

Part 2 - More Judgments: Seduction, Witches, Bestiality

Exodus 22

16 And if a man **entice** a maid that is not betrothed, and lie with her, he shall surely endow her to be his wife.

Again, we see personal responsibility enforced. A man doesn't have a right to take (steal really) a woman's virginity without being responsible to take care of her, as well as any child resulting from the sexual union. Deut 22:29 also tells us he would *never* be allowed to divorce her, *for any reason*. He had to take care of her the rest of her life. This gives great incentive to control one's sexual desires and helps to keep rape, seduction and fornication at bay. Today our society touts being a single parent and children out of wedlock as virtuous but truly, the single parent and the children suffer in a one parent home (regardless of whether the parent is male or female). God designed marriage to be with a man and a woman because it benefits the children *and* the parents. Thus, the 'traditional family' is truly the foundational 'government' (bedrock) for any society. In other words, the traditional family is a *healthy* family and is the bedrock for a *healthy* society. So, this law lays down the principle that casual sex is destructive and harmful. But it's not just our physical health that suffers (although children without parents and STD's are real problems); the mental (spiritual) side effects from sex outside of marriage are rarely talked about, *or understood*, yet the destructive spiritual results are nevertheless prevalent in any society that does not value sex within the confounds of God's Law. We should understand that sex basically constitutes marriage in God's eyes, unless it is done with a whore or outside of commitment to the one you are marrying. And of course, homosexual marriage is absolutely forbidden in God's Word because homosexuality is forbidden and to be punished with the death penalty (Lev 20:13, 18:22, Rom 1:26-28). But truly, we don't need any marriage 'license' from our government to be married in God's eyes. Now, it's good to get one, just for the sake of legally complying with the laws of your government (because getting a marriage license does not go against God's Word). It also gives your children legal rights as citizens. So, while getting legally married is a good thing to do, we must remember that it is the sexual intercourse that actually defines the moment you got 'married' – in other words, sex is what consummates the marriage. [Study more on **Marriage** here - <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/261>].

Moreover, the word '**entice**' here is an interesting and important word to understand. It's #6601, a primitive root that means: **to open**, i.e. *be* (causatively, **make**) **roomy**; usually figuratively (in a mental or moral sense) **to be** (causatively, make) **simple** or (in a sinister way) **delude**. KJV - allure, deceive, enlarge, entice, flatter, persuade, silly (one).

This is not just referring to getting a woman to open her legs for you. It's referring to getting her to open *her heart* to you and this is something *all* people must be on guard for: *opening our heart*. The world will have us believe that it's a virtuous thing to be what they call 'open minded' and to some degree this is true, but only when we have God's Word within us can we do so *safely*. Satan's method of deceiving relies upon *getting us to open our heart* (carnal mind) **to lies**. If we don't 'open up' to Satan (or any of the evil spirits working for him) then he cannot deceive

us. It's only when we 'open up' (by letting our spiritual guard down) that we can be spiritually deceived, which is also being *spiritually* seduced. Note that *this same word 'enticed'* was also used in 2 Chron 18:19-21 when God Himself (YHWH) *sent a lying spirit to deceive* king Ahab into thinking it was ok to go into battle. Why would God do this? Because Ahab wanted to believe a lie. It was also within God's plan that Ahab die because of his gross sins. So, He actually sent a lying spirit to deceive Ahab. This tells us not only that evil spirits are real, but that they can also spiritually seduce us. Moreover, this also tells us they can even be used by God Himself to punish those who stubbornly harden their heart to Him (2 Thess 2:10-12). Moreover, it also tells us that we all (male and female) are susceptible to being 'enticed' (opened spiritually) to evil spirits. They might not be possessing us as we think of it (having total control over us) but *evil spirits do come into people's minds* (carnal mind, the heart) *at times* and ***they especially attack those who study God's Word.*** We've got to be on guard and careful about who and what we open our mind and heart (carnal mind where the emotions and intentions are) up to. Learn more about guarding against being spiritually seduced in the following special studies:

Do You Know, Part 1 (Satan's methods of deceiving) <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/243>

Do You Know, Part 2 <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/244>

Deception and Sin; Are You In Charge? <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/247>

The Vine – Part 1 <https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/992>

The Vine – Part 2 <https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/993>

Exodus 22

17 If her father utterly refuse to give her unto him, he shall pay money according to the dowry of virgins.

Now we see the woman's father has a right to refuse this marriage. It could be that the man was lacking quite a bit in character and/or morality and it would not be in the best interest of his daughter to marry the man. Now, it's no secret that fathers usually think no man is 'good enough' to marry their daughter. However, there really are times when young women (and older ones too!) make very poor choices in men; this judgment gives her father the authority (the right) to intervene *on her behalf*. While this might not be 'politically correct' today, the fact that this is a part of God's Law tells us ***it is reality***. The reality is women don't always make good choices in men and therefore, God gave a father the right (yea, even the duty) to protect her from her bad decision. Naturally, this means the father would be responsible to provide for his daughter and any child that would be the result of the sexual union. Notice also, though, the man who enticed his daughter would be forced to pay a dowry even if he was not allowed to marry the woman. Deut 22:29 tells us the dowry was to be fifty shekles, so this gives a large financial incentive not to take advantage of a woman. In other words, a man would have to prove himself worthy of a wife instead of trying to get her simply by seducing her... which is the way most women are taken to wife nowadays. Our Western 'Christian' culture is so caught up in emotions that we often identify lust with love and, consequently, throw out good sense and discernment. This, along with 'no fault' divorce laws, is why so many marriages don't last. When it's easy to get a spouse by getting them into bed (many people even have sex on the first date!) and then it's easy

