The Attraction of the Occult

Magic, spells, and divination belong to a set of practices known as "the occult." Occult practices are used to:

- Obtain hidden, secret information beyond normal means (divination)
- Contact a spirit or disembodied being such as the dead (spiritism)

• Alter or control reality through secret rituals, supernatural means, or contact with spirits (sorcery/magick)

Such practices are listed—and condemned—in the Bible.

And do not let your people practice fortunetelling, or use sorcery, or interpret omens, or engage in witchcraft, or cast spells, or function as mediums or psychics, or call forth the spirits of the dead. Anyone who does these things is detestable to the LORD. —Deuteronomy 18:10b-12a, NLT

Remember that...

• People who practice the occult can have different beliefs about many of the things discussed here. The most common terms and views are presented in this pamphlet.

• Since there's no belief in absolute good or evil in the occult, the people who practice it wind up determining right or wrong as seems best to them.

Why so popular?

Occult activities can appeal to people who are hungry for feelings of spirituality, strength, freedom, or power. But the emotional power of experiences gained from occultic practices can easily trick people into thinking that every belief behind those practices is true.

People are lured into the occult in all kinds of ways—some obvious, some subtle. For example:

• Media (TV, movies, books):

The media offer a variety of stories depicting realistic characters who use psychic or occult practices to defeat villains, solve problems, or help others. This can make some people think that heroic acts using occult powers are morally acceptable in the real world.

• Games: Many board games, Internet games, and collectible card games feature occult terminology and characters who cast spells or do magick as part of their skills.

• Friends: Friends at school or on the Internet can introduce young people to occult activities.

• Disillusionment with Christianity or church: This can cause people to become bored or angry, and seek out activities at odds with Christianity. The unknown and forbidden can seem exciting by comparison, thus proving to be an easy temptation.

The Authority of God and His Word Over the Occult

Fearing (reverencing or worshiping) God is the beginning of wisdom (Proverbs 9:10). As the One who defines what is good and what is evil, God has spoken clearly on the occult. Remember: God is in control. As our loving Maker, God asks us to turn to Him with our fears (2 Chronicles 20:17) and for direction (Proverbs 3:5, 6).

With this assurance—and the knowledge that all angels, powers, and authorities have been subjected to Christ (1 Peter 3:22)—we can examine the occult through the lens of God's Word, focusing not on the darkness, but on the light of God's truth and power shining in that darkness.

Is "white magick" okay, since it's using powers for good?

Magick is an attempt to alter reality through supernatural methods or by contact with spirit beings, usually by using visualization, rituals, incantations, and/or magical tools. People who cast spells or practice magick generally see magick as neutral (or as coming from some neutral source); one does magick on the "light" or the "dark" side, depending on the

magician's motives.

Witches, and others

defend using "white"

magick to do good,

but reject using

cause harm.

"black" magick to

Some Wiccans,



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Note that ...

• Magick is often spelled with a "k" to distinguish it from stage magic.

• People who practice the occult don't use the term *sorcery*, since they consider it negative.

You Should Also Know...

Occultists don't always view dark or black magick as *evil*—just more powerful and dangerous. Many occultists believe that advanced magick can include black magick, reasoning that at higher levels one has developed enough skill to "handle it." Some occultists even claim that there's no real difference in white and black magick at all, and that since there's no absolute good or evil, we have no way of drawing a line between white and black magic. But we can't forget

The Bible Says...

No. God makes no distinctions between "good" and "bad" occult powers. *All* magick is sorcery, and Scripture explicitly forbids it. Using magick even for seemingly good purposes isn't *really* doing good, because there can be no lasting good from practicing something that God forbids.

Acts 19:19 describes how the people who had done magic gave it up after they trusted in Jesus: "And many of those who practiced magic brought their books together and began burning them in the sight of everyone" (NASB).

The powers of Pharaoh's magicians couldn't match God's powers (Exodus 8:19, 9:11), and the King's magicians couldn't interpret his dreams when Daniel could through God's revelation (Daniel 1:20, 2:27, 4:7ff, 5:7–30).

To learn more, read: Exodus 22:18; Leviticus 19:26; Deuteronomy 18:10; 2 Kings 17:17, 21:6; 2 Chronicles 33:6; Isaiah 3:18–20, 47:9; Jeremiah 27:9–10; Ezekiel 13:18–20; Micah 5:12; Acts 8:9–11, 13:6–12, 19:19; Galatians 5:19–21; and Revelation 9:20, 21, 18:23, 21:8, 22:15.

that the categories of white and black magick are artificial and arbitrary, and not recognized by God.

