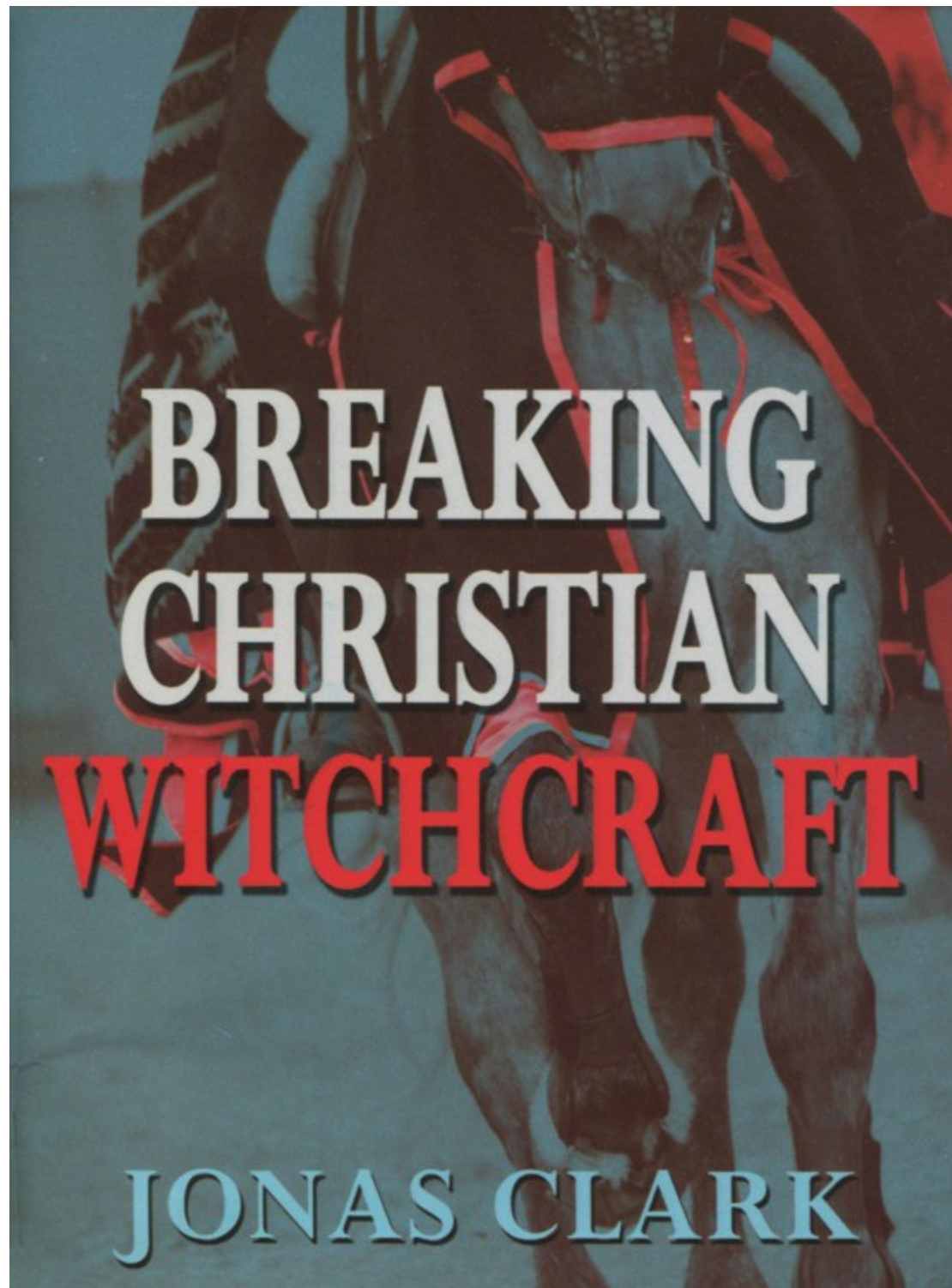


The background of the cover features a person wearing a dark, hooded robe. Red ribbons are tied in a crisscross pattern around their torso. The person is standing in a field with a blurred background. The overall color palette is dark with red and light blue accents.

