SAVED TO SERVE

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TO CELEBRATE OR NOT TO CELEBRATE?
THE TRUTH ABOUT HALLOWEEN

1. In this Sabbath School Lesson, we will study how Satan is preparing the world for his final deception 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. Write down the four names, aliases, or disguises of Satan found in Revelation 12:9.

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4. Which alias did Satan use to deceive our first parents, Adam & Eve, in the garden of Eden? Genesis 3:1-2

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5. What lie did Satan tell Eve? Genesis 3:4-5

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6. **Note:** Today, Satan still perpetuates the lie that the soul is immortal and that we can have communication with the dead. Additionally, Halloween is about 'dressing up' or disguising oneself to deceive another under the pretense of having "fun". Read the following article excerpt and then, we will look at various examples in scripture of individuals who disguised themselves.

7. **History Channel Article:** Halloween is a holiday celebrated each year on 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

8. **Video: The History Of Halloween | BuzzFeed Unsolved Network**
   YouTube.com/watch?v=UyOqOa440l4

9. What does the Bible teach about the dead? Are they conscious, and can they communicate with the living? Ecclesiastes 9:5, 6, 10; Job 7:7-10; Job 14:10, 21

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10. 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 from the book, *The Great Controversy*.

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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}

11. In scripture, who 'dressed up' to deceive his father? Genesis 27:11-33

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12. 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

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

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

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

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

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17. 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

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18. Which specific miracle will Satan use to present unscriptural theories to us? Fill in the blank. **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 _____ unto their God? for the living to the _____?"

19. Remember that Satan always counterfeits Jesus. What was one of the crowning miracles of Jesus? John 12:1, 9

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20. 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). What will these demons, who appear to us as dead loved ones, tell us to do? Fill in the blank. **Revelation 13:14**, "And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an _____ _____ _____ _____, which had the wound by a sword, and did live."

21. **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 Apostate Protestant America will make an image to the beast (the Papacy) when it unites the church and the state and enacts Sunday Worship by law. Therefore, demons personating dead loved ones will tell us that we should disregard God's seventh-day Sabbath (Saturday), and worship on Sunday. Then, Satan will personate Jesus and the Second Coming to try and deceive the world (see Matthew 24:23-26; 2 Corinthians 11:13-15).

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

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23. 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

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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!

24. When people see these miracles by Satan, who will they think is performing them? Fill in the blank. **Acts 8:9-10**, "9 But there was a certain man, called Simon, which beforetime in the same city used _____, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one:

"10 To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great _____ ____ _____."

25. 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)

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26. 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. We also reject and scorn faithful ministers teaching Bible reforms and true heart religion.

27. What will happen to some professed Christians in these last days because they want to be a Christian and live like the world simultaneously? Fill in the blank. **1 Timothy 4:1**, "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall _____ from the _____, giving heed to seducing _____, and doctrines of _____;"

28. 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

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