

Lesson 58 : What is Spiritualism?, Part 1

Memory Verse: 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?"

1. What was Satan's first lying deception in Eden? Genesis 3:4 "And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall _____ surely _____."

Note: "The only one who promised Adam life in disobedience was the great deceiver. And the declaration of the serpent to Eve in Eden – 'Ye shall not surely die' – was the first sermon ever preached upon the immortality of the soul. Yet this declaration, resting solely upon the **authority of Satan**, is echoed from the pulpits of Christendom and is received by the majority of mankind as readily as it was received by our first parents. The divine sentence, 'The soul that sinneth, it shall die' (Ezekiel 18:20), is made to mean: The soul that sinneth, it shall not die, but live eternally. We cannot but wonder at the strange infatuation which renders men so **credulous** concerning the **words of Satan** and so **unbelieving in regard to the words of God.**" GC 533.2

"Upon the **fundamental error of natural immortality** rests the doctrine of **consciousness in death** – a doctrine, like eternal torment, **opposed to the teachings of the Scriptures**, to the **dictates of reason**, and to our **feelings of humanity**. According to the popular belief, the redeemed in heaven are acquainted with all that takes place on the earth and especially with the lives of the friends whom they have left behind. But **how could it be a source of happiness to the dead to know the troubles of the living**, to witness the sins committed by their own loved ones, and to see them enduring all the sorrows, disappointments, and anguish of life? **How much of heaven's bliss would be enjoyed by those who were hovering over their friends on earth?** And how **utterly revolting** is the belief that as soon as the breath leaves the body the soul of the impenitent is **consigned to the flames of hell!** To what depths of **anguish** must those be plunged who see their friends passing to the grave unprepared, to enter upon an **eternity of woe and sin!** Many have been driven to **insanity** by this harrowing thought." GC 545.2

2. What do the Scriptures say concerning these things? In Psalm 146:4 David declares that man is not conscious in death. "His _____ goeth forth, he _____ to his earth; in that very _____ his _____ perish."

Solomon bears the same testimony in Ecclesiastes 9:5, 6, 10: "For the living know that they shall _____: but the dead _____, neither have they _____ more a reward; for the memory of them is _____."

6 Also their _____, and their _____, and their _____, is now _____; neither have they _____ more a _____ for _____ in _____ thing that is _____ under the sun."

10 "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is _____ work, nor device, nor _____, nor _____, in the _____, whither thou _____."

3. What was it that God warned the children of Israel to have nothing to do with when they entered the land of Canaan? Deuteronomy 18:10-12 "There shall _____ be found among you _____ one that maketh his son or his daughter to _____ through the

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_____, or that useth _____, or an observer of _____, or an _____, or a _____, Or a _____, or a consulter with _____, or a _____, or a necromancer. For _____ that do these things are an _____ unto the LORD: and _____ of these abominations the LORD thy God doth _____ them _____ from before thee." *You can find a definition of all these terms at the end of the lesson.

Note: "Nearly all forms of ancient sorcery and witchcraft were **founded upon a belief in communion with the dead**. Those who practiced the arts of necromancy claimed to have intercourse **with departed spirits**, and to obtain through them a **knowledge of future events**. This custom of **consulting the dead** is referred to in the prophecy of Isaiah 8:19." PP 684.1

God has given us the warning by His prophet in Isaiah 8:19, 20:

"When they shall say unto you, S_____ unto them that have _____ spirits, and unto _____ that peep and that mutter: should not a people _____ unto their _____? for the living to the _____? To the _____ and to the _____: if they speak not _____ to this word, it is because there is _____ light in them."

"Shall those who have a holy God, **infinite in wisdom and power**, go unto wizards, whose knowledge comes from intimacy with the **enemy** of our Lord? God Himself is the **light** of His people; He bids them **fix their eyes by faith upon the glories that are veiled from human sight**. The Sun of Righteousness sends its **bright beams** into their hearts; **they have light from the throne of heaven**, and they have **no desire** to turn away from the source of light to the messengers of Satan." PP 687.4

4. In the Bible we read the story of King Saul. Only a few years after he was made king he met a test. 1 Samuel 13:5 "And the Philistines gathered themselves together to _____ with Israel, thirty thousand _____, and six thousand _____, and _____ as the sand which is on the sea shore in _____: and they came up, and pitched in Michmash, eastward from Bethaven."