Occult magick is not the same as stage magic (like pulling rabbits out of a hat or making coins disappear); those are skillful illusions, performed for entertainment.

Does casting spells really work?

Yes and No.

Yes for people who cast spells, because 1) powerful demons may be involved, or 2) the spells may simply *seem* to work because the outcome might have happened anyway. (When spells don't work, the people who cast them can believe that the spells were done incorrectly, at the wrong time, with the wrong motives, or without enough faith in one's ability to do the spell—so the failures are explained away.)

No because those who cast spells aren't really in control, and because any supernatural power that may be involved in casting spells is dangerous, not good.

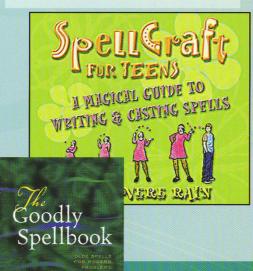
Witches and Wiccans usually claim they do spells to help or heal, not to harm. The main danger in doing spells is to the person casting them, not to anyone else. By casting spells, one opens oneself to deception, evil influences, and bondage. (Many people who cast spells are afraid to stop because they believe something bad will happen if they do.) Evil spirits may exert influence on people who aren't Christians and therefore lack Christ's protection, convincing the ones who cast spells (and others) that there's power and truth in what they're doing.

You Should Also Know ...

Many Witches and Wiccans see no difference between casting spells and prayer because they think both are just tools for invoking a power to fulfill one's desire. But the Bible teaches that prayer is petitioning and thanking the sovereign God while submitting oneself to His will, not a method of imposing one's own will on the world. Jesus taught us to pray by asking God,

The Bible Says...

Deuteronomy 18:11 categorically forbids casting spells. (*See* Question 1 for more Scripture condemning spells and occult magic/sorcery.) The Hebrew words translated as "witchcraft" in the Old Testament refer to occult practices like divination (as in 1 Samuel 15:23), incantations, sorcery, and the use of poison or drugs to do spells or contact spirits. (*See* Question 3 for further information.)



"Your will be done" (Matthew 6:10), and He submitted Himself to the Father in prayer (Matthew 26:39, 42, 44).

Are Witches also Satanists? (What's the difference?)

No-they're different.

Witches and Wiccans believe that nature is sacred, and they worship "the Goddess" or a variety of gods and goddesses. They don't believe in a being called Satan, so they don't worship him. Their ethical creed (called the "Wiccan Rede") is usually expressed as "Do no harm, and do what you will."

Satanists vary in their beliefs. Some Satanists actually worship Satan, believing that he is a more powerful being than God and will reward them. Others believe that Satan is an angel of wisdom who was mistreated by an evil God. Still others believe that Satan isn't a personal being, but is a symbol representing rebellion against God and the morals of society. This latter group is the most popular, and they assert that Satan symbolizes being one's own god.

Wiccans revere nature and their gods; Satanists revere the carnal self and selfindulgence. Neither group is centralized or has a single, standard set of doctrines.

The Bible Says...

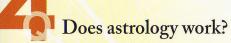
Worshiping a god, Goddess, or *any* being that isn't the God of the Bible is forbidden, as is divination and casting spells (*see* Questions 1, 2, and 4). Whether Satanism is honoring Satan or self, or whether Witchcraft and Wicca worship the Goddess or many gods, both groups are worshiping false gods instead of the true God (Exodus 20:5, 23:24; Deuteronomy 11:6, 17:3; Matthew 4:10; Romans 1:25).



You Should Also Know...

Witchcraft and Wicca are modern religions, and are a subset of Neopaganism (a revival of pagan polytheism and nature worship), but not everyone agrees on how to define these groups. Other Neopagan groups include Druidry and Asatru. A student of the occult named Gerald Gardner started Wicca in the late 1930s–40s in England. Some Witches believe that their religion goes back thousands of years and don't think Wiccans are real Witches. Most Witches, Wiccans, and Satanists dress normally and cannot be identified by their appearance.

Goths, who usually dress in black, are a social subculture and aren't officially a part of either Wicca or Satanism. Most Goths are agnostic, but a growing number of Goths follow Wicca and call themselves "Goth-Wiccans." Other Goths follow various alternative religions or Eastern beliefs.



Yes and No.

Astrology is "soothsaying," a form of divination used to seek information about the past, present, or future through supernatural methods, by reading hidden meanings in the natural world, or ascribing secret meaning to patterns or images. Astrology maintains that the planets, plus the sun and moon, represent different influences in a person's life-past, present, and future. The zodiac signs (Aries, Taurus, Cancer, etc.) represent personality traits.

