

The Bible Banner

August 2026



Promised?

A young man, who was to return home and be married, came sooner than was expected. He did not notify his promised bride-to-be of the exact time. He desired to please her with a surprise. He loved her devotedly and had worked hard and saved his earnings in order to purchase a home for her. It was about midnight when he arrived, but, with a happy heart, he felt he must go by her home. However, when he came near, he saw the house was all lighted up. As he came nearer, he heard music. Still nearer, he saw dancing. Finally looking through the window, he saw his bride-to-be in the embrace of another man. His heart sank within him, and he went away never to return. If Jesus came today, where would He find His professed bride?

"Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not." Luke 12:40



Roasted Mixed Nuts

2 cups of desired nut mixture (pecans, almonds, peanuts, etc.)

1/2 tsp salt

1/2 tsp onion powder

1 Tbsp oil (we like light olive oil)

Mix all the ingredients together and spread them on a cookie sheet. Bake at 260°F or 125°C for about 15 to 25 minutes (or until ready), stirring every 5 to 10 minutes. Keep a close watch on them because the time will vary depending on the size of the nuts. The nuts are ready when they turn a shade darker and your kitchen smells warm and nutty.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

**"God never
made a
promise that
was too
good to be
true."**

---D.L Moody

Profitable Traditions--Cultivate Scripture Appreciation

In Bible times, the kings copied a Bible for themselves. *"And it shall be, when he [a king] sitteth upon the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write him a copy of this law in a book....that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them:" Deut. 17:18,19* Hand-copying the Bible or a book of the Bible helps us better appreciate scripture and is especially helpful for tactile learners who learn best through things they can touch.



To copy the Bible, you will want to decide on a script (cursive, print, etc.), a format (drop-caps/fancy first letter, verse/chapter markers), pick a pen (several will be required), and decide what kind of paper you prefer. On our website's

[Hand-copying-the-Bible page](#), you can download a printable PDF of two-column, Bible-ruled paper. We have regular page or title page options and dark (to use behind the page you are writing on) and light (write-on) options.



If you would like to begin receiving our monthly newsletter via e-mail, sign up at: biblepicturepathways.com/e-newsletter
For questions or comments, you may contact us directly at biblepathways@hotmail.com



Wilderness or Promised Land?

Editor's Note and Study to Show Thyself Approved

"Obey, the first time, every time, all the time, quickly." Rhythmically I rehearsed the oft-repeated phrase with a certain child (not my own) who was again under punishment for disobedience. After the reminder to obey, I tried to explain to the child that they were missing out on doing many fun things because they refused to obey. There were so many fun things to do in the kitchen or outside that I wanted to share with this child, but their pattern of disobedience was making it impossible to do many of them. The child was literally making its own life miserable.

It's easy to condemn problems with misbehaving children, but sometimes I wonder how different we adults actually are. Consider the children of Israel. Numbers 13 records they could have gone into the promised land 40 years earlier if they had just behaved. In fact, because they *"rebelled against the commandment of the LORD...and... believed him not, nor hearkened to his voice,"* God decreed that all the adults except Caleb and Joshua would die before the children of Israel entered the promised land. (Deut. 9:23) Numbers 14:28-31 records God telling Moses, *"Say unto them, As truly as I live, saith the LORD, as ye have spoken in mine ears, so will I do to you: Your carcasses shall fall in this wilderness; and all that were numbered of you, according to your whole number, from twenty years old and upward, which have murmured against me, Doubtless ye shall not come into the land, concerning which I swore to make you dwell therein, save Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua the son of Nun. But your little ones, which ye said should be a prey, them will I bring in, and they shall know the land which ye have despised."* But of Caleb, God said, *"But my servant Caleb, because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed me fully, him will I bring into the land whereinto he went; and his seed shall possess it."* Numbers 14:24

Amazingly, 40 years later, at the age of 85, in the strength of God, Caleb went and conquered the giants that had scared Israel the most. Joshua 14 records Caleb saying, *"And now, behold, the LORD hath kept me alive, as he said, these forty and five years, even since the LORD spake this word unto Moses, while the children of Israel wandered in the wilderness: and now, lo, I am this day fourscore and five years old. As yet I am as strong this day as I was in the day that Moses sent me: as my strength was then, even so is my strength now, for war, both to go out, and to come in. Now therefore give me this mountain, whereof the LORD spake in that day; for thou heardest in that day how the Anakims were there, and that the cities were great and fenced: if so be the LORD will be with me, then I shall be able to drive them out, as the LORD said. And Joshua blessed him, and gave unto Caleb the son of Jephunneh Hebron for an inheritance. Hebron therefore became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite unto this day, because that he wholly followed the LORD God of Israel."* Joshua 14:10-14