When the Israelites saw this mighty army, they were afraid and hid themselves. Samuel told Saul to wait there for 7 days and he would come and offer a sacrifice to God for them. This was something that only the priests were supposed to do. What did Saul do? **Read 1 Samuel 13:8-12**. Saul disobeyed God's instructions because **he thought it was necessary under the circumstances**.

What was Samuel's reply to that?

1 Samuel 13:13-14 "And Samuel said to Saul, Thou hast done _____: thou hast not _____ the commandment of the _____ thy God, which he commanded thee: for now would the LORD have _____ thy kingdom upon Israel for ever. _____ now thy kingdom shall _____ continue: the LORD hath _____ him a _____ after his own _____, and the LORD hath commanded him to be _____ over his people, _____ thou hast _____ kept that which the LORD _____ thee."

5. God gave Saul another chance to show whether he would obey God or choose his own way. 1 Samuel 15:1-3 "Samuel also said unto Saul, The _____ sent me to _____

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thee to be _____ over his people, over Israel: now therefore _____ thou unto the voice of the _____ of the LORD. Thus saith the _____ of hosts, I remember that which _____ did to Israel, how he laid _____ for him in the way, when he came up from _____. Now go and _____ Amalek, and _____ destroy _____ that they have, and spare them _____; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass."

Did Saul obey the instructions of God through Samuel? YES NO

Read 1 Samuel 15:7-9.

6. When he returned from battle, Samuel met him. What did Saul say to him?

1 Samuel 15:13 "And Samuel came to Saul: and Saul said unto him, Blessed be _____ of the LORD: I _____ performed the _____ of the _____."

Did Saul really tell him the truth? YES NO

How did Samuel respond to Saul's claim of obedience? 1 Samuel 15:14

"And Samuel said, What _____ then this bleating of the _____ in mine ears, and the lowing of the _____ which I _____?"

7. What was Saul's excuse? 1 Samuel 15:15

"And Saul said, _____ have brought them from the Amalekites: for the _____ spared the _____ of the _____ and of the _____, to _____ unto the _____ thy God; and the _____ we have utterly destroyed."

Was this excuse for disobedience to the word of God acceptable to God? YES NO

1 Samuel 15:16-19 "Then Samuel said unto Saul, Stay, and I will _____ thee what the _____ hath said to me _____ night. And he said unto him, Say on. And Samuel said, When thou wast _____ in thine _____ sight, wast thou not made the _____ of the tribes of Israel, and the _____ anointed thee _____ over Israel? And the _____ sent thee on a _____, and said, Go and _____ destroy the _____ the Amalekites, and fight against them until they be _____. Wherefore then didst thou _____ the voice of the LORD, but didst fly upon the spoil, and didst _____ in the sight of the _____?"

8. Did Saul repent and admit that he had disobeyed God or did he try to justify and excuse himself? 1 Samuel 15:20-21

"And Saul said unto Samuel, Yea, I _____ obeyed the voice of the _____, and _____ gone the _____ which the _____ sent me, and have _____ Agag the _____ of Amalek, and have _____ destroyed the Amalekites. But the _____ took of the _____, sheep and oxen, the _____ of the things which _____ have been utterly destroyed, to _____ unto the _____ thy God in Gilgal."

How did Saul respond to the reproof? He tried to J _____ and E _____ himself.

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Who did Saul not destroy of the people of Amalek? The _____, Agag.

Who did he blame for the disobedience? He blamed the _____.

What was the "good" excuse for this disobedience? They were going to use them to _____ to _____.

9. Is this pleasing to God? YES NO

1 Samuel 15:22-23 "And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great _____ in burnt offerings and _____, as in _____ the voice of the _____? Behold, to _____ is _____ than _____, and to _____ than the fat of rams. For _____ is as the sin of _____, and _____ is as _____ and _____. Because thou hast _____ the _____ of the _____, he hath also _____ thee from being _____."

What is more valuable to God?