to get a divorce then... when the pleasure of lust fades away, most people are inclined to do simply divorce. Our current laws and moral codes sets marriages up to fail. Being with a new person sexually is exciting and invigorating to our carnal minds and bodies, which is why so many people are either unfaithful to their spouse or literally hop from one person to another, even if they are not legally married. Even though this is accepted as normal and ok today, God's Word tells us it's not. And the reason is not because God is stingy, old and outdated. *Having many sexual partners is detrimental to us.* It harms us physically *and spiritually*. Not only are we refusing our responsibility to care for our spouse and our children by keeping the family together but *our own soul is harmed*. Fornication and adultery are both symptoms of *internal decay* (corruption). Paul tells us in 1 Cor 6:13 that our *body is not for fornication, but for the Lord; and the Lord for the body*. He further expounds on this thought father on in the chapter...

15 Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? shall I then take the members of Christ, and make them the members of an harlot? God forbid.

16 What? know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? for two, saith he, shall be one flesh.

17 But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.

18 Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body.

19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

1 Cor 6:15-20

In other words, when you open yourself up to sexual relations with someone who is not legitimately your spouse (in God's eyes) then you are doing so because you've first opened up your spirit to an ideology that is not of God and that opens you up to evil spirits. This said, it should also be pointed out that divorce is not an unpardonable sin. God can forgive it upon sincere repentance. But we must change our heart and our ways after we repent. Hopping from one person to another is not changing our heart or our sinful ways. We must truly change from the heart and then we'll bring forth fruits of repentance (Lk 3:8), which are the fruits of the Holy Spirit (Gal 5:22-24), not the 'works of the flesh' (Gal 5:19-21).

Though evil spirits are not behind every thought we have, we must understand that they are an integral part of the world we live in. Paul warns us to put on the spiritual armor of God because *we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places* (Eph 6:12). ***Our carnal mind is susceptible to be influence by evil spirits and, when we listen to them, we allow the lies they tell us to become a part of our thought process and that's where spiritual corruption comes from.*** Now, the evil 'spirit' may come from a friend, a boss, a stranger, an online news article you read, a movie, a song you heard, or it could come from evil spirits that are not even in this dimension. But the Bible warns us evil spirits are prevalent in this world so

we must be on guard against them because *we are at war spiritually*. Satan is literally trying to deceive all of God's children into rebelling against our Creator, which will result in the death of our very soul and spirit (we won't exist in any form) if we do not repent and believe in God's Savior, Jesus Christ, who paid for our sins. And, even though Satan and many of those who serve him are not in this flesh dimension, their spirits can be *and are here in this dimension*.

Anyone you speak to, any article you read, any movie you watch, song you hear or even any thought you have - can (and very well might be) influenced by an evil spirit that is not even in this realm. In other words, ***the information you hear and see is influenced by either God or by Satan*** and it's up to us to discern which it's coming from. That is why John warned us in 1 John 4:1 to *believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world*. We have to test (try) every thought or idea we hear, see or even think because Satan and his evil spirits are so deceitful, it's sometimes hard to tell the difference between right and wrong, especially if we are not well founded in the Word of God. Prov 14:12 warns us that, *there is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death*. 1 John 4 goes on to tell us that anyone who does not confess Jesus Christ is not of our Heavenly Father. This means that, even if they talk a lot about 'God', they are not necessarily carrying or sharing a good spirit (thoughts or ideas). God is a generic term and many people call evil spirits (including Satan) 'god'. Not all religions lead to heaven (John 14:6). But, even if they do claim Jesus Christ, we still must know the Bible well enough to discern if what they are saying goes against God's Word or not. Deut 13 warns us of this too. God's Word is our guide to know right from wrong. So, while it's not bad to listen and read what others say, we must guard our mind and heart strongly against deception because it is so easy to fall for Satan's lies. Paul warns in 1 Cor 10:12: *Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall*. This applies to everyone, even to those who believe in Jesus Christ. In fact, it especially applies to those who are sincerely studying God's Word because they are a 'high priority' for Satan to try and corrupt you. Satan does not like those who are loyal to our Heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus Christ. This is why Jesus warned us to *watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak* (Matt 26:41). We must watch current events, sure, but we must also watch what we allow into our heart and mind because *whatever we allow in becomes a part of our thought process and changes who we are*, for the good or for the bad.

So, we see that this judgment has implications that go far beyond a woman being sexually seduced by a man. It's also a warning to us not to allow ourselves to be spiritually seduced and to be on guard against spiritual seduction, lest we fall to it. The Bible warns us not to think we can't be fooled by Satan or his evil spirits that work for him. Again, 1 Cor 10:12 succinctly warns: *Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall*. ***We have to watch out for spiritual seduction every single day***. It's all too easy for anyone to drift away from the Word of God. Apostasy (falling away from the one true God) does not usually happen in one day; it happens over time - just as a marriage usually does not fall apart in one day, it happens over time. A couple stops spending time together, stops talking, stops enjoying being with each other and pretty soon, they both find someone 'new' that they like a lot better. This is exactly what can (and often does) happen with our relationship with our heavenly Father. Just because we go to

Church doesn't mean we really have a direct, personal relationship with Him [**Church is Not Christianity** <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/212>].

