

Life After Death, Pt. 10 – Ghosts, Hauntings, UFOs, sermonaudio.com
Aliens & The Bible

Life After Death

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This is the 10th sermon in our series on "Life After Death," and we've looked at a lot of questions and hopefully a lot of application. Today I'd like us to consider what many people believe is definitive proof of life after death, supernatural phenomena such as ghosts, haunted houses, messages from the spirit world, demonic possession, communication with the dead. The word for these phenomena is "occult" which means "dark" and in recent years the term "new age" has come to mean the same thing.

I should tell you that I have a background in this area, but praise the Lord it's only a reading background, never a practicing one unless you consider that I was a part-time UFO investigator for a brief time. But ever since I can remember, my goal has been to find the answer to the ultimate question of what is truth. That has just consumed, has always consumed me and part of that quest, you know, had to do with when I was a teenager and a little older, finding out what the occult had to offer in that regard. I read all I could about it. I never got involved in it, thank the Lord. I amassed quite a library of occult/new age books. It's interesting that even before I professed faith in Christ, I found out the more I read, the more I was creeped out by the whole subject. I didn't even know why. I remember one time I was in an occult bookstore in Old Town, Chicago, and I remember feeling what I would call now a spiritual oppression. Even when I was home reading the books, the air somehow just felt heavy and thick. I couldn't put my finger on it, but something just wasn't right.

I know now that the Lord was protecting me even back then before I professed Christ. This sermon was not a difficult one for me to prepare; the difficult part is keeping it short so it's not tedious to you. I don't want the air to be heavy and thick because my sermon is too long. My starting point is the passage from I Samuel where King Saul consults a medium, and we'll read it in a moment.

Have you ever heard it said, "The Old Testament does not teach belief in the afterlife." A Jewish friend of mine said that just the other day and it is a common belief among Jews. This is one of several passages that indicate that many Old Testament Israelites certainly did believe in an afterlife. Saul obviously believed Samuel's spirit was still alive. In the New Testament, which is mostly the recording of what Jews did, Christian converted Jews and non-converted Jews, there are a number of instances that show that they did

believe in the afterlife. This particular passage from Samuel is the only time that the Bible records a séance, the use of a medium to contact the dead, although we do know it was a common practice in the ancient world, thus showing many believed in life after death.

Please turn to I Samuel 28, beginning in verse 3.

3 Now Samuel was dead, and all Israel had lamented him, and buried him in Ramah, even in his own city. And Saul had put away those that had familiar spirits, and the wizards, out of the land. 4 And the Philistines gathered themselves together, and came and pitched in Shunem: and Saul gathered all Israel together, and they pitched in Gilboa. 5 And when Saul saw the host of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart greatly trembled. 6 And when Saul enquired of the LORD, the LORD answered him not, neither by dreams, nor by Urim, nor by prophets. 7 Then said Saul unto his servants, Seek me a woman that hath a familiar spirit, that I may go to her, and enquire of her. And his servants said to him, Behold, there is a woman that hath a familiar spirit at Endor. 8 And Saul disguised himself, and put on other raiment, and he went, and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night: and he said, I pray thee, divine unto me by the familiar spirit, and bring me him up, whom I shall name unto thee. 9 And the woman said unto him, Behold, thou knowest what Saul hath done, how he hath cut off those that have familiar spirits, and the wizards, out of the land: wherefore then layest thou a snare for my life, to cause me to die? 10 And Saul sware to her by the LORD, saying, As the LORD liveth, there shall no punishment happen to thee for this thing. 11 Then said the woman, Whom shall I bring up unto thee? And he said, Bring me up Samuel. 12 And when the woman saw Samuel, she cried with a loud voice: and the woman spake to Saul, saying, Why hast thou deceived me? for thou art Saul. 13 And the king said unto her, Be not afraid: for what sawest thou? And the woman said unto Saul, I saw gods ascending out of the earth. 14 And he said unto her, What form is he of? And she said, An old man cometh up; and he is covered with a mantle. And Saul perceived that it was Samuel, and he stooped with his face to the ground, and bowed himself. 15 And Samuel said to Saul, Why hast thou disquieted me, to bring me up? And Saul answered, I am sore distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God is departed from me, and answereth me no more, neither by prophets, nor by dreams: therefore I have called thee, that thou mayest make known unto me what I shall do. 16 Then said Samuel, Wherefore then dost thou ask of me, seeing the LORD is departed from thee, and is become thine enemy? 17 And the LORD hath done to him, as he spake by me: for the LORD hath rent the kingdom out of thine hand, and given it to thy neighbour, even to David: 18 Because thou obeyedst not the voice of the LORD, nor executedst his fierce wrath upon Amalek, therefore hath the LORD done this thing unto thee this day. 19 Moreover the LORD will also deliver Israel with thee

