

# AFRICA!



# Amanda Buys' Spiritual Covering

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## Foreword ...

We want to focus your attention on our in depth study that we have done on the Four Elements.

In this book, we cover in detail an understanding of what animal spirits, water spirits, tree and forest spirits, as well as the spirits of the air and wind, earth spirits, and so forth, are.

In dealing with African witchcraft, it is very important that you have this understanding.

We have not repeated any of these teachings in this book, and therefore want to encourage you to make a complete study of the Four Elements.

We want to suggest you also work through our six part DVD series entitled "Cleansing Our Generations" that will give you a very good understanding of how things work in the spirit realm, and how to break the demonic covenants that our forefathers have made with satan.

We want to dedicate this book to the Almighty God of Israel, **YAHWEH!**

We want to thank Jesus our Messiah – **Y'SHUA** – for paying the price for Africa! Thank You that Your Blood has the **final word** over Africa!

We are forever grateful for the Holy Spirit – **THE RUACH HACHODESH** – Who is hovering over Africa and calling out to born-again, Spirit-filled children to intercede what Jesus is interceding for, as High Priest of Africa, before the Father!

***Shalom And Blessings!***

*Roly and Amanda Buys*

# AFRICA!

BREAK THE CHAINS!

WE CALL YOU FORTH OUT OF  
BONDAGE ... AND INTO THE  
MARVELOUS LIGHT OF YOUR GOD  
AND KING!

COME FORTH!



# INTRODUCTION TO FERTILITY CULTS<sup>1</sup>

## UNDERSTANDING THE SEARCH OF MAN TRYING TO RECONNECT WITH GOD THROUGH THE AGES



Plato gave his account of the “Lost Land” and introduced *Atlantis* to the Greek mind. In 1882, “*Atlantis: the Antediluvian World*” – one of the most important books in the history of Atlantean research since Plato’s time – was published by the U.S. congressman, Ignatius Donnelly.

Donnelly took up the mantle as “the father of Atlantology” in modern America. In his research, he concluded there was a large island in the Atlantic Ocean which was known to the ancient world as *Atlantis*.

According to Donnelly:

- The description of Atlantis given by Plato is not a fable, but history.
- Atlantis was the true sight of the Garden of Eden and all other mythical earthly paradises, and home to the first human civilization.
- The gods and goddesses worshipped by the ancient Greeks, the Phoenicians, the Hindu’s and the Nordics were the kings, queens and heroes of Atlantis.
- The children of Atlantis were the founders of Egypt, Mexico, America and Peru.
- Egyptian and Peruvian religions are remnants of Atlantean sun worship.

He gave the Atlanteans credit for creating the Alphabet, medicine and nearly all the arts and sciences.



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<sup>1</sup> Excerpt from “How Fertility Cults Devour Our Blessings”, available on the website or for order from the office.

There was no civilization that matched the beauty, elegance, sophistication or spiritual achievements of the island world.

Despite its very advanced science, Atlantis suffered a cataclysmic destruction in which the entire island sank with nearly all its inhabitants.

However, a few lucky Atlanteans escaped in ships. These culture bearers spread throughout the world, telling the tale of their homeland that was like paradise.

The leader of Atlantis was *Atlas*. He was the first priest-king and leader of the *Titans*. Atlas we know was “the god who held the world upon his shoulders”.

*The ancients would lift up their eyes to the heavenly bodies and suggested that earthly forms are copies of heavenly originals. From the heavens come the patterns and energies which rule human events.*

Dualists have been trying throughout history to *transform earth* into heaven on earth. Then they studied the heavenly bodies like the sun, the moon, the stars and planets, deified them and worshipped them.

The word *galaxy* originated from the Greek word *gala*, which means “mother’s milk”. In numerous traditions, the *four rivers of paradise* – Eden, Thule, or Tula – were characterized as *four streams of milk* from the four teats of the white, horned, milk-giving “moon cow”.

Egypt worshipped this “moon cow” as *Hathor* and depicted them as goddesses wearing two horns. Figures such as *Isis* were seen wearing the horns of Tula or Eden on their head.



# HATHOR

(Het-hert)

**Symbols:** cow, lioness, falcon, cobra, hippopotamus, *sistrum*, musical instruments, drums, pregnant women, mirrors, and cosmetics.

The horned cow-goddess of love ... Hathor was also the deity of happiness, dance and music, and the *protector of women*. She is depicted as a cow, as a woman with the head of a cow, or as a woman with who wears the stylized cow-horns which hold in them the solar disk. Her symbols also included the papyrus reed, the snake and a rattle called a *sistrum*.



Early in Egyptian mythology she was known as Horus' mother. Later Isis assumed this role. Proof of this is seen in her name, "Hathor", which means the "house of Horus". As the mother of Horus, the queen of Egypt was identified with her. This is natural, as the queen was the mother of the Pharaoh, the *living* Horus. Isis was often shown with cow-horns like Hathor's on her head when the artist wanted to emphasize her role as the *mother* of Horus.

## THE ANCIENT INDIGENOUS PEOPLES



The ancient indigenous peoples of the world were carefully watching the paths of the Sun, Moon and stars, for these had not only a physical effect on them but also an emotional and spiritual influence.

By watching and communicating with these stars, the ancients believed they were honouring their ancestors.

The stars are the eyes of the deceased or the souls of the deceased.

# ANCIENT ASTRONOMICAL TOOLS

Discovering the sun's position and path enabled ancient people to understand the *cycles of nature* in the world that surrounded and supported them.

They became able to predict these *cycles*, knowing when rains would arrive, which conditions foretold floods and the patterns of winds, drought, heat, storms and cold.

They observed the migrating patterns of birds and animals, the growing, and flowering, fruiting and ebbing of plant life, and the movements of the ocean and understood that all these events were interconnected with the movements in the heavens. This knowledge, they knew, was crucial to their survival, since they too were a part of these great heavenly cycles.



A basic understanding of the regular movements of the sun, of the light and shadow it creates, has formed the foundation for all ancient calendar systems. However, each system is unique.



Some calendars formed the basis of mythological and cosmological belief systems, with stories that incorporated the *heavenly cycles*, sun, moon and stars, seasons and sacred dates.

Temples and shrines were established at key points all over the world to act as calendar reminders or marker stones ... and as places of sacrifice, ceremony and prayer.

These sites were always carefully selected by the *priest, astronomer* or *druid*.

Examples of such sites are ...

- The Incan temple of the sun at Machu Picchu in the Peruvian Andes
- The Aztec and Mayan temples of Central America
- The spiral and solstice marker of the Native Indians at Chaco Canyon
- The Hopi Indian horizon calendar
- Stonehenge and Avebury in England

- The Great Pyramids of Egypt
- The temples of Babylon
- The inscrutable statues of Easter Island
- The countless Buddhist temples in Tibet
- And the Mountain of the Sun in Japan



Temples to the numerous Indian gods and goddesses were also carefully positioned, as were the places of worship of the *Dogon* people of North Africa.

We all know how to tell the time from a sundial, by reading the shadow that pivots around the central gnomon and falls onto the circular dial.

Ancient sundials, which worked in a similar way, include ...

- The bowl sundial of the ancient Greeks
- The pyramids of Egypt, with their internal passageways angled towards the constellation of Orion
- And Stonehenge, with its great dolmens, which create a passage through which the light of sunrise and the stars passes at the Summer Solstice

The ancient peoples who created these sacred stargazing and seasonal watchtowers all understood how the cycles of nature were interconnected with the greater cycles of the cosmos.

Each system may have been unique, but all paid homage to the indestructible link between all aspects of life. And so our ancestors built their temples to honour the power and forces of nature which united them all, weaving together their lives and the lives of their children with the great afterlife and rebirth into the next.



## SACRED LANDSCAPES

Mountains have for centuries been scaled by people wanting to be in closer contact with the gods and the heavens. There is a literal logic to this because climbing a mountain brings one physically closer to the 'gods' of the firmament - the Sun, Moon and stars.

Mountains around the world are home to some of humankind's most important sacred places. For example:

- Japan's inscrutable Mount Fujiyama
- South Africa's Table Mountain
- Peru's Machu Picchu
- The Asian Himalayas in which are located thousands of Buddhist temples



According to *Credo Mutwa*, ancient people in southern Africa transported their sick to the top of mountains, where the air was purer and protected the ill against further infection and disease.

Within sacred texts throughout the ages, mountains have been portrayed as being holy places where heaven meets earth and where people can ascend to the “higher” realms and communicate with “god”.

Mountains were a symbol of eternity, purity, stability and ambition ... a place where deities lived or manifested themselves, especially when their high peaks were covered by clouds.

Table Mountain was known to the Khoi as *Hu-gais*, meaning “veiled in clouds”.

Some examples of sacred mountains:

- Moses received the Ten Commandments from God on Mount Sinai
- Christ ascended to Heaven from the Mount of Olives
- In China, the World Mountain – Kunlan – was a symbol of harmony and order, and a dwelling place of immortals and of the “Supreme Being”
- Fujiyama in Japan is a sacred site of Shinto pilgrimage
- Mount Tlaloc in Central Mexico was seen as a personification of rain and the fertility god

Other sacred mountains include:

- The Celtic White Mountain
- The Qaf of Islam
- Mount Meru, the Hindu World Mountain

Mountains are often seen as being figuratively layered, representing stages of spiritual ascent. These stages of ascension are clearly seen in the stepped pyramids or ziggurats of Central America, Mesopotamia and Egypt.

According to *Credo Mutwa*, the tip of Africa is a sacred place where people first gained knowledge from “god”. We need to revisit the homes and pathways of these ancient beings to look for signs of their great spirit. We need to understand the honour and respect they held for the earth and sky.

Their monuments and temples have been fashioned from the rock they revered, built to honour their entire natural and spiritual world, while recording the path of the sun and the light (*life*) and shadow (*death*) seen throughout the day. Their appreciation for their great protector, the nurturing mother earth, is clear.

They slept safely within her caves and rock shelters at night; they used her bountiful resources to gather their daily bread. And their appreciation for the Sun, the fire of life, is also evident.

## THE STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN – EXPLORING THE GEOMETRY OF STEP PYRAMIDS



The concept of slowly ascending the *stairway* to their god or the heavens is found in many religious texts. *Pyramids* or triangular shapes can be found in countless ancient temples and shrines around the world.

Many of them contain terraces and *staircases*.

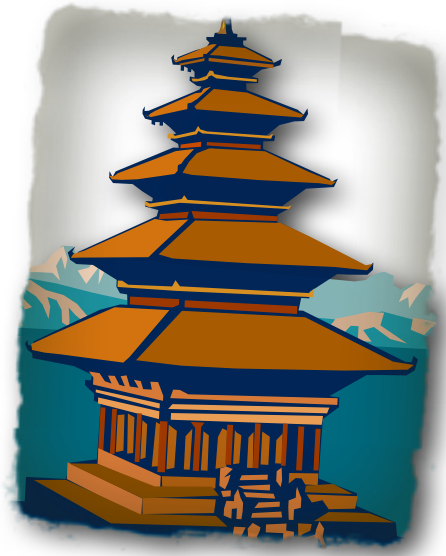
For example,

- The pyramids of Egypt contain chambers and passageways that are positioned to align with the stars of Orion
- The stepped outer walls of the ziggurat pyramids of Assyria and Babylon led to shrines perched on their summits
- Similar steps scaled Central American temples such as the Pyramid of Kukulcan in the ancient Mayan city of Chitzen Itza where, on the day of the Equinox, the sun creates a serpent that appears in shadow on the stone steps

Over the centuries, the design of these holy shrines has fascinated humankind, and much has been written about their astronomical significance, their mathematically precise layout, and their *strange magical properties*.

All mountains may be seen to have a roughly step pyramidal structure, with the lower contours representing the lower steps and the higher contours the upper steps.

The steps you climb may not be regular; some may be steep and wide, others narrow and shallow; some may be approached from the east or west, and others from the north or south.



Rough and untouched by human hand, these natural steps lead from the lowest levels to the apex - the viewpoint from which all below is revealed.

Geometrical *marker stones* and *human rock profiles* are carefully positioned on each pivotal corner and contour level, acting as *guardians* and *sacred monuments* placed to interact with and honour the heavenly movements of the sun, moon and stars and signify the spiritual steps of ascension.



# THE HISTORY OF FERTILITY CULTS



Fertility cult roots go back to the early civilizations of man with fertility cults and the worship of the "Great Mother". Archaeological evidence points to the discovery of a number of "**mother**" figurines that have been excavated in cave dwellings throughout Europe and Asia.

These small female statues, typically carved in rock or bone, have exaggerated sexual features, no recognizable face, and some appear to be pregnant.

*Nearly every ancient culture had some worship of the mystery of fertility and the rhythms of procreation, birth, and death.* Most of these were handed down from generation to generation, in myth and story form as well as in song and ritual.

Not all of these fertility cults developed into full-fledged witchcraft, but many of them furnish the key elements of the current generational fertility cults.

Witchcraft is specifically forbidden by God as a detestable practice of the Canaanites that the Hebrew people were to reject.

**Deuteronomy 18:9-14** <sup>9</sup> *When you come into the land which the Lord your God gives you, you shall not learn to follow the abominable practices of these nations.*

<sup>10</sup> *There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or daughter pass through the fire, or who uses divination, or is a soothsayer, or an augur, or a sorcerer,*

<sup>11</sup> *Or a charmer, or a medium, or a wizard, or a necromancer.*

<sup>12</sup> *For all who do these things are an abomination to the Lord, and it is because of these abominable practices that the Lord your God is driving them out before you.*

<sup>13</sup> *You shall be blameless [and absolutely true] to the Lord your God.*

<sup>14</sup> *For these nations whom you shall dispossess listen to soothsayers and diviners. But as for you, the Lord your God has not allowed you to do so."*

They did not reject the practice and the prophets Jeremiah and Ezekiel prophesied the coming destruction of their nation. They declared God's judgment on the Hebrew people and their leaders for their own practice of witchcraft

Fertility cult traditions are found in nearly every human culture from the ancient **Egyptian, Indian, Sumerian, and Babylonian** down to the present.

Each tradition has its own **pantheon of gods and goddesses** with myths and stories about the conflicts between the deities for supremacy.

The myths remain fluid and so can be adapted as necessary. A generational fertility cult **circle** will claim one or more of these traditions as being their own and assert that "their" line came pure and unadulterated from ancient times.

The reality appears to be that most of these groups have blended several of the ancient traditions, picking and choosing the deities to be worshipped from the various cultures.

## BASIC BELIEFS

The basis of fertility cults is the story of the **eternal conflict between male and female** for dominance, a story that has both a conflict between the gods and goddess and a conflict between human men and women.

Hatred of the opposing gender is assumed to be normal in relationship. Hatred of the opposite gender is indeed engendered. The dictum, "dominate or be dominated", assumes that every relationship between male and female is a battle for dominance.

The battle fought in the human arena is understood to influence the battle in the heavenly arena since the gods and goddess are perceived to be equal in power. Human efforts can swing the balance of power decisively in favor of one gender or the other.

**At the heart of witchcraft is the worship of the mystery of fertility**, specifically of the ability of the female to "give" life.

Included in that is all that is perceived to influence the female and her fertility, namely, the phases of the *moon*, the *stars*, "*mother earth*", the *gods*, and primarily the "*goddesses*" who are perceived to be in control of everything, including the very creation of life itself.



The worship of "mother earth" (**Mother Africa**) is central to *witchcraft* since it is believed that everything came from her, is sustained by her, and will ultimately return to her.

By "mother earth", generational fertility cults do not mean only the planet Earth, but also the vast "warehouse" of the souls of women and children who have endured unjust treatment by both men and the male deities.

These souls are perceived to be in the air surrounding the planet and the blood from their bodies is perceived to be covering the soil of the Earth crying aloud for justice to the female deities who will one day avenge their suffering and death.

"Mother Earth" is to be appeased with human blood:

- Sacrificial – "water mother earth with the blood she desires, the blood of male infants"
- Menstrual – menstrual blood is perceived by female witchcraft to be the "water that gives life"

Since only the females can fulfill the second requirement themselves, the perception is that **the female carries the "power" of witchcraft.**

Male witches focus on that which "mother earth" needs to continue to be fertile, namely, water from "father sky", **human blood and semen.** Semen is perceived by male witchcraft to be "life giving water."

**Sex and magic** is the basis for all goddess-religions, including those of India, Egypt, Greece and pre-Christian Rome.<sup>2</sup>



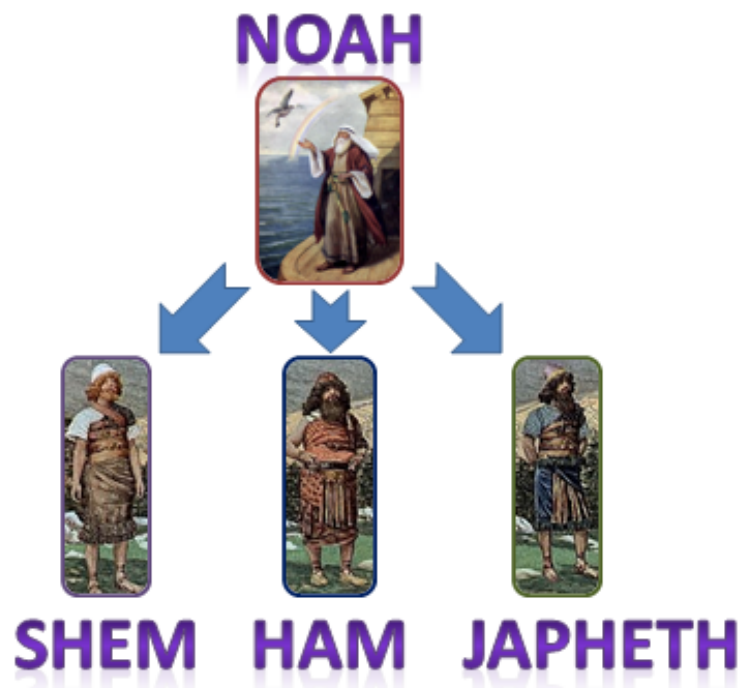
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<sup>2</sup> For additional studies, see "SCS Course 5: Advanced Training" – *The World Of Arts, Drama, And Music*

# THE FOUNDATION OF A FERTILITY CULT

## THE ROOT OF BAAL WORSHIP – HAM'S REBELLION TOWARDS GOD'S DELEGATED AUTHORITY, NOAH

- God saved Noah's household because of Noah's righteousness.
- In God's plan Noah was the head of his household. God placed his family and the renewed earth under his authority.
- One day Noah drinks wine, becomes drunk and is naked in his tent.
- When Ham saw his father's nakedness he went out and told his brothers.
- Ham did not see the value / purpose / seriousness of authority. Flesh loves to see authority exposed to shame so that it can be free from restrictions.
- Ham saw the impropriety of his father, there was no sense of shame or sorrow. He also did not think of covering the matter. Instead he reacts with a **spirit of rebellion**.
- Shem and Japheth go into the tent backward, they did not turn their faces toward their father's shame but covered him with a garment.
- Noah's failure exposed Ham's rebellion, the test showed who was submissive and who was rebellious.
- When Noah woke up from his drunkenness, he prophesied that the descendants of Ham would be cursed, that he would be a servant of servants to his brothers, i.e. the first slave in the Bible was Ham. The phrase "Canaan shall be his servant" is used twice. Those who do not submit to authority will have to be slaves, being subject to authority.
- Ham's descendants (those who rebel against authority) are made to be slaves for generation after generation. Ham's generation brings forth the son Nimrod, such a rebel that he leads others to the sin of the tower of Babel.
- We cannot serve God in a spirit of lawlessness.
- Everyone who learns to serve the Lord must come face-to-face with authority.



FROM NOAH'S SON'S SHEM AND HAM, CAME ...



FROM ABRAHAM AND NIMROD, CAME ...



Ham exposes Noah's nakedness ... he despises God's authority.



Nimrod comes from the bloodline of Ham. He rises up in direct rebellion against God!

Nimrod builds the Tower of Babel and starts the worship of Baal ... the worship of fertility cults involving the worship of the sun, moon, and stars.



In Babylon, Baal and Astarte worship was a **fertility cult**, and as we indicated earlier, Astarte was the goddess of the **Sidonians** that brought forth a Babylonian conception.

The symbol of this cult is the **crescent moon and twelve stars above her head** and paradoxically, as the **goddess of virginity**, also the symbol of the **white dove**.



# THE COW AND THE BULL

**Cow and bull worship is the practice of fertility cults and harlotry.** It encourages having a **harem**, and "not wanting to make covenant". This is Baal worship.

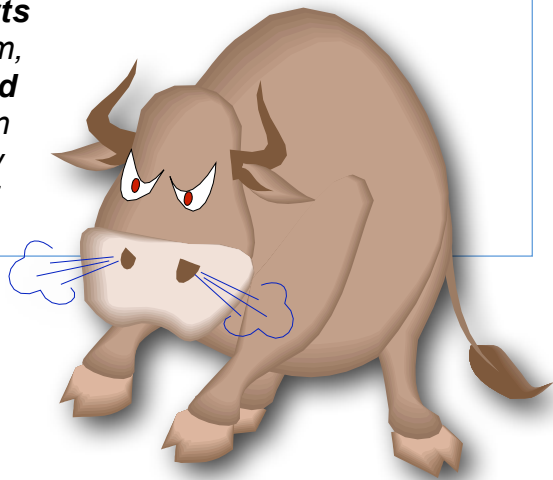
In Genesis, Laban was the father of Rachel and Leah and a worshipper of the teraphim gods or idols of phallic worship that brought barrenness. In Genesis 30 the fertility cult is exposed by Leah taking her **son's** mandrakes (love apples).

**Genesis 30:14** *"14 Now **Reuben** went at the time of wheat harvest and found some **mandrakes** (love apples) in the field and brought them to his mother Leah. Then Rachel said to Leah, Give me, I pray you, some of your son's mandrakes."*

We know that Rachel stole the teraphim gods from her father. Jacob, her husband, spoke a curse against the one who stole the teraphim gods not knowing it was Rachel.

She died giving birth to Benjamin. God is speaking to us very clearly from his Word to get rid of all forms of idolatry otherwise we will carry the consequences of our choices. God is calling us to burn up and destroy everything in our lives that belong to satan.

**Acts 19:19** *"19 And many of those who had practiced curious, **magical arts** collected their books and [throwing them, book after book, on the pile] **burned them** in the sight of everybody. When they counted the value of them, they found it amounted to 50,000 pieces of silver (about \$9,300)."*



BAAL IS SUN WORSHIP AND MOON WORSHIP ...



