

DANCING WITH THE DEAD

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I don't know about you but I've never had an interest in speaking with the dead, though in a sense I guess you could say I've had this happen because I've spoken with some people in Heaven such as my pastor, John Osteen back in 2003, who the world would consider dead because he "died" in 1999. But normally I'm speaking about necromancy when I refer to *speaking* with the dead. People all over the world practice this and we know from the Scriptures that it is forbidden by the Lord. Why? Because it can harm you and the Lord wants to protect His children!

But Jesus corrected the Pharisees and religious leaders of Israel during His time in Palestine regarding their definition of the dead.

"He is not the God of the dead, but of the living,
For all live unto Him." ■ Matthew 22:32, Mark 12:27, Luke 20:38

With the rise of the occult in America and the West during the past 20 years and its influence in Hollywood because of Shirley McClain, we've seen a huge increase in the number of people, even in the Church, who are involved in these things and it is doing them grave damage. But that's not the subject of this teaching article. Rather than focus on the occult, I want

to focus on the Church and, in particular, the false churches. Several months ago we ministered in Alabama and as we were being driven from the airport along the highway there were many churches, many of them quite beautiful, sitting upon the hills with their steeples rising high in the sky. But as I “looked” at them I saw in the spirit their spiritual image and it was a white tombstone!

Now obviously every single church is not this way but, unfortunately, the majority are! Praise God for those who are still preaching the true Word and are allowing the Spirit of God to move in their midst—we are privileged to minister in these but there are many who, quite frankly, are bringing death to the people who attend—sometimes its spiritual death and sometimes its physical death.

But you need to understand something if you don't know it already. The difference between the two—the real and the false—the living and the dead—is the Holy Spirit. He is the great Leader of the Church on earth and He is a huge, swelling river of life—He's not a stagnant pool of dirty water. *If* He is allowed to flow, then He will bring life to the congregation but if He is restrained or not allowed in the church at all then that church will only bring death, my brother and sister, no matter how big it is or how nice the building is.

About 10 years ago we were ministering in Portland, OR, at the largest Pentecostal church in that area. The Executive Pastor was interested in deliverance ministry and he was asking for our help. During the night the Lord gave me a vision. I found myself in a boat in a river that was full of dirty, foul-smelling and stagnant water. There were only a few other “boats” with ministers in them on the water with me trying to clean up the river. All of a sudden, the pastor we were involved with came paddling toward me in the water but instead of a boat he was paddling a bookcase!

Twenty-one years ago the Lord gave me a prophecy that continues to come true. I was back from West Africa and a prophet prophesied over me, “You go abroad and you see these things and then you come back here and you see the same thing. And you say, ‘Why can’t people see? Why can’t they perceive?’”

Well, I know the answer to that question—it’s because we aren’t developed spiritually and we don’t recognize the true from the false even though it should be quite easy even if you don’t have a good gift of *Discerning of Spirits* (cf. 1 Cor. 12) operating in your life. Most Christians haven’t developed **The Eye of the Eagle**. Twenty years ago the dominant of the *Revelation* gifts of the Spirit in my life was the Word of Knowledge but now it’s definitely Discerning of Spirits.

Yesterday I turned on one of the Balaam networks to see their “campmeeting.” But, of course, it wasn’t a genuine campmeeting at all but just another fund raiser. They had some “man of god” on there and they had a big rock in the middle of the room and the “man of god” was asking for 1,000 people to sow a seed of \$1,000 and if you did then they wrote your name on a piece of paper and threw it next to the big rock with the promise that when they got the required number of suckers, eh, I mean people who gave \$1,000, then the “man of god” was going to pour oil over the rock and onto the names of people scribbled on the papers.

Now the real term campmeeting, if you’re not familiar with Church history, originated with Bishop Francis Asbury, the first bishop of the Methodist church in America. One of the best books I ever read many years ago was titled, *Francis Asbury, God’s Circuit Rider*. You can order the book from Amazon.

I’m proud to have been saved in the Methodist Church but the Methodist Church of today is not the same as that which John Wesley began. John Wesley once said, ““Give me one hundred preachers who fear nothing but

sin and desire nothing but God, and I care not a straw whether they be clergymen or laymen, such alone will shake the gates of hell and set up the kingdom of God on earth.” Francis Asbury was such a man; he originated the real “campmeeting” and it didn’t involve fundraising—it was a time of repentance and revival where many were saved and healed. He rode thousands of miles a year on horseback during the Colonial days of America to preach the gospel and “live for God” as he said he would do when he left England for America.