into the hand of the Philistines: and to morrow shalt thou and thy sons be with me: the LORD also shall deliver the host of Israel into the hand of the Philistines.

In verse 7 Saul said, "Find me a woman that has a familiar spirit," and it says that Saul had previously cut off out of the land people who had these familiar spirits. He didn't deport them, he killed them.

This medium had a familiar spirit, which means she was in contact with a "spirit guide." Nothing has changed since biblical times. Even today most mediums have a familiar spirit, unless they are frauds, which many are. But if they actually are in contact with a spirit or spirits, they usually have a familiar spirit who claims to serve as the medium's guide to what they call the other side, the realm of the dead.

The familiar spirit supposedly locates the spirit of the dead person or persons the medium or the medium's clients wish to speak with. In our passage, this woman (who, by the way, is never named. She's commonly called the witch of Endor). She is afraid of Saul because he has in the past carried out the Lord's commandments in Leviticus by killing people just like her. He assures her, however, that she will not be punished for bringing up Samuel's spirit and he swears by the Lord that he will not harm her. He says, verse 10, "As the Lord liveth, there shall no punishment happen to thee for this thing."

Saul committed massive sin by doing this. What he did by consulting a psychic or medium was so repulsive in the Lord's eyes that the Lord took both Saul's throne and his life. There's a tremendous lesson in this: Don't go near the occult, the new age. Don't even play around with it, even with Ouija boards, even with consulting a psychic for the fun of it, even reading your horoscope. The Lord hates all of it. Turn to Isaiah 47 beginning in verse 13.

13 Thou art wearied in the multitude of thy counsels. Let now the astrologers, the stargazers, the monthly prognosticators, stand up, and save thee from these things that shall come upon thee. 14 Behold, they shall be as stubble; the fire shall burn them; they shall not deliver themselves from the power of the flame: there shall not be a coal to warm at, nor fire to sit before it.

So what's the harm in reading your horoscope in the newspaper or going to a psychic? Because it's condemned by God, and we are commanded to have the mind of Christ (I Corinthians 2:16). Do you think Christ would go to a psychic or read his horoscope? Neither should you.

Now Saul wasn't ignorant of what a great sin it is to consult a medium. We know that because he used to obey the Lord in this. Please turn to Leviticus 19. It's the key to understanding this passage in Samuel. Leviticus 19, verse 31 (by the way, "regard not" means don't pay any attention to, don't have anything to do with).

31 Regard not them that have familiar spirits, neither seek after wizards, to be defiled by them: I am the LORD your God.

Leviticus 20:27,

27 A man also or woman that hath a familiar spirit, or that is a wizard, shall surely be put to death: they shall stone them with stones: their blood shall be upon them.

This is a commandment of the Lord directed to the civil government after Biblical due process has found the man or woman guilty. It is not license for people to take the law into their own hands and stone someone they think is guilty. This law is repeated in Deuteronomy 18:10-11.

Leviticus 20:6,

6 And the soul that turneth after such as have familiar spirits, and after wizards, to go a whoring after them, I will even set my face against that soul, and will cut him off from among his people.

By promising this woman he wouldn't harm her, Saul disobeyed the Lord, and compounding this, he had the audacity to swear by the Lord he won't harm her. Talk about taking the Lord's name in vain! What Saul is saying is, "I swear by the Lord that I will break his commandment."

Is a familiar spirit evil or good? Obviously it must be evil because otherwise God wouldn't say don't pay any attention to them and execute the person who has one.

