

I'm not sure what kind of video you guys expected me to do next, but I'm pretty sure this wasn't it. Yet, I feel that it's an incredibly important topic that *HAS* to be covered, as I've just seen it EVERYWHERE lately...

This will probably be a pretty controversial video, just due to the fact that it is such a popular thing in this day and age, particularly among my own generation. But I plead with you, wherever you may stand on this issue, to be patient, and hear me out. I was quite eager to share this one, but I was very cautious before proceeding, as I wanted to make sure it was the right thing for me to discuss in this video. I prayed that God would show me very clearly whether or not this was a topic I should move forward with. Specifically, I asked him to make this particular issue to really just pop out at me. And later that day, there was a news report on this very thing, as well as several other minor things that happened on social media. So, I am confident in moving forward with this topic, and that there are people that God is looking to speak to through this video. Perhaps you will be one of them, so I plead with you to keep on listening!

Now what exactly is this "oh-so controversial" topic going to be? Well, today we're going to be talking about Satan, and the young generation's infatuation with him and his lies. So think of occult practices and beliefs, since Satan's the one behind all that, leading millions straight down the road to hell. This video is for ANYONE who is captivated by Satan, demons, and the occult— be that wicca or witchcraft, spiritism, ouija boards, astrology, fortune telling, parapsychology, tarot cards, white/black magic, crystals, the New Age movement, just to name a few— whatever your specific niche may be, however involved you are. Whether you are just curious and dabble in a little this and that, maybe are just searching for answers in life, or are perhaps even a full-fledged self-professed Satan worshiper. This is for **you**. So bear with my dorky voice and buckle up.

Let's get started.

Recently, I've just been VERY struck by the amount of people I've seen-- particularly around my age, sometimes even younger— who are just obsessed with the devil, with demons, and really just everything associated with them. Just that whole "evil" vibe, I suppose, though maybe not all view it that way. I've seen people who are just having *seemingly* harmless fun drawing pictures of demonic characters, and others who explicitly express they're involved in some form of Satanism or other occult beliefs and/or practices. Regardless of where one might stand, it all really just comes down to a fundamental misunderstanding of both who Satan is, what his goals are, VS who God is, and what His goals are. If people knew the truth, they would NOT be messing with this stuff, or even associating with it period. So let's go over that, starting with Satan.

A huge reason many are so attracted to the idea of Satanism and other related beliefs and practices is because it's pretty much the most obvious way to rebel against God. It's "hip," it's "cool," it's "edgy" (*apparently...*) In the eyes of a Satanist (or whatever else you might call yourself, I am aware there are MANY different branches of Satanism and other occult beliefs, but for the sake of keeping this from becoming confusing I'm just simply going to use the basic Satanist) they are defying what they believe to be a cruel and law-demanding God. Many Satanists don't even believe in the existence of Satan OR God, but still view the two as symbols of opposing sides in society. Regardless of where they stand on the issue, Satanists typically believe God— whether they see Him as a real being or just a figurative symbol— to be nothing more than a harsh and cruel taskmaster, whereas they see Satan as the "fun cool uncle" who lets you do whatever you want. I want to go into some depth about how this idea is completely false, and reveal the truth about both Satan, and God, and their individual attitudes toward mankind. Let's see what the Bible (God's Word) reveals about these two.

Satan, AKA the devil; where did this guy come from? Who and what is he? Well, the Bible has plenty of answers for us. In Isaiah 14:12 we learn that Satan was originally named Lucifer. Contrary to popular belief, Satan is a CREATED being, and is NOT equal to God whatsoever. He was created by God as a holy angel. He is described to be incredibly beautiful and once even had a high status in heaven (Ezekiel 28:12-14). However, he became incredibly arrogant and prideful in his beauty and position, and believed that he could become like the one and only God, and sit on a throne above even the "stars of God" (Isaiah 14:13-14; Ezekiel 28:15). Because of this, Satan was cast out of heaven, stripped of his exalted position and role. We are also told in Revelation 12:3-4 that when he was cast out, he also took a third of the angels with him, who had joined his rebellion. Since then, Satan's been doing everything he can in an attempt to thwart God's plans, to gain the worship of this world, all while trying to drag as many down into hell with him as he can. His name literally means "adversary," as in an enemy, one who opposes, or an antagonist. That describes him pretty well, because as we'll look into him, we will find that's what he is: an enemy to ALL mankind.

