Spiritual Strategic Warfare



"Stand firm then, with <u>the belt of truth</u> buckled around your waist, with <u>the breastplate of righteousness</u> in place" Ephesians 6:14

"And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace" Ephesians 6:15

"above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts (arrows) of the wicked one" Ephesians 6:16

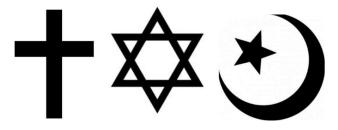
"And take <u>the helmet of salvation</u>, and <u>the sword of</u> <u>the Spirit</u>, which is the word of God ..." Ephesians 6:17.

"For the word of God is quick (alive), and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow (bone), and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart..."

Hebrews 4.12.

Zidkiyah Yisrael

Are These "Religious" Symbols of God?



Cross Star of David Star & Crescent

Idols were not to be worshipped by the early church and the cross was no exception to this rule. Not worshipping the cross is consistent with

Scripture regarding idolatry! See Exodus 20:3-6, Leviticus 19:4, 26:1, Deuteronomy 7:26, Jonah 2:8, Psalm 135:15, Habakkuk 2:18, Acts 17:16, v29, 1Thessalonians 1:9, 1John 5:21. Not worshipping the cross is consistent with early Church and is not heretical! Worshipping the cross had no place in the original early Church. The symbol itself does not appear in the city of Rome until the fourth century, nor does Jesus appear on the cross until the sixth century.

In ancient times when Jesus was crucified, he was not hung on something that looked like a cross. Based on historical evidence in the way people were executed, there was a singular pole or a tree of some sort.

Revering the cross is based on lies, deception, and ignorance. The early Church was struggling with people who were influence by idolatry. They were deep into their belief in idolatry, especially when there were famous characters involved in worshipping such an image. For example the names involved are Nicodemus, Justin Martyr, Tertullian, Cyprian, Constantine's mother Helena as well as Constantine himself, and others.

Tertullian commented that one of the Church Cross developed doctrines "was not commanded in the Holy Scripture, but for the practice of Church tradition." It seems for centuries after Christ, the church and other religions that use cruciform symbols have misrepresented the physical nature of Christ's death with a satanic symbol (cross), and a heathen (pagan) idol. This secret has been concealed by the church for centuries after Christ.

Jesus said, "Anyone who does not take his <u>cross</u> and follow me is not worthy of me" Matthew 10:38. He also said, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his <u>cross</u> daily" Luke 9:23. "Carrying the cross" is a meaningful analogy. When the Romans crucified an individual, the condemned person was forced to carry the crossbar, on which the body would be nailed or tied, to the execution site.

The suffering of the crucifixion made the cross a dramatic symbol of pain, distress and burden-bearing. <u>Jesus used the cross as a symbol to portray the spiritual sacrifice required of his followers not a literal cross!</u>

The Greek words referring to what Jesus hung upon are *stauros* and *xulon*.

"In secular Greek *stauros* denotes a "pole," or a "pile," such as is used in foundations. The term is also used of a "fence," "stake," or a "tent peg"; however, it also refers to a "cross" upon which criminals were executed. This is its use in the New Testament.

"Execution by means of crucifixion was employed in Greece, but the practice did not originate there. In all likelihood the Persians invented this means of torture and execution. Later, Alexander the Great, the Phoenicians, and the Carthaginians used this method of punishment. The Romans adopted it from the Carthaginians; however, except in rare cases they seldom executed Roman citizens by crucifixion. Usually only slaves and the most serious criminals, e.g. traitors, perjurers, etc. were crucified." [*The Complete Biblical Library, Greek-English Dictionary*].

"Classical Greek uses *xulon* to denote a "tree," a "piece of wood," "timber," etc. As a single piece of wood *xulon* may represent a variety of forms: "beam, post, or log."

Moreover, *xulon* can refer to anything made of wood, including objects of punishment, such as "stocks, clubs, gallows, stakes," etc. ... A distinctive New Testament use of *xulon* is its reference to "cross." In each instance where this occurs it is used exclusively of the cross upon which Jesus was crucified." [*The Complete Biblical Library*, *Greek-English Dictionary*].

The words, independent of context, does not tell us exactly what is being referred to. <u>Stauros</u> only means we are referring to wooden poles, or logs, or something constructed of wooden poles. <u>Xulononly</u> means we are referring to something made of wood. It is the fact that it was used in the context of the execution method employed by the Romans in this particular era that tells us which kind of object we are referring. Other historical documents, written in Greek, also use <u>stauros</u> to refer to a cross for crucifixion, so we find no contradiction.

The cross was not widely used in mainstream Christianity until the time of the Roman Emperor Constantine—about 270 years after Christ established His Church on Pentecost AD 31. None of the apostles or first-century Christians used it or accepted it as a "Christian" symbol.

Symbols carry significance and meaning. Often, they are used to invoke feelings or thoughts in the mind of the viewer. Some bring remembrance of events, places or people: national flags, war memorials, monuments to famous persons, or grave markers. The image of a cross is no different. Yet few people consider what meaning this symbol has for God. Many questions flow from this: Does God want you to wear a cross and display it where you live? Does God want to see this instrument of cruelty hanging from Christians' necks, on the wall of their homes, or placed on the dashboard of their cars? Does He want to look upon a symbol that reminds Him of when He had to completely turn from His Son? See Matthew 27:46, 2Corinthians 5:21, and Isaiah 53:6; 59:2. And would you wear a constant reminder of how your child was put to death? Think about it!

Consider further. If Christ were put to death with a .38 Special handgun, would you wear this around your neck? If Jesus were put to death in an electric chair, would you place a miniature one on your dashboard as a sign of faith?