We're now going to look at the origin of Satan and demons. Isaiah 14, beginning in verse 12,

12 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! 13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: 14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. 15 Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

Jesus said in Luke 10:18,

18 I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.

Jesus saw what Isaiah recorded. What these verses teach us is that at some point, apparently before the creation of the world, since the serpent was already in the garden of Eden, an angel named Lucifer rebelled against God. Lucifer means "son of the morning,"

or "light-bearer." He may have been the chief angel in heaven, or at least a high-ranking one. But he was not satisfied with being an angel, even a very exalted angel. He was jealous of God. He wanted to be God or be like God. He said in his heart he would some day sit on God's throne, as we just read in Isaiah, "I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High."

Lucifer had recruited many angels in heaven to follow him in his rebellion against God. We know this from Revelation 12:9,

9 ...he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

Lucifer recruited 1/3 of the angels in heaven for his diabolical plot. How do we know this? Revelation 12:4 describes him as a dragon and,

4...his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth.

The stars of heaven is often a biblical symbol for angels or messengers of God. So 1/3 of the angels probably would number in the thousands. These angels which were cast out from heaven with Lucifer became fallen angels, or what we call demons. God created them as angels and they sinned. They followed Satan first in heaven as he tried to overthrow God, now on earth as they continue to obey Satan in his futile efforts to overthrow God. Satan is still trying to overthrow God. There are probably thousands of fallen angels, demons, and they continue to do Satan's bidding.

Ezekiel 28 verses 11 through 19 is another passage that speaks of the origin of Satan. It's a little more obscure. Although this is couched in a reference to the king of Tyre, or Tyrus, it refers to Lucifer, now known as Satan (which means "adversary" or "accuser"). In the interest of time, I'm not going to give the exegetical reasons for this but if you want to know, I'll be happy to explain it. I'm not going to read the whole passage, you can do that yourself, but note verse 15,

15 Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.

Going into verses 16 and 17,

16...thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. 17 Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.

II Peter 2:4,

For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment; etc.

Jude 1:6,

And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.

"And the angels which kept not their first estate," could also be translated their first principality or their proper domain. They are chained. They're not executed. They're on chains which means they're limited in what they can do. If you were chained you could do some things but you wouldn't have complete freedom. So they are restricted in what they can do, but it doesn't mean they're powerless.

In Matthew 25:41 Jesus is talking about people who, he says, "There will be a time that when I come in my glory and people will come to me and say, 'When did we see you hungry or thirsty and not feed you or give you water?'" etc. Verse 41 says,

Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

The devil and his angels. What we call demons are the devil and his fallen angels. They're still loyal to Lucifer, now known as Satan. These demons are what we know as evil spirits. They are slaves to evil. They were originally angels in heaven that sinned, they were thrown out of heaven and now live on earth. There are spirits that are slaves to righteousness and they are called angels. They are still in heaven but they also help and protect God's people on earth. They walk among us even sometimes bodily. Hebrews 13:2 says,

Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels.

Now we can understand why the Lord commands that those with a familiar spirit be executed by the civil government. Mediums, those who claim to communicate with the dead, are either frauds, demon influenced or demon possessed. They have a familiar spirit, an evil spirit. Their spirit guides are demons and demons are liars. John 8:44, Jesus said to the Pharisees,

Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

Demons are liars, constantly attempting to deceive people and keep them from learning the truth of the gospel. That's the whole point. They do this in many many ways. Sometimes very clever twisting of words here and there. Sometimes appearing as an angel of light (II Cor. 11:14). Sometimes using very crude methods; whatever it takes. The woman Saul consulted, the so-called witch of Endor, was likely demon possessed. We can't believe anything a demon says or does. This doesn't mean a demon can't tell the truth if it serves his purpose. Whatever was conjured up here told some the truth and it did come to pass, but it's best not to pay any attention because a demon, even if it is telling some truth is only telling it for it own evil ends.

Some theologians believe that the Lord did call up the spirit of Saul. Others say it was a demon. I tend to think it was a demon, but it really doesn't matter. First of all, verse 14 says Saul "perceived that it was Samuel." The passage does call the spirit Samuel, but that could be because it appeared to Saul to be Samuel. I don't think it's that important. If it were important, the Lord would have made it clear. The important thing is the commandment of God not to pay any attention to mediums and such.