If we don't listen to what God has to say to us *through His Word* (the Bible) then we're only having a one-way relationship with Him (that satisfied *our* lusts) and *we will drift away from Him*. Heb 6:19 speaks about Jesus Christ being the 'anchor' of our soul that keeps us drifting away from God but this is only IF we take the time and sincere effort to study His Word on a daily basis. When we neglect to do so we will drift away from Him even if we fool ourselves into believing we are not. Self-righteousness stems from deceiving ourselves into thinking we have a good relationship with God when we really do not. We must study and think upon (meditate) God's Word *daily* to truly stay in touch with Him and to stay on the Rock that keeps our mind (and heart) from drifting the Rock and onto the sand (Mth 7:22-27). Spiritual seduction (deception) is a real threat to *everyone* each and every single day. Watch out for it and guard you heart against it...

Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them;

Deut 11:16

4 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you.

5 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.

Matt 24:4-5

12 Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.

13 But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

*14 For we are made partakers of Christ, **if** we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end;*

*15 While it is said, To day **if** ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation.*
Heb 3:12-15

*But take diligent heed to do the commandment and the law, which Moses the servant of the LORD charged you, to love the LORD your God, and to walk in all his ways, and to keep his commandments, and to **cleave unto him**, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul.*

Josh 22:5

Exodus 22

18 Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live.

The word 'suffer' is #2421 and it means: *to live* or *to revive*, so this verse clearly lays out the death penalty for witchcraft. Further, the word 'witch' in the Hebrew is #3784, it's a primitive

root that means: *to whisper a spell, i.e. to enchant or practise magic*. And while we usually think of a witch as a female, the fact that it's translated in the KJV as – *sorcerer* (as well as witch) tells us that it also refers to men, which today we call wizards. The book of Deuteronomy actually does forbid wizards as well as witches and the book of Leviticus also gives a more comprehensive list of forbidden ways of communication with evil spirits...

9 When thou art come into the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations.

*10 There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, 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.

13 Thou shalt be perfect with the LORD thy God.

14 For these nations, which thou shalt possess, hearkened unto observers of times, and unto diviners: but as for thee, the LORD thy God hath not suffered thee so to do.

Deut 18:9-14

A man also or woman that hath a familiar spirit, or that is a wizard, shall surely be put to death: they shall stone them with stones: their blood shall be upon them.

Lev 20:27

Basically, all forms of communication with evil spirits (which are *any* spirits from the other dimension, other than the Holy Spirit) are forbidden in God's Word. Why? Because *God only communicates to us through His written Word*.

1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,

2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

Heb 1:1-2

In the past, God would communicate with Israel through His prophets but now, He speaks to us through His Son, Jesus Christ. So, how do we know when Jesus is speaking to us? **Jesus 'speaks' to us through the Word of God...**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:1

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

Jesus IS the Word of God. So, when we are reading (studying) God's Word we are hearing Jesus Christ (God Himself) speak. (Note: the manuscripts found in Egypt, upon which the new Bible versions are based, are corrupt. Thus, all the new and supposed to be improved versions [NIV, RSV, & NKJV] *are based on corrupt manuscripts*. While the original 1611 King James Bible is translated from manuscripts from Antioch, which are not corrupted. Stick with the King James Bible. The *Companion Bible* is an excellent KJV study Bible because it has footnotes that explain figures of speech that are difficult for English speakers to understand. It also helps explain some customs of the time that clarify what's being said. Links to digital versions are as follows - OT: <https://t.me/BestStudyBible/6> and NT: <https://t.me/BestStudyBible/7>).

But what about the Holy Spirit? Yes, the Holy Spirit of God is real and He does touch us and speak to us at times but we must understand that *His Word and His Holy Spirit are synonymous*...

*It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: **the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.***

John 6:63

*And take the helmet of salvation, and the **sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:***

Eph 6:17

Therefore, **God's Word is His Spirit.** So, God won't speak to you *unless it is in line with His Word*. In other words, God's Holy Spirit touches us and guides us by using His Word (the Bible) and *the reason He gives us His Holy Spirit is simply to help us understand His written Word*. So, *His Holy Spirit won't tell you to do something that goes against His Word*. So, we must know His Word to make sure what you are 'feeling' or 'hearing' is really from God Himself, because there are many, *many* imposters in the world [learn more in the audio study on **Hearing God** <https://t.me/BibleStudyAudios/39>]. Therefore, ***if you do not know His Word, you really do not know when the Holy Spirit is speaking to you verses when another spirit is speaking or 'touching' you.*** People being Biblically illiterate is how most are deceived into worshipping other gods because *they cannot discern between God's Holy Spirit* (the clean) [and those who are influenced, moved and directed by him] *verses Satan's spirit* (the unclean) [and those who are influenced, moved and directed by him]. [Learn more with these audio studies on **Witchcraft:** <https://t.me/BibleStudyAudios/5> and **Evil Spirits** <https://t.me/BibleStudyAudios/6>].

