The Invisible War

Deliverance Boot Camp

Introduction

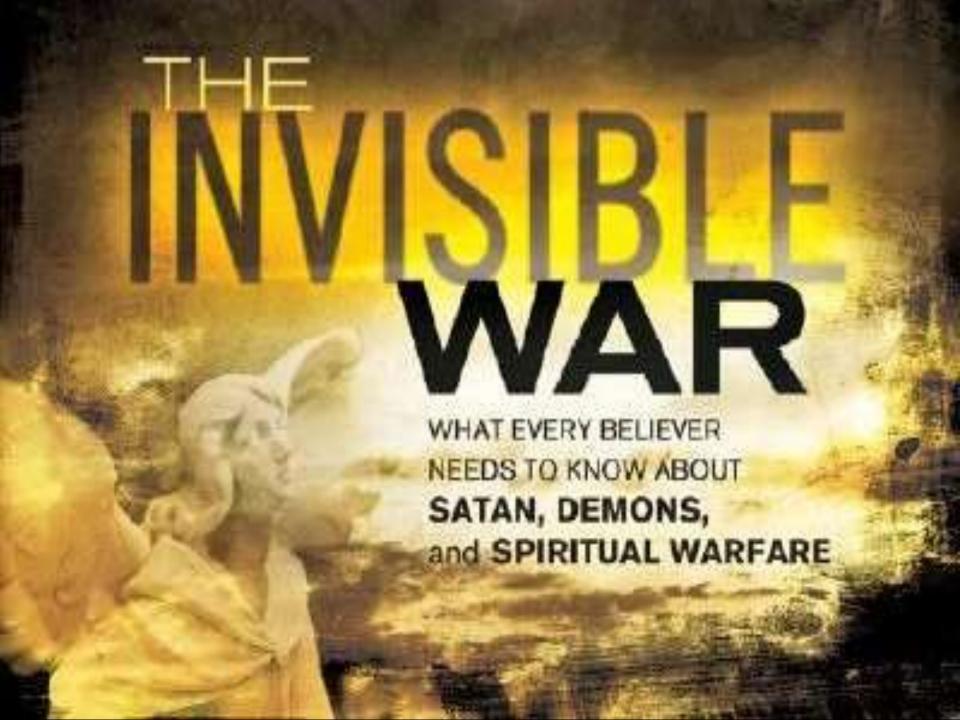
• The world of the OCCULT is a DARK, strange, and DANGEROUS world. It seduces and leads people away into death and destruction. Mediums, spiritists, sorcerers, psychics, palm-readers, fortune-tellers, astrologers, necromancers, and others all use POWERS of DARKNESS to PREDICT the FUTURE and GUIDE the DESTINIES of people. The world of the OCCULT uses these SPIRIT GUIDES to LOOK into the FUTURE and NAVIGATE and/or also CHANGE the DESTINY or OUTCOME of a person, causing good things to happen that will benefit the person.

Introduction

 The PROBLEM with this seemingly good deed is the SOURCE of the INFORMATION; it comes from the KINGDOM of DARKNESS. Note **DEMONS** will TRANSFORM themselves into ANGELS of LIGHT in order to SEDUCE man and LEAD him AWAY into DESTRUCTION (2) Corinthians 11:13-15). "Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour" (1 Peter 5:8). "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly" (John 10:10).

Introduction

• The LORD says, "I know the plans I have for you, plans for peace and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope" (Jeremiah 29:11). The tragic truth is, the world of the OCCULT will LEAD a person into DESPAIR and hopelessness. The LORD JESUS Christ is the JOY of our SALVATION and the HOPE of ALL LIFE and FUTURE. In this study, let's investigate FAMILIAR SPIRITS, their deception and activity, and DELIVERANCE from their seduction.



 The two words "FAMILIAR SPIRIT" comes from one Hebrew word "ob". The word "ob" means a "MUMBLE, a WATER SKIN (from its hollow sound), a NECROMANCER, a VENTRILOQÚIST (an apparent conversation with a hand-manipulated dummy), a JAR (as a bottle)". This word has cognates in Sumerian, Akkadian, and Ugaritic, where the meanings "pit" and "spirit of one who has died" occur. In its earliest appearances (Sumerian), "ob" refers to a PIT out of which a DEPARTED SPIRIT may be summoned. Later Assyrian texts use this word to denote simply a PIT in the ground. Akkadian texts describe a deity that is the PERSONIFICATION of the PIT, from whom oracles were made.