SUN GOD (GOLD)



PRIMARYLY MALE

OSIRIS

HORNS

CHEMOSH

MOLECH

ESCALAPUS

PLUTO

JUPITER

DIONYSUS

MOON GOD (SILVER)



PRIMARYLY FEMALE

ISIS

ASTARTE (BULL'S HORNS)

ASHERAH

CYBELE

DIANA

ISHTAR

ARTEMIS

ASHTEROH

**Deuteronomy 17:2, 3, 5** "2 If there is found among you within any of your towns which the Lord your God gives you a man or woman who does what is wicked in the sight of the Lord your God by transgressing His covenant, 3 **Who has gone and served other gods and worshiped them, or the sun or moon or any of the host of the heavens, which I have forbidden,** 5 Then you shall bring forth to your town's gates that man or woman who has done that wicked thing and you shall **stone that man or woman to death.**"

The tragedy is that every nation and kingdom is bound by bull worship, sun and moon worship and worship of the phallic.

# BAAL / BULL WORSHIP COMES WITH HORRIFIC CONSEQUENCES

Baal was the principal deity of the land. It was he who was in charge of the rain and the weather, and man's survival was dependent upon Baal's provision.

These ceremonies often included human sacrifice and temple prostitution.

Baal means husband or lord. Unlike the Godly concept, he represents the totality of a broken covenant.

He has cruel weapons such as:

- A lightning bolt
- Bull's horns to gore
- Verbal cruelty
- Verbal intimidation
- Mental cruelty
- Mental torture



## MANIFESTATIONS OF THE SPIRIT OF BAAL

### 1. NAZI'S AND APARTHEID

**Hinduism** and **Buddhism** are based on Baal bull worship.

Hitler visited India and Tibet, and was greatly influenced by Hinduism and Buddhism.

He believed Germany was an "Aryan Race" – a race that was superior and a race that was pure. The Aryans were "nobles".

The symbol of Hitler's regime, **the swastika** goes back to the roots of Hinduism where the symbol is used on the threshold of doors in Hinduism. It represents also the **destructive goddess Kali**.

The swastika still continues today to be an extensively used sign in **Buddhism, Jainism, and Hinduism**.

The swastika was a symbol for the Aryan people, a name which, in Sanskrit means "noble".



## II. HITLER'S ARMY

The manifestation of the worship of the bull under the Hitler's army was **cruelty, rape, humiliation and shame**, taken into the concentration camps and murdered by the Baal warriors.

Mutilation and the genocide of a nation is the bigger picture of Baal that will rise with the Antichrist spirit.

Hitler also had a Secret Service of underground silence and secrecy. The **lightning bolt** of the false warrior will produce silence on the tongue.

## SOUTH AFRICA AND APARTHEID

These same weapons of Baal were used in South Africa during the Apartheid period.

The *Ossewabrandwag* and the *Broederbond* were the secret societies that were formed and who controlled the masses.<sup>3</sup>

## III. AFRICAN PEOPLE

### SHAKA ZULU

On the battlefield, he developed the now-famous "horns of the bull" formation (a two-pronged attack) to encircle his enemies.

### CIRCUMCISION RITUALS

The young men that all have to go through the circumcision ritual to be acknowledged as "a man" by their tribe and their culture, they go through a very rough ordeal.



<sup>3</sup> For further study, please see "Prayers Of Renunciation: Secret Organizations" available on the website as a free download or for order from the office.

The circumcision is done by the *Sangoma* appointed by the leaders of the tribe. The same knife is used on every young man and not sterilized at all. Straight after the cutting of the foreskin has taken place, the *Sangoma* will take a handful of cow dung and rub it onto the raw wound.



THE HERERO HEADDRESSES  
IN NAMIBIA

The women from the Herero tribe go to great lengths to fold and shape the horns of a cow as a headdress which they proudly wear every day. This is part of the ancient roots of Africa coming from Egypt – the worship of Isis, the Moon cow goddess.

#### SPAIN AND BULL FIGHTING

Bullfighting traces its roots to **prehistoric bull worship and sacrifice**. The **killing of the sacred bull** (*tauromachy*) is the essential central iconic **act of Mithras**, which was commemorated in the mithraeum wherever Roman soldiers were stationed.

Many of the oldest bullrings in Spain are located on the sites of, or adjacent to the locations of temples to Mithras.



# CONSEQUENCES FOR WORSHIPPING BAAL

Bull worship / phallic worship can take us into torment of the mind, sexual torment, obsessions, and tormenting burning lusts.

Baal, bull worship, in our family line takes us through open doors to *homicide* – suddenly, and without warning.

*The god Baal of war and Queen of Heaven (of love) are represented by Mars and Venus.*

These two false gods represent the maximum degree of uncleanness, sexual immorality and *occult lust*.

In this fertility cult, fornication and adultery are encouraged and are even commanded while bisexuality, sodomy, lesbianism, harlotry, prostitution and trans-sexual activity and the duality of sexes are all part of the cult.

Devotees of this cult in Baal worship shaved off their hair, only leaving a crown on the top – they did not grow whiskers or a beard.

The women involved in this wicked cult called themselves "Sacred" or "undefiled" women.

*The sacrifice of chastity was commanded, and unnatural lusts were required.*<sup>4</sup>



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<sup>4</sup> For additional studies, please see SCS Course 5 and "The Defiled Bride" series, available off the website or for order from the office.

# GOD OF ISRAEL, GOD OF ALL CREATION

God creates the world and universe and everything that is in it – the sun, moon, stars, trees, plants, and so forth.

He creates man to rule and to reign over everything that He has made on earth and gives His commandments to the people that He has created, one of them being that He is a jealous God and that He *alone* is to be worshipped.

Man constantly deviates from this path and instead chooses to worship the creation and not the Creator [see *Romans Chapter 1*].

## MAGIC, NATURE AND FREE WILL

We must attempt to grasp why it is that God gave man the ability to perform magic, and change the laws of nature which God Himself so desires. This situation is permitted in order to allow man the freedom to choose.

And just as the Almighty allows man to do all that he desires, so does God allow man to go against His will and change the decrees of nature via magic. God created both of these options.

Where is the line of separation drawn between the righteous who serve God and the wicked who worship foreign Gods?



The wicked exist above their god.

**Genesis 41** “*And Pharaoh dreamed and, behold, he was standing above the Nile.*”

But as for the righteous, their God exists above them, as it says: “And, behold, God was above him, and He said, I am God, the Lord of Abraham.”

In other words, **the wicked make use of their god for their own benefit, to gain what they need.**

This is what is meant by “and behold he was standing above the Nile.” The righteous want to serve God lovingly for His sake, therefore, “And, behold, God was above him.”

# DELIVERANCE FROM THE POWER OF THE FERTILITY CULT OR BAAL WORSHIP

1. God cleanses His priests with fire from Heaven.

**Isaiah 6:5-7** “5 Then said I, Woe is me! For I am undone and ruined, because I am a man of **unclean lips**, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts! 6 Then flew one of the seraphim [heavenly beings] to me, having a **live coal in his hand** which he had taken with tongs from off the altar; 7 And with it he touched my mouth and said, Behold, this has touched your lips; your iniquity and guilt are taken away, and your sin is completely atoned for and forgiven.”

2. God Himself provides a sacrifice to cleanse the nation – the **red heifer** in the Torah and the Blood of Yeshua [Hebrew name for Jesus].

**Numbers 19:1-2** “1 AND THE Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 2 This is the ritual of the law which the Lord has commanded: Tell the Israelites to bring you a **red heifer without spot**, in which is no blemish, upon which a yoke has never come.”

**Hebrews 9:13-14** “13 For if [the mere] sprinkling of unholy and defiled persons with **blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a burnt heifer is sufficient for the purification of the body**, 14 How much more surely shall the **blood of Christ**, Who by virtue of [His] eternal Spirit [His own preexistent divine personality] has offered Himself as an unblemished sacrifice to God, purify our consciences from dead works and lifeless observances to serve the [ever] living God?”



3. God provides prophets and priests with an Elijah anointing.

## It Is Time For Our Own Mount Carmel

Elijah the prophet exposed the fertility god Baal, the god of rain, whose symbol was the bull.

Elijah had declared a judgment on the “god of rain” that there would be no rain on the region.

On Mount Carmel, Elijah said ...

*“How long will you halt between two opinions? If the Lord be God, follow Him. But if Baal, then follow him.”*

One altar was built for the god of Baal, and one for the God of Israel. Each altar had its own bull upon it.

**1 Kings 18:38** *“Then the fire of the Lord fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice and the wood and the stones and the dust, and also licked up the water that was in the trench.”*



God's fire consumed the bull which was the symbol of their god to prove who the *real* God was!

The spirit and power of Elijah must rise up to call down God's fire in our temples (*body, soul and spirit*) to burn the altars of **harlotry** and to destroy the **fertility cults**.

## GOD JUDGES THIS TYPE OF OCCULT WORSHIP

**Judges 2: 13-16** *“13 And they forsook the Lord and **served Baal** [the god worshiped by the Canaanites] and the **Ashtaroth** [female deities such as Ashtoreth and Asherah]. 14 So the **anger of the Lord was kindled against Israel**, and He gave them into the power of **plunderers** who robbed them; and **He sold them into the hands of their enemies** round about, so that they could no longer stand before their foes. 15 Whenever they went out, the hand of the Lord was against them for evil as the Lord had said, and as the Lord had sworn to them; and they were bitterly distressed. 16 But the Lord raised up judges, who delivered them out of the hands of those who robbed them.”*

Baal worship caused them to be:

- Powerless over their enemies
- Greatly distressed
- destroyed

# WORSHIPPING THE HEAVENLIES

## ANGELS AND ANCESTORS



In many Fertility cults people worshipped creation, i.e. the stars and even declared them to be angels, instead of the Creator. The worship of these stars as angels (ancestors) was evidenced by the lighting candles to represent these so-called deities.

We are forbidden in the Word to worship angels. The lighting of candles as a religious act to release angels is part of the *worship of angels* since each candle represents a particular angel.

Candles were lit to ask for protection, to represent the angels which are called to protect the home.

The Virgin Mary is actually named as an Ascended Master ... someone who has fulfilled their reincarnation cycle and is now a supernatural being. Any worship of Mary fall in the same class of divination.

## ACTION BY THE BODY OF CHRIST

We need to be reminded again, all fascination and worship of stars, angels, ancestors, etc. is divination.

**2 Kings 17:16-17, 20-22** <sup>16</sup> *And they forsook all the commandments of the Lord their God and made for themselves molten images, even two calves, and made an Asherah and worshiped all the [starry] hosts of the heavens and served Baal. <sup>17</sup> They caused their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire and used divination and enchantments and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the Lord, provoking Him to anger. <sup>20</sup> The Lord rejected all the descendants of Israel and afflicted them and delivered them into the hands of spoilers, until He had cast them out of His sight. <sup>21</sup> For He tore Israel from the house of David; and they made Jeroboam son of Nebat king. And Jeroboam drew and drove Israel away from following the Lord and made them sin a great sin. <sup>22</sup> For the Israelites walked in all the sins Jeroboam committed; they departed not from them"*

We must repent and cancel worship of the stars and hosts of heaven in our family line or else it will destroy us – body, soul and spirit.

## A. CONSTELLATIONS

Constellations have been an important part of human society and folklore since the time humans lived in caves. The fascinating figures that we see in the night sky are so large and so beautiful that the ancients have felt a very strong urge to attach importance to them.

People have done this throughout the ages by creating interesting stories and legends in an attempt to explain where these large "pictures" in the sky came from. These stories, also known as mythology, "behind" the constellations can be as interesting as studying the constellations themselves.

There are currently eighty-eight figures in the sky that have been generally recognized as being "official" constellations by whoever it is that designates such things.

Constellation worship is much more than just idolatry of the stars. It is to join us to the Prince of Darkness.

A constellation is a grouping of stars and following the hierarchy set out by Paul in Ephesians 6, the occult worship has resulted in the creation of a demonic principality behind each of the constellations.

Freemasonry or New Age or any work of the Leviathan religious spirit is linked to the demon angels of the stars that take their power from the stars of **Orion**, **Acturus (Great Bear)** and **Little Bear of Acturus**.

People that do not worship the God of Israel are agents on earth for the principality of darkness in the heavenlies represented by the demonic forces behind each constellation that has been worshipped..

*[Please see "The Believer's Warfare in the Heavenlies" available from our office which explains how the occultists and sorcerers use the alignments of the planets: the sun, moon, and stars to draw their power from and how they influence the activities of man on earth.]*



# ANCESTRAL WORSHIP

Question ... does God approve of ancestral worship?

What does the word of God say about ancestral worship?

In the light of what the Bible says about this matter, it is shocking to see the extent of people's involvement in ancestral worship. Most national groups – *White*, *Coloured*, *Indian*, and *Black* – are involved in some form of ancestral worship. The involvement differs from group to group.

A few examples are listed below ...



- Flags outside the houses of *Indian* people will identify a home where fruit for their hungry dead people will be placed outside on a daily basis.
- Some *White* people will take flowers for the dead people to the cemetery where they will talk to the dead.
- Due to mixed marriages, *Coloured* people get involved in the Xhosa custom of circumcision and the slaughtering of goats to feed the dead people.
- *Black* people get regular dreams of an ancestor appearing to them telling them it is time to bring the regular offering, namely, the slaughtering of an animal.

Even churches and church ministers are guilty of this heresy ...

- For example, the *Old and New Apostle Churches* make a lot of contact with the dead.

- The *Roman Catholic Church* has fundamental ancestral worship because of the role of mother Mary and the Saints - ordinary people who passed away.
- The *Zionist Churches* have never made a choice between ancestral worship and Jesus as mediator. Ancestral worship is viewed as part of their culture and religion is separated from their culture. They will deny that they worship the ancestors, because they have Christianized the ancestor worship. Bad things receive good names.

The ancestors are called “angels” or the “holy ghosts”. The mediums or *sangoma*’s are called prophets, and fortune telling is called prophecy. The involvement is very deep.

**Hosea 4:6** *“<sup>6</sup> My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge; because you [the priestly nation] have rejected knowledge, I will also reject you that you shall be no priest to Me; seeing you have forgotten the law of your God, I will also forget your children.”*

Many people worship their ancestors on Saturdays ... and worship God on Sundays. **Can we condone a partnership between God on the one side, and ancestral spirits and mediums on the other side?**

**Leviticus 19:31** *“<sup>31</sup> Turn not to those [mediums] who have familiar spirits or to wizards; do not seek them out to be defiled by them. I am the Lord your God.”*

In other words, people who contact the dead personally, or by means of mediums, become enemies of God.

**Deuteronomy 18:10-13** *“<sup>10</sup> There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or daughter pass through the fire, or who uses **divination**, or is a **soothsayer**, or an **augur**, or a **sorcerer**, <sup>11</sup> Or a **charmer**, or a **medium**, or a **wizard**, or a **necromancer**. <sup>12</sup> For all who do these things are an abomination to the Lord, and it is because of these abominable practices that the Lord your God is driving them out before you. <sup>13</sup> You shall be blameless [and absolutely true] to the Lord your God.”*



God's Way is in conflict with some of our parents' traditions. When a baby in a *Zulu* home is about one month old, his parents present him to the ancestral spirits in a ritual which reminds us of the Christian baptism. In different stages of life – such as marriages or funerals – the ancestors are involved. Moreover, there are regular occasions on which things are done to please the deceased.

If this is not done, the person will experience many kinds of evil and illnesses.

**But ... you cannot worship or serve two different kings.**

**Joshua 24:15-16** *"<sup>15</sup> And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.*

*<sup>16</sup> The people answered, Far be it from us to forsake the Lord to serve other gods;"*

**Matthew 6:24** *"<sup>24</sup> **No one can serve two masters;** for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will stand by and be devoted to the one and despise and be against the other. You cannot serve God and mammon (deceitful riches, money, possessions, or whatever is trusted in)."*

**1 Timothy 2:5** *"<sup>5</sup> For there [is only] one God, and [only] one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,"*

Does each nation have its own traditional way to approach God? Are there many ways to God, or just one way? JESUS said: "I am the way ...." Many who call themselves Christians walk on two roads: during the week they honour their traditional beliefs and on Sundays they worship in the Christian way.



**1 Kings 18:21** *"<sup>21</sup> Elijah came near to all the people and said, How long will you halt and limp between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow Him! But if Baal, then follow him. And the people did not answer him a word."*

Today, **many are physically and emotionally sick because of their contact with the dead people and from seeking help from the spirits and mediums (sangomas, nyangas, etc)** who are in reality people possessed by demons posing as their dead relatives.

These people make **incisions on the face, neck, elbows, etc** to immunize them against bad luck, evil spirits and sicknesses. Many people have serious physical and spiritual problems because of the demons that were invited and given authority over the person treated by these so-called healers. The marks on their bodies are a chap or a stamp, a public identification to evil spirits that the person being treated abides by the rules of darkness.

This is why God warns us in His Word ...

**Leviticus 19:28** *"<sup>28</sup> You shall not make any cuttings in your flesh for the dead nor print or tattoo any marks upon you; I am the Lord."*

The only public sign of faith for a Christian is baptism in water.

It is a matter of trust.

*Whom do we trust? God ... or the ancestral spirits?*

**Jeremiah 17:5** *"<sup>5</sup> Thus says the Lord: Cursed [with great evil] is the strong man who trusts in and relies on frail man, making weak [human] flesh his arm, and whose mind and heart turn aside from the Lord."*

A great many black and white people have no clear perception concerning the dead people and where the dead are.

If the spirits called up by spirit mediums are not the dead, where are our dead?

God certainly knows where your ancestors are!



**Job 7:9-10** *"<sup>9</sup> As the cloud is consumed and vanishes away, so he who goes down to Sheol (the place of the dead) shall come up no more. <sup>10</sup> He shall return no more to his house, neither shall his place know him any more."*

**Ecclesiastes 9:5-6** *"<sup>5</sup> For the living know that they will die, but the dead know nothing; and they have no more reward [here], for the memory of them is forgotten. <sup>6</sup> Their love and their hatred and their envy have already perished; neither have they any more a share in anything that is done under the sun."*

**Luke 16:20-26** *“<sup>20</sup> And at his gate there was [carelessly] dropped down and left a certain utterly destitute man named Lazarus, [reduced to begging alms and] covered with [ulcerated] sores. <sup>21</sup> He [eagerly] desired to be satisfied with what fell from the rich man’s table; moreover, the dogs even came and licked his sores. <sup>22</sup> And it occurred that the man [reduced to] begging died and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s bosom. The rich man also died and was buried. <sup>23</sup> And in Hades (the realm of the dead), being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away, and Lazarus in his bosom. <sup>24</sup> And he cried out and said, Father Abraham, have pity and mercy on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame. <sup>25</sup> But Abraham said, Child, remember that you in your lifetime fully received [what is due you in] comforts and delights, and Lazarus in like manner the discomforts and distresses; but now he is comforted here and you are in anguish. <sup>26</sup> And besides all this, **between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who want to pass from this [place] to you may not be able, and no one may pass from there to us.**”*

No wonder those who dream of the dead are always so sick. We often counsel people and pray for their deliverance. The devil turns himself into an angel of light to deceive people.

**2 Corinthians 11:14** *“<sup>14</sup> And it is no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light;”*

**2 Samuel 12:23** *“<sup>23</sup> But now he is dead; why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he will not return to me.”*

Anyone who engages in this practice of contacting the dead is God's enemy.

At times the black people have so-called 'parties'. White pastors are sometimes invited to the spiritual feasts, because they don't understand the culture of the black brothers and their churches. They don't understand that a great deal of ancestral worship is disguised under a religious veneer.

They don't understand that culture that is in conflict with God's Gospel message is WRONG! Some pastors give their consent when members of the church go along with these wrong doings by praying and blessing the work of the ancestors.

**Mark 7:13** *“<sup>13</sup> Thus you are nullifying and making void and of no effect [the authority of] the Word of God through your tradition, which you [in turn] hand on. And many things of this kind you are doing.”*

# WHAT DOES GOD SAY ABOUT THESE SPIRITUAL FEASTS AND SACRIFICES?

**Exodus 22:20** *"<sup>20</sup> He who sacrifices to any god but the Lord only shall be utterly destroyed."*



God condemns a spirituality that is not in line with His Word and Will.

**1 Corinthians 10:21** *"<sup>21</sup> You cannot drink the Lord's cup and the demons' cup. You cannot partake of the Lord's table and the demons' table."*

I urge you, ministers of God, seek God's Glory and do not try to appease people.

**Galatians 1:10** *"<sup>10</sup> Now am I trying to win the favor of men, or of God? Do I seek to please men? If I were still seeking popularity with men, I should not be a bond servant of Christ (the Messiah)."*

**Psalms 106:28-29** *"<sup>28</sup> They joined themselves also to the [idol] Baal of Peor and ate sacrifices [offered] to the lifeless [gods].*

*<sup>29</sup> Thus they provoked the Lord to anger with their practices, and a plague broke out among them."*

We dream of our ancestors who ask for food. We need to understand that the dead don't get hungry. The dead cannot eat our meat or drink our beer. We cannot bring them back or take them up to heaven. They cannot help us in any way.

**Isaiah 26:14** *"<sup>14</sup> They [the former tyrant masters] are dead, they shall not live and reappear; they are powerless ghosts, they shall not rise and come back. Therefore You have visited and made an end of them and caused every memory of them [every trace of their supremacy] to perish."*

Because of ignorance many serve Satan. Some white people, called satanists, worship satan by drinking animal blood, making incisions on their bodies and making covenants with satan. All this also happens in ancestral worship.

*Ancestral worship is Satanism!*

**1 Corinthians 10:20** *<sup>20</sup> No, I am suggesting that what the pagans sacrifice they offer [in effect] to demons (to evil spiritual powers) and not to God [at all]. I do not want you to fellowship and be partners with diabolical spirits [by eating at their feasts].*

We believe in the sufficiency of Christ Jesus, and we pray to Him alone.

**John 15:7** *<sup>7</sup> If you live in Me [abide vitally united to Me] and My words remain in you and continue to live in your hearts, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you.*

**Mark 7:7** *<sup>7</sup> In vain (fruitlessly and without profit) do they worship Me, ordering and teaching [to be obeyed] as doctrines the commandments and precepts of men.*

Many people are ignorant of this truth, but my advice to you is this: If you have a Bible, seek your answers there.

**Proverbs 3:5** *<sup>5</sup> Lean on, trust in, and be confident in the Lord with all your heart and mind and do not rely on your own insight or understanding.*

**Deuteronomy 6:5** *<sup>5</sup> And you shall love the Lord your God with all your [mind and] heart and with your entire being and with all your might.*

**Exodus 20:3** *<sup>3</sup> You shall have no other gods before or besides Me.*

May God enlighten you. May Jesus Christ be your refuge, because He alone is your hope for salvation, healing and deliverance from demonic oppression.

**John 8:36** *<sup>36</sup> So if the Son liberates you [makes you free men], then you are really and unquestionably free.*

By repenting from ancestral worship you stand to gain! You will be delivered, healed, and set free in Jesus Name!!

