# **Divination**



Created by the Church of God Headquarters Oshawa, Ontario www.thechurchofgod.info postmaster@cogsd.org

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Created by the Church of God Headquarters Oshawa, Ontario www.thechurchofgod.info postmaster@cogsd.org This tract has been created to introduce those who are searching for truth set forth in God's word. This tract is not based on the traditions of men and pagan religions.

As children of God, we must look for truth in what the scriptures teach us on divination. We would first like to start with the definition of divination to help you understand how far this stretches to practices of today.

**Divination** - the practice of attempting to foretell future events or discover hidden knowledge by a cult or supernatural means.

If we were to pull this forward to today this would include such things as: horoscopes, palm readers, tea readers, medians, fortune tellers, tarot cards, fortune cookies, psychics and much more. All of these have the same thing in common and fall under the definition of divination. Now let us look to the scriptures to see what they have to say.

Deuteronomy 18:9-14

Verse 9 When thou art come into the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations.

Verse 10 There shall not be found among you *any one* that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, *or* that useth divination, *or* an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch,

Verse 11 Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer.

Verse 12 For all that do these things *are* an abomination unto the LORD: and because of these abominations the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee.

Verse 13 Thou shalt be perfect with the LORD thy God. Verse 14 For these nations, which thou shalt possess, heark-

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Verse 13 Thou shalt be perfect with the LORD thy God.

Verse 14 For these nations, which thou shalt possess, hearkened unto observers of times, and unto diviners: but as for whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.

Verse 15 And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought *us*, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide *there*. And she constrained us.

Verse 16 And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying:

Verse 17 The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation.

Verse 18 And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.

This proves that after Christ's death, Paul still upholds the old testament laws that tells us not to practice divination because it is an abomination to God. We must be careful because there is a punishment for those who partake in sin.

Verse 8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

Revelation 21:8

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### thee, the LORD thy God hath not suffered thee so to do.

Here we are given a list of abominations to God that include a lot more than just divination. With all of these things in mind, it opens up a lot of other practices we may do today that seem harmless; but we do not realize it has pagan roots that offend God. We are not to be partakers of any of these pagan rituals. We as children of God need to identify what we do and ask ourselves, "Is what we are doing Godly?"

II Corinthians 13:5

Verse 5 Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?

Some other scriptures that speak of divination and how it provokes God are:

II Kings 17:17

Verse 17 And they caused their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire, and used divination and enchantments, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger.

II Kings 21:6

Verse 6 And he made his son pass through the fire, and observed times, and used enchantments, and dealt with familiar spirits and wizards: he wrought much wickedness in the sight of the LORD, to provoke *him* to anger.

Leviticus 19:26,31

Verse 26 Ye shall not eat *any thing* with the blood: neither shall ye use enchantment, nor observe times.

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

These scriptures continue to teach not to partake in these things. Now we would like to take you to the story of Saul and the woman with the familiar spirit.

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#### I Samuel 28:7-18

Verse 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.

Verse 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.

Verse 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?

Verse 10 And Saul sware to her by the LORD, saying, As the LORD liveth, there shall no punishment happen to thee for this thing.

Verse 11 Then said the woman, Whom shall I bring up unto thee? And he said, Bring me up Samuel.

Verse 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.

Verse 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.

Verse 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.

Verse 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

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prophets, nor by dreams: therefore I have called thee, that thou mayest make known unto me what I shall do.

Verse 16 Then said Samuel, Wherefore then dost thou ask of me, seeing the LORD is departed from thee, and is become thine enemy?

Verse 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:

Verse 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.

We conclude that during this encounter between Saul and the witch of Endor, the Lord did not bring up Samuel from the grave. This was only an apparition of an evil spirit, whom Saul may have never seen himself. The Lord plainly expresses his feelings concerning witches and those who take part in divination. The word of God strictly forbids any consultation with those who would promote or take part in these satanic influences. Exodus 22:18

Verse 18 Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live.

Isaiah 8:19, 20

Verse 19 And when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter: should not a people seek unto their God? for the living to the dead?

Verse 20 To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

Now we would like to move to the new testament to establish that these are not just old testament laws; but that they carry on today.

Acts 16:14-18

Verse 14 And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us:

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