



PASSIONFORTRUTH

WHERE NEW LIFE BEGINS

The Untold History Of Halloween - Jim Staley

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Halloween is the only night of the year where Christians voluntarily participate in the exact rituals that witches, pagans, and satanists celebrate as their high holy day, all in the name of fun. Before you put a costume on your child, ask yourself, why does the kingdom of darkness and the church celebrate the same night? Why do covens fast and pray for power? Why believers hand out candy dressed as angels and demons? What if the enemy hasn't hidden Halloween from Christians? He's recruited us into it. Tonight, we're pulling off the mask and exposing why this is not a holiday heaven recognizes and why hell loves that the church does. We're going to unpack all of it, the history, the origins and everything in between right after this. Hello, everyone. I'm Jim Staley with [Passion for Truth Ministries](#) and welcome to this week's where we're going to be diving into the history and origins of probably one of the most controversial former Christian, maybe Christian, not sure Christian holidays called Halloween. It's a controversial subject for sure. And in my opinion, it should not be, it should be black and white. If we know our scriptures.

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So that's what we're going to do today. We're going to dive into this topic. We're going to find out should Christians celebrate this Hallows Eve evening or not. And if so, how do we do it? So, buckle up my friends, because we're going to dive into the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth right now. If we're going to dive into the history of Hallows Eve or better known as Halloween, we have to go all the way back to a pagan festival called Samhain. Samhain is where it all begins. According to the Encyclopaedia Britannica, *"in ancient Britain and Ireland, the Celtic festival of Samhain Eve was observed on October 31st at the end of the summer. It was the occasion for one of the ancient fire festivals when huge bonfires were set on hilltops to frighten away evil spirits."* By the way, the origin of the word bonfires comes from bonfires. They would literally burn bones in fires to ward off or to attract evil spirits. *"The souls of the dead were thought to revisit their homes on this day. And the autumnal festival acquired sinister significance with ghosts, witches, hobgoblins, black cats, fairies and demons of all kinds said to be roaming about. In addition, Halloween was thought to be the most favorable time for divinations concerning marriage, luck, health and death."* We'll talk about that a little bit later. The Encyclopaedia

Britannica goes on to say that *“Samhain was one of the most important and sinister calendar festivals of the entire Celtic year. At Samhain, which was held on November 1st, the world of the gods was believed to be made visible to mankind and the gods played many tricks on their mortal worshippers. It was a time fraught with danger, charged with fear and full of supernatural episodes. Sacrifices and propitiations of every kind were thought to be vital for without them, the Celts believed they could not prevail over the perils of the season or counteract the activities of the deities. Samhain was an important precursor to Halloween.”* Now, before we go any further, I think it's important to bring up a quote by Anton LaVey, who wrote the Satanic Bible and is the founder of the Church of Satan. He says this, and I quote, the two major satanic holidays are War Prashnach and Halloween, which is All Hallows' Eve. They believe that this is their high holy day of the year, and Christians stole it. And I'm going to prove to you that he is absolutely right. Now, let's move along the timeline from the time of the Celts to the time of the Romans. After conquering the Irish and the Celts in the first century, Samhain began to get mixed with two other Roman feasts for the dead, Pomona Day and Feralia. Feralia was held on February 21st and was the day to honor the dead. But like other Roman holidays, it was filled with drunkenness and orgies.

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Pomona Day, November 1st, was a day to honor the goddess Pomona, the goddess of fruit, trees, and fertility. And guess what her symbol was? The apple. Very clever from the enemy, if you ask me. But now, moving forward again on the timeline, we get to the Catholic Church. Having already multiple days for remembering dead saints and martyrs, it was agreed that there should be one day for all saints. So with the backing of the Roman government, it was decided to, quote, whitewash the Roman Day of the Dead and turn it into the Day of Remembering and Praying to Dead Saints, something I should point out is completely forbidden in scripture. But I digress. Now, the name was changed from Feralia to All Saints Day, and the date was changed to kill two birds with one stone. May 13th, 609 AD, Pope Boniface IV dedicated the Pantheon in Rome in commemoration of all Christian martyrs.

