

The Cults Exposed

Spiritualism & Occult:

Introduction: ***“Mediums and Satanists and Wiccans, Oh My!”***



I. Chronology of the Rise of Spiritualism and Occultism in America

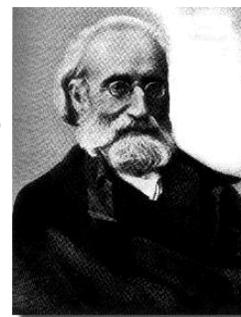
- 1692 - Salem Witch Trials, decline of Puritanism. 150 arrests, 31 tried and convicted, 19 hanged.
- 1848 - March 31st the Fox sisters, Margaret and Kate, hear “raps” of “Old Splitfoot”. Sets off a wave of seances in America and Britain.
- 1847 - Andrew Jackson Davis publishes, *Principle of Nature, her Divine Revelation and Voice to Mankind*. Fifty editions follow.
- 1859 - Charles Darwin, *Origin of the Species; The Descent of Man*, 1871.
- 1863 - National Spiritualistic Association formed to unite like minded groups.
- 1875 - H.P. Blavatsky establishes the Theosophical Society.
- 1893 - Cora Richmond lecture, *Presentation of Spiritualism*, given before the Conference of Religions in Chicago.
- 1880-1920 rise of biblical Higher Criticism. Denies the Bible’s credibility and the biblical account of the creation of man.
- 1904 - Aleister Crowley receives “astral” instructions. [*Magick in Theory and Practice*]
- 1919-1949 Alice Bailey makes thirty year pact with KH to be her Master. Automatic writing attributed to KH influence.
- 1931 - *Dracula* released in theaters starring Bela Lugosi. The era 1965-1975 saw over thirty *Dracula* movie clones.
- 1939 - *Wizard of Oz*, overshadowed by *Gone With the Wind*, makes magic, witches, etc. family fare.
- 1944 - Federation of Spiritual Churches and Associations formed amid an ecumenical era.
- 1960's - Episcopalian Bishop Pike has seance with Arthur Ford in effort to contact his departed son.
- 1964 - Premier episode of *Bewitched* entitled, “I, Darrin, take this Witch, Samantha.” The series ran through 1972.
- 1966 - April 30th Anton LaVey forms Church of Satan in San Francisco. The year proclaimed year one, Anno Satanas.
- 1967 - Rolling Stones release an album entitled, *Their Satanic Majesty’s Request*. Their next album featured the song, “*Sympathy for the Devil*.”
- 1968 - Roman Polanski’s movie *Rosemary’s Baby* stars LaVey as Satan. The Beatles explore TM and LSD. Timothy Leary advocates, “*Tune in turn on, drop out*.”
- 1969 - LaVey publishes *Satanic Bible* [30+ re-printings] followed by his *Satanic Rituals and The Compleat Witch*. Sharon Tate murdered by Charles Manson’s disciples.
- 1970 - The group *Black Sabbath* releases an album by the same name featuring lead singer Ozzy Osbourne.

- 1973 - *The Exorcist* is released. [Note: The video version is still banned in the UK]
- 1974 - the American Council of Witches publishes their *Principles of Belief*
- 1975 - Alice Bailey's injunction to go public with "The Plan." The New Age explosion is traceable to this date.
- 1976 - *The Omen* is Released.
- 1980 - Marilyn Ferguson publishes, *The Aquarian Conspiracy*, a New Age primer and catalogue which become a popular college text.
- 1983 - Constance Cumby publishes, *Hidden Dangers of the Rainbow*, an early Christian response to the rise of the New Age Movement.

II. Influential Leaders of Spiritualism and Occultism in America

A. Andrew Jackson Davis (1826-1910) – “John the Baptist” of Modern Spiritualism

- 1826 - born in Bloomington Grove, NY, uneducated. As a child heard voices, his parents welcomed these “spirit” contacts, they relocate to Poughkeepsie at their son’s spirit direction.
- 1843 - attends Dr. J.S. Grimes' lectures on Mesmerism and begins to diagnose medical conditions while in a trance.
- 1844 - mysteriously transported 40 miles to the Catskills where he meets with and receives revelations from the spirits of the deceased philosopher Galen as well as the noted religious mystic-seer Emmanuel Swedenborg. Davis begins to lecture.
- 1847 - Davis publishes, *The Principle of Nature: Her Divine Revelation and a Voice to Mankind*, which was dictated while he was in a trance (over a 15 month period attested by witnesses). Thirty books followed. He predicted a new era of spiritualism.
- 1848 - The Foxe sisters (Kate and Margaret) create a stir over their “spirit rapping” claims and subsequent seances. Harry Houdini later debunked them, the rappings were made by cracking their toe joints.



