**These Perilous Times**

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**Halloween-Satan’s High Day**

**(Adapted from Sabbath Sermon Oct. 31, 2015, “A Declaration of War”)**

 It’s no secret that as early as late August many social media sites, department stores, malls, and costume shops start gearing up for Halloween. They begin to decorate certain sections of their store with gory characters i.e., witches, skeletons, devils, ghosts, goblins, and Hollywood celebrities and other Halloween paraphernalia, i.e.; mock cemetery headstones, caskets, giant spider webs and spiders, black cats, and other inflatable animals to make the day as ghastly as possible. Tons of candy will be sold for the trick-or-treaters who may or may not knock on your door! It has become a ***billion-dollar enterprise***. Historically, Halloween came to America from Europe and has become a high day for Satan. In just a few more days many mis-guided people, including many so-called Christians will celebrate this pagan holiday, by allowing their children to masquerade as goblins, ghosts, devils, skeletons etc., going from house to house begging for candy!

 Without going into much more detail Halloween’s origins date back to the ancient Celtic festival of *Sambain* (pronounced sow-in). The Celts who lived 2000 years ago, mostly in the area that is now Ireland, the United Kingdom, and northern France, celebrated their new year on November 1. This day marked the end of summer and the harvest and the beginning of the dark, cold winter, a time of year that was often associated with human death. Celts believed that on the night before the new year, the *boundary between the worlds of the living and dead blurred.* On the night of October 31, they celebrated *Sambain,* when it was believed that the *ghosts of the dead returned to earth*.

**What does this mean for us?**

**Obvious Signs Do Tell The Season**

 Praise God that Holy men of God wrote down His Word as they were moved by the Holy Spirit (II Pet 1:19-21). Jesus came to earth as it was written, to save fallen humanity! We are told in Ecclesiastes chapter 9, verse 5 (NKJV) “For the living know that they will die; but the dead know nothing…” in verse 10 (TEV) of chapter 9 it states: “Work hard at whatever you do, because there will be no action, no thought, no knowledge, no wisdom in the world of the dead-and that is where you are going” The Bible clearly states that the righteous dead will not live again and receive immortality until Jesus’ Second Coming, at the sound of His voice and the trumpet blasts! (John 11:11-13, 20-25; I Corinthians 15:51-56; I Thessalonians 4:13-18, Also, see SDA Believe, Chapter 26 “Death and Resurrection”).

**Satan and his angels love playing dress-up**

For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.”

II Cor. 11:13, 14 NKJV

**“**Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.” Matt. 7:15 NKJV (See also Gen. 3:1-6)

**Counsel from God’s inspired messenger**

**“**The saints must get a thorough understanding of present truth, which they will be obliged to maintain from the Scriptures. They must understand the state of the dead, for spirits of devils will yet appear to them, professing to be beloved friends and relatives, who will declare to them the Sabbath has been changed, also other unscriptural doctrines.” [[1]](#footnote-1)

**Let’s all dress up with the whole armor of God so we can withstand the**

 **wiles (attacks) of the devil! Ephesians 6:11**

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1. E.G. White. Early Writings, 1854, p. 87. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)