Let's take a look at what else the Bible has to say about Satan.

In John 8:44, we are told that "...(*Satan*) was a murderer from the beginning, and does NOT stand in the truth, because there is NO truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a LIAR and the father of LIES." John 8:44

John 10:10 says that "The thief (*the devil*) comes only to STEAL and KILL and DESTROY."

In 1 Peter 5:8, Satan is described as a PROWLING, ROARING LION, seeking someone to DEVOUR.

In Revelation 12:9, Satan is called the DECEIVER of the whole world.

In the verse right after that in Revelation 12:10, we also learn that Satan is the ACCUSER, who accuses the people of God TO God day and night.

In 2 Corinthians 11:14, we are warned that "... Satan DISGUISES himself as an angel of light."

In Matthew 4:3, Satan is revealed to be a TEMPTER, meaning he tempts people to sin and do evil.

In 2 Corinthians 4:4, we learn that Satan PROMOTES falsehoods such as false religions, false doctrines and other related lies to keep unbelievers in DARKNESS, and in BONDAGE, as opposed to letting them discover the LIGHT, FREEDOM and SALVATION found in JESUS CHRIST.

What do we learn about Satan from these verses? Well, he's a MURDERER, he's incapable of standing in the truth, because he's a LIAR, and in fact, is the very FATHER of LIES. He has come only to STEAL, KILL and DESTROY. He is like a PROWLING ROARING LION, looking to DEVOUR people. He is the DECEIVER of the WHOLE WORLD. He is an ACCUSER. He is a TEMPTER. He tricks people by DISGUIISING himself as an angel of light. And he is the author and promoter of false religions and beliefs in order to keep people in bondage and slavery, and then inevitably, to lead them right to hell. I think the whole "angel of light" disguise thing is very interesting...it really shows the depth of his deception, that he has to TRICK people that he's an angel of light.

He... doesn't really sound like that great of a guy, now does he? No, no, FAR from that. And yet, we tend to glorify him a LOT in our society today. Why would anyone think Satan is their friend? Do you REALLY think he has your best interests at heart? News flash: He doesn't. Though he would LOVE to deceive you into thinking he's on your side, really, he isn't. He cares NOTHING for you. His goals are centered on himself. He wants you to worship him, yes, but again, that's for his own personal gain, not yours. If you're worshipping Satan, trust me, you're not gaining ANYTHING. In fact, you're LOSING, and you're losing BIG TIME. Satan's goal is to take you down with him. And no, you're not going to have a big ACDC themed party with him and all your friends down in hell. Contrary to popular belief, Satan is NOT the ruler or king of hell. That's a BIIIIIG fat misconception. In reality, hell was in fact, originally created by God as an eternal PRISON of torment **for** Satan and his demons,

as we learn in Matthew 25:41. So, contrary to the way it is often portrayed by popular media, Satan is NOT kicking back and relaxing in hell. In Revelation 20:10, which is a look into the (not so distant) future, we are told of a day when "...the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever." Yeahhhh... Doesn't exactly sound like somebody you'd really want to associate yourself with.

Nobody in hell will be relaxing or partying or whatever sort of twisted idea you have about it. It's not a fun place to be, no, it's the very LAST place you want to be. It's a place of eternal suffering and torment, and it's the future for all who reject Jesus Christ, whether you be a Satanist, an atheist, an agnostic, or even some other religion. It doesn't matter. Without Jesus, hell is your destiny, and that is why you need to turn to Him and embrace Him as your only hope, your Lord and Savior TODAY. We'll talk about this more towards the end.