According to *Vine's Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words*, the shape of the cross "had its origin in ancient Chaldea, and was used as the symbol of the god Tammuz being in the shape of the mystic Tau, the initial of his name in that country and in adjacent lands, including Egypt. "By the middle of the third century A.D. the churches had either departed from, or had travestied, certain doctrines of the Christian faith. In order to increase the prestige of the apostate ecclesiastical system, heathens (pagans) were received into the churches...and were permitted largely to retain their pagan signs and symbols. Hence, the Tau or T, in its most frequent form, with the crosspiece lowered, was adopted to stand for the cross of Christ." Who was this Tammuz? Anciently, he has been known by many names: Baal, Molech, Osiris.

Ezekiel 8:13-14 records a picture of the women of Israel "weeping for Tammuz." This Tammuz (the god of fire) of the Babylonian mystery religion. The etymology of the word Tammuz bears examination: tam means "to make perfect" and muz "fire." In other words, to make perfect through burning in fire! Ancient Israel fell into worshipping Tammuz. "And they built the high places of Baal, which are in the valley of the son of Hinnom, to cause their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire unto Molech; which I commanded them not, neither came it into My mind, that they should do this abomination..." Jeremiah 32:35. If a symbol was first used for a pagan god—one tied to child sacrifices should you still wear it around your neck?

the *Davis Dictionary of the Bible* states about the origin of the cross: "The pre-Christian cross of one form or another was in use as a sacred symbol among the Chaldeans, the Phoenicians, the Egyptians, and many other...nations. The Spaniards in the 16th

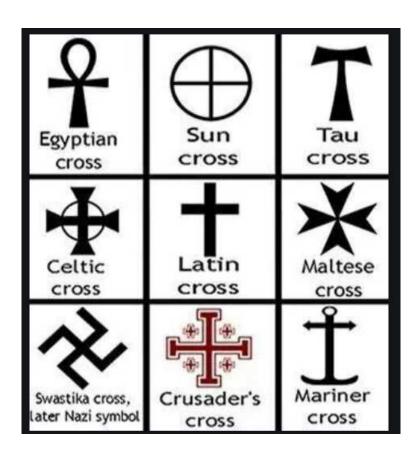
century found it also among the Indians of Mexico and Peru. But its symbolic teaching was quite different from that which we now associate the cross." How was its meaning different? It was used as a symbol of fertility.

"Various figures of crosses are found everywhere on Egyptian monuments and tombs, and are considered by many authorities as symbolical either of the phallus [a representation of the male sex organ] or of coition...In Egyptian tombs the crux ansata [cross with a circle or handle on top] is found side by side with the phallus" (A Short History of Sex-Worship). Clearly, the cross symbol in its various forms has heathen (pagan) origins and meanings outside of Christianity. Origins that long predate the birth of Jesus Christ and the Church He founded. It was "Christianized" and brought into mainstream Christianity.

Christianity today is a religion that has its emphasis on "feelings," "emotions" and "physical" things. The Bible calls this approach a false "form of godliness" **2Timothy 3:5**. This is especially true of a cross. The scriptures record that Christ was nailed to a "tree" **1Peters. 2:24**, **Acts 5:30**, **10:39**, **13:29**. People own crosses and other religious items to "feel religious." But the Second Commandment clearly prohibits any rendering of Christ's or God almighty appearance or any other religious image: "You shall not make unto yourself any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: you shall not bow down yourself to them, nor serve them..." **Exodus 20:4-5**.

Crosses are made "graven" by man's hand. They are of "the earth beneath." Supposed pictures or images of Jesus Christ or God the Father who are in heaven above are also rendered by the hands of men. Both are used as objects of worship they are adored and venerated. Any picture, image or statue of Jesus Christ or God is in clear violation of the Second Commandment, and this includes all crosses and crucifixes. All such icons become the object of worship, which breaks the First

Commandment as well: "You shall have no other gods before Me" Exodus 20:3.



Ancient Israel constantly fell into worshipping physical objects, such as the golden calf in **Exodus 32**. It is no different today. Physically minded human beings desire physical representations of God, as well as physical symbols to which they can attach meaning. They find it hard (in fact impossible) to worship a God they cannot see. Yet **Hebrews 11**, **verses 1 and 6**, states that we must believe God exists even though we cannot see Him. God is composed of spirit. He does not consist of anything made by human hands, of wood, stone, gold, silver, ivory or otherwise. God seeks those who will worship Him in *spirit* and *truth* **John 4:23-24**, not with physical objects. See the **cross** symbol for what it is; **pagan!** Its meanings and symbolism do not honor God almighty or Jesus Christ. The Bible clearly teaches that God's people must not

practice or tolerate any heathen ways, customs, traditions or practices. See **Deuteronomy 7:1-6**, **Jeremiah10:1-5**, **Revelation 18:1-4**.

Worshipping God in "spirit and truth" means following the example set for us by Jesus Christ. It means patterning your life after Him. Your focus should be on how He lived in complete submission to the Father—faithfully obeying all of the Commandments, including the Second Commandment. He said, "If you love Me, keep My commandments"

John 14:15. Also, "If you keep My commandments, you shall abide in My love; even as I have kept My Father's commandments, and abide in His love" John 15:10.

Apostle Paul warning and encouragement regarding Idolatry.

ICorinthians 10:7-14 - Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: "The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry." We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did—and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died. We should not test Christ, as some of them did—and were killed by snakes. And do not grumble, as some of them did—and were killed by the destroying angel. These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the culmination of the ages has come. So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it. Therefore, my dear friends, flee from idolatry.

What is the origin of the "Star of David"? Was it really an ancient symbol on David's shield? Did it originate with king Solomon? What is the meaning of two interlaced triangles, one pointed upward and one pointed down? Where did this ancient symbol REALLY

originate? What is the real story and history of the Star of David? Did God almighty mention a symbol called "the Star of David?" You may be totally shocked at the answers to these questions!