What is the nature of demons? What are their powers? Should we be afraid of them? Can they do anything to us? Are they a threat to those who belong to Christ? Can a Christian become demon possessed?

Their nature is all-consuming evil. Satan is the darkness-bearer, no longer Lucifer the light-bearer. His nature is total pride, complete self-centeredness. Satan wants to be as God knowing good and evil, in other words, to do whatever he feels like with no consequences and that should sound familiar because you remember that's what he promised Eve would happen to all mankind if she disobeyed God, which she did and it did happen to all human beings. Genesis 3:5, "ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." We're born wanting to do whatever we feel like. That's part of the curse of sin and Satan is totally consumed by that. He and his demons are utterly evil. There is not one shred of goodness in them. There's no morality in them. There's no decency in them. They are utterly repulsive, loathsome creatures.

If they had bodies, they'd probably want to live in septic tanks and love every minute of it. But they don't have bodies. They are spirits. They're usually invisible but they can be visible at times. Since they have no bodies, what they appear to be when they make themselves visible is not what they are. Sometimes they appear as a ghost hoping you will think that they are the spirit of a dead person. Sometimes they appear as one of the Lord's angels hoping you'll think that's what they are. Sometimes they appear as a space alien hoping you'll think they came from another planet. Sometimes they appear as the virgin Mary or even Jesus himself. Since no one knows what Mary or Jesus looked like, it's not that tough for a demon to make an appearance and claim to be the virgin Mary or Jesus.

Do not be deceived into believing messages from what appear to be holy figures. The canon of scripture is closed. There is no additional revelation, and the Bible warns us not to believe there is. We have no need for additional revelation. If new revelation comes

to someone it is either true or false. If it is false, then of course it must be rejected. If it is true, it should be part of the Bible, which means God is a liar, because He says that the Bible is complete and that we need nothing else, that it is enough to make us "perfect": "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." – I Timothy 3:16-17.

Revelation 22:18-19,

For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

If you fall into the trap of thinking there is revelation outside of the Bible, you are on the road to hell.

II Corinthians 11:14-15,

...Satan himself can transform himself into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

Satan's ministers are demons and human beings who are demon influenced or demon possessed. They can even be pastors or famous evangelists. You test them by the word of God: "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world." -- I John 4:1.

Demons appear to have two types of manifestations. Sometimes they give a verbal message such as the entities that appear as the virgin Mary or spirits through mediums or automatic writing, when the medium goes into a trance and a demon takes over their hand and starts writing. There are whole books written with automatic writing. Or they might appear as aliens from another planet or another dimension with a message to mankind. (I'm convinced that not every report of this is fabricated or an hallucination. There are too many otherwise reputable people with the same or very similar stories from around the world. However, I do not believe that they have anything to do with spaceships or aliens from other planets or dimensions.

The other type of manifestation is more subtle, such as as ghosts, mysterious voices, and poltergeists. Poltergeist phenomena is when things move without an apparent cause. These are designed to shake up your worldview, to give you doubts about what you've always believed what the world is really like, and that prepares your mind to receive the demonic messages. You see, if you can be thrown off in your perception of the world, your mind is open to their influences. If you can be convinced, for example, that ghosts are the spirits of the dead, then you deny the Bible teaching of II Corinthians 5:8, "We are

confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord."

The book and movie "The Exorcist" was based on a true story of a boy from St. Louis in the 1950s. The author changed some of the facts, but the story is true. Demons can produce astounding signs and wonders. Christian missionaries who have been to some pagan lands will tell you hair-raising stories about how Satan operates openly. In our society his best weapon is that he convinces people he doesn't exist. In other societies, he is more bold. In Matthew 24:24, Jesus said,

For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

And there are other passages showing the reality of demonic possession, such as when Jesus cast demons out of people.

By the way, the messages that "aliens" from UFOs give are eerily similar to the messages that the supposed holy figures (Jesus, Mary, angels, etc.), spirits in séances or through automatic writing often give.