 The word usually represents the TROUBLED SPIRIT (or spirits) of the DEAD. This meaning appears unquestionably in (Isaiah 29:4): "...your voice shall be, as of one that has a familiar spirit, out of the ground, and your speech shall whisper out of the dust". The meaning "NECROMANCER" refers to a PROFESSIONAL who CLAIMS to SUMMON forth such SPIRITS when requested (or hired) to do so: "Regard not them that have familiar spirits, neither seek after wizards" (Leviticus 19:31).

 God FORBADE Israel to seek information from FAMILIAR SPRITS (Leviticus 19:31; Deuteronomy 18:11). NECROMANCY was so CONTRARY to GOD'S COMMANDS that its practitioners were under the DEATH PENALTY (Deuteronomy 13). SORCERERS or NECROMANCERS who call upon the DEAD are possessed by a "FAMILIAR" SPIRIT" (Deuteronomy 18:11; 2 Kings 21:6; 2 Chronicles 33:6; Leviticus 19:31; 20:6; Isaiah 8:19; 29:4).

 A "FAMILIAR SPIRIT" is the designation of a specific type of EVIL SPIRIT. It is so classified because of its chief characteristic: namely, familiarity. It is a RELATIONSHIP, a FAMILIARITY, with a person or personality. For example, a woman, whom Paul encountered in Macedonia, had a FAMILIAR SPIRIT which gave her powers of divination (Acts 16:16-18). FAMILIAR SPIRITS are common amid the practices of SPIRITISM and WITCHCRAFT, but their activity is by no means limited to persons and practices so obviously occult.

 EVIL SPIRITS are PERSONALITIES. They can REASON, DECIDE, EXPRESS **EMOTIONS and COMMUNICATE. Two** human personalities can form a relationship; and, through communication and communion, that relationship can be enhanced. Likewise, a PERSON can form and develop a CLOSE RELATIONSHIP with an EVIL SPIRIT. When a person forms a RELATIONSHIP with an EVIL SPIRIT (which can be done either willfully or through ignorance), he then has a FAMILIAR SPIRIT.

 COMMUNICATION is the chief characteristic of a FAMILIAR SPIRIT. The SPIRIT responds quickly to the SUMMONS of the MEDIUM. Note a MEDIUM, such as the witch of Endor whom Saul consulted (1 Samuel 28:7), is a GO-BETWEEN which forms a COMMUNICATION LINK between the earthly world and the demonic realm. Thus, anyone who becomes a CHANNEL of COMMUNICATION for an EVIL SPIRIT is a MEDIUM. He has a FAMILIAR SPIRIT. Leviticus 19:31 states, "Regard not them that have familiar spirits, neither seek after wizards, to be defiled by them: I am the LORD your God".

 Note a FAMILIAR SPIRIT is a PERSONALITY IDENTIFIED with a certain individual. Remember the Hebrew word for "FAMILIAR SPIRIT" is "'ob", meaning a "WATER SKIN (from its hollow sound), a VENTRILOQUIST (an apparent conversation with a hand-manipulated dummy), a JAR (as a bottle)". It also meant a "LEATHERN BOTTLE". To the ears of the ancient Hebrews, the HOLLOW SOUND of a FAMILIAR SPIRIT, speaking through a MEDIUM, sounded as though it were coming out of a skin bottle.

 A skin bottle is a vessel; and, a person who has a FAMILIAR SPIRIT, serves as the vessel which contains the spirit. This Hebrew word was equivalent to the "python" of the Greeks, and was used to denote both the PERSON and the SPIRIT which possessed him (Leviticus 20:27; 1 Samuel 28:8; Acts 16:16). In Latin, the word "FAMILIAR" (familiaris) means a "HOUSEHOLD SERVANT"; it was intended to express the idea that sorcerers had spirits as their servants ready to obey their commands.



Their Deception

 Usually, the one having a FAMILIAR SPIRIT believes that his SPIRIT GUIDE is GOOD rather than EVIL, or thinks that something beneficial will come out of that relationship. He erroneously believes that the SPIRIT is a true BENEFACTOR who will provide him with helpful INFORMATION. He may even believe that the FAMILIAR SPIRIT is the Holy Spirit. He will; therefore, be reluctant to part with something he believes is beneficial or that is of God. The person having a FAMILIAR SPIRIT may not recognize that it is an EVIL SPIRIT with whom he is having a relationship. NECROMANCY, communication with the dead, is a facet of the FAMILIAR SPIRIT'S operation.

