

# IT MIGHT BE TODAY

## ***"Doctrines of Demons"***

Each week we like to focus for a few minutes on Bible prophecy. For one thing, as Christians we are encouraged to understand the times in which we live, and act accordingly.

The apostle Paul encourages us that, "Another reason for right living is that you know how late it is; time is running out. Wake up, for the coming of our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed" (Romans 13:11 NLT).

The subject of prophecy takes-up about 30% of the Bible. Scholars estimate there are somewhere around 500 unfulfilled last-days prophecies. Since we know they will be fulfilled, we should be able to look around us, in the news, and see trends in the direction the prophecies predict.

One of the Last Days prophecies is found in First Timothy 4:1, where we read,

1Ti 4:1 Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,

Along those lines, I find it fascinating that nonbelievers are turning to ancient, pagan religions in growing numbers.

One article I read was titled, *Return of the Ancient Gods: The Resurgence of Paganism*.

## Excerpts:

Old traditions pre-dating the appearance of the Jewish carpenter turned Messiah are beginning to re-emerge. Since the 19th century, there has been an increasing interest in ancient pre-Christian European religions such as ancient Greek, Germanic, Celtic, and Slavic paganism. This stems from an increasing interest in spirituality in Europe, specifically a spirituality in touch with European heritage and ethnic roots in a similar manner to indigenous religions of Native Americans and Aboriginal Australians.

In Iceland, the Norse gods are making a particularly strong comeback and Nordic paganism is now Iceland's fastest growing religion. In fact, they will soon complete the first temple to Thor and Odin to exist in Iceland in over 1000 years.

Denmark too completed a pagan temple dedicated to Odin for the first time in a millennium in 2016.

In Greece, a couple of organizations have emerged promoting a revival of the ancient Greek religion under the name "Hellenism." The Hellenists also call themselves Dodekatheists or believers in twelve gods, namely the Olympian deities. Religious practices in Hellenism include public worship at temples or in outdoor open spaces of the major Greek gods, Zeus, Apollo, Artemis, Hera, Athena, Ares, Aphrodite, Demeter, Hephaestus, Hermes, Hestia, Dionysus, Hades and Poseidon among others.

<https://www.ancient-origins.net/ancient-places-europe/return-ancient-gods-resurgence-paganism-008033>

Another article stated, "During the last few decades, the American Pagan community has multiplied dramatically. Pagan journalist

Jason Pitzl-Waters estimated in 2008 that over one million Americans identify as Pagan.”

Is this the doctrine of demons? Consider that many of these pagan deities were animated by demons. So, yeah - it is.

I should mention what is called the Ancient Astronaut Theory. It is the idea that intelligent extraterrestrial beings visited Earth and made contact with humans in antiquity and prehistoric times. Proponents suggest that this contact influenced the development of modern cultures, technologies, and religions. A common position is that deities from most, if not all, religions are extraterrestrial in origin, and that advanced technologies brought to Earth by ancient astronauts were interpreted as evidence of divine status by early humans.

Ancient Astronaut Theory is gaining in popularity.

The Bible predicted an increase in people following such doctrines; that's what we see.

Jesus promised He'd return to rapture His church - which entails the resurrection of the dead in Christ of the Church Age, then the translation from earth to Heaven of all living believers.

It is presented in the Bible as an imminent event.

Are you ready for the rapture? If not, get ready, stay ready, and keep looking up. *Ready or not, Jesus is coming!*