Thus, we must also understand that there is no 'good' magic. Too many people believe in this lie because there's been a very popular series of books (made into movies) that promotes the idea that there is such a thing as 'good magic' called 'white magic'. Even the movie *The Wizard of Oz* promotes the idea of a 'good witch'. It's just not true, folks. Again, we must be on guard against accepting lies from popular movies, books, songs and tv shows (or anything else that leads us astray). **The Word of God is our standard for right and wrong** and God's Word tells us there is NO good form of magic: *it's all evil* (it's all Satanic).

We also must understand that most people's idea of Satan isn't true at all: Satan is not an ugly, 'mean' man who wears red handled underwear, carrying a pitchfork. No, not at all. Satan is the

most handsome, charming and likeable of all God's creations aside from Jesus Christ Himself. Ezekiel 28 explains that God specifically made Satan to be a covering cherub and a priest. All of God's children looked up to him, which is why he was able to deceive so many (1/3 of God's children, Rev 12:4) into rebelling against our Heavenly Father. He used natural aspects of society (like the economy, education, politics and religion) to both deceive God's children (his own spiritual brethren) and to oppress and abuse them. Isaiah 14 names Satan as Lucifer, which simply means (in the sense of brightness) *the morning-star* (#1966 in the Hebrew). This chapter also explains how Satan (who has many names due to his many traits, Rev 12:9, 20:2) fell from God's grace when he was corrupted by his own pride and literally *tried to take over the very throne of God*. Because Satan is so good at deceiving people into thinking he is still a righteous light bearer (after all, at one time he was) God promises to totally expose Satan for the fraud he really is (2 Thess 2). Jesus told us in John 8:44 that Satan is the 'father' of lies. Satan was the originator of lying and of the ongoing rebellion against our Heavenly Father. Therefore, Satan has already been sentenced to spiritual death (Ezek:18-19, Rev 20:10,14).

The point is, if we don't think Satan is a real entity, or if we believe in 'white' magic, we can easily be fooled into 'witchcraft' *and not even realize it* for witchcraft (along with many other forms of communication with evil spirits) has been 'repackaged' in order to appeal to people, even to those who call themselves Christian. You see, many people want to be 'spiritual'. They want to *feel* holy. *They want to find a way to ease their conscience*. But easing one's conscience God's way (by studying His Word, allowing it to convict us and submitting to His Word and His Spirit to help us change our sinful ways) is not easy or 'fun' by worldly standards. Most people just want to have fun. So, they look for a 'Church' where they can not only have fun but also find a place to 'fit in'. In other words, most people look for a 'legitimate' way to make them feel good and entertain them. This is why it's so easy for people to fall for witchcraft, divination, familiar spirits, necromancers, enchanters (and the like) *without even realizing it: they look for entertainment and things that give them good feelings instead of truth*. This is why Church doctrines based upon traditions are so widely accepted today, even though they are un-Biblical. Paul warned people would have 'itching ears' in 2 Tim 4:3-4 and indeed they do. Take, for instance, the Rapture Theory: the entire doctrine is totally un-Biblical and was founded upon a mentally ill woman's vision from evil spirits (demons) back in the 1800's (also called divination) but two 'Pastors' who were there decided it was 'from God' and they began to teach it as Scripture, when it truly isn't (just read Ezekiel 13, for one example of how much God hates this evil, deceptive doctrine).

Essentially, listening to evil spirits in any way, shape and form is forbidden by God's Word *because they lead us astray from the truth*. 2 Cor 10:5 warns us that *every thought we have should be in obedience to Christ*, so we must be very aware of what goes on in our mind and heart (carnal mind, our desires and intentions, etc.) and learn to quickly clean out the thoughts and desires that are not in align with God's Word. This, of course, means we must study God's Word ourself (2 Tim 2:15) to know what is right and wrong. Again, most people don't like doing that because it takes time, effort and a sincere desire to face one's own wrong doings and corruption in thought process. Basically, because it's tough (very tough) to do, most people don't

do it. But if we truly love our Heavenly Father, we'll study His Word and strive to do what He tells us (Mth 7:21-27). We'll also learn to control our carnal mind (Lk 9:23). Gal 5:24 tells us that *they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts*. This is what 'walking in the Spirit' is about: controlling your emotions, lusts, desires, etc. and learning to obey God's Word, which can only be done when you study it and know what it says.

So, this judgment regarding not allowing a witch to live was strict but for a very important reason: God does not want us communicating with the 'supernatural' *because it spiritually* (and physically) *corrupts us*. After all, the very DNA of Adam's lineage (through which the Messiah, Jesus Christ, would come through) was corrupted by fallen angels coming 'down' from the heavenly dimension and having sexual intercourse with flesh women [learn how they were able to do this with the study on: Dimensions <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/263>]. That's why God had the localized flood of Noah (yes, it was localized, not worldwide) to clean up the Adamic lineage and ensure the Messiah could (and would) be born through this lineage He was to come through. Why would the women go for this? They bought into (believed) the lies of the fallen angels. This is where witchcraft takes a person: to spiritual and physical corruption and eventually death. This is also where rebelliousness to God takes us. Consider what God said to king Saul when he refused to obey Him...