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All Saints Day was born. So what the Pope did was took the Pantheon, which was dedicated to many different gods in Rome, and whitewashed it, put a little holy water on it, and rededicated it to the god Yahweh, the god of the Bible. This, again, is completely forbidden, as we're going to find out here shortly. Now, why May 13th? Where did that come from? Well, the Roman Lemuria Festival was a major pagan festival where the head of the household would get up at midnight and perform a ritual to exercise and remove dead spirits from his home. Now, this dates all the way back to the 6th century BC. From here, it was moved again back to Samhain's Day. Noticing that the Celts are still celebrating Samhain on October 31st through November 1st, Pope Gregory III in 741 AD moved All Saints Day to November 1st to dedicate the new All Saints Chapel in St. Peter's, Rome, and at the same time making an effort to Christianize the

pagan feast of the same day. This is called syncretism, where you take a pagan festival and say, hey, we've got to figure out a way to get the pagans to stop celebrating this. Let's just take it over, Christianize it, and dedicate it to Christ.

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That's something that is totally forbidden in scriptures, and this is exactly what they did with Christmas. And if you want to learn more about that, you can watch December 25th on Trial right here or click the link in the description. Then, in 988 AD, the Catholic Church added another day, November 2nd, to remember all of the souls that were suspended in a place called purgatory and needed the prayers of their loved ones. And with the festival of Samhain, the Catholic believers celebrated with huge bonfires, parades, and costumes masquerading as dead saints, angels, and demons. Altogether, All Saints Eve, October 31st, All Saints Day, November 1st, and All Souls Day, November 2nd, combined into Hallowmas, imitating the Celtic Feast of Samhain. Now, how do we get from All Saints Day to Halloween? Well, in 1556, as we continue on the timeline, the Scottish term All Hallows Eve was used. It means literally hallowed evening or holy evening, something I will suggest there is nothing holy about this evening. When the phrase was used in the English language in the West in 1745, it was pronounced Halloween. Now, here's an interesting twist.

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There wasn't a whole lot of people celebrating Halloween in the 1800s, in the 19th century, until there was an Irish potato famine in 1846. You might say, what in the world? Does an Irish potato famine have anything to do with Halloween? Well, everything. When millions of Irish Celts that were used to celebrating Samhain immigrated to America during this time, they had a major impact on what we call Halloween today. They already had all of these traditions and they began to put them into practice here. Now, they originally had carved turnips. Those ended up into jack-o'-lanterns because pumpkins were far more plentiful here in America. They also had a practice called guising or souling that turned into trick-or-treating. The Irish children originally went door-to-door for food offerings for the spirits of the dead. This turned into what is clearly modern day trick-or-treat.

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There was an idea during the Samhain festival that there was a thinning of the veil in the realm. It's the same idea that Satan has had today. It's the idea that the spirits of the dead returned on this night and you had to give them an offering to prevent them from doing a trick or putting some sort of spell on you. This is where the American idea of dressing up and doing trick-or-treats came from. There was bonfires, costumes, offerings. This is all part of the Samhain festival. It just became Americanized. Then American businesses saw an incredible opportunity to commercialize this and make a windfall and that they did. Almost \$15 billion a year is spent in America alone on the festival of Halloween. Now, many people will try to spin this origin and say, well, today, okay, that's not what Halloween means to me. Well, I'm going to suggest to you, just like with other holidays that the Roman church invented or synchronized

from paganism, it's not what it means to you. If you are a believer in Christ, it doesn't matter what it means to you. It matters what it means to Him. After all, you're not the one being worshipped. So, it's just like taking your wife and saying, hey, honey, we're going to change your birthday to the birthday of my old girlfriend because it's much easier to remember her birthday. I dated her for 10 years. How far would that go with her? It would be highly offensive, even though your heart might be right and it might be in the right place. But God says, I don't care about your heart. Your heart is wicked and deceitful in every way. He cares about our heart, but only when we're in obedience. So, what is all saints day anyway? Well, the Catholics celebrate all saints day and all souls day in fundamental belief that there is a prayerful spiritual communion between those in the state of grace who died and are either being purified in purgatory or in heaven, the church penitent and the church triumphant, respectfully, and the church militant who are the living. And that's according to Catholic.org.

