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THE BIBLE VIEW

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Theme: False Religion

Devil Worshippers

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There is a lot of "religion" in this world, but little that worships the one true God His way. Some worship multiple "gods". Other religions even claim to worship the one God who created them, and who controls the world. A quick glimpse into their teachings, however, shows they directly violate what God's Word commands.

Discernment will also show that most religions are man-made beliefs. They worship God the way they feel is right, rather than how God commands in the Bible.

The Word of God talks quite a bit about these man-concocted ways to worship. It points out that most often the people are worshipping "devils" (often called demons), rather than the Holy God.

Here is some of what the Bible says about the deceptive "devil worship":

People thought they were worshipping God. They even partook in ceremonies and sacrifices, but it was not God in Heaven they were worshipping. They unknowingly were worshipping devils.

"They sacrificed unto devils, not to God; to gods whom they knew not, to new gods that came newly up, whom your fathers feared not." Deut. 32:17

"And they shall no more offer their sacrifices unto devils, after whom they have gone a whoring. This shall be a statute for ever unto them throughout their generations." Lev. 17:7 Like many, even today, they thought they were worshipping God. Still, they were committing spiritual adultery ("gone a whoring") against the Almighty.

The "religious" were often recognized as heathens, and not followers of God.

"Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble." James 2:19 Just believing in God does not make anyone saved and a Christian. The devils believe there is a God, yet they have no promise of Heaven. One must be born again (John 3:3) to be born into God's family and have an eternity with Him. That is the only way!

"Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites … 33 Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?" Mat. 23:29-33 The Pharisees were Jewish religious leaders, and the scribes were those who copied the Word of God. Jesus called these religious leaders hypocrites and snakes. They were dishonest in teaching and sharing God's Word.

"Ye [Jews] *do the deeds of your father. Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, even God. 42 Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me … 44 Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do..." John 8:41-44*

A religion may appear to be Christian or even worship in a church building. Still, compared to God's commandments in His Word, it is just a "form [a pretense] of godliness", and is without His Truth and power. It may be a counterfeit belief.
"This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. … 5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away…." II Tim. 3:1-7

In biblical days, and even today, some are controlled by devils. As intelligent, normal, and in control as some may seem, their thoughts and words often originate from an in-dwelling demonic spirit(s).
"And his [Jesus] *fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatick, and those that had the palsy; and he healed them." Mat. 4:24* Also: Mark 1:39.
"Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give." Mt 10:8 The apostles also were instructed to cast out "devils".
"And when he went forth to land, there met him out of the city a certain man, which had devils long time, and ware no clothes, neither abode in any house, but in the tombs ... 30 And Jesus asked him, saying, What is thy name? And he said, Legion: because many devils were entered into him. … 33 Then went the devils out of the man, and entered into the swine: and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the lake, and were choked." Luke 8:27-33 At the time of this account, a Roman legion of warriors prepared for battle was about 5,000 strong. It is possible that this man, Legion, was possessed with that many "devils". See also: Mark 3:15, Luke 8:2.

People wanted to please God with their most precious possession, their children. They allowed the babies and children to be sacrificed. However, it was not God who ordered them to murder their offspring. It was a ploy of "devils" to get them to commit murder and false worship. The "abortion" crowd has been around for a long time and is definitely not of God.
"Yea, they sacrificed their sons and their daughters unto devils," Psalm 106:37
"But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils." I Cor. 10:20

In the last days, the idolatry and worship of devils will continue and increase. Many of the religions even call themselves "Christians".
"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;" I Tim. 4:1 Also: II Tim. 3:13.
"And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk: 21 Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts." Rev. 9:20 Also: Rev. 16:14, Rev. 18:2.

As Ephesians 6:12 makes clear, an unseen spiritual battle rages for the souls and control of men. Most do not see this conflict and follow the popular way, rather than the way God commands them to live. By following man's way, which is often just an effort to earn Heaven by good deeds, many are often deceived and tricked by the enemy — Satan and other "devils".
"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Eph. 6:12

The only defense against this conflict that sends multitudes to Hell is to know and practice God's way, as told in His preserved Word. By reading, believing, and obeying its commandments, one will have godly discernment to detect what is of God and what is of the enemy. The battles rage; be wary of the enemies' trickery and lies. Make sure you know what is of God and what is not!

