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Devotion for October 19th, 2021

"There shall not be found among you anyone who burns his son or his daughter as an offering, anyone who practices divination or tells fortunes or interprets omens, or a sorcerer or a charmer or a medium or a necromancer or one who inquires of the dead, for whoever does these things is an abomination to the Lord."

- Deuteronomy 18:10-12a

God through His servant Moses has given us a dire warning in this Bible passage. It gives us a list of evil practices that our Lord hates. They are practices designed to lure believers and keep unbelievers away from the true God. They are satanic in nature and we should stay away from them entirely. They are methods devised, operated, and supported by Satan and his fallen angels (demons) to deceive those looking for power for themselves apart from God.

These practices are on the rise in the world, because of a general revolt against the science and technology of our current culture in the world. They have become mainstream in our culture today. A person can actually take college coursework in witchcraft in America today, believe it or not.

It crept into our culture through seemingly harmless things like using a divining rod to find water, through yoga meditation instead of prayer, Ouija boards, horoscopes, palm reading, and movies like *Harry Potter*, TV shows like *Charmed*, and trying to contact the dead.

These are very dangerous, because they soften our attitude to the occult and not just for us, but for our children. Our power comes from our God through prayer and the means of grace, not from within ourselves apart from God and certainly not from the enemy, Satan and his followers.

There are large groups of people in America now who practice Satanism and witchcraft. They draw their power from Satan and his fallen angels. The human practitioners of these occult arts are doomed to the same fate as Satan and all of his followers. There is still time for Satan's human followers to repent and turn to the Son of God, Jesus, for their salvation. We can pray for their salvation and stand firm in the Gospel when speaking with them. We as Christians must be serious about this threat in our lives and in the lives of our children.

*In Christ Jesus,
Rev. John Kyle, Associate Pastor
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