**Philippians 3:8** *<sup>8</sup> Yes, furthermore, I count everything as loss compared to the possession of the priceless privilege (the overwhelming preciousness, the surpassing worth, and supreme advantage) of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord and of progressively becoming more deeply and intimately acquainted with Him [of perceiving and recognizing and understanding Him more fully and clearly]. For His sake I have lost everything and consider it all to be mere rubbish (refuse, dregs), in order that I may win (gain) Christ (the Anointed One),*

# AFRICAN PRAYER OF RENUNCIATION

## THE RELIGIOUS SYSTEM OF THE AFRICAN PEOPLE<sup>5</sup>

The religious system of the African Tribes can be studied effectively under the following headings:

- **Dreams**
- **Omens**
- **Witchcraft**
- **Ancestral Spirits**

**Customs** and **taboos** help to keep the African People bound to their beliefs. They protect the Believer against enraging the “spirits”. For example, spitting on the soil in the hand at funerals immediately before it is thrown into the grave shows that the rite is done respectfully and prayerfully. **Customs are symbols or outward spiritual realities.**



The African Tribes believe that this earth is a land of both happiness and sorrow. The powerful evil spirits bring hardship, sorrow, and death upon the people inhabiting it. They believe they need to look to someone more powerful to protect them. The “ancestral spirits” who act like “guardians” do this for the People. They fight the “enemy”, sustain life, and provide riches for the Tribe.

The obvious **danger** or “enemy” is the **witch**, or **sangoma**. When the “ancestors” read the intents of the witch, they come to the specific man or woman in a dream and warn them of the action being planned by the witch. The “ancestors” may send an omen instead of a dream or vision.

A **tribe** is the offspring of one man and related tribes acknowledge one chief “spirit” over them. The spirit of the dead father or mother mediates for the living. When the head of the home dies, he turns into a snake. These snakes bestow blessings on the living relatives. They protect, give health and long life, as well as wealth to the family.

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<sup>5</sup> For additional studies ... see our Soul Care Course 7 Manuals, available on the website or for order from the office.

## CLANS AND TOTEM ANIMALS

When the nomadic life ended, families began to group together to form small communities under a powerful head.

To distinguish one group from another, the system of totems was introduced. Each clan or family chose an animal as its own totem. This is how the *Dube*, *Mpofu*, *Sibanda*, *Nkomo*, *Ncube* and so on ... received their names.

The chosen animal-totem became both a member of the clan, and leading-patron ... a modern-day “mascot”. The meat of this chosen animal-totem was declared sacred, and is never eaten. As the groups of clans or family grew ... they eventually joined together and lived as a tribe. However, each clan or family retained its own animal-totem and respective belief system.

However small a belief may be ... it will influence the life of the Believer in one way or another. Beliefs are like grooves or traffic lanes which direct vehicles in which routes to take in order to avoid collision. Failure to observe these beliefs may cause not only the offender to suffer, but innocent people as well.

Clan taboos apply from soon after birth. The birth initiation into the clan brings the sense of belonging and the joy of being a member that will enjoy the benefit of security in life offered by the “ancestors”.

Belonging to a particular clan means adopting the religious beliefs of that clan. **Totems and clans are not interchangeable** ... the ancestral spirits will not allow it.

## BELIEFS AND TABOOS

A certain standard of living must be maintained if the relationship between the “ancestral spirits” and the living is to be of any significance. Our behavior towards those in authority over us – chiefs, leaders, parents, and neighbors – count a great deal towards linking this relationship and cementing it. Taboos are used as the guidelines in this “cementing” process.

## SNAKES



- Green cobras and green mambas signify royal family spirits.
- Sand snake signify commoners.
- Brown house snakes do not choose a status.

When you see these snakes they herald good news, health, and prosperity to the household.

## KINDS OF SPIRITS

These are different kinds of spirits that take possession of individuals. Some are “good”, and others “bad”. These spirits vary in strength and influence upon the person acting as a host or vehicle. Once you are selected as a desirable host, you cannot escape as the spirits quickly move into you to take residence.

The indwelling spirit overpowers the host and then dictates terms suitable to it. The victim becomes its vehicle or springboard for attacking the spirit’s enemies. The activities of the spirit may cause the person (*host*) to be hated by his or her neighbors. This is because if the spirit is a witch, there can be frequent night flights and activities.

If it is a “good” spirit, the host will be loved by all in the community and looked to when there is illness in the home or neighborhood. This “good” spirit can often become a type of “doctor” spirit.

The “good” and “bad” spirits are continually at war with each other ... and there can be no reconciliation. The “bad” spirit is bent on harming or killing. The “good” spirit fights against this mission.

Sometimes a spirit is baptized into the host by parents. However, most times the ancestor spirit forces itself into the host.

Their activity in the person is marked by disturbances so that the host becomes aware of what the intention of the spirit is. The host normally acts under instruction backed by force.

Sometimes the disturbance occurs in the head, while at times it takes place in the body causing it to quiver and/or shake violently. The victim may speak the language of the indwelling spirit while he/she is in a trance, and may have supernatural power and perform wonders.

### “GOOD” SPIRITS – THE INYANGA

An “*inyanga* spirit” is a so-called “good” spirit. Its chief work is to heal the sick, bring good luck, as well as protect and drive away the evil spirits which cause suffering and death.

This kind of spirit is often hereditary, although at times one acquires it through invocation ... that is, from an experienced witchdoctor by using charms. The witchdoctor will summon a friendly spirit to make use of the applicant as host.

The ancestor, who had the *inyanga* spirit, will often visit one of his descendants in a dream and show him or her roots and herbs for healing different kinds of diseases. The sleeping person may be even told where he can find these plants – sometimes up to fifty kilometers away, depending on where the ancestor used to find himself when he lived on earth.

Dreams and visions then become frequent ... particularly if the recipient is unwilling to take up the job.

To herald this *inyanga* spirit, the spirit will make the host dislike certain foods and introduce an ailment which, sometimes, can not be treated by a doctor. If the victim will not accept or listen to this spirit, he or she will continue to be tormented as long as they live.



Different spirits bestow different powers to heal particular diseases. This kind of specialization has enhanced credibility to traditional and cultural advancement of the tribe. The *inyanga* is seen with various kinds of apparatus ... horns, calabashes, snail shells, and so on ... to impress the patient's mind that healing has begun.

Some witchdoctors keep animal pets like tortoises, hedgehogs, and little snakes in special containers and will expose these to patients ... another attempt to get speedy recovery.

The *inyangas* are the spiritual backbone of the tribe and help to strengthen the morale of the nation because they are able to call upon the spirits to assist in the fight against pestilence and epidemics by driving away crop insects and locusts.

## ISANGOMA SPIRITS

Another so-called “good” spirit is the “*isangoma*” or “*isanuse*” spirit. This is a witch-hunting spirit dreaded by wizards and witches. Sick people consult it to see who is harming them. This *isongoma* spirit usually reveals its presence before or shortly after puberty. It seldom will show after marriage.

If it is a female-spirit, the host will marry; if it is a male-spirit in a woman, the woman cannot marry or bear children as it will hinder sufficient development of sex organs.

If a female-spirit enters a man, he becomes either bisexual or homosexual and this complication cannot be cured (without Jesus!).

The *isongoma* spirit is both a doctor and fortuneteller in one. The host has to do the following unaided:

- He has to fight and kill an eagle, vulture and a python for bones which make up his robe and girdle. These are sewn together and worn across the shoulders, and around the neck and waist.

The *isongoma* spirit does not want to see a corpse and the host has to try by all means to avoid seeing dead people.

## WIZARDS AND WITCHES

Evil spirits dwell in men and women, and make them vehicles. These are commonly known as witch-spirits, and are mostly said to be found in women. They are believed to have supernatural powers and can enter locked doors and interfere with the sleeping person in an effort to make him sick or cause harm.

Small bleeding cuts in the body, as well as part of the head being shaven with a sharp instrument, are signs that you have been visited by a witch-spirit. Waking up feeling very tired could be because these spirits have used you in the night as a horse, or that you have been running errands for the witches.

The presence of these spirits in the home is often linked with disturbances or sounds of movement on the roof or ceiling. There is the smashing or dashing of things on the floor disturbing sleep and causing panic or confusion in the house.

The spirit can leave the host's body in his sleep and go to neighbors without breaking the link between it and the host. (This is what we call a "spirit-tie".) The spirit will go to places the host had visited in the day. If anything goes wrong with the spirit while engaged in terrorizing people, the host is also affected in his or her sleep.



Sometimes these spirits take the form of an animal such as a hare, snake, bird or baboon to disguise themselves. These are known as *familiar* spirits.

If human flesh and blood is needed, witches go out themselves on ant-bears or hyenas. The victim, on seeing these familiar spirits, gets terribly shocked ... falls down ... trembles and collapses. He then foams at the mouth and is speechless.

The grey owl is another example of a familiar spirit.

A witch trains her daughters to be like her before puberty. The trainee is taken along in night travels and made to stand at entrances to guard against intruders. Familiar spirits will be placed all over the vicinity to assist in the operation.

Witches are said to practice cannibalism and when someone has died they try to get to the body to eat the flesh. Witchcraft may be of two kinds:

- Night witchcraft and
- Day-time magical practices.

The day-time witch or wizard premeditates the death of the victim. He/she directs a death spell on a victim in the disguise of a snake or thunderbolt. The magical spell may cause heart failure, paralysis, epilepsy and so on.

The witch-spirit can also harm domestic animals. Witches may be seen in complete nudity with their bodies smeared white with ashes.

If a witch is caught, long sharp pegs are driven into her arms that will eventually cause the rectum to rot. When a new home is built, these magical pegs are buried in the entrances of the home to keep away witches at night.

## CHARMS

These are used for enticing people or to avert evil. For instance, the wearing of amulets by babies. A talisman is believed to have occult power and can cause or determine the course of events.

Charms can be used to keep the spouses together in renewed love even if used after separation. A charm can also cause divorce or bad luck. It can drive away birds from the corn in the lands and make the crop plentiful at the same time.

It can procure fortune and good luck. Charms are worn as an amulet around the neck or waist. Charms are not transferable as they are meant for the specific needs of the man or woman wearing them.

## RAIN-MAKING

The belief is that the rain-gods brought the rain from the sea and stayed in the clouds all the time it was raining and the lightning and thunder were the work of their actual presence.

After striking a tree or a home, a human being or a domestic animal ... a big hole is left in the ground. The rain goddess does all of all this riding on a rain bird. It is white and shiny and is about the size of a stork.

As it strikes the object, it is believed that it leaves eggs in the ground which, if not treated, may cause the bird to come back again for another strike.

*Inyanga* is often called upon to treat the area and remove the eggs. The object is then burnt. Of course the eggs are imaginary as even the *inyanga* himself may not see them. Even if it is an animal, it is burnt to ashes. If it is a human being, the corpse is never touched until the *inyanga* has treated it and the people assisting in the burial. The corpse has to be buried on the spot whether in the hut or veld.

Thunder is also regarded as a sign of displeasure by the rain-goddess and the strike will be punitive. Rain taboos therefore have to be observed if this wrath is to be averted.

## DEATH AND BURIAL

The family is aware of death as a necessary end and looks forward to finding “joy” in communicating spiritually with their dead. An ox is slaughtered to accompany the dead man or women. The reasons for this custom are:



- The skin will provide a blanket covering the corpse.
- The meat is the dead person’s “provision” which he must offer to the dead who will give him a “joyful majestic welcome” as he or she enters their realm.

After the burial this meat is roasted and eaten outside the home. Bones are burnt, mixed with herbs and thrown into the river water or pool. As spirits do not like salt ... this meat is eaten tasteless by all attending the ceremony. Stones are carefully collected and carried to the grave to be placed on the grave by the men. Where there are no stones in the area, tree-branches are used. A “wait-a-bit” tree is placed on the grave on all occasions and is used as a death seal.

The corpse is placed into the grave in a sitting position and facing the kraal. Relatives throw a handful of soil on the coffin or corpse, bidding him farewell. They spit saliva on the soil before it is thrown into the grave. The people will then sing the praises of the dead, and ask the ancestors to receive the dead person and give him accommodation.

The grave then has to be protected against witches who want to steal the corpse for witchcraft. All who attend the funeral need to wash with an herb to cleanse them from death. They will wash both their hands and head.

## A DAY AFTER THE BURIAL

Another ritual will be performed where a goat is killed. The meat is mixed with herbs and a protective spell is said over it. An herbalist doctor (*Inyanga*) knocks the family members' joints individually as they eat the roasted goat meat.



This ritual drives away the fear of death and bad luck. In a sense, the family is being immunized against possible future attacks. The family relies totally on the spiritual powers of the ancestors.

## ONE YEAR LATER ... CALLING HOME THE DEAD

After a year or so a date is set in springtime for the "bringing back the dead person." A very specific ritual is performed where beer is brewed. This beer is set aside for the spirits to drink at night.

Some families take a goat to the grave to offer to the dead person in order to appease them and induce them to come home.

The goat is driven back home and later killed for the spirits. Some cut a branch and drag it from the grave into the home. Others take beer in a *calabash*, sip it once as they talk and pour it out on the grave ... walking home they will sing a song calling the dead person to come back home.

Later that evening, an ox will be slaughtered, skinned and put in the hut for the night. The goat that was driven back from the grave is then killed, roasted and eaten the same night by the family only.

The family will drink the beer as they snuff various herbs and plants. This is a “communion service” in which every member of the family can say and ask whatever they want from the ancestors.

The remaining meat, snuff, and a *calabash* of beer are left in the hut for the spirits to feast and drink. In the morning, they sing and dance as they pull out the grass from the roof of the dead person’s hut. Beer is spilt on the ground. The ox meat is now roasted and eaten ... and more beer is served.

## WHAT HAPPENS IN THE SPIRIT?

The re-admission of the recent dead person into the home in another form and capacity ... as well as the sharing of the sacrificial meal secures permanent acceptance for the belief in the communion between the dead ancestors and the living.

The purpose of the various sacrifices is to express or establish a relationship of harmony and unbroken fellowship between the ancestors and the living. The belief is that the spirits come in the night, eat and drink the beer offered them, and in return will providently look after the family and stop suffering.

The meat and beer are food for the “living dead” which they need and will expect to have at least once a year in order to maintain and renew the fellowship that is so vital to both ... as such, the altar must be serviced every year.

## THE SPINAL CORD METAMORPHOSIS

During the twelve months from burial, the dead person’s spinal cord will undergo metamorphosis of some kind resulting ... in the emergence of a snake, which is the person incarnate.

*[If the dead person was a king, he was often represented as a three-legged leopard.]*

Both the green cobra and mamba, as well as the little red house snake (*which is harmless*), are some of the snakes often expected to be the ancestors and are not to be killed.

To facilitate communication, the ancestral spirit is given an animal as its host, preferably a black ox.

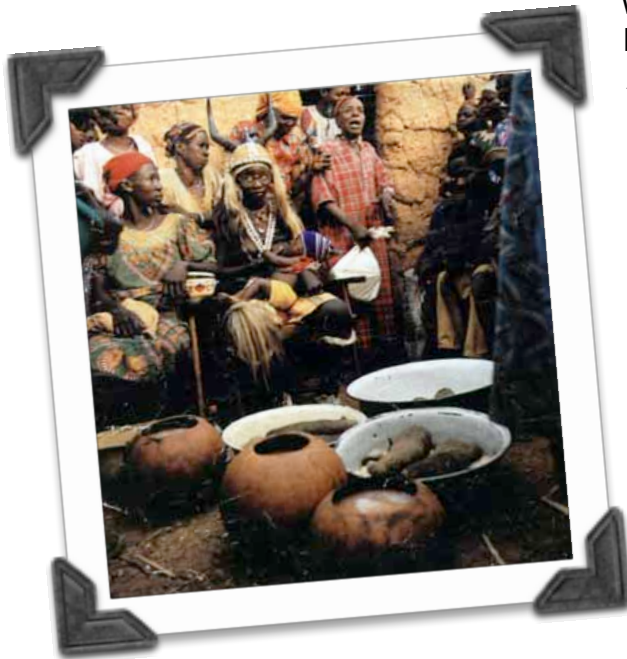
When there is illness in the home, the head of the kraal will go to the ox very early in the morning and will talk to the spirits as he kneels besides the animal.



With all these rituals and services, the members of the family expect to receive some “blessings” from the ancestors at least once a year.

The fertility of land, livestock and also human beings is attributed to the co-operation and direction of the ancestral spirits. All that man has and possesses is ordered by the spirits’ governance.

## ANCESTORS – THE AFRICAN DEITIES<sup>6</sup>



Who are the ancestors that are honoured and implored by Africans?

An “ancestors” is not simply a term for a parent or family member who died generations ago. It is a deity who can be implored for provision, protection and guidance ... direction significant enough to determine an African person’s identity, authority, and destiny.

Common ceremonies where Africans of all tribes practice rituals that honour and appease their ancestors are:

- Birth Ceremonies
- First Birthdays
- Thanksgiving ceremonies ... such as for a new house, car, job or any form of prosperity
- Initiation into adulthood, which involves various rituals and ceremonies
- Marriage ceremonies that combine the couple’s ancestors

**Besides paying homage to their ancestors, African people also seek help through witch-doctors** for deliverance from sicknesses, curses, financial problems, and love problems. It is common practice to receive **incisions** in the flesh by a witch-doctor for protection from evil. They also consult *sangomas* for answers from ancestors with regards to important decisions. A *sangoma* is the medium through which such guidance is channeled.

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<sup>6</sup> For additional studies see “How Fertility Cults Devour Our Blessings”, “The Four Elements”, as well as “African Renaissance”

**Ancestors reside under the ground**, which is why during all ceremonies that honour the ancestors, the blood of a slaughtered animal must be spilled on the ground (*Xhosa – palala igazi*) and then covered over afterwards. Ceremonial beer (*Xhosa – umqombothi*) is spilled on the ground, and in some cases food is placed on the ground as well.

There are ancestors of a family, which is a combination of various ancestors via marriage. There are also the ancestors over an entire clan. African tribes are divided into clans:

- Xhosa – *isiduko*
- Zulu – *tagazela*

For example, as a Xhosa your surname can be Mbeki ... but you are part of the *Dlamini* clan.

## HOW DOES A DECEASED PERSON BECOME AN ANCESTOR?

When someone dies the family sacrifices an animal – spills blood – to implore the ancestors to accept the deceased into their realm and to provide guidance for the deceased so that the dead can also graduate to becoming an ancestor. This was explained in the previous section. After the mourning period, another ceremony is held whereby a *sangoma* enquires of the ancestors about the status of the deceased ... whether the deceased has become an ancestor. Hence, the mourning clothes symbolizes more than the norm.

## ANCESTRAL MOURNING IN GREATER DETAIL

In most cases, only two sets of mourning clothes are made in order that one can wash the other set when the first is dirty. The day your elders take off (*ba go tlhobola*) the mourning clothes, they buy a new set of clothes and burn the old set. It is believed that bad luck (*sefifi*) comes with death, which must be destroyed by fire.

Once the mourning clothes have been burned, the family can start a new life. After the burning of the clothes, the hair of the chief mourner, or family, is cut. This hair is put into a container and burnt. Then the traditional doctor prepares *muti* to cleanse chief mourners.

A woman is not to have intercourse during mourning period. In some cases, if a woman does sleep with any man, that man can get *makgome*. This is the swelling of the genital parts of a man.

*(When AIDS/HIV was first experienced, many Africans believed it to be “magma”. I believe, the rituals that some families perform during lobola and the marriage ceremony, are linked to this.)*

If the man gets swollen genitals, he will have to go to the woman-in-mourning's in-laws and beg them to cure him. They will then get their house or traditional doctor to cure the man. However, he must pay a heavy fine ... one cow. If he does not do this, he will die.

## COMMON ELEMENTS IN ALL AFRICAN CEREMONIES THAT SEEK TO INVOKE THE ANCESTORS

The ancestors are honoured for their provision and/or appeased for safekeeping. Tribes might differ in types of celebration, but they practice a common way in which the ancestors are honoured or implored. Two elements are always present:



- An animal  
– usually a sheep, goat, or cow – is slaughtered for blood to be spilled into the ground
- Beer is brewed ... the outcome of the fermentation is a sign of either the ancestors' approval of the ceremony or not. If the beer did not ferment properly, the process must be repeated as successful fermentation is a vital sign indicating the go-ahead for the ceremony. Should a second fermentation process fail, the *ixhwele* – or witch-doctor, which is not a *sangoma* – will be called in to identify the problem and to correct it. The problem might be a curse from jealous people, ancestors' dissatisfaction with the family, and so forth. At the beginning of a ceremony, some beer is spilled into the ground for the ancestors.
- At birth and death ceremonies, all the meat of the sacrificed animal must be boiled and eaten and no meat can be taken away.

All the bones will be burned as well. This is to retain the blessing for that particular household only. It is believed that you will be cursed if you take away the meat prepared for such occasions.

## WHO FACILITATES THE CEREMONIES IN HONOUR OF THE ANCESTORS?

The elder – the oldest male family member – is always the person who facilitates the ceremonies in honour of the ancestors. In the *Xhosa* culture for instance, only a *ndota* – a male who has been through the initiation rite – can slaughter an animal for ceremonies and speak to the ancestors. Generally, in all tribes, most all the males who had been through a recognized tribal rite of manhood have such authority.

## FACILITATORS IN MORE DETAIL

In the *Sotho* groups – *Batswang*, *Bapedi* and *South Sothos* – old grandmothers can talk to the ancestors. However, the slaughtering is still done by the men.

## BIRTH CEREMONIES

When a child is born a dedication ceremony is held to thank the ancestors for the child and to ask for the child's protection. The child's umbilical cord is buried in the grounds of the homestead ... usually the grandparents' family home. The traditional explanation for burying the umbilical cord in the homestead ground is so that an African person will always have a homestead to belong to and would never have to be a wanderer. Ironically, history shows that Africans have always experienced the worst cases of being homeless and dispossessed.

The burial of the umbilical cord is a ceremony in which the umbilical cord is given to the ancestors who reside under the ground ... this is so that the ancestors have access to manipulate the person.

The baby dedication ceremony includes the two important elements:

- Spilling of blood by the slaughtering of an animal
- And the fermenting of beer as the approval sign.

The gall bladder of the slaughtered animal – seen as a life element – is also wrapped around the child for a number of days for protection.

At this ceremony all the meat must be eaten at the venue ... no meat can be carried off, so that the blessings for the particular household stay with the household.

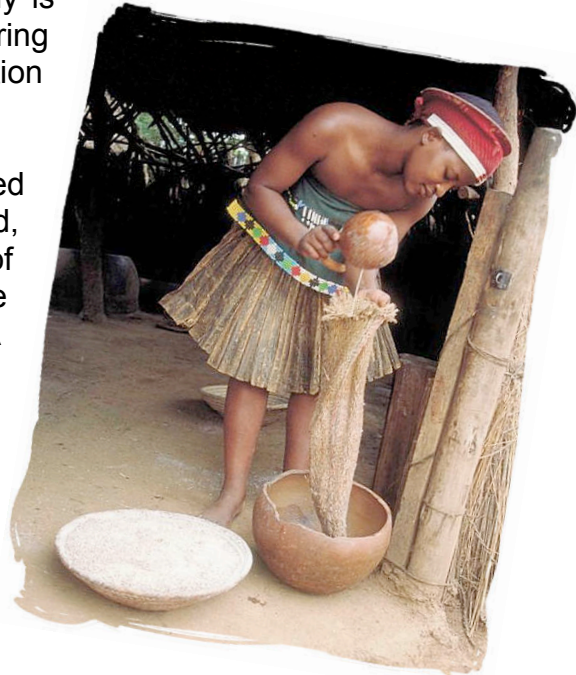
An elder of the family officiates over such a ceremony.

