

# ABOUT HALLOWEEN

**Where did Halloween come from?** Halloween is a pagan festival of the ancient Druids which honors Samhain, the “lord of the dead.” Food and gifts were provided by people as “treats” in order to avoid the “tricks” of roving evil spirits. Black cats, Jack-o-lanterns, wearing grotesque costumes, etc. are all pagan occult practices and beliefs. In an effort to reconcile non-Christian tradition and belief with that of Christianity, Pope Gregory IV established a festival to honor dead saints, held each November 1st, known as “All Hallowed One’s Day.” The night before, October 31st, became known as “All Hallows’ Eve” or “Halloween” - the night when the spirits of the dead were released.

**Is Halloween Christian?** No! Its association with Satan, demons, witches, etc., are evidence of its non-Christian origins. Today, October 31st remains the high holy day of those who practice the occult, witchcraft, worship Satan, and associate with demons. Halloween, as it is celebrated in the United States, incorporates many of these Satanic symbols and practices.

**Scripture to consider:** Leviticus 19:31; 20:27; Deuteronomy 18:9-12; Isaiah 8:19,20; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18; Ephesians 5:8-15

**What to do?** This is the hard part. We don’t want to deny our children the opportunity to have fun. Let’s face it, dressing up in costumes and getting candy is fun. But, there is a reality that exists which we must address, a choice that is ours as individuals and parents. What is healthy to embrace? Knowing the truth should influence how we celebrate as a family. Refuse to buy or participate in anything Satanic or occultic or to allow your children to participate in events which encourage such practices. Use the opportunity to witness. Give out tracks to the kids who come to your door. Choose an exciting Christian alternative celebration. Talk with your kids so that, rather than focusing on fear, they might focus on the life that is ours in Jesus Christ.