Astrology may seem valid because:

1) Astrologers are often guided by spirit beings (demons-see Question 7) who can give them information about the person's past or present.

2) Astrological qualities parallel human behavior. Everyone has at least some traits matching those in the zodiac signs, so anyone's life will naturally reflect "planetary characteristics."

3) A person's astrological "birth chart" has many areas open for interpretation, so at least some of what it says can be interpreted so that it seems to apply.

4) General information given by an astrologer can be applied to specific situations.

5) People who use astrology want to hear accurate things and tend to ignore any incorrect data.

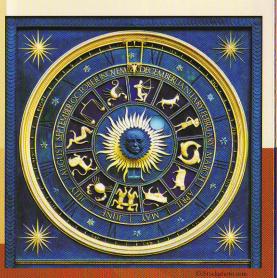
You Should Also Know...

Following astrology undermines the biblical view that every person is a unique individual created in God's image. (Each one of us is far too complex and special to be pigeonholed by astrology!) Still, some astrologers (and psychics and mediums) claim their "gift" comes from God

The Bible Says

Whether something "works" or not doesn't determine what's right or wrong; God's Word does. God denounces astrology and those who follow or worship the host of heaven (the sun, moon, and stars). In Isaiah 47:13–15, God describes astrologers who were giving predictions: "Surely they are like stubble; the fire will burn them up. They cannot even save themselves from the power of the flame". Daniel interprets the King's dreams after astrologers and other occult seers fail (Daniel 2, 4, 5).

To learn more, read: Deuteronomy 4:19, 17:3; 2 Kings 21:3; 2 Chronicles 33:3; Jeremiah 8:1-2, 10:2; and Acts 7:42.



This is untrue, since God doesn't give what He condemns; God gives us only good and perfect gifts (James 1:17).

Is it okay to read your horoscope just for fun?

Horoscope columns are written by astrologers or those with knowledge of astrology. Their advice is based on the movement of the moon, plus the position of the faster-moving planets like Mercury and Venus, combined with the 12 zodiac signs.

Horoscopes are often promoted in newspapers and magazines as entertainment and therefore appear innocent or fun. It's easy to become addicted to reading the horoscope every day. If it happens to coincidentally be correct one day, it can make you want to read it all the more.

zodiac

Astrology

DUMMIES

The Bible Says...

No. If God has condemned astrology, reading horoscopes "for fun" is taking His Word lightly. Instead of using horoscopes or other kinds of divination (Hosea 4:12) we should seek God and His will (Psalm 69:32; Acts 17:27). Unlike astrology and horoscopes, God's Word offers us truth (John 5:39, 10:35, 17:17).

Since astrology is a type of divination-forbidden by God throughout the Bible (see Question 4)-reading your horoscope to know the future is exactly the kind of information-seeking that God denounces.

You Should Also Know...

Other forms of divination are tempting but should be avoided:

 Feng Shui is a form of geomancy that interprets geographic shapes and features, and arranges objects to attract "good energy" or chi (see Definitions).

 Tarot card readers interpret visual images and symbols.

· Numerology seeks the hidden meaning of numbers.

•The I Ching reads the patterns of hexagrams (sets of six solid and broken lines)

 Pendulums are used for divination by movement.

 Scrying is gazing into a visually featureless object or surface (such as a flame or mirror) to receive an image or message.

Some forms of divination condemned in the Bible include the use of divining rods or "water-witching" (Hosea 4:12), and reading patterns by examining an animal's liver or casting arrows on the ground (Ezekiel 21:21).

Talking Tips

Do remember that people in the occult have a different worldview and may have had negative experiences with churches or Christians. Pray for and with them.

Don't try to lecture or argue; instead, have a give-and-take dialogue. Remember, the Holy Spirit is the One who opens minds and hearts to the truth.

Do ask questions and don't assume that you know what the other person believes. Ask about beliefs and spiritual background. If the person's background involves Christianity, try to discover what the person believes Christianity is (and why he or she rejected it).

Don't be fearful. Remember that God "has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline" (2 Timothy 1:7 NASB; also see 1 John 4;4). There's no reason for a Christian to fear people just because they're involved in the occult.

Do remember that the person you're talking to is someone made in the image of God. Approach with gentleness and respect, and take time to listen.

Don't make assumptions about material you're not familiar with. If you make inaccurate statements about the occult, your credibility will drop to zero.