Demons are intelligent. That's another aspect of their nature. They're involved with this world. I was listening to a sermon on the way to church this morning on this subject just to see what other preachers might be saying about it. The man related a story of someone he knew, a non-Christian, and he was playing one evening with some friends with a Ouija board. He said the message that came from the Ouija board was a quotation that the man said, "It was from my private journal that no one knew but me. I have never discussed it with anyone. No one had ever seen it." And he said, "The Ouija board showed the message that showed me that that entity knew exactly what I was writing in my journal," and he said, "I had to get up and leave the house and get fresh air because of that."

So they're aware of us, they know who we are. Thank the Lord he puts a hedge around us to protect us because we can't battle demons on our own. There are demons who have learned languages. Satan has at his disposal demons who know the language of any place he wants to send them. Demons can be spoken to and they can respond. They can quote scripture. They know it better than a lot of Christians do.

They know what's going on in the world. They know about the lives of the people they're interested in. They are clever in a worldly sense. They have a lot of cunning. Having lived so long, they have more experience in worldly craftiness than we do. They use all these things to their advantage. They have no compunctions about lying or cheating or doing whatever it takes to accomplish their ends.

Now here's the bad news for them and the good news for us. All of the demons including Satan are limited. They're chained, like a vicious dog on a long chain, If you get too close, they can attack you. But they are limited in what they can do. They are, after all,

creatures. They're not omnipotent, not all-powerful. They're not omniscient, they don't know everything. They are not omnipresent, they can't be in more than one place at a time. So despite what they want you to think, they don't have godly power. The most important thing you need to know about Satan and his demons is that they're only able to do what the Lord permits them to do. The Lord is still in charge. They're not. If you take one thing away from this sermon, remember that demons and Satan can only do what the Lord permits them to do. They ultimately work for Him and they hate it, but they must do God's bidding.

Job 1:6-12

Job 1, I'm sorry, chapter 2. Let's start with 1 and we'll get to 2 in a minute. Let's go back to 1:6.

Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them. 7 And the LORD said unto Satan, Whence comest thou [where did you come from]? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it. 8 And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil? 9 Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, Doth Job fear God for [nothing] nought? 10 Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land. [So Satan couldn't touch him.] 11 But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face. 12 And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the LORD.

So he couldn't do a thing to Job unless God gave him permission.

Job 2:1-6,

Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them to present himself before the LORD. 2 And the LORD said unto Satan, From whence comest thou? And Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it. 3 And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil? and still he holdeth fast his integrity, although thou movedst me against him, to destroy him without cause. 4 And Satan answered the LORD, and said, Skin for skin, yea, all that a man hath will he give for his life. 5 But put forth thine hand now, and touch his bone and

his flesh, and he will curse thee to thy face. 6 And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, he is in thine hand; but save his life.

Again the Lord permitted Satan to go so far but no further. He was not allowed to kill Job. So don't be afraid of demons whether they come to you as whisperings or moving objects or ghosts or aliens in UFOs or anything else. If you belong to Christ, you've got nothing to fear from demons. Resist them and they will flee from you.

James 4:7,

Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Perhaps Satan's most hilarious miscalculation was coming up with UFOs. If you think about it, this is ridiculous. He wants us to believe that super-intelligent beings would travel zillions of light years, breaking every law of physics, to come to earth to do...what? Spend decades putting on shows in the sky, buzz aircraft, warn us about climate change and mutilate cows. This is what an advanced civilization does? Collect cow rectums and quote Al Gore? I don't know a lot about space aliens, but apparently they're all liberal Democrats.

And do not be afraid of ghosts and hauntings and all the other third-rate parlor tricks. Those are not the spirits of dead people. They are the spirits of the dead, but they are spiritually dead demons trying to make you think they're dead people. Why do they do that? Because, if you believe that ghosts are the spirits of dead people, what does that say? It says you don't believe the Bible, because it says when people die they go immediately to heaven or hell. You certainly can't believe Christians go to heaven when they die if, for example, you're convinced the ghost you've seen is the spirit of your mother or father who died as a believer.

II Corinthians 5:8,

We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

It doesn't say, "Except sometimes you stay on earth as a ghost haunting someplace."

Satan's purpose is to sow doubt about God's word and thus keep people from believing it, and he'll do whatever he can to achieve that. If a medium can really summon spirits of the dead, does that mean that the medium or the medium's "spirit guide" can go into heaven or hell and bring somebody out for a chat? Of course that is not found anywhere in the Bible (except for the so-called spirit of Samuel in the account of Saul and the witch of Endor, which I believe was a demon, not Samuel's spirit). In fact, you find the opposite. Mediums are condemned to death and their "spirit guides" (familiar spirits) are already condemned as demons, so it is clear that mediums are Christ's enemies and their demonic guides can do nothing except guide people to hell.

