

Ministering to Christians Seeking Spiritual Freedom



Newsletter—Vol. X, No. 10
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Dear Life of Freedom Ministries Supporter:

Greetings!

I'm so glad to be able to write the October newsletter. We enter the autumn season with the cooler weather, colorful landscapes, and harvest. I enjoy this season (yes, I prefer cooler rather than hotter weather), but it can be a spiritual battle in October. I'll share on this below. Even with the battle, I don't want to miss the beauty of this time of year.

Special Note:

I have been told by a number of people how they've made purchases on Amazon.com through AmazonSmile! Thank you! If you haven't done so, please remember throughout the year that if you make purchases from Amazon.com, to enter Amazon.com by going to www.lifeoffreedom.org and click on the AmazonSmile icon. Any purchase you make on Amazon.com while entering through this link brings a donation from Amazon to LFM at no cost to you, but the time for a few extra mouse clicks!

Praises:

I praise God for His work in sorting out some confusing cases this past month. The enemy was definitely being tricky, but Christ is victor!

I praise God for the blessing of being able to hold meetings at Siloam Fellowship. Although a more private office is desirable, this set up has worked well.

Short Report:

On occasion, I'm confronted with the question about why I recommend not participating in certain activities. The questioner essentially is asking, "What's wrong with it?" The general answer is that the some activities have danger of exposing oneself to the powers of darkness. One such activity is getting a tattoo. I recommend not getting tattoos simply because of the times that evil spirits have gained residence in people because of them. Ms. N is an example of this. We were to the point in ministry where we were confronting the spirits of darkness to command them to depart. The first spirit we encountered gave his function name, and he declared he still had ground to stay because of the tattoo. Ms. N had confessed to God her involvement with tattoos, but more needed to be more specific. She had to fully cancel the curses connected to the man who gave her the tattoo. She did so, and the spirit admitted he had to go. Ms. N was set free from the spirit connected to the tattoo. Was it a sin? Maybe not, but is the tattoo beneficial? I don't think so. This is why I discourage getting them, but not condemn those who do.

Something to Consider:

Ephesians 5:11—¹¹ *Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them.*

Galatians 5:16, 19-21—¹⁶ So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁹ The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; ²⁰ idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹ and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Every October, I cringe a bit because I know that I need to write a newsletter that can seem to be negative and even critical. The month includes the very pagan holiday, Halloween, which leads many to participate in events that are spiritually harmful. Nonetheless, I do believe that I need to call to attention the dangers of involvement in occult related activities. That is why I chose this case report about Ms. N. In no way do I intend to be critical of anyone who has a tattoo, or say you are bad, or not a Christian, or full of demons. I simply want to point out that some practices do actually have spiritual danger, and tattoos are just one of them.

I should point out that Ms. N is not just an isolated incident of one person dealing with demons due to tattoos. It does come up from time to time for others. However, not every person who has a tattoo has had demons residing in him or her because of the tattoo. Even so, for me, I've encountered enough people who have had to deal with demons because of tattoos, so I ask, "Why go there?"

This is the same line of thinking I have with regard to Halloween. Why push to go as close to the line as possible? Many people ask me questions about other holidays. They have pagan terms or practices associated with paganism (like the name "Easter" is not Christian at all, or what about Yule logs and Christmas trees?) I see Halloween different than these other holidays because it is not in any way a Christian holiday that has been twisted or perverted. It is simply pagan. Therefore, I encourage everyone to not do anything associated with the holiday as much as possible.

Another option would be to have October 31 as a day of remembrance for church history. Martin Luther started the Reformation on this date by nailing his 95 theses on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany in 1517. Whether one is Catholic, Protestant, or Anabaptist, remembering this event is valuable, as it greatly influenced all of the Christian church.

Understand that I'm not writing to say that all fun activities are bad, but we need to check out what these fun activities are. Candy, games, and gatherings are fun and can be good. However, I encourage you to evaluate how necessary it is to be involved in the Halloween activities. Is it really worth it?

Prayer Concerns:

Please pray for me to be able to balance my time well for working in ministry and finishing the office, and to remember to be content with the progress of both!

Please be in prayer during this season because the forces of darkness are at work to steal, kill, and destroy. Let's remind them that indeed Christ has defeated them!

Rescued by Christ Jesus,



Ben Snyder

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