



Trick or Treat

“What Does the Bible Say about Halloween?”

Introduction:

1. Every year many people ask certain questions about Halloween.
2. Do we celebrate Halloween or not? Can we as Christians dress up and participate in this holiday?
3. This study is a difficult one. Due to the nature of the day, many people are divided over what to do.
4. The purpose of this lesson is to present as much material as possible without being tedious, but at the same time give enough information to make a rational judgment.

I. The History of Halloween

- A. Many years ago some people celebrated the Celtic New Year which fell on November 1st.
 1. November 1st is also known as “All Saint’s Day” or “All Hallows Day.”
 2. “All Saint’s Day” was instituted in 834 AD.
- B. Some scholars have said that people believed that on October 31st evil spirits and souls of the dead would pass through and enter the world of the living.
- C. Some believed that these dead souls tormented the living.
- D. Those who celebrated this New Year were the Druids and Celts.
 1. The druids were a member of an order of priests in ancient Gaul and Britain who appear in legend as prophets and sorcerers. (*Microsoft Encarta Encyclopedia 97*)
- E. Some believe that Saman, the lord of the dead, would call spirits from the dead.
- F. The activities of this day (October 31st) are debated:
 1. Some say there were human sacrifices, evil spirits, black magic, curses, murders, etc.
 2. Others say that there is not enough evidence to know these things.

II. What Does the Bible Say about Halloween?

- A. The Bible nowhere specifically condemns Halloween.
- B. What it does do is condemn things that have surrounded or do surround Halloween:
 1. The Occult (Acts 19:18-20)
 2. The Devil (John 8:44; 1 John 2:13)
 3. Death (Romans 5:12; 1 Corinthians 15:26, 54-57; Hebrews 2:14-15)
 4. Evil (1 Thessalonians 5:21-22)

III. What Should Christians Do About Halloween?

- A. If Halloween activities involve anything resembling witchcraft, spirits, I believe the Bible condemns such practices.
- B. If participating in Halloween activities harm the faith of a Christian brother or sister, we need to stop. (1 Corinthians 8)
- C. Be consistent!
 1. How can we tell children that ghosts do not exist or the Satan is evil and them dress them up that way?

Conclusion:

1. Granted, this topic is a hard one to discuss. It constantly needs to be reexamined to find out what we should do.
2. I do not have all the answers, but the Bible does.
3. Please consult it when making your decision concerning what to do