind, and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant..."

DOUBLEMINDEDNESS: tentative or hesitating about life; having basically 'given up'; is not forthright in decision-making even if it's wrong; would rather not make a decision than make a bad decision; wavering in every area of his life; James 1:6,7 "...for the one who doubts or wavers is like the surf of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man expect that he will receive anything from the Lord being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways." Psalm 119:113, "I hate those who are double-minded, but I love Thy law."

Remember: "Confession is good for the soul!"

In Matthew 11: 28, Jesus said, "Come to Me ALL who are weary and heavy-laden and I will give you rest." If you are laden over with burdens, He wants you to cast (heave) them upon Him...He can take it!

(I Peter 5:7) "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me for I am gentle and humble in heart; and you shall find rest for your souls!"

Will He Find Faith On the Earth?"

Habakkuk 2:4, "The just shall live by faith...!"

Ephesians 2:8,9 "For by grace you have been saved through FAITH; and that (salvation) not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast."

Romans 12:3, "For through the grace given to me I say to every man among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment (#4993=discretion, sound mind, self-controlled), as God has allotted to each a MEASURE OF FAITH (such a knowledge of, assent to (agreement with) and confidence in certain divine truths ie. "Good News," as produces good works!) I Cor. 7:17, II Cor. 10:13, I Peter 4:13

Hebrews 11:6, "And without FAITH it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must BELIEVE that He is [I AM, THAT I AM] and that He is a REWARDER of those who seek [diligently] Him!"

Hebrews 12:2, "fixing our eyes on Jesus, the Author (leader) and Perfecter of FAITH, Who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God!" His redemption for you is complete! It is finished!!

MEN OF LITTLE FAITH:

Matt. 6:30, "But if God so arrays the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, will He not much more do so for you, O men of _____?"

Matt. 8:26, And He said to them, "Why are you _____, you men of _____."

Matt. 14:31, and beginning to sink, he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!" and immediately Jesus held out His hand and took him and said, "O you of _____, why did you _____?"

Matt. 16:8, "You men of _____, why do you discuss among yourselves that you have no bread?"

Matt. 21:21,22 "Truly I say to you, if you have FAITH and do not _____, you shall not only do what was done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, 'Be taken up and cast into the sea,' it shall happen. And all things you ask in prayer, BELIEVING, (#4100=to have confidence in, to be fully persuaded, entrust your life with) you shall receive."

Mark 4:40, "Why are you so _____? How is it that you have _____?"

Mark 9:19, "O _____ generation, how long shall I put up with you..."

Luke 8:24,25, they came to Him saying, "Master, Master we are perishing!"..and He said to them, "Where is your _____?" What does this question imply?

EXAMPLES OF GREAT FAITH:

Matt. 8:10, "Truly I say to you, I have not found such GREAT FAITH in all Israel"... "be it done to you as you have _____!" Luke 7:9

Matt. 9:2, “and Jesus seeing THEIR FAITH said to the paralytic, “Take courage, My son, your sins are forgiven.” Luke 5:20

Matt. 9:18, “Come and lay Your hand on her [dead daughter] and she will live.”

Matt. 9:21-22, “YOUR FAITH has made you well.” Luke 8:48, Your daughter has died; do not trouble the Teacher anymore...but when Jesus heard this, He answered him, “DO NOT BE AFRAID any longer; only believe, and she shall be made well.”

Matt. 9:29, “Be it done to you according to YOUR FAITH!”

Matt. 15:28, “O Woman, YOUR FAITH is great; be it done for you as you wish.”

HAVE THE FAITH OF GOD!

Luke 7:47-50, And he said to the woman (Mary), “YOUR FAITH has saved you; go in peace!”

FAITH SAVES! FAITH HEALS!

Luke 17:19, “Rise and go your way; YOUR FAITH has made you well!”