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Now, all saints day, which is November 2nd, is a day remembering and praying for the dead to be purified and brought into heaven. But if you're Catholic out there, let's just take a look at this and see how this lines up with scripture. ^{"27} ***And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment,***" there's no getting out of judgement. Once you're dead, you're dead. You can't pray someone out of, out of judgement. You can't pray someone out of purgatory. There is no purgatory. There's a holding place for the dead, but there's simply a resurrection of the dead. And that comes at the sound of the trumpet. When Christ the Messiah comes back, the dead in Christ will rise first at the sound of the trumpet. Then those who remain will be caught up together with Him in the air. Then after the thousand year millennial reign of Christ, there's another resurrection and that's the resurrection of the wicked. But nowhere in between there do we as mortal humans have the right to give someone a second chance or to pray someone out of purgatory. It just doesn't exist. It's a made up doctrine. As a matter of fact, the origin of that doctrine was simply indulgences, meaning people paid money to the Catholic church to pray their relatives out of purgatory. It's a great fundraising campaign back in the middle ages, but it doesn't fly today and that's why they've removed it. Praying for the dead, quite frankly, is absolutely akin to necromancy. **Deuteronomy 18:10** says this, ^{"10} ***There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, 11 or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead.***" When you are praying for the dead, you are calling upon the dead. That didn't work out for Saul so well with the witch of Endor. Samuel was not too happy about that. Any intentional communication with the dead is forbidden in Scripture and is called an abomination. **1 Timothy 2:5** ^{"5} ***For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,***" You're not a mediator. Mary's not a mediator.

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No one's a mediator. It's just Christ Jesus. If that's not enough, we're going to continue and show you that there is days for the dead in almost every culture. Why? Because Satan has a plan that goes far beyond the American culture, far beyond the Irish culture, the Celtic culture. He put this praying to the dead and the celebration of the dead in every culture. In the Mexican culture, it's called the day of the dead. El Dia de los Muertos goes back to the ancient festival of the dead celebrated by Aztecs in the more ancient Olmec. Brazil, China, Japan, Guatemala, Vietnam, Nepal, Philippines, and many more all have the day of the dead. How do they all have the day of the dead? I'm convinced it goes all the way back to Nimrod, the great grandson of Noah, who built the Tower of Babel, Nineveh, and all of the cultures that glorified the dead. To put an exclamation point on everything that the Scripture says about this, it just doesn't want us connecting with the dead at all.

Leviticus 19:26-28 says, "You shall not eat anything with the blood, nor shall you practice divination or soothsaying. " You shall not shave around the sides of your head, nor shall you disfigure the edges of your beard. " You shall not make any cuttings in your flesh for the dead, nor tattoo any marks on you: I am the Lord. It's where it comes from.

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The tattoos that we see today, everybody putting cute tattoos. The origin of that comes right out of people making markings on their body for the dead. We are not to focus on the dead. As believers, we focus on the life. That's why Christ didn't stay dead. He rose from the dead. The only mark that you should make on your body is the mark of the blood of Christ in your life, sacrificing your flesh so that the Spirit can live in you. Now let's take a minute and go through a few traditions that are associated with Halloween and see what we can uncover there. It's a little bit dicey. Costumes. In the Samhain festival, the Celts would wear animal skins, dress up like ghosts, demons, fairies, and the like to trick the wandering spirits into leaving them alone. There are full cultures in Africa that you must give food to the resident witch doctor on this day in order for the witch doctor to not put a spell on you.

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They will take a gourd, carve it out, put a light in the gourd, and put it on their front porch to ward off evil spirits. Ladies and gentlemen, this is literally what is happening in the American culture that we say is for fun and it's all for the kids. But what is Satan after? He's after children. This is a real holiday that's celebrated in cultic countries around the world today. And as I mentioned earlier, trick-or-treating is a custom of Samhain festival. It's from the very beginning. Families would put food and drink outside the front door to appease the roaming spirits and to keep them from playing tricks on them. By the middle ages, poor children would go door-to-door begging for cakes in exchange for saying prayers for the dead. Now what about the jack-o'-lantern? This is a really crazy story. The original jack-o'-lantern was called Irish Jack or Stingy Jack. He cut a deal with the devil by tricking him to go up a tree and he put a cross on the tree which prevented the devil from coming down out of the tree. In return, the

devil would leave him alone and he was not allowed to take his soul. So the devil gave him an ember from a fire, put it inside of a lantern, and Jack would roam around on this day with his lantern and he couldn't go to heaven because he was too evil, but he couldn't go to hell because of this deal that he made with the devil. And this is where Jack-o'-lantern comes from. This is not something cute, ladies and gentlemen. This is demonic. Speaking of demonic, bobbing for apples is right up there with the jack-o'-lantern story. The current game dates back to when the Romans conquered Britain and they brought with them the apple tree, a representation of the goddess of fruit trees, Pomona. Remember, this is one of the festivals that Halloween morphed from was Pomona. The combination of Pomona, a fertility goddess, and the Celts' belief that the pentagram was a fertility symbol began the origins of bobbing for apples. Why? Pomona's fruit was an apple and it was said that those that were single would bob their head into a barrel of water with floating apples and whoever grabbed an apple first would be the one that was blessed by the goddess Pomona to be the next one married.

