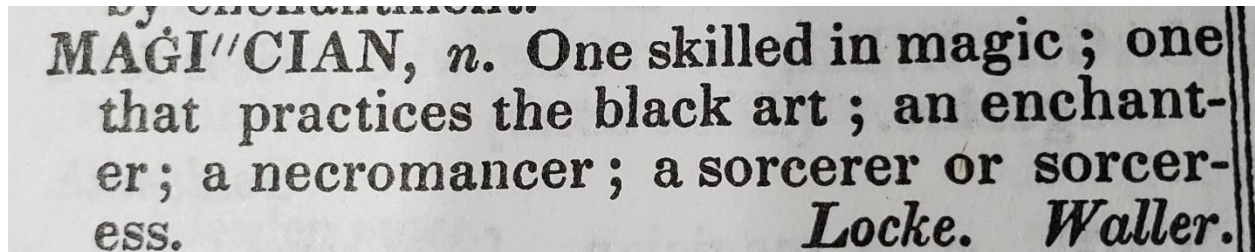


PHARMAKEIA Pt.4: MAGICIANS, NECROMANCERS, EVOKING, CONJURING, WITCHCRAFT

Let's look at the definition of a magician:



Magician – One skilled in magic; one that practices the black art; an enchanter; a necromancer; a sorcerer or sorceress. Locke. Waller.

They failed to just plainly state that a magician is a witch. We are not talking about those magicians who use slight of hand and do explainable tricks but rather those who serve satan and are aligned with evil spirits. Notice a magician can also be called a necromancer.

Early and High Middle Age [edit]

NECROMANCY

Further information: [Medieval European magic](#)

Many medieval writers believed that actual [resurrection](#) required the assistance of God. They saw the practice of necromancy as conjuring demons who took the appearance of spirits. The practice became known explicitly as [maleficium](#), and the Catholic Church condemned it.^[23] Though the practitioners of necromancy were linked by many common threads, there is no evidence that these necromancers ever organized as a group. One noted commonality among practitioners of necromancy was usually the utilization of certain toxic and [hallucinogenic](#) plants from the [nightshade family](#) such as [black henbane](#), [jimson weed](#), [belladonna](#) or [mandrake](#), usually in magic salves or potions.^[24]

Necromancy - Early and High Middle Age

Many medieval writers believed that actual resurrection required the assistance of God. They saw the practice of necromancy as conjuring demons who took the appearance of spirits. The practice became known explicitly as maleficium, and the Catholic Church condemned it. Though the practitioners of necromancy were linked by many common threads, there is no evidence that these necromancers ever organized as a group. One noted commonality among practitioners of necromancy was usually the utilization of certain toxic and hallucinogenic plants from the nightshade family such as black henbane, jimson weed, belladonna or mandrake, usually in magic salves or potions.

So here we see once again that magicians, sorcerers, witches, enchanters and necromancers use drugs, potions and poisons all the while serving the fallen angels which is idolatry. This is another perfect example of pharmakeia.

5. Oracle Consultation: Temples and oracles were sometimes used as places to consult the spirits or gods for guidance. Priests or priestesses would enter altered states of consciousness to relay messages from the spirit world.

The following information is also linked to necromancy. Oracle Consultation: Temples and oracles were sometimes used as places to consult the spirits or gods for guidance. Priests or priestesses would enter altered states of consciousness to relay messages from the spirit world.



The oracle at Delphi, was a witch for the temple of Apollo – the sun god. That is satan as mentioned as king of the bottomless pit in Revelation. Some believe she sat on her tripod seat above hallucinogenic gases so as to connect with Apollo, which is satan, a fallen angel and speak prophetic words from him to the petitioner.

1 Peter 5:8-9 - Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

Be sober has a double meaning here. We are to be alert, and that is to have our faculties – our wits about us. For the most part when we have read this verse our minds automatically went to wine or alcohol. God always warned His children not

to do what the pagan nations all around them did. Using alcohol, drugs, hallucinogens in worship, witchcraft and interaction with the fallen angels was something the nations practiced.

We are not to be drunk on alcohol or on drugs which alter your state of mind and interfere with you being alert. The devil dominates those who do not adhere to Scripture. I have seen lives devoured by alcohol and drugs and satan was behind it all.

Since ancient times satan's priests, priestesses or oracles have used different variations of drugs, poisons and hallucinogens to do their witchcraft. They served satan fully and completely in idolatry against God. People went to temples of false gods to consult the spirits or gods for guidance. Those are evil spirits better known as fallen angels.

Consultations were normally restricted to the seventh day of the Delphic month, Apollo's birthday, and were at first banned during the three winter months when Apollo was believed to be visiting the Hyperboreans in the north, though [Dionysus](#) later took Apollo's place at Delphi during that time. According to the usual procedure, sponsors were necessary, as was the provision of a *pelanos* (ritual cake) and a sacrificial beast that conformed to rigid physical standards. The Pythia and her consultants first bathed in the Castalian spring; afterward, she drank from the sacred spring Cassotis and then entered the temple. There she apparently descended into a basement cell, mounted a sacred tripod, and chewed leaves of the laurel, Apollo's sacred tree. While in her altered state, the Pythia would speak, intelligibly or otherwise. Her words, however, were not directly recorded by the inquirer; instead they were interpreted and written down by the priests in what was often highly [ambiguous](#) verse.