## FIRST BIRTHDAYS

For a child's first birthday, a ceremony is held to thank the ancestors for sparing the child and to ask for further protection and prosperity.

Once again, an animal is slaughtered and blood is spilled into the ground, and beer is fermented for the sign of approval from the ancestors ... some beer is also spilled into the ground. A family elder officiates over the slaughtering.

*Sunday Times* journalist Fred Khumalo writes in his column of 8 January 2006, that he and his wife held a traditional ceremony to celebrate their son's first birthday over the festive season. Referring to the part where the animal was slaughtered, he says it was 'to spill blood to appease the ancestors'.



## ALL THANKSGIVING CEREMONIES

Ceremonies held to thank the ancestors for prosperity – a new car, new job, new house, and so forth – yet once again, all include the spilling of the blood of a slaughtered animal on the ground to appease, as well as the traditional beer as a sign of approval. The elder family member slaughters the animal and addresses the ancestors.

However, excess meat can be taken away by guests.

## DEATH

Mourners sit on the floor of the house to identify with the ancestors and to humble themselves before them so that the deceased may be accepted by the ancestors.

An animal must be slaughtered to request the ancestors to accept the deceased, and to guide the deceased into the afterlife. This is also done to protect the family of the deceased from curses.

Meat cannot be taken away by guests ... and the bones of the slaughtered animals must be burned to obviate a curse.

## OTHER INITIATIONS

Other tribes have other initiations at different ages.

For example, the *Ndebele* tribe has an initiation at the age of ten years when ear marking takes place.

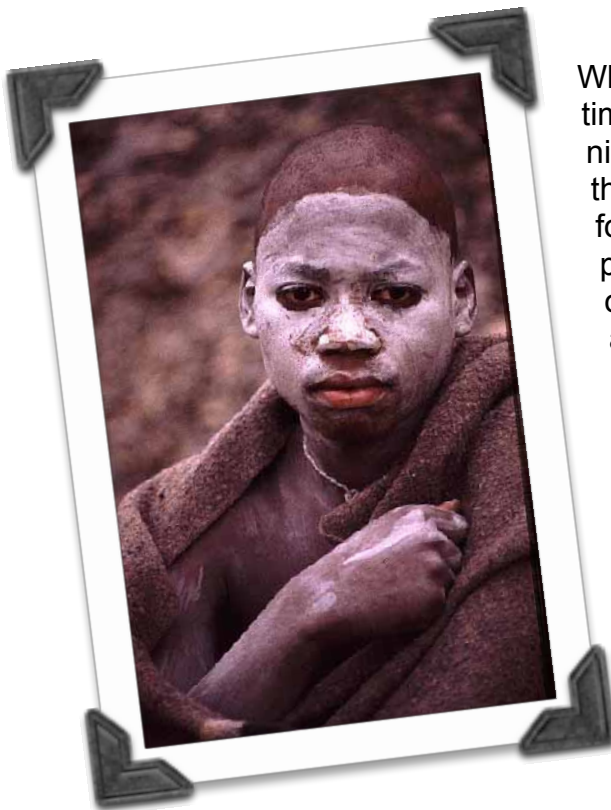
Both boys and girls undergo this rite which is a symbol of acceptance and entry into the society.

After the service, the initiates line up and parents and friends shake hands with them as they welcome them into the *Ndebele* community as full members of the clan and tribe as a whole.

## ADOLESCENCE

This is a crucial stage for boys and girls as they undergo training which will usher them into manhood or womanhood.

### BOYS



When a boy emits sperm for the first time, which usually takes place in the night while he is asleep, he goes through special rituals, eats specific foods mixed with “*muti*” (medicinal powders) and has certain spells put on him. His father welcomes him as a man after everything is done, and may give him an animal gift as a token of manhood.

### GIRLS

When a young girl experiences her first menstruation flow she is then taken through various rituals according to each tribe’s custom. She also eats and/or drinks specific foods mixed with “*muti*.”

# FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION [FGM] IN AFRICA ... THE MIDDLE EAST, AND FAR EAST

*Where, why, what, and how it is done?*

Female Genital Mutilation [FGM] is a destructive, invasive procedure that is usually performed on girls before puberty. Part or the entire clitoris is surgically removed. This leaves them with reduced or no sexual feeling. Orgasms are sometimes impossible to experience later in life. Many health problems result from the surgery.

FGM originated in Africa. It was, and remains, a cultural, not a religious practice.

Among individuals and groups opposed to the mutilation, it is seen as a method of reducing the sexual response of women in order to make them less likely to become sexually active before marriage or to seek an extra-marital affair after marriage.



To some who promote the operation, it is seen as a cultural requirement that has health benefits and makes women more physically beautiful. The rest of the world does not share these views.

The operation is forced on approximately 6,000 girls per day, worldwide -- about one every 15 seconds. Since FGM is practiced when the girls are young, they are unable to give their informed consent.

*FGM: A cultural not a religious practice ...*

This mutilating operation is often associated mainly with the religion of Islam. This is incorrect. FGM is primarily a social practice, not a religious one. Female genital mutilation predated Islam. It originated in Africa and remains today a mainly African cultural practice. Some indicators of this are:

It is widely practiced in countries where the predominant religion is Christianity: Examples are Ethiopia and Kenya.

In multi-faith countries, it is often forced on girls whose families follow all faiths: Animism religions, Christianity, and Islam.

For example, it is frequently practiced among both Muslims, Christians and Animists in Ethiopia, Eritrea, Sierra Leone, and Sudan.

FGM was once practiced by Ethiopian Jews (a.k.a. Beta Israel; formerly known by the derogatory term "Falashas").

This practice was apparently discontinued some time ago. A pediatrician who works in the Beta Israel community claims that they do not practice FGM in Israel. Also, their daughters who were born in Ethiopia were not mutilated.

FGM has spread to countries in or near Africa (e.g. Egypt) which are Muslim. But FGM is rare or nonexistent in many other Muslim countries. Examples are Iran, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, and Turkey. Also, It is not done in the Maghreb countries of Northwest Africa.

FGM is only occasionally found in Indonesia and other predominately Muslim countries in Asia.

One of the motivations for this essay is the misperception by many people that the practice is a religious one. That belief has led to unjustified religious intolerance against Muslims.

## What It Is?

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is practiced in many forms. In order of increasing severity, they are:

### TYPE 1:

**Sunna circumcision** in which the prepuce (the clitoral covering) is removed, along with part or all of the clitoris. This is called Clitoridectomy, "Sunna", meaning removal of the clitoris in the tradition of the Prophet Mohammed.

It is called "Sunna Kashfa" (Open Sunna) in Sudan. This is found most commonly in West African countries like Burkina Faso, Mali, Nigeria, and Senegal.

### TYPE 2:

**Excision:** The entire clitoris and prepuce are removed, along with all or part of the labia minora.

This is called "Sunna Magatia" (Closed Sunna) in Sudan. It is most commonly found in Burkina Faso and Sudan.

### TYPE 3:

#### **Infibulation** (a.k.a. Pharaonic circumcision.)

This involves removal of the clitoris and prepuce, followed by sewing up of the vulva. A small opening is left to allow urine and menstrual blood to pass.

A second operation is done later in life to reverse some of the damage.

In some cultures, her husband cuts the woman open on their wedding night with a double-edged dagger. She may be sewn up again if her husband leaves on a long trip.

This is often referred to as **Pharaonic or Sudanese circumcision**. It is most commonly practiced in Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Mali, Somalia and Sudan.

There are also various other practices, including:

- Stretching of the clitoris and/or labia,
- Burning of the clitoris and adjacent tissues by cauterization,
- Scraping of the vaginal orifice,
- Cutting the vagina,
- Placing corrosive substances or herbs in the vaginal in order to tighten it,
- And so forth ...

Because of poverty and lack of medical facilities, the procedure is frequently done under less than hygienic conditions, often by non-medically trained personnel, and usually without anesthesia. Razor blades, knives or scissors are usually the instruments used.

In the rural Mossi areas of Burkina Faso, group female circumcisions are scheduled every three years in many villages.

Girls aged from five to eight are assembled by their mothers into groups of up to twenty.

The circumcision "uses a knife-like instrument, the barga, reserved specifically for this purpose; after each operation she simply wipes the knife on a piece of cloth, sometimes rinsing it in water first."

In some areas of Africa, FGM is delayed until two months before a woman gives birth. This practice is based on the belief that the baby will die if she/he comes into contact with their mother's clitoris during birth.

We are unaware of any medical evidence to support this belief. Other areas perform FGM on infants before their first birthday, or in adolescence.

Side effects of the operation can include: hemorrhage, shock, painful scars, keloid formation, labial adhesions, clitoral cysts, chronic urinary infection, and chronic pelvic infections.

Later in life, it can cause kidney stones, sterility, sexual dysfunction, depression, and various gynecological and obstetric problems.

### *In which countries is it practiced?*

Unfortunately, few statistical studies have been made; only rough estimates are available of the frequency with which FGM is performed.

In some countries, the practice is near universal.

One source estimates that 90% or more of the girls in Djibouti, Ethiopia and Eritrea, Sierra Leone, Somalia, and Sudan (North) have been mutilated.

The same source indicates that over 50% of the girls in Benin, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria and Togo have been operated on.

The FGM Education and Networking Project maintains a regularly updated list of countries, population groups, and the types of operation performed.

There are over 30 million mutilated women currently living in Nigeria, and about 24 million in Ethiopia and Eritrea. Various groups estimate that from 114 to 130 million women worldwide have had the operation.

FGM is outlawed in some countries where it had been widely practiced, such as Kenya and Senegal. It is criminalized in some Western countries, where it is normally practiced only by a small number of recent immigrants.

The procedure has been banned in several African nations, including Burkina Faso, Djibouti, the Central African Republic, Ghana, Guinea, Senegal, and Togo.

### *Why it is Done?*

The justification for the operation appears to be largely grounded in a desire to terminate or reduce feelings of sexual arousal in women so that they will be much less likely to engage in pre-marital intercourse or adultery.

The clitoris holds a massive number of nerve endings, and generates feelings of sexual arousal when stimulated.

Parents in those cultures where FGM is common often feel that it is the only way to guarantee that their girl children will remain "pure" until marriage.

This belief is so strong that it can overcome the dangers to the girls: some do not survive the blood loss during the operation; others die from infection; most suffer life-long complications.

Uncircumcised women in countries where FGM is normally performed have difficulty finding a marriage partner. Men typically prefer a circumcised wife because they are considered more likely to be faithful.

Other claims in support of FGM are:

- The clitoris is dangerous and must be removed for health reasons.
- Some believe that it is a poisonous organ, that can cause a man to sicken or die if contacted by a man's penis.
- Others believe that men can become impotent by contacting a clitoris, or that a baby will be hydrocephalic (born with excess cranial fluid) if its head contacts the clitoris during birth.
- Some believe that the milk of the mother will become poisonous if her clitoris touches the baby during childbirth.
- Bad genital odors can only be eliminated by removing the clitoris and labia minora.
- FGM prevents vaginal cancer.
- An unmodified clitoris can lead to masturbation or lesbianism.
- FGM prevents nervousness from developing in girls and women.
- FGM prevents the face from turning yellow.
- FGM makes a woman's face more beautiful.
- If FGM is not done, older men may not be able to match their wives' sex drive and may have to resort to illegal stimulating drugs.
- An intact clitoris generates sexual arousal in women which can cause neuroses if repressed.

These claims appear to have little or no support outside of countries where FGM is common.

The fear of AIDS has been used by both sides of this issue.

Shiek Badri stated in 1997-JUN: "Those who are not circumcised get AIDS easily"

But opponents to the practice note that AIDS is spread by unhygienic practices normally present during the procedure itself.

# PRAYER OF RENUNCIATION OF ANCESTRAL WORSHIP

Heavenly Father, in the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, I come before Your Throne to ask for Your forgiveness, grace and mercy for the sin of worshipping my ancestors – ancestors of my family, my combined family via marriage, as well as ancestors of my entire clan.

Your Word clearly teaches us that we are not to worship any other god besides You, we are not consult any evil spirits, and we were not to make any contact with the dead.

**Exodus 20:3** *“<sup>3</sup> You shall have no other gods before or besides Me.”*

**Deuteronomy 18:10-11** *“<sup>10</sup> There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or daughter pass through the fire, or who uses divination, or is a soothsayer, or an augur, or a sorcerer, <sup>11</sup> Or a charmer, or a medium, or a wizard, or a necromancer.”*

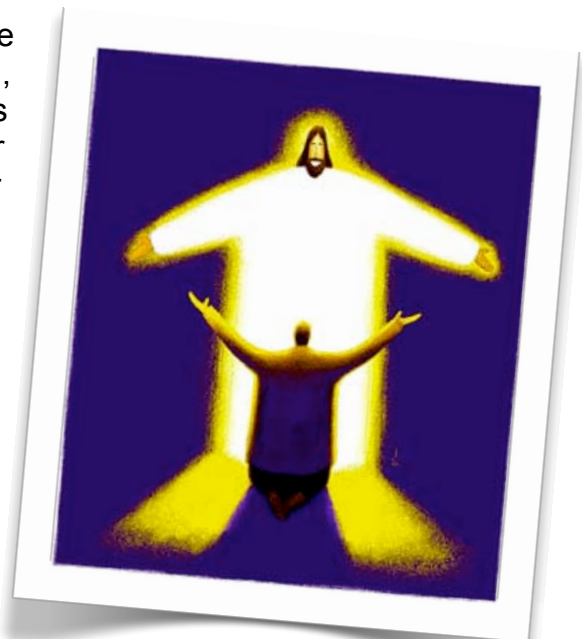
Father, I bring before You the sins of my forefathers and my own sins because we are guilty for disobeying Your commandments.

Lord, I confess for deifying any family member, parent or grandparent in the Almighty Name of Jesus.

I ask Your forgiveness for imploring them for any provision, protection and guidance in Jesus Name.

In the Name of Jesus I now renounce and reject all demonic provision, protection and guidance that was given to me. I now take authority over every demonic spirit, every familiar spirit, and every dead human spirit assigned to me when I made these demonic covenants with the spirits of the dead/ancestral spirits.

I ask Your forgiveness for allowing myself to form my identity, authority and destiny by worshipping these false deities.



Father, in Jesus Name, I ask Your forgiveness for every ritual and ceremony that I partook of to honour and appease my ancestors:

- At birth
- On my first birthday
- Every thanks giving ceremony ... for a new house, car, job, or any form of prosperity
- Invitation into adulthood rituals and ceremonies
- Marriage ceremonies
- Funeral ceremonies I attended.

I also confess and repent for seeking any help from a witch-doctor for deliverance from sickness, curses, financial problems, love problems, and so forth.

I reject and renounce all the help I have ever received from any witch-doctor in the Almighty Name of Jesus.

I ask Your forgiveness for any incisions to any flesh for protection from evil that I received from any witch-doctor in the Name of Jesus. I ask Your forgiveness for consulting any *songoma* for answers from my ancestors with regards to important decisions.

In the Name of Jesus I now renounce and reject every demonic word of guidance and direction that I received through any *songoma* who acted as a medium through whom my so-called ancestors channeled.

Father, in Jesus Name, I ask Your forgiveness for honouring my ancestors and, believing they reside under the ground, I believed that the blood of a slaughtered animal must be spilled on the ground (*Xhosa – palala igazi*) and then covered up afterwards.

I ask Your forgiveness for honoring my ancestors by offering them ceremonial beer, (*Xhosa – imqombothi*) and spilling it on the ground for them.

I ask Your forgiveness for even placing food on the ground for them and I cancel all honor that I have ever given to them, in the powerful Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth. I ask Your forgiveness for defiling and placing a curse on the earth in Jesus Name.

Heavenly Father, I ask Your forgiveness for partaking in every funeral ritual and for believing that my ancestors had to be implored with the spilled blood of animal sacrifices so that they would accept the deceased into their realm.

Forgive me for believing that if the ancestors were appeased, they would provide guidance for the deceased so that the deceased can also graduate to becoming an ancestor.

This belief is totally unbiblical as Your Word says that You are Lord over the dead and the living and that it is appointed for man to die once and after this the judgment.

**Hebrews 9:27** *“<sup>27</sup> And just as it is appointed for [all] men once to die, and after that the [certain] judgment,”*

Forgive me, Lord, for grieving You by believing these lies. Forgive me for partaking in the ceremony after the mourning period and believing the *songoma*'s verdict when he enquired of the ancestors about the status of the deceased – whether the deceased had become an ancestor or not.

Forgive me for proving my belief in the ancestors and *songoma*'s verdict by wearing the mourning clothes. I take mourning clothes off ...

## COMMON ELEMENTS IN ALL AFRICAN CEREMONIES

Father, I ask Your forgiveness for participating in ceremonies and rituals that honored the ancestors for their provision and/or appeased them for safekeeping.

Father, forgive me for every animal that I slaughtered/ had slaughtered for the blood to be spilled into the ground. Name the animal \_\_\_\_\_ (*sheep, goat, cow, and so forth*).

Father forgive me for every time I was involved in giving beer brewed and believing that the outcome of the fermentation was a sign from the ancestors' approval of the ceremony or not.

Father, forgive me for calling upon an *ixhwele* or witch-doctor when the second fermentation failed to identify the “problem” and to correct it. Forgive me for believing the lies of the enemy as to what the solution was spoken by the witch-doctor. Lord, forgive me for paying money into the kingdom of darkness to pay for the services of the demonic priesthood. I ask You Lord, to redeem every cent and to break the curses that have come upon my finances in Jesus Name.

Forgive me Lord, for believing that the spilled beer into the ground was to appease the ancestors. I ask You Lord to pour the Water of Your Word out on every drop of beer and to cancel out every effect of this in the spirit. I ask You to silence the speaking of the beer against me in the spirit, in Jesus Name.

Father, according to Your Word, You have placed principles in place, one of which is that man has a very close relationship with the earth. If we are disobedient to Your Word, the earth has authority to curse man and to vomit out its inhabitants.

**Leviticus 18:28** <sup>“28</sup> *[Do none of these things] lest the land spew you out when you defile it as it spewed out the nation that was before you.”*

I have confessed my sins before You Lord, and because I now have peace with You through the Blood of Jesus, I now also declare to be at peace with the earth. I thank You Father, that the earth will not curse me any longer but I will prosper and be blessed everywhere I go, in Jesus Name!

Father, I ask Your forgiveness for partaking in all the rituals at every birth and death ceremony where all the meat of the sacrificed animals were boiled and eaten and no meat could be taken away.

I ask Your forgiveness for burning all the bones to retain the so-called “blessing” for our household. I ask forgiveness for believing the lies of the enemy that I would be cursed if I took away the meat prepared for such occasions.

Please forgive me for all the superstitious beliefs that kept me bound to the kingdom of darkness. In the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth I now reject and renounce every one of these superstitious beliefs.

I break every demonic covenant that I made with the ancestors and the spirits of the dead, in Jesus Name. I ask You Father to send Your Holy Fire and destroy any trace of eating this meat in my body, soul and spirit.

In Jesus Name I cancel the power given to the ancestors when the animal bones were burnt. Father, send Your East Wind and blow away the ashes in the natural and the spiritual. In Jesus Name, I break the curses that came upon myself and my household when we burnt the bones

## PRE-BIRTH

Father, in the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, please forgive us for announcing the pregnancy to the ancestors so that they could protect the unborn baby. Please forgive us for giving the pregnant mother things to drink and/or eat that will “open the passage for the baby.”

Forgive us Lord for not praising You for the new life of a baby and for asking Your protection during pregnancy.

In the Name of Jesus we now cancel all legal right given to the ancestors over the baby. We withdraw their right to “protect” the baby, we take the child out of their arms in the spirit, and dedicate him/her to the Lord God of Israel, God of the Bible.

We cancel all effects of the food or drink that was eaten by the mother and transferred to the baby, in Jesus name.

## BIRTH CEREMONIES

Father, I ask Your forgiveness for every dedication ceremony that was held when each child in our tribe was born to thank the ancestors for the child and to ask protection of the child. Lord, I also include my own dedication ceremony.

I ask Your forgiveness for making demonic covenants with the kingdom of darkness on behalf of every innocent baby. In so doing we placed very strong curses on each baby which ensured a very difficult road ahead for the child.

Father, please forgive us in Jesus Name! We know according to Your Word how You feel about children – we have grieved You so much – have mercy O Lord, in Jesus Name! Forgive us for not giving You the glory and thanks giving for each baby born. You are the Only One that can give life and to You alone belongs all the Glory! Forgive us for not dedicating our babies to You, God of Israel!

I cut loose from every person who officiated the ceremonies I attended ...

Tetanus infection through the umbilical cord is the biggest enemy while the stub is drying up. If the child is not infected by tetanus thanks is given to spiritual snakes for having “saved” the infant from this dreadful disease.

I redeem my buried umbilical cord in order to stop the demonic manipulations over my life ... and bring the umbilical cord under the Authority of Jesus Christ of Nazareth.

Most clans bury the placenta under the floor of the labour hut. Other clans bury it in an ant-hill or compost heap. Some clans take the cord-stub to the river and chip it on a rock as fishes take the pieces away – a sign that the wife has been faithful.



### UMBILICAL SEALS AND GATEKEEPER<sup>7</sup>

I redeem the incisions made on my body ... and the *muti* that was rubbed in.

I redeem body parts that were stretched and deformed with bones and sticks ... such as earlobes, nose, lips, and sexual organs.

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<sup>7</sup> For a in depth study, see “Altars And Covenants” available on the website or for order from the office.

Father, forgive us where we took the umbilical cord of each baby and did specific rituals with it:

- Burying it in the grounds of the homestead/*kraal* ... usually the grand parents' family home.
- Placing it onto the family altar and dedicating the baby to the animal spirit which is the family totem.
- Placing it into the waters on the family marine altar and dedicating the baby to the water spirit which is the family totem.

Father, forgive us for tying the baby to specific spirits and opening the doors for demonic possession. Forgive us for giving legal right to demonic spirits to control the baby all the days of its life.

Thank You, Father, for sending Jesus who made a Way where there was no way! Because of the Blood of Jesus we can now take authority over these demonic spirits in the Name of Jesus. We bind you in Jesus Name and command you to go to the feet of Jesus according to Psalm 110.

I cancel dedication rituals and adoption papers with the Sword of the Spirit, we cut off the spiritual umbilical cord linking the person that was passed on through this umbilical cord, in Jesus Name.