Here's a sobering warning: Anton LaVey was the author of the Satanic bible and founder of the first church of Satan, presumably back in 1966– and has been referred to as the "father of Satanism." The guy even wrote several other books related to Satanism, and was largely responsible for basically "popularizing" Satanism. Well, let's just say his last words before death were no less than absolutely horrifying: *"Oh my, oh my, what have I done? There is something very wrong... there is something very wrong."* This poor, poor deceived man. My heart breaks for him, and for all who were led astray by the lies and empty promises of the devil. These are the words of a man who discovered far too late that Satan was NOT on his side, but that he had been duped BIG TIME.

Unfortunately, for Anton LaVey, it's too late, but for you listening: it's not. I beg you to make the decision to turn to Jesus while the opportunity is still available to you.

Now let's take a look on the flipside: we discussed Satan, his true character, and his inevitable end. What about God? What's He really like? Much like we have with Satan, are we clinging to misunderstandings and lies about God as well?

In Nahum 1:7, we learn that God's GOODNESS is UNMATCHED, that He is TRUSTWORTHY. The verse here says that "The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in Him."

In Jeremiah 29:11, Lamentations 3:25, and Romans 8:28 we learn that God ALWAYS has our best interests at heart, that He has GOOD PLANS for us, a FUTURE and HOPE.

Romans 8:28 says that “We know that all things work together for the good of those who love God, who are called according to His purpose.”

In 1 John 5:20, John 17:17, and Numbers 23:19 we learn that God is TRUTHFUL, and His Word is TRUE. Numbers 23:19 tells us that “God is not a man, that He should lie, or a son of man, that He should change His mind...”

In Mark 10:18, we learn that God is WHOLLY GOOD. (That’s wholly spelled with a W, for you listening, as in “whole” ...) This verse says “No one is good but God.”

In 1 Samuel 2:2 we learn that God’s HOLINESS is unequalled– there is NO evil or impurity in God. He is perfect. The verse here says “There is none holy like the Lord, for there is none besides You, there is NO rock like our God.”

In Nehemiah 9:31, we are told that God is LOVING, COMPASSIONATE, GRACIOUS, KIND and MERCIFUL. The verse says “Nevertheless, in Your great mercies You did not make an end of them or forsake them, for You are a gracious and merciful God.”

In 1 Thessalonians 5:24 and 1 Corinthians 1:9 we are told that God is FAITHFUL, and in 2 Timothy 2:13 that “if we are faithless, He remains faithful– for He cannot deny Himself.”

In Exodus 34:6, we learn that God is PATIENT towards undeserving sinners like us, and LONGSUFFERING. “The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness...”

In 2 Peter 3:9-10, we learn that God does NOT want ANYBODY to perish, to go to hell, but instead, He wants EVERYONE to repent and be SAVED, and to enter into His family. The verse says “The Lord is not slow to fulfill His promise as some count slowness, but is patient towards you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.” Yet, He gives mankind freewill, so we can choose to either accept Jesus, or reject Him.

In Isaiah 45:21, we learn that God is RIGHTEOUS, meaning that He is morally perfect. He is unable to sin or commit any wrongdoing at all, nor can he tolerate sin. This verse says “And there is no other god besides Me, a righteous God and Savior; there is none besides Me.”

In Isaiah 30:18, we learn that God is JUST, and FAIR. This verse says “Therefore the Lord waits to be gracious to you, and therefore He exalts Himself to show mercy to you. For the Lord is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for Him.”

In Matthew 6:9, Colossians 1:12, and John 1:12-13, we learn that God is a LOVING FATHER to all believers, AKA Christians. Christians are encouraged to see God as their Father, even being encouraged by Jesus in Matthew 6:9 to begin prayer with “Our *Father* in heaven.”

And much, much more... I certainly could have cited multiple verses for each of these categories, but I didn't want to overwhelm any of you who may be actually looking these verses up.