Obedience to the Word of God

OR

Sacrifices & Burnt Offerings

God calls disobedience R_____ and S_____

Rebellion is to God as bad as _____

Stubbornness is to God as bad as _____ and _____ (which is also witchcraft)

10. Saul never ever did repent but went stubbornly on in his own way. He did not obey God. He fought against David because David **was obedient** to God and God prospered him. This made Saul **jealous** of David. Saul even went so far as to kill 85 of the priests of God because they were accused of helping David against Saul.

1 Samuel 22:21 "And Abiathar showed David that _____ had _____ the LORD'S _____."

11. Now the Philistines gathered themselves to war against Israel. 1 Samuel 28:4

"And the _____ gathered themselves together, and _____ and pitched in _____: and _____ gathered all _____ together, and they pitched in _____."

What were Saul's feelings as he faced this battle? 1 Samuel 28:5 "And when Saul _____ the _____ of the Philistines, he was _____, and his heart _____ trembled."

Note: "Saul had learned that David and his force were with the Philistines, and he **expected** that the son of Jesse would take this opportunity to **revenge** the wrongs he had suffered. The king was in sore distress. It was **his own unreasoning passion**, spurring him on to destroy the chosen of God, that had involved the nation in **so great peril**. While he had been engrossed in pursuing David **he had neglected the defense of his kingdom**. The Philistines, **taking advantage of its unguarded condition**, had **penetrated into the very heart of the country**. Thus while Satan had been **urging Saul to employ every energy in hunting David**, that he might destroy him, the **same** malignant spirit had inspired the **Philistines** to seize their opportunity **to work Saul's ruin and overthrow the people of God**. How often is the **same policy** still employed by the archenemy! He moves upon some **unconsecrated** heart to kindle **envy** and **strife** in the church, and then, **taking advantage** of the divided condition of God's people, **he stirs up his agents to work their ruin**." PP 675.2

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"On the morrow Saul must engage the Philistines in battle. The shadows of impending doom gathered dark about him; he longed for help and guidance. But it was in vain that he sought counsel from God. 'The Lord answered him not, neither by dreams, nor by Urim, nor by prophets.' The Lord never turned away a soul that came to Him in sincerity and humility. Why did he turn Saul away unanswered? The king had by his own act forfeited the benefits of all the methods of inquiring of God.

He had **rejected** the counsel of Samuel the **prophet**;
he had **exiled** David, the **chosen** of God;
he had **slain** the **priests** of the Lord.

Could he expect to be answered by God when **he had cut off the channels of communication** that Heaven had ordained? He had sinned away the Spirit of grace, and could he be answered by dreams and revelations from the Lord? **Saul did not turn to God with humility and repentance. It was not pardon for sin and reconciliation with God, that he sought, but deliverance from his foes.** By his own **stubbornness and rebellion** he had **cut himself off from God**. There could be no return but by the way of **penitence and contrition**; but the proud monarch, in his anguish and despair, **determined to seek help from another source.**" PP 675.3

12. Where did he turn for counsel and guidance? 1 Samuel 28:7-8

"Then said Saul unto his servants, Seek me a _____ that hath a _____ spirit, that I may go to her, and _____ of her. And his servants said to him, Behold, there is a woman that hath a familiar spirit at _____. And Saul _____ himself, and put on other raiment, and he went, and two men with him, and they came to the woman by _____: and he said, I pray thee, _____ unto me by the _____ spirit, and bring me him _____, whom I shall _____ unto thee."

1 Samuel 28:11-12 "Then said the woman, Whom shall I bring _____ unto thee? And he said, Bring me up _____. And when the _____ saw Samuel, she cried with a loud voice: and the woman spake to Saul, saying, Why hast thou _____ me? for thou art _____."

Note: "The Scripture account of Saul's visit to the woman of **Endor** has been a source of **perplexity** to many students of the Bible. There are some who take the position that Samuel was actually present at the interview with Saul, but the Bible itself furnishes sufficient ground for a contrary conclusion. If, as claimed by some, Samuel was in **heaven**, he must have been summoned thence, either by the power of God or by that of Satan. None can believe for a moment that **Satan** had power to call the holy prophet of God from heaven to honor the **incantations** of an abandoned woman. **Nor can we conclude that God summoned him** to the witch's cave; **for the Lord had already refused to communicate with Saul**, by dreams, by Urim, or by prophets. 1 Samuel 28:6. These were God's own appointed mediums of communication, and **He did not pass them by to deliver the message through the agent of Satan.**" PP 683.1