We anoint the belly button with oil in the Name of Jesus to place the seal of the Blood of Jesus upon this spiritual opening and we now declare it closed and sealed off for all demonic entrance, in Jesus Name.

We ask you Lord to assign an angel with a flaming sword as a gatekeeper over this point of entry and to forbid any re-entry of any demonic spirit ever again, in Jesus Name!

## A NAME IS GIVEN<sup>8</sup>

The name of one of your ancestors may have been given to you as a memorial. This can be to invoke the spirit of the ancestor so that it blesses the household. Some names mark occasions while others describe the life in the home.

Love for the dead and the belief that they care for the living make them think of them and long to see them. So, the names of ancestors given to their children will bring them "comfort" and "hope."

Belonging to a family means living in close communication with the dead and the living. Belonging to a family, therefore, means belief in the living and the dead as an entity.

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<sup>8</sup> For additional prayers ... see "Prayers of Renunciation: General" available on the website or for order from the office.

Heavenly Father, we ask forgiveness for participating in the baby dedication ceremony and using the following elements:

- The slaughtering of an animal and then spilling its blood to appease the ancestors.
- The fermenting beer as the sign of approval by the ancestors.

Forgive us Lord, for taking the gall bladder of the slaughtered animal and for believing it represented a life element, and then wrapping it around the child for a number of days for “so-called” protection.

Forgive us for making this demonic covenant with the kingdom of darkness and for asking for demonic protection.

Please forgive us for believing we needed to eat all the meat at the venue and that no meat was to be carried off to retain the “blessings” for our own household only, have mercy Lord, in Jesus Name!

In the Name of Jesus, we now take authority over every evil spirit that was assigned to me/ the person I am praying for, through partaking in this birth ceremony. We command you to go to the feet of Jesus according to Ps110:1

We break this demonic covenant in the Name of Jesus and speak to the earth to vomit out all remains of the umbilical cord, the animal blood, and the fermented beer, in the natural as well as well as in the spiritual.

Father, send Your Holy Fire to destroy all of the above in Jesus Name! We silence everything speaking against us from the demonic kingdom in Jesus Name!

Everything that was recorded in the heavens, in the waters, on the earth or under the earth – let it all be blotted out with the Blood of Jesus!

In the Name of Jesus I cut myself free from the elder that officiated my baby dedication – I declare that this demonic priesthood will no longer have any more authority over me in Jesus Name!

I have been transferred out of the kingdom of darkness into the Kingdom of the Son of Almighty God of Israel. Thank You Jesus!

## FIRST BIRTHDAY

Father God, in Jesus Name, I ask Your forgiveness for partaking in first year birthday ceremonies which were held to thank the ancestors for sparing the child and to ask for further “protection” and “prosperity.”

I ask Your forgiveness for the slaughtering an animal and spilling that blood into the ground, in the Name of Jesus.

Forgive me for believing that the fermented beer was a sign of approval of the ancestors and for spilling the beer into the ground for the ancestors. Have mercy upon me and my family Father, in Jesus Name!

In the Name of Jesus, I take the Sword of the Spirit and cut myself loose from the family elder who officiated over the slaughtering and ceremony. I declare that I am set free from this demonic priesthood, in the All Powerful Name of Jesus because of His Blood!

We speak to the earth to vomit out all the blood and beer in the natural as well as the spiritual, in the Name of Jesus. Send Your Fire, Lord, and destroy all that testifies against me and my family in Jesus Name.

In the Name of Jesus we bind the demons that have been assigned with the first birthday ceremony and we decommission you in Jesus name! We strip you of all authority and ranking that you have had over the child in Jesus Name. We remove the child out of the arms of every evil spirit/ ancestor and place him/her into the Arms of Jesus Christ of Nazareth.

Thank You Jesus, that You made a way for every child to come unto You!

## INITIATION INTO ADULTHOOD CEREMONIES

Circumcision is generally considered a necessary rite of passage to obtain identity and authority. A common explanation for initiation is that it means a male leaves boyhood to enter manhood. In some cultures like the *Venda*, women also go through initiation rite called "*domba*".

*Circumcision qualifies a man to slaughter animals for sacrifice to the ancestors and to speak to the ancestors. A spiritual authority – an ungodly priesthood – is thus conferred.*

In *Xhosa* tradition the male is circumcised and the foreskin is buried in the ground at the end of the two weeks period. *Xhosa* males spend two weeks on the mountain or basically outdoors to experience symbolically the hardships of manhood without food and water.

Their faces are painted white to protect against bacteria from dirt that forms as they are not allowed to wash for the entire period. They are naked and wrapped in blankets only ... this allows for healing of the circumcision.

On the seventh day a *Xhosa* initiate (*umfwana*) will come down for a ceremony – **umofizo** – where an animal is slaughtered on his behalf and he can drink water and have good food. The gall bladder – life element – of the slaughtered animal is wrapped around the *umfwana* for protection for the rest of the period. At the end of the second week the *wmfwana* is allowed to return to his community and a celebration – **umgidi** – is held to welcome him into manhood. At this celebration the foreskin and the gall bladder that was wrapped around him for protection, are buried next to each other in the ground ... and in turn these parts are given to ancestors.

The ancestors are thanked for the young man's safe return and his passing into manhood and the ceremony is mainly about the older *ndotas* (initiated males) giving speeches of advice to the new *ndota* about being a real man.

*African males who are born again Christians also partake of the rites that qualify them in the eyes of their tribe as real men. They have the circumcision done by a medical doctor, and without any ceremony in honour of the ancestors.*

Through Christian African males tend to argue that it was merely a medical procedure and not unholy due to the exclusion of the ancestor worship, the Lord revealed the following to me:

1. That circumcision is a sign of a covenant that binds you to the clan confers an authority to access the spirit world – an ungodly priesthood.
2. If the circumcision was done as a matter of conscience (the man cannot imagine being able to confidently admit to his tribal peers that he does not require it as a sign of his manhood and that his identity as a man comes from God alone) then he has entered into a covenant that binds him to his clan and their gods.
3. I discovered that a *Xhosa* male (*ndota*) cannot imagine renouncing this status as an ungodly authority even when confronted with Scripture that challenges him to lose his life so that he may gain it ... that he is part of a royal priesthood in Christ Jesus ... and his identity and authority should come from God alone.
4. A *Venda* male who is third generation born again Christian and went through the medical circumcision at hospital, admitted that he had it done as a matter of conscience to be accepted as a real man by his tribal peers – even if it was just a medical procedure completely devoid of any traditional rituals. He felt convicted that he had entered a covenant that gave him his tribal identity and male authority. He confessed to the Lord that he entered an ungodly covenant ... that he had obtained an ungodly priesthood and access to the spirit realm. He took off the ungodly cloak and exchanged it for the Cloak of God's Identity, the Ring of Authority in Jesus Christ ... and the Shoes of Destiny in the path of righteousness.

The above-mentioned ceremonies are basic ones that cover all *Nguni* tribes. They may differ slightly in terms of procedure, but the principle of ancestral worship is the same. There are many extra rituals and ceremonies from tribe to tribe which can be addressed in deliverance sessions by renouncing participation ... the objective thereof, renouncing the ritual step by step (*Swazi*, and *Zulu* maidens have Reed ceremonies, and so forth).

## DELIVERANCE PRAYERS WOULD INCLUDE ...

1. Renouncing the identity, authority and destiny prescribed by the ownership of the ancestors over your life in favor of the Lordship of Jesus Christ.
2. Renouncing the ancestors of family and clan as demon gods and cutting soul ties.
3. Confessing the sins of the forefathers – idol worship, witchcraft, and communicating with the dead.
4. Asking God to deal with the umbilical cord that allows access to manipulate you and to sanctify and seal the incisions on your body.
5. Recognizing every act that honoured the ancestors in the place of God and confessing the objectives thereof ritual step by step and/or the *muti* that was used
6. Refuse to be present at any family events that honour ancestors as providers and protectors. Jesus did not call us to such harmony – we need to be prepared to forsake tribal customs for the ways of Jesus Christ.
7. **Initiated males must renounce their titles and the rite of passage they have undergone to obtain manhood.**

## THE CIRCUMCISION RITUAL

Heavenly Father, I ask Your forgiveness for partaking in a circumcision ritual and for considering it to be a necessary rite of passage to obtain identity and authority.

Lord, please forgive me for not seeking my identity in Christ and for not receiving the authority that You give me in the Name of Jesus through the Blood of Jesus.

In the Name of Jesus I ask Your forgiveness for allowing my foreskin to be removed and buried in the ground at the end of the two weeks period. I ask Your forgiveness for making a blood covenant with the kingdom of darkness by the spilling of my own blood, in Jesus Name.

I ask You Father to please break this demonic seal that was placed on me, my seed and my fruitfulness in every area of my life, in the Name of Jesus.



I ask forgiveness for:

- Spending two weeks on a mountain or outdoors to experience symbolically the hardships of manhood without food and water;
- Painting my face white to protect against bacteria as we were not allowed to wash for the entire period.
- Stripping naked and wrapped in blankets only, as part of the ritual.

Please forgive me for meticulously obeying every step of the ritual:

- On the seventh day I participated in a ceremony where an animal was slaughtered on my behalf.
- Forgive me for taking the gall bladder of this animal, which I believed was a life element, and for wrapping it around me for so-called protection for the second week of the ritual.

Father, I ask Your forgiveness for participating in the celebration at the end of the second week which was supposed to welcome me into manhood. Please forgive me for burying my foreskin and the gall bladder into the ground as I presented it to my ancestors. I ask You Father, to please break every curse that came upon me and my family through participating in this ritual.

In the Name of Jesus I take the Sword of the Spirit and cut myself loose from all the elders who officiated at this ritual.

In Jesus Name I take authority over every demonic spirit that was assigned to me through this ritual. I strip you of all power, authority and ranking and decommitment you in Jesus name. I bind you now in Jesus Name and send you to the Feet of the Lord Jesus Christ of Nazareth.

In the Name of Jesus we speak to the earth to vomit out:

- The blood of the animal sacrificed,
- My own blood,
- My foreskin,
- The gall bladder of the sacrificed animal in the natural as well as the spiritual, send Your Fire, Lord, and destroy all that testifies against me and my family in Jesus Name.

In Jesus Name, we reverse every curse into a blessing!

Father, please forgive me for accepting this ungodly priesthood as this ritual qualified me to slaughter animals for sacrifice to the ancestors and to speak to the ancestors.

In the Name of Jesus I now renounce and reject this ungodly priesthood and all the demonic authority and demonic power that was inverted in me. I renounce every demonic ability to contact evil spirits and I close every demonic gateway that was opened in my body, soul and spirit in the All Powerful Name of Jesus.

I fire every gatekeeper that was assigned to keep these gateways open on every level of the spirit. In Jesus Name with the Blood of Jesus, I seal every gateway that was opened to the underworld and demonic realms, body, soul and spirit.

I ask You Lord to assign warring angels with Flaming Swords to guard every gateway that they will never again be re-opened in Jesus Name.

In Jesus Name, I strip off all spiritual mantles, armbands, leg bands, head-dresses, etc. I lay down all regalia, staffs, emblems, rings, etc. in the Name of Jesus. Send Your Fire, Lord and burn up all the emblems of demonic authority in this demonic priesthood in the spirit.

I ask You to forgive me for every person that I have placed a curse upon when I officiated at any ceremonies. Forgive me Lord, for deceiving people and leading them astray.

I ask You Lord to send Your ministering angels to every one of these people and to release them from all the bondage that I have been responsible for, in Jesus Name. I take authority over all the demons that I assigned over each person in Jesus Name. I bind you in the Name of Jesus, decommission you, strip you of all power and authority and send you to the Footstool of Jesus Christ of Nazareth.

In the Name of Jesus I now take up my Godly Priesthood Calling ... a Chosen Generation, a Royal Priesthood, a Holy Nation, Your Own Special Person called out of darkness into His Marvelous Light! Thank You Jesus, that You have made it possible for me.

**1 Peter 2:9** *“<sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a dedicated nation, [God’s] own purchased, special people, that you may set forth the wonderful deeds and display the virtues and perfections of Him Who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.”*

**AMEN!**

# BONE MAGIC

## INTRODUCTION

God has started to teach us on **bone magic** and how powerful it is in the spirit. We asked the Lord to reveal to us why.

God has taught us lessons in understanding how things work in the spirit and that is ...

When there is anything as powerful as this in witchcraft, then there is always an origin of Truth in the Word of God because the enemy can not “make” or “create” anything ... he can only copy.

God then started to reveal to us everywhere in the Word where bones were spoken about and the Godly meaning of bones in the Spirit.

What we are going to share here is just a starting point of trying to understand a very important Truth ... as well as to get a better understanding of:



- The African witchcraft of “casting or throwing the bones”,
- The power of graves amongst our African traditions,
- The bringing back of the bones to the land [Saartjie Baartman and Freedom Park, Pretoria],
- Battle fields,
- The worship of the bones and the dead,
- And so forth

## THE BIBLICAL TRUTH ABOUT BONES

In the Bible, we see in Genesis that Eve is born from Adam’s rib ...

**Genesis 2:21-22** *“<sup>21</sup> And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam; and while he slept, **He took one of his ribs** or a part of his side and closed up the [place with] flesh. <sup>22</sup> And the rib or part of his side which the Lord God had taken from the man He built up and made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.”*

In other Biblical texts, bones appear to be conscious and even able to speak.

The Psalmist declares ...

**Psalm 35:10-11** *“<sup>10</sup> All my **bones** shall say, Lord, who is like You, You Who deliver the poor and the afflicted from him who is too strong for him, yes, the poor and the needy from him who snatches away his goods? <sup>11</sup> Malicious and unrighteous witnesses rise up; they ask me of things that I know not.”*

## EZEKIEL AND THE VALLEY OF DRY BONES

One of the most remarkable accounts of the resurrection of bones appears in the book of Ezekiel.

**Ezekiel 37:1-10** *“<sup>1</sup> THE HAND of the Lord was upon me, and He brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was **full of bones**. <sup>2</sup> And He caused me to pass round about among them, and behold, there were very many [**human bones**] in the open valley or plain, and behold, they were very dry. <sup>3</sup> And He said to me, Son of man, can these **bones** live? And I answered, O Lord God, You know! <sup>4</sup> Again He said to me, Prophecy to these **bones** and say to them, O you dry **bones**, hear the word of the Lord. <sup>5</sup> Thus says the Lord God to these **bones**: Behold, I will cause breath and spirit to enter you, and you shall live; <sup>6</sup> And I will lay sinews upon you and bring up flesh upon you and cover you with skin, and I will put breath and spirit in you, and you [**dry bones**] shall live; and you shall know, understand, and realize that I am the Lord [the Sovereign Ruler, Who calls forth loyalty and obedient service]. <sup>7</sup> So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a [thundering] noise and behold, a shaking and trembling and a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup> And I looked and behold, there were sinews upon [the **bones**] and flesh came upon them and skin covered them over, but there was no breath or spirit in them. <sup>9</sup> Then said He to me, Prophecy to the breath and spirit, son of man, and say to the breath and spirit, Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath and spirit, and breathe upon these slain that they may live. <sup>10</sup> So I prophesied as He commanded me, and the breath and spirit came into [the **bones**], and they lived and stood up upon their feet, an exceedingly great host.”*



## JOSEPH

Joseph made the sons of Israel swear an oath that they would take his bones with them out of Egypt.

**Exodus 13:19** *“<sup>19</sup> And Moses took the **bones of Joseph** with him, for [Joseph] had strictly sworn the Israelites, saying, Surely God will be with you, and you must carry my **bones** away from here with you.”*

## THE BONES OF ELISHA

Some Israelites were busy burying a man, when they suddenly saw a band of raiders. The men threw the dead man into Elisha's tomb. ***When the dead body touched Elisha's bones, the man came to life!***

**2 Kings 13:20-21** <sup>“20</sup> *Elisha died, and they buried him. Bands of the Moabites invaded the land in the spring of the next year. <sup>21</sup> As a man was being buried [on an open bier], such a band was seen coming; and the man was cast into Elisha's grave. And when the man being let down touched the **bones** of Elisha, he revived and stood on his feet.”*

## THE BIBLE SAYS ... THE BONES CRY OUT!

Healthy bones are a sign of good health, but unhealthy bones are a sign of poor health. Why ... ?

Bones are in one sense the manufactures of the blood that is the life of the body.

**Leviticus 17:11** <sup>“11</sup> *For the life (the animal soul) is in the blood, and I have given it for you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement, by reason of the life [which it represents].”*

Do the Scriptures reveal anything about our bones? **Yes!** The Scriptures tell us about many things that affect our bones ... and thus affect our health.

## SOME FACTORS WHICH PRODUCE UNHEALTHY BONES

1. **BAD NEWS** = Brings rottenness to the bones.

**Habakkuk 3:16** <sup>“16</sup> *I heard and my [whole inner self] trembled; my lips quivered at the sound. Rottenness enters into my **bones** and under me [down to my feet]; I tremble. I will wait quietly for the day of trouble and distress when there shall come up against [my] people him who is about to invade and oppress them.”*

2. **SHAME** = Brings rottenness to the bones.

**Proverbs 12:4** <sup>“4</sup> *A virtuous and worthy wife [earnest and strong in character] is a crowning joy to her husband, but she who makes him ashamed is as rottenness in his **bones**.”*

3. **REPROACH** = Is like a sword in the bones.

**Psalms 42:10** <sup>“10</sup> *As with a sword [crushing] in my **bones**, my enemies taunt and reproach me, while they say continually to me, Where is your God?”*

4. **CURSING** = Is like [hot] oil in the bones.

**Psalm 109:18** *“<sup>18</sup> He clothed himself also with cursing as with his garment, and it seeped into his inward [life] like water, and like oil into his **bones**.”*

5. **UNCONFESSED SIN** = Causes the bones to wax old.

**Psalm 32:3** *“<sup>3</sup> When I kept silence [before I confessed], my **bones** wasted away through my groaning all the day long.”*

6. **SIN** = Causes unrest to the bones.

**Psalm 38:3** *“<sup>3</sup> There is no soundness in my flesh because of Your indignation; neither is there any health or rest in my **bones** because of my sin.”*

7. **ENVY** = Brings rottenness to the bones.

**Proverbs 14:30** *“<sup>30</sup> A calm and undisturbed mind and heart are the life and health of the body, but envy, jealousy, and wrath are like rottenness of the **bones**.”*

8. **A BROKEN SPIRIT** = Dries the bones.

**Proverbs 17:22** *“<sup>22</sup> A happy heart is good medicine and a cheerful mind works healing, but a broken spirit dries up the **bones**.”*

9. **TROUBLE IN LIFE** = Causes a burning in the bones.

**Psalm 102:3** *“<sup>3</sup> For my days consume away like smoke, and my **bones** burn like a firebrand or like a hearth.”*

**Job 30:30** *“<sup>30</sup> My skin falls from me in blackened flakes, and my **bones** are burned with heat.”*

10. **FEAR** = Causes the shaking of the bones.

**Job 4:14** *“<sup>14</sup> Fear came upon me and trembling, which made all my **bones** shake.”*

11. **SIN** = Fills the bones.

**Job 20:11** *“<sup>11</sup> His **bones** are full of youthful energy, but it will lie down with him in the dust.”*

12. **GOD'S CHASTENING** = Produces strong pain in the bones.

**Psalm 6:2** *"<sup>2</sup> Have mercy on me and be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am weak (faint and withered away); O Lord, heal me, for my **bones** are troubled."*

**Job 33:19** *"<sup>19</sup> [God's voice may be heard by man when] he is chastened with pain upon his bed and with continual strife in his **bones** or while all his **bones** are firmly set,"*

13. **AFFLICTION OF THE SOUL** = Brings a piercing of the bones.

**Job 30:16-17** *"<sup>16</sup> And now my life is poured out within me; the days of affliction have gripped me. <sup>17</sup> My **bones** are pierced [with aching] in the night season, and the pains that gnaw me take no rest."*

14. **GRIEF AND INIQUITY** = Cause to bones to be consumed.

**Psalm 31:10** *"<sup>10</sup> For my life is spent with sorrow and my years with sighing; my strength has failed because of my iniquity, and even my **bones** have wasted away."*

15. **SIN'S CURSE** = The bones are out of joint.

**Psalm 22:14** *"<sup>14</sup> I am poured out like water, and all my **bones** are out of joint. My heart is like wax; it is softened [with anguish] and melted down within me."*

## SOME FACTORS WHICH PRODUCE HEALTHY BONES

1. **THE FEAR OF THE LORD** = Produces bone marrow.

**Proverbs 3:7-8** *"<sup>7</sup> Be not wise in your own eyes; reverently fear and worship the Lord and turn [entirely] away from evil. <sup>8</sup> It shall be health to your nerves and sinews, and marrow and moistening to your **bones**."*

2. **A GOOD REPORT** = Makes the bones fat.

**Proverbs 15:30** *"<sup>30</sup> The light in the eyes [of him whose heart is joyful] rejoices the hearts of others, and good news nourishes the **bones**."*

3. **PLEASANT WORDS** = Brings health to the bones.

**Proverbs 16:24** *"<sup>24</sup> Pleasant words are as a honeycomb, sweet to the mind and healing to the body."*

3. **HEALTH** = Comes from moist bones.

**Job 21:24** *"<sup>24</sup> His pails are full of milk [his veins are filled with nourishment], and the marrow of his **bones** is fresh and moist,"*

4. **DELIVERANCE** = Rejoices the bones.

**Psalms 35:10** *"<sup>10</sup> All my **bones** shall say, Lord, who is like You, You Who deliver the poor and the afflicted from him who is too strong for him, yes, the poor and the needy from him who snatches away his goods?"*

5. **A CLEAR CONSCIENCE** = Rejoices the bones.

**Psalms 51:6-8** *"<sup>6</sup> Behold, You desire truth in the inner being; make me therefore to know wisdom in my inmost heart. <sup>7</sup> Purify me with hyssop, and I shall be clean [ceremonially]; wash me, and I shall [in reality] be whiter than snow. <sup>8</sup> Make me to hear joy and gladness and be satisfied; let the **bones** which You have broken rejoice."*

6. **OUR GOD** = Protects our bones.

**Psalms 34:20** *"<sup>20</sup> He keeps all his **bones**; not one of them is broken."*

7. **GIVING TO THE NEEDY** = Makes our bones fat and moist.

**Isaiah 58:10-11** *"<sup>10</sup> And if you pour out that with which you sustain your own life for the hungry and satisfy the need of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in darkness, and your obscurity and gloom become like the noonday. <sup>11</sup> And the Lord shall guide you continually and satisfy you in drought and in dry places and make strong your **bones**. And you shall be like a watered garden and like a spring of water whose waters fail not."*

8. **PEACE AND COMFORT** = Causes our bones to flourish.