A. Jackson Davis

Cora L.V. Scott Richmond (1840-1923)

In 1840 Cora was born in Cuba, NY to parents who were religious “free thinkers.” Cora as a child showed mediumistic tendencies which her parents welcomed. As a school girl she began trance writing followed by voices. She was taken place to place giving demonstrations. While still a young girl, Cora came under the control of the spirit of Augustus Ballou, the deceased son of a spiritualist “minister.” Ballou supposedly served on the other side as the contact for a circle of the departed who spoke through young Cora. She attracted large audiences.



Cora L.V. Richmond

In 1863 she was invited to England to “tour.” Her planned six months stay was extended to two years. About this time she became pastor of the Church of the Soul in Chicago, where she served for over 50 years.

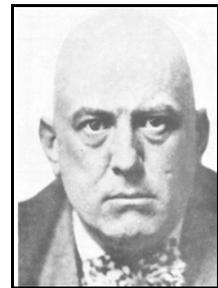
In 1893 she lectured at the Conference of Religions in Chicago. Her “*Presentation of Spiritualism*” won respect for Spiritualism and became the basis for the *Declaration of Principles* adopted by the national movement. She served as a leader in the movement.

Marcellus Ayer (b. 1839) Friend of A.J. Davis, Ayer made a fortune in the wholesale grocery business in Boston. In the 1780's during a spiritualist meeting a number of spirits appeared and confirmed his life work--the establishment of a church. In 1885, the First Spiritualist Temple was erected in Boston, at Ayer's expense, attracting over 1,200 people for the dedication. The church, still functioning today, has been a haven for resident and visiting mediums.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (1859-1930) Born and educated in Edinburgh, Doyle practiced medicine until his literary career (esp. *Sherlock Holmes* mysteries) gained him fame. The death of his son in war led him into spiritualism. He became their advocate through his writing (*History of Spiritualism*) and lecturing. Additionally, the endorsement of Sir William Crookes, noted English scientist and the discoverer of the element thallium, enhanced the respectability of the movement in both England and the United States.

B. Aleister Crowley (1875-1947) --"the Great Beast 666"

- 1875 - born in Leamington, England. Raised by Plymouth Brethren parents yet rejected the faith.
- 1898 - Aleister entered the occult order of the *Golden Dawn*. (William Butler Yeats and Bram Stoker were noted members)
- 1904 - he receives "astral instruction" from his "guardian angel" for a new order.
- 1912 - establishes this new order in Britain within the *Ordo Templis Orientis* (aka OTO).



Aleister Crowley

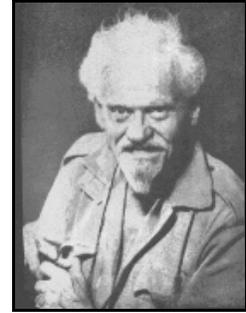
Note: the OTO is a descendant of the Knights Templar, Rosicrucians, the Illuminati, and especially Free Masonry, and was founded by Karl Kellner (1851-1905). Kellner, a wealthy German, was a Mason and occultist who practiced sexual magic. His *Academia Masonica* (aka OTO) spread the teachings. Kellner was seceded as head of the OTO in 1907 by Theodor Reuss and three years later met and initiated Crowley to the third degree of OTO. The OTO under Crowley separated from the United Grand Lodge of England (Masons) and employed a modified system of ten degrees. Crowley saw the OTO and Masons as complementary but independent. The OTO, for example, allowed women initiates contrary to Masonry.

