

Miracles Vs. Magic

Session 1: Magic and the Bible

The goal of Fake Magic is to _____ people.

“I love magicians because they are such honest people. They tell you they are going to fool you and then they proceed to do it.” - Elbert Hubbard

The goal of Phony Magic is to _____ people.

“Even the most intelligent people can be deceived when presented with a phenomenon – no matter how ridiculous – in a serious manner, in an atmosphere where honesty is taken for granted.” - André Kole

- Convince themselves that they have _____.
- Convince themselves that they are _____.
- Convince others to give them _____.
- Convince themselves that they can do it _____.

What The Bible Says

“When you enter the land the LORD your God is giving you, be very careful not to imitate the detestable customs of the nations living there. For example, never sacrifice your son or daughter as a burnt offering. And do not let your people practice fortune-telling, or use sorcery, or interpret omens, or engage in witchcraft, or cast spells, or function as mediums or psychics, or call forth the spirits of the dead. Anyone who does these things is detestable to the LORD.” - Deuteronomy 18:9-12a

Saul then said to his advisers, “Find a woman who is a medium, so I can go and ask her what to do.” His advisers replied, “There is a medium at Endor.” ... Finally, the woman said, “Well, whose spirit do you want me to call up?” “Call up Samuel,” Saul replied. When the woman saw Samuel, she screamed, “You’ve deceived me! You are Saul!” - 1 Samuel 28:7, 11-12 (NLT)

A man named Simon had been a sorcerer there for many years, amazing the people of Samaria and claiming to be someone great. Everyone, from the least to the greatest, often spoke of him as “the Great One—the Power of God.” They listened closely to him because for a long time he had astounded them with his magic. ... When Simon saw that the Spirit was given when the apostles laid their hands on people, he offered them money to buy this power. “Let me have this power, too,” he exclaimed, “so that when I lay my hands on people, they will receive the Holy Spirit!” - Acts 8:9-11, 18-19 (NLT)

Many who became believers confessed their sinful practices. A number of them who had been practicing sorcery brought their incantation books and burned them at a public bonfire. The value of the books was several million dollars. - Acts 19:18-19

Why Magic?

#1: It’s a _____ movement.

#2: People don’t _____ the stories.

This man will come to do the work of Satan with counterfeit power and signs and miracles. - 2 Thessalonians 2:9 (NLT)

Dear friends, do not believe everyone who claims to speak by the Spirit. You must test them to see if the spirit they have comes from God. For there are many false prophets in the world. - 1 John 4:1 (NLT)

1. Does it match the _____?
2. Does it bring _____?
3. Does it build up _____?

“To date, no one has come up with undeniable evidence that paranormal phenomenon exist...” - Terry O’Neill and Stacey L. Tipp

“Extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence.” - Carl Sagan