Well first let us look into the Bible to answer such questions. According to Deuteronomy 7:26: "And you shall not bring an abomination into your house, lest you become a cursed thing like it." The first mention of this symbol "Star of David" was in 922 B.C. when King Solomon got involved with magic or the occult. He built an altar to the heathen god Ashtoreth (star) and to Molock (Molech). The Most High God appeared to him twice and told him not to do such a thing. Historically Ashtoreth (Astarte meaning star) and Chiun and Remphan (star) from the Egyptians before Solomon's time. Then afterward in Arab magic and witchcraft, through the middle ages, it was used by the Druids during the highest Sabbath of the witches, called Halloween.

Although the six-pointed star is seen all around the world and is accepted as the symbol of the Jews, it is still used today in magic and witchcraft as well in astrological horoscopes. All over the world the six-pointed star is immersing literature, jewelry, crystal, books, religious synagogues and even some Christian churches.

The six-pointed star has been in existence for ages. It was called the hexagram and then the Seal of Solomon and more recently the Star of David. It is of a heathen origin and did not come from the Hebrew Israelites of the Bible.

Stephen was the first Christian martyr. In the book of Acts, confronted by angry Jews intending to kill him to shut his mouth, Stephen boldly and courageously stood up to them and answered their false accusations by preaching a searing sermon.

Stephen reminded his accusers that, even after God's righteous mercy to the Israelites, they would not obey Him but instead resisted and turned back again to the gods and idols of Egypt, worshipping the "hosts of heaven" (the astrological deities of Satan's kingdom) and making a golden calf idol to which they gave sacrifice. What's more, said Stephen, they fashioned as an idol the star of these false, demonic gods:

"Yea, ye took up the tabernacle of Moloch, and the star of your god, Remphan, figures which ye made to worship them; and I will carry you away beyond Babylon." Acts 7:43. Here we have Stephen revealing how the rebellious people of Israel had, as the prophets put it, "went a 'whoring' after false gods" in the desert. In doing so, they also had taken up the "star" of their false god, Remphan, whom they worshipped. As fit punishment for this outrage and betrayal, Stephen prophesied, thus saith the Lord, "I will carry you away beyond Babylon." In their tarnished past, God had taken the Jews to Babylon where they were captives. But in Acts 7 it states they would be carried away "beyond Babylon." In 70 AD, Jerusalem was invaded and demolished by the Roman General Titus who slaughtered hundreds of thousands of Jews. The remainder were dispersed and, as history records, were scattered among the nations.

Stephen's sermon was not the first time the people of Israel had been righteously accused of idolatry and worship of the star by a minister of God. Centuries prior, the prophet Amos made similar charges: "Ye have borne the tabernacle of your Moloch and Chiun your images, the star of your god which ye made to yourselves. Therefore will I cause you to go into captivity beyond Damascus." Amos 5:26-27.

Amos went further, declaring: "The Lord God hath sworn to himself, saith the Lord the God of hosts, I abhor the excellence of Jacob and hate his palaces: therefore, will I deliver up the city with all that is therein. And it shall come to pass if there remain ten men in one house, that they shall die...behold I will raise up against you a nation,

O house of Israel...and they shall afflict you...and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste." Amos 6: 8-14 and 7:9

Notice Amos' prophecy that God said, "I abhor the excellence of Jacob." God hated the abominations of the fleshly nation of Israel. Jacob had been a spiritual man and beloved of God, but his successors, the wicked physical seed of Israel, God abhorred.

What can we make of the deities named Moloch, Remphan, and Chiun, to whom the star served as a symbol of a misplaced devotion? First, we cast our glance on the god Moloch, to whom the ancient Israelites erected a tabernacle. According to various encyclopedias and religious reference guides, Moloch (also Molok, Molech, Malekh, or Moloc) was an ancient Semitic deity. Cultures and ethnic groups throughout the Middle East and North Africa worshipped him, including the Phoenicians, the Ammonites, the Canaanites, and the Hebrews (Israelites).

Moloch was adored in many idolatrous forms, including as a horned bull and as a horned goat. In Babylon he was called the "Bull of Heaven," and Nebo (Nabu or Nibiri) was his son. He and the fire god, Baal, were often synonymous and interchangeable, Moloch being a type of Baal.

Moloch's son, Nebo, was called by the ancients the "God of Wisdom" and he had as his image the star. To this day, some in the New Age movement, in the occult, and in various Mystery religions such as Freemasonry, honor this deity as the Star god, (Eastern Star for women in a Masonic organization). He is often connected in the occult legends with the "dog star" known to Egyptians, who is called "Sirius." It is said that this Star god, one of the "hosts of heaven" returns to earth in cycles.

A Masonic book called *The Second Mile*, an Eastern Star book, reveals that the "six-pointed star is a very ancient symbol, and one of the

most powerful." The hexagram is used in magic, witchcraft, sorcery and occultism and the casting of zodiacal horoscopes by astrologers. "It was considered to posses mysterious powers," says *A Concise Cyclopaedia of Freemasonry*.



The six-pointed star is used as a "stand-by for magicians and alchemists. The sorcerers believed it represented the footprints of a special kind of DEMON called a trud and used it in ceremonies both to call up demons and to keep them away" (O. J. Graham, The Six Pointed Star, New Puritan Library, 1988, p.35).

