



PROPHECY EXPO

The Role of the Occult in Last Day Events

- I. The Role of the Occult in Last Day Events will be similar to its role through history (but intensified), which has been to distract humans and lead them away from God. Not unlike a magician's trick, where slight-of-hand is used to distract attention from what is right before people; the occult has always been used to draw attention away from God

"When they say to you, 'Consult the mediums and the spiritists who whisper and mutter,' should not a people consult their God? *Should they consult the dead on behalf of the living?*"
(Isaiah 8:19; NASB 493; SP 697)

The characteristics of God are the opposite of our characteristics. For this reason, it helps to understand God, which will help us then, to understand human nature better

- II. What are the major characteristics of God?

- A. The first major characteristic unique to God is that He alone has immortality

". . . He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords,
¹⁶ "who alone possesses immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see.
"To Him *be honor and eternal dominion! Amen.*"
(1Timothy 6:15-16; NASB165; SP1173)

1. As a simple definition of "immortality," it means not dying. The Greek usage makes this word "immortality" clear. In Greek, if you want to make an opposite meaning, all you have to do is attach a letter "a" to the front of a word. Something like we do with a "un," as in "happy" to "unhappy" or "friendly" to "unfriendly." In Greek the word for death is θάνατος but here in 1 Timothy 6:16 Paul has attached the letter "a" to the front of the word for dying ἀθανατος, which means, "not death." According to 1 Timothy 6:16, only God does not die.

Satan has been trying to convince humans from the very beginning that they are just like God and that they, like God, have immortality

2. As soon as man was created, God warned Adam that if he disobeyed God by eating from the “Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil” he would die

“The LORD God commanded the man, saying, ‘From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die.’”
(Genesis 2:16-17; NASB2; SP2)

3. Satan, posing as a serpent successfully tempted Adam and Eve to eat the fruit of the tree by saying,

“. . . Indeed, has God said, ‘You shall not eat from any tree of the garden?’”
The woman said to the serpent, “From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, ‘You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.’”
(Genesis 3:1-3; NASB2; SP3)

4. The serpent told the first and most famous lie of all time

“The serpent said to the woman, “You surely will not die!”
(Genesis 3:4; NASB2; SP3)

The occult and all pagan religions are based on this lie and the explanation of the serpent

“For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”
(Genesis 3:5; NASB2; SP3)

The promise of “no dying,” eternal life, is a promise for the future

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.” (John 3:16; NASB73; SP1039)

That is why the promise of a resurrection and a future judgment is important to Christianity

B. The second major characteristic unique to God is that He alone can see into the future

"Remember the former things long past, For I am God, and there is no other; *I am* God, and there is no one like Me, Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things which have not been done, Saying, 'My purpose will be established, And I will accomplish all My good pleasure;'"
(Isaiah 46:9-10; NASB520; SP728)

Obviously, from what Isaiah has written, God does not allow for any other power to be functioning in the realm of the future. There is a good reason for that fact. God says there is no other God or power besides Him

C. The third major characteristic is that the LORD, is God alone

"I am the LORD, and there is no other; Besides Me there is no God. . . ."
(Isaiah 45:5; NASB519; SP727)

". . . So that you may know and believe Me And understand that I am He. Before Me there was no God formed, And there will be none after Me. I, even I, am the LORD, And there is no savior besides Me.
(Isaiah 43:10-11; NASB517;SP725)

"Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and His Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: 'I am the first and I am the last, And there is no God besides Me.
'Who is like Me? Let him proclaim and declare it; Yes, let him recount it to Me in order, From the time that I established the ancient nation. And let them declare to them the things that are coming and the events that are going to take place.
'Do not tremble and do not be afraid; Have I not long since announced *it* to you and declared *it*? And you are My witnesses. Is there any God besides Me, Or is there any *other* Rock? I know of none."
(Isa 44:6-8; NASB519; SP726)

Images and occult practices are empty nothings

"Those who fashion a graven image are all of them futile, and their precious things are of no profit; even their own witnesses fail to see or know, so that they will be put to shame."
(Isaiah 44:9; NASB; SP)

Turning to the occult is turning away from God; that is why occult practices are consistently prohibited in the Bible

"Do not turn to mediums or spiritists; do not seek them out to be defiled by them. I am the LORD your God."
(Leviticus 19:31; NASB90; SP125)

“As for the person who turns to mediums and to spiritists, to play the harlot after them, I will also set My face against that person and will cut him off from among his people.”
(Leviticus 20:6; NASB90; SP126)

“Now a man or a woman who is a medium or a spiritist shall surely be put to death. They shall be stoned with stones, their bloodguiltiness is upon them.”
(Leviticus 20:27; NASB91; SP126)

III. It would be a mistake to think that Satan had no power, because while his power is limited, it is still overwhelming to those who are without God

“Be of sober *spirit*, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.”
(1Peter 5:8; NASB182; SP1199)

A. The Role of the occult in the end of times will use all the evil power of the Devil to keep the inhabitants of the world trapped in sin and gather them to do battle against God

“And I saw *coming* out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet, three unclean spirits like frogs; for they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them together for the war of the great day of God, the Almighty. And they gathered them together to the place which in Hebrew is called Har-Magedon.”
(Rev 16:13-14, 16; NASB197; SP1221)

B. Satan began to set the stage for this battle early in New Testament times and his power will result in one final battle against God

“But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons, by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron. . . .”
(1Timothy 4:1-2; NASB163; SP1171)

“But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth. This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic.”
(James 3:14-15; NASB178; SP1193)