Like many today, the children of Israel didn't really have a problem; they were the problem! They had a bad "spirit," a bad attitude, and God gave them what they asked for. *"Because of their unbelief and cowardice He [the Lord] could not manifest His power to subdue their enemies. Therefore in His mercy He bade them, as the only safe course, to turn back toward the Red Sea. In their rebellion the people had exclaimed, 'Would God we had died in this wilderness!' Now this prayer was to be granted. The Lord declared, 'As ye have spoken in Mine ears, so will I do to you...'"* (Patriarchs and Prophets, pg. 391.1,2)

From this story we learn that those who have a "wilderness attitude" or a "wilderness mindset" will die in the wilderness, but those who wholly follow the Lord in faith, trusting God's divine power for what they cannot do for themselves, will take the kingdom and inherit the promised land. In Matthew 11:12, Jesus says, *"And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent [forcefully energetic] take it by force."* Maintaining a good "spirit" is a daily battle, but with God's help, we may overcome. 2 Corinthians 10:4,5 explains how this works, *"(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;"* We must *"Never forget that thoughts work out actions. Repeated actions form habits, and habits form character."* (The Upward Look, pg. 89.5) If we get to the root of the problem, bad characters begin with bad thoughts. In this story, we see that over time the children of Israel had developed bad characters that stemmed from bad habits. This was a habitual problem, because the rebellion at the border of the promised land was not the first time. God said to Moses, *"Because all those men which have seen my glory, and my miracles, which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have tempted me now these **ten times** and have not hearkened to my voice; Surely they shall not see the land which I swore unto their fathers, neither shall any of them that provoked me see it:"* Numbers 14:22,23 These bad habits of the children of Israel began by repeating bad actions which were ultimately rooted in wrong thought processes. They were stuck in a "wilderness mindset." Let's take a brief look at some of the things that constitute a "wilderness mindset."

1. Complaining/Coveting - Although unbelief and lack of faith in God is admittedly the underlying problem, murmuring and complaining is at the top of the list of the children of Israel's "wilderness mindset." Numbers chapter 14 lists variations of the word "murmur" at least six times. In verse 2, *"the children of Israel murmured against Moses and Aaron."* Verses 26 & 27 reveal they were murmuring against God. *"And the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying, How long shall I bear with this evil congregation, which murmur against me? I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel, which they murmur against me."* The mouth often reveals what is in the heart, as Jesus stated in Luke 6:45, *"A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh."* Moses had recorded previously, *"And when the people complained, it displeased the LORD: and the LORD heard it; and his anger was kindled; and the fire of the LORD burnt among them...And the mixt multitude that was among them fell a lusting: and the children of Israel also wept again, and said, Who shall give us flesh to eat? We remember the fish, which we did eat in Egypt freely; the cucumbers, and the melons, and the leeks, and the onions, and the garlick: But now our soul is dried away; there is nothing at all, beside this manna, before our eyes."* Numbers 11:1, 4-6 Literally, people like this will never be happy. Even when they don't actually have a real problem yet, they constantly covet what they do not have. If they are in Egypt, they want to be in Canaan. If they are in the wilderness, they want to be back in Egypt. If they are told to go to Canaan, they want to go back into the wilderness. If they are told to go back into the wilderness, they want to go into the Canaan (Numbers 14:40). There is nothing wrong with stating a fact, Jesus stated he had nowhere to lay his head (Luke 9:58), Moses told God the burden was too heavy (Numbers 11:14), but if we cannot do this while acknowledging that God is good and His ways are right, we are coveting what God has said not to covet and breaking the 10th commandment. Many people realize too late that a whole train of sins follows in the track of coveting and complaining (James 2:10). This is evidenced in Numbers 14:10 when the complaining people were ready to stone Caleb and Joshua, innocent, God-fearing men.