BREAKING CHRISTIAN WITCHCRAFT

JONAS CLARK



BREAKING

CHRISTIAN

WITCHCRAFT

by Jonas Clark

Unless otherwise noted, Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version.

BREAKING CHRISTIAN WITCHCRAFT

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BREAKING

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CHRISTIAN

WITCHCRAFT

e all have some sense of what Witchcraft is. Some equate witchcraft with Halloween, Jack-o'-lanterns, caped women atop broom sticks, Wicca, or even Dorothy's Wizard of OZ archenemy. The bestselling books and movies chronicling the adventures of Harry Potter continue to sanction witchcraft in our

society through casting spells and mixing
potions, while presenting a great saga
between good and evil witches.

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And, of course, who could forget the
ever so popular video game Dungeons and
Dragons, the fantasy role playing game
where players engage dark forces with their
magical powers.

Even though witchcraft is often
portrayed as innocent, it is strictly forbidden
in the Word of God (Deuteronomy 18:9-14,
Leviticus 19:31, 20:6; Isaiah 8:19).

Regardless of what some think,
witchcraft opens the door to demonic forces.

Package them in the latest fashion or
present them on Hollywood's silver screen,
but there are no such things as good
demonic powers. Jesus said,

The thief cometh not, but for to steal,

and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. (John 10:10).

It would be best for all to take heed to

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His Word.

Witchcraft is a bona fide demonic power released through various activities such as words, spells, amulets, charms, occult powers, chants, magic, drugs, potions, or directive prophecies. It's far more than meeting in a forest to worship Mother Earth and hugging pine trees. Witchcraft is a power that influences people, gives a place to demon activity, battles against the minds of men, challenges the Church of Jesus Christ, buffets the maturity of believers, hinders church growth, comes against families, marriages and relationships, and frustrates the advancement of the Gospel of

Jesus Christ.

Witchcraft, however, is more common
that one would think. I want to break away
from the traditional look at witchcraft and
explore some other manifestations of this

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evil force. I know a true born again believer
would never cast a spell or drink a potion,
but could there be other forms of witchcraft
mentioned in the Bible? Can a Christian
operate in witchcraft? Let's take a look at
witchcraft operations from a different
perspective, through the old fallen nature—
the flesh.

Bewitched, Spirit and Flesh

Christian witchcraft can be released
through the rebellious and the stubborn,
both actions described in the Word of God
as workings of the flesh. Scripture says,
O foolish Galatians, who hath

bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you? This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? Are ye so

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foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh? (Galatians 3:1-3).

Notice the words bewitched, spirit and flesh. The word bewitched, Greek baskaino, means to be charmed, seduced, or to be placed under a spell. In the Old English language bewitched comes from the word biwiccian, meaning the working or the result of Wicca sorcery. The writer of Galatians ties witchcraft to the manifesting or workings of the flesh. The meaning of flesh in this scripture is the Greek word

sarx, meaning the carnal mind, or better described as the earthly nature of man apart from the Spirit of God. A person, therefore, who is “governed” by the actions of the flesh (sarx), can release witchcraft upon himself or others. No, he or she doesn’t become a Wiccan recruit, but, nevertheless, like the Galatians, enters into a foolish and illusory

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area of life.

The works of the flesh, temper tantrums, bad attitudes, negative body language, stubbornness, and negative words and confessions are all workings of witchcraft. I told you this would be a different viewpoint on witchcraft.

That Old Sarx

Have you ever been around a person whose negative body language, tone of voice, stubbornness, or contentious attitude

made you feel like you were walking on eggshells around them? Or his or her actions made you feel like he or she would lash out at you at any moment? Did you get a sick feeling in the pit of your stomach? Could that feeling be the result of a subtle form of witchcraft emanating from the flesh (sarx)!

