

WHAT ABOUT WICCA?

I. SOME REASONS WHY WE SHOULD BE CONCERNED ABOUT WICCA

A. We should be concerned because of the extent to which it has permeated our society.

1. I'm told schools like North Stokes is full of it.
2. Internet links - there are some 25,988 connections to web sites involved in wicca. One group is called "young pagans of the world" and has teen listings of each state, each city in a given state, and persons in these cities to communicate with.

B. We should be concerned because of the potential threat it is to true spiritual beliefs and behavior.

1. Individuals involved in wicca are involved in the things of the devil and are dishonoring to the Lord.
2. Individuals involved in wicca follow a set of ethics and practices which are contrary to the Biblical teachings of Christianity.
3. Individuals involved in Wicca become entrapped by the powers of the devil to do wrong.
4. Individuals involved in Wicca may be led to a point from which they may never recover.

II. SOME EXPLANATIONS OF WHAT WICCA IS

A. The word "wicca" is an old Saxon word meaning "wise".

B. The word "witch" comes from the word "wicce" meaning women and "wicca" meaning wise. Thus witchcraft is the craft of the wise women.

C. Witchcraft bases its practices upon the belief that women are the healers and teachers or "wise ones".

D. Male practitioners are generally referred to as warlocks although some groups contend that any witch which breaks his/her secret oaths becomes a warlock regardless of sex.

E. Simply stated then "wicca" is witchcraft and it's not just some harmless game-like entertainment for children, it is anti-Scriptural and against God. Notice some of the injunctions which God gave to His people in the O.T. concerning witches and witchcraft (Ex. 22:18; Dt. 18:10; II Chron. 33:6; Gal. 5:20). Notice some other references concerning individuals involved in

this practice (II Kings 9:22; Acts 8).

F. Notice that "wicca" is sometimes called "the cult of Diana" or "Goddess worship." This is no doubt what the apostle Paul faced in Ephesus (Acts 19:23-41).

G. The fact that "wicca" is goddess worship is substantiated in the present day charge called the "charge of the goddess."

THE CHARGE OF THE GODDESS

Listen to the words of the Great Mother,
who of old was called Artemis, Astarte, Dione,
Melusine, Aphrodite, Ceridwen, Diana,
Arionhod, Brigid, and by
many other names:

"Whenever you have need of anything,
once in the month, and better
it be when the moon is full,
you shall assemble in some secret place
and adore the spirit of Me
who is Queen of all the Wise.

You shall be free from slavery,
and as a sign that you be free
you shall be naked in your rites.
Sing, feast, dance, make music and love,
all in My presence, for Mine
is the ecstasy of the spirit,
and Mine also is joy on earth.

For My law is love unto all beings.
Mine is the secret that opens
upon the door of youth,
and mine is the cup of wine of life
that is the Cauldron of Ceridwen
that is the holy grail of immortality.

I give the knowledge of the spirit eternal
and beyond death I give peace and freedom
and reunion with those that have gone before.
Nor do I demand aught of sacrifice,
for behold, I am the Mother of all things,
and My love is poured upon the earth."

Hear the word of the Star Goddess,
the dust whose feet are the host of heaven,
whose body encircles the universe:

"I who am the beauty of the green earth
and the white moon among the stars
and the mysteries of the waters,
I call upon your soul to arise
and come unto me.
For I am the soul of nature
that gives life to the universe.
From Me all things proceed
and unto Me they must return.

Let My worship be in the heart
that rejoices, for behold
all acts of love and pleasure are My rituals
Let there be beauty and strength,
power and compassion,
honor and humility,
mirth and reverence within you.

And you who seek to know Me,
know that your seeking and yearning
will avail you not,
unless you know the Mystery:
for if that which you seek,
you find not within yourself,
you will never find it without.

For behold, I have been with you
from the beginning,
and I am that which is attained
at the end of desire."

III. SOME HISTORY SURROUNDING MODERN DAY WICCA

- A. "Wicca" or witchcraft originated thousands of years ago and can be traced back to Gen. 11 when men began to practice idolatrous worship based upon the Zodiac.
- B. Throughout the O.T. period witchcraft was practiced among the Canaanite peoples and God's people were explicitly warned against their practices.
- C. La Vecchia Religione is reported to be the oldest witchcraft tradition in existence

today and is traced back to a group of people who lived in the Pyrenees Mountains between France and Spain.

D. Sometime around 800 BC people carrying these traditions and practices migrated into northern Europe and became a part of the Celts, Saxons, and Normans who settled the British Isles.

E. After this migration a male - oriented version of witchcraft emerged which was called Druids.

F. Around 200 BC another group of these people migrated to what is now call Italy. They were no doubt descendants of those in the British Isles and they carried on the witchcraft practices referred to as "the old religion."

G. For centuries witchcraft was suppressed by both Catholics as well as Christians and was forced to go underground.

H. Starhawk (Mirram Simos) is the founder of the feminist wicca groups in America. Her Berkley California organization called "the Covenant of the Goddess" has combined modern feminism with wicca.

I. Later in the 19th century Aleister Crowley (1875 - 1947) declared himself to be "the wickedest man in the world" and "the King of the witches."

J. Gradually a natural religion has evolved surrounding witchcraft practices being pushed along by authors and philosophers of our day.

IV. SOME BELIEFS AND PRACTICES INVOLVED IN WICCA

A. Witches do not believe in the Christian concept of God. Witchcraft has its own pantheon of gods and goddesses which are used in ways similar to the ways Catholics use saints. One wiccan teacher has said, "my God does not have a beard nor does it hate women."

B. In wicca the pentagram or five-pointed star enclosed in a circle supposedly represents the perfected human and each point represents one of their five basic beliefs. These are:

1. The wiccan rede - which says - "If it harm none, do what you will."
2. The second point represents the law of attraction.
3. The third point represents harmony and serenity.
4. The fourth represents power through knowledge.
5. The fifth point represents progressive reincarnation.

C. Witches teach that deity is immanent and transcendent and manifests itself through all living beings. This means all of nature is divine including the cosmos. This is a modern-day form of pantheism believing that God is in everything.

D. Witches seek spiritual growth through knowledge and instructions from earth-plane teachers and spiritual, discarnate guides.

E. The ethics of wicca are summarized in the wiccan rede of 8 words - "If it harm none, do what you will."

F. So-called worship services of wicca are scheduled in harmony with the moon's phases. Each worship site is newly constructed for that occasion and is defined by new consecrated circles. Only coven members are allowed to enter the innermost circle.

G. Witches deny the practice of worshipping the devil. They say Satan is a Judeo-Christian concept. The truth is worshipping anything apart from the true God is devil worship.

H. What is often concealed about wicca worship is that of sacrifice. Wicca covens must sacrifice blood offerings to the god and goddesses. These usually involve animals in which blood is ingested but there is evidence that people have been abducted and offered in similar ways.

I. It must be seen to be involved in wiccan worship and practices is to be demonically involved as well

V. SOME MEASURES PARENTS CAN TAKE TO PROTECT THEIR CHILDREN FROM THE INFLUENCE OF WICCA.

A. Parents should have their children in Sunday School and church services so they can learn the truth from the Word of God.

B. Parents should honor the Lord in their homes by having daily devotions and training their children according to Biblical principles and precepts.

C. Parents should restrict the way their children use the internet. Chat rooms outside of Christian circles are potentially dangerous.