

Sunday, November 5, 2023—Galatians 5:20 The Works Of The Flesh, Part 2 (Witchcraft)

### Galatians 5:20

- **Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,**
- **Witchcraft**—According to Noah Webster’s *American Dictionary of the English Language* the English word “witchcraft” carries the following meanings.
  - 1. The practices of witches; sorcery; enchantments; intercourse with the devil.
  - 2. Power more than natural.
- *Strong’s Concordance* offers the following definition for the Greek word *pharmakeia*: “the use or the administering of 1) drugs; 2) poisoning; 3) sorcery, magical arts, often found in connection with idolatry and fostered by it; 4) metaph. the deceptions and seductions of idolatry.”
  - Revelation 9:21; 18:23
- It is often used in conjunction with idolatry, either as an inducement or as a result.
  - I Samuel 15:23, II Chronicles 33:6—Hebrew word of “witchcraft” means to practice divination.
    - Divination: The act of divining; a foretelling of future events, or discovering things secret or obscure, by the aid of superior beings, or by other than human means (Numbers 2:27, Deuteronomy 18:10). (Webster’s 1828)
    - Revelation 9:21, 18:23
  - Genesis 41:8, 24—when God suffered to Gentile to walk in their own ways one of the things, they got into was “witchcraft.”
  - Deuteronomy 18:10-12
  - Exodus 7:8-13
  - Daniel 1:2; 2:2, 27; 4:7-9; 5:11
  - I Samuel 28:7-25
  - Exodus 22:18
  - Leviticus 19:31; 20:6, 27
  - Deuteronomy 13:1-4
  - Acts 16:16—“divination” is a translation of the Greek word *python*, which means, Pythō (the name of the region where Delphi, the seat of the famous oracle, was located); a

Python, i.e. (by analogy, with the supposed diviner there) inspiration (soothsaying):—divination,” according to *Strong’s Concordance*.

- II Thessalonians 2:3-10—Satan works through “lying wonders.”
- Revelation 13:1-12—it is through “lying wonders” that world is persuaded to worship the Beast.
- Galatians 5:20—“witchcraft” is a work of the flesh because it entices people to get their needs met and questions answered apart from Christ and the scriptures.
  - Galatians 4:8-9—many of the Gentile believers in Galatia had a history in pagan idolatry which would have no doubt included elements of “witchcraft.” Therefore, it would have been very easy for them to revert to this flesh pattern in their thinking.
- Getting involved in “witchcraft” and the occult will mess up your life.