22 And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

*23 For **rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry.** Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king.*
1 Sam 15:22-23

So, we see there that one of the main things that Saul did **not** do is that **He did not hear God when God spoke and he did not respond properly**. Samuel responded to Saul's excuses with a statement of principle that is timeless in its application: *"To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed than the fat of rams."* In addition to disobeying, Saul was guilty of rebellion, arrogance, and rejecting God's word. Rebellion to God is forbidden (Deut 31:27, Jer 28:15-17, 29:32). Why?

An evil man seeketh only rebellion: therefore a cruel messenger shall be sent against him.
Prov 17:11

Rebellion against God is what leads to death, both of the flesh and eventually our soul...

20 For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness.
21 What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things is death.
22 But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.
23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Rom 6:20-23

Additionally, witchcraft (rebelliousness *to God*) is one of the ‘works of the flesh’ (which leads to physical and eventually spiritual death), *not* a fruit of the Holy Spirit...

16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

18 But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.

19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

*20 Idolatry, **witchcraft**, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,*

21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

26 Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.

Gal 5:16-26

In other words, witchcraft (and all other forms of communicating with evil spirits) is something we do when we allow our carnal mind (emotions, lusts, pride, evil intents, etc.) to control us. When we are convicted by the Word of God, we learn how to take control of our carnal mind and *make it obey us*. This process is not immediate but learned over time from perseverance and determination to obey God’s Word no matter what. It also takes learning His Word so we know *how* to obey Him. As Luke says...

But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience.

Luke 8:15

When we put off the carnal mind (way of thinking) we will cut the desire out of our heart to be entertained by our emotions and strive to find entertainment that is in alignment with God’s Word instead. And certainly, entertainment and ‘emotional high’s won’t be what we ‘live for’ anymore (1 Pt 4:1-2). When you experience the peace that God’s Holy Spirit gives you after true repentance, *you will crave that peace*. It gives us the impetus to keep working every day to ‘crucify’ (put to death) our carnal mind (that tries to control us every stinkin’ day of our lives). Essentially, those who seek familiar spirits, witchcraft, necromancing, divination and the such are *seeking to ease their conscience through illegitimate ways* (communing with evil spirits) instead of seeking true peace of mind that only comes as a result with being ‘right’ with our Creator. Again, the problem is that so many people don’t realize they are actually seeking evil spirits because Churches have repackaged (renamed) it through their vain traditions. A large portion of Churches today actually teach people how to open themselves to demon possession (or more commonly, just being influenced by evil spirits) and they do this through teaching lies, which are called traditions of man instead of teaching God’s Word. So, the Churches have sold

out the truth and allowed themselves to be corrupted through infiltration of corrupt doctrine. Apparently, most people love to have it so. *They find a Church that allows them to keep the sin they like*, entertains them, provides social services and companionship for them and they are content to stay in their mental delusion (2 Thess 2:9-12).

But we have been warned against this over and over in God's Word and our Heavenly Father takes such a dim view on stubbornly rebelling against Him (refusing to repent) that He calls for the death penalty to be exacted. While this is not (obviously) done by the governments anymore, it is an important part of keeping the government free from corruption as well as the citizenry. Therefore, at the end of the Millennium (the 1000 years of teaching after Jesus Christ returns), all those who choose to remain stubborn and rebellious will indeed be spiritually put to death. This means they won't exist in any form anymore. So, we should be very careful at what thoughts, feelings and emotions we entertain, for *there is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death* (Prov 14:12). [Learn more about this subject in Deuteronomy 18: https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Deuteronomy/62].

Exodus 22

19 *Whosoever lieth with a beast shall surely be put to death.*

This is another important judgment and is reiterated in Lev 18:23, 20:15-16 and Deut 27:21. To be clear, this command is telling us that anyone who has sexual relations (*of any kind*) with an animal (*any animal*) is to be put to death. But the death penalty is only to be exacted by the government so we must not go around trying to kill people we think like to have sex with animals. So far, in most Christian nations, there are still laws against bestiality but with the morals of the Christian nations in shambles, people are increasingly calling for abominations such as this to be allowed. Why does God say we shouldn't have sex with animals? Because *it harms both people and the animals*. No doubt, God made humans able to have sex, not just for procreation but also for enjoyment. However, perverting the natural means (between a man and his wife) of sexual relations leads to many problems such as diseases which are both physical and spiritual. In order for someone to want to have sex with children, animals, someone of the same gender, or close family (incest) *they must have a sick mind*. The desire is merely a symptom of a mind that is so undisciplined (sick) they cannot think clearly (2 Tim 1:7). Their reasoning is perverted; they are delusional. They truly are mentally (spiritually) sick.

Just as our flesh body does not work well when we are sick, likewise our mind does not work well when we are mentally sick. And usually, we get sick because our body (or mind) cannot clean out the things that defile it (or we're around sickness too much that it overcomes our immune system and infects us too – that's why it's not good to 'keep company' with those who are *habitual* sinners, 1 Cor 5:11-13). That's why it's so important to *exercise and feed* our mind in God's Word (truth) on a daily basis and work to kick out the sinful thoughts and desires we have. We must learn to apply God's Word to our thought process and daily living (thoughts and actions) or else we will get mentally (spiritually) sick. All too many people think they can partake of spiritual junk food (lies, fantasies, daydreams, movies, tv, social media, etc.) and not be sick - *but that's not reality*.

