There is No God-Glorifying Purpose in Halloween

By James Moriello, Firm Foundation Christian Church, Woonsocket RI, 2026

The test that the Bible-believer uses for whether he or she should participate in or celebrate any holiday is whether or not God might be glorified in it. “One person esteems one day above another; another esteems every day alike. Let each be fully convinced in his own mind. He who observes the day, observes it to the Lord; and he who does not observe the day, to the Lord he does not observe it” (Romans 14:5-6). Christmas provides an opportunity to focus on God becoming Man in the person of Jesus of Nazareth. Good Friday and Easter provide an opportunity to focus on the sacrificial death and victorious resurrection of Jesus Christ. Valentine’s Day promotes love, so we can correlate this with God’s love. Halloween provides nothing of the sort.

Halloween comes from the ancient festival of Samhain and its derivatives, which celebrate pagan divination of evil spirits, witchcraft, and a blurring of the boundary between the living and the dead. The day therefore does bring occult practices to the forefront of our minds. What does the Bible say about these practices? “And when they say to you, ‘Seek those who are mediums and wizards, who whisper and mutter,’ should not a people seek their God? Should they seek the dead on behalf of the living? To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.” (Isaiah 8:19-20). This text gives us the answer. “To the Law and to the Testimony” should be the rallying cry of Christians everywhere (Isaiah 8:20a)! In other words, we are to seek authoritative answers from God’s Word, and live by them. God’s Word is light, and the things that line up against it are darkness. Whether the practitioners of such evil are really doing these things or are simply charlatan deceivers is irrelevant, for both further the demonic plan whether they know it or not.

Now to the meat of this study, the consistent and systematic teaching of the Word of God, the Christian standard, the place where the true Christian will hold his ground in the face of evil and temptation. Jesus Christ is the “Light of the World.” Read John 1:4, 8:12, and 12:46.

We cannot have split allegiance between Jesus Christ the Light and the things of the darkness. Read 1 Corinthians 10:21, 11:1. There is a spiritual dynamic to everything, and we can partake of one side only. Not to choose or to ride the fence is an evil choice. As it has been said, “The devil owns the fence.” Consider further the motif of ‘light versus darkness’ as expounded in Ephesians 5:8-14. Verse 9, truth vs. tricks. Verse 11, fellowship with God vs, fellowship with the works of darkness. Verse 12, in the light vs. in secret, in costume, incognito. Verse 14, land of the living (spiritually) vs. land of the dead.

Some have tried church sponsored trunk or treat, but it’s hard to see what the celebration is for the glory of God in that. This is compromise, not biblical separation (2 Corinthians 6:14-18).

All Saints Day, celebrated by Roman Catholics, seems a reasonable attempt to seek redemptive purpose in the day, but it is observed the next day, and must be celebrated separately, and without celebrating Halloween the day before also, lest it become Mardis Gras part two.

What about passing out Bible tracts along with candy on Halloween? Can that be redemptive? God knows. But it seems to me to be a participation, and not the best practice of biblical separation.

To summarize, Halloween is darkness and not light. Halloween exalts occult practices, which are forbidden by God. Unless you can honestly find redemptive purpose in Halloween without participating in the worldly and evil observance, it is better to have a quiet night of prayer with your family. If your family and friends participate in the day, pray for them. They know not what they do. The world loves devils, witchcraft, and horror, because these things are dark, and the world is darkness. You are not missing anything that is spiritually useful to you or them. As a Christian, you are blessed in the light. Walk in the light.