13. What message did this being who pretended to be Samuel give to Saul?

1 Samuel 28:17-19 "And the LORD hath done to him, as he spake by _____: for the LORD hath _____ the kingdom out of thine hand, and _____ it to thy neighbour, even to _____: Because thou obeyedst _____ the _____ of the LORD, nor

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executedst his fierce wrath upon Amalek, _____ hath the LORD done this thing unto thee this day. Moreover the LORD will _____ deliver Israel with _____ into the hand of the Philistines: and _____ shalt _____ and thy _____ be with me: the LORD also shall _____ the host of _____ into the hand of the Philistines."

Note: "By the prediction of Saul's doom, given through the woman of Endor, Satan planned to ensnare the people of Israel. He hoped that they would be inspired with confidence in the sorceress, and would be led to consult her. Thus they would turn from God as their counselor and would **place themselves under the guidance of Satan**.

The **lure** by which spiritualism attracts the multitudes is its **pretended power to draw aside the veil from the future** and reveal to men what God has hidden.

God has in His word opened before us the great events of the future – all that it is **essential** for us to know – and He has given us a **safe guide** for our feet amid all its perils;

but it is **Satan's purpose to destroy men's confidence in God**,

to make them dissatisfied with their condition in life,

and to lead them to seek a knowledge of what God has wisely veiled from them,

and to despise what He has revealed in His Holy Word." PP 686.2

"There are many who become **restless** when they **cannot know the definite outcome of affairs**.

They cannot endure uncertainty,

and in their **impatience** they **refuse to wait** to see the salvation of God.

Apprehended evils drive them nearly distracted.

They give way to their rebellious feelings,

and run hither and thither in passionate grief,

seeking intelligence concerning that which has not been revealed.

If they would but **trust in God**, and **watch unto prayer**, they would find **divine consolation**.

Their spirit would be **calmed** by **communion** with God.

The weary and the heavy-laden would find **rest** unto their souls

if they would only go to Jesus;

but when they **neglect** the means that **God** has **ordained** for their comfort,

and **resort to other sources**, hoping to learn what God has withheld,

they commit the error of Saul, and **thereby gain only a knowledge of evil**." PP 687.1

"**God is not pleased with this course**, and has expressed it in the most explicit terms. This impatient

haste to tear away the veil from the future **reveals a lack of faith in God** and leaves the soul **open to**

the suggestions of the master deceiver. Satan leads men to consult those that have familiar spirits;

and **by revealing hidden things of the past**, he inspires confidence in his power to foretell things to

come. By experience gained through the long ages **he can reason from cause to effect** and often

forecast, with a degree of accuracy, some of the **future** events of man's life. Thus he is enabled to

deceive poor, misguided souls and **bring them under his power and lead them captive at his will**."

PP 687.2

14. What does the Bible give as the reason why Saul died? 1 Chronicles 10:13, 14.

"Saul died for his _____ which he committed _____ the Lord, even

against the _____ of the Lord, which he kept _____, and also for asking _____

of one that had a _____ spirit, to _____ of it; and inquired _____ of the Lord:

therefore He _____ him, and turned the kingdom unto _____ the son of Jesse."

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Note: "The message itself is sufficient evidence of its origin. Its **object** was **not** to lead Saul to **repentance**, but to **urge him on to ruin**; and this is not the work of God, but of **Satan**. Furthermore, the act of Saul in consulting a sorceress is cited in Scripture as one **reason** why he was **rejected** by God and abandoned to destruction: ... Here it is distinctly stated that **Saul inquired of the familiar spirit, not of the Lord**. He did **not** communicate with Samuel, the prophet of God; but through the sorceress he held intercourse with Satan. Satan could not present the real Samuel, but **he did present a counterfeit**, that served his purpose of **deception**." PP 683.2

"The demon's message to Saul, although it was a denunciation of sin and a prophecy of retribution, was not meant to reform him, but to **goad him to despair** and ruin.

Oftener, however, it serves the tempter's purpose best to **lure men to destruction by flattery**.

The teaching of the **demon gods** in ancient times fostered the vilest license.