- **If God requires so much faith, why doesn't He just give it to me?**
- **I was raised in church; I pray; why don't I get the results I pray for?**
- **My mom died last year; she was only 47. I prayed and prayed and she didn't get any better. Am I to blame because I didn't have enough faith?**
- **I'd rather just get salvation and go to church once in awhile. This being a Christian is too much work! Do I have to have faith?**
- **Sometimes I feel like a hypocrite when I'm saying these verses and my body is bummed out. Are saying these verses worth it?**
- **How can I know whether I have little faith or great faith? And how will I know when I have enough faith?**

**Praise God from Whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below,
Praise Him above ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost..Amen!**

**Praise - hebrew (Halal) #1984, to be bright! to shine! to be splendid! to celebrate!
At the Heart of this word is “radiance:” a bursting forth of rejoicing and praising God!
satan was born and given the name “star of the morning” (Is.14:12) which means
helel=hallelujah!**

**God created us to be His praise on the earth! We were the fulfillment of his radiance and
rejoicing after creating for 5 days. He is the One Who gives us
praise(Psalm 22:25, “From Thee comes my praise in the great assembly”)**

#8416, a hymn of praise, a technical musical term for a song that ‘exults’ God (occurs 57 times in the O.T.)...and it is from Him where we learn to praise. We cannot truly praise in our own flesh for we aren’t capable of doing this on our own.

Abel was loved by God and was called “righteous” by Jesus in Matt. 23:35. It was because he praised God with his firstfruits, his very best. He offered God a sacrifice offering of Praise...Hebrews 13:15

Abraham was called a friend of God because he was always building an altar and offering praise unto God; in fact, he built altars almost everywhere he stopped and pitched a tent: 5 recorded.

Jacob was not a perfect man but God said in Malachi 1, “Jacob I have loved, Esau I hated.” Was God prejudiced...NO! The Word says there is no partiality with God. Why did God love Jacob? Because Jacob offered sacrifices of praise to God at Bethel where God met with him.

As believers are we to praise God? Absolutely!

What is praise? We have already discussed that the hebrew word, “halal” means hallelujah! a bursting forth of rejoicing and praise to God.

God loves a person who is not attached to his personal needs and circumstances but who is so entranced with his Creator that he puts his personal needs behind him to concentrate on the One Who created him. This is the kind of person God loves and answers his prayers. God says in Deuteronomy 28:47, “Because you did not serve the Lord your God with joy and a glad (grateful) heart, for the abundance of all things therefore you shall serve your enemies...” It is very important to God that we don’t complain.

When we pray prayers like I Chron.29:11, “Thine, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and majesty, indeed everything that is in the heavens and the earth is Your dominion and You are Head over all”, when we pray like that, God is so excited to reward us. Hebrews 11:6 He is a Rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. Leviticus 19:24 tells us that all the firstfruits of our labor are to be offerings of praise to the Lord.

We are to be the messengers of God’s praise to the whole world; we are to be heralders, announcing that “our God reigns!”

But you say, “How does praise help me in my situation?”

God is a Father Who loves obedience! He also loves a grateful heart!

A few examples of people who praised and God delivered them from their hopeless situations:

Moses and the nation of Israel with backs against the Red Sea. Exo. 14, 15

Deuteronomy 32 is also found in Revelation 15, and they sang the song of Moses and the song of the Lamb.

I Samuel 2 - Hannah’s prayer of thanksgiving

David praised when the enemy was hotly pursuing him:

Ps.3, “His the glory and the lifter of my head.”

Ps.16, “In His presence is fulness of joy...”

Ps.18, "I love Thee, Lord, my God, my strength, my solid Rock..."

Ps.23, "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want"

Ps.34, "I will bless the Lord at all times, His praise shall continually be in my mouth...O magnify the Lord with me and let us exalt His Name together...!"

Ps.54, "I will give thanks to Thy Name, O Lord for it is good."

Ps.57, "I will sing praises, yes, I will sing praises...I will awaken the dawn!"

