

Ministering to Christians Seeking Spiritual Freedom and Deliverance



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Dear Life of Freedom Ministries Supporter:

Greetings!

Thank you for taking the time again to read the monthly LFM newsletter! I enjoy taking the time to write and share a little about the ministry and what is happening, and I hope it is encouraging and a blessing for you. As we enter harvest season, I pray that you will be able to celebrate the blessings God has given you this year.

Praises:

I praise God for the beauty of autumn. I enjoy all of the seasons, but autumn is extra special to me.

I praise God for His sustenance for me, as it has been a busy season. He has given me the grace and strength to press on in service.

I praise God for blessing me with the opportunity to serve Him and share His love with wounded people. I've been praying for a continued joy in His call to service, and He has been answering my prayers!

Short Report:

One teaching that I learned from Dean Hochstetler that rings clearly in my mind is that sexual sin and sexual perversion often come up in a person's life when an ancestor has been involved in occult practice. I've seen evidence of this as well in ministry, and Mr. P is a good example. Although a generally a pure-minded man, Mr. P would have bouts of dealing with enticement for lust and viewing pornography. It seemed to come and go, but when it came, it seemed much too strong to resist. Mr. P had very little unconfessed sin to address, but there was magic healing done in his ancestry by his parents, and likely his grandparents. He brought the whole issue before the Lord, confessing his personal involvement, since he was taken to the magic healer when he was a child, as well as his ancestors' involvement. He cancelled the ground that any evil spirits might have in his life in the Name of Jesus Christ. When we confronted the evil spirits who might have been residing with Mr. P, through the victory of Jesus Christ, he saw them "take off," and he was at peace! The powers of darkness are defeated by the Lord Jesus' finished work on the cross and Mr. P was set free!

Something to Consider:

Galatians 5:19-20—¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions ...

1 Corinthians 10:19-21—¹⁹ What do I imply then? That food sacrificed to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything? ²⁰ No, I imply that what pagans sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons and not to God. I do not want you to be partners with demons. ²¹ You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons.

Deuteronomy 18:10-13—¹⁰ No one shall be found among you who makes a son or daughter pass through fire, or who practices divination, or is a soothsayer, or an augur, or a sorcerer, ¹¹ or one who casts spells, or who consults ghosts or spirits, or who seeks oracles from the dead. ¹² For

whoever does these things is abhorrent to the LORD; it is because of such abhorrent practices that the LORD your God is driving them out before you. ¹³ You must remain completely loyal to the LORD your God.

I realize there is danger of writing about the dangers of occultism each Halloween. Continuing to address the matter may come across as legalistic or ignoring God's grace. However, when the rest of the year is spent helping others out of the burdens and bondage that comes from occult involvement, I believe I must write about this topic. The issue isn't about a person's salvation in Christ, but the ability to live freely and to the fullest for Him.

Mr. P is a good example of someone who was being hindered in his life by evil spirits due to involvement in the occult. He was very clear that the struggle he had bothered him deeply, but he certainly was a believer. Of course he wasn't perfect, but he didn't live a life of sin. He was open to find out if his struggle had a demonic element, and indeed, it sure did.

Halloween for many people seems harmless and fun. Mr. P's family thought that the form of healing they used was harmless, or even good, because it wasn't scary... and it worked! The long term consequences brought him trouble. Not to minimize the burden that Mr. P carried, but the results of the demonic work in his life was little compared to others that have come to LFM for help. I'm so often greatly saddened by what people have endured because the personal or ancestral participation with demonic, occult, activities. "Magic healing," which some call witchcraft or sorcery, is simply a healing that is done by demonic power. It isn't medical or of God. Paul makes it clear in 1 Corinthians 10 that we can't be partners with demons and God. The results can be very bad!

Moses had warned the Israelites to have nothing to do with these forbidden, detestable, or abominable practices, leading some to challenge that avoiding the occult is simply an Old Testament idea. However, in the New Testament, Paul writes to the Galatians and Corinthians to not be a part of witchcraft and the things of demons. *The activities of Halloween fall into this category.* It is a holiday of darkness, and has nothing to do with Christianity. For that reason, I discourage any involvement in any celebration of Halloween in any fashion, even if it seems to not have any danger. My hope is that warnings like this will help to keep others from having problems like Mr. P had.

Prayer Concerns:

Unlike Mr. P, I've had some more "intense" ministry sessions lately. Please pray for God's work and His strength for these sessions.

Please pray for God to continue to lead to LFM those to whom I can minister.

Serving the Lord Jesus Christ,



Ben Snyder

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