The divine precepts condemning sin and enforcing righteousness were **set aside**; truth was lightly regarded, and impurity was not only permitted but enjoined.

Spiritualism declares that there is no death, no sin, no judgment, no retribution; that 'men are unfallen demigods;' that **desire is the highest law**; and that **man is accountable only to himself**.

The **barriers** that **God** has erected to **guard truth**, purity, and reverence are **broken down**, and many are thus **emboldened in sin**.

Does not **such teaching** suggest an origin similar to that of **demon worship**?" PP 688.1

15. This same belief in **communion with the dead** formed the **cornerstone of heathen idolatry**. The **gods** of the heathen were believed to be the **deified spirits of departed heroes**. Thus the religion of the heathen was **a worship of the dead**. This is evident from the Scriptures:

Numbers 25:1-3 'And Israel abode in Shittim, and the people began to _____ whoredom with the daughters of _____. And they called the people unto the _____ of their _____: and the people did _____, and bowed _____ to their gods. And Israel _____ himself unto Baalpeor: and the _____ of the LORD was kindled against Israel.' The psalmist tells us to what kind of gods these sacrifices were offered.

Speaking of this apostasy of the Israelites, he says,

'They _____ themselves also unto Baalpeor, and ate the sacrifices of the _____.'
(Psalm 106:28); that is, **sacrifices that had been offered to the dead**." PP 684.2

"The **deification of the dead** has held a **prominent place** in nearly every system of **heathenism**, as has also the **supposed communion with the dead**. The gods were believed to **communicate** their will to men, and also, when consulted, to give them **counsel**. Of this character were the famous **oracles** of Greece and Rome." PP 684.3

16. "Modern spiritualism and the forms of ancient witchcraft and idol worship – **all having communion with the dead as their vital principle** – are **founded upon that first lie** by which Satan beguiled Eve in Eden:

Genesis 3:4-5 'And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall _____ surely _____: For _____ doth know that in the day ye _____ thereof, then your _____ shall be _____, and _____ shall be as _____, knowing _____ and _____.'

Alike based upon falsehood and perpetuating the same, they are alike from the father of lies." PP 685.2

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"The **belief in communion with the dead** is still held, even in professedly Christian lands. Under the name of spiritualism the practice of communicating with beings claiming to be the spirits of the departed has become **widespread**. It is calculated to take hold of the sympathies of those who have laid their loved ones in the grave. **Spiritual beings sometimes appear to persons in the form of their deceased friends**, and relate incidents connected with their lives and perform acts which they performed while living. **In this way they lead men to believe that their dead friends are angels**, hovering over them and communicating with them. Those who thus assume to be the spirits of the departed are **regarded with a certain idolatry**, and with many their word has **greater weight than the word of God.**" PP 684.4

"There are many, however, who regard spiritualism as a mere imposture. The manifestations by which it supports its claims to a supernatural character are attributed to fraud on the part of the medium. But while it is true that the results of trickery have often been palmed off as genuine manifestations, there have also been **marked evidences of supernatural power**. And many who reject spiritualism as the result of human skill or cunning, will, when confronted with manifestations which they cannot account for upon this ground, be **led to acknowledge its claims.**" PP 685.1

There **is** a supernatural power at work, but is it the power of God? **NO**, it cannot be for it goes against the teachings of the **word** of God and God never contradicts His word. This supernatural power is the power of Satan. We should **not accept** something **just because** there is **supernatural power**. We must investigate the **source** and find out if it is **truly** the power of God or if it is the **deceptive power of Satan**.

When people turn away from **obedience to the Word of God**, they cannot have **guidance** from God because they have **turned away** from the **guidance** which God has **already given them in His Word**. But they still **feel a need** for supernatural guidance. The **only other** supernatural guidance available to them is the **guidance of Satan**. Some do not want to go to Satan outright. That is too scary for them. So **Satan disguises himself** and makes them **think** they are really getting guidance from **God** when they have a **supernatural experience**. But they are **not** guided to give **obedience to the Word of God**. **Their disobedience is excused**. This is a **sure sign** that the guidance is **not** from God. Many Christians today are having supernatural experiences. They claim they have experienced the presence of Jesus.