God gave us physical health laws to keep our flesh body healthy. But He also gave us spiritual ‘health’ laws to keep our soul healthy. What confuses most people is that they think doing physical things (like going to Church, tithing, helping the poor, etc.) makes them right with God. They don’t realize that they truly are ***not taking God’s Word into their thought process. They are not letting God’s Word convict them and change their heart. We must clean our thoughts, desires, emotions, feelings and intents of our heart or we are not truly worshiping God***, no matter what our outward physical actions are and no matter what we tell ourselves. This is the essence of what Jesus told us in Mth 15:13-20 and Mk 7:20-23. Today, most Churches have become so steeped in their traditions they teach people that doing ‘what the Church says’ is all that’s needed to be spiritually clean. It was the same way in Jesus’ day. Back then, they had traditions too; they performed blood sacrifices and thought that made them holy. It’s no different than someone going to Church and listening to a sermon where the Word of God is not actually being explained. If we don’t really understand that God requires us to learn of Him *through His Word* then we don’t grasp the fact He requires us to *change our thought process. This is critical to worshiping Him*. He told the lady at the well that...

22 *Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews.*
 23 *But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.*
 24 *God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.*
 John 4:22-24

If we are not truly learning God’s Word (truth) *then we are not worshiping Him*. And His Word requires (even demands) that we clean our sinful thoughts, desires, lusts, pride, anger, resentment, bitterness, hatred (and so forth) out of our heart and mind or else we are not truly worshiping God (Eph 4:31-32, Col 3:5-9, Gal 5:19-21, Heb 12:15, 1 Cor 5:7-8, 1 Pt 2:1). Again, this is the essence of what it means to truly worship God. ***We cannot ignore what goes on in our mind*** (thought process) ***or heart*** (carnal mind where our desires, lusts, pride, emotions, feeling and intents are) ***and think we are pleasing God***. We cannot have daydreams, fantasies and/or thoughts that are sinful (go against the Commandments in His Word) and think we are pleasing Him. We cannot have ‘secret thoughts’ – we cannot keep our thoughts hidden from God. He knows what we are thinking *and* desiring (Ps 11:4, Jer 17:9-10). We cannot fool Him! To reiterate, **the essence of worshiping God is cleaning your mind and heart of wicked thoughts and desires.** *That’s what God wants*. He wants us to love Him with all our heart, mind, soul and strength and love our neighbor as ourself (Deut 10:12, Mth 22:37-40, Mk 12:29-31, Lk 10:25-28). This can only be done *within our mind* (thought process) *and heart* (desires, feelings, intentions). IF people were to clean their mind, evil will cease. But, because there are always going to be people who don’t (1 Tim 1:8-10), the government is delegated by God to put to death people who commit such vile abominations and appropriately punish the others for lesser crimes.

Exodus 22

20 *He that sacrificeth unto any god, save unto the LORD only, he shall be utterly destroyed.*

To understand this Command, we must understand a bit about the way God first established Israel's system of worship during the days of Moses. As we have discussed in previous studies, God's Law has different parts to it because there are different aspects of society: the citizenry and the government. He therefore first off gave Ten Commandments to Israel, which are the foundation of the whole law. They govern *individual conduct* of every single person in the nation and no one is to be excluded regardless of how much money, power or influence they have. *Everyone is responsible to obey God's Laws.* The Ten Commandments tell us how to have an appropriate relationship with our God (YHWH) as well as our fellow mankind (no gender implied here; God's Word calls our fellow citizens our 'neighbor' but it simply means other people regardless of race or gender). But God's Law also gives us Statutes, Judgments and Ordinances. The Statutes govern national administration (a necessary function to keep peace in the land because someone must enforce God's Law) and the Judgments govern judgments that are rendered in the courts concerning both the Ten Commandments and the Statutes. These are all necessary parts of God's Law - Jesus Christ's life, death and resurrection *did not do away with any of them*, as He told us in Mth 5:17-20. However, as we shall see, God will also give Israel ordinances (ritualistic blood sacrifices) to observe and this is the part of the Law that Paul explains was *added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made* (Gal 3:19). This simply means that the blood sacrifices were given to Israel as a mean to find forgiveness from God *until* the true 'seed' would come (which refers to the Messiah, as Gen 3:15 and Gal 3). Of course, this is referring to Jesus Christ and how He would pay for the sins of the world (John 3:16) with His own blood and His sacrifice was enough to cover our sins *for all time* (Heb 10:10). But what we must not overlook is the lessons that these blood sacrifices teach us; we can (and are supposed to still) learn from them. Paul explains...