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Do keep the main focus on what the person believes about God and Jesus. Most occultists believe in a god (or gods) and have some degree of respect for Jesus as a person. Ask what the person believes about his or her god(s), and ask why Jesus came to earth.

Don't be timid about the claims of Christianity, such as Jesus saying that He's the only way to God (John 14:6). You'll undoubtedly be challenged on this, but backing down only causes occultists to disrespect you. Take a stand, but do it gently and with love (1 Peter 3:15).

Do refer to the Bible by saying, "God (or Jesus) says...," but try to avoid quoting the Bible by using specific references like "Isaiah 8:19 states..." unless the person is asking for verses or brings them up. Most occultists will think you're showing off, and this will only alienate them.



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Stock #617X 10 Questions & Answers on Magic, Spells & Divination pamphlet

Retailers: Package of 10 pamphlets = Stock #618X (ISBN-13: 978-159636-154-6)



What's the difference between a psychic and a biblical prophet, since both foretell the future?

There are two major differences:

1) The way the message is received

By definition, psychics use powers beyond the five natural senses, and they claim their abilities are inborn. A psychic usually uses specific techniques or consults spirit guides to get information (*see* Question 7 and Definitions). In contrast, biblical prophets were chosen by God and given His direct revelation; they didn't claim supernatural abilities of their own.

2) The message itself

Today's professional psychics commonly answer people's personal questions (like "Who will I marry?" or "Where is my lost cat?") and offer advice. In contrast, God's words were given to encourage His people, to warn them, or to foretell what He would do in the future. Most predictions addressed issues concerning Israel, God's judgment, the coming of the Messiah, or the last days. Prophecies in the Bible glorify God rather than the prophet. (Even psychics who claim to believe in God usually deny the Bible's authority and reject many essential Christian beliefs.)

You Should Also Know...

Psychic abilities and techniques include **telepathy** (receiving or sending thoughts over distances), **clairvoyance** (seeing things supernaturally), **clairaudience** (hearing things supernaturally), **psychometry** (getting information by holding an object), **channeling** (allowing a spirit to speak through you), **mediumship** (contact with the dead—*see* Question 7), and the methods listed as divination in Question 4. The word **oracle** can mean either a revelation or someone who receives a revelation (whether

The Bible Says...

The activity of psychics falls under the category of divination (*see* Question 4) and sometimes spiritism (*see* Question 7). Prophets from God were always accurate (Deuteronomy 18:21–22), but most psychics claim that the *best* psychic on his or her best day is just 75–85% accurate. No psychic claims to be 100% accurate!



from God or from false gods). Psychic abilities are sometimes given scientificsounding names—like **psi power**—to make them seem more credible.

> PALM & SPIRITUAL READINGS



Is it okay to contact the dead?

Mediums are psychics who believe they contact the dead and receive communication from them. Mediums and other psychics usually practice a kind of meditation (sometimes called "centering") which is a self-induced hypnotic trance or "altered state." When someone is in thisstate, judging and thinking faculties are suspended, and the mind is open to any influences that may come in. Mediums are therefore receptive to sources like demons (*see* below).

They also may be picking up information from their observations or imagination,

although they may believe this is from the dead. Some mediums use a special spirit guide (called a "control") who gives them information about the dead person (*see* Question 8).



The Bible Says...

No. Contacting spirits (spiritualism) and the dead, and consulting mediums is forbidden or condemned in Leviticus 19:31, 20:6, 20:27; Deuteronomy 18:11; 2 Kings 21:6; 1 Chronicles 10:13; 2 Chronicles 33:6; and Isaiah 8:19.

In 1 Samuel 28, Saul consulted a medium because he wanted advice from the dead prophet Samuel. Samuel appeared because God allowed his return in order to rebuke

Saul. Samuel foretold the death of Saul and his sons, which happened as predicted. The Bible clearly states in 1 Chronicles 10:13–14 that one reason Saul was killed was because he had consulted a medium.

You Should Also Know...

According to Scripture, people *have* spirits, but they're not spirit-beings, and humans don't become angels when they die. The only spirit-beings identified by the Bible are called angels—and those angels who have rebelled against God are called unclean spirits, evil spirits, or demons (1 Kings 22:19–21; Mark 5:2–8, 9:17–25; Luke 4:33; Luke 9:42; Acts 16:16–18, 19:15–16).