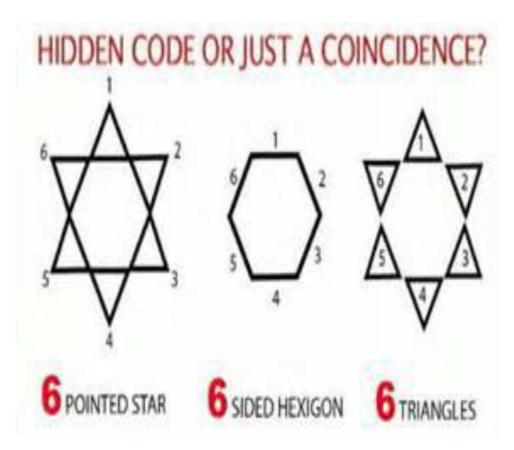
Says *Masonic and Occult Symbols Illustrated, by Dr. Cathy Burns*, "The Hexagram is formed by united the Water Triangle with the Fire Triangle, which is the Six-pointed Sar, Star of David, Solomon's Seal, etc. When the two triangles (the 'Water Triangle' and the 'Fire Triangle') are joined together into one symbol, it forms a six-pointed star known as a double triangle, hexagram, Crest of Solomon, star of the microcosm and the Shield of David, among other names. It is even called the 'talisman of Saturn'" (p.38).

Bill Schnoebelen, a former Satanist, tells us, "**To the sorcerer**, **the hexagram is a powerful tool to invoke Satan**." In fact, the word "hex" -- as to put a "hex" or "curse" on people – comes from this word.

The hexagram also has a sexual connotation. It represents sexual union. The triangle pointed downward is a female symbol and the triangle pointed upward is the male symbol; when they are interlaced it

represents coitus, or sexual union of the active and passive forces in nature. A former witch reveals, "When the male triangle penetrates the female triangle it produced the six-pointed crest of Solomon or hexagram, the most wicked symbol in witchcraft" (Masonic and Occult Symbols Illustrated, by Dr. Cathy Burns p.39)

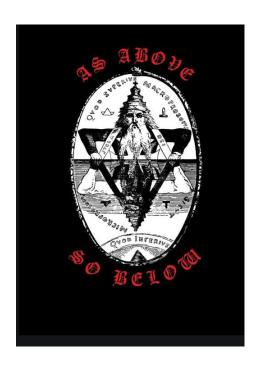
If you examine the so-called "Star of David," or hexagram, closely, you will discover something astonishing. It has *six* points, forms *six* equilateral triangles, and in its interior forms a *six* sided hexagon, thus it reveals the number of Satan the devil, or the beast of Revelation 666!!



In *The Gods of India*, by Alain Danielou, we read: "The triangle with its apex upward is also taken to represent fire, identified with the male principle, the *linga* or phallus, symbol of Siva the Progenitor or of the Cosmic Person . . . "The triangle pointed downward represents the force of inertia which pulls downward, and tends to

suppress activity. It is associated with the element of water, which always tends to come down, to equalize its level. It is the passive aspect of creation and thus is represented by the *yoni* or female organ, the emblem of Energy or Cosmic Nature."

The words "As Above So Below" are of occult origin that is based off of "Hermeticism." This is from the grand master of occultism, Hermes who is believed to have lived in the times of Abraham. At first glance there is nothing wrong when reading the phrase "As Above So Below" at face value. But understanding the real meaning is what is disturbing. This is an occult term and it is also known as "the law of correspondence!" Hermetic means "secret," "esoteric" or "occult." It refers to knowledge that's in correspondence with the conduct of the Universe. This is Satanism in disguise in philosophical jargon. If you have seen the image of the "Baphomet", he has given this sign "as above, so below." This in the occult is in reference to the Star of David with the double triangle of Solomon. This "star" has two triangles, one pointing up, the other below. The top of the triangle is supposed to represent God, the bottom represent Satan. If you turn the image upside down you will notice a demonic looking figure.



A Masonic author declares that the triangles that make up the hexagram "are symbolic of good and evil, day and night, the Chinese yang and yin, etc." In the Masonic system, we have the interlaced triangles, one black and one white, the white triangle with its point up, the black triangle with its point down. It represents the male and female elements. The interlaced black and white triangles picture darkness and light, good and evil, error and truth, ignorance and wisdom, and supposedly balance and harmony. (*Masonic and Occult Symbols Illustrated*, by Dr. Cathy Burns p.35)

In the book *The Gods of India, by Alain Danielou*, we also discover: "The two complimentary principles, the linga and the yoni, are graphically represented by the fiery triangle with upward apex and the watery triangle with downward apex. When the triangles penetrate each other to form the hexagon, this is taken to show the state of manifestation. When they part, the universe dissolves" (*p.219*).

Archaeologist E.A. Wallace Budge, an authority on ancient Egyptian mythology, relates: "Those who believed in the physical significance of the Hexagram taught that communication between the living and the dead was possible, and adopted the dogma of reincarnation" (*Amulets and Superstition*, *p.432*).

The Encyclopedia Britannica identifies the six-pointed star as a "magical sign." The Britannica says: "Practical [magic] cabala popularized the use of the Magen David as a protection against evil spirits." (Encyclopedia Britannica Micropedia 1974, Vol VI, p.966).

In the book *Ancient Pagan Symbols*, the hexagram is called Solomon's Seal, not David's. It says: "The triangle, the geometrical emblem of three things, one above two, the two lower uniting to produce the higher, or the union of the positive and negative forces to produce the third, is the most complex and mystical as it is the most uncompromising of all symbols...Three has been called the very

soul of magic, astrology and divination." (*Elizabeth Goldsmith*, Ancient Pagan Symbols New York: The knickerbocker Press, 1929, reprinted by A.M.S. Press Inc., New York, p.150).

Solomon's Seal was accepted as occult by the occult world. King Solomon was deeply involved in witchcraft and occultism. According to *The Sorcerer's Handbook*, "King Solomon, traditionally known as an arch magician, used a spell to banish infernal beings sent by the king of demons to extract human hearts...[the names of the demons are then given.]" (*Wade Baskin, The Sorcerer's Handbook, Secaucus, NJ: Citadel Press, 1974, p.546*).

In the book *The History and Practice of Magic, Vol.2*, "the six pointed star is called the talisman of Saturn. It is illustrated obverse and reverse. The latter is the Seal of Solomon; the former is the five-pointed star, commonly called the pentagram. Details are given on how to make these symbols and the materials to use." (*Paul Christian, The History and Practice of Magic, Secaucus, NJ: University Books, published by arrangement with Lyle Stewart, 1979, Vol.2, p.304*).