But Jesus has warned us about this very thing in Matthew 24:24 "For there shall arise _____, and false _____, and shall show great _____ and _____; insomuch that, if it were _____, they shall _____ the very _____."

You see Jesus has predicted that there would be false manifestations of Jesus. This deception is intended to deceive Christians – God's people – even to deceive Adventists! Do we have to be deceived? YES NO

17. Can God allow this to go on among His people? Leviticus 20:6-7 It would be treason! "And the soul that _____ after such as have _____ spirits, and after _____, to go a whoring after them, I will even set my face _____ that soul, and will _____ him _____ from among his people. S _____ yourselves _____, and be ye _____: for _____ am the _____ your God."

Note: "The Hebrews were **expressly forbidden** to engage in **any** manner in pretended communion with the dead. God closed this door effectually when He said: '**The dead know not anything**. ... Neither have they **any more** a portion forever in **anything** that is done under the sun.' Ecclesiastes 9:5, 6. 'His breath

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goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; **in that very day his thoughts perish.**' Psalm 146:4. And the Lord declared to Israel: '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.' Leviticus 20:6." PP 685.3

18. The Bible identifies who these beings really are. Psalm 106:37

"Yea, they _____ their sons and their daughters unto _____."

Verse 38 identifies it further: Psalm 106:38 "And shed innocent blood, even the blood of their _____ and of their _____, whom they _____ unto the _____ of Canaan: and the land was _____ with blood."

Paul makes it very clear in 1 Corinthians 10:20:

"But I say, that the things which the Gentiles _____, they sacrifice to _____, and _____ to _____: and I would _____ that _____ should have _____ with _____."

Note: "The '**familiar spirits**' were not the spirits of the dead, but **evil angels**, the messengers of Satan. Ancient idolatry, which, as we have seen, comprises both **worship of the dead** and **pretended communion with them**, is declared by the Bible to have been **demon worship**. The apostle Paul, in warning his brethren against participating, in any manner, in the idolatry of their heathen neighbors, says, 'The things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God, and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils.' 1 Corinthians 10:20. The psalmist, speaking of Israel, says that 'they sacrificed their sons and their daughters unto devils,' and in the next verse he explains that they sacrificed them 'unto the idols of Canaan.' Psalm 106:37, 38. **In their supposed worship of dead men they were in reality worshipping demons.**" PP 685.4

19. Is this something that also exists in the last days of earth's history? YES NO

1 Timothy 4:1 "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the _____ times some shall _____ from the faith, giving heed to _____, and doctrines of _____."

Note: "Modern spiritualism, resting upon the **same foundation**, is but a revival in a **new form** of the **witchcraft** and **demon worship** that **God condemned and prohibited** of old. It is **foretold** in the Scriptures, which declare that 'in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils.' 1 Timothy 4:1.

Paul, in his second letter to the Thessalonians, points to the special working of Satan in spiritualism as an event to take place immediately before the second advent of Christ. Speaking of Christ's second coming, he declares in 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12 "Even him, whose coming is _____ the working of _____ with all _____ and _____ and _____ wonders. And with all _____ of unrighteousness in them that _____; because they received _____ the _____ of the _____, that they might be _____. And for this cause God shall send them strong _____, that they should believe a _____: That they all might be damned who _____ the _____, but had _____ in _____." When we don't love the truth, but enjoy unrighteousness, we will accept Satan's deceptions and be lost.

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And Peter, describing the dangers to which the church would be exposed in the last days, says that as there were false prophets who led Israel into sin, so there will be false teachers.

2 Peter 2:1-2 "But there were _____ prophets also among the people, even as there _____ be false _____ among you, who privily shall _____ in damnable _____, even _____ the Lord that bought them, and bring upon _____ swift destruction. And _____ shall _____ their pernicious _____; by reason of whom the way of _____ shall be _____ spoken of."

Here the apostle has pointed out one of the marked characteristics of spiritualist teachers. They refuse to acknowledge Christ as the Son of God.

Concerning such teachers the beloved John declares in 1 John 2:22-23

"Who is a _____ but he that _____ that Jesus is the Christ? He is _____, that _____ the Father and the Son. Whosoever denieth the _____, the same hath not the _____: (but) he that _____ the Son hath the Father also."