Ps.63, "My lips will praise Thee, so I will bless Thee as long as I live!"

Isaiah 25:1 O Lord, Thou art my God, I will exalt Thee!

Jonah 2:9, "But I will sacrifice to Thee with the voice of thanksgiving."

Jeremiah at a point of hopelessness in his own life wrote the words in Lamentations 3:22, "The Lord's lovingkindness indeed never ceases, His compassions never fail; they are new every morning...Great is Thy faithfulness!"

Daniel 3:17, Azariah, Hananiah and Mishael stood before their accusers and said,"If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace, but even if He does not, let it be known, O king, that we are not going to serve your gods and worship the golden image..."

Daniel 6:10, knowing that he might die Daniel continued kneeling on his knees three times a day praying and GIVING THANKS before his God!

Habakkuk 3:17, Tho' the fig tree should not blossom...Yet I will exult in the Lord, I will rejoice in the God of my salvation. The Lord God is my Strength and He has made my feet like hinds' feet and makes me walk on my high places!

Micah 7:7, "But as for me I will watch expectantly for my Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation..."

In the New Testament we hear the prayer of Mary as a prayer of praise rather than a prayer of despondency upon hearing that she's going to have Jesus as a virgin: "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my spirit exults in God my Savior, for He has looked with mercy on my lowliness and my name will always be remembered. For the mighty God has done great things for me and His mercy will reach from age to age...Holy is He!"

Jesus encouraged His disciples and all of us who follow Him to pray a prayer of thankfulness: "Our Father Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name! Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven...for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever Amen!"

Jesus was the greatest praiser of all and He shows us in the gospels that His primary purpose for coming in the flesh was to teach us to love and praise God.

In John 11:41 He prays, "Father, I thank Thee that Thou heardest Me and I knew that Thou hearest Me always..."

John 17:1, "Father, the hour has come; Glorify Thy Son that the Son may glorify Thee." v.13, "Now I come to Thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy made full in themselves." read 17:22-26

Hebrews 2:12 The writer of Hebrews said these are Jesus' words, "I will proclaim Thy

Name to My brethren, in the midst of the congregation I will sing Thy praise.” taken from Psalm 22:22 which is known as a prophetic Messianic text.

It truly is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord!

You can give thanks by blessing His Name = #1288, to Bless Psalm 103

#1974 = harvest celebration, we bless Him with our firstfruits! He loves a cheerful giver!

II Cor. 9:7

#2167 =(zawmar) to play music, striking with the fingers. Ps. 144:1, “Blessed be the Lord my Rock Who trains my hands for war and my fingers for battle.”

#3034 =(Yadah) to revere or worship...extend the hands. Ps. 28:2, 63:4, 119:48, 134:2, 141:2 (Jesus’ hands were extended on the cross; the ultimate sacrifice of praise!)

You will never go wrong praising the Lord and only good will come upon you when you do! Romans 12:1,2 Hebrews 13:15, “Thro’ Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips that give praise to His Name!”

December 9, 1997

**“EVERY SPIRITUAL BLESSING
IN HEAVENLY PLACES
IN CHRIST JESUS”**

re: The Summing Up Of All Things In Christ!

Ephesians 1:3... “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ...”

“He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him...”

1. We were chosen to be holy and blameless!

“He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself according to the good pleasure of His will...”

2. We are predestined as sons and daughters!

“..to the praise of the glory of His grace, which he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.”

3. We have His grace freely bestowed (poured out) on us!

“In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace which He has lavished upon us.”

4. We have redemption (forgiveness of sin & sins) through His blood!

“In all wisdom and insight He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure...”

5. We have the mystery of His will made know to us by wisdom & insight!

“In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose Who works all things after the counsel of His will...”

6. We have an inheritance!

“..we who were the first to hope in Christ should be to the praise of His glory...”

7. We are the praise of His glory!

“In Him you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation, having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise...”

8. We are sealed with the Holy Spirit!