In the book *The Book of Talismans*, *Amulets and Zodiacal Gems*, the six-pointed star or hexagram is again called the Seal of Solomon. It is described as an ancient talisman and the book admits that it did not originate with King Solomon, as it was used much further back than the Jews dispensation. It was used in the practices of worship to Ashteroth and Moloch long before Solomon was born. (*William Thomas and Kate Pavitt, Book of Talismans, Amulets and Zodiacal Gems, London: Hutchinson Books, 1961, p.38*).

The book Encyclopedia of Occultism, by Lewis Spence, also calls the six-pointed star the Seal of Solomon. It goes even further and establishes

that this symbol is the chief magical diagram and tells that is was used in special rites. (*Lewis Spence "Magical Diagrams," Encyclopedia of Occultism New York: Universe Books, Inc., 1960, p.304*).

In the book *Man*, *Myth and Magic: An Illustrated Encyclopedia of the Supernatural*. This source admits that the six-pointed star "contains occult powers."

In the book *The History and Practice of Magic, Vol.2*, it is called the Talisman of Saturn. There is a diagram of the six-pointed star in the reverse, the obverse contains a pentagram, or five pointed star. (*Paul Christian, The History and Practice of Magic, Secaucus, NJ: University Books, published by arrangement with Lyle Stewart, 1979, Vol.2, p.304)*

According to a book titled A Witch's Grimoire of Ancient Omens, Portents, Talismans, Amulets and Charms, by Gavin & Yvonne Frost, the six-pointed star is featured as well and bears support of its occultism. (Gavin and Yvonne Frost, A Witch's Grimoire of Ancient Omens, Portents, Talismans, Amulets and Charms New York: Parker Publishing Co., 1979, p.159).

Getting the six-pointed star or hexagram to bear King Solomon's name was a pretty clever trick by the devil! This caused the symbol to be accepted by linking it with David, king of Israel, Solomon's Father. Solomon took this symbol upon himself when he dabbled into these condemned rituals, and because he was a great king at one time, his name has been used to described the six-pointed star.

King Solomon is guilty of being a part of practicing the occult in scripture, examples already given. What exactly is the occult? According to Webster, he defines occultism as "hidden, secret, mysterious, from the Latin word occulere, to conceal...of the mystic arts such as magic, astrology, etc.

The Christians have their "cross", the Jewish people have the Seal of Solomon or hexagram. As God says in His Word, Satan the Devil is "that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the *deceiver of the WHOLE WORLD*" **Revelation 12:9**. That means virtually *everybody* – every nation – every religion – the WHOLE WORLD!

There is no evidence to connect the hexagram with David, his father. There is no reason to believe that David, a man after God's own heart, would ever adopt a pagan symbol for his "shield." But Satan the devil, the chief of liars and deceivers, would certainly love to have you Believe it! **Revelation 12:9**, **John 8:44**.

According to Scripture, King David of Israel made it very clear that God himself was his shield in **Psalm 3:3**, "But thou, O Lord, art a shield for me; my glory and the lifter up of mine head." KJV. He also says in **Psalm 28:7** "The Lord is my strength and my shield." Also, **Psalm 144:2** "My shield and he in whom I trust."

As God's people, we should have NO PART in the use of these perverted and demonic symbols which have been the trademark of pagans, witches, and practitioners of the occult. That includes both the falsely portrayed "Star of David," which has nothing to do with David, or the so-called "Christian cross," which has nothing whatever to do with the true Christ, Yeshua the Messiah, who died on an upright pole and not a cross!

As the apostle Paul declared, its time to repent and put away all these heathen (pagan) emblems and symbols, and become holy and pure before God. "While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to REPENT, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged" **Acts 17:30-31**.

The apostle Jude declared it is time we should "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered to the saints" **Jude 3**. Let's free ourselves from all such unholy influences.

Introduction to basic facts of history regarding Islam:

- 1. Moon worship has been practiced in Arabia since 2000 BC. The crescent moon is the most common symbol of this pagan moon worship as far back as 2000 BC.
- 2. In Mecca, there was a god named Hubal who was Lord of the Kabah.
- 3. This Hubal was a moon god.
- 4. One Muslim apologist confessed that the idol of moon god Hubal was placed upon the roof of the Kaba about 400 years before Muhammad. This may in fact be the origin of why the crescent moon is on top of every minaret at the Kaba today and the central symbol of Islam atop of every mosque throughout the world: About four hundred years before the birth of Muhammad one Amr bin Lahyo ... a descendant of Qahtan and king of Hijaz, had put an idol called Hubal on the roof of the Kaba. This was one of the chief deities of the Quraish before Islam. (Muhammad The Holy Prophet, Hafiz Ghulam Sarwar (Pakistan), p 18-19, Muslim)
- 5. The moon god was also referred to as "al-ilah". This is not a proper name of a single specific god, but a generic reference meaning "the god". Each local pagan Arab tribe would refer to their own local tribal pagan god as "al-ilah".
- 6. "al-ilah" was later shortened to Allah before Muhammad began promoting his new religion in 610 AD.
- 7. There is evidence that Hubal was referred to as "Allah".
- 8. When Muhammad came along, he dropped all references to the name "Hubal" but retained the generic "Allah".
- 9. Muhammad retained almost all the pagan rituals of the Arabs at the Kaba and redefined them in monotheistic terms.

- 10. Regardless of the specifics of the facts, it is clear that Islam is derived from paganism that once worshiped a moon-god.
- 11. Although Islam is today a monotheist religion, its roots are in paganism.

