

## **GHOSTS**

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A ghost is the soul or spirit of a dead person said to be capable of appearing in a visible form to the living.

They are spirit... that is to say they do not have a body as they are not physical. They are often referred to as a vapour or some transparent form.

A ghost is a spirit. A spirit does not have a physical body and therefore no vital organs, which would include the organs of speech.

The deliberate attempt to contact the spirit of someone who is dead is called necromancy or spiritism.

This is attempted by mediums at seances.

There is the Bible story of King Saul visiting a medium known as the Witch of Endor and demanding that she conjure up the spirit of the deceased prophet Samuel and God allowed this. Samuel foretold Saul's horrible death and told Saul that it was an offence to visit mediums and witches for these necromantic events. The Bible condemns necromancy, witchcraft, mediums, psychics and the like. The Bible calls spiritualists mediums and psychics witches.

The belief in ghosts goes way back into antiquity and, probably, has its origins in animism which claims that souls and spirits exist on the earth as do the spirits of animals, plants, rocks, thunder and other things. It is from this that some spiritualists believe that stones and crystals have healing powers.

Ghosts are called disembodied spirits. They have no body. They are not physical. They are said to haunt people and places and it has been claimed that when these persons died they had the power to live again as a spirit or ghost so as, for example, so to be near their family and watch over them.

They are usually solitary, and other names are given to them such as spooks from the Dutch, spectres from the Latin, wraiths from the Scots, phantom and apparitions. I have often felt somebody was there but, of course, they were not. Poltergeists are said to be noisy ghosts that throw things about and make a noise.

The belief in ghosts also stems from ancestral worship, the veneration of the dead who, it is claimed, can still influence the lives of the living.

A general belief is that at death you go into a white light and become spirit. Years later your spirit may enter the body of another in a process called reincarnation but you have no memory of your previous life unless you agree to be regressed. A ghost is someone who refuses to go into that white light but instead roams the earth haunting people and places. It has been mooted that some ghosts do not haunt, but are peacable ghosts.

The mind can play tricks on you and you can believe you have seen an apparition whereas it could be a trick of the light. There are alleged photographs of ghosts who always appear to be transparent with only an outline showing. Experts in the field of photography explain this away with convincing arguments but there are intelligent people who claim to have seen ghosts.

The Bible teaches that at death your soul or spirit enters the afterlife or eternity. Those who have died not believing in the Lord Jesus Christ will be judged and punished and be eternally damned. Those who die as believers in the Lord Jesus Christ will live for ever in eternity, in Heaven the place where God dwells. Nobody becomes a ghost or is reincarnated in someone else's body. These beliefs are those of pagans and atheists... that is to say those that do not believe the Bible and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour.

As we have said elsewhere Christians can get things wrong. They refer to the Trinity as three persons whereas God the Father and the Holy Spirit are spirits and are not physical.

The Trinity is often defined as a mystery and the Bible makes it clear that there are things which mortal man cannot understand of the things of God because mortal man is just that, mortal man.

It has to be recorded yet again the increasing objections to the morals of the Bible. Society does not want to keep the ten commandments since they are out of date and obnoxious. They want to swear, drink, have one night stands, rape, covet and steal someone else's wife, be dishonest and steal, gossip, slander and libel, have sex with someone of the same gender, be disrespectful to decent parents, use people for their advantage and then drop them and so on.

And in order to make all these wrong things acceptable and 'normal', people will ridicule and deny God and the Lord Jesus and set up alternatives such as spiritualism, psychics, reincarnation and regression, the belief that aliens visit us in UFOs and started the human race and they built the pyramids because humans being could not possibly do so, and so on.

But the God of the Bible will have the last word and all these unbelieving people will one day admit before the Throne of God that they were wrong, and that at the Name of Jesus every knee shall bow including the spiritualists, psychics, mediums, atheists, agnostics and all unbelievers.

Every Christian will be vindicated and victorious.

God is not mocked.

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