**Isaiah 66:14** *"<sup>14</sup> When you see this, your heart shall rejoice; your **bones** shall flourish like green and tender grass. And the [powerful] hand of the Lord shall be revealed and known to be with His servants, but His indignation [shown] to be against His enemies."*



# THE OCCULT HIJACKING AND PERVERTING GODLY PRINCIPLES

## WHAT IS IN THE BONES?

Throughout much of human history, bones have been associated not with death but with life. In many cultures, people actually believe bones are the seat of the vital principle or even the soul.



As the place of life, bones have mystic powers ranging from cures and divination, to birth and rebirth.

The most important and widely held belief is that **bones can be reanimated** and therefore are **essential to rebirth**. They play a critical role in the ritual of the **death and rebirth** of man.

This conviction is especially common among people in northern Eurasia as well in parts of Asia, and can also be found in the myths of Germany, the Caucasus, **Africa**, South America, Oceania, and Australia.

Where there is belief in reanimation, bones are often preserved after the flesh has decayed and are treated with special care.

In some cases, they are given a separate burial or are preserved as objects of worship.

It is not only human bones that are declared sacred, but often the bones of certain animals as well.

Though many animals have been venerated over the years, three of the most important are **cattle, deer, and elk**. The myths and rituals associated with a variety of animals are remarkably consistent.

All bones, however, are not created equal. In different traditions, **skulls, vertebrae, and shoulder blades** [scapulae] are believed to harbor special powers that lend them ritual significance.

The conviction that bones are living leads to the belief that they can communicate.

What is involved is the **life-substance**, the **primal matter** preserved by the mythical ancestors.

The use of bones for divination is a common part of many shamanistic rituals.

## BABYLONIAN ROOTS

During the Roman Empire, Christians held worship services surrounded by dead bodies and bones. To escape persecutions, Christians commonly met around tombs and in catacombs built to honor the dead.

Since the burial grounds provided seclusion from the vigilant eyes of the Roman authorities, these gatherings eventually became the occasion for full-blown religious services.

Though the situation of the Christians changed dramatically after the conversion of Constantine, the association of religious ceremonies with the place of the dead can still be discerned in major churches and cathedrals, which, beginning with the basilicas of Saint Peter in the Vatican and Saint Paul on the Via Ostia, were built over the graves of martyrs.

In later centuries, this practice spread throughout Europe until basilicas and cathedrals eventually became cemeteries where proximity to the altar was determined by religious prestige and social rank.

These churches are literally built on the bones of martyrs and believers.

## MEALS FOR THE DEAD

We know – in fact from a number of sources, Christian and non-Christian alike – that the funerary meal, a kind of picnic with the dead, was something that most families practiced in the city of Rome. There is also record of even some Christians – particularly those who embraced the Catholic rites – would perform this ritual as part of their regular activity, just as their pagan neighbors would go and hold memorial meals with their dead family members in the catacombs.

## BASIC ROMAN CATHOLIC BELIEFS

The belief in the miraculous power of bones eventually led to their veneration as holy relics.

The word **relic** derives from the Latin **reliquiae**, which originally meant any mortal remains.

In the Catholic tradition, relic eventually came to designate the saint's body and objects that had direct contact with it during his or her lifetime.

While clothing and items used in worship were important, the most prized relics were actual body parts like hair, skin, and bones.

The worship of relics is not limited to Catholicism. Indeed, relics associated with **Buddha, Mohammed, and Confucius** are also enshrined and adored.

In whatever tradition it occurs, belief in the effectiveness of relics involves what might be described as "the metaphysics of presence" in which physical proximity bestows benefits and provides protection.

The martyr effectively inhabits the relic, which is capable of transmitting grace, virtue, and even life itself. As belief in the power of relics spread in eastern as well as western Christendom, demand for them grew, and bones became big business.

Their draw was not only spiritual but also political and even economic. From the time of Charlemagne, no church could be consecrated without a relic.

Competition for relics and the prestige they brought frequently resulted in bodies being moved and even stolen. When the relocation of the corpse was legitimate, it took place according to a ritual known as translation.

By the fifth century, the demand for bones and body parts was so great that the practice of exhuming, dismembering, and distributing the bodies of saints became widely accepted.

Amputated fingers, hands, feet, heads and, of course, bones circulated throughout Europe. The more important the saint, the greater the power the remains bestowed.

With increase in demand, supply became a problem, and a profitable market in relics emerged. In the ninth century, a group of enterprising entrepreneurs formed a corporation that specialized in the discovery, sale, and transport of relics throughout Europe.

Neither ambitious churchmen nor credulous believers and pilgrims seemed to care that many of these relics had to be fake.

## THE ALTAR

Every Roman Catholic altar contains two relics of martyred saints. This is because Mass was supposed to have been celebrated over the tombs of martyrs by around the 4th century.

Relics fall into three classes. First-class relics are parts of a saint's body or an object used by a saint, such as a cross.



Second-class relics are anything a saint used during his or her life time, such as clothing. Third-class relics are objects that have touched the saint's remains, like a piece of cloth.

Traditional commentators usually held that relics can be miraculously multiplied ... meaning, there could be several heads of a particular saint.

Every Roman Catholic church in the world would have one or more relic embedded under its altar stone. Not all are bone fragments. Relics can be skin, clothing or instruments connected to a martyr

Catholic leaders cite that the relics are not worshipped but are simply "venerated" as "a piece of memory."

## GOD FORBIDS WORSHIPPING OF THE BONES AND THE DEAD

There is very little difference between venerate and worship. Catholics light candles and incense, and bow before relics in many parts of the world ... at the Vatican in Rome, at St. Joseph's Cathedral in Montreal, at shrines in Slovakia, Ireland, India, and England.

This, my friends, is idolatry. Those who visit these places hope that the holiness of the relics will somehow make their prayers more efficacious, and they are taught to pray directly to the "saints" represented by the relics.

Nowhere are we taught to pray to anyone other than Almighty God. To do so is blasphemy and idolatry.

There are no prayers to Mary or to saints in the Bible. The Lord Jesus Christ taught us to pray to God the Father.

We don't come to God through bones. We come through the shed Blood of Jesus Christ.

**Ephesians 2:13** *"<sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus, you who once were [so] far away, through (by, in) the blood of Christ have been brought near."*

**Colossians 1:14** *"<sup>14</sup> In Whom we have our redemption through His blood, [which means] the forgiveness of our sins."*

**Hebrews 10:19** *"<sup>19</sup> Therefore, brethren, since we have full freedom and confidence to enter into the [Holy of] Holies [by the power and virtue] in the blood of Jesus,"*

There is not one hint in the Bible that Christians are to save the bones of the dead and make keepsakes of them for any purpose whatsoever. This is pagan and occultic.

When the first martyr Stephen died, the church at Jerusalem did not keep his bones. They did not hack off a few pieces and distribute them to the other churches. They buried the man ... all of him!

**Acts 7:2** *<sup>“2</sup> And he answered, Brethren and fathers, listen to me! The God of glory appeared to our forefather Abraham when he was still in Mesopotamia, before he [went to] live in Haran,”*

Even in Old Testament times the bones of the saints [every child of God through faith in Christ is a saint, see Scripture below] were not kept and incorporated into their worship.

**1 Corinthians 1:2** *<sup>“2</sup> To the church (assembly) of God which is in Corinth, to those consecrated and purified and made holy in Christ Jesus, [who are] selected and called to be saints (God’s people), together with all those who in any place call upon and give honor to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours.”*

The body of Joseph was kept, not to use in worship but to carry to the Promised Land to give him a proper burial there.

**Genesis 50:25** *<sup>“25</sup> And Joseph took an oath from the sons of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you, and you will carry up my bones from here.”*

**Exodus 13:19** *<sup>“19</sup> And Moses took the bones of Joseph with him, for [Joseph] had strictly sworn the Israelites, saying, Surely God will be with you, and you must carry my bones away from here with you. [Gen. 50:25.]*

**Joshua 24:32** *<sup>“32</sup> And the bones of Joseph, which the Israelites brought up out of Egypt, they buried in Shechem in the portion of ground Jacob bought from the sons of Hamor, the father of Shechem, for 100 pieces of money; and it became the inheritance of the Josephites.”*

God buried the body of Moses to prevent any possibility that his bones would be used as holy relics.

**Deuteronomy 32:5-6** *<sup>“5</sup> They [Israel] have spoiled themselves. They are not sons to Him, and that is their blemish—a perverse and crooked generation! <sup>6</sup> Do you thus repay the Lord, you foolish and senseless people? Is not He your Father Who acquired you for His own, Who made and established you [as a nation]?”*

**1 Corinthians 10:14** *<sup>“14</sup> Therefore, my dearly beloved, shun (keep clear away from, avoid by flight if need be) any sort of idolatry (of loving or venerating anything more than God).”*

**1 John 5:21** *"<sup>21</sup> Little children, keep yourselves from idols (false gods)—[from anything and everything that would occupy the place in your heart due to God, from any sort of substitute for Him that would take first place in your life]. Amen (so let it be)."*

## AFRICAN TRADITIONS

Looking at the occultic practices in Europe and the rest of the world, we see that the enemy is always the same ... people are being deceived to worship the dead and the realms of the dead.



In Africa, they worship their ancestors and draw their practices from the ancient Egyptian rituals. Families and tribes are required to visit the graves of their ancestors at least once a year where a feast is held to bring honour to them. This is to ensure that the living family will be protected and blessed by their ancestors for the next year.

There is tremendous fear and respect for the ancestors and Africans will do anything to make sure they do not get into trouble with them.

We clearly see the Word of God forbids us to contact the dead and that there will be serious consequences for such practices.

Africans make a **covenant** with **Death and Hell** that needs to be repented of and broken in the Name of Jesus.

## BONE MAGICIANS: SECRETS OF THE BONE-MAGI

There are workers of iniquity that call themselves the Order of the Bone-Magi ... the brotherhood of necromancers.

They worship **Azrael, Lord of the Bones**, who reveals the secrets necessary to control all things fashioned from the bones of the dead.

The Order of the Bone-Magi is a secret organization with a great deal of history and ritual. Membership is closely controlled and even in its ascendance the Order never numbered more than a few hundred.

As part of their training, the disciple must seek out crypts and graveyards to learn about skeletons and the dead.

Below is an example of the demonic power of the bone magician ...

They will speak to a pile of skeleton bones and actually get the skeleton to be built up bone-to-bone until it is standing up in front of the magician. This skeleton is then absolutely faithful to the magician and will do whatever it is told.

## SKELETON ARMIES

Bone magicians will go to graveyards and battlefields where many people have died and then call up “skeleton armies” to fight battles in the spirit for satan’s kingdom. This is an army of the “undead”.

A single “warrior” skeleton can also be called up ... he was a powerful warrior in life and will be so in this form but cannot die. He is undead.

## CONSEQUENCES OF DEMONIC COVENANTS WITH BONES

- Bone Powder Spell - causes tremendous pain or minor fractures
- Accelerating time within the victim ages the victim with many years.
- This spell causes the victims entire skeleton to twist and fracture inducing extreme pain and death.
- Osteoporosis
- Leukemia
- Bone cancer

In the natural, physical bones make blood within the marrow. This principle is hijacked in the demonic kingdom, by the magicians and sorcerers taking dead human bones and calling up the “dead blood” as spiritual blood, which they then use as “fuel” for the demonic kingdom.

*[Ritual abuse victims suffer severe rituals and many times their bones get broken. The Bone magician uses a spell called “regeneration”. This spell allows him to regenerate and mend broken bones.]*

## SPIRITUAL WARFARE

We need to repent on behalf of ourselves and our forefathers for making demonic covenants with satan concerning the dead, the realms of the dead and using bones of dead people and animals to perform witchcraft for personal gain.

We asked the Lord to show us in His Word how does He makes war against these evil practices. We found very interesting Scriptures ...



## GOD WILL SCATTER THE BONES

**Psalm 53:5-6** <sup>5</sup> *There they are, in terror and dread, where there was [and had been] no terror and dread! For God has scattered the bones of him who encamps against you; you have put them to shame, because God has rejected them. <sup>6</sup> Oh, that the salvation and deliverance of Israel would come out of Zion! When God restores the fortunes of His people, then will Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad.*

**Jeremiah 8:1-3** <sup>1</sup> *AT THAT time, says the Lord, [the Babylonian army will break open the sepulchers, and] they shall bring out the bones of the kings of Judah, the bones of its princes, the bones of the priests, the bones of the prophets, and the bones of the inhabitants of Jerusalem from their graves. <sup>2</sup> And they will [carelessly] scatter [the corpses] before the sun and the moon and all the host of heaven, which [the dead] have loved and which they have served and after which they have walked and which they have sought, inquired of, and required and which they have worshiped. They shall not be gathered, or be buried; they shall be like dung upon the face of the earth. <sup>3</sup> And death shall be chosen rather than life by all the residue of those who remain of this evil family (nation), who remain in all the places to which I have driven them, says the Lord of hosts.*

Pray against the army of skeletons that has been raised up against your family, your ministry, and so forth. This is a demonic replica [satan's copy] of the army of bones, sinew, and flesh that Ezekiel saw.



## PRAYER STRATEGY FOR DEALING WITH THE BONES OF DEATH, THE GRAVE, AND HELL

Father, I ask You to show me very clearly where there is any legal right on my life that has not been addressed, those dealing with bones of death, the grave, and hell. I ask this that I can be fully released, in Jesus' Name.

Father in the Name of Jesus, I repent of the abominable worship of foreign and destructive gods, where my generations have ignorantly opened spiritual doors through false religions and divination practices.

Father, I repent of the family sin of worshipping both the bones of dead people and animals, and believing that they have control over my life. Please forgive me for going to workers of iniquity to have the bones thrown to divine things over my life.

I realize that I have opened demonic doors to spirits of death, hell, and the grave. This has brought some major consequences in my own life as well as the lives of my family.

I repent of the family sin and worship of the gods of **Baal, Molech, Asherah, Ashteroth and Chemosh**. This worship has opened spiritual doors to death and hell, and has come down my family generations and opened the door for the destruction of my children.

I repent of the family sin and worship the god **Molech**, who is worshipped with **human sacrifice** in occult worship and occult initiation, as an iniquitous sin.

In the Name of Jesus, I take authority over the stronghold of death, the grave, and hell that for generations has destroyed young babies, brought early deaths, terrible deaths, plagues and shattered lives.

I repent of the worship of this destroyer that has brought death through **abortion, sudden deaths of babies, and the accidental death of my children**.

Father, I thank You that You sent Jesus to deliver me from death, the grave, and hell, and from living in its eternal torment.

I declare in the Name of Jesus that I will come out of the dominion of the destroyer, his lordship and fatherhood through family worship of him. I will be birthed out of destruction of the father of lies ... and into righteousness and safety, in Jesus Name.

## ACCIDENTS

In Jesus Name, I break the curse of **death through accidents** where death and hell has bound my family line with freak accidents, accident-proneness, and a pattern of continuous accidents.

I break any family curse of hell bringing death that has come with accidents, and all the **torment of loss, torments of financial disaster, and emotional torment that has followed the accidents** ... and even torment of the mind.

In the Name of Jesus, I break the curse of accidents with loss, and the grief and pain that the accident and the loss has brought.

In Jesus Name, I break the family curse of **grief** over loss through accidents. I apply the Blood of Jesus to cleanse this iniquity, in Jesus' Name. I break any family curse of **physical death through accident**.

I choose life today according to Your Word ... I will live to declare the Works of the Lord!

Where there has been a stronghold of **fatal injury**, down the family line, I declare that curse broken, in Jesus' Name.

I declare a release of these chains off the lives of my children and grandchildren, in Jesus' Name.

I break the curse of the spirit of death and hell where there has been a **sustaining of permanent injury through accident** ... accidents in the neck, the legs, hands, joints, and so forth.

*[If the injury torments you with pain, it is the spirit of hell tormenting you. You may need to fast and pray over a period of time to begin to see any change. Release life to the injury.]*

## REJECTION

Father, where there have been **seeds of rejection** passed down the family line with:

- **alcoholism;**
- **abortion;**
- through **illegitimacy**.

I curse those **seeds of rejection and desolation**, in Jesus' Name.

Where the doors have been opened to **death and hell over my life through rejection**, I choose to **forgive** those who rejected me knowingly or unknowingly.

I break the **cycle of rejection and abandonment with death and hell, where I have in turn seeded my children with the same rejection.**

I break the **cycle of rejection and abandonment with death and hell and the loss of purpose in living.**

That is **not** my inheritance in Jesus Christ, and I will no longer live under it.

In the Name of Jesus, I take authority over the torment and the **tormenting spirits of abandonment** that keeps the **feelings of rejection alive.**

In the Name of Jesus, I cut off all abandonment from my children, my spouse, and close relationships.

Where **sickness** has come into my body through rejection and abandonment, I close the door to all sickness and disease, as well as **continual sickness** and affliction, in Jesus Name.

Where the access through rejection and abandonment has opened the door to **terminal illnesses**, I close the door, in the Almighty Name of Jesus!

*[You may need to do some strong praying if you have had any physical symptoms of severe or threatening illnesses. Name any family **terminal illness** in your family line and renounce and break them very specifically. Renounce all **fear of death** through these illnesses and the torment of the fear ... especially of **cancer**.]*

In the Name of Jesus, I take authority over the demonic power that comes with these plagues ... **to whip, to scourge, and to bring suffering and calamity.**

Father, I break every **chain of abandonment** linked to **infirmity** and **every cord of hidden self-pity, in Jesus Name!**

Father, I renounce the family curse of a **continual death-wish** because of death and hell bringing destruction down the family line.

## APOLLYON / ABBADON – SPIRIT OF DEATH

Father, I ask You for specific words of knowledge that I need regarding any **covenants of death** that I have not discerned and that have not been broken.

Father, I repent for my own sins and the sins of my forefathers in worshipping Apollyon or Abbadon, and making demonic agreements with this spirit of death.

In the Name of Jesus, I break the family curse that has brought a **destruction of Apollyon / Abbadon** into my family line.

I choose to break all subtle **agreements with death** that my family and I have made, unknowingly binding myself to destruction.

I renounce all **covenants with death**, in Jesus' Name.

I choose to reject every word or words of death that have been spoken over my life that are not in agreement with God's Covenants.

I bind the demons assigned to those words and break their power and their legal right of death from my life. I render those words powerless, in Jesus Name!

*[Release words of life as you break the words of death, in Jesus 'Name.]*

The weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but Mighty through God to the pulling down of this stronghold.

I declare that the very **mouth and jawbone of death** and hell will be broken off my life.

**I declare over my life ...**

“Destruction will not overcome me, but destruction will be overcome by the Blood of the Lamb and the word of my testimony.”

We declare that we will be released into the **abundant life** of Christ in all things!

## THE SHADOW OF DEATH

In the Name of Jesus, I take authority over the power of the **shadow of death**. I declare I will come out from the darkness of the shadow of death, hell and the grave ... in every part of my life.

I choose to hide under the Shadow of the Almighty ... and under the powerful protection of God.

I declare that death will not cast its shadow on my physical body or my health.

I smash the legal right of the **grim reaper of Molech and Chemosh** from reaping my life, emotions and mind in destruction.

I renounce and break the chains of **divination and witchcraft** that lead to **deep depression, despair, hopelessness, and seduce to suicide**.

I take the Sword of the Spirit and cut the chains pulling me into the torment of the **pit of depression**.

I lay the axe to the roots of all depression linked to **abandonment**, bringing destruction.

## MUTILATION

In the Name of Jesus, I repent of any worship of the gods of **Ashteroth** in my own life as well as in the lives of my forefathers.

I renounce all worship of these foreign gods and I ask You Father to cleanse me with the Blood of the Lamb!

In the Name of Jesus, I take authority over their hold and command a release from all **mutilation** ... as well as mutilation through accidents or even emotional circumstances.

I now choose to get off the sacrificial altar of mutilation and destruction.

In Jesus Name, I cut all ties with witchcraft, divination and mutilation.

## ALCOHOL

In the Name of Jesus, I take authority over the **alcoholic iniquity of the generations of my family line that resulted in financial trauma, continual financial distress, and family arguments** because of it.

I break any curse of **occultic accidents** in the family line, and any curse of **alcoholic accidents**, in Jesus' Name.

I break all patterns of unusual **outbursts of rage and anger** because of **financial loss, financial problems or financial insecurity**.

I break the family iniquity of **inflamed anger and rage, and insane rage with alcoholism, or occult rage**.

Father, in the Name of Jesus, I take authority over the family iniquity of alcoholism, with living continually under **emotional stress**, from one situation of having no rest, and going into another situation of emotional distress.

I break the family iniquity of "no rest" from **emotional distress, continual grief, pain and hopelessness, and emotional breakdown**.

I break the alcoholic swings of emotion because of stress and tension, and "living on my nerves".

Father, I break the occult iniquities of emotional brokenness, and emotional dysfunctionism under an occult curse, including all mood-swings, depression, continual crying, and breakdowns.

I break the family iniquity of carrying the **emotional burdens of the entire family** as the one who takes all the responsibility for the household.

*[Break the alcoholic curse of false burden of the family that you cannot possibly bear, and the emotional pull into a breakdown because of being the burden-bearer. If you lived in this pattern as a child, you will carry the same burden, even in your adult life, and it must be broken if you are going to find emotional release. **Jesus Christ** is the Burden-Bearer. Declare that – emphatically!]*

## FINANCES AND ALCOHOL

I break the curse of going from one financial crisis to another as an ungodly pattern in my life, and the living in fear and waiting for the next financial crisis, because of the family disease of alcoholism.

I break this alcoholic arm off my life and the distress of my home, in Jesus' Name.

I break the family curse of even **unusual schizophrenic behaviour, distress and loss of self-control over financial affairs.**

I break the curse of occult in bringing financial calamity, financial collapse, "bad luck", suddenly everything turning bad, bankruptcy, the loss of all savings, the loss of all assets, and the emotional distress, grief and breakdown because of loss.

I break the family iniquity of **financial destitution**, and the fear of being thrown out on the streets with nothing.

## FIRES OF DEATH AND HELL

I break the tribulation and ravaging fires of death and hell in every area of my life.

I break the fires of hell that come with **fevers**, unusual fevers, and mystery fevers .

I break every family iniquity of death through fevers and the tormenting fires of hell with the fever.

In the Name of Jesus, I take authority over burning fires of inflammation of the nerves resulting in pain, and inflammation of the joints, and arthritis and other diseases that are rooted in inflammation. I declare that these curses be broken now, in Jesus Name!

I loose my **nervous system and joints from all inflammation**, in Jesus Name!

In the Name of Jesus, I take authority over the chains of the torment of hell in my marriage, relationships and family life. I break those chains, in Jesus Name!

The gates of hell will not prevail against me and my household, nor my finances.

Only the Fire of God will be seen in my life, and I will dwell in the Throne Room of Godly Fire.

## SECRET ORGANIZATIONS

I break the **power of the skull and crossbones of death with divination and occult practices.**

I cut all ties, in Jesus' Name, to the foundations of **King Solomon in Freemasonry**, of the worship of false gods of destruction ... especially for the children.