Allah, the moon god of the Kaba:

- 1. "Allah, the Supreme Being of the Mussulmans: Before Islam. That the Arabs, before the time of Muhammed, accepted and worshipped, after a fashion, a supreme god called Allah,--"the Ilah, or the god, if the form is of genuine Arabic source; if of Aramaic, from Alaha, "the god"—seems absolutely certain. Whether he was an abstraction or a development from some individual god, such as Hubal, need not here be considered...But they also recognized and tended to worship more fervently and directly other strictly subordinate gods...It is certain that they regarded particular deities (mentioned in 1iii. 19-20 are al-'Uzza, Manat or Manah, al-Lat'; some have interpreted vii, 179 as a reference to a perversion of Allah to Allat as daughters of Allah (vi. 100; xvi, 59; xxxvii, 149; 1iii, 21); they also asserted that he had sons (vi. 100)..."There was no god save Allah". This meant, for Muhammed and the Meccans, that of all the gods whom they worshipped, Allah was the only real deity. It took no account of the nature of God in the abstract, only of the personal position of **Allah**....ilah, the common noun from which **Allah** is probably derived..." (First Encyclopedia of Islam, E.J. Brill, 1987, Islam, p. 302)
- 2. Allah. Islamic name for God. Is derived from Semitic El, and [Allah] originally applied to the Moon; he [Allah] seems to have been preceded by Ilmaqah, the Moon-god. Allah is the female counterpart of Allah. (Everyman's Dictionary of Non-Classical Mythology, Egerton Sykes, Godspeed, Allah)
- 3. The Bedouin's astral beliefs centred upon the moon, in whose light he grazed his flocks. Moon-worship implies a pastoral society,

- whereas sun-worship represents a later agricultural stage. In our own day the Moslem Ruwalah Bedouins imagine that their life is regulated by the moon, which condenses the water vapours, distils the beneficent dew on the pasture and makes possible the growth of plants. On the other hand the sun, as they believe, would like to destroy the Bedouins as well as all animal and plant life. (*History Of The Arabs, Philip K. Hitti, 1937, p 96-101*)
- 4. There are stories in the Sira of pagan Meccan praying to Allah while standing beside the image of Hubal. (<u>Muhammad's Mecca</u>, W. Montgomery Watt, Chapter 3: Religion In Pre-Islamic Arabia, p26-45)
- 5. "The relation of this name, which in Babylonia and Assyrian became a generic term simply meaning 'god', to the Arabian Ilah familiar to us in the form **Allah**, which is compounded of al, the definite article, and **Ilah** by eliding the vowel 'i', is not clear. Some scholars trace the name to the South Arabian Ilah, a title of the Moon god, but this is a matter of antiquarian interest" (*Islam*, *Alfred Guillaume*, 1956, p 6-7)
- 6. "The first pre-Islamic inscription discovered in Dhofar Province, Oman, this bronze plaque, deciphered by Dr. Albert Jamme, dates from about the second century A.D. and gives the name of the Hadramaut moon god Sin and the name Sumhuram, a long-lost city....The moon was the chief deity of all the early South Arabian kingdoms—particularly fitting in that region where the soft light of the moon brought the rest and cool winds of night as a relief from the blinding sun and scorching heat of day. In contrast to most of the old religions with which we are familiar, the moon god is male, while the sun god is his consort, a female. The third god of importance is their child, the male morning star, which we know as the planet Venus...The spice route riches brought them a standard of luxurious living inconceivable to the poverty-stricken South Arabian Bedouins of today. Like nearly all Semitic peoples they worshipped the moon, the sun, and the morning star. The chief god, the moon, was a male deity symbolized by the bull, and we found many carved bulls' heads,

- with drains for the blood of sacrificed animals." (*Qataban and Sheba*, *Wendell Phillips*, 1955, p. 227)
- 7. "...a people of Arabia, of the race of the Joktanites...the Alilai living near the Red Sea in a district where gold is found; their name, children of the moon, so called from the worship of the moon, or Alilat." (Gesenius Hebrew and Chaldee Lexicon to the Old Testament Scriptures, translated by Samuel Prideaux Tregelles, 1979, p. 367)
- 8. Allat, according to recent study of the complicated inspirational evidence, is believed to have been introduced into Arabia from Syria, and to have been the moon goddess of North Arabia. If this is the correct interpretation of her character, she corresponded to the moon deity of South Arabia, Almaqah, 'Vadd, 'Amm or Sin as he was called, the difference being only the oppositeness of gender. Mount Sinai (the name being an Arabic feminine form of Sin) would then have been one of the centers of the worship of this northern moon goddess. Similarly, al-`Uzza is supposed to have come from Sinai, and to have been the goddess of the planet Venus. As the moon and the evening star are associated in the heavens, so too were Allat and al-`Uzza together in religious belief, and so too are the crescent and star conjoined on the flags of Arab countries today. (The Archeology Of World Religions, Jack Finegan, 1952, p482-485, 492)

Hubal, the moon god of the Kaba:

What is quite certain is that the Pagan Arabs in Mecca worshipped a moon god called Hubal at the Kabah. Hubal was the Lord of the Kabah, being the highest ranking god of the 360 gods worshipped in the Kabah. Now here is the amazing thing. Allah was also worshipped as the Lord of the Kabah. Yet, Allah was never represented by any idol of physical nature. To suggest the polytheistic Arabs never created an idol to represent Allah is simply unreasonable and unbelievable. We suggest rather, that Hubal was who the Pagan Arabs addressed their prayers to Allah through. In other words, Allah was Hubal. Muhammad came

along and smashed the idol of Hubal and now the Arabs had no idol of Allah to pray through any more and Hubal was forgotten. There are stories in the Sira of pagan Meccan praying to Allah while standing beside the image of Hubal. (*Muhammad's Mecca*, *W. Montgomery Watt, Chapter 3: Religion In Pre-Islamic Arabia*, *p26-45*) This suggest that Arabs stood beside Hubal and prayed to him, referring to him as Allah.

