



# The History of Halloween

Why Not Mommy  
---No Costumes?

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# History of Halloween

- Celtic civilization 300 years before Jesus
- Druids, secret priestly society ruled over pagan Kings. Kings feared the Druid priests
- Samhain their God of Death. October 31<sup>st</sup> is the Festival of Samhain or Festival of Death
- The Celtic New Year begins with the Festival of Death. Druids believed that the old year dies and the New Year begins.

# History of Halloween

- Midnight was the climax hour for the festival
- Druids dressed in robes and face markings, wore hollowed turnips with oil lamps burning inside.
- Druids believed that sinful souls who died thru the year were relegated to bodies of animals.
- Through gifts of sacrifices, sins could be given and soul freed to claim a heavenly reward.

# History of Halloween

- At midnight, the madness increased and human sacrifices were used for divination.
- Satan's help was invoked by magic, witchcraft and sorcery as well as divination was performed.
- The Lord of Death gathered the souls of the evil dead who had been condemned to animal bodies. The souls of the good dead were reincarnated.
- Druids believed that the punishment of the evil dead could be lightened by sacrifices and prayers and gifts to the Lord of Death.

# Catholic Response

- Pope Gregory IV 835 AD
  - Designated November 1 as All Saints
  - Or All Hallow's Day- a celebration of Saints and martyred Saints.
  - A day to pray for the dead to help them from purgatory
- October 31 was regarded as All Hallow's Evening...the NIGHT BEFORE All Saints Day...All Hallow's Day...
- Thus HALLOWEEN...

# Traditions and Customs

- Masks
  - Costumes use to HIDE one's attendance
- Divining
  - Was to invoke good luck;
  - Finding Favor with the evil spirits
- Bobbing for Apples
  - Promise good favor to the one who could catch apple without using hands and with teeth only

# Traditions and Customs

- Jack O Lantern

- Carved hollow turnip; likeness of a hidden demon spirit who directs and guides, Druid's little spirit guide.

- Trick or Treat

- If demands, from home to home, were not met the home was cursed with trouble, sickness or death.

- Witches and Black Cats

- A Guiding of evil spirits by flying brooms and embodied in the form of black cats.

# Occult Abominations

- Necromancy
  - Conjuring of the spirits of the dead for purposes of magically revealing the future or influencing the course of events
  - Familiar Spirits- Is 8:19-22, 1Sa 28:7-11
  - Holy Spirit Guides and Reveals-John 14:17-27  
John 16:12-13



# Occult Abominations

- Divination-art or practice that seeks to foresee or foretell future events or hidden knowledge by interpreting omens or by the aid of supernatural power of good luck
  - Dueteronomy 18:9-14

# Occult Abominations

- Reincarnation
  - Rebirth of the soul into new bodies or forms of life; a rebirth of a soul in a new human body.
  - Hebrews 9:27
  - John 3:3

# The Word Says

- Destination of the Soul
  - Matthew 13:24-30
  - Mt 13:47-50
  - Mt 25: 31-46

# The Word Says

- The God of Life-Jesus Christ
- We are to live by faith in Christ.
  - John 17:1-3
  - John 14:6-7
  - John 14:23-27
  - John 11:25
  - 1 John 5:19-29

# Just For Fun?

- NO Middle Ground!
  - 1Co 10:20-22
  - Luke 16:13
  - 2Co 6:14-18
  - Ephesians 5:6-11
  - 1 Thess 5:22
- Want the Word to Flow?
- ...Check Your Bookcases!
  - Acts 19:19

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## Just For Fun or Is It?



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North Stamford Congregational  
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Enjoy Our “No Fright Night”~  
Plenty of Treats and NO TRICKS!