Even though nothing much was said, did
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you still feel some sort of force emanating from the person? Did you understand the nonverbal message? That subtle force from the flesh (sarx) is a form of witchcraft. The writer who corrected the foolish Galatians, the Apostle Paul didn't stop there to make this plain to us. He said,

Now the works of the flesh (sarx) are manifest, which are these; adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness (unbridled lust), idolatry, witchcraft, hatred,

variance (contention), emulations (jealous rivalry), wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings (evil carousing), and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

(Galatians 5:19-21).

Here Paul directly connects the works of the flesh with witchcraft, concluding that those who do (intentionally practice) such

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things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

The works of the flesh, temper tantrums, bad attitudes, negative body language, stubbornness, and negative words and confessions are all workings of witchcraft. I told you this would be a different viewpoint on witchcraft. Now you can see why there is so much written in the

Word of God about the tongue (Proverbs 18:21, James 3:6). We'll discuss this more later.

Religious Witchcraft

When religious activity is not spiritually motivated but carnally motivated it releases a form of witchcraft, too. Motivation is everything because its source is the heart of man.

Religion also releases witchcraft when it

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intentionally avoids the ministry of the

Holy Spirit. Scripture says,

Having a form of godliness but denying the power (dunamis) thereof: from such turn away. (2 Timothy 3:5).

This is a powerful instruction to

Timothy from the Apostle Paul. The word

form, Greek morphosis, means to have

merely a shape or to look like the real thing.

This religious counterfeit can be identified because it looks like the Church, yet is carnally motivated and disregards the necessity of the dunamis power of God. That dunamis power is the ministry of the Holy Spirit Himself. Paul's final instruction is to turn away from such.

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Religion releases witchcraft when it is governed by the flesh. The elements of religion are a lack of spiritual sensitivity, legalism and debate, hypocrisy, self righteousness, and a form of godliness that denies the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

There are many religious people in the world who say they are born again yet attack the ministry of the Holy Spirit. They challenge the baptism of the Holy Spirit, miracles, and healing today, speaking in

other tongues, prophecy, deliverance, fervent prayer, the nine gifts of the Holy Spirit, and much more. Rather than have Holy Spirit administered lives, ministries, and churches, they hold fast to man-made programs, vain traditions, and secular social activities.

Religion releases witchcraft when it is

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governed by the flesh (sarx) rather than the Spirit of God. It was religious people, supposedly born again, that persistently stirred up trouble for the Apostle Paul. They couldn't accept his teaching that it was possible to be born again without circumcision (Acts 15).

The elements of religion are a lack of spiritual sensitivity, legalism and debate, hypocrisy, self righteousness, and a form of godliness that denies the ministry of the

Holy Spirit. Just get around a person who has that nasty, contentious religious spirit and you will experience the working of witchcraft from religion. If you want to know more about discerning religious spirits check out my book 30 Pieces of Silver.

Witchcraft in the Church

Now lets examine how witchcraft works

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in other areas of life and ministry.

Witchcraft often deceives people that have a tendency to judge what God is doing by comparing the number of people that attend one church with the number of people that attend another church. Just because a church has a large membership does not necessarily mean that the Spirit of God is blessing it. Some ministers think that the size of their church represents God's approval on their ministry—not true. That

church might just have great programs, or, perhaps, requires no commitment from the people, or the pastor or church deacon board might just be great controllers.

You can avoid attending a church that is deceived by witchcraft if you understand how to recognize one. You will find that their leaders are controlling, prideful and will quench the Spirit.

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When a leader continues to quench the moving of the Holy Spirit, that is a signal of trouble. Quenching the Holy Spirit is a direct violation of Scripture.

Do not put out the Spirit's fire; do not treat prophecies with contempt. Test everything. Hold on to the good. Avoid every kind of evil. (1 Thessalonians 5:19-22 NIV).