2. Using Exaggeration/Slander/Blame to Excuse Cowardice-- Another "wilderness mindset" the children of Israel had was lying to remove personal responsibility and cover their cowardice. One way this came is in the form of blame. They blamed God for their problem, saying, *"And wherefore hath the LORD brought us unto this land, to fall by the sword, that our wives and our children should be a prey? were it not better for us to return into Egypt?"* Numbers 14:3 God was innocent of their accusation of Him bringing them out of Egypt on false pretenses. But since the time of the fall of Adam and Eve, instead of taking responsibility for their actions, people in the wrong always seem to tend to blame someone else for the problem. In addition, as the unfaithful spies talked, they enlarged the problem by exaggeration. The true report said, *"We came unto the land whither thou sentest us, and surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it. Nevertheless the people be strong that dwell in the land, and the cities are walled, and very great: and moreover we saw the children of Anak there."* Numbers 13:27,28 But the second part of their report actually became so exaggerated



that, in places, it contradicted itself. Numbers 13:32,33 records, *"And they brought up an evil report of the land which they had searched unto the children of Israel, saying, The land, through which we have gone to search it, is a land that eateth up the inhabitants thereof; and all the people that we saw in it are men of a great stature. And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight..."* Yet the huge cluster of grapes they brought back, and the strong giants in the land showed that it was a good land. So the fact that the land *"eateth up the inhabitants thereof"* was a lie by exaggeration. The Bible calls this false report *"bringing up a slander upon the land."* Numbers 14:36 *"They had complained at nothing, and now God gave them cause to weep."* (Patriarchs and Prophets, pg. 391.1,2) Numbers 14:37 records, *"those men that did bring up the evil report upon the land, died by the plague before the LORD."*

3. The "I Can't" Mentality, avoidance of that which is hard/difficult, distasteful, or not convenient-- Another "wilderness mindset" is the "I can't" mentality when things are difficult, distasteful, or not convenient. The saying, *"Can't never did anything"* proves true again and again. The unfaithful spies had an "I can't" mentality. Numbers 13:31 records, *"But the men that went up with him [Caleb] said, We be not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we."* Sadly, *"In their unbelief they limited the power of God and distrusted the hand that had hitherto safely guided them..."* *"They had distrusted the power of God to work with their efforts in gaining possession of Canaan; yet..."* later, after God told them to go back into the wilderness, *"they presumed upon their own strength to accomplish the work independent of divine aid."* (Patriarchs and Prophets, pg. 389,390, 392) Contrast this with the trust in God's power evidenced by the testimony of the faithful spies. *"And Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of them that searched the land, rent their clothes: And they spake unto all the company of the children of Israel, saying, The land, which we passed through to search it, is an exceeding good land. If the LORD delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey. Only rebel not ye against the LORD, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defence is departed from them, and the LORD is with us: fear them not."* Numbers 14:6-9

When we read the verses in the Psalms that sum up the “wilderness mindset” of the children of Israel, we see the “I can’t” mentality.

Instead of going forward when God said to “Go forward,” it says *“they turned back and tempted God, and limited the Holy One of Israel.”* Psalm 78:41 In addition, *“They soon forgot his works; they waited not for his counsel: But lusted exceedingly in the wilderness, and tempted God in the desert.”* Psalm 106:13,14 All too often, they not only ignored God’s words by making excuses, but they tried to cover up their cowardice by blaming God for their problems. Furthermore, Psalm 106:24,25 recounts that *“they despised the pleasant land, they believed not his word: But murmured in their tents, and hearkened not unto the voice of the LORD.”*

Instead of complaining and saying “I can’t”, those who truly believe God’s word and hearken to His voice will *“obey, the first time, every time, all the time, quickly.”* Note that instead of procrastinating or making excuses, *“Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it.”* Numbers 13:30 When we do not limit God by disobedient and rebellious actions, THEN we may possess the promised land. Just as our human effort by itself is insufficient to complete the work, the children of Israel did not bring down the walls of Jericho by marching around them. However, their obedient marching action allowed God to work for them and through them, and indeed, the walls came tumbling down. Choose to believe God’s promises and follow His counsel today, for it is written, *“If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land.”* Isaiah 1:19



Dandelion Root—An Anti-Cancer Herb

A health segment from swiftrunnerministries.com

If you “dial” the Numbers 9-1-1 in your Bible you will find this verse about the Passover feast, God’s anti-death remedy for the Israelites when the firstborn of the Egyptians were dying. Numbers 9:11 says, *“The fourteenth day of the second month at even they shall keep it, and eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.”* Besides the lamb, which of course, represented Christ, they were to eat bitter herbs and unleavened bread. Today, we again have a plague, a plague of cancer and, bitter herbs may again a good prescription.

According to the National Cancer Institute your *“Lifetime Risk of Developing Cancer”* is high. In fact, *“based on 2021–2023 data...approximately 39.2 percent of men and women will be diagnosed with cancer... at some point during their lifetime.”*¹ This means somewhere between one in every two and one in every three people will get cancer.