23 But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed.

*24 Wherefore **the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.***

25 But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.
Gal 3:23-25

'Before faith' means, before Jesus Christ came. So, he's saying that before Jesus Christ came to die for our sins, they were obliged to observe the ordinances of the law. What Paul does not explicitly explain here is that he is only referring to the law of *ordinances*. However, Paul does get that blunt in other of his letters such as Col 2:14 and Eph 2:15. But here in Galatians he simply refers to the ordinances as 'the law' because he assumed the Galatians understood what he was talking about since he set forth the subject in the first part of the letter. Paul was trying to explain to them that they did not need to keep performing the blood sacrifices in God's Law because Jesus Christ died for our sins once and for all. Blood sacrifices had become such a large part of the law that *people were unable to separate these rituals in their mind from true worship of God*. It's much like many today think that actually going to a physical Church every Sunday,

tithing and giving to charitable ‘causes’ is what God really wants from us. God is not pleased with our simply ‘going through the motions’, *it’s what is in our heart that matters to Him*. As Jesus put it...

7 *Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you* [He’s quoting from Isa 29:13], *saying,*
8 *This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me.*
9 *But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.*
Matt 15:7-9

The blood sacrifices were indeed established by God, through Moses, but it was done to help us understand how our sins cost us and eventually lead to death. They also teach us how to truly worship God. So, when we read in this 20th verse of Exodus 22 that: *He that sacrificeth unto any god, save unto the LORD only, he shall be utterly destroyed* we must understand that, for us today, this is not referring to blood sacrifices but spiritual sacrifices. And truly is never has been about the blood sacrifices themselves. It’s always been about what they symbolize: the promise of the Messiah, Jesus Christ coming to die for our sins. Thus, all those who wanted to worship Israel’s God (YHVH) **had** to perform the blood sacrifices to prove they believed. But now, our sacrifices must be done *from the heart* and any actual blood sacrificing is sacrilegious because it shows you don’t believe Jesus Christ was able to pay for your sins (once and for all) with His own blood (Heb 10:10). This is a paramount point to understand what this verse really means. Let’s look at it again...

Exodus 22

20 *He that sacrificeth unto any god, save unto the LORD only, he shall be utterly destroyed.*

The word ‘sacrificeth’ is #2076 and means: *to slaughter an animal* (usually in sacrifice). The word ‘destroyed’ is #2763, it’s a primitive root that means: *to seclude*; specifically (*by a ban*) *to devote to religious uses* (especially destruction); physical and reflexive, *to be blunt as to the nose*. It’s translated in the KJV as - make accursed, consecrate, (utterly) destroy, devote, forfeit, have a flat nose, utterly (slay, make away). So, all those who sacrificed to any other god than the one true God (YHVH) were to be, basically, ostracized and ‘put away’ (shunned) by society. In certain cases, they could even be put to death (Deut 13:1-11). So, ‘putting away’ people (shunning) is indeed a legitimate form of punishment by God’s Law, and still is to this day (1 Cor 6:11-13). However, it must be based on truly Biblical principles. Putting people away, or shunning them, because they don’t conform to the traditions of your Church is illegitimate punishment. But, since we don’t sacrifice animals anymore (since Jesus Christ paid the ultimate Sacrifice for us, once and for all – Heb 10:10) *what does this verse mean to us today?* Consider what kind of Sacrifices *really* matter to God...

7 *Hear, O my people, and I will speak; O Israel, and I will testify against thee: I am God, even thy God.*

8 I will not reprove thee for thy sacrifices or thy burnt offerings, to have been continually before me.

9 I will take no bullock out of thy house, nor he goats out of thy folds.

10 For every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills.

11 I know all the fowls of the mountains: and the wild beasts of the field are mine.

12 If I were hungry, I would not tell thee: for the world is mine, and the fulness thereof.

13 Will I eat the flesh of bulls, or drink the blood of goats?

14 Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High:

15 And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.

Ps 50:7-15

11 To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices unto me? saith the LORD: I am full of the burnt offerings of rams, and the fat of fed beasts; and I delight not in the blood of bullocks, or of lambs, or of he goats.

12 When ye come to appear before me, who hath required this at your hand, to tread my courts?

13 Bring no more vain oblations; incense is an abomination unto me; the new moons and sabbaths, the calling of assemblies, I cannot away with; it is iniquity, even the solemn meeting.

14 Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hateth: they are a trouble unto me; I am weary to bear them.

15 And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you: yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full of blood.

16 Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil;

17 Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow.

18 Come now, and let us reason together; saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

19 If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land:

20 But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

Isa 1:11-20

Even in the ‘Old’ Testament, God clearly tells us that, what He really wants is not the blood of animals. They were only rituals given to Israel *to teach them* what He really wanted and to help them understand the promise of the Messiah that would pay for their sins. And the analogy is stunning. Consider what He said in the above Scriptures. He simply wants us to be willing and obedient to Him. He wants us to ‘fear’ Him, only inasmuch that we *fear to do evil* and respect Him enough to obey Him. He does not want us to harden our heart and rebel against Him. Remember, *rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry* (1 Sam 15:23). He also clearly considers thanksgiving as a sacrifice. So, truly, the sacrifices God wants (and has wanted all along) are spiritual in nature. *In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure* (Heb 10:6). Consider the **Sacrifices God’ Truly Wants...**

Thanksgiving – (Ps 50:14 as we saw above, but also...)

21 Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!