Leaders that are afraid to allow the Holy

Spirit to flow freely in the church are
controlling churches around the world.

Then there are other leaders that think
they, and no one else, can hear from God.

These are spiritual controllers who are full
of pride. The reality is, as soon as you think
that you are the only one who can hear
from God, or “have the truth,” you are in
trouble and great danger.

I feel for the innocent believer

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submitted under a controlling leader that
will not let God be God in His own church.
Many times these same controlling leaders
say, “We must maintain order in this church
by using any means.” I believe in order, too,
but not in control of the Holy Spirit by
carnal and insensitive leaders. I have seen
entire churches fast and pray for a move of
God’s Spirit and, when He shows up, some

religious spirit gets angry about it. It's time for this type of behavior to stop. God will not dwell long in a controlling religious church. Control is a form of witchcraft. The Apostle Paul wrote,

Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. (2 Corinthians 3:17 KJV).

Fear of Man

Fear of man and public opinion is a sure

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sign of being infected by witchcraft, especially in Christian circles.

Witchcraft likes to be in control of every situation. If you will not worship God in a particular way based on who is at church with you, then look out, you are infected by the fear of man. Scripture teaches us that being a man-pleaser disqualifies one as a servant of Christ. We

must reverence God, not man.

For do I now persuade men, or God? Or
do I seek to please men? For if I yet pleased
men, I should not be the servant of Christ.
(Galatians 1:10).

The fear of man affects many people.

Some pastors will not preach a particular
way, sing a certain song, or even have an
altar call to lay hands on people and pray if
they know that some district official (or
someone who could advance their political

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agenda) may be visiting. Peter and John had
the right attitude when they answered the
charges of religious officials.

But Peter and John answered and said
unto them, whether it be right in the sight
of God to hearken unto you more than unto
God, judge ye. (Acts 4:19).

Many times controlling preachers will

get angry if their sheep visit other churches,
even when they have no service that night.

It's quite all right for a pastor to be
protective, but not controlling.

I don't want anyone to think that I am
picking on pastors—I am not. Christian
witchcraft is not limited to pastoral
leadership by any means. Pastors, for the
most part, are God-loving men who have
laid down their lives for their sheep and
deserve our greatest respect.

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Hidden Agendas

Hidden agendas are indications of
witchcraft at work. Congregations are
sometimes full of people with hidden
agendas. Their purpose is to advance up
some sort of imaginary religious ladder.
Each rung seems to give them a sense of
value. Holding to a hidden agenda is the

root to division within a local church.

Whenever someone tries to manipulate another for the purpose of advancing a selfish agenda that is witchcraft. Those who operate in witchcraft like to hang around a churches' existing leadership waiting for their "gifting" to be recognized. They look for the opportunity to seize upon any open positions of authority. (Carrying out a hidden agenda is the operation of rebellion.)

Scripture directly connects witchcraft with

21

rebellion.

For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft,
and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry.

Because thou hast rejected the word of the
LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being
king. (1 Samuel 15:23).

Those operating in Christian witchcraft
gain their strength and sense of security by

controlling others. Without you, they feel helpless and, many times, will go into deep depression. For the most part, those under the influence of witchcraft will not reach the leadership of an organization because the leadership will quickly lose respect for them as they recognize their self-centeredness.

The religious spirit and the witchcraft spirit are close cousins. A religious spirit will not let you advance or grow in the Lord. It will keep you bound in religious tradition

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and works, not freedom in the Spirit.

An Unbridled Tongue

The Word of God calls the unbridled tongue an evil set on fire of hell and the person who has it is deceived.

If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridled not his tongue, but

deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion
is vain. (James 1:26).

If you think you're not deceived, yet
you are speaking hurtful things about
yourself and others, then you're in
deception already. The Word warns how
dangerous an unbridled tongue can be.
Even so the tongue is a little member,
and boasteth great things. Behold, how great
a matter a little fire kindleth! And the
tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the
tongue among our members, that it defileth

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the whole body, and setteth on fire the
course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.
(James 3:5-6).