"The devils are most devilish, when they are seen as respectable." — *Browning*

Another Jesus, Spirit, and Gospel

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"But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. 4 For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him." II Cor. 11:3-4

The Apostle Paul was concerned about the early church in Corinth. He knew the devil would attempt to attack, weaken, and destroy the ministry there, as he had done even to the first man and woman in the Garden of Eden.

sPaul knew that the subtle enemy of God would attempt to get the fledgling church to disobey and question God, just as he did to Adam and Eve in the garden. The evangelist knew Satan's tactics and how he often attacked and weakened God's people.

Satan's attack on God's people today is not much different from the one on the early church. One of his tactics is not to totally halt talk about the things of God, but to confuse people into believing different things about what is spoken of in the Bible. The enemy of God is the originator of religiously correct confusion, which is similar to the secular, politically correct confusion, which is being forced on many today.

One of the enemy's techniques of confusion is the "religious" acceptance of another Jesus. This Jesus is spoken of much in modern churches. He was born in a manger. He died on the cross, but close examination of their religious teachings shows that He is not the same as spoken of in the Word of God.

Although they may claim that Jesus is the only "begotten son" of God, they also teach that Satan is Jesus' brother, which is not scriptural. Some flatly deny, although they say Jesus was a good man, that he was God's son (which false teaching is prevalent in the modern "bibles"), or that He was just a prophet or "God's messenger." Others deny his virgin birth, which is the way He was born sinless in the body of a man, and this unvirgin birth would make him a sinner.

Many believe in another Jesus, and not the one who came to Earth to save people from the wages of their sin. Many know of a "Jesus," but it is not the Holy Son of God spoken of in God's Word.

Another confusing ploy of the enemy is to make men believe and follow another spirit, rather than the Holy Spirit. This false spirit is alive and being followed today, when people decide to do what they think is right.

Rather than obey the Holy Spirit's leading, which is always in accordance with the Word of God, they follow the false, often unholy spirit of man. Some of these unholy spirits lead people and do not convict them of their dishonesty, drunkenness, deceitfulness, immodesty, lewdness, unholy lifestyle, or other sins. Their religion and philosophies often justify the sin they are committing. It is another spirit they are following, as the Spirit of God would not permit any iniquity.

Another gospel is also believed and obeyed (Galatians 1:7-8). It is not the good news that Jesus died on the cross for sinners, and that His death is the only payment God will accept for any person's sin.

Today, many teach that obeying church rules and their doctrines will get one to Heaven. It is also preached from some pulpits that good works, religious rites, or deeds will get one there, even though the Bible clearly teaches otherwise. Often, a religion's own writings are given higher importance than the preserved Word of God.

Some even teach a false Gospel that there are many ways to Heaven. The true Gospel says that there is only one way to Heaven, and that is through Jesus (John 14:6).

Others unbiblically teach that praying to dead Christians can get prayers answered and sins forgiven. Man-made religion has added to or removed from the real Gospel that Jesus brought to mankind.

The true Gospel is the one that God has made sure we would have after all these years. The pure Word of God has been kept for us within the pages of the King James Bible. That Bible should be the only source for knowing the will and way of God for English-speaking people.

There is a real, unseen spiritual battle (Ephesians 6:12) occurring everywhere. The enemy's goal is to send as many souls as possible to Hell or to weaken believers beyond usefulness to the cause of Christ. The battle can be lost by anyone who believes in and follows the wrong Jesus, the wrong spirit, or the wrong Gospel. Be wary! Read your Bible for yourselves. Learn, obey, and follow only the genuine.
"Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the Gospel of Christ. 8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed." Galatians 1:7-8

"He (the devil) can make men dance upon the brink of Hell as though they were on the verge of Heaven." — *Spurgeon*