But where are such men today? Where are the John Osteens of today who preach the uncompromised word of God and the effects of sin on a “sin-sick, crying, dying world?” We rarely even hear sin preached about, especially in the *designer* mega churches—it’s all about numbers and they “don’t want to offend anybody.” Well, Jesus told my wife many years ago, “Don’t you think they’ll be offended in hell?”

Yet, Jesus still has the words for us to follow if we seek life and not death both for ourselves and others. He awakened me at 3 A.M. this morning to pray and He reminded me of this Scripture:

“And Jesus said to him, ‘Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.’” ■ Luke 9:60

He also reminded me of something that occurs in many cultures throughout the world concerning the dead. In Mexico there is Santa Muerte which is a cult and a following of the patron saint of death. The whole country celebrates Dia de los Muertos, i.e., the Day of the Dead, on November 2 each year in connection with the Catholic holiday of All Saint’s Day on November 1 and All Soul’s Day on November 2. Many of those involved in the drug war currently going on in Mexico worship Santa Muerte.

In the country of Madagascar, the capitol country for witches in the entire world, they hold a ritual called Famadihana where they unseal the tombs of

their dead relatives, who are buried much like people were during the days of Jesus. This is a huge festival of eating and drinking where the dead corpses are carefully rewrapped with fresh cloth and then the living relatives actually dance with the dead corpses of their ancient relatives in a celebration that lasts for days.

But aren't we also dancing with the dead if we attend a cold, dead, Tombstone church or a false church? While ministering in Alabama we attended such a church one Sunday evening. Almost everybody there was sick, on oxygen or asking for prayer for surgery the following week. Meanwhile, the sermon was something like nothing I'd ever seen—it was like a scripted play with shouting, hollering, and theatrics that would make a Broadway actor sit up and take notice. Meanwhile, all the *participants* in this play were dying, some physically and some spiritually. It reminded me painfully of the vision the Lord gave me early in 1999 (see Vision of the Hospital Ward in Revelations from God, Vol. I, p. 184).

“I found myself standing in a hospital ward and there was a group of five doctors working together trying to save dying patients hooked up to respirators (oxygen). I knew in my spirit that all these patients were dying from congenital heart failure. These doctors were puzzled about what to do because they kept losing patient after patient—none were surviving. The doctors were all becoming quite frantic when I saw the Angel of Death standing next to the patient they were feverishly working on. I cried out, ‘Oh, no!’ The *doctors* could not see this angel.”

During the initial 10 years the Lord shut us up in Montana and began to reveal this *false* church, religious system with its false Five-fold ministers (the vision represents this in the 5 doctors working together), false spirit and false Jesus, we began to preach Revelation 18:

“And I heard another voice from heaven crying, ‘Come out

Of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye Receive not of her plagues.” ■ Revelation 18:4

The Lord is continuing to warn His people to come out of these false religions and this false Christian religious system because if you stay in it you will be “dancing with the dead” and you will die yourself either physically or spiritually or both. Remember, the test Jesus gave for false ministry: “By their fruit you shall know them.”

I’ve added my own test as well to help you because I want to see you embrace life, *Zoe*, and preach that life to others. If the Spirit of God is not manifesting in your church, ever, then just know that there can be no life there but only death. How does the Spirit manifest? Through the Gifts of the Spirit—all nine of them—and through the Anointing. You can also trust your spirit—the real you—because your spirit knows the truth. How did that worship make my spirit feel? Was I edified? How did that sermon make my spirit feel? Alive or dead? Let me reiterate—your spirit knows the truth. If your spirit feels edified then it is receiving life but if not or if grieved then you are receiving death.

Remember also what the Lord said to me in June, 1997:

“Don’t ever judge a church or ministry by how big it is or how much money they have. You only judge it by the anointing. My anointing is My stamp of approval on a church or ministry.” Praise the Lord! I hope you will prosper both materially and spiritually and that if the Holy Spirit convicts you of “dancing with the dead” then you’ll do something about it.