As you wrongly speak negative things
over people, your words affects them
spiritually. You must realize that you, as a
believer have spiritual authority and that

your words have power to release life or death. The Scripture says,

Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof. (Proverbs 18:21).

Your words should bring blessings on others, not curses. Examine yourself and take hold of your tongue. If you are a parent, decide today to only speak blessings on your children, even when you are correcting them. If you are a teacher, determine to encourage your students and speak to their potential, especially when

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they fail. If you are married, bless your spouse with words of life everyday. It will fill your marriage with joy and blessings. No matter where you walk as a Christian, don't allow witchcraft to use you to hurt others or hinder the work of God.

Christian witchcraft emanates from our flesh (sarx), it is an enemy far greater than any Dorothy faced as she traveled the yellow brick road in search of the Wizard of Oz. The good news is that we can, through our love for Jesus Christ, crucify that old carnal nature. Scripture instructs us to take off our old corrupted manner of living and put on the new man, which is created in righteousness and true holiness in God's likeness (Ephesians 4:22-24). So the next time you experience the powers of witchcraft it may not be coming from some occult mystic, but from the Wizard of Sarx

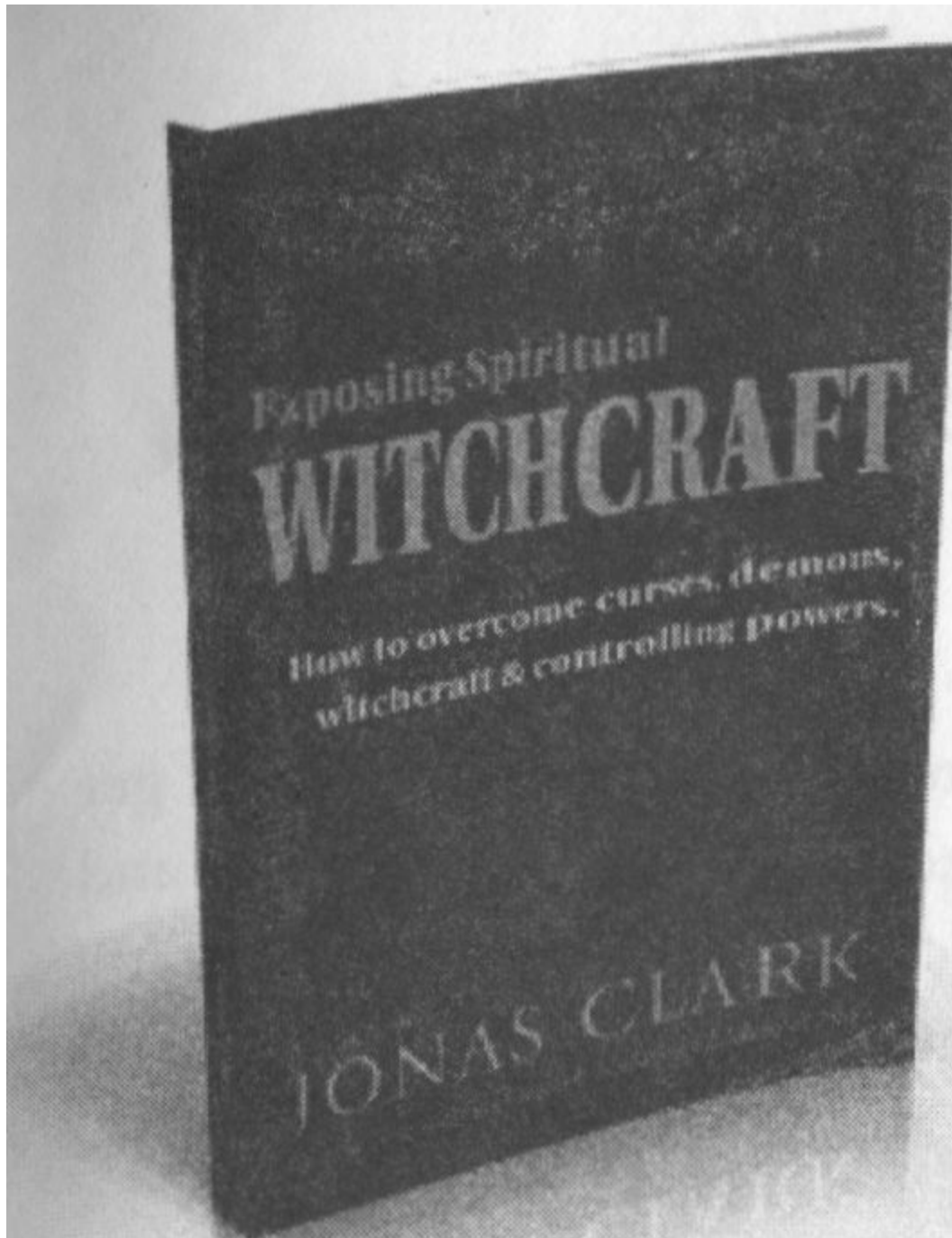
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—the flesh.