Spiritualism, by denying Christ, denies both the Father and the Son, and the Bible pronounces it the manifestation of antichrist." PP 686.1

20. The word of the Lord to ancient Israel is addressed also to His people in this age:

Leviticus 19:31 "Regard _____ them that have _____ spirits, neither _____ after _____, to be _____ by them: _____ am the _____ your God."

Deuteronomy 18:12 "For _____ that do these things are an _____ unto the LORD: and _____ of these abominations the LORD thy God doth _____ them _____ from before thee."

Note: "The Lord presented before Israel the **results** of holding communion with evil spirits, in the **abominations of the Canaanites**: they were without natural affection, idolaters, adulterers, murderers, and abominable by every **corrupt thought** and **revolting practice**. Men do not know their own hearts; for 'the heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked.' Jeremiah 17:9. But God understands the **tendencies** of the depraved nature of man. **Then, as now, Satan was watching to bring about conditions favorable to rebellion**, that the people of Israel might make themselves as **abhorrent** to God as were the Canaanites. The **adversary** of souls is ever on the alert to **open channels for the unrestrained flow of evil in us**; for he desires that we may be **ruined**, and be **condemned** before God." PP 688.2

"**Satan was determined to keep his hold on the land of Canaan**, and when it was made the habitation of the children of Israel, and **the law of God was made the law of the land**, he hated Israel with a cruel and malignant hatred and **plotted their destruction**. Through the agency of evil spirits **strange gods** were introduced; and because of transgression, the chosen people were finally scattered from the Land of Promise. **This history Satan is striving to repeat in our day**. God is leading His people **out** from the abominations of the world, **that they may keep His law**; and because of this, the **rage** of 'the accuser of our brethren' knows no bounds. 'The devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.' Revelation 12:10, 12. The antitypical land of promise is just before us, and **Satan is determined to destroy the people of God and cut them off from their inheritance**. The admonition, '**Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation**' (Mark 14:38), **was never more needed than now**." PP 688.3

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21. What is our protection from the power of Satan? Zechariah 3:7

"Thus saith the LORD of hosts; _____ thou wilt walk in _____, and _____ thou wilt _____ my _____, then thou shalt also _____ my house, and shalt also _____ my courts, and I will _____ thee places to walk _____ these that _____ by."

Note: "The Sun of Righteousness shall arise upon those **who have kept the commandments of God**. Those who think that they can set their will against God's will are in the greatest danger. Those who wish to be covered in the day of God's anger, **must be true to God now**. Now is the time to show our fidelity to God, and our faith in Christ. The sins that have been committed against God will be blotted out **if they are repented of**. Christ said: 'Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment. And I said, Let them set a fair miter upon his head. So they set a fair miter upon his head, and clothed him with garments. And the angel of the Lord stood by. And the angel of the Lord protested unto Joshua, saying, Thus saith the Lord of hosts: **If thou wilt walk in my ways, and if thou wilt keep my charge**, then thou shalt also judge my house, and shalt also keep my courts, and I will give thee places to walk among these that stand by.' Who are these that stand by? – The **angels of God**. **They will be as a wall of fire round about the people of God**, and **the hosts of evil will not be able to pass their ranks**. The angels of Satan are working with the children of disobedience to inspire them with **madness** against those who are **loyal to the law of God**. Although the people of God are despised by the world, and 'it doth not yet appear what we shall be,' yet the wicked will one day see God's people glorified; they will see the promise fulfilled, 'Them that honor me, I will honor.' " ST 6-2-90, p. 7

22. How will we know what God's ways are that we should walk in? Psalm 119:11

"Thy _____ have I _____ in mine _____, that I might _____ against thee."

