

New age isn't new

There's no new sin, just different names.

What's ironic about the term “New Age” is that the practice isn't new at all, just a different name. Any form of seeking answers, or direction outside of God (ie. talking to demons) is **Occult\New Age**. Witchcraft defined by Derek Prince was “The attempt to control people and make them do what you want them to do by the use of any spirit which is not the Holy Spirit”.

Deuteronomy 18:10-12 NET - There must never be found among you anyone who **sacrifices his son or daughter in the fire**, anyone who practices **divination**, an omen reader, a soothsayer, a **sorcerer**, one **who casts spells**, one who **conjures up spirits**, a practitioner of the occult, or a **necromancer**. Whoever does these things is abhorrent to the Lord, and because of these detestable things the Lord your God is about to drive them out from before you.

Leviticus 19:31 NET - Do not turn to the spirits of the dead and do not seek **familiar spirits** to become unclean by them. I am the Lord your God.

Divination is the practice of consulting beings (divine, human, or departed) or things (by observing objects or actions) in the attempt to gain information about the future and such other matters as are removed from normal knowledge.

Sorcery (kashaph, pharmakeia) is the use of potions, spells, and incantations to invoke supernatural powers or alter circumstances.

People think they are talking to either their passed relatives, “the universe” or some friendly spirit, when in actuality they are talking to demons. The **spirit realm only has 2 sides**, the Kingdom of God and Kingdom of darkness. The few months I was in new age and I started hearing spirits talk to each other, monitoring me or walking close to my bed when I was sleeping, was enough to make me repent and remove any curiosity I had.

Each time Israel or one of God's people tried to gain knowledge or discernment from a place other than God, they were punished. We'll see below how witchcraft\occult\new age were already addressed in the Bible 2000+ years ago.

King Saul (1 Samuel 28) - fear\impatience that led to necromancy

He was already being controlled by a spirit of fear (Philistine encampment at Shunem, David was in hiding and agreed to fight with the Philistines) when he decided to go to a witch to get Samuel's counsel. The Hebrew word for “medium” refers to a pit used by a magician to conjure

up underworld spirits (see [2 Kgs 21:6](#)). In [v. 7](#) the witch of Endor is called the owner of a ritual pit. He expelled all mediums and magicians from Israel a few verses earlier, yet went to the medium and she “conjured” Samuel who chastised him for it (along with reminding him of his prophecy for not killing the Amalekites). That spirit then declared Saul and his sons would die in the battle the next day along with Israel being handed over to the Philistines.

We know what happened afterwards. The disobedience led to God taking Israel from Saul, Saul trying to find answers outside of God, God raising up David, and eventually Saul’s death.

Jezebel and Ahab - Witchcraft (on her husband), Occult worship that led to idolatry

Elijah warned King Ahab not to obey Jezebel's orders for Israel to worship Baalim. He didn't listen and that led to multiple generations of Israel worshipping Baal until Jehu took the throne by force and later on slaughtered all the baal priests.

We know sin leads to more sin, as we see here how the practice of occult and witchcraft led to Israel performing idolatry.

- Temple Prostitution
- Placement of baal and asheroth statues and poles
- Persecution and murder of Godly prophets
- Manipulation and convincing Ahab to turn from God.
- Murdering the innocent for a vineyard (Nahaboth)

Before Jehu eventually stopped the worship, God caused a 3 year drought via Elijah's prayer, Israel experienced multiple tribes conquering them in war(Moabites, Midianites, and Philistines) in a cycle pattern(they would worship false gods, get attacked, repented and God would give them peace). The prophets repeatedly warned that ongoing idolatry would lead to eviction from the Promised Land. This came to pass in 722 BC when the Assyrian Empire conquered the Northern Kingdom of Israel, destroyed its capital, and dragged its people into permanent exile.