God completely forbids any effort to communicate with the dead or other spirits; therefore, even trying to contact angels is wrong. Angels who serve God are under His command, not ours (Hebrews 1:13–14). The only angels who respond to human attempts to contact them are fallen ones (demons). And though many people claim to see or hear from people who have recently died, there are alternative explanations for such phenomena (see Question 8).

Are there such things as ghosts and haunted houses?

Many people have heard the expression "I see dead people" from the horror film *The Sixth Sense*. In fact, lots of movies and TV shows feature haunted houses or sightings of supposed ghosts, as well as dramas about mediums who claim to actually see and hear dead people (and even pets!). Stories about ghosts have been popular entertainment around campfires for centuries. But should we believe them?

The Bible Says...

No. People do not remain on earth beyond death or return to "haunt" places or people. In Luke 16:19–31, Jesus describes a rich man who has died and is suffering in Hades; he wants to return to warn his brothers who are still alive, but he is forbidden to do so.

It's reasonable to conclude in 1 Samuel 28 that God literally brings the prophet Samuel back from the dead, because the medium was surprised by what she saw; this was a special appearance produced by God in order to pronounce judgment, and doesn't justify efforts to contact the dead (*see* Question 7). Hebrews 9:27 states, "It is appointed unto man to die once, and after this the judgment."

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Many high-profile mediums are popular and convincing. **John Edward** was raised Roman Catholic, although he has stated that he knows his church's teachings forbid what he does. Edward also believes in reincarnation and

occult meditation, and he admits to having spirit guides. Although **Sylvia Browne** writes books about topics like prayer and Jesus, she has admitted that she's not a Christian; she calls herself a "Gnostic Christian" and states in one book that Jesus didn't die on the cross. Browne admits that a spirit guide named "Francine" gives her the information from "the other side" (a term mediums use to describe the realm of the dead).

Most mediums deny the essential teachings of the Christian faith and have studied or been exposed to the occult, and they usually offer advice and information contrary to God's Word. As Question 7 explains, mediums may be in contact with fallen angels (demons) who provide them with information that seems to confirm their claims.

You Should Also Know ...

#1 % NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER SYLVIA BROWNE

ON THE

HER SIDE

OHN EDWARD

There's no conclusive evidence to prove that dead people can haunt houses, or that human spirits linger on earth after physical death. There are four factors that explain

alleged hauntings and ghost sightings:

1) Hoaxes

- 2) Human imagination
- 3) Natural causes
- 4) Demonic deception

What about the Ouija[®] board—isn't it just a game?

The Bible Says...

behalf of the living?"

Isaiah 8:19 clearly states: "When

men tell you to consult mediums and

spiritists, who whisper and mutter,

should not a people inquire of their

The Ouija board was designed as a

forbidden by God (see Question 7).

tool for contacting the dead, which is

God? Why consult the dead on

No.

The Ouija board has never been merely a game. Parker Brothers purchased rights to the Ouija board in 1966, but its beginnings are with a 19th-century French spiritualist who invented an early version in order to contact the dead. (Spiritualism is the practice of contacting the dead and is now recognized as a religion in itself.)

At the turn of the 20th century, Elijah Bond and William Fuld modernized the board and gave it its name. "Ouija" is the combination of the French word *oui* and the German word *ja* (both of which mean "yes," possibly indicating an invitation to spirit contact).

The board consists of the letters of the alphabet, the numbers 0 through 9, and the words "Yes," "No," and "Good-bye." A triangular device, called a "planchette," is held lightly while asking questions; it moves across the board (supposedly propelled by a spirit or force) over letters or numbers to give responses.

You Should Also Know...

Even though their views about contacting the dead are false and unbiblical, it's significant that psychics and mediums themselves advise against the use of a Ouija board, declaring it to be dangerous.

Jane Roberts, a writer who channeled an entity named "Seth," admits that she first made contact with Seth through a Ouija board. She authored a series of books based on advice from Seth, who promoted occult and anti-Christian views. Just as advice and information from psychics, astrologers, and mediums steer a person away from God's truth, so do messages received via Ouija boards. Sometimes nothing happens when attempting to use the board; sometimes people simply move the planchette themselves, consciously or subconsciously. But since it was designed for spirit contact— and is known to serve that purpose—one should *never* use the Ouija board!

Can we use crystals as a source of spiritual power?

Many people with occult (and New Age) views believe that the earth radiates a spiritual energy that can be harnessed for certain uses. They believe that crystals contain special concentrated energy from the earth because they have been in the earth a long time.