- 1914 - Crowley moves to New York during the war years and travels widely.
- 1920 - establishes the "Abbey of Thelema" in Italy with a few followers. *Thelema* is the greek word for "will." Crowley's Law of Thelema is simply: "*do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the law.*" Eventually Mussolini expelled them from Italy.
- 1933 - two of Crowley's disciples, Wilfred Talbot Smith and Jane Wolfe, establish *Agape Lodge No. 2* in Hollywood, CA becoming a center of support for Crowley's publications. The Lodge was moved to Pasadena in 1935.
- 1946 - one of Crowley's Los Angeles Agape Lodge disciples, Jack Parsons, with the assistance of L. Ron Hubbard as his scribe, attempted via incantation and sexual magic to incarnate the "Whore of Babylon" in the body of a female companion. The experiment failed and Hubbard absconded with \$10,000 of Parsons money... and his girlfriend. [Note: Parsons was a chemical engineer and aerospace pioneer who was instrumental in founding the Jet Propulsion Laboratory for Cal Tech.]
- 1947 - Crowley dies in poverty and an addict. Several orders of OTO survive him. His writings become a path for many into Magick.

Note: Arthur Lyons in *Satan Wants You*, correctly notes that Crowley, while heavily involved in sexual rites, hallucinogenic drugs, and on occasion conducted animal sacrifice, was not a Satanist. He was an advocate of evil, “*Evil is good, good is evil.*” But did not worship Satan. He viewed himself as “the Great Beast 666” and “Baphomet.” His influence, however, laid the foundation for modern Satanism.

C. Gerald Gardner (1884-1964)– Wicca’s Favorite Witch

- 1939 - Gardner was initiated into the coven, Old Dorothy, meeting in the New Forrest in Britain.
- 1946 - meets Aleister Crowley and given an OTO degree and Charter. Later Wiccan rites bear Crowley’s influence. Another influence on Gardner was JSM Ward, the publisher of numerous books on Masonry.
- 1949 - first book written, *High Magic’s Aid*.
- 1953 - a follower, Doreen Valiente, is initiated. She emphasizes the Goddess.
- 1954 - publishes, *Witchcraft Today*.
- 1959 - publishes, *The Meaning of Witchcraft*.



Gerald Gardner

Wiccan Principles:

*Bide the Wiccan Law ye must,
In perfect love, in perfect trust.
Eight words the Wiccan Rede fulfill,
An it harm none, do what ye will.
And evermind the Law of Three
What you send out comes back to thee.
Follow this in mind and heart,
Merry Meet and Merry Part.*

- [1] **Autonomy.** The Wiccan Rede: “*An ye harm none, Do what thou wilt.*” individualistic and independent covens.
- [2] **Experience.** Little formal theology and few litmus tests. “Open minded.”
- [3] **Magic.** Magical powers are elevated through: meditation, chants, spells, invocations, trances, incense, drugs, wine, dancing, scourging, and ritual sex.
- [4] **Rituals.** Individuals and covens develop rituals as celebration and as a path to power.
- [5] **Seasonal Feasts.** Usually scheduled around the cycles of the moon or nature (fertility cycles).
- [6] **Polarity of the Goddess / God.** Worship is more focused on the feminine aspect (i.e. the Mother Goddess) rather than her consort, the Horned God, the god of the hunt. The Goddess / God are the personification of nature. Feminist focus is dominant in the movement.
- [7] **Rejection of Satanism.** Evil is seen as the consequence of harmful choices and is not to be personified.
- [8] **Reincarnation and rebirth.** Laws of karma motivate beneficial actions. Rebirth is viewed as a gift and not a curse (as in Hindu karma).

Wiccan Miscellanea:

Names: “The Craft”, the “Old Religion,” “Magick,” “Craft of the Wise,” “Pagan.”

[Note: All Wiccans are Pagan, not all Pagans are Wiccan]
Wicce = a female Witch.
Wicca = a male Witch.
Warlock = means "oath breaker" [Scottish term] "insulting" term applied to male witches during the "Burning Times."

Tools: magic wands, pentacle amulets, robes, swords, chalices, cauldrons, brooms, incense burners, etc.

D. Anton LaVey (1930-1997) – "The Black Pope"

1930 - was born and as a child was fascinated with tales of horror and the occult, especially those about Dracula, Frankenstein and Rasputin. He worked as a carnival worker and police photographer of ghastly crime scenes. Both heightened his cynicism.

1951 - Anton LaVey joins a group of Crowley's followers.

1955 - LaVey quits the police to devote full time to the Black Arts.