Nehushtan ([Numbers 21:4–9](#) and [2 Kings 18:4](#)) - Physical object worship



The Brazen Serpent (watercolor circa 1896–1902 by [James Tissot](#))

Centuries after Moses used a bronze serpent to heal the Israelites in the wilderness, the people began treating the physical object itself as a source of divine, mystical power. They burned incense to it like a magical talisman, prompting King Hezekiah to smash it ([2 Kings 18:4](#)) and named it Nehushtan. "Nehushtan" is a pun on either the Hebrew word for "snake" ([נָחָשׁ](#), nāḥāš) or "brass" ([נְחֹשֶׁת](#), neḥōšet), and thus may mean "The (Great) Serpent" or "The (Great) Brass". This mirrors the modern practice of **shifting worship from the Creator to physical tools, crystals, or conduits of healing**. God anointed the object so the people would be healed, but the serpent statue didn't have any power. After that passage, we don't hear about the

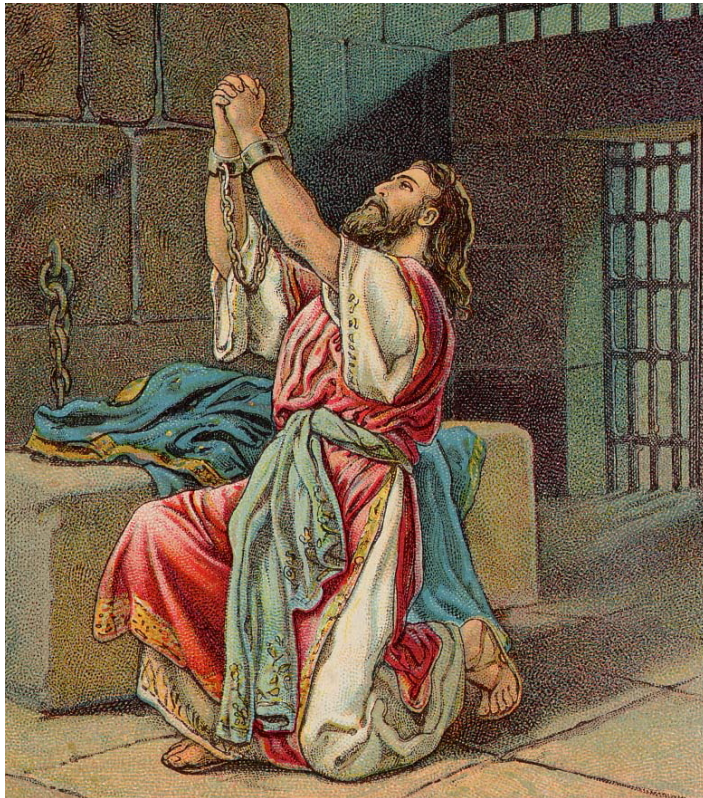
King Manassah ([2 Kings 21](#) and 2 Chronicles 33) - everything

King Manasseh of Judah turned the temple into a hub for occult activity. He heavily practiced **witchcraft, sorcery, divination, and fortune-telling**. Furthermore, he institutionalized the "worship of the starry hosts", building altars to the stars inside the temple of God (**astrology and zodiac worship**) and relying on omens rather than divine revelation.

He restored the altars for the false gods his father Hezekiah tore down, practiced molech worship (**passing his son through the fire**) and placed a Asherah pole\carving in God's

temple. It was in 2 Kings that Jerusalem was stained in innocent blood from all the executions he allowed.

God's anger was so great, Manasseh was eventually taken captive in chains to Babylon by the Assyrians. In his deep distress, he humbled himself and prayed to God. God heard his plea and restored him to his throne in Jerusalem, after which he removed the foreign gods, destroyed the pagan altars, and restored the worship of the Lord.



Manasseh's repentance; as in 2 Chronicles 33:1–13 (illustration from a Bible card published in 1904 by the Providence Lithograph Company)

Now some would say that Manasseh was the worst offender among Israel's kings, but even when he was in bondage and repented, God forgave him. Let his story be an example of how we can always repent and turn back to the Lord when we are in sin. The practices of this world have been used by the enemy since the Old Testament, but just have different names now. As long as we remember our prosperity, future and directions come from God, we won't fall victim to the lies of the enemy.

References

- If God can save Manasseh - <https://gentlereformation.com/2023/02/03/if-god-can-save-manasseh-2/>
- 2 Kings 21 commentary - <https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/2-kings-21/>
- Bible Gateway definition of Divination - <https://www.biblegateway.com/resources/encyclopedia-of-the-bible/Divination>
- Warning: The Spirit of Witchcraft in America Today - <https://www.jesusrestores.com/blog/5qmwpdhz6jh44pkn4cjqemkbn8k31f>