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Ladies and gentlemen, this is not a fun game at Halloween. This is exactly what the demonic pagans did to conjure up their gods with the idea of fertility. And what we've done is Christianized it, forgotten the origins, and sent it into our children's lives. In effect, cursing our own children who are ignorant. God is not concerned about whether or not you know it or not. It's just the law of the universe. When you do something that's demonic, you're inviting demons into your house. Imagine a Christian wearing a pentagram but not knowing the symbol of it. It's just thinking it's a really neat symbol. Would you think that that's okay? Would you encourage another Christian or would you be alarmed, sit them down, and explain the origins of this demonic symbol and the portals that they potentially might be opening up in their life? Absolutely. If you believe in Christ, that's exactly what you would do. The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob commanded that Israel tear down the altars of these pagan gods and to not look into their gods at all and worship Him likewise, like we're going to read in just a moment.

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So here's a million-dollar question. Can't we just redeem Halloween for the Lord? This is a lie straight from the devil. The devil loves to use scripture to manipulate us because of our lack of understanding of the scriptures themselves. He'll quote [Psalms 24:1](#) through pastors on a pulpit, pointing out that everything belongs to the Lord. Therefore, there's no reason to let Satan have Halloween. It's not His day in the first place. But let's read Psalms 24. It says in verse 1, **"The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness, The world and those who dwell therein."** Is everything really the Lord's? It's just what God made. It's the earth and the people that are His. That's why He doesn't redeem anything but the earth on judgement day and people. Animals don't get redeemed. Plants don't get redeemed. Are we truly to believe that every satanic

holiday that's ever been invented from the ancient Egyptians to the Celts, even the Romans, is the Lord's? No. God made it very clear what is the Lord's.

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He tells us this in **Leviticus 23:39**. ***"39 'Also on the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when you have gathered in the fruit of the land, you shall keep the feast of the Lord for seven days; on the first day there shall be a sabbath-rest, and on the eighth day a sabbath-rest."***

This is talking about the Feast of Tabernacles. This is the holiday that God set aside for us to celebrate. It's the Feast days of the Lord that are on God's prophetic calendar. Those are the ones that He told us to celebrate because they're all about Christ. Passover was when He died. The Feast of Unleavened Bread was when all the Israelites were getting sin out of their house, the leaven out of their house in representation that they were going to be set free from sin. Coincidentally, Christ was being put in the ground and freeing us from sin, removing sin from His church. Then three days later comes the Feast of First Fruits, where the high priest is waving the barley sheaf before God, asking for a great harvest in the fall. Simultaneously, Christ is rising from the dead, asking for a great harvest in the fall. What's the fall? Fall is prophetic for the second coming of Christ. Fifty days later comes the Feast of Pentecost or Shavuot in Hebrew, when the commandments were given on Mount Sinai, when the Holy Spirit was given to the church. Then in the fall, we have the Feast of Trumpets, where the sound of the trumpet goes forth and the dead in Christ will rise first. That's when every king of Israel that was ever inaugurated became actually king, was on the Feast of Trumpets. Go figure, Yeshua, Jesus will come and be king of kings and crowned Lord of lords and every knee will bow. Then comes the Day of Atonement, judgement day. Yom Kippur, when the high priest would go in once a year to atone for all the sins of those that are in the kingdom of God. And last but not least, the time when Yeshua, Jesus was actually born and tabernacled among us is the Feast of Tabernacles, better known as Sukkot. This is the marriage supper of the Lamb. All of these deal with Christ. These are the curriculum holidays that God put forth and these are the very ones that Satan's been hiding and trying to get God's people away from. How does He do that? Through a mixture. How did He get mankind to sin to begin with? Not through the tree of life.