Let's Pray...

Lord, in the Name of Jesus, I first of all repent for allowing witchcraft: spirits to operate through me. Lord Jesus, please

forgive me for hurting others through my words and attitude. Today, I choose to walk in the love of Christ and I make a decision to break Christian witchcraft of the carnal man. Father, in Jesus' name, I take authority over the spirit of witchcraft and I crucify my flesh. I declare right now that it is no longer I that lives but Christ who lives in me and I live by the faith of the Son of God who died and was raised for me. Thank you Lord for giving me this discernment and to walk in the liberty and fullness of Christ, in Jesus' Name, Amen.



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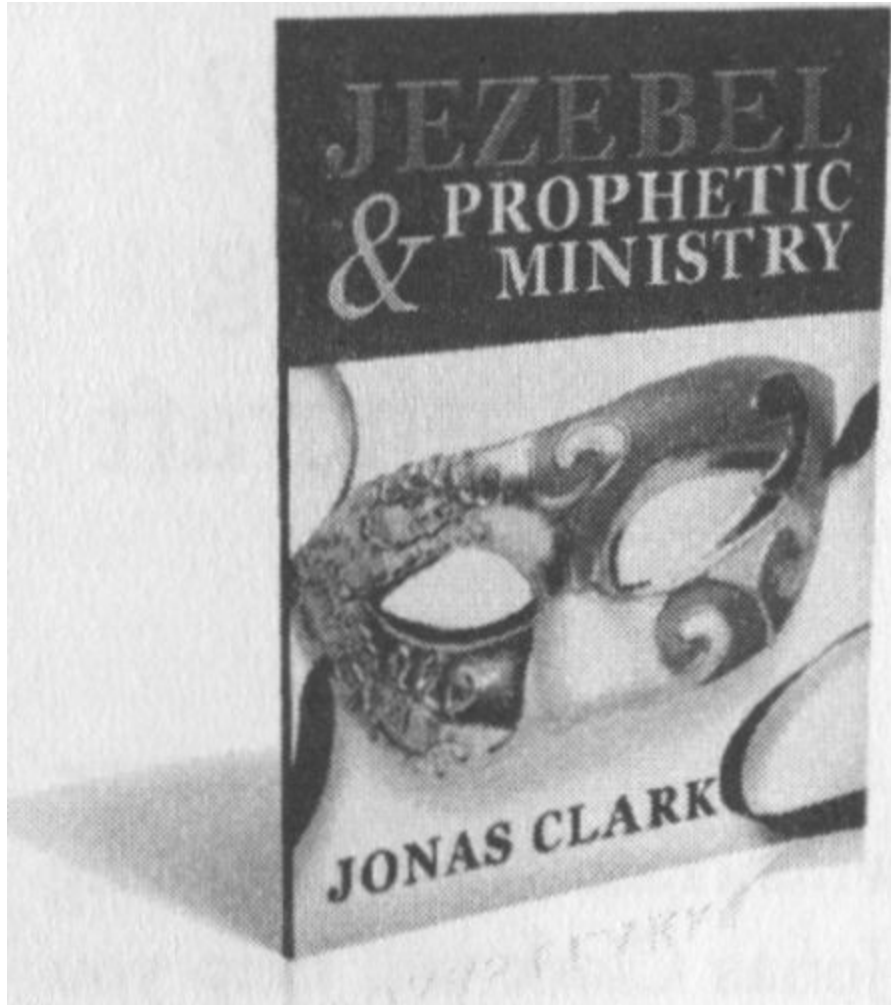
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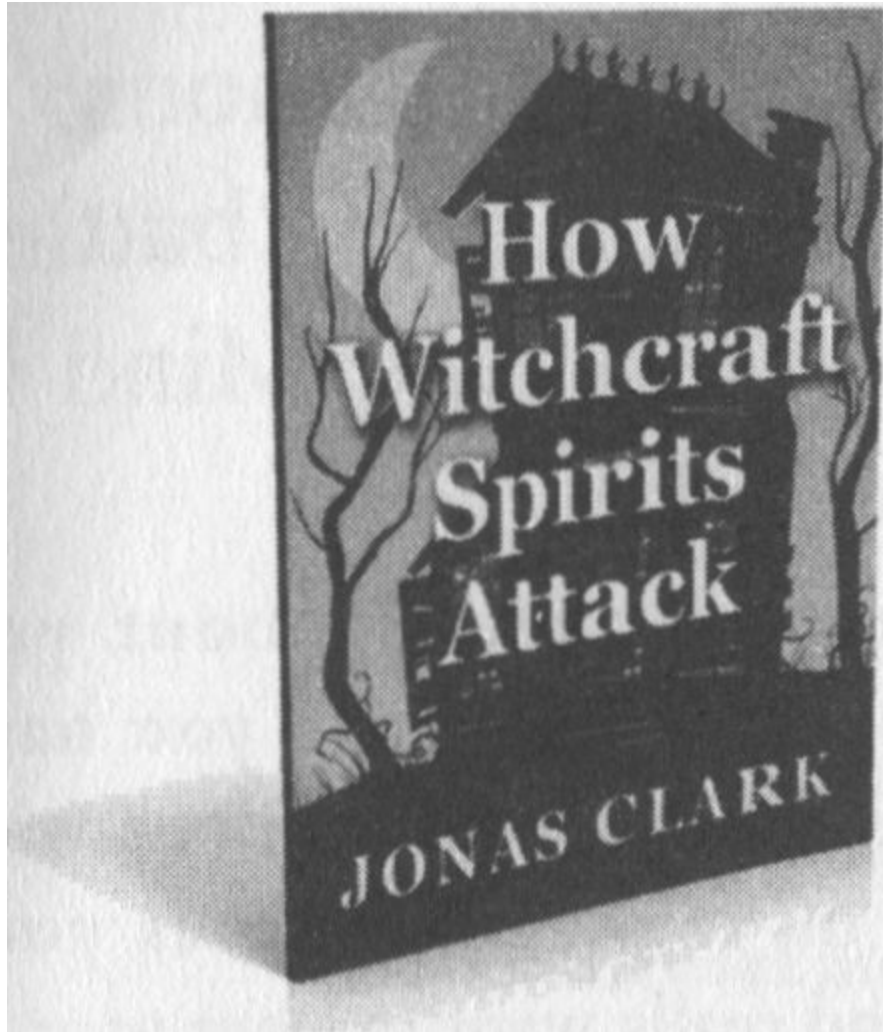
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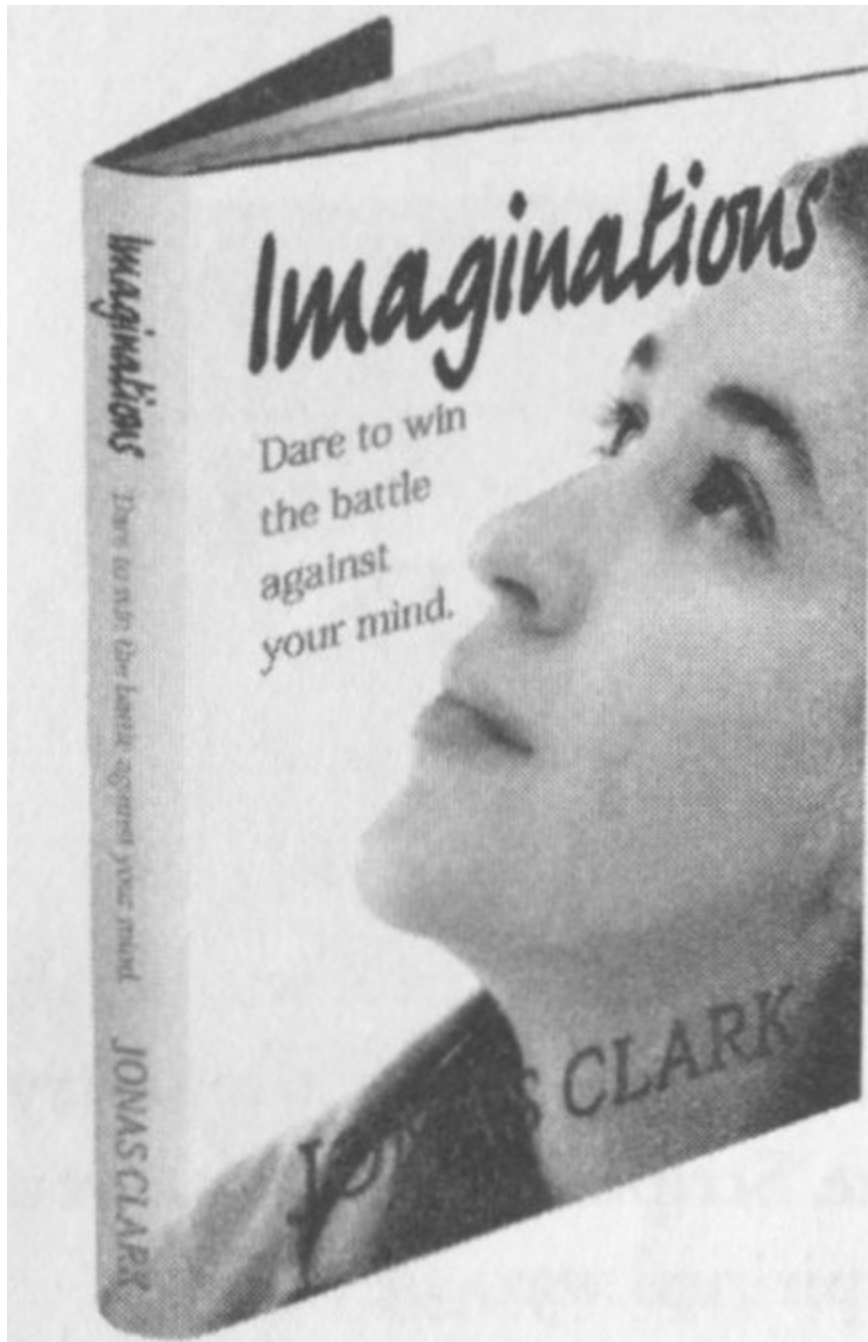
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About Jonas Clark



The anointing on Jonas Clark's life is both strong and bold. His great passion is to take the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the world. Fortitude and God's grace have taken the ministry international, carrying a message of divine impact and reform for this generation into over 25 nations. As a reformer, his desire is to see the nations of the world impacted by the power of God. Jonas has written more than a dozen books with an apostolic and prophetic voice that are catching the attention of the Church.

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