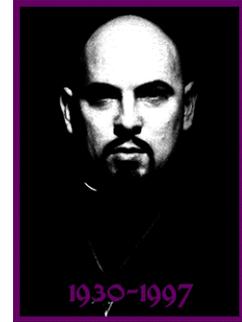
1966 - April 30th LaVey forms Church of Satan in San Francisco. This year is proclaimed Year One, Anno Satanas. Jayne Mansfield becomes a LaVey devotee and priestess of Satan. She calls LaVey the "Black Pope."

1967 - First Satanic wedding and baptism.

1968 - Roman Polanski's movie *Rosemary's Baby* stars Anton LaVey as Satan,

1969 - LaVey publishes the *Satanic Bible* [30+ re-printings] followed by the *Satanic Rituals* and *The Compleat Witch*, (which advocated selective breeding). LaVey's writings are attentively followed by his disciples.

1997 - LaVey dies on October 29th (his death certificate reads October 31st). He is succeeded by his daughter, Blanch Barton, as the High Priestess of Satan.



Anton Szandor LaVey

Contemporary Satanism

Church of Satan (aka CoS)

There are an estimated 10,000 members of the Church of Satan. Individual grottos follow the writings of LaVey. The San Francisco's CoS is the Mother Church and coordinates registration, publicity and assists inquirers in finding a local group. The internet serves as a primary means of networking. No members are solicited. Applicants must pay \$100 to become a Registered Member are screened. The CoS seeks to maintain a law abiding, non-violent alternative religion.

The Legion of Loki (St. Louis, MO), for example, states:

"The Legion of Loki, an official Church of Satan Grotto, is a dynamic group of fun-loving, responsible adults who are guided by the principles set forth by Anton LaVey in the Satanic Bible and embodied in the Church of Satan, and who are dedicated to building a more Satanic world, and having one Hell of a good time along the way!"

The Legion of Loki does:

Fully support the principles set forth by Anton LaVey in The Satanic Bible and embodied in the Church of Satan. Fully support the Constitution of the United States of America Fully support law enforcement officials in the legitimate exercise of their authority. Promote personal responsibility and general civility, both individually and in society.

The Legion of Loki does not:

Permit, advocate, or condone illegal activities. Permit, advocate, or condone any type of physical, mental, or spiritual abuse of children or animals, and stands ready to denounce any and all who do discriminate against, or exclude from membership consideration, individuals based on race, gender, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation or former religion; we view *everyone* with equal suspicion until they have proven themselves worthy of our trust and respect!"

“Outlaw” Satanist Groups

Usually these groups are small (15-25 members) and are headed by a charismatic leader. According to Lyons, these groups hold sporadic meetings which have less interest in the doctrine of Satanism than the practice of deviant behavior. Lyons, who is sympathetic to the Satanism, tries to minimize the criminal aspects of the “mainstream” Satanist movement.

Solitary Satanists

Usually these individuals are socially alienated teens who construct their own version of Satanism. “Rituals” are usually held in private and involve candles, music and drugs.

Satanism’s Most Effective Lures

Music: Satanist groups can be divided into two groupings: groups that exploit Satanism for profit; and groups who use music to express their beliefs. Many teens are introduced to the world of the occult through an interest in music.

Fantasy & Role Playing: Dungeons and Dragons since the early 1980's has made an enormous impact (est. 3-4 million players between the ages of 12 and 20). D&D has spawned a myriad of board games, computer games, video games and web sites that enable a person to assume an occult identity and participate in occult “fantasy.” Disastrous results have occurred especially when the line between fantasy and reality has been breached.

Internet: The internet provides a natural environment for growth of the occult. It allows a teen to explore a little or no cost and without parental supervision the entire spectrum of the occult worldwide. Chat and email provides direct linkage to persons who are further along the path.

Conclusion: Biblical Response to Spiritualism, Wicca and Satanism

- [1] Witchcraft and magic (enchantment) are forbidden.
[Lev. 19:26; Deut. 18:10-11; 2 Chron. 33:6.]
- [2] Worship of other gods (goddesses) is forbidden.
[Ex. 20:3; 1 Ki. 11:4-5.]
- [3] Esteeming nature above God is condemned.
[Ro. 1:21-25.]
- [4] Satan and his evil influence is reality.
[Zech. 3:2; Mat. 4:1-11; Lk. 6:45.]
- [5] Biblical revelation is the yardstick for truth and a sufficient guide for life.



[1 Jn. 4:1-3; 2 Tim. 3:15-17; Eph. 5:7-12]