

God Promises Wisdom and Guidance

God has given many promises of wisdom and guidance. Here are a few:

- *I will teach you and instruct you in the way you should go.* Psalm 32:8
- *With your counsel you will guide me, and afterward receive me to glory.* Psalm 73: 24.
- *Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct your paths.* Proverbs 3:5,6.
- *Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it" whenever you turn to the right hand or whenever you turn to the left.* Isaiah 30:21
- *However, when he, the Spirit of Truth, has come, he will guide you into all truth; for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak; and he will tell you things to come. He will glorify me [Jesus], for he will take of what is mine and declare it to you.* John 16:13,14
- *So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves.* Galatians 5:16 (Living Bible)
- *If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.* James 1:5

God's Plans for Our Future

- *For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.* Romans 8:8
- *But God, being rich in mercy... raised us up with him [Jesus] and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.* Ephesians 2:4-7
- *Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.* 2 Timothy 4:8
- *Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.* 1 John 3:2



**How to Know What
the
Future Holds**

The True Source of Future Knowledge

God alone knows the future of each of us. Indeed, he knows the end from the beginning. However, he seldom reveals the personal future of anyone, perhaps because he wishes us to walk by faith with him. Nonetheless, he does *guide* us on a day to day basis through the teachings of the Bible and the nudging of the Holy Spirit. We are also to be guided by God's commandments.

My friends, do not to seek knowledge of your future through agents who claim to be able to communicate with the spirits of the dead. Christ taught us to seek guidance from him through the Holy Spirit. What we need for each day is revealed to us through Jesus Christ. Why turn to the lesser when you can have the greater?

In fact, you are not even contacting human loved ones. The souls of the dead are in designated places. Those who loved Christ have gone to be with Him. Martyrs are under Christ's altar. The souls of evil ones are in hades, awaiting judgment. Most likely you are opening yourself to demons, who can impersonate people. Satan can appear as an angel of light.

Please give this matter serious thought and study God's word to see his provision for true knowledge and wisdom. Read 1 Chronicles 10:13 to see God's judgment on King Saul for consulting a medium. Do not make yourself an enemy to God, lest Paul's warning to the Corinthian church regarding occult practices come to apply to you: "*Shall we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than he?*" 1 Corinthians 10:22 ❖

Five Relations of Christ (John 10:27, Colossians 2:2,3 and more)

1. Christ our shepherd leads us by his voice. *My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.* John 10:27.

2. In Christ is all wisdom and knowledge. *...so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.* Colossians 2:2,3.

3. Christians can have the mind of Christ. *"For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.* 1 Corinthians 2:16.

4. Christ is the head of every Christian. *And he [the Father] put all things under his [Christ's] feet and gave him as head over all things to the church...*Ephesians 1:22.

5. Jesus dispenses the truth that makes us free. *To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."* John 8:31,32.

Eight Detestable Practices (Deuteronomy 18:10-12)

Let no one be found among you who sacrifices his son or daughter in the fire, who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft, or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead. Anyone who does these things is detestable to the Lord...

- 1. Child sacrifice** is to kill a child for personal gain.
- 2. Divination** is an attempt to gain knowledge through ritual.
- 3. Sorcery** is an attempt to control higher powers through magic.
- 4. Omens** are things or events thought to tell the future (other than God's revelation.)
- 5. Witchcraft** is any attempt to exert supernatural powers through spells, potions, rituals.
- A **spell** is words thought to have magical power.
- A **medium** is one who claims to be able to go between spirits and other people.
- A **spiritist** is one who acts on the belief that the dead communicate with the living.

All eight practices are hated by God.

A False Source of Future Knowledge

The word of God consistently rejects consulting the dead and evil spirits in behalf of the living. Here are some warnings:

- *Do not turn to mediums or seek out spiritists, for you will be defiled by them. I am the LORD your God.* Leviticus 19: 31
- *I will set my face against the person who turns to mediums and spiritists to prostitute himself by following them, and I will cut him off from his people.* Leviticus 20:6
- *A man or woman who is a medium or spiritist among you must be put to death.* Leviticus 20:27
- *When men tell you to consult mediums and spiritists, who whisper and mutter, should not a people inquire of their God? Why consult the dead on behalf of the living? To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, they have no light of dawn...Then they will look toward the earth and see only distress and darkness and fearful gloom, and they will be thrust into utter darkness.* Isaiah 8:19-22.
- *Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.* 1 John 4:1-3. ❖