

The Occult – What it is and what it works.

A short series for our MBT students dealing with the reality, goals and pervasiveness of the occult in our world today.

Week 1: Understand

1. A definition of the occult.

Webster – “to shut off from view or exposure”

1. not revealed : [secret](#)
2. not easily apprehended or understood : [abstruse](#), [mysterious](#)
3. hidden from view : [concealed](#)
4. of or relating to the occult
5. not manifest or detectable by clinical methods alone <occult carcinoma>; also : not present in macroscopic amounts <occult blood in a stool>
6. matters regarded as involving the action or influence of supernatural or supernormal powers or some secret knowledge of them



Examples of OCCULT

- occult practices such as magic and fortune-telling. “He began to believe he had occult powers.”

Origin of OCCULT

- Latin *occultus*, from past participle of *occulere* to cover up, from *ob-* in the way + *-culere* (akin to *celare* to conceal)



- Those that follow the occult philosophy in terms of their _____ are very smug. They have hidden knowledge that the rest of humanity (*stupid sheep*) do not understand.
“Mystery Religions” – Their deep (unbiblical) “truths” are not for the simple.
- Biblical belief demands that the truths of God’s Word be revealed to all!
 It is God’s heart to have His truth made known to all.
 Rom 11:25; 1 Co 2:7; 1Co 15:51; Eph 1:9; Eph 3:9; Eph 6:19; **Col 1:24-29**

2. A definition of divination.

Webster – “the art or practice that seeks to foresee or foretell future events or discover hidden knowledge usually by the interpretation of omens or by the aid of supernatural powers”

Dictionary of Bible Themes – “Attempts to discover the unknown or the future by supernatural means, involving communication with the spirit world. It is expressly forbidden by God and has disastrous consequences.”

- The occult practitioner will use a form or various forms of divination to gain knowledge of _____ things (both truths and lies!)

- Divination was a part of the belief system of the ancient world.
See - Gen 41:24; Exo 7:11; Isa 31:1-2; 47:9; Jer 27:9; Eze 21:21-22; Dan 2:2; 5:7



- **It is God's right to _____ or _____ as He sees fit!**
Deut 29:29 See also Prov 25:2

God reserves the right to reveal truth to anyone He wants on His own righteous terms.
Example – Gen 41; Dan 2; 5. God revealed to Joseph and Daniel what was hidden to the adepts of Egyptian and Babylonian mystery religions.

KEY: Today we live in the church age (grace) and God has made His will for His people _____ through His Word. There is no need to find other "hidden knowledge."

- **Divination is strictly _____ in God's Word!**
Lev 19:31; Ex 22:18; Lev 19:26-31; Dt 18:10-14; 2Ki 21:6; Isa 8:19-20; Eze 13:23; Mic 5:12; Mal 3:5; Acts 16:16-18; Gal 5:20; Num 22-25 (see also 2 Peter 2:15; Jude 1:11; Rev 2:14)

3. What is the _____ of all occult and diviner practices?

It comes through _____ against the authority and restrictions that God has placed over the lives of His creation and people.

KEY VERSE: 1 Samuel 15:23 (KJV) 23 For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king.

4. The light of Word of God reveals all occult things for what they are.

- What was Satan's motivation? **Isaiah 14:12-15** (compare **James 1:13-18**)

- How did Satan propagate his rebellion to mankind? **Genesis 3:1-8**

Vs 3: Eve is either misinformed, misunderstanding or misreading God's allowances!

Vs 4: A lie. Followed by a sales pitch!

Vs 5: Satan is bringing hidden (FORBIDDEN) knowledge that will make man as the gods!

- This is the foundation of all mystery (occult) religion.
- Mystery religions declare that Lucifer has gotten a bad rap.
Ex: Prometheus / Zeus, etc...
They are "gods" working to improve the life of man.
Mentality – God (the Creator) is distant and uncaring.
Attitude: "God is HOLDING OUT ON YOU!" (Deism)
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- Notice that the occult world is made to be alluring. Acts 8:9-10



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That's how the occult works to ensnare you!

- You rebel against authority when you THINK YOU KNOW BETTER / when you think you know more / when you think your hidden (occult) knowledge is better than God's authority over your life!
- That's _____. "I will bring a better reality into my life because I will follow this hidden knowledge/ understanding that is better than God's command."

Vs 7: Remember – sin brings forth death!

Vs 8: The results of witchcraft.

5. The law _____ all occult religious pursuits.

Lev 19:31; Deut 18:9-14

See also Ex 22:18; Lev 19:26; 2Ki 21:6; Isa 8:19-20; Eze 13:23; Mic 5:12; Mal 3:5; Gal 5:20

Example: Saul and his rebellion against the Lord with the witch of Endor. **1 Sam 28:4-20**

Vs 8 = KEY Divination requires _____ power.

KEY: Occult pursuits (the pursuit of hidden knowledge through false mystery religion or forms of divination) are rebellion against the revelation of God's Word.

Result: Occult pursuit will lead you _____ from God and His Word.