Of course, you can lower your risk by eating a healthy plant-based diet, avoiding toxic chemicals (especially those that you put on your skin or in your mouth), lowering your stress levels, not smoking or drinking alcohol, lowering your exposure to wireless radiation emitting devices like cell phones and cordless phones, and also by hard-wiring things like internet routers in your home. Despite the fact that they are difficult to find due to Big Tech interests, there are studies that show a link between cell phones and cancer. One study showing *“the occurrences of two tumor types in male Harlan Sprague Dawley rats exposed to RFR.”*² was big enough for the Wall Street Journal to pick up on.³ The study, testing the effect of radio frequency radiation like that coming from your cellphone, found it increased both the growth of *“malignant gliomas in the brain and schwannomas of the heart.”*² According to

Environmental Health Trust the study found, *“Increased incidences of rare, proliferative changes in glial cells of the brain and in Schwann cells (nerve sheath) in the heart of both sexes of rats, while not a single unexposed control animal developed these precancerous changes.”*² While the fact that your cell phone could cause you to get cancer is a bitter truth to many who regularly used their cell phones, let us go back to the bitter herb remedy for cancer.



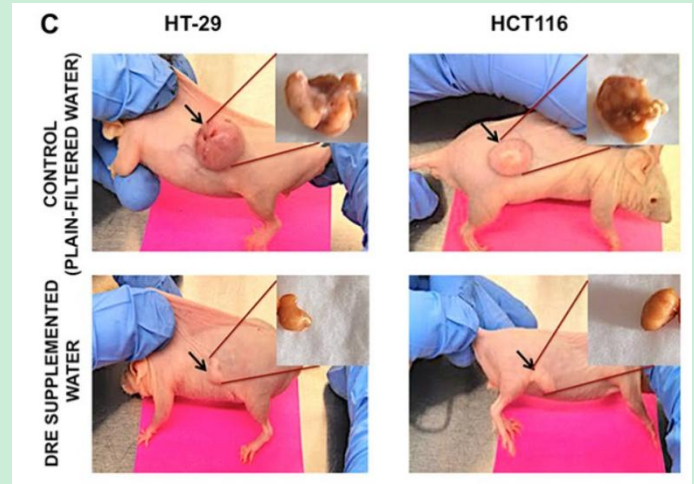
Dandelion is a bitter herb. One might guess that dandelion are good survival plants because dandelions are exceptionally resilient plants due to deep taproots and tough biological traits that let them survive poor soil, mowing, and harsh weather. If I had cancer, I personally would use a combo of at least three herbs in addition to other treatments. But dandelion and red clover are certainly at the top of my anti-cancer remedy list. And the anti-cancer effectiveness of dandelion is quite impressive. The journal Oconotarget states that *“In-vitro studies proved that DRE [dandelion root extract] induced selective apoptosis [cell death] in cancer cells; thus distinguishing between cancerous and non-cancerous cells...”* Their *“results showed that aqueous dandelion root extract (DRE) efficiently and selectively triggers programmed cell death pathways in in-vitro and in-vivo colorectal cancer models.”*⁴ So unlike standard chemotherapy that kills all the rapidly reproducing cells bad or good (which is why hair falls out, etc.), God has programmed the dandelion root to tell the difference between healthy cells and cancer cells. Dandelion root didn’t hurt the healthy cells. It also actually didn’t take that long for them to see the dandelion root work to kill the cancer cells. They said, *“Aqueous DRE induced programmed cell death (PCD) selectively in > 95% of colon cancer cells... by 48 hours of treatment. The anti-cancer efficacy of this extract was confirmed in in-vivo studies, as the oral administration of DRE retarded the growth of human colon xenograft models by more than 90%.”*⁴

The extract that they used was actually just powdered dandelion root that *“following grinding... was extracted in boiling water on low heat for 3 hours.”* This is simply the equivalent of herbal tea. Which brings me to one of my favorite quotes from a little book called *The Place of Herbs in Rational Therapy*. It states, *“This is God’s method. The herbs that grow for the benefit of man, and the little handful of*



herbs kept and steeped and used for sudden ailments, have served tenfold, yes, one hundred fold better purposes, than all the drugs hidden under mysterious names and dealt out to the sick.”⁵