Their Deception

 Rather than communicating with a particular person, the MEDIUM is in CONTACT with a SPIRIT which is FAMILIAR with that DEAD PERSON. The SPIRIT is able to give INFORMATION and produce MANIFESTATIONS which leads the necromancer to suppose that he has CONTACTED the SPIRIT of a certain DEAD person. Almost everyone wants to know what the future holds in store. What is their source of information? It is easy, therefore, to be drawn into a scheme that claims to hold the key to knowing the unknown. Also, many, it seems, have been enticed by the desire to COMMUNICATE with DEPARTED LÓVED ONES. When forbidden things are sought; or when good things are sought in wrong ways, the devil is quick to take advantage. Satan is a sly deceiver.



- There are many AVENUES through which FAMILIAR SPIRITS can be acquired. The following list is suggestive rather than exhaustive.
- 1. DIVINATION is broadly defined as an attempt to discern future events or to discover that which cannot be known by normal methods. The FAMILIAR SPIRIT is sought to assist a person in his quest for hidden knowledge, guidance and power. There are many expressions of divination. Divination includes the practices of occultists, spirit mediums, witches, water witching, voodoo priests, medicine men, and shamans.

2. TRANSCENDENTAL MEDITATION, a practice associated with Hindu worship, is accepted widely throughout western culture today. Contrary to Christian meditation, which is an active reflection upon God and His Word; Eastern meditation is passive. Passive meditation coupled with trance-producing techniques and the chanting of a mantra, open a person directly to the demonic realm. In this attempt to discover true enlightenment, the practitioner empties himself of all self-identity and willpower.

3. IMAGINARY PLAYMATES are invisible companions. In fact, the playmate may be invisible to others but appear visibly to the person. What begins, in the imagination, as a technique to offset loneliness, evolves into a relationship with a FAMILIAR SPIRIT.

4. DRUGS, especially the hallucinatory drugs, provide a straight corridor into the DEMONIC REALM (Galatians 5:20). This is true of all sorts of drugs ranging from the ancient peyote to modern drugs known as LSD and PCP. Such drugs alter the function of brain cells, and pave the way for an infinite variety of supposed revelations which are fostered by FAMILIAR SPIRITS that were contacted via the drug-induced hallucinations.

5. VIDEO GAMES and TOYS are a powerful influence in the training of children. The devil is blatantly making his bid to control the lives of our youth. Parents, the spiritual guardians of children, must be especially alert and vigilant today in order to protect their offspring from Satan's wiles.

6. HYDROMANCY is a method of divination by means of water, including the color, ebb and flow, or ripples produced by pebbles dropped in a pool. Ancients would sit by a calm body of water and watch its flowing motion create patterns that they would interpret. Often a spirit would appear within the water and bring a telepathic message. The ancient Greeks believed that nature spirits dwelled in fresh water. In ancient Initiation ceremonies one would spend hours gazing into a sacred pool of water, or large sacred urn filled with water, to receive messages from the gods. This generally involved time and focus, and the abilities of the initiate to focus within. This brought visions of gods and the future.

7. NECROMANCY is communicating with spirits of the dead. Teraphim, or household gods, are mentioned several times in the Bible. These were human figures and statues from which oracles were sought. These household images were made in the likeness of deceased ancestors. When Jacob separated himself from his uncle, Laban; Rachel stole her father's Teraphim. (Genesis 31). This passage reveals that Laban and his family were involved in idolatry. They believed that they could be helped by the spirits of the departed dead. When God told Jacob to return to Bethel (The house of God), Jacob said to his family; "Put away the foreign gods that are among you" (Genesis 35:2), and the Teraphim were buried and left behind. Thereupon, the curse was avoided; and the blessings of God came to Jacob and his family (Genesis 35:5).

8. PALM READING is the characterization and foretelling of the future through the study of the palm, also known as palm reading or chirology. The practice is found all over the world, with numerous cultural variations. Those who practice chiromancy are generally called palmists, palm readers, hand readers, hand analysts, or chirologists. Chiromancy consists of the practice of evaluating a person's character or future life by "reading" the palm of that person's hand. Various "lines" ("heart line", "life line", etc.) and "mounts" (or bumps) (chirognomy) purportedly suggest interpretations by their relative sizes, qualities, and intersections.