Note: "Those who cry unto God for deliverance from the terrible spell that Satan would weave about them, will **set a high estimate upon the Scriptures**. Our **only safety** is in **receiving the whole Bible**, not taking merely detached portions, but **believing the whole truth**. Your feet are upon sliding sand if you depreciate one word that is written. **The Bible is a divine communication**, and is as verily a **message to the soul as though a voice from heaven were heard speaking to us**. With what **awe** and **reverence** and **humiliation** should we come to the searching of the Scriptures, that we may **learn** of eternal realities. ... **Let everyone study the Bible**, knowing that the Word of God is as enduring as the eternal throne. If you **come** to the study of the Scriptures **in humility**, with earnest prayer for guidance, **angels of God** will open to you its living realities; and **if you cherish the precepts of truth, they will be to you as a wall of fire against the temptations, delusions, and enchantments of Satan**." OHC 210.4

"The Word of God is **able** to **save** your souls, to make you **wise** unto salvation. The psalmist says, 'Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.' **Then let us hide the Word of God in our hearts**, that we may 'be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.' Eph. 6:13." OHC 210.5

"**Enoch** represents those who shall remain upon the earth and be translated to Heaven without seeing death. **He represents that company** that are to live amid the perils of the **last days**, and **withstand** all the corruption, vileness, sin, and iniquity, and **yet be unsullied by it all**. **We can stand as did Enoch**. There has been **provision** made for us. **Help has been laid upon One that is mighty**; and we all can take hold upon his mighty strength. **Angels of God**, that excel in strength, are **sent** to minister to those who shall be heirs of salvation. These angels, **when they see** that we are doing the very **utmost** on our part to be **overcomers**, will do their part, and their **light** will shine around about us, and sway back the influence of the evil angels that are around us, and will **make a fortification around us as a wall of fire**." RH, April 19, 1870 par. 11

Lesson 58 : What is Spiritualism?, Part 1

Definitions of spiritualistic terms used in the Bible

divination = determine by lot or magical scroll; by implication: to divine

[syn.] prediction, foretelling, prognostication, soothsaying,

a foretelling future events, or discovering things secret or obscure, by the aid of superior beings; in ancient heathen philosophy they used certain rites, experiments or observations, such as sacrifices, cakes, flour, wine, observation of entrails, flight of birds, lots, verses, omens, position of the stars, etc.

observer of times = *to cover; to cloud over; figuratively: to act covertly, i.e. practice magic*

enchanter = *properly: to hiss, i.e. whisper a (magic) spell; generally: to prognosticate*

beguile, bewitch, captivate, conjure, fascinate, magnetize, mesmerize, tempt, wile

a sorcerer or magician; one who has spirits or demons at his command; one who practices enchantment, or pretends to perform surprising things by the agency of demons

witch = *properly: to whisper a spell, i.e. to enchant or practice magic*

a woman who by compact with the devil, practices sorcery or enchantment

charmer = *to join (literally or figuratively); specifically: (by means of spells) to fascinate*

allure, beguile, enchant, entice, fascinate, spell, disarm, hypnotize, mesmerize, bewitch, conjure
one that uses or has power of enchantment

consulter with familiar spirits = *one who inquires with a mumble, hence a necromancer*

a demon or evil spirit supposed to attend at a call; an intimate close companion

necromancer = *to tread or frequent; usually to follow (for pursuit or search); by implication: to seek or ask; specifically: to worship*

the art of revealing future events by means of a pretended communication with the dead.

This imposture is prohibited in Deuteronomy 18.

wizard = *a knowing one; specifically: a conjurer*

magician, conjurer, diviner, soothsayer, sorcerer

a conjurer, an enchanter, a sorcerer

sorcery = divination by the assistance of evil spirits, or the power of commanding evil spirits

soothsayer = one who undertakes to foretell future events without divine aid, thus distinguished from a prophet

conjurer = one who pretends to the secret art of performing things supernatural or extraordinary by the aid of superior power, by use of certain words, characters or ceremonies. An oath or solemn invocation originally formed a part of the ceremonies

witchcraft = the practices of witches; sorcery, enchantments; intercourse with the devil

All these things are an abomination to God and we should **not** have **anything** to do with them.

Abomination = *something disgusting; i.e. an abhorrence; especially idolatry or an idol*

extreme hatred; destestation; defilements, pollution; evil doctrines and practices, which are moral defilements

Psalm 106:36-40 "And they served their _____: which were a snare unto them. Yea, they sacrificed their sons and their daughters unto _____, And shed innocent blood, even the _____ of their sons and of their daughters, whom they sacrificed unto the _____ of Canaan: and the land was _____ with blood. Thus were they _____ with their own works, and went a whoring with their own inventions. T _____ was the _____ of the LORD kindled against his people, insomuch that he _____ his own inheritance."