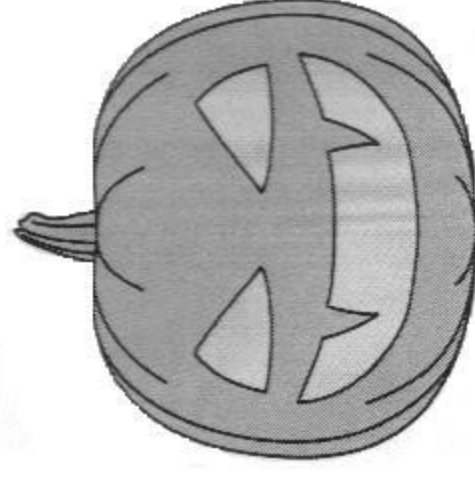


Be informed that God loves you  
and BE AWARE OF WHAT  
YOU CELEBRATE

# **THE ORIGINS OF HALLOWEEN**



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Int'l

# THE ORIGINS OF HALLOWEEN

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Halloween has its origins from a Celtic Druidic festival called "Samhain". Samhain is "the festival of the dead". Its celebration began on the evening of October 31 to begin the month of November. On this day the Lord of the dead would gather all of the departed souls (spirits) for a feast prepared for them. The feast consisted of having visitations from the souls of the dead, various forms of witchcraft, ritual pain inflictions, and animal and human sacrifices. Included in Samhain was "the festival of mating" which involved swan dances, witchcraft/revived Wicca, and ritual copulating (sex acts).

The name "Halloween" comes from "All Hallows Eve". "All Hallows Eve" is the Catholic Church festival which venerates the dead saints. It is also called All Saints Day and traditionally celebrated on November 1. Directly associated with All Saints was All Souls Day celebrated on November 2. This festival was celebrated by offering prayer for all departed

souls. Although All Saints and All Souls were church festivals, yet they were obviously of Druidic influence because of the emphasis on venerating the dead. This is seen in the custom connected with All Souls. The custom was to bake 'soul cakes' to leave outside with a glass of wine for the visiting departed souls. The practice of dressing up in costumes to go "trick or treating" from door to door is based upon this custom of having treats prepared for the visiting souls of the dead.

Visiting or communicating with the souls of the dead is forbidden by God according to the scriptures.

Deuteronomy 18:10-12 states, "Let no one be found among you who consigns his son or daughter to the fire, or who is an augur, a soothsayer, a diviner, a sorcerer, one who casts spells, or one who consults ghosts or familiar spirits, or one who inquires of the dead. For anyone who does such things is abhorrent to the LORD ..."

The idea that departed souls remain in the earth realm and have the ability to make visitations to the homes of the living is contrary the scriptures.

The scriptures speak of two places that departed souls go to. The souls of the righteous go to be with the Lord (read 2 Corinthians 5:8). The souls of the unrighteous go to a place of torment called hell (read Luke 16:19-25).

In our present day, Halloween is a very significant day for worshippers of Satan, witches and those involved in witchcraft. They continue to perform the ritual practices in celebration of the feast of the dead.

After considering the background of Halloween, one should reconsider the idea of its celebration. Although many may be unaware of the background of Halloween, it does not change the fact that its celebration glorifies the feast of the dead. It is the purpose of God that all celebrations be done to glorify and bring honor to Him. I trust that you are seeking to glorify and honor the Most High God. If perhaps you don't know Him, you can get to know Him. It happens by receiving Yeshua the Messiah (Jesus Christ) as the Savior and Lord of your life.