8. In some traditions, readers also examine characteristics of the fingers, fingernails, fingerprints, and palmar skin patterns (dermatoglyphics), skin texture and color, shape of the palm, and flexibility of the hand. A reader usually begins by reading the person's dominant hand (which represents the conscious mind, whereas the other hand is subconscious). In some traditions of palmistry, the other hand is believed to carry hereditary or family traits, or, depending on the palmist's cosmological beliefs, to convey information about past-life or karmic conditions.

9. SORCERY and SOOTHSAYING is the use of power gained from the assistance or control of evil spirits. Its use prognosticates future events (crystal gazer, clairvoyant). Baalam was called a sorcerer (Joshua 13:22) The Hebrew word "kosem" means a "diviner, prudent" (1 Samuel 6:2; Isaiah 3:2). In Isaiah 2:6 and Micah 5:12 the word is used of the Chaldean diviners who studied the clouds. In Daniel 2:27; 5:7 the word is the rendering of the Chaldee "gazrin" meaning "deciders" or "determiners", here applied to Chaldean astrologers, "who, by casting nativities from the place of the stars at one's birth, and by various arts of computing and divining, foretold the fortunes and destinies of individuals".

FOR THE

WEAPONS號WARFARE

ARE NOT CARNAL, BUT MIGHTY THROUGH GOD TO THE PULLING DOWN OF STRONG HOLDS

2 CORNTHIANS 10:4

CALLED TO DUTY

The Prohibition

 The seriousness of entertaining FAMILIAR SPIRITS is plainly set forth in God's Word. In the Old Testament, involvement with FAMILIAR SPIRITS was PUNISHABLE by DEATH. "A man or a woman who is a medium, or who has familiar spirits, shall surely be put to death; they shall stone them with stones. Their blood shall be upon them" (Leviticus 20:27). FAMILIAR SPIRITS are COUNTERFEITS of the Holy Spirit's work. As with anything OCCULT, involvement with FAMILIAR SPIRITS constitutes idolatry and creates spiritual defilement: "You shall not...practice divination or soothsaying" (Leviticus 19:26). "Regard not them that have familiar spirits...to be defiled by them: I am the LORD your God" (Leviticus 19:31).

The Prohibition

 King SAUL sought out a woman who had a FAMILIAR SPIRIT, and because Saul sought help from the WITCH of ENDOR, God's judgment came upon him. "So Saul died for his unfaithfulness which he had committed against the LORD, because he did not keep the Word of the LORD, and also because he consulted a medium for guidance. But he did not inquire of the LORD; therefore, He killed him, and turned the Kingdom over to David the son of Jesse" (1 Chronicles 10:13-14). GOD brought JUDGMENT upon the NATIONS because of their OCCULT PRACTICES, and He gave their lands to the Israelites. Then, GOD WARNED ISRAEL that He would drive them from the land if they ever turned to the OCCULT.

The Prohibition

 "When you have come into the land which the LORD your God gives you, you shall not learn to do after the abominations of those nations. 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 all that do these things are an abomination unto the LORD: and because of these abominations the LORD your God is driving them out before you" (Deuteronomy 18:9-12).



Conclusion

 Apply this teaching on FAMILIAR SPIRITS to your own life. Has any door of opportunity been opened to FAMILIAR SPIRITS? Is there any evidence of the presence of FAMILIAR SPIRITS? Repent of each sin that has given opportunities for relationships with FAMILIAR SPIRITS. The WORD of GOD warns that it is a SIN to have a FAMILIAR SPIRIT. Note a FAMILIAR SPIRIT is not judged by whether or not it appears to be of benefit, but by what God has said about it. Renounce the FAMILIAR SPIRITS.

Conclusion

 Disannul the covenant with the FAMILIAR SPIRITS. Destroy any thing that you have in your possession that would give a legal right for such a spirit to remain. Tell it that it is not needed or wanted. Resist and cast out the demonic spirits, using your spiritual authority as a believer in the LORD JESUS Christ. Employ the spiritual weapons of the BLOOD of the LAMB, the NAME of JESUS Christ, and the Word of God. For these weapons "are mighty in God for pulling down strongholds" (2 Corinthians 10:5).

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