- 1. The Religion of the Pre-Islamic Arabs The life of the pre-Islamic Arabs, especially in the Hijaz depended on trade and they made a trade of their religion as well. About four hundred years before the birth of Muhammad one Amr bin Lahyo bin Harath bin Amr ul-Qais bin Thalaba bin Azd bin Khalan bin Babalyun bin Saba, a descendant of Qahtan and king of Hijaz, had put an idol called Hubal on the roof of the Kaba. This was one of the chief deities of the Quraish before Islam. It is said that there were altogether three hundred and sixty idols in and about the Kaba and that each tribes had its own deity...The shapes and figures of the idols were also made according to the fancy of the worshippers. Thus Wadd was shaped like a man, Naila like a woman, so was Suwa. Yaghuth was made in the shape of lion, Yauq like a horse and Nasr like a vulture.. Besides Hubal, there was another idol called Shams placed on the roof of the Kaba...The blood of the sacrificial animals brought by the pilgrims was offered to the deities in the Kaba and sometimes even human beings were sacrificed and offered to the god... Besides idol-worship, they also worshipped the stars, the sun and the moon." (Muhammad The Holy Prophet, Hafiz Ghulam Sarwar (Pakistan), p 18-19, Muslim)
- 2. Among the gods worshiped by the Quraysh, the greatest was **Hubal**, this on the expert testimony of **Ibn al-Kalbi**: "The Quraysh had several idols in and around the Ka'ba. The greatest of these was **Hubal**. It was made, as I was told, of red agate, in the form of a man with the right hand broken off It came into the possession of the Quraysh in this condition, and they therefore made for it a hand of gold.... It stood inside the **Ka'ba**, and in front

- of it were seven divinatory arrows. On one of these was written the word "Pure," and on another "associated alien." Whenever the lineage of a new-born was doubted, they would offer a sacrifice to **Hubal** and then shuffle the arrows and throw them. If the arrows showed the word "Pure," the child would be declared legitimate and the tribe would accept him. If, however, the arrows showed "associated alien," the child would be declared illegitimate and would reject him. The third arrow had to do with divination concerning the dead, while the fourth was for divination about marriage. The purpose of the three remaining arrows has not been explained. Whenever they disagreed concerning something, or proposed to embark upon a journey, or undertake some other project, they would proceed to **Hubal** and shuffle the divinatory arrows before it. Whatever result they obtained they would follow and do accordingly. (Ibn al-Kalbi, Book of Idols 28-29 = Ibn al-Kalbi 1952: 23-24) (The Hajj, F. E. Peters, p 3-41, 1994)
- 3. "Before Muhammad appeared, the Kaaba was surrounded by 360 idols, and every Arab house had its god. Arabs also believed in jinn (subtle beings), and some vague divinity with many offspring. Among the major deities of the pre-Islamic era were al-Lat ("the Goddess"), worshiped in the shape of a square stone; al-Uzzah ("the Mighty"), a goddess identified with the morning star and worshiped as a thigh-bone-shaped slab of granite between al Talf and Mecca; Manat, the goddess of destiny, worshiped as a black stone on the road between Mecca and Medina; and the moon god, Hubal, whose worship was connected with the Black Stone of the Kaaba. The stones were said to have fallen from the sun, moon, stars, and planets and to represent cosmic forces. The so-called Black Stone (actually the color of burnt umber) that Muslims revere today is the same one that their forebears had worshiped well before Muhammad and that they believed had come from the moon. (No scientific investigation has ever been performed on the stone. In 930, the stone was removed and shattered by an Iraqi sect of Qarmatians, but the pieces were later returned. The pieces, sealed in pitch and held in place by silver

- wire, measure about 10 inches in diameter altogether and several feet high; they are venerated today in patched-together form.)" (*The Joy of Sects*, *Peter Occhigrosso*, *1996*)
- 4. It is not related that the Black Stone was connected with any special god. In the Ka'ba was the statue of the god Hubal who might be called the god of Mecca and of the Ka'ba. Caetani gives great prominence to the connection between the Ka'ba and Hubal. Besides him, however, al-Lat, al-`Uzza, and al-Manat were worshipped and are mentioned in the Kur'an; Hubal is never mentioned there. What position Allah held beside these is not exactly known. The Islamic tradition has certainly elevated him at the expense of other deities. It may be considered certain that the Black Stone was not the only idol in or at the Ka'ba. The Makam Ibrahim was of course a sacred stone from very early times. Its name has not been handed down. Beside it several idols are mentioned, among them the 360 statues. (First Encyclopedia of Islam, E.J. Brill, 1987, Islam, p. 587-591)
- 5. All the accumulation of heathendom, which had gathered round the Ka'ba, was now thrust aside. 360 idols are said to have stood around the building. When touched with the Prophet's rod they all fell to the ground. The statue of Hubal which `Amr b. Luhaiy is said to have erected over the pit inside the Ka'ba was removed as well as the representations of the prophets. (*First Encyclopedia of Islam, E.J. Brill, 1987, Islam, p. 587-591*)
- 6. Towards the end of the fifth century, perhaps, a strong man by the name of Qusayy succeeded either by force or trickery in gaining control of the temple. He belonged to the tribe of Quraysh, an assemblage of several clans which, through him, supplanted the Khuza'a. There may be some foundation of truth in the story that Qusayy had travelled in Syria, and had brought back from there the cult of the goddesses al- 'Uzza and Manat, and had combined it with that of Hubal, the idol of the Khuzaca. It has been suggested that he may actually have been a Nabataean. (Mohammed, Maxime Rodinson, 1961, translated by Anne Carter, 1971, p 38-49)