We could spend ages just talking about God's characteristics alone. Do you notice the extreme contrast between Him and Satan? Whereas we learned that Satan is actually a fallen angel with limited power, being nothing more than a liar, a murderer, thief, deceiver, etc. We learn that the One True God, on the other hand, is the all-powerful Creator of everything, who is perfectly righteous and holy, just, fair, faithful, truthful, loving, patient, compassionate, and merciful. From that difference alone doesn't God sound like a much, MUCH better deal? God LOVES YOU and has good plans for you, but Satan on the other hand, wants you dead. Whereas the devil came to kill, steal and destroy, as we're told in John 10, if you read on, Jesus tells us that He, on the other hand, came that we may have LIFE, and have it ABUNDANTLY. Unfortunately, many still fall for Satan's lies today, unaware that all Satan can do is lie, and that his entire goal is pretty much centered around their very destruction. He will do everything he can to keep people away from God, Who is the only one Who can really save them.

The late Chuck Smith once said that “the Bible warns us repeatedly about deception. Satan deceived Eve by causing her to doubt God's word and instead put her trust in Satan's empty promises. Still today, Satan tries to deceive us into thinking that God's laws aren't fair or don't apply to our lives. Satan has deceived many people into trusting in emptiness.” (*Wisdom for Today*).

And that's very true! We mentioned that earlier as well, that a big reason many people embrace Satan (or at least the idea of him), is because they view God as a tyrannical ruler, and believe His laws to be unfair. This idea typically stems from growing up in strict religious households and churches, where they had parents or other relatives who may have treated them terribly, or were at least, very hypocritical in what they preached. The issue of hypocrisy is a big one, and certainly has led to a lot of children to turn their backs on God because of their negative experiences with their families and religion. It's insanely sad, and I've seen it happen in a huge chunk of my friends' lives. People are left with a twisted and totally false view of God because of the people they knew in their lives.

People also fail to remember God's characteristics, or are perhaps even completely unaware of them. It's so important to remember that unlike fickle human beings, He does

not change (Numbers 23:19), and that His ways are higher than our ways (Isaiah 55:9). We have to come to terms with that He's God, we are not, and that He sees and knows EVERYTHING, past, present and future (Hebrews 4:13) meanwhile we humans, are incredibly limited in our understanding and view, even with all the crazy technology and tools we have today. We must remember this, along with all of God's other characteristics as we discussed, such as His love, His mercy, compassion, grace, righteousness, justice, patience, faithfulness, truthfulness, goodness, holiness, etc. These many wonderful characteristics, coupled with the fact that God sees and knows all, and in fact, CREATED us and everything around us, He knows what is best for us, we do not. We should not be so arrogant as to suggest that we understand something better than God, the All-Knowing, All-Powerful, All-Mighty King and Creator of the Universe. We must remember that this great and powerful God not only knows and rules everything, but that He loves us, and has our best interest at heart- He LOVES us, all of us individually, and has wonderful plans for us, if we would only turn to Him. As I've heard it said, God loves you just the way you are, BUT He loves you too much to leave you that way. God knows what is best, He designed us and everything in our universe and beyond after all.

Satan however, would love to convince you otherwise. He does everything he can to turn people away from God and get them right on that path straight to hell. God wants you saved, God wants you in heaven with Him! Satan, however, wants quite the opposite. As we read in that quote from Chuck Smith's book, Satan first deceived Eve by making her question whether or not God had her best interest at heart. He deceived Eve by acting as if he was trying to help her, trying to "free" her. He told her that she could be "like God," and today, these are the same lies he is still whispering in the ears of mankind. Think of all the religions that center around this premise of becoming like god, or even simply atheistic lifestyles in which you are your own "god." Yet, we are told VERY clearly over and over again in the Bible that there is only ONE true God. As it is written in Isaiah 45:5- "I am the Lord, and there is NO other, besides me there is NO God..."

Oh, how many have fallen for Satan's lies. Similar to how we should always keep in mind God's characteristics, we should also keep in mind Satan's. He's a liar, murderer, thief, deceiver, destroyer, accuser, etc. Those are not the characteristics of somebody you want to be listening to, or trusting, and even less so, worshiping! Remember Anton LaVey's final words. He unfortunately is just one of the many to be deceived by the devil, and he won't be the last. Don't let yourself be one of those people.