I break the hold of death wherever our household would be under the curse of the skull and crossbones. I take the exchange that Jesus bore for me on Calvary!

The abundant life of God is my inheritance. He came to give me life, that I would have it "more abundantly" [John 10:10].

## HARVEST TIME

Father, I renounce and break the curse of **the fear of losing my salvation**, and all that torment of hell that the enemy has released against me and my family for many generations. I totally break its hold, in Jesus' Name!!

In the Name of Jesus, I stand against **death and hell binding my harvest.** I declare the release of my harvest out of the jaws of death and hell.

Holy Spirit, I ask for a complete revelation of my inheritance and harvest through Calvary. Open my eyes Lord, so that I can see my inheritance in its fullness.

Where death and hell has **swallowed up my hope, my vision, my faith and even my reason for living**, Father, please restore unto me everything that the enemy has stolen from me and my family, in Jesus Name! I totally break all of that death in Jesus Name, and I declare a powerful vision for **life!**

Thank You, Jesus! You entered into death for my sake. I thank You, Lord, for Your battle of Victory over Apollyon/Abaddon and the **total** defeat over death and hell.

Jesus, I thank You that You made "a way of escape " for me, taking death, the grave, and hell upon Yourself and giving to me Your Victorious **Life**! I receive it with my whole heart!

I will walk in my inheritance of **Life** in Your Name! Everything that has been fought and won for me on Calvary, I choose to take the full exchange In Jesus Name!

**1 Corinthians 15:55** "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting? [*Hos. 13:14.*]"

***It is finished!***

Lord as You stood before the grave of Lazarus many years ago, we ask You to do this again over us and our families ... calling us to Life in You!

We declare that death, the grave, and hell are have lost their power over us and our families, and our generations to come!

Jesus our Messiah is Risen, He is Alive, and has overcome the death, the grave, and hell!

Lord we ask You to scatter the bones of those whom encamped against us, those that brought terror and dread ... that You will put them to shame and bring us restoration!

We ask you Lord to restore our fortunes to us, and the joy of our salvation!

*Hallelujah!*

# PRAYER TO BREAK ALL TIES TO ALL FERTILITY CULTS AS WELL AS SPIRIT HUSBANDS AND WIVES

[INCUBUS AND SUCCUBUS SPIRITS]

## WITCHCRAFT IN FAMILIES

Witchcraft in families has many consequences. One of them could be a spiritual marriage claim on children where a familiar spirit “marries” a person and comes regularly during the night to have sexual relationships. A person in such a demonic “marriage” many times does not marry in the natural because they have already been claimed; or they do get married, but cannot remain faithful to the Godly Covenant.

## INCUBUS AND SUCCUBUS

These spirits are spirits that seek to have sexual intercourse with men and women during the night hours. Incubus is described as a spirit being that comes to have intimate relationships with women while they are asleep while Succubus is described as a spirit being that comes to have relationships with men in their sleep.

These dream visitors are also called “night husbands” and “night wives”, or “spirit husbands” and “spirit wives”. The demon Mare [nightmare] works with these spirits, causing dreams of sexual content. [It can manifest as a unicorn – horse with a horn on forehead. Lilith is known as the nightmare queen.]

## PRAYER

Father in the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, I repent on behalf of myself and those in my family line who had sexual relations with evil spirits, familiar spirits, dead human spirits, incubus/succubus spirits, and the demon Mare. I renounce and break any covenant or dedications to the **Nephilim, Lilith, Baal or Belial, Cleopatra, Isis, or Asherah**.<sup>9</sup>

*[Name the spirits applicable to your family situation.]*

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<sup>9</sup> For more information and prayers regarding Lilith, please see our book “*Prayers Of Renunciation: Ancient Roots*”.

## HARLOTRY

I repent for anyone in my family line that has had any connection, ties, pact or allegiance to the spirit of Harlotry. I repent for all who participated in any **fertility rites or rituals**, sacrificed, worshipped, danced before these spirits, or gave offerings to any fertility gods or goddesses.

Lord, I repent for all those who had night husbands (spirit husbands) and night wives (spirit wives). Lord, forgive us for rejecting You as our Husband and for our unfaithfulness towards You.

Forgive us for finding comfort from these spirits and for looking to them to fulfil our desires and needs. I choose to rely and trust in You for everything I need. Please restore our joy and faithfulness to the Bridegroom.

I now declare a divorce with every familiar spirit that has “married” me in the spirit and break all ties – body, soul and spirit – with this spirit. In the Name of Jesus, I declare that your claim over me is now broken! I cancel every sexual act with you and break the demonic seals that were put in place by my forefathers.

I repent for those in my family line who were involved in **astral travel, dark practices such as the occult and new age practices**. I repent for any involvement with **witches, sorcerers, magicians or ‘familiar spirits’**.

I renounce all **night spells, charms, enchantments or allurements** used by witches and warlocks at night. Please close all **ungodly pathways, portals, cracks or seams** into ungodly realms or the underworld. Father, please remove all defilement and tainting to my body, soul and spirit.

I repent for myself and any of my ancestors who have visited **sangomas, witches or warlocks** for their love witchcraft [*muti*].

I repent of buying, accepting and using their **love potions** [*muti*]. I repent of rituals performed, invocations offered up, using of bath potions, washes, charms and psychic prayers. Father, I ask forgiveness for both myself and my forefathers for using menstrual blood as a potion in witchcraft.

I repent of having my body rubbed with ceremonial liquids or allowing ceremonial liquids to be poured over my body. I repent for having **incisions** made on parts of my body and *muti* rubbed into the wounds.

I repent for the breaking up of marriages, covenants, divorces, and the destroyed relationships that resulted from having relations with these sexual spirits.

I ask that You would break off all **false love, lust, hatred, impotency, frigidity, sickness and disease** that have been caused by these spirits.

I repent on behalf of myself and my family line for all **fornication, adultery, incest, homosexuality, and sexual addiction**.

*[If you have been **sexually abused**, break the tie to the **perpetrator's** unclean spirit, and the destruction over your life with **continual sickness, disease, and body breakdown**. You may need to fast to pull down the unclean spirit. If it was sexual abuse through **incest**, you are certainly dealing with the family unclean spirit. Try to trace it as much as possible to cut the ties of the unclean spirit.]*

Father, I repent of the family sin of **perversion** and **uncleanness** that has bound my life.

I take accountability for my own sin and pull down the stronghold of an unclean spirit making bodily functions diseased or bringing me to a place of infirmity.

I smash the god of **Asherah** where **immorality and sexual perversion and temple prostitution has been in my family line**.

*[Hidden temple prostitution is a huge area today. Occult rituals involving sexual initiations are not only done in occult black witchcraft but in other more subtle forms of occult practices. It is rife in every nation.]*

Father, I break the curse of **temple prostitution** down my family line that not only opens the door to an unclean spirit and sickness, but also to all manner of sexual perversion breaking out in the family line.

I break the **curse and plagues** that come with temple prostitution, especially in the **blood, bowels and sexual organs**.

I release the Blood of Jesus to all the **major organs** of the body for the cleansing of the Blood of Jesus.

I break the family curse of temple prostitution with ritualistic abuse, where the doors have been opened in the spirit for the total destruction of **Apollyon**.

I break the family curse of being seeded with **schizophrenia** through the sin and iniquity that has come down with any **temple, sexual abuse, and with any torment in the night hours of demonic sexual activity**.

I repent for all ***pornography, rape, abuse, masturbation, lust, fantasy, any ungodly sexual contact*** with other people, ***bestiality*** (animals), all ***sexual perversion, and sex for money.***

I repent on behalf of myself and my family line for the ***shedding of innocent blood through abortion and human sacrifices.*** I repent of ***murder, pride, greed, rage, hate, jealousy, pretence, falseness, cursing, and lying.***

Father, on behalf of myself and my family line I repent of having been involved in acts that showed worship and obedience to satan and his demons through having sexual relations outside of marriage. Lord, forgive us for not following Your Commandments.

Father, I repent for allowing these evil spirits to reduce and control my will. I now choose to put my spirit, will, emotions, mind and body under the Lordship of Jesus Christ of Nazareth.

Father, on behalf of myself and my family line I repent for allowing satan to use my body as ***a temple of worship*** and so giving him power and glory. I ask You Lord to destroy the demonic temple that satan has built within me with Your Godly Fire. Father in the Name of Jesus Christ, we also now destroy both the altar and the throne within this temple, and we cancel all worship that satan received through my own and my families involvement in sexual iniquities.

Father, we now take hold of the mantles of the priest and priestesses. We strip them of their ranking and their authority that was given to them by satan. We tear their mantles, that they will never be able to service this altar evermore.

Now in the Name of Jesus Christ I renounce and take authority over ***Incubus, Succubus, Lilith and Mare, Baal and Belial*** and every other ***strongman*** not mentioned, and command them to come out of my body, soul and spirit.

I take authority over and bind every sexual demon assigned to my ***tongue, hands, fingers, breasts, hips, lower back, buttocks, sexual organs*** or any other part of my body, in the Almighty Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth.

I will no longer serve these demon spirits. I renounce Satan and all his works.

I declare a divorce with every one of these sexual demons, in the Almighty Name of Jesus of Nazareth.

## TRIPLE CORD NEEDS TO BE BROKEN

When sexual sin takes place it happens on three levels ...

- Your generational demons link with the other person's generational demons [spirit draws spirit].
- Your human spirit connects with the other person's human spirit.
- Your sex demons link with the other person's sex demons.

You need to sever these links and declare a divorce on each level.

Father, with the two-edged Sword, I sever all ties and links with every dead human spirit [generational demons], human spirit, and demon that I was linked to in every person that I was sexually involved with, in the Name of Jesus.

I separate these levels one from another and declare a divorce with every generational demon, every human spirit and every demon that was controlling the other person/s that I was sexually involved with.

In the Name of Jesus I renounce every ungodly spirit and soul tie with \_\_\_\_\_.

*[Name person/s with whom you have had sexual relationships.]*

Father I ask You to cleanse my spirit, my mind and my body in the Name of Jesus. I now apply the Blood of Jesus Christ over every single ungodly tie.

## BROOM OF DESTRUCTION

Father, sweep with Your Broom of Destruction throughout my body, soul and spirit, and remove every evil spirit still hiding anywhere in my being, in the Name of Jesus.

I command all confusion to leave and I call back all parts of my spirit and mind that have been scattered or fragmented.

Father in the Name of Jesus Christ, we ask you to remove any marks of satan that have been placed upon our family to mark us as sex slaves, and we ask You to remove all the sexual imprints that were placed upon us ... body, soul, and spirit. We ask that You would restore to us – body, soul, and spirit – our purity and holiness.

I ask You to forgive me, wash and cleanse me with the Water of Your Word, body, soul and spirit, and I ask You to restore my innocence and the Glory of my virginity. As Your child please restore my Godly dreams from Heavenly places.

I declare that I now give my body, soul and spirit into the Hands of the Almighty God of Israel as a ***temple of the Holy Spirit only!***

Father God, please increase my love for You and give me the ability to be truly faithful and spiritually intimate with You.

Thank You Father!



# PETITION FOR THE PLACENTA<sup>10</sup>

## PLACENTA AS A FOUNDATION OF LIFE

We learn from the Scriptures, that *foundations* are very *important*.

In building, a foundation is always laid first ... before any other structure is put in place.

**Psalm 11:3** “<sup>3</sup> If the foundations are destroyed, what can the [unyieldingly] righteous do, or what has He [the Righteous One] wrought or accomplished?”

Every project, assignment, career, or vision in life must have a foundation on which all other “structures” are built and established upon.

**Hebrews 3:4** “<sup>4</sup> For [of course] every house is built and furnished by someone, but the Builder of all things and the Furnisher [of the entire equipment of all things] is God.”



God observed foundation laying as His Compulsory Principle in Creation.

There is a foundation that precedes conception ... the *marriage covenant* between a husband and a wife. Upon this covenant foundation, follows the obedience to God's Word to “go forth and multiply”.

Before conception can take place, a very important foundation must be set inside the womb. The *placenta* is the *foundation* that evidences conception. The *placenta* is the root or foundation of any human being formed inside the womb.

The *placenta* is established by God to be the *foundation* of the child for the period of its existence in the womb.

Every conception, every new baby that is conceived, has its own *new* and *unique* foundation. God has so purposed that every child will have its own unique destiny! He will not use an *old* placenta for a *new* conception.

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<sup>10</sup> Excerpt from “Preparing, Expecting, And Welcoming Our Next Generation” available on the website or for order from the office.

**Matthew 7:24-27** “<sup>24</sup> So everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts upon them [obeying them] will be like a sensible (prudent, practical, wise) man who built his house upon the rock. <sup>25</sup> And the rain fell and the floods came and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. <sup>26</sup> And everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not do them will be like a stupid (foolish) man who built his house upon the sand. <sup>27</sup> And the rain fell and the floods came and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great and complete was the fall of it.”

We learn a very important Principle from this Scripture. Namely, to be obedient to the Word of God ... *acting* on the Word ... *doing* the Word ... *living* the Word ... all establish you *firmly* and ensure God's Defence. You are being used by God to establish *His Kingdom* here on earth.

When your marriage is based on the direction of the Holy Spirit, you are busy establishing your life upon the Rock ... Jesus Christ the Messiah.

The *foundation* of the *placentas* of your children will then also be established on Jesus Christ the Messiah. When the enemy tries to come in the form of storms, floods, wind or rain ... this foundation will be *sure* to stand!

**Isaiah 28:16** “<sup>16</sup> Therefore thus says the Lord God, Behold, I am laying in Zion for a foundation a Stone, a tested Stone, a precious Cornerstone of sure foundation; he who believes (trusts in, relies on, and adheres to that Stone) will not be ashamed or give way or hasten away [in sudden panic].”

A family and a marriage in Zion will have the *placentas* of their unborn children established by Yahweh!

## WHAT IS A PLACENTA?

A placenta is a living entity while in the womb. It is an organ that develops in a pregnant woman evidencing the fact that God is already introducing life in the womb.

The placenta is completely developed at about the twelfth week of the pregnancy. The stage of nausea is normally over at this time because the placenta has successfully attached itself to the womb.

All that flows from the father and the mother comes together to form a structure or *foundation* that will carry and sustain the child in the womb.

An intestine connects from the woman's umbilical cord through the placenta to the child's umbilical cord. It is like a network or a link.

The foetus is attached to the placenta by the umbilical cord.

What we clearly can see is that placenta is a physical and biological structure as well as a spiritual organ which carries positive and negative elements from both parents to the foetus.

This living organ holds the unborn child throughout the incubation period of nine or so months in the womb, and therefore is the foundation for the carrier of life for the baby inside the womb.

## WHAT DOES A PLACENTA LOOK LIKE?

The placenta is a flat circular organ with two separate surfaces.

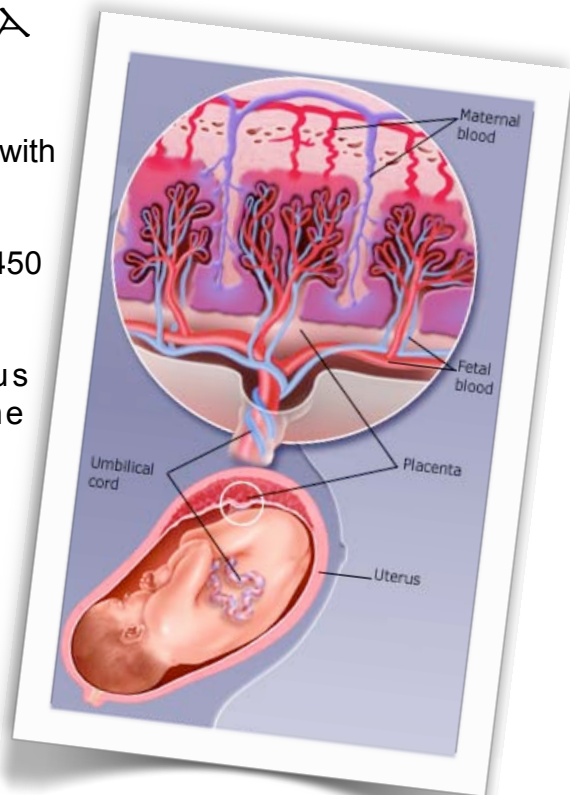
The placenta weighs approximately 450 grams or 1/6<sup>th</sup> of the baby's weight.

The umbilical cord and various membranes are attached to the placenta.

## WHAT IS AN UMBILICAL CORD?

The umbilical cord can be up to 50 cm long and varies in thickness.

Umbilical cords consist of ...



1. One large umbilical vein through which flows oxygenated blood from the placenta to the fetus.

2. Two umbilical arteries through which deoxygenated blood flow from the fetus to the placenta.

### 1. The Maternal Surface

This surface is a dark red colour and is irregularly shaped.

### 2. The Foetal Surface

This surface is a grey colour with blood vessels running in different directions across it.

## A NORMAL PLACENTA

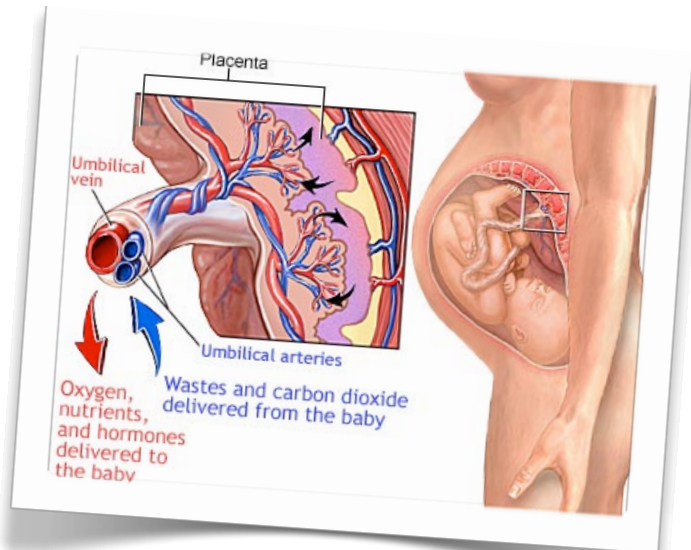
This placenta is not affected by any infections, diseases or attacks during pregnancy and as such allows the baby to be delivered safely. The normal placenta comes out easily immediately after the baby is born.

## AN ABNORMAL PLACENTA

Diseases, infections, structural deformities, as well as *spiritual attacks* from demonic agents can cause abnormalities in the placenta.

*Evil people can target the placenta to cause bleeding in early pregnancy, which can result in miscarriage.*

Abnormal placentas can lead to deformities which can cause stillbirths, mental problems or epilepsy.



## FUNCTIONS OF THE PLACENTA

**1. Intra-Uterine Life Substance.** The mother via the placenta provides the requirements for survival. Everything that the mother takes in is being filtered by the placenta for easy transmission to the unborn child for it to survive and grow from one stage of pregnancy to another until delivery. The blood that sustains the mother is not the blood that flows in the foetus. The link between the mother's womb and the foetus is the placenta.

**2. Nutritive Function.** Food substances in their simplest forms: Amino acids, glucose, fatty acids, vitamins, minerals, etc, are carried in the maternal blood for the use of the foetus.

**3. Protective Function.** The placenta offers a certain amount of protection to the foetus. It allows protective antibodies to pass to the foetus and prevents harmful substances such as certain viruses from getting to the foetus.

**4. Excretory Function.** Waste products of metabolism are excreted as well as carbon dioxide from the foetus via the maternal circulation.

**5. Spiritual Function.** The placenta in or out of the womb plays a strong and significant role in the spiritual functions of the unborn child and its destiny.

## WITCHCRAFT AND THE PLACENTA

In previous studies we have learned that man has a defined relationship with the earth. As man is obedient to God, the earth is assigned by God to bless man.

The kingdom of darkness also knows this principle and has hijacked what God has put in place.

**Psalm 74:20** *“<sup>20</sup> Have regard for the covenant [You made with Abraham], for the dark places of the land are full of the habitations of violence.”*

The dark places of the land are the places where the agents of darkness have raised demonic altars for satan. It is a habitation of cruel acts.

Witchcraft believes that much power is acquired through blood ... the life is in the blood. Because of this, there is always a blood sacrifice with every ritual made to satan. In these rituals, animal and human blood is used, and sometimes even the blood from a placenta, depending on what the satanic priest wants to achieve.

There are families all over the world that have been involved in witchcraft for generations. They have performed ritual killings and drank human blood and ate human flesh.

This sin has been passed into our lives through the placenta because we were in their loins as spiritual seeds during their generation.

Some of our ancestors even bathed in human or animal blood to obtain their power and popularity.

It is very important that all these sins are dealt with properly or else there will be serious consequences in our lives.

For generations the enemy and his evil workers have used the principle of the placenta as the foundation to transfer curses and demonic afflictions.

The placenta is the *feeder* of each generation.

The womb is the *carrier* of each generation.

Many babies are dedicated to ancestral spirits, animal spirits, water spirits, nature spirits, and so forth. This is an ungodly spiritual practice that is very annoying to God, which is still practiced by many individuals, communities, nations, and on many continents.

Many Africans up until today still have deep and accepting belief in reincarnation. They believe that the dead person has now come back to earth through a newly born baby in order to continue to do what he started doing before he/she died.

The destinies of innocent children are tied into things that do not reveal the glory of God.

God says ...

**Psalm 127:3** *“<sup>3</sup> Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward.”*



We should rise up against the witchcraft that has been practised in our families for generations!

The witchcraft in our families pollutes our land ... and this leads to violence, crises, dictatorship in government, and so forth.

The fruit of witchcraft in our families causes us to not hear God's Voice and Direction in life. We do not pick up divine signals that trigger innovations, creativity, civilization, responsibility, transparency, and development.

Look at the levels of pollution around us ... we have become inventors of evil and not good!

Our spiritual genes and bloodlines need to be dealt with in order to be free and to grow to a free society, in Jesus Christ's Name!

## COMMUNICATION WITH FOETUS THROUGH PLACENTA

**Luke 1:42-44** *“<sup>42</sup> And she cried out with a loud cry, and then exclaimed, Blessed (favored of God) above all other women are you! And blessed (favored of God) is the Fruit of your womb! <sup>43</sup> And how [have I deserved that this honor should] be granted to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? <sup>44</sup> For behold, the instant the sound of your salutation reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy.”*

This Scripture proves that communication takes place in the womb and that there is a spiritual link between the unborn and the adult.

This also teaches us that when a woman is pregnant, she should be very careful when relating to people she does not know or is well acquainted with.

The gateway of access to the baby is through the placenta. If your mother was a member of the satan's kingdom and was involved in rituals where human flesh was eaten and blood was drunk ... this means that you have also partaken in these rituals.

## EVIL PRACTICES WITH PLACENTA

In some areas, when a child is born, they will preserve the placenta until when the child grows up, to a certain age.

They will then perform a ritual with the preserved placenta. It could be roasted as a barbecue and the whole family will eat it together with the child.

