

Voodoo's Background

Voodoo is concentrated in people who originated from Africa (where the predominant religion is **animism**). They worship objects and whatever element of nature which they see as "spirits" in these things, from "spirits" and even see them as "gods.", and when they came to Haiti, this religion was more formalized and developed once there. Being slaves of Catholic Spaniards, the Spanish forced Catholicism on them, but these Africans kept their former animism. From Catholicism and its concepts, voodoo was created. They believe in many gods. They honor a god, bondye (this is the Creole word for god), that is both masculine and feminine at the same time.

Under this god, **they believe that there are spirits that inhabit rocks, rivers, trees**, etc. They sacrifice animals and worship their own ancestors. **These "spirits" are the "voodoo"**. More or less, they consider these voodooos as the Catholics consider their "saints". They worship them making prayers (petitions) to them for help. **In Catholicism, the dead are able to still interact with things in the earth in the form of their being a spirit.** (Hebrews 9:27 *And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.* According to this verse, the souls of the dead are not still walking the earth after their death, but they are in heaven or hell, also see **Luke 16:19-31**. God imposes limitations on what is possible, and **God prohibits the dead from returning to earth.**)

Colossians 1:16 *For by him (Jesus Christ) were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:* So according to the Bible, **there are no spirits except those that Jesus made**, and the Bible tells us that the third part of them were expelled from heaven. All these spirits are inferior to Jesus who is God, and so they are subject to God as their Creator.

The God of the Bible is the only God

Deuteronomy 4:35 *Unto thee it was shewed, that thou mightest know that the LORD he is God; there is none else beside him.* **39** *Know therefore this day, and consider it in thine heart,* that the LORD he is God in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath: **there is none else.** **Isaiah 44:6** *Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the*

last; and beside me there is no God. Even though there are many who are promoted by men to be gods, there is no Supreme Being except the Lord. None of these have the power of the true God of the Bible. Satan without a doubt has power, and perhaps he is the most powerful created being, but he is not God, nor "a god." And God is not a created being so there can be no comparison. **John 17:3** *And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.*

Voodoo comes from Catholicism

Psalms 115:3 *But our God is in the heavens: he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased.* **Proverbs 19:21** *There are many devices in a man's heart; nevertheless the counsel of the LORD, that shall stand.* Really, voodoo and Catholicism have a lot in common. If we understand that **there is God who alone is the only Supreme Being, and then His will is important.** But God wants us (human beings) to obey Him voluntarily. In Catholicism, they accept and teach that the Lord God of the Bible exists, but they think that **they have a way to achieve their own will even if God just says no.** This way is through the virgin Mary (and the saints in a lesser degree). They use the respect of a son for his mother, and they twist this to understand that Jesus absolutely must obey whatever thing his "mother" tells Him to do. Catholics worship the virgin Mary, and they think that because they worship and honor her, she orders Jesus to do whatever they ask of her. **But why would she comply with THEIR PETITIONS and ask Jesus? Nobody explains that point.** But in believing this, they think that Jesus God HAS TO OBEY HER, and through this twisting thought process, **Jesus must obey them.**

So, instead of accepting and using prayer to make your petitions known to God, **they seek to by-pass His will in order to do their own will.** Because they use spells and other "manipulations of nature", supposedly witches can achieve their own will. **John 5:30** *I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just, because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.* So, Jesus is not obligated to obey anybody's will only God the Father's will). Jesus showed us the way by being subject to the will of God the Father, and not demanding his own will. **Magic seeks to exactly achieve the will of the person using it.**

Magic

Leviticus 19:26 *Ye shall not eat anything with the blood: neither shall ye use enchantment, nor observe times.* **Deuteronomy 18:10** *There shall not be found*

among you anyone that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire (this is modern day abortion), or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch, 11 Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer. 12 For all that do these things are an abomination unto the LORD: and because of these abominations the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee. 14... but as for thee, the LORD thy God hath not suffered thee so to do. So, all witchcraft is an abomination before God. We are not to get involved with any of this. Being an abomination in God's point of view, God will strongly punish everybody who does get involved with this. Because of these practices in the time of ancient Israel, **God decided to destroy these people, because they got involved with witchcraft,** (which land is where Israel is today, on the land of Palestine), and God promised this land to the Jews. It was because of their sins of witchcraft that these nations lost their lives and their lands. Today in Haiti, we see the exact same consequences as in Bible times when a nation gives itself over to witchcraft, and they suffer tremendous loss of the most valuable things in life.