In general, society today is just riddled with confusion and misunderstandings when it comes to God and the Bible. One of the biggest misunderstandings being this idea that heaven is for "good people," and that you have to earn your way there. Ask anybody on the street how they think you get into heaven, and the most popular response you'll hear will be "well, you just have to live a good life." What a horrific thought. How could you ever

know if you've done enough to get there? Sadly, many religions today function on this very idea, this idea that you have to work your way to heaven, that your good works must outweigh your bad. As I've heard it said, in order to believe that you can earn your way to heaven, you're either going to be one of two things: delusionally proud or irrationally fearful.

The simple truth is that NOBODY can earn their way to heaven. NOBODY is good enough. We can't perform enough "good works" to get there. In fact, you know what the Bible says about our good works– about the best things we can do? In Isaiah 64:6, we are told that our righteous deeds are nothing but "filthy rags." Wow, filthy rags?? How do you expect to get to heaven by your good deeds when God says that our good deeds are like dirty rags? News flash: you aren't getting to heaven based on your performance. The reality is, we are ALL sinners. We all sin, everyday. There are no exceptions. We are told in Romans 3:23 that "...all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." What exactly is sin? Well, it's missing the mark. What's the mark? Absolute perfection. Yikes. That's right. No, it's not being a "little better," than your neighbor, or "not as bad" as that guy on the news. The scale is not comparing you to another human. It's comparing you to GOD– and remember what we learned about God and His many attributes? He's perfect in every conceivable way. He's the Creator of the universe, for crying out loud! And you think you're going to measure up to HIM? Yeah, me neither buddy. You see, the bad news is that God is perfect and holy, and we are NOT. We fall miserably short of the standard. We screw up everyday! Even worse, do you know what the ultimate penalty for our sin is? We discussed it a bit earlier... Romans 6:23 has the answer for us: "For the wages of sin is death." Death, as in ETERNAL death, as in, yes, hell. Sin separates us from a holy righteous God, and we have no possible way of saving ourselves, of working off this immeasurable debt. It doesn't matter who or what you are. You, like all humans, are a dirty rotten sinner.

So... is that it? Are we just all doomed? Well, this is where it gets good my friend. Now recall God's other attributes– such as His love, His mercy, His kindness, patience, and so on. The good news is that God didn't leave us alone. Though we were hopeless and lost in our sin, without any way to save ourselves, God made a way– and that Way has a name. Check out John 14:6: "Jesus said to him, 'I am the WAY, I am the TRUTH, and I am the LIFE. No one comes to the Father except through ME.'" Folks, what– or more precisely, WHO is the way to heaven??? IT'S JESUS!!! From the first page to the last, the Bible points to one Person: Jesus Christ, the promised Messiah, the Savior of the world, the Son of God, Emmanuel– God with us. Contrary to popular belief, it does NOT point us to laws and rules that we must keep to be made "righteous," to get to heaven. Rather, through the laws, we are made aware of how miserably we fall short, and how impossible it would be for us to get to heaven by our own efforts. God requires perfection, but as the old saying goes, NOBODY'S perfect. Thankfully, what we could not do, Jesus did for us– He lived the perfect sinless life, and fulfilled all the righteous requirements of the law (Matthew 3:15). Jesus suffered the

brutal death of crucifixion, bearing the punishment that WE deserved for our sins. To put it simply, He died for our sins. He paid the price.

As we are told in Romans 5:7-8- “Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still SINNERS, Christ DIED for US.”

We know that Jesus’ sacrifice for us was completely and totally sufficient, because His last words as He hung on the cross were “it is finished” (John 19:30). The fascinating fact about this, is that the phrase “it is finished” is actually a translation of one Greek word “tetelestai,” which means “paid in full.” When someone in ancient times paid off a debt, the creditor would write “TETELESTAI” on the certificate of debt. What does this mean? Well, Jesus paid our debt in FULL! The wages of sin is death, and Jesus paid it completely. He ransomed us with His own blood (Matthew 20:28).

