

## VI. The Holy Spirit and the Occult Counterfeits

### A. The Raising of the Question:

The Holy Spirit is our seal and guide...the Earnest of our salvation. As we have noted, we depend on him for teaching in the word and for guidance in the everyday affairs of life. In this capacity he leads and directs us. But his leading is by the Word and the situations of life in which we are providentially privileged to know his will.

This is not fast enough for some Christians. They have a temptation to find an easier method of knowing what they should do or getting advice on where the stress of life should be placed. They may turn to fortune tellers or tea leaves or something more deadly. The problem that comes with this is the bondage of mind that removes one from the peace of trusting Christ..and the darker side is the loss of confidence and blessing in knowing God. We speak only of the loss to the individual although the loss to the glory and credit of God is considerable.

And in the world apart from Christ, where men have no assurance or security in the face of eternal settings the presence of these occult counterfeits is very large. We may better understand how those whose souls are in continual jeopardy might turn to any apparent means of knowledge or help. But they should still be warned that the forces contrary to the truth will not deliver but will only lead into a deeper bondage.

We call these forces counterfeit...not suggesting that they have no power...but that they cannot do what God alone can do although they profess to do it to the torment of their followers.

### B. The Chief Opponents...in Biblical language and in our modern culture:

#### 1. A listing of not very prominent persons, taken from Deut. 18:10-11

- a. "One who causes his child to pass through the fire"
- b. a "diviner"
- c. an "observer"
- d. an "enchanter"
- e. a "witch"
- f. a "charmer"
- g. a "consulter with familiar spirits"
- h. a "wizard"
- i. a "necromancer"

#### 2. There are many reasons why these are set apart but note the following:

- a. They are an "abomination" to the Lord. Why? Because they pretend to have the reality of Divine truth whereas they do not have it. It is the cruelest sort of lie topped upon unsuspecting mankind.