One of the best-known mediums was Edgar Cayce. He died in 1945, but the Cayce institute, which is called the Association for Research and Enlightenment (A.R.E.), still exists (if you see anything called "enlightenment," get far away from it) As a child Cayce fell out of a tree and said that while he was briefly unconscious he had a mystical revelation. The revelation told him that the ancient mystic religions were true and that Jesus was their crowning glory. Quoting a biography of Cayce, "Up until his revelations, Cayce had never heard of the mystery religions." He would go into a trance and "this state of relaxation and meditation enabled him to place his mind in contact with all time and space. From this state, he could respond to questions as diverse as what are the secrets of the universe, to how can I remove a wart."

When Cayce fell into a trance an evil spirit would take over his body and answer questions. The A.R.E. has thousands of pages of transcripts of this demon's advice to people who would write in and ask questions about health, the Bible and almost every other topic. Here is one of the questions and answers from the transcripts: "Question: When did the knowledge come to Jesus that he was to be the Savior of the world? Answer: When he fell in Eden." In these trances, says the Cayce website, "He learned the true interpretation of the Bible. The super-conscious mind is called by many names by many religions. The super-conscious mind is called by many names by many religions in many different cultures. Some of these names are Buddha-consciousness, Christ-consciousness, the collective mind, the universal mind, the collective unconsciousness, the Holy Spirit, Raman, God, the clear white light, Allah, higher self, the mind of Christ, etc." This is a message from the pit of hell.

Cayce taught that reincarnation, evolution and Christianity were the same. Cayce's demon told him that "Christhood" is the goal which every human should strive for. Jesus was simply the first evolved human to attain it. It said the Bible's description of Satan and his angels falling from heaven is a myth. Isn't that exactly what the demons want us to believe, that that's all myth?

Essentially the same demonic messages are common to all of these manifestations, whether supposed aliens, automatic writing, ghosts, apparitions claiming to be an angel, Mary, Jesus, etc.

Perhaps you have heard of Sylvia Browne. She wrote many books under the influence of her "spirit guide"/familiar spirit which she said is named Francine. She is the founder of a "church" known as the Society of Novus Spiritus, "new spirit." It states that it follows the same traditions and teachings which Jesus himself followed yet it does not exclude Buddhism, Judaism, Islam or Hinduism. That is exactly what the demons of Edgar Cayce said. The Society has its own bible which is the Christian Bible plus the Gnostic gospels. The Gnostic gospels are the so-called lost books of the Bible (actually there are no "lost books" of the Bible, there are just uninspired books that the church has never regarded as Scripture). The website for her so-called church says that while the Bible is a marvelous book and should be used as a teaching tool, it is not the unaltered word of God. They teach, for example, not only a father god but a mother god which, by the way, Mormons do as well.

My point is that the same demonic message is repeated over and over again from widely different sources, whether it's Edgar Cayce, Sylvia Browne, Jeane Dixon or some other psychic whether it's space aliens, spirits, apparitions that claim to be a holy figure of the church, when you analyze what they are saying, you find that they are twisting God's Word, the Bible. They're adding to it, taking away from it, changing it, and the result is great deception. It's all a lie meant to deceive you. That's why it's so important to test the spirits.

I John 4:1-3, f

1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits [test the spirits] whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. 2 Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: 3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

You test the spirits by comparing what they say to God's word, the Bible. And the messages from these entities are not according to God's word. What they say contradicts the Bible. They might say the Bible is wrong or the historic church interpretations are wrong, or that the Bible is not enough, that we need advanced revelations from outside the Bible from the spirit world or space aliens or Mary or Jesus himself. They may accompany their messages with apparent great signs and wonders. For example, when the demon claiming to be Mary appeared in Fatima, Portugal in 1917, many in the crowd said the sun started spinning around (many said they did not see it move). It was a mass hallucination caused by the demon.