It is amazing how effective the dandelion root extract was. To the right are some pictures from the study in which “Immunocompromised... mice were subcutaneously injected with 2×10^6 colon cancer cells (HT-29 on the left flank and HCT116 on the right flank)... These are the images of mice tumors week 9 of the study, showing differences in the tumor sizes between the control, untreated group [top pictures] and the DRE group.”⁴ You can see the tumors on the mice treated with dandelion root are significantly smaller. They also found that dandelion root helps keep the cancer cells from spreading. The study states, “*results clearly indicate that dandelion root extract can inhibit [prohibit or hold back] the ability of colorectal cancer cells to migrate and invade, and therefore metastasize to secondary locations.*”⁴ Dandelion root is indeed a blessing, showing yet again that truly, God made the “*herb for the service of man.*” Psalm 104:14



For more cancer remedies visit us at <https://www.swiftrunnerministries.com/home-remedy-helps.php>

1-- <https://seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/html/all.html> 2-<https://ehtrust.org/cell-phone-radiofrequency-radiation-study/> 3-Wall Street Journal screenshot <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HAqFGdFkJJE>
4--<https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC5341965/> 5--The Place of Herbs in Rational Therapy, pg. 12 (PH144 12.2)



Deathbed Promise

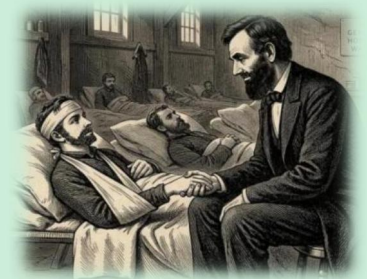
Evangelist Dwight Moody recounted the following story. After the battle of Murfreesboro, in the Civil War, I was stationed in the hospital. For two nights I had been unable to get any rest, and being really worn out, on the third night I had lain down to sleep. About midnight I was called to see a wounded soldier who was very low. At first I tried to put the messenger off, but he told me that if I waited it might be too late in the morning. I went to the ward where I had been directed, and found the man who had sent for me. I shall never forget his face as I saw it that night in the dim, uncertain candle-light. I asked what I could do for him, and he said that he wanted me to “help him die.” I told him I would bear him in my arms into the kingdom of God if I could, but I couldn’t; and then I tried to preach the Gospel. He only shook his head and said—“*He can’t save me; I have sinned all my life.*”

My thoughts went back to his loved ones in the North, and I thought that even then his mother might be praying for her boy. I repeated promise after promise, and prayed with the dying man; but nothing I said seemed to help him. Then I said that I wanted to read to him an account of an interview which Christ had one night while here on earth with a man who was anxious about his eternal welfare, and I read the 3rd chapter of John, how Nicodemus came to the Master. As I read on, his eyes became riveted upon me, and he seemed to drink in every syllable. When I came to the words “*As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up: that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have eternal life,*” he stopped me and asked— “*Is that there?*”

“Yes,” I said.

“Well,” he said, “*I never knew that was in the Bible. Read it again.*”

Leaning his elbows on the side of the cot he brought his hands together in a firm grasp, and when I finished he exclaimed— “*That’s good. Won’t you read it again?*” Slowly I repeated the passage the third time. When I finished, I saw that his eyes were closed, and the troubled expression on his face had given way to a peaceful smile. His lips moved, and I bent over him to catch what he was saying, and heard in a faint whisper, “*As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up: that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.*” He opened his eyes and said, “*That’s enough; don’t read any more.*”



Early next morning I again came to his cot, but it was empty. The attendant in charge told me the young man had died peacefully, and said that after my visit he had rested quietly, repeating to himself, now and then, that glorious proclamation, “*Whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.*”

AI Necromancy? -- Prophetic News Notes

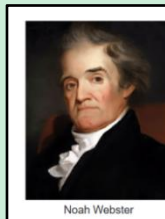


Trump talks to AI
Teddy Roosevelt during
presidential library visit

Several different new sites have recently showed clips of President Trump talking to a AI-hologram of Teddy Roosevelt. All politics aside, AI, though still not perfected, seems to be blurring the lines of what is good and right in many places. A Forbes article summary states, *"The Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library, which opened July 4 in North Dakota's Badlands, features an interactive, AI-powered avatar of the 26th U.S. president. Trained on 400,000 archival documents with safeguards in place for accuracy, the avatar aims to deepen engagement with Roosevelt's life, leadership and legacy. It joins a growing list of digital recreations bringing historical figures back to life to engage with the public."*² But how can we know where the "technology" ends and an evil spirit begins? What if the devil

