



SAVED TO SERVE
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HALLOWEEN AND THE CHRISTIAN

1. In this Sabbath School Lesson, we will study how Satan is laying the ground work to deceive the masses to accept Sunday Observance through the celebration of Halloween.
 2. What has been Satan's aim since his fall from heaven? Revelation 12:9
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3. Notice how many names, aliases, or disguises Satan has in Revelation 12:9. Which one did he use to deceive our first parents, Adam & Eve? Genesis 3:1-2
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4. What lie did Satan tell Eve? Genesis 3:4-5
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"The only one who promised Adam life in disobedience was the great deceiver. And the declaration of the serpent to Eve in Eden—"Ye shall not surely die"—was the first sermon ever preached upon the immortality of the soul. Yet this declaration, resting solely upon the authority of Satan, is echoed from the pulpits of Christendom and is received by the majority of mankind as readily as it was received by our first parents. The divine sentence, "The soul that sinneth, it shall die" (Ezekiel 18:20), is made to mean: The soul that sinneth, it shall not die, but live eternally. We cannot but wonder at the strange infatuation which renders men so credulous concerning the words of Satan and so unbelieving in regard to the words of God." {GC 533.2}

5. **Note:** Today, Satan's lie that the soul is immortal or that we can have communication with the dead still perpetuates. Additionally, Halloween is about 'dressing up' or or disguising oneself to deceive another. Read the following article excerpt and then, we will look at various examples in scripture of individuals who disguised themselves.
 6. **History Channel Article:** Halloween is a holiday celebrated each year on October 31, and Halloween 2023 will occur on Tuesday, October 31. **The tradition originated with the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain, when people would light bonfires and wear costumes to ward off ghosts. In the eighth century, Pope Gregory III designated November 1 as a time to honor all saints. Soon, All Saints Day incorporated some of the traditions of Samhain.** The evening before was known as All Hallows Eve, and later Halloween. Over time, Halloween evolved into a day of activities like trick-or-treating, carving jack-o-lanterns, festive gatherings, donning costumes and eating treats. <https://www.history.com/topics/halloween/history-of-halloween>
 7. In the Dark Ages during the reign of the Papacy, how did they dress up John Huss and other Protestant Reformers who opposed their false doctrines? See quotation below.
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"Finally "they put on his head a cap or pyramidal-shaped miter of paper, on which were painted frightful figures of demons, with the word 'Archheretic' conspicuous in front. 'Most joyfully,' said Huss, 'will I wear this crown of shame for Thy sake, O Jesus, who for me didst wear a crown of thorns.'" {GC 108.4}

"When he was thus arrayed, "the prelates said, 'Now we devote thy soul to the devil.' 'And I,' said John Huss, lifting up his eyes toward heaven, 'do commit my spirit into Thy hands, O Lord Jesus, for Thou hast redeemed me.'"—Wylie, b. 3, ch. 7. {GC 109.1}

8. In scripture, who 'dressed up' to deceive his father? Genesis 27:11-33
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9. Who disguised herself to deceive her father-in-law and get pregnant by him? What did she 'dress up' as?
Genesis 38:11-18, 24

10. How did Jezebel disguise herself to try to deceive Jehu? 2 Kings 9:30-33

11. Who else does Jesus say have on disguises? Matthew 7:15; 2 Corinthians 11:13

12. Into what form did Satan transform himself when he tempted Jesus? Matthew 4:1-2; 2 Corinthians 11:14-15

13. How did Jesus know it was not an angel from God, but it was Satan? Matthew 4:3, 6, 8-9

14. In these last days, Satan will work even more intentionally to deceive mankind. What will Satan, the dragon, use to deceive those who dwell on the earth? Revelation 13:14

15. Which specific miracle will Satan use to present unscriptural theories to us? John 12:1, 9, 37

16. Satan has no actual power to raise people from the dead, but he has power to personate individuals to make it look as if they were resurrected (2 Corinthians 11:14, 15). According to Revelation 13:14, what will these demons, impersonating loved ones say that we should do?

"When they have been led to believe that the dead actually return to communicate with them, Satan causes those to appear who went into the grave unprepared. They claim to be happy in heaven and even to occupy exalted positions there, and thus the error is widely taught that no difference is made between the righteous and the wicked. The pretended visitants from the world of spirits sometimes utter cautions and warnings which prove to be correct. Then, as confidence is gained, they present doctrines that directly undermine faith in the Scriptures. With an appearance of deep interest in the well-being of their friends on earth, they insinuate the most dangerous errors. The fact that they state some truths, and are able at times to foretell future events, gives to their statements an appearance of reliability; and their false teachings are accepted by the multitudes as readily, and believed as implicitly, as if they were the most sacred truths of the Bible. The law of God is set aside, the Spirit of grace despised, the blood of the covenant counted an unholy thing. The spirits deny the deity of Christ and place even the Creator on a level with themselves. Thus under a new disguise the great rebel still carries on his warfare against God, begun in heaven and for nearly six thousand years continued upon the earth." {GC 552.2}

17. **Note:** A careful study of Revelation 13 will show that the first beast mentioned in verses 1-3 is the Papacy, and the second beast mentioned from verses 11-17 is Apostate Protestant America. The United States of America will be the one to make an image to the beast (the Papacy) which is a union of church and state and the enactment of Sunday Observance as the law of the land. Therefore, demons impersonating dead loved ones will tell us that we should disregard God's seventh-day Sabbath (Saturday), and worship on Sunday.