Jesus did not remain dead, but rose from the dead on the third day, ascending into heaven, thus proving that His sacrifice was sufficient- the work was complete! There is no work left to be done, Jesus DID IT ALL. He Himself made the way to heaven for us.

“The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” 1 Corinthians 15:56-57

It was never about trying to be “perfect” or performing good deeds to earn your way on up to heaven, it’s always been about Jesus, and what He already accomplished for us. Before His birth, people were looking forward to Him, and now after His death and resurrection, we look backward to Him. My friend, it is NOT too late for you. You can turn to Jesus TODAY, and embrace Him as your Lord and Savior. Let Him free you from the lies of the devil, let Him save you from that dark path you are heading down. He LOVES YOU more than you could ever imagine. It’s a love that I myself, am still trying to wrap my mind around... a love that we all desperately need.

As the classic John 3:16 verse goes, “For God so LOVED the WORLD, that He gave His only Son, that WHOEVER BELIEVES in Him should NOT perish but have ETERNAL LIFE.”

Turn to Jesus today. He is the ONLY way to heaven. There is no backup. And as we’ve learned, Satan is definitely not going to do you any favors, he’s getting you NOWHERE good. Only Jesus can free you, only Jesus can save you. Don’t buy into that lie that Jesus is just an “old-fashioned grandma’s” type of thing. He is for EVERYONE, and He’s calling ALL to turn to Him, no matter how young or old, no matter the baggage, the emotional trauma, the dark past, the mental issues, etc. You do not have to fix yourself up first, either. Jesus Himself said

“Healthy people don’t need a doctor– sick people do. I have not come to call those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners and need to repent.” Luke 5:31-32. He came for the broken, and the hurting. He came for you, and He came for me. Look to Jesus, and see the heart of God towards mankind. Stop listening to the lies, and come discover the truth for yourself. This dying world cannot save you. Money cannot save you. Relationships cannot save you. Movies and video games cannot save you. Empty religion cannot save you. Satan DEFINITELY cannot save you. ONLY JESUS. It’s either Him, or it’s nothing. I beg you today to make the decision to turn to Him while the opportunity still stands.

Overall, the rising interest in Satan and the occult in general has been quite troubling, just knowing the path of destruction it’s leading people down. Satan is a liar, and tragically, many are falling right into his trap. Whether or not they have anything to do with Satan, ALL occult beliefs and practices are in fact controlled by demons. You think that medium is helping you connect with your deceased relative in the “afterlife”? No, I’m afraid not. That’s a demon playing a sick game with you. It is all just one of the many ploys of the devil to keep people from the truth, and to instead, keep them in the bondage of his lies, and on the road to hell, as we’ve said many many times in this video already. Yet, the increase in these days is also another sign of the end of the age, of Jesus’ return: “The (Holy) Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons” 1 Timothy 4:1. Now, we won’t be talking about THAT today, BUT if you’d like to learn more about Jesus’ return and how we certainly are living in the end times, please check out my other IGTV video titled “Is Jesus Really Coming Back Soon?” I will also be linking some resources in the description that go over these things as well).

There is salvation in Jesus alone. There is no other way. Stop listening to Satan’s lies, and come to Jesus. He waits for you with open arms. Don’t waste another second. The time is short.

“Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near; let the wicked forsake His way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that He may have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will *abundantly* pardon.”
Isaiah 55:6-7

If you would like to receive Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, please contact me through Instagram messages, and I will GLADLY talk with you one-on-one and answer any questions you may have, and pray with you! I will be listing several resources in the description below, such as helpful websites and a written script version of this video for you who prefer to read over listen. God bless you my friends. You are dearly loved.

> RESOURCES <

- > www.hopeforourtimes.com
- > www.jdfarag.org
- > www.livingfaithcalvarychapel.com
- > www.ccontario.com
- > www.getalifemedia.com
- > www.8bitmanna.com & twitter.com/8Bitmanna