is using this technology to trick God's people into communication with the dead? Is it possible that Satan is trying to make that which God has forbidden seem innocent, common place, and even

educational? Isaiah 8:19, 20 says *"And when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter: should not a people seek unto their God? for the living to the dead? To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them."* The truth is, in Deuteronomy 18:10-12, the Word forbids consulting with familiar spirits and it forbids necromancy. It calls them both an abomination. *"There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch, Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer. For all that do these things are an abomination unto the LORD: and because of these abominations the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee."* Webster's 1828 dictionary defines necromancy as *"The art of revealing future events by means of a pretended communication with the dead. This imposture is prohibited...."*³ King Saul did what was prohibited when he consulted a dead "historical figure" when going to the witch of Endor to speak with Samuel. God did not approve of this pretended communication. In fact, 1 Chronicles 10:13 records, *"So Saul died for his transgression which he committed against the LORD, even against the word of the LORD, which he kept not, and also for asking counsel of one that had a familiar spirit, to enquire of it,"* Like questionably rotten food, practices that blur the lines of protection God has given us might better be decided by *"When in doubt, throw it out."*



Noah Webster

Necromancy

NECROMANCY, *noun* [Gr. Dead, and divination.]

1. The art of revealing future events by means of a pretended communication with the dead. This imposture is prohibited. Deuteronomy 18:1.
2. Enchantment; conjuration.

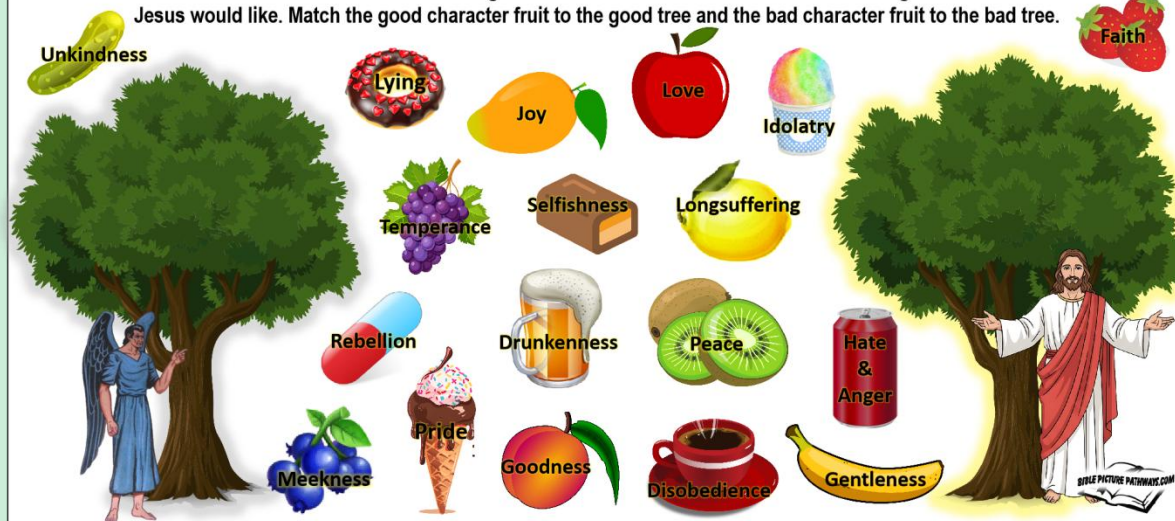
- Screenshot <https://www.youtube.com/shorts/3kneL4tgogI> 2-- <https://www.forbes.com/sites/lesliekatz/2026/07/01/ai-powered-theodore-roosevelt-is-ready-to-answer-your-questions/>
3-- <https://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/necromancy>

Kids' Corner

God's Amazing Creations

"A good tree cannot bring forth evil [bad] fruit, neither can a corrupt [bad] tree bring forth good fruit... Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them." Matthew 7:18, 20 KJV [Tyndale Bible]

Here are two trees. One is a bad tree that grows fruit Satan would like. The other one is a good tree with fruit Jesus would like. Match the good character fruit to the good tree and the bad character fruit to the bad tree.



Painted buntings are small songbirds that have some of the most colorful feathers in North America. The male [daddy] birds have brilliant blue, red, and green feathers. Even though they have

bright colors, these birds can be surprisingly hard to find as they often stay hidden where there are many plants and dense vegetation. Painted buntings are found in the southern United States and in Mexico. They like to eat seeds and bugs. Aren't you glad Jesus made these pretty little birds for us to enjoy?