We shouldn't be surprised at any of this. Christ said they would show great signs and wonders such that it would deceive the elect (Christians) if that were possible (which means it is not).

Mt. 24:24,

For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

But it's all smoke and mirrors, a massive deception. Christ said it's all deceit from the father of lies. If you fall for these parlor tricks you fall into a pit of confusion and despair, and then Satan has you where he wants you. You're now willing to believe anything except the one thing that's true, that the Word of God, the Bible, is His complete and final revelation to man. These entities never, ever tell you to believe the Bible as written with nothing added or subtracted. That's the one thing they never say. They never, ever tell you that the Bible is inerrant (without error) and infallible (without the possibility of error). They never, ever tell you that that the historic interpretation of the scriptures as

promulgated in such documents as the Three Forms of Unity, the London Baptist Confession, the Apostles Creed, the Westminster Confession and Catechisms are Biblically accurate. The one thing that all the occult, new age phenomena have in common is that they never say that the Bible is absolutely true and without error. So this is how you can be sure these spirits are demons: Test them against the word of God. Do they change and do they take from it, do they add to it, do they say it's in error, do they bring in additional revelations?.

Now why do so many people believe in these deep things of Satan, as the Lord calls them in Revelation 2:24? The answer is in 1 John 4:5,

5 They are of the world: therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth them.

As we know, demons can only do what the Lord wills, as the book of Job testifies, but can a Christian be demon possessed? No. How do I know? Please turn to 1 Corinthians 6:19-20,

What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? 20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

Christian, you are already possessed. Did you ever think about that? You're already possessed, possessed by the Holy Spirit. We can't be demon possessed because it would mean that a demon could overpower the Holy Spirit. They always did whatever Jesus commanded them. For example, when Jesus cast the devils out of the Gadarene man in one of the accounts in Luke 8 He asked, "What is your name?" And the demon said, "Legion because many demons had entered him." Legion means "many." They begged Jesus not to let them go into the void." There were a lot of pigs nearby and they begged Jesus, "Send us into this herd of pigs instead." And Jesus permitted them to do that and the pigs ran violently off a cliff and died as soon as the demons entered them.

Demons must obey Christ. They have no choice. There are many other passages that show that. And then there's Luke 10:17,

17 And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name.

Do not be afraid of demons and their cheap parlor tricks if you are a Christian. It is the demons who are afraid of you, for you are Christ's and you have already overcome them through Him.

I John 1:4-5,

Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world. 5 They are of the world: therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth them.

We are assured by God's Word that He takes whatever it is He commands the demons to do and uses it for our good.

Romans 8:28,

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

"All things" include the acts of demons. Whatever they do, they do because the Lord permits them to do it, which means he wills it and it is for the good of his people, that is, for your good, Christian.

Most importantly, we're assured by God's Word that Satan and his demons are doomed. Their fate is sealed. They're going down-- literally. Jesus said,

Matthew 25:41,

41...Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels.

Revelation 20:10,

And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

If you are not Christ's, if you have not received him as your Savior, your life is not turned over to him, then you are not indwelt by the Holy Spirit and you are in grave danger. You should be afraid but not of ghosts. There's something infinitely far more frightening that you should be worried about -- you are a prime target for Satan and his demons. They'll do all they can to keep you from knowing the truth, to make sure you resist the gospel and you go to hell. You cannot fight them yourself. They are far more powerful, far smarter and more cunning than you are.

The gospel means "good news," and the good news is that Jesus Christ saves from hellfire those who repent of their sins and believe in him. So don't be like those who hear the gospel, then comes the devil, Jesus said, and takes away the word out of their hearts lest they should believe and be saved. So you're in mortal danger if you're not fully possessed by the Holy Spirit. Satan and his demons are real. There's only one way to fight them, that's to surrender not to them but to Jesus Christ who says (compilation of several Gospels), "Do not be afraid, only believe. The time is fulfilled and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent ye and believe the gospel. He that believeth on him is not

condemned but he that believeth not is condemned already because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. In John 8:24 Jesus said, "If you believe not that I am he, you shall die in your sins." He is the Son of God who takes away the punishment in hell for those who believe that He has died for them, and He gives them eternal happiness in heaven. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have eternal life." -- John 3:16.

Let us pray.