

Halloween History

Introduction

Many Christians celebrate holidays such as Halloween without thinking about their origins or true meaning. It is impossible to separate Halloween from the Druids because they originated the "holiday."

For several hundred years before Christ, the Celts inhabited what is now France, Germany, England, Scotland, and Ireland. Celtic Priests were called Druids.

These people were eventually conquered by the Romans. Information about the Celts and Druids come from Caesar and the Roman historians, Greek writings from about 200 B.C. and very early records found in Ireland.

Barbaric Human Sacrifices

Greek and Roman writings about the Druids dwell heavily on their frequent barbaric human sacrifices. The ancient Irish texts say little about human sacrifices, but detail the Druid's use of magic to raise storms, lay curses on places, kill by the use of spells, and create magical obstacles.

Davies, however, a 16th century writer who traces his family lineage back to Druid priests who fought against Caesar, clearly describes the human sacrifices of his ancestors and the secret sacrifices still performed regularly by the Druids of his time.

By A.D. 47, Rome finally defeated the Druids in England and outlawed human sacrifices. The few remaining Druids went underground.

Today, a growing group of people claiming to be of direct Druid descent still practice their religion, including human sacrifice. Those in England still perform ceremonies at Stonehenge.

November 1st was the Celtic New Year. October 31st was celebrated by the Druids with many human sacrifices and festivals

honoring their sun god and Samhain, the lord of the dead.

They believed that the sinful souls of those who died during the year were in a place of torment, and would be released only if Samhain was pleased with their sacrifices.

Monks Fascinated by Druids

Irish records tell of the fascination the Catholic monks had with the powerful Druids, and Druids soon became important members of their monasteries.

Pope Gregory the Great decided to incorporate the Druids holiday into the church. He made the proclamation, "they are no longer to sacrifice beasts to the devil, but they may kill them for food to the praise of God, and give thanks to the giver of all gifts for His bounty." Pope Gregory III moved the church festival of October 31st to November 1st and called it "All Saint's Day." Pope Gregory IV decreed that the day was to be a universal church observance. The term "Halloween" comes from "All Hallows Eve."

U.S. Founders Forbid Halloween

The founding fathers of America refused to permit the holiday to be observed because they knew it was a pagan holiday. Halloween was not widely celebrated in the U.S. until about 1900.

In the 1840's there was a terrible potato famine in Ireland which sent thousands of Catholic Irish to America. They brought Halloween with them.

The modern custom of going from door to door asking for food and candy goes back to the time of the Druids.

They believed that sinful lost souls were released upon the earth by Samhain for one night, October 31st while they awaited their

judgment. They were thought to throng about the houses of the living and were greeted with banquet-laden tables.

Pumpkins to Scare Demons

People greatly feared these spirits and thought that the spirits would harm and even kill them if sacrifices they gave did not appease Samhain.

Jack-o-lanterns Used to Scare

Away Evil Spirits

They carved demonic faces into pumpkins or large turnips, placing a candle in them to keep the evil spirits away from the homes.

The tradition of bobbing for apples and giving out nuts came from the Roman addition to the Druidic New Year's Eve.

The Romans worshiped Pomona, who was the goddess of the harvest. They combined their harvest festival to Pomona with Halloween.

Very little archaeological evidence of the Druids has been found, but there is excellent agreement between the Roman and Irish documents.

Both clearly state that the knowledge of the Druids was never committed to writing but passed from generation to generation by oral

teaching. This was to protect their secrets. In his writings, Davies indicates that he came under much persecution by his family for putting in writing his information about Druids.

The same is true today. Nothing is put into writing. The Druids continue on secretly with much the same traditions. The widespread problem of harmful substances such as razor blades, drugs, needles, poisons, etc. being placed in Halloween treats here in America, is no accident.

Testimonies of several ex-Satanists show that these children killed and injured by "treats" are sacrifices to Satan (or Samhain). Satanists throughout the world continue to perform human sacrifices on Halloween.

Is this something you want YOUR child to participate in?

References:

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2. The Famous Druids, A. L. Owen, (Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1962)
3. The American Book of Days, George William Douglas, (H. W. Wilson Co., 1948).
4. The Two Babylons, Rev. Alexander Hislop, (Loiseaux Brothers, 1916).