18. Whose account in scripture proves that Satan will personate loved ones and people we held in high regard?
1 Samuel 28:6, 7, 11

19. Samuel was a prophet of God. If the Lord wasn't communicating with Saul through prophets or dreams, then who were Saul & the witch of Endor communicating with? Revelation 16:13-14

a) **Note:** Notice how the demon personating Samuel, gained King Saul's trust by speaking both truth and error. Read 1 Samuel 28:14-16, 19. **(1) The lie** - the demon said, "why hast thou disquieted me, to bring me up?" as if it was actually Samuel speaking. However, the Bible is clear that the dead's thoughts perish, and they know nothing - Ecclesiastes 9:5, 6,10; Job 14:13, 21. **(2) The truth** - the demon told Saul that God had departed from him and that the following day, he and his sons would die and be dead just like the real Samuel was dead. **(3) Bonus Point:** Remember that in the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain, people dressed up to ward off ghosts. In the case of King Saul, he disguised himself when he went to visit the witch of Endor, but he was the one who ended up deceived by Satan!

20. What two great errors are individuals preparing to receive as they celebrate Halloween? Who will Satan personate? See quotations below.

"Through the two great errors, the immortality of the soul and Sunday sacredness, Satan will bring the people under his deceptions. While the former lays the foundation of spiritualism, the latter creates a bond of sympathy with Rome. The Protestants of the United States will be foremost in stretching their hands across the gulf to grasp the hand of spiritualism; they will reach over the abyss to clasp hands with the Roman power; and under the influence of this threefold union, this country will follow in the steps of Rome in trampling on the rights of conscience." {GC 588.1}

"As the crowning act in the great drama of deception, Satan himself will personate Christ...In gentle, compassionate tones he presents some of the same gracious, heavenly truths which the Saviour uttered; he heals the diseases of the people, and then, in his assumed character of Christ, he claims to have changed the Sabbath to Sunday, and commands all to hallow the day which he has blessed. He declares that those who persist in keeping holy the seventh day are blaspheming his name by refusing to listen to his angels sent to them with light and truth. This is the strong, almost overmastering delusion. Like the Samaritans who were deceived by Simon Magus, the multitudes, from the least to the greatest, give heed to these sorceries, saying: This is "the great power of God." Acts 8:10. {GC 624.2}

21. As we begin to close, let us look at the disguises or costumes that many professed Christians today hide under so that we can examine ourselves. What did Jesus call the scribes and Pharisees? Matthew 23:13 (first part)

22. What are some ways that we manifest hypocrisy while professing to live for God?

- a) Matthew 23:5-7 - We are prideful! We love to be seen, praised, and recognized of men more than we love to be accepted by God.
- b) Matthew 23:13 - We try to quench someone else's spiritual fire and zeal because we see them growing while we are dying spiritually. We don't want others to do better than ourselves.
- c) Matthew 23:23 - Some ministers only preach law and judgment and neglect mercy and truth while others preach only mercy and truth and neglect law and judgment. Many church members only show law and judgment while neglecting mercy and truth and vice versa.
- d) Matthew 23:25-28 - We only focus on our physical appearance and outward signs of reform (dress, music, health, recreation) but neglect to have a personal, abiding relationship with Jesus.
- e) Matthew 23:29, 34 - We reject the writings of the prophets, even Ellen G. White. We also reject and scorn faithful ministers teaching Bible reforms and true heart religion.

23. If we would only let Him, what would Jesus do for us? Matthew 23:37

24. Who is also gathering now and before the third coming of Jesus? Revelation 20:7-9; Revelation 16:13, 14

25. What must we do to distinguish the voice of Jesus from that of Satan so that we can choose the correct side in this spiritual war? Matthew 4:4; Job 23:11-12

26. While Satan and his followers are disguising themselves to deceive others, what symbolic Christian uniform must we have to be on the Lord's side? Ephesians 6:11-13

27. What instruction is commanded to us in the first phrase of Ephesians 6:14?

28. In order to be saved and not to be deceived by Satan, we must choose now to surrender all to Jesus and stand up for the truth. If we choose the side of Satan or simply seek to stay on neutral ground, what will we be unable to do at the Second Coming of Jesus? Revelation 6:14-17
