

Ministering to Christians Seeking Spiritual Freedom and Deliverance



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Dear Life of Freedom Ministries Supporter:

Greetings!

In preparing to write this newsletter, I was anticipating, and looking forward to, some cooler weather. Instead, the last week of August and first of September has 90-degree temperatures! Indiana weather is predictably unpredictable. Regardless of the temperatures, or whether it is raining or sunny, may God bless you all this September!

Praises:

Last month, I shared a prayer concern that finances for *Life of Freedom Ministries* was struggling. Praise God, the response was a **huge blessing**. The contributions returned to the level of funds that are necessary for operation. Thank you so much for your prayers and support!

God has empowered a number of people to contact *Life of Freedom Ministries* to seek help. Then, He did not let them down as He ministered healing and brought freedom. Ranging from individuals, to couples, to entire families, God has expanded the reach of this ministry in the last month.

One person in particular gave approval for sharing of the ministry work here. This person was set free from a number of demons related to a history of Satan worship. The individual had a *very* difficult life, full of rejection and abandonment. Seeking friendship and empowerment, the person turned to Satanism. God worked a miracle in this person's life, leading to salvation, and is currently doing a miracle of deliverance.

Something to Consider:

Proverbs 3:5-6—⁵ *Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;* ⁶ *in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.*

This was a headline and brief portion of a report in the *Chicago Tribune* on April 30, 2011:

Keep your fingers crossed on Peavy: If all goes well Wednesday in rehab start, he could pitch for Sox on May 10.

Of all the White Sox's problems, two in the pitching department could be solved soon: The return of Jake Peavy and the re-emergence of Edwin Jackson. Peavy, the \$16-million pitcher who has been on the disabled list the last 11 months, could make his first start May 10 in a visit to the Angels.

I'm picking on my own team here ☺! After having a serious shoulder injury repaired by surgery last winter, White Sox pitcher Jake Peavy worked hard to be in shape for the season. However, it wasn't until over a month into the season that he returned. On May 11, he pitched against Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim, California. Peavy allowed four runs on seven hits over six innings, striking out four and not issuing a walk, and got a no decision.

The question for this newsletter is this: how would “crossing fingers” bring Peavy back to health to play for the White Sox? This is an example of superstition. When someone believes that an act or an object causes something to happen or not happen when in reality it doesn’t, it is a superstition. A sport, especially baseball as the above article shows, is loaded with superstition. However, superstitions are very common, even among Christians. It is not at all uncommon for Christians to say, “good luck!” The key word that is often involved in superstitious thinking, is “luck.”

The Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary defines luck as: 1) a force that brings good fortune or adversity 2) the events or circumstances that operate for or against an individual. If there were a “force” that operates against an individual that is beyond the physical realm, a *biblical* view would be that it must either be God or Satan and his host. Therefore, if a person does something for good luck, like put a sign [actually called a “hex sign”] on a building with the head of a Hereford for protection of the farm, he is hoping that the act will appease either God or the spirits, which some even call gods, so nothing bad will happen. In other words, superstitious acts in practice are just like what animists do. An animist believes that for life to go well, the spirits, or gods, must be happy. So, for example, to have safe passage across a river, the person must sacrifice a chicken to the spirit. It may seem like a stretch to tie these two together, but ministry experience shows that the *demonic takes these superstitions very seriously*.

I do not write this out of condemnation because it is so easy to fall into this thinking. For a long time I thought, and for many Christians presently, these superstitions are harmless. What could it hurt to say a wish and break a “wish bone?” It may seem harmless on the surface, but the connection to occultism is deep. Proverbs 3:5-6 notes that we need to look to God to guide our lives, not by manipulating the spirits through different actions, or non-action. The best way to deal with spirits is in victory *that is already won* in the Lord Jesus Christ! I encourage you to set aside superstitious practices and instead trust in God to care for you.

Prayer Concerns:

Events:

Life of Freedom Bible Studies—The next Bible study will be on Monday, September 12th at 6:30pm. All are invited to attend, as we will take a closer look at superstitions.

September begins the season for those who are in league with Satan to be much more active. Spiritual activity is on the increase in anticipation of Halloween. Please pray for God’s mighty power to be at work and for His will to be done.

Final Thoughts:

There are *many* superstitions, as I from time to time must add more to the list on the inventory I use in ministry. At the next Bible study, we will take a closer look at this topic. We will examine different superstitions and how they impact people. Please come and join the discussion! If you are unable to attend, the study time will be recorded and put on the website. Along with the recording will be a notes sheet that has a list of some common superstitions in everyday life.

In Christ,



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