

“But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good; abstain from every form of evil”
(1 Thessalonians 5:21-22)

Should Christians Celebrate Halloween?

I. We are to weigh matters like this carefully (1 Thessalonians 5:21-22)

- A. We are to examine everything carefully- we are test what we hear, read, see, associate with and believe by bringing it to the Word of God to see how it lines up.
- B. We are to hold fast to what is good- that which we hear, read, see, associate with and believe that is consistent with the character, conduct, conversation, and commitment of Jesus Christ and the Word of God should be held on to.
- C. We are to abstain from every form of evil- to be distant or far from any visible appearance or manner of anything morally corrupt or wicked; to not be associated with any person, place, product or perspective that is in set contrast to God and His manner of life for Christians.
- D. Everything that we hear, read, see, associate with and believe, needs to be brought under the scrutiny of God’s Word and Character to determine if we should participate in or disassociate from.

II. With this is mind let us examine the Origin of Halloween:

- A. Halloween comes to us from ancient pagan societies that operated far outside the doctrinal and moral constraints of both Christianity and Judaism.
- B. It goes back to the practice of the ancient Druids in Britain, France, Germany, and the celtic countries. This celebration honored the pagan gods of Samhain the lord of the dead. According to their belief, Samhain called together all the wicked souls who had died within the year and had been condemned, to inhabit the bodies of animals. The Druids in honor of Samhain, the "lord of the dead", and his demons, held a festival called Halloween which actually means "holy or hallowed evening."
- C. The ancient Druids believed that on this particular night, the souls of the dead returned to their former homes to be entertained by the living. If acceptable food and shelter were not provided, supposedly these evil spirits would cast spells, and cause havoc and terror to haunt and torment the living. They demanded to be appeased. Look closely! here is the beginning of the word "trick or treat!" Evil spirits of satan demanding a "treat" to get rid of them, or you got a "trick" which represents a witch's spell. Most Satanists celebrate this as their high holy day and even offer human sacrifices to the devil.
- D. Given the Scripture of 1Thessalonians 5: 21-22 is this something we should be connected to or be disassociating from? “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” (1Timomthy 4:1)

“But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good; abstain from every form of evil”
(1 Thessalonians 5:21-22)

III. With this Mind let us examine the practice of Halloween

- A. In the celebration of Halloween, children are dressed as witches, goblins, ghosts, little devils and fortune tellers which are all representatives of Satan's kingdom and celebrate darkness. Now in order to avoid that connection to darkness, to make it more acceptable in culture, and to seem less evil in appearance, people and children also dress up as various characters and action heroes that do not represent evil or darkness. This gives the impression that this is a harmless celebration.
- B. In the celebration of Halloween, games played at carnivals promote fear in children as they are ushered through spook houses and horror rooms.
- C. In the celebration of Halloween, children are taught to go door to door chanting "trick or treat." In essence they are being taught to demand a gift under the threat of playing some trick if they do not receive it.
- D. Given the Scripture of 1Thessalonians 5: 21-22 is this something we should be connected to or be disassociating from? “Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them.” (Ephesians 5:11)

IV. Many people including Christians believe that:

- A. Halloween is an innocent little exercise in candy-grabbing.
- B. Children will be deprived of having fun on Halloween or their friends will make fun of them if they are not allowed to participate with the other children.
- C. It's not that serious, and to each his own; It's a free country.
- D. Given the Scripture of 1Thessalonians 5: 21-22 should we embrace this kind of thinking or should we avoid this kind of thinking? “See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ.” (Colossians 2:8)

V. Therefore when it comes to Halloween Christians should consider:

- A. “For you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light ” (Ephesians 5:8)
- B. **Point in relation to Halloween:** Any holiday that glorifies death and darkness (even in fun) is not a proper thing for a Christian to do since we have been called out of darkness into His marvelous light.
- C. “You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the table of Lord and the table of demons.” (1Corinthians 10:21)
- D. **Point in relation to Halloween:** God does not want to see His people celebrating demons and darkness. Halloween celebrates demons and glorifies darkness. If we participate in the celebration of Halloween we dishonor God because we are glorifying demons and darkness. **Let us examine our lives to see where we stand in all aspects.**

“But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good; abstain from every form of evil”
 (1 Thessalonians 5:21-22)

EXAMINE YOUR LIFE AND ACTIVITIES

(1John 2:14-15, Ephesians 5:1-14, Romans 12:1-3, Luke 12:13-32, 2 Timothy 4:9-10)

<i>AREAS OF MY LIFE I NEED TO EVALUATE</i>	<i>SELDOM</i>	<i>OCCASIONALLY</i>	<i>FREQUENTLY</i>	<i>ALL THE TIME</i>
The activities and social events I choose to participate in promote a lifestyle that contradict God’s standards				
The people I associate with promote a lifestyle that contradict God’s standards (apart from job related functions)				
The music I enjoy the most promotes a view of life that contradicts God’s standards (Ephesians 5:1-14)				
The movies and media I enjoy the most promote a view of life that contradicts God’s standards (Ephesians 5:1-14)				
The things that entertain me the most tend to promote an evil message (Ephesians 5:1-14)				
I tend to focus more on what is permissible and enjoyable than what is God-honoring				