- 7. The Ka'ba at Mecca, which may have initially been a shrine of **Hubal** alone, housed several idols; a number of others, too, were gathered in the vicinity. (*Mohammed, Maxime Rodinson*, 1961, translated by Anne Carter, 1971, p 38-49)
- 8. The use of the phrase 'the Lord of this House makes it likely that those Meccans who believed in Allah as a high god-and they may have been numerous-regarded the Ka'ba as his shrine, even though there were images of other gods in it. There are stories in the Sira of pagan Meccan praying to Allah while standing beside the image of Hubal. (Muhammad's Mecca, W. Montgomery Watt, Chapter 3: Religion In Pre-Islamic Arabia, p26-45)
- 9. The temple was evidently at the centre of a cult involving idol worship. The presiding deity was **Hubal**, a large carnelian statue kept inside the temple; 360 other idols were ranged outside. The three goddesses described in the Quran as the 'daughters of **Allah**' Allat, 'Uzza and Manat were also worshipped in the vicinity. (*Islam in the World, Malise Ruthven, 1984, p 28-48*)

What scholars say about the origin of the word "Allah":

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- 2. "The verses of the Qur'an make it clear that the very name Allah existed in the Jahiliyya or pre-Islamic Arabia. Certain pagan tribes believed in a god whom they called 'Allah' and whom they believed to be the creator of heaven and earth and holder of the highest rank in the hierarchy of the gods. It is well known that the Quraish as well as other tribes believed in Allah, whom they designated as the 'Lord of the House' (i.e., of the Ka'ba)...It is therefore clear that the Qur'anic conception of Allah is not entirely new." (A Guide to the Contents of the Qur'an, Faruq Sherif, (Reading, 1995), pgs. 21-22., Muslim)
- 3. According to al-Masudi (Murudj, iv. 47), certain people have regarded the Ka'ba as a temple devoted to the sun, the moon and the five planets. The 360 idols placed round the Ka'ba also point in this direction. It can therefore hardly be denied that traces exist of an astral symbolism. At the same time one can safely say that there can be no question of any general conception on these lines. The cult at the Ka'ba was in the heathen period syncretic as is usual in heathenism. (*First Encyclopedia of Islam, E.J. Brill, 1987, Islam, p. 587-591*)
- 4. The name Allah, as the Qur'an itself is witness, was well known in pre-Islamic Arabia. Indeed, both it and its feminine form, Allat, are found not infrequently among the theophorous names in inscriptions from North Arabia. The common theory is that it is formed from ilah, the common word for a god, and the article al-; thus al-ilah, the god," becomes Allah, "God." This theory, however, is untenable. In fact, the name is one of the words borrowed into the language in pre-Islamic times from Aramaic. (*Islam: Muhammad and His Religion*, *Arthur Jeffery*, 1958, p 85)
- 5. "If a Muslim says, "Your God and our God is the same," either he does not understand who **Allah** and Christ really are, or he intentionally glosses over the deep-rooted differences." (*Who Is Allah In Islam?*, *Abd-Al Masih*, *Light of Life*, 1985, p. 36.)
- 6. Now there dwelt in Mecca a god called Allah. He was the provider, the most powerful of all the local deities, the one to whom every

- Meccan turned in time of need. But, for all his power, Allah was a remote god. At the time of Muhammad, however, he was on the ascendancy. He had replaced the moon god as lord of the Kaaba although still relegated to an inferior position below various tribal idols and three powerful goddesses: al-Manat, goddess of fate, al-Lat, mother of the gods, and al-Uzza, the planet Venus. (*Islam and the Arabs, Rom Landau, 1958 p 11-21*)
- 7. Muhammad no more invented Allah than he did al-Lat, al-Uzza, and Manat. The Cult of the deity termed simply "the god" (al-ilah) was known throughout southern Syria and northern Arabia," and it was obviously of central importance in Mecca, where the building called the Ka'ba was indisputably his house. Indeed, the Muslim profession of faith, there is no ilah except al-ilah," attests to precisely that point: the Quraysh are being called upon to repudiate the very existence of all the other gods save this one. It seems equally certain that Allah was not merely a god in Mecca but was widely regarded as the "high god," the chief and head of the Meccan pantheon, perhaps the result, as has been argued, of a natural progression toward henotheism or of the growing influence of Jews and Christians in the peninsula." The most convincing piece of evidence that the latter was at work is the fact that of all the gods of Mecca, Allah alone was not represented by an idol. (*The Hajj*, F. E. Peters, p 3-41, 1994)
- 8. Allah, we can be sure, was neither an unknown nor an unimportant deity to the Quraysh when Muhammad began preaching his worship at Mecca. What is equally certain is that Allah had what the Quran disdainfully calls "associates": other gods and goddesses who shared both his cult and his shrine. The processional chant of the pagans of the Age of Barbarism was, we are told, "Here I am, O Allah, here I am; You have no partner except such a partner as You have; You possess him and all that is his." The last clause may reflect what we have already seen was an emerging tendency toward henotheism, the recognition of Allah as the "high god" of Mecca. But it was not sufficient for Muslims, who put in its place their own manifestly monotheistic hymn: "Here I am, O Allah,

- here I am; You have no partner; the praise and the grace are Yours, and the empire; You have no partner." (*The Hajj*, F. E. Peters, p 3-41, 1994)
- 9. While Allah is best known as the principal god of Mecca, he was also worshiped in other places throughout Arabia as is shown by the occurrence of the name in Sabean, Minean and particularly Libyanite inscriptions." The Qur'an (xxix, 61) refers to the belief of the pagans in Allah as the creator of the heavens and the earth; and Muhammad's own father bore the name of `Abd Allah or `Abdullah, meaning the slave or worshiper of this god. In Mecca, Allah was worshiped in the Ka'bah and possibly represented by the famous Black Stone in that place. (*The Archeology Of World Religions, Jack Finegan, 1952, p482-485, 492*)

Modern usage of the moon god symbol in Islam and Arab nations.



Flags of Arab nations:

Every mosque has the moon god symbol on top of it



Maqam Ibrahim beside the Kaba has the moon god symbol on top of it