*22 And let them sacrifice the **sacrifices of thanksgiving**, and declare his works with rejoicing.*
Ps 107:21-22

*I will offer to thee the **sacrifice of thanksgiving**, and will call upon the name of the LORD.*
Ps 116:17

*And offer a **sacrifice of thanksgiving** with leaven, and proclaim and publish the free offerings: for this liketh you, O ye children of Israel, saith the Lord GOD.*
Amos 4:6

*But I will **sacrifice** unto thee **with the voice of thanksgiving**; I will pay that that I have vowed. Salvation is of the LORD.*
Jonah 2:9

Praise –

*I will freely **sacrifice** unto thee: I will **praise thy name**, O LORD; for it is good.*
Ps 54:6

*And they shall come from the cities of Judah, and from the places about Jerusalem, and from the land of Benjamin, and from the plain, and from the mountains, and from the south, bringing burnt offerings, and sacrifices, and meat offerings, and incense, and **bringing sacrifices of praise**, unto the house of the LORD.*
Jer 17:26

Righteousness:

*They shall call the people unto the mountain; there they shall offer **sacrifices of righteousness**: for they shall suck of the abundance of the seas, and of treasures hid in the sand.*
Deut 33:19

*Offer the **sacrifices of righteousness**, and put your trust in the LORD.*
Ps 4:5

*But to **do good and to communicate** forget not: for with such **sacrifices** God is well pleased.*
Heb 13:16

God will indeed be honored and praised for He has sworn that *He will not give His glory unto another* (Isa 48:11) and, as it is written (in Isa 45:23) *saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,*

and every tongue shall confess to God (Rom 14:11-12). Therefore, *at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father* (Phil 2:9-11). When Jesus Christ returns, He will return with a ‘rod of iron’ (Rev 19:15), which means He will come back with power and force the world to submit to Him (1 Cor 4:20, Nah 1:3, etc.). And, at that time, no one will be allowed to give sacrifices to any other gods because all of Satan’s propaganda tools (called his ‘tail’ in Rev 12:4 and a ‘scorpion’s sting’ in Rev 9:5) will be permanently destroyed when Jesus returns (2 Pt 3:10-12, the evil elements of the world will be ‘burned up’).

However, people will still have to be taught how to give spiritual sacrifices to God because most don’t know the difference between good and evil (Ezek 22:26). Therefore, in the Millennium, God’s priests will teach people the difference between good and evil, which is described as ‘clean’ verses ‘unclean’ in Ezekiel 44:23. People *will be taught* what the true purpose of the blood sacrifices was all about: spiritual sacrifices such as righteousness (obeying God’s Word), praise and thanksgiving to our Heavenly Father. This then is why Rev 7:12 says that *Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever*. Not only does our Heavenly Father deserve to be praised, thanked and obeyed but it’s also good for our soul to be thankful and remember to praise Him. When we cease to praise and thank Him so we become selfish, prideful and lustful, which (of course) is what corrupts our thought process and leads to spiritual death. And it is spiritual death (not physical death) that our Heavenly Father is trying to prevent [<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/403>].

So, to ‘sacrifice’ to another ‘god’ simply means you stop worshiping your Heavenly Father, who is the Creator of all things. And worshiping truly comes from the heart (John 4:25). When we seek truth through His Word, strive to understand and obey His Word, *from our heart*, we are worshiping Him. When we forgive others *from the heart*, we are worshiping Him. When we strive hard to ‘crucify’ our carnal mind each and every day (by cutting out the sinful thoughts and desires) we are worshiping him. To truly worship Him, we must put off our own ‘works’ (which are explained as the ‘works of the flesh’ in Galatians 5) and learn to ‘rest in Him’ by learning to obey His Word *from the heart*. This, again, means *we sacrifice our carnal mind* and learn to discipline our heart and mind by compelling our mind (though process) and heart (emotions and intents) to conform to His Word (obey Him). In the Old Testament, the people were commanded to kill animals, which the Bible also calls ‘beasts’. In the New Testament, we are still charged to kill a beast but *it is the beast within you that you are to kill* (crucify, put down). It’s called the ‘old man’ who wants to sin against God by pursuing lusts, keeping pride, anger, resentment, hatred and so forth. This is the ‘beast’ we are to now kill. Again, it’s a spiritual beast (your carnal mind/nature) within us we must learn to put down each and every day (Lk 9:23). This is also the sacrifice He wants from us for its only when first sacrifice the ‘beast within us’ (the old man/ carnal nature we all have) that we can truly bring forth the *fruits worthy of repentance* (Luke 3:8), *for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth* (Eph 5:9). As Paul also explained...

22 But **the fruit of the Spirit** is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,
23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.
24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.
25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.
26 Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.
Gal 5:22-26

So today, sacrificing to other 'other gods' simply means sacrificing *righteousness* and *following your lusts* while sacrificing to God means sacrificing your carnal inclinations so you can obey God from the heart. God honors our daily struggles to sacrifice the carnal 'beast' so we can offer the sacrifice of righteousness to Him...

14 But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth.
15 This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish.
16 For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.
17 But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.
18 And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.
James 3:14-18

But what happens to those who continue to sacrifice to 'other gods'?

5 But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God;
6 Who will render to every man according to his deeds:
7 To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life:
8 But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath,
9 **Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile;**
10 But **glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile:**
11 For there is no respect of persons with God.
Rom 2:5-11

We'll pick it up in Part 3...

AMEN.