



Witchcraft is the attempt to control people and get them to do what you want by the use of any spirit that is not the Holy Spirit. Witchcraft, in short, is controlling people. In witchcraft, women are called WITCH and men are called WIZARD or WARLOCK

In the Bible, there's so much that is mentioned about witchcraft. But we take it for granted. Of course, we know that it's forbidden and denounced by God. In the Bible, it is mentioned that witchcraft was practiced by Egyptians, Magicians, Balaam, Jezebel, Simon the sorcerer, Elymas (the sorcerer that Paul made blind), etc.

The reasons why Saul died and God gave the throne to David is because Saul consulted a medium/witch. 1 Chronicles 10:13-14 - "13 **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.** 14 But he did not inquire of the Lord; therefore He killed him, and turned the kingdom over to David the son of Jesse." (NKJV)

When Apostle Paul brought revival to the church of Ephesus, people burned witchcraft books (Acts 19:17-19). We also know that in the last days, there will be a lot of witchcraft and sorcery in the world that the anti-Christ will use so people will be under his control. People will not just blindly worshipping a man unless he use some kind of a witchcraft and power to entice them. Derek Prince said, "Witchcraft is the universal, primeval religion of the fallen humanity."

In Hebrews 10:1-7 and Colossians 2:17, it is mentioned that the law given by God to Moses and the sacrifices offered are just shadows of the good things coming which refer to Jesus Christ. The devil likes to imitate God so he also uses shadows of the evil things that they are doing to deceive people. One of them is Witchcraft.

### Three Shadows of Witchcraft:

#### Witchcraft Works in the Flesh

Galatians 5:19-21, "19 Now the **works of the flesh** are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, 20 idolatry, **sorcery**, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, 21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that **those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God** (NKJV)."

It is not something demonic. It is surprising that one of the acts of the flesh is witchcraft or sorcery. Witchcraft is the ability to control other people. **Witchcraft can Manifest Subtly in 3 Different Fleshly Forms: Manipulation, Intimidation, and Rebellion.** First is Manipulation. It causes someone to do something that they would not do under normal circumstances. Persuasion will try to change a persons mind. But in manipulation, People use guilt, fear, embarrassment, or sympathy to get someone to do something that they would not otherwise do. Second is Intimidation. It often comes in the form of bullying or threats. Third is Rebellion. It occurs when someone rejects the authority established by God either in nation, company, church, or at home. 1 Samuel 15:23a - "Rebellion is as sinful as witchcraft..." (NLT) Therefore, when you rebel against your parents, against your LIFE group leader, your pastor, your boss, or your government leaders, you're a witch. Behind these fleshly acts, demonic forces manipulate people. God told us to honor other people's will as He gave us free will. God is respectful to our choice. Respectfully, He even allows people to go to hell. But He will not violate our free choice. Anyone who violates free choice of a man is from the devil and is considered witchcraft.

#### Witchcraft Works through Spiritual Force

Acts 8:9-11 - "9 But there was a certain man called Simon, who previously practiced sorcery in the city and astonished the people of Samaria, claiming that he was someone great, 10 to whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, "This man is the great power of God." 11 And they heeded him because he had astonished them with his sorceries for a long time." (NIV)

This is demonic. Witches, Sorcerers, or people who cast spells to control other people's lives using dark forces. The devil wants to desensitize our culture. The devil is making people accept their terminology and ideology. The devil wants people to accept darkness and reject the light that comes from God.

#### Three Ways Witchcraft Works through Spiritual Force:

##### A. It operates by Casting Spells and Curses.

The Bible tells us about Balaam being hired by Balaak so that they can defeat Israel in battle. Some non-Christians know spiritual battles more than Christians or even preachers of today (Numbers 22:10-11 Balak hired Balaam to declare curses against Israel.

There are a lot of people with evil spirits who know battles are going on in spiritual realm. God's protection is always upon His people with the Blood of Jesus. This is why Psalm 23 said, "The Lord is my Shepherd." He is our shepherd and He is on our side. The word of the Lord says, "If God is for us, who can be against us." We may not be perfect, srael wasn't perfect, but the blood of Jesus defeats the power of the enemy so we are protected 24 hours a day.

##### B. It operates by Divination

Acts 16:16 - "Now it happened, as we went to prayer, that a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much profit by fortune-telling (NKJV)." The spirit of divination could also be translated as spirit of python. The girl has a spirit of python, and when she was talking about Paul, she was saying nothing wrong (Acts 16:17). What she was saying is true but it's not the truth. It is true but provocative. Friends, we have to be careful with people who proclaim that they tell the truth and that they're servants of God.

People who have demons can share to you their dreams, visions, and even prophecies. Sometimes they can get it right. So if you're a person who doesn't live in the word of God, you will quickly get fooled and controlled by the evil spirit. What the devil will do is go around you through these false prophets and squeeze you to lose your faith on the truth of the Bible.

##### C. It operates by Sorcery

Revelations 9:21 - "And they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts (NKJV)." This works by objects, charms, music, and drugs. The New Testament uses the Greek word "Pharmakeia" for SORCERY.

"In Hinduism, marijuana has been used to worship the demon of death and destruction, for thousands of years." Chinese Taoism and Buddhism believe that inhaling marijuana is a way to communicate with spirits and tell fortunes. In witchcraft, marijuana is often involved. If it becomes legal in our nation, it can be used by the enemy as open door for your life's curse. When the marijuana is used in a nation, poverty rises, bad relationship begins, immorality increases.

According to studies, 1 out of 6 people who used weed gets introduced to heavier drugs. First, they lost their mind, they lost money, they lost their family. Some lost their life . Satan gives you with one hand and he'll use the other hand to get a lot of things from your life. If you've been delivered by God from drugs, praise God for the power of the name of Jesus and His blood.



- 1.) What are the things you are doing that you are not aware you are opening doors to witchcraft?
- 2.) What experience you had before that controlled your life? Sahre

Pray for each other in your group.