

Can Superstition Be Part Of A Christian Life?

Superstition is inherent in human nature and there is no-one entirely free from it.

Two classes of people who have come near to deliverance from the bondage of superstition are –

The scientist – who has developed a mentality that will only accept those things that can be proved by scientific experiments.

The philosophical sceptic – who has taught themselves to discount the supernatural.

By denying the existence of the spiritual both groups of people reduce their hopes and fears to the ordered operation of the physical realm.

This seems a very high price to pay for their freedom.

At the same time they banish evil apparitions, they sweep away angels, heaven and God Himself.

Along with these go prayer, fear and retribution and hope of a future life after death.

Isn't this a very unscientific and extremely irrational way to proceed?

Especially of people who boast about their scientific minds and their rationality.

Superstition is the product of credulity and thrives on a diet of half-truths and error.

Superstition can creep into a Christian fellowship just like the man without a wedding garment in Jesus Christ's parable [**Matthew 22:11-12**]; it took a person with spiritual discernment to recognise the man's error, that had evaded even the man himself.

Superstition and faith are alike **only** as a mushroom and toadstool are alike, one is good nutritious food, the other contains a dangerous poison.

Faith honours the Creator God by accepting the revelation of His divine character as expanded within the scriptures in the Christian Bible.

Faith lets God be what He says He is and adjusts its concepts accordingly.

Superstition degrades the reputation of God believing things unworthy of Him.

Faith rests on fact, superstition upon fancy.

Character determines expectation so our notions of how God will act follow very closely our estimate of His character.

Psalms 50:21 [Amplified Bible] *"... you thought I was one entirely like yourself ..."*

Superstition confuses God's character to the extent of a reversal of the original act of God in making humans in His own image [Genesis 1:26-27], by making God in the image of humans.

Then expecting God to act as humans would act in any circumstance.

Out of this deceived notion comes scores of superstitious fancies that have become accepted over the years.

Various fears linked to black cats, omens, signs and magic numbers.

These can creep into almost every phase of our life on earth.

Within religion these superstitious practices include making the sign of the cross, wearing a charm that has been blessed by a priest, or reciting a religious phrase that is supposed to have some special power to terrify the devil.

This is all unworthy of God and altogether beneath the dignity of His Majesty.

Some people also think of God being vindictive, and quick to take vengeance on anyone who is careless about words, gestures or customs, no matter how innocent they may be or how unintentional their error.

How utterly grateful we should be that God does **not** act as we would concerning sin.

Our eternal hope lies in the fact that God acts like Himself [**1 John 4:8, 16**], which is founded on love, a sacrificial love that led Him to send His only Son to die for the very ones who have been guilty of such awful affront to His Person. [**John 3:16-17**]

The cure for superstition is an increased appreciation of the character of the Creator God.

To the degree that we know the true God we are freed from superstitious fears.

We do **not** need religious objects such as pictures of Christ, crosses on the altar, candles and other symbolic objects.

In the proportion as the Presence of the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Christ [**Romans 8:9**] is felt in the fellowship these symbols will be unnecessary, and become even offensive.

The human heart must have something to love and fear.

If it misses the true Creator God of the Christian Bible it will make a god of its own.

A group of people who pray to a false god, founded on superstition, is not a Christian Church, even if the words “*Christian*” or “*Church*” appears on the front of the building.