This results in a serious spirit-soul tie between the family members. It can also cause havoc to spouses who marry into this family and it can even lead to divorce.

Many believers today do not realize that their families ate their placentas and many lives are caged in a spiritual prison that prevents them from growing spiritually in the things of the Lord.

Some parents were manipulated by agents of darkness to bury their children's placentas on a cursed land, next to the hut of the family *songoma* or witch-doctor.

These children may keep on dreaming of that land or the houses on that land every time they want to go forward with the things of the Lord.

They could have dreams and voices calling them back to their spiritual roots. Even hearing the voodoo drums beating and calling them back home when they are summoned by the ancestors to go home to service the family altar.

Their placenta has become a spiritual magnet drawing them back into their past.

## PRAYER

Father, we bring before You the placenta in my womb. I ask You Lord that it will be 100% functionally effective and efficient as You have purposed and ordained it to be.

Father, please establish my baby in my womb upon the Word of God. Let the power of the Revelation of the Word of God take over the Root of my placenta.

Father, we petition that the foundation of witchcraft, idolatry, polygamy and adultery in my family be destroyed by the Voice of the Lord.

**Psalms 29:5** *“<sup>5</sup> The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars; yes, the Lord breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon.”*

We ask You Holy Spirit to do a search over my life and to expose every hidden agenda of the evil one that is limiting my marriage and destiny.

We ask You Father to expose every evil plan or intention any person has against me or my children using the placenta as a point of contact be disappointed and scattered in the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth!

**Isaiah 8:9-10** *“<sup>9</sup> Make an uproar and be broken in pieces, O you peoples [rage, raise the war cry, do your worst, and be utterly dismayed]! Give ear, all you [our enemies] of far countries. Gird yourselves [for war], and be thrown into consternation! Gird yourselves, and be [utterly] dismayed! <sup>10</sup> Take counsel together [against Judah], but it shall come to nought; speak the word, but it will not stand, for God is with us [Immanuel]!”*

Father, please nullify and destroy every evil pattern of disposal of placenta in my family circle in the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth.

We ask You Lord to burn down the altars of my father's family idol in the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth!

We redeem back every drop of blood and every tissue cell of the placenta in the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth.

We take it out of the clutches of any witch, songoma or witch-doctor. We cancel the power of every ritual that was done to the placenta in Jesus Christ's Name!

We destroy every spiritual prison that has been holding me back from growing in the things of Yahweh with the Fire of God!

We declare a divorce with every spiritual husband or wife attached to my placenta in the Name of Jesus Christ.

We speak to the earth to vomit up the placenta where it was buried.

## FOREST SPIRITS

Father, we break any covenant that was made between any tree and my placenta in the Name of Jesus Christ! *(Some families plant trees together with the placenta and then the person and the tree are spiritually connected.)*

We cut myself free from every forest spirit in Jesus Christ's Name.

## ANIMAL SPIRITS

In the Name of Jesus Christ we break every covenant between my placenta and any animal be destroyed. *(If the placenta was given to dogs to eat, then a spirit of immorality will rule over the child.)*

## WATER SPIRITS

Father, where my placenta has been placed in the waters and connected to water spirits, we ask You to please cut off all ties to this occultic power base in Jesus Christ's Name.

## SPIRITS OF THE DEAD

In the Name of Jesus Christ we break every covenant between my placenta and the grave. *(Sometimes the placenta is buried in a grave.)*

We bind every evil spirit that has been summoned to utilize my spirit, in Jesus Christ's Name.

We cut off every placenta attachment to my place of birth in Jesus Christ's Name.

In the Name of Jesus Christ, we take back every blessing that was lost through placenta manipulation ... we recover and possess them now!

## PRAYER FOR YOUR CHILD'S PLACENTA

Father, we thank You for the wonderful path of pregnancy that I could walk in for the past nine months.

Thank You for watching over me and my baby every step of the way ... every little detail of creation taking place within my body is the greatest miracle of life!

Father, I present to You my placenta as a living sacrifice according to Romans Chapter 12 ...

**Romans 12:1** *"I APPEAL to you therefore, brethren, and beg of you in view of [all] the mercies of God, to make a decisive dedication of your bodies [presenting all your members and faculties] as a living sacrifice, holy (devoted, consecrated) and well pleasing to God, which is your reasonable (rational, intelligent) service and spiritual worship."*

**AMEN!**

# DEALING WITH COVENANTS THAT HAVE TO DO WITH OUR NAMES

Names are very significant. The names we bear whether the ones given to us or our family names can affect our lives positively or negatively.

Your name is your social and spiritual identity. Every name carries a positive or a negative anointing. The anointing on your name is triggered off each time you are called by that name. Your name goes a long way in determining your destiny. Names that glorify satan, deities, idols and traditions provoke God and bring His Wrath on the bearer.

People give names according to their beliefs. Names are an expression of our faith. When one is named after the Lord, it is like putting a stamp of God on the child. In the same way, when we are given names associated with the family or community idols, we are attached to the spirits of these idols, and no evil spirit has a good plan for its patrons and their generations.

Friend, find out the meaning of your names. We advise that you change immediately any name glorifying an idol or the devil. Renounce the spirits behind the name, and revoke all the demonic covenants attached to these names.

Prayer Strategy:

- Find out the meaning of those names and why the names were given.
- Anoint your forehead and navel as you break off the power behind your former names. *(The navel is an entry point in the spirit for generational demons).*

**Exodus 23:13** <sup>“13</sup> *In all I have said to you take heed; do not mention the name of other gods [either in blessing or cursing]; do not let such speech be heard from your mouth.”*

**Deuteronomy 7:25-26** <sup>“25</sup> *The graven images of their gods you shall burn with fire. You shall not desire the silver or gold that is on them, nor take it for yourselves, lest you be ensnared by it, for it is an abomination to the Lord your God. <sup>26</sup> Neither shall you bring an abomination (an idol) into your house, lest you become an accursed thing like it; but you shall utterly detest and abhor it, for it is an accursed thing.”*

**1 Chronicles 4:9-10** <sup>“9</sup> *Jabez was honorable above his brothers; but his mother named him Jabez [sorrow maker], saying, Because I bore him in pain. <sup>10</sup> Jabez cried to the God of Israel, saying, Oh, that You would bless me and enlarge my border, and that Your hand might be with me, and You would keep me from evil so it might not hurt me! And God granted his request.”*

**Genesis 17:5-6** *<sup>5</sup> Nor shall your name any longer be Abram [high, exalted father]; but your name shall be Abraham [father of a multitude], for I have made you the father of many nations. <sup>6</sup> And I will make you exceedingly fruitful and I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you.”*

**Genesis 32:24-30** *<sup>24</sup> And Jacob was left alone, and a Man wrestled with him until daybreak. <sup>25</sup> And when [the Man] saw that He did not prevail against [Jacob], He touched the hollow of his thigh; and Psalm 16:4 (AMP) <sup>4</sup> Their sorrows shall be multiplied who choose another god; their drink offerings of blood will I not offer or take their names upon my lips.”*

**Joshua 23:7** *<sup>7</sup> That you may not mix with these nations that remain among you, or make mention of the names of their gods or swear by them or serve them or bow down to them.”*

**Isaiah 62:2** *<sup>2</sup> And the nations shall see your righteousness and vindication [your rightness and justice—not your own, but His ascribed to you], and all kings shall behold your salvation and glory; and you shall be called by a new name which the mouth of the Lord shall name.”*

My Lord God Almighty, I thank You for You have made me Your child. I am named after You.

Lord, I repent before you for my long-term ignorance about the effects of the name I bear.

Father, forgive me for indirectly provoking You by bearing idol names.

I confess and acknowledge that You are my Maker, Healer, Blessor, Protector, Deliverer, Supplier, Defender, Redeemer and Strengthener. No idol or god can do all these for me. It's only You.

Right now I immerse myself and my destiny in the Blood of Jesus to be purged of every idolatrous contaminations and defilements that have come on me because of my name(s).

My life and destiny receive a complete cleansing right now in Jesus Name.

In the Name of Jesus, we break the demonic seals over my name and we bind and rebuke the sealing demons assigned to keep any demonic structures in place over my life.

From now, We renounce all the idolatrous names attached to me and my family.

We renounce all the idols attached to these names.

In the spirit realm, We cancel all the ancestral covenants attached to the name \_\_\_\_\_ (mention the name).

We have no dealing with you spirit of \_\_\_\_\_ (*mention the idol*). All you spirits behind this name, get out of my life, in the Name of Jesus.

We refuse to be under your control and influence any longer. We place you under the Feet of the Lord Jesus Christ according to the Scriptures. As we nullify the power of these evil names I take on a new name (*mention it and prophesy on it*). As my name is attached to God, to success and prosperity in the Lord's Kingdom, it shall be well with me in the Name of Jesus.

**Psalm 110:1** *"<sup>1</sup> THE LORD (God) says to my Lord (the Messiah), Sit at My right hand, until I make Your adversaries Your footstool."*

Let the fire of the Holy Spirit consume any seal, stamp or label of evil that was attached to my former name marking me in the spirit in the Name of Jesus Christ!

I receive now the seal of the Holy Spirit upon me in the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**AMEN!**



## A WORD ON JEALOUSY

Jealousy is very prominent among African people. Individuals are jealous over each other as well as families and tribes. If they see another individual / family / tribe prospering, they will consult witch-doctors to place curses on them to try and stop them from progressing and prospering.

*Jealousy is so powerful - it can kill and destroy.*

Christians can also be jealous of one another and this can be just as dangerous as if this Christian goes to a witch-doctor to curse his brother or sister, family or tribe.

We need to study exactly what jealousy is all about so that we can protect ourselves from being the target of jealousy.

## PARTNERING WITH OTHER DEMONS

The spirit of jealousy seems to be able to partner very effectively with other demons. There are certain demonic entities that come in pairs or triplets. If we deal with only one part of the unholy alliance, the problem seems to reoccur.

[For example, on a simplistic level, if you deal with a **critical and judgmental spirit**, there would be significant success in the deliverance, but after a period of time, the problem would come back.

What you need to understand that you also have to deal with the **perfectionism** in that individual. Frequently an individual that is **outwardly judgmental of others** is inwardly judgmental of himself, (that is the perfectionism). It is two sides of the same point of criticism and you have to deal with both sides.]

Similarly, there are **five primary demonic strongholds that seem to partner with, or establish an unholy alliance with jealousy**. Those alliances need to be dealt with.

1. First of all, there is a **spirit of death and infirmity**. If that is a generational problem in the family line and the spirit of jealousy is also attacking the individual, it is a dangerous mix.
2. We also see jealousy frequently attaching to somebody who already has a **victim spirit**.
3. A third demonic stronghold is **Freemasonry**.
4. A fourth one is any kind of **financial curse**.
5. The fifth one is **mental confusion or even mental illness** in a family line.

When someone has an inability to perceive true reality or is living in denial, it suggests the possibility of a spirit of mental confusion or mental illness in the family line.

Any one of these five by itself is a nuisance. Each one of them seems to be a magnet attracting a spirit of jealousy from other people, with the two demonic powers forming an unholy alliance.

When doing the family survey, try to identify whether any of these five is present, and if so, call them to attention and sever the alliance between them and the spirit of jealousy before taking them on individually.



# COVENANTS THAT PROVIDE PROTECTION FOR DEMONS

It is important to understand covenants of protection.

**Isaiah 28:14-15** *"Therefore hear the word of the Lord, you scoffers who rule this people in Jerusalem. You boast, 'We have entered into a covenant with death, with the grave we have made an agreement. When an overwhelming scourge sweeps by, it cannot touch us, for we have made a lie our refuge and falsehood our hiding place.'"*

This is not just empty boasting. **There are in fact covenants that provide protection for demons.** If you are trying to evict a demonic intruder who is resistant, it may be that **there is a covenant providing protection for that evil spirit. If there is an unholy alliance between jealousy and death, the victim spirit, or Freemasonry,** a lot of time could be spent commanding, rejecting and renouncing, without result because **their unholy alliances do indeed afford the demons some level of protection.**

A verse in Isaiah gives us the solution to this problem.

**Isaiah 28:16-18** *"So this is what the Sovereign Lord says: 'See, I lay in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation; the one who trusts will never be dismayed. I will make justice the measuring line and righteousness the plumb line; hail will sweep away your refuge, the lie, and water will overflow your hiding place. Your covenant with death will be annulled; your agreement with the grave will not stand. When the overwhelming scourge sweeps by, you will be beaten down by it.'"*

**A covenant that was voluntarily entered into by two parties is allowed to stand; regardless of the pain it causes one party or the other, unless there is a law that supersedes it.**

For example, from time to time we read of individuals who were brought from other countries to South Africa under some form of agreement that amounts to slavery. The fact that they voluntarily entered into a binding agreement is immaterial.

The fact that they promised to exchange a certain amount of labour in return for passage to South Africa is immaterial. The covenant they made with the businessman is instantly annulled when immigration officials find out about it, since the law of this land supersedes whatever agreements they entered into for slavery.

Similarly, there are ancient generational covenants that were made voluntarily at some point, and they provide a measure of protection for the demons in an individual's life.

However, those covenants are subject to the higher law of the universe.

Any individual can appeal to the Righteous Judge of the Universe on the basis of those covenants not being just or righteous according to the supreme law that God has established.

**Then, if God agrees that those covenants stand in violation of His law, He declares them annulled. That removes the protection the demons once had.**

Once the unholy alliances and the covenants of protection have been annulled by God, we proclaim that the individual has voluntarily entered into a Blood Covenant relationship with Jesus.

**We proclaim that this Covenant transcends and supersedes every other covenant, agreement, or protection.**

**We command each of the different demonic heads to stand alone at attention with those under them, not in communication with each other and not helping each other.**

**At the same time we may find it necessary to block any demonic reinforcement coming from the land or the building.**

Once all the preparatory work is done, we come to the heart of the matter and that is **severing the agreements with the devil**. We proclaim the truth that this individual has a legal right to receive everything God has given him.

We may list life, health, beauty, mental acuity, skills, talents, spiritual gifts, family, wealth, ministry, open doors or whatever the focus of the jealousy has been. **We ask God to open the books and to identify every individual who has thought, spoken or written untrue words about the things God has given us.**

**We then ask God to sever every agreement that was entered into between any two people or any groups of individuals and to only allow to stand those things that are true.**

**Then we ask God to sever the agreements between human beings and the demonic realm where those agreements empowered the spirit of jealousy, directly or indirectly.**

As simple as that sounds, the act of verbally severing known and unknown agreements has liberated hundreds of people from the power of Satan's toxic emotions.

**Satan is always jealous of what we have that he will no longer have, yet he cannot arbitrarily attack us with jealousy. He needs someone else to come into agreement with his devaluation of us.**

**We cannot change his toxicity, but we can stop the flow by asking God to judge the thoughts and words of other people, and to sever every agreement with a lie.**

*It works!*



## PETITION

Father, in the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, we bring **every ancient generational covenant and any other covenant agreement** that was made on my behalf, or done knowingly or unknowingly by me, before You now.

We acknowledge that they were made voluntarily at some point and in so doing **provided a measure of protection for the demons in my personal life.**

We want to declare that everyone of those covenants are subject to the higher Law of the universe.

We now appeal to the **Righteous Judge** of the Universe on the basis of those covenants not being **JUST** or **RIGHTEOUS** according to the Supreme Law that God has established.

We petition You, Father, to hear our cry that those covenants stand in direct violation of Your Law, and that You will declare them annulled.

We thank You Father, for now **removing the protection the demons** once had!!

We declare the **unholy alliances and the covenants of protection for the demons have now been annulled by God, Creator of the Universe!!**

We proclaim that we have, as individuals, voluntarily entered into a Blood Covenant relationship with Jesus Christ. We proclaim that this Covenant transcends and supersedes every other covenant, agreement, or protection.

We command each of the **different demonic heads** to stand **alone** and at attention with those that are assigned under you.

You are **not** allowed to **communicate** with each other and you are not allowed to help each other, in Jesus Christ's Name! We separate you one from another in the Name of Jesus Christ!

We now also block any **demonic reinforcement** coming from the **land** or the **building** we are in, in Jesus Christ's Name!

We cut off **all communication lines** with the demons present in this deliverance situation with the **strongman** and his demons operating over the city/area/locality, in Jesus Christ's Name!

We speak to any **external strongman**: "In the Name of Jesus Christ, you will not send any **reinforcements** to help the demons here in this place that we are trying to evict!!"

In the Name of Jesus Christ, we proclaim **the truth** that we have a **legal right** to receive everything God has given us namely:

- Life, Health, Beauty, Mental Sharpness
- Skills, Talents, Spiritual Gifts
- Family, Wealth, Fame, Ministry
- Open Doors, Joy, Peace, A Future
- Destiny and Sonship in Jesus Christ of Nazareth

We ask You God to **open the Books** and to identify every individual who has **thought, spoken, or written untrue words** about the things God has given us.

We now ask You, Father, to **severe every agreement** that was entered into between any two people or any groups of individuals and to only allow to stand those things that are true.

We now also ask You Father, to **severe the agreements between human beings and the demonic realm** where those agreements empowered the **spirit of jealousy**, directly or indirectly and which resulted in **curses** upon our lives – namely to **steal, kill and destroy**.

Father, we petition that You will **now judge the thoughts and words** of any **agent of satan** or **child of God** that has come to **falsely accuse** us before You, Almighty God, satan and men – Lord, **severe every agreement of lying accusation against us, in Jesus Christ's Name!!**

We ask You to break every curse in the Name of Jesus Christ, reverse the curses and turn them into blessings!!

Thank You, **Father**, for Your Faithfulness!!

Thank You **Jesus Christ**, for the price You paid by taking on all the forces of darkness and **OVERCOMING THEM FOR US!!**

Thank You **Holy Spirit**, for leading us every step of the way to **appropriate** what Jesus Christ has done for us, and to be the **seal** on our lives that we are **more than conquerors** through Jesus Christ the Messiah, Who **always** leads us into **triumph** over our enemies!!

**AMEN!**

## *Additional Studies ...*

*The following books are available as free downloads from the website, or for order from the office.*

1. "How Fertility Cults Devour Our Blessings"
2. "Man's Relationship To God And Earth"
3. "The Four Elements"
4. "HTSBH: Sodomy And Sexual Abuse"
5. "HTSBH: Harlotry And Idolatry"
6. "Daughters Of The King ... Come Out Of Bondage"
7. "HTSBH: Restoring Your Sexuality"
8. "Prayer Altars"
9. "Altars And Covenants"
10. "Voodoo Background And Prayer Of Repentance"
11. "African Renaissance"
12. "Breaking The Curse Of Alcoholism"

In closing, after these curses have been dealt with and broken, it is very important to restore BLESSINGS ... we want to encourage ***fathers*** to take this calling seriously, and to begin **BLESSING** their families according to the Commandment of the LORD that the priests bless with the following blessing ...

## *The Priestly Blessing ...*

*Numbers 6:24-26*

“<sup>24</sup> The LORD bless thee, and keep thee:  
<sup>25</sup> The LORD make his face shine upon  
thee, and be gracious unto thee: <sup>26</sup> The  
LORD lift up his countenance upon thee,  
and give thee peace.”

# *The Priestly Blessing ...*

Hebraic Translation<sup>1</sup>

"YHVH will kneel before you presenting gifts, and He will guard you with a hedge of protection, YHVH will illuminate the wholeness of His Being toward you, bringing order, and He will provide you with love, sustenance, and friendship, YHVH will lift up the wholeness of His Being and look upon you, and He will set in place all you need to be whole and complete."

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\*Translation by Jeff A. Benner, for more information, please see [http://www.ancient-hebrew.org/12\\_blessing.html](http://www.ancient-hebrew.org/12_blessing.html)

# The Priestly Blessing<sup>1</sup>

יְבָרֶכְךָ יְהוָה וַיִּשְׁמְרֶךָ:

and may he guard you      the LORD      may he bless you

May the LORD<sup>2</sup> bless you<sup>3</sup> and keep you<sup>4</sup>

יָאֵר יְהוָה פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיַּחֲנֶנֶךָ:

and show you favor      on you      his face      the LORD      May he shine

May the LORD make His face<sup>5</sup> shine<sup>6</sup> upon you and be gracious<sup>7</sup> to you

יִשָּׂא יְהוָה פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיִּשֶׂם לְךָ שְׁלוֹם:

peace      for you      and establish      on you      his face      the LORD      may he lift up

May the LORD lift up<sup>8</sup> his face to you and give you peace<sup>9</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This blessing is (ritually) recited (by the kohanim) during synagogue services during *Nesiat Kapayim* ("the Raising of the Hands"), though it is also recited over children on Friday night before the start of the Shabbat meal or as a bedtime blessing.

<sup>2</sup> The name *YHVH* (יהוה) represents God's attributes of love and mercy (מִדַּת הַרְחֵמִים), in contradistinction to the name *Elohim* (אֱלֹהִים), which represents God's attribute of justice and power as our Creator.

<sup>3</sup> בְּרַכָּה (*b'rachah*). Jewish tradition considers this both material and spiritual prosperity. Pirkei Avot 3:15 says, "If there is no flour, there is no Torah," by which is meant that material benefits are intended to help you pursue study of Torah. The first occurrence of the word "blessing" in the Scriptures pertains to *pru urvu* (פְּרוּ וּרְבוּ), "be fruitful and multiply" (Gen. 1:22).

<sup>4</sup> שָׁמַר (*shamar*): To guard, protect, heed, as in the exercise of diligent care. Only God has the power to secure the conferred blessing and keep it from turning sour or from fading away.

<sup>5</sup> The word for "face" (פָּנִים) is plural with the 3rd person singular ending. It is considered metaphorical since God is incorporeal. The plural form is thought by some to indicate God's revealed and hidden attributes in creation.

<sup>6</sup> The hiphil verb (יָאֵר) comes from the word "light" (אֹר), and is thought to refer to God's wisdom. "May God enlighten you" with His wisdom, i.e., the Divine Light that preceded the work of creation (Gen. 1:3).

<sup>7</sup> May God grant you grace or favor (חֵן), i.e., to understand the "breadth and length and height and depth" of God's love (Eph. 3:18). Grace refers to the bestowal of an undeserved gift. The blessing is bestowed even though unearned or unmerited.

<sup>8</sup> Since one's face is an indication of the heart's attitude, Rashi says that this means God will suppress His anger by "looking at you" (if God is angry at you, He "turns His face away" and refuses to admit your presence). The "lifting of face" also pictures God lifting you up as a father might lift up his child in joy. The "showing of face" indicates spiritual intimacy.

<sup>9</sup> All of the other blessings are useless without the establishment of inner peace, and therefore it is the seal of the blessing. Shalom (שְׁלוֹם) is not simply the absence of strife, but a balance and harmony between the finite and infinite, the temporal and the eternal, the material and the spiritual realms. Shalom is a gift from Sar Shalom (שַׂר שְׁלוֹם), the Prince of Peace.