Mediums and Necromancers

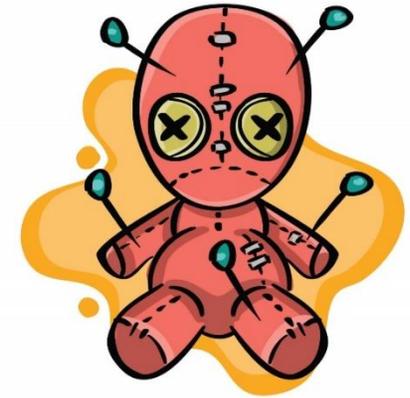
Leviticus 19:31 *Regard not them that have familiar spirits, neither seek after wizards, to be defiled by them: I am the LORD your God.* To be exact, a **medium** is a person who tries or makes contact with a "spirit", and a **necromancer** is a person that makes contact with a "dead human being." If they make contact "with a spirit," it is not the human being that they were looking for but in fact, **they are contacting a demon disguised as that human.** God commands us to not consult with either. God has a very harsh view towards those that practice or attempt this. (**Exodus 22:18** *Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live.*) So, in no way should a believer be involved with these that are condemned by God.

The point in all of this to see is that God is sovereign over our lives and everything that happens in this world. **Human beings should seek God for information, guidance, and to ask Him for what they need and want.**

Isaiah 8:19 *And when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter: should not a people seek unto their God? for the living to the*

Voodoo, the Worship of False Gods and Magic

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Exodus 20:3 *Thou shalt have no other gods before me.* **4** *Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth:* **5** *Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them...* Voodoo is a belief and practice that **really comes from Catholicism**, mixing Christianity with African religions. They worship objects from the land, rivers, woods, etc. Catholicism, supposedly, is based in the Holy Scriptures of the Bible, but Catholicism was formed by taking beliefs and practices from paganism, and changing the names of pagan gods and persons, and using in their place names from the Bible. If a Greek god, Zeus, is called "God" (theos), that does not make him the God of the Bible. What they have is barbaric. Many practice voodoo yet still consider themselves "good Catholics," and voodoo does not hinder their "Catholicism". **Voodoo is involved with magic, mediums, and necromancy**, all which are highly condemned in the Bible. (In Cuba and other places, it is called "Santeria" and in Brazil, "Candomblé".)

dead? **20** *To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.* People who seek the help of witches instead of God have no light of the truth of our situation. They are acting without understanding the reality around them. But man is rebellious (**1 Samuel 15:23** *For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry...*), and is not subject to God, and this is the real problem. (**1 Chronicles 10:14** *And (Saul) enquired not of the LORD: therefore he slew him,* and turned the kingdom unto David the son of Jesse.) In other words, Saul consulted with a medium, a witch, and he didn't consult with the Lord, so God killed him. **Leviticus 20:6** *And the soul that turneth after such as have familiar spirits, and after wizards, to go a whoring after them, I will even set my face against that soul, and will cut him off from among his people.* If you think that there is some reason to go to these witches in helping you with the problems of your life, the result will be the opposite. **God, who controls everything in your life, promises you that He will oppose you, harm you, and cause your life to be ruined if you consult with them.**

Luke 16:26 *And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence.* Jesus told the parable of the rich man and Lazarus. In this parable, notice that at the time that a human being dies, **IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO RETURN OR COMMUNICATE WITH THE LIVING.** The rich man wanted Abraham to send somebody to warn his family (still alive), and Abraham told him that they had the testimony of Jesus, the Bible, and the preachers and Christians, and if they would not hear them, then they would be lost to hell once they die. (**Ecclesiastes 9:5-6** *the dead no longer have any participation in the affairs of the living*)

Free in Jesus Christ

Galatians 5:1 *Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.* **1 Peter 2:16** *As free, and not using your liberty for a cloak of maliciousness, but as the servants of God.* **Voodoo is very related to harming others.** But salvation in Jesus Christ is totally the opposite. We do good things to other people. The wickedness in the heart is what enslaves us. Love is what frees us.

Ephesians 4:31 *Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice:* **32** *And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.* **Aggression in the heart towards others is something like a cancer eating away at the person, enslaving the person to wickedness.**

Romans 12:18 *If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.* **19** *Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.* **20** *Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.* (**Proverbs 6:16-19; Matthew 6:14-15; Proverbs 12:18; 1 Peter 3:10**) The attitude of God is that His children should live quietly with the rest of the world.

How to Break Voodoo

1 John 5:4 *For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.* For a person to win over the forces of darkness as in those of voodoo, he has to be saved, believing in Jesus Christ as his personal Savior. Faith is what saves a person. Faith is to believe in somebody, in other words, to have such confidence in Jesus, that embracing Jesus is the only way to solve the problems of life, and the only way to receive what we need and want in this life. We ask Jesus.

If you have confidence in God for everything in life, in the Saviour Jesus Christ for your salvation, **you must cut all relationships with voodoo and everything in the culture around it.** You must reject any object used in voodoo, with the priest of voodoo, with the ceremonies and rituals of voodoo. You must set aside the aggression behind voodoo to harm others. The victory of a child of God is seen in rejecting the hatred that Satan promotes to take instead the love of God. (**1 John 4:7** *Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and everyone that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.* **8** *He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.*) The child of God is marked by his love, not by his own will nor by his hatred for others. **1 John 4:1** *Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.*