The belief in using a supernatural energy or force to affect reality underlies the worldview of magick (sorcery). Various crystals are said to possess energy that can heal, protect, attract love or prosperity, advance clear thinking, promote spirituality, and provide other alleged benefits. Crystals have a sensual appeal due to their color and beauty; therefore, the idea that they also offer special beneficial energies is very attractive.

Healing by accessing or channeling supernatural energy is an integral part of the occult. Many cultures have names for a supernatural energy that's believed to permeate the universe and can be manipulated for occult healing or other spiritual purposes. These include:

- **chi/qi**—from Taoist beliefs, a universal energy or life force (used in Feng Shui, acupuncture, and some martial arts)
- prana—from Hindu practices, allegedly the "divine breath"
- mana—from South Pacific cultures, the "substance of souls"
- aché—from Latin American santería, a divine force
- vital energy—a term used by occult healers in the 19th and early 20th centuries

It's biblical to pray to God for healing, but there's no biblical endorsement for manipulating supernatural energies for healing.

You Should Also Know...

Objects don't contain magical powers; they're merely objects. The idea that objects possess special supernatural power is *animism*, an occult belief that spirits or invisible powers inhabit objects and the natural world.

The Bible Says...

No. There are two main ways that crystals are usually used in the New Age and occult. One is to buy crystals that are believed to possess energy to help in specific areas, and wear them or carry them in a pouch. A second way to use crystals (especially clear or white quartz) is to "cleanse" them through specific techniques, then meditate on them in order to "program" and imbue them with the owner's energy. To use crystals in these ways is to employ them as charms and amulets. The Bible specifically forbids the use of such objects in Ezekiel 13:18–20.



Definitions

- Altered state: A state of mind in which critical thinking is suspended; this results from certain types of meditation, chanting, repetitive movements, or drugs; similar to a trance or light hypnotic state.
- Ankh: From Egyptian paganism, a cross topped by a loop (identified with the goddess Isis). Used in occultism to signify immortality, or eternal life; also represents the union of male and female.

Astral travel/Out-of-body experience:

Conscious travel outside the body while one is asleep or in a trance state.

- Aura: An energy field believed to surround a person's body with different colors revealing the spiritual, psychological, and physical states of the person.
- **Channeling:** When someone allows a spirit (demon) to speak through him/her.
- **Chi (Qi):** From Taoism, believed to be a universal life energy permeating the universe and a person's body that can be manipulated for healing and spiritual benefits.
- **Divination:** Reading hidden information in natural objects or patterns, and/or receiving information about one's past, present, or future through supernatural means like spirit contact.
- Kabbalah: From Judaism, an esoteric system based on the belief that the Torah (first five books of the Old Testament) is a code with four levels of meaning. Men and women are considered broken vessels who must repair themselves to advance spiritually and regain Eden.
- Karma: From Hinduism, the law of cause and effect, in which one's actions have consequences in future lives.

Medium: A psychic who attempts to communicate with the dead.

- Pantheism: The belief that God and creation are essentially one, and that the universe and its inhabitants share in God's divine nature.
- **Pentacle, Pentagram:** A five-pointed star formed by five straight lines, usually placed within a circle. Used as a symbol (and in rituals) by Wicca and most Witchcraft. Satanists use an inverted pentagram (with two points turned upward).
- Polytheism: The belief in many gods.
- **Psychic:** A person who receives information through spirits or supernatural abilities.
- Runes: Symbols thought to originate from the Norse alphabet. Used for divination and for empowering magical tools.
- Satan: Described in the Bible as a powerful angel who rebelled against God and tempts and deceives man.

Séance: A gathering at which people attempt to contact the dead.

Sixth sense: Ability to receive information beyond the five natural senses.

Spiritualism: Contacting the dead or spirits.

- **Spirit guide:** A spirit being that acts as one's guide; commonly found in the occult and New Age.
- **Sorcery:** The use of spirits or drugs to access supernatural power; sometimes considered by occultists to be the use of harmful or black magic.
- **Third eye:** From Hinduism, one of the chakras (invisible energy centers) located between the eyes that bestows psychic powers.

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The inclusion of a work does not necessarily mean endorsement of all its contents or of other works by the same author(s).

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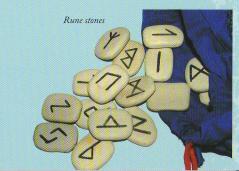
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Refuge Ministries (Jeff Harshbarger) www.refugeministries.cc



This same belief is found in the use of good-luck charms, which purportedly attract good fortune. Other occult

objects with supposed powers are **amulets** (said to protect the bearer) and **talismans** (said to draw beneficial effects or power to the owner).