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He simply took part of the tree of life and put it in a tree that He called the tree of knowledge of good and evil. This is what's been plaguing the church for 2,000 years. It's not evil. It's the mixture of good and evil. And what have we done today as believers? Oh, let's not get rid of Halloween because we don't want the children to miss out on what all the worldly children are doing. Let's create trunk or treat. And we see churches across the world in parking lots everywhere that open up their trunk and they just do a church event where they give away candy. Instead of teaching the children of God to be separate and holy and to get away from anything that appears to be evil, we're not going to glorify evil at all. We're just going to mix it. It's what we've been doing for 2,000

years. It's what Satan's been doing for 6,000 years. It's called compromise. The definition of compromise, according to thefreedictionary.com, is to reduce in quality, value, or degree, to weaken or lower. This is exactly what we've been doing ever since the Roman church took over. We've reduced God's word to a suggestion. We've replaced God's holidays with Roman pagan holidays that all are a mixture. There is no debate. It's all a mixture. It is not something that God approves of. As a matter of fact, He says so in **Deuteronomy chapter 12**. This is a key for us to understand the mind of God. In **verse 29 through 32**, it says this, when the Lord your God, by the way, this is when right before they go into the Promised Land. Where are we at on the prophetic timeline? Right before the promised land. God is making this statement today. **"²⁹ When the Lord your God cuts off from before you the nations which you go to dispossess, and you displace them and dwell in their land, ³⁰ take heed to yourself that you are not ensnared to follow after them, after they are destroyed from before you, and that you do not inquire after their gods, saying, 'How did these nations serve their gods? I also will do likewise.' ³¹ You shall not worship the Lord your God in that way; for every abomination to the Lord which He hates they have done to their gods; for they burn even their sons and daughters in the fire to their gods."** Why? For every abomination to the Lord, which He hates, they have done to their gods, for they have burned even their sons and daughters in the fire to their gods during festivals like Samhain. **"³² Whatever I command you, be careful to observe it; you shall not add to it nor take away from it."** What did He command us? He gave us a full incredible holiday calendar. It's all about Christ. The content inside of it will cause your children to walk in the way that they should go and they will not walk away from it.

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They won't depart from it. You shall not add to it nor take away from it. This is the heart of God. God says don't try to make a golden calf and worship me. Don't try to create a new religion and just say, oh my heart is pure. God says I know your heart. It's deceitfully wicked above all things. It always bends everything to the flesh. That's why I gave you basic instructions before leaving earth, what we call the Bible. I gave you the commandments. I set before you blessings and curses. Blessings if you keep my commandments and eat from the tree of life. Curses if you don't. God doesn't make you serve Him. He simply sets before you life and death. What do we consistently do for thousands of years to millennium? We follow our religious leaders right down the wide path that leads to destruction. We might make it into heaven, but are we pleasing God along the way? Halloween is not a joke. It is a holiday that is designed by Satan himself to entrap all of the earth into worshipping the dead, while God is the author of worshipping that which lives. That which lives is His son. There is no other truth besides that. If you mix anything with the scriptures, if you take something that used to be demonic and you mix it into worshipping the one true God, you are falling into dangerous waters. It is an abomination. It is forbidden. I encourage you today to ask yourself this one question.

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Whom will you serve? Like Joshua said, as for me and my house, I will serve the Lord. I love what Martin Luther said. He said this in the 1500s. *"Unless I am convinced by prefix from scripture and by plain and clear reason and arguments, I can and will not retract, for it is neither safe nor wise to do anything against conscience. Here I stand. I can do no other. God help me. Amen."* I will leave you with this thought. Martin Luther says he'll do nothing against conscience. I will ask you this question. Do you have the conscience of God? Do you have the mind of God? Because it's not necessarily about your conscience and your mind and what you think you should do. If you believe in Christ and have adopted Him as your Lord and Savior, then we are to put on the mind of Christ. Christ would never take a satanic holiday or even a hint of glorifying the dead or glorifying evil in any way, shape, or form and bring it into His kingdom or any strategy. Man always tries to come up with a way to worship God, but God has already told us how to worship Him. Let us find ourselves on judgement day with clean hands and pure heart. Dig deep. Stand firm. A movement of God is here. Let us put away the deeds of death and the deeds of the flesh. Let's put aside the calendar of Rome. Let's put aside compromise and the tree of knowledge of good and evil and stand for truth and let God be God in every man's life.

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If you'd like more information on the feast days of the Lord, I have an entire playlist on our channel that you can walk through video by video, or you can get a cheat sheet right now by texting the word **FEASTDAY** to **844-763-9543**. That's text the word **FEASTDAY** to **844-763-9543**. In the meantime, thanks for travelling back in time with me. I pray that it will mark a line and a moment in your family's life where you come out of Egypt to follow the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to do Bible things in Bible ways, and to follow God His way. I'm Jim Staley with Passion for Truth Ministries. I'll see you in the next video.

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