

October 15, 2023

Acts 16:16-24

“The Occult, Anti-Semitism, And The Power In Jesus’ Name”

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION

The occult, astrology, witchcraft, Ouija boards, Tarot cards, Satanism. Much of this seems harmless, none the less to do so, you are dabbling in the occult. The draw is to go deeper. Through this people look for quick, easy answers. One author wrote, “Occult practices are controlled by demons, who offer just enough information to keep their victims intrigued, while exerting more and more control over gullible hearts and minds.” **Leviticus 20:6** explicitly warns not to get involved with such things. **I Timothy 4:1** speaks to a rise in popularity of the occult in the end of the age. You should avoid this sort of thing, Peter warned of this, see **I Peter 5:8**. How do I stand against this; read **Ephesians 6:10-18**.

Anti-Semitism, the world hates Jews because the world hates God. They are His chosen people. God used the Jews to bring forth: His Word, Law, morality, and Jesus in His Jewish body to redeem the world from sin. Satan hates this and God’s people. In history Satan has used the Babylonians, Persians, Assyrians, Egyptians, Hittites, and the Nazis against them. But every attempt to destroy them has failed. God is not through with His people, one day multitudes of Jews will believe and be saved. Nothing can stop God’s plan for Israel and the Jewish people. Gleaned from “What is the cause of all the anti-Semitism in the world?” *Got Questions*. “The world cannot hate you, but it does hate me because I testify about it-that its works are evil.” *Jesus*, see **John 7:7**, (CSB)

In the name of Jesus, **Jude 9**, “Yet when Michael the archangel was disputing with the devil in an argument about Moses’ body, he did not dare utter a slanderous condemnation against him but said, ‘The Lord rebuke you!’” (CSB) Mere humans are no match for demons.

Ministry in a dungeon, when you find yourself in places that are tough to be in, do like Paul and Silas in the upcoming section, make yourself available to God and He will use you, right where He has planted you.

Application:

There are constant challenges for families today. Just a couple of them include Halloween and Harry Potter, for example. Families, you must decide what will best lead your little ones first off all into a relationship with Jesus and then on to a closer walk with the Savior as they mature physically, mentally, and most importantly spiritually.

Joshua 24:15, “If it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served which were beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.” (NASB)