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The people seeking to the false god Apollo, brought their offerings. The oracle chewed laurel leaves to induce the altered state and receive the message to give to the seeker. Pharmakeia plain and simple.



The laurel leaves are a symbol of the sun god Apollo, called apollyon in our Bibles. **(Rev.9:11)** This is the seal of the FBI and you see two laurel leaf branches on either side of the shield. You will see them in government, the Olympics and in military use honoring the god of this world. The top levels of government and the military know full well who they serve. They are the beast system. The symbols, colors, numbers etc. are part of a system of worship and recognition of who they serve.



You will also notice the laurel leaves in the logos of major corporations, a way to say who they serve without speaking. Here is an old Cadillac logo. The laurel leaves are on the borders here.

2 Kings 21:6 – Manasseh *was* twelve years old when he began to reign, and reigned fifty and five years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name *was* Hephzibah. And he did *that which was* evil in the sight of the LORD, after the abominations of the heathen, whom the LORD cast out before the children of Israel. For he built up again the high places which Hezekiah his father had destroyed; and he reared up altars for Baal, and made a grove, as did Ahab king of Israel; and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served them. And he built altars in the house of the LORD, of which the LORD said, In Jerusalem will I put My name. And he built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courts of the house of the LORD. And he made his son pass through the fire, and observed times, and used enchantments, and dealt with familiar spirits and wizards: he wrought much wickedness in the sight of the LORD, to provoke *Him* to anger. And he set a graven image of the grove that he had made in the house, of which the LORD said to David, and to Solomon his son, In this house, and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all tribes of Israel, will I put my name for ever: Neither will I make

the feet of Israel move any more out of the land which I gave their fathers; only if they will observe to do according to all that I have commanded them, and according to all the law that my servant Moses commanded them. But they hearkened not: and Manasseh seduced them to do more evil than did the nations whom the LORD destroyed before the children of Israel. And the LORD spake by his servants the prophets, saying, Because Manasseh king of Judah hath done these abominations, *and* hath done wickedly above all that the Amorites did, which *were* before him, and hath made Judah also to sin with his idols: Therefore thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Behold, I *am* bringing *such* evil upon Jerusalem and Judah, that whosoever heareth of it, both his ears shall tingle. And I will stretch over Jerusalem the line of Samaria, and the plummet of the house of Ahab: and I will wipe Jerusalem as *a man* wipeth a dish, wiping *it*, and turning *it* upside down.

Manasseh practiced everything wicked he could find. He sought out pagan practices from the heathen nations and brought their idolatry prominently into Jerusalem and right into God's temple. He rebuilt the high places which were pagan shrines which his father Hezekiah had destroyed. Where KJ says he made a grove, that was an Asherah pole, another name for Asherah is Easter. He bowed down to all the powers of the heavens and worshipped them. We could think he worshipped the sun, moon and stars but what he really bowed down to and worshipped were the fallen angels. They came from the heavenly realm, the planets are named for them. He built pagan altars right in God's temple. Jerusalem is where God had said He would put His name forever and look at all the evil Manasseh did there. He practiced sorcery and divination, sought omens, and consulted mediums and psychics. He put a carved image of Easter or Ishtar or Astarte or Asherah right inside God's temple. He defiled God's temple on purpose. God told them if they would only obey His commands He would not drive them from their land again but they did not listen and instead followed Manasseh and participated in all the sinful and abominable things he introduced into the land. Because of Manasseh's great sin against God and all the people who followed him, God said He would pour out His judgement against Jerusalem and Judah. He said He was going to use the same standard He used in judgement against Samaria and against Ahab and his family, He was going to wipe away the people of Jerusalem just like washing a dish.

Kings consulted with or sought to necromancers, diviners, sorcerers etc. Wicked kings employed them as part of their staff, on the king's payroll as did Manassah.

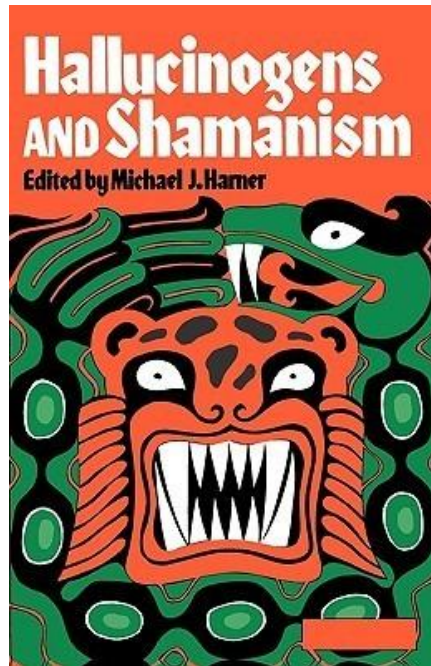
"Sorcery," intriguingly, is *pharmakeia* in Greek, from which we derive our words "pharmacy" and "pharmaceutical." Diviners, enchanters, witches, and sorcerers employed drugs and other potions to put them or their clients "in the spirit" so their "magic" would work. The drugs, then, came to stand for sorcery of all kinds. For the same reason, drug use is part of the celebration among the more serious [Halloween](#) devotees today.

The Bible's teaching on this is consistent. Spiritism, [the occult](#), is a form of idolatry, a kind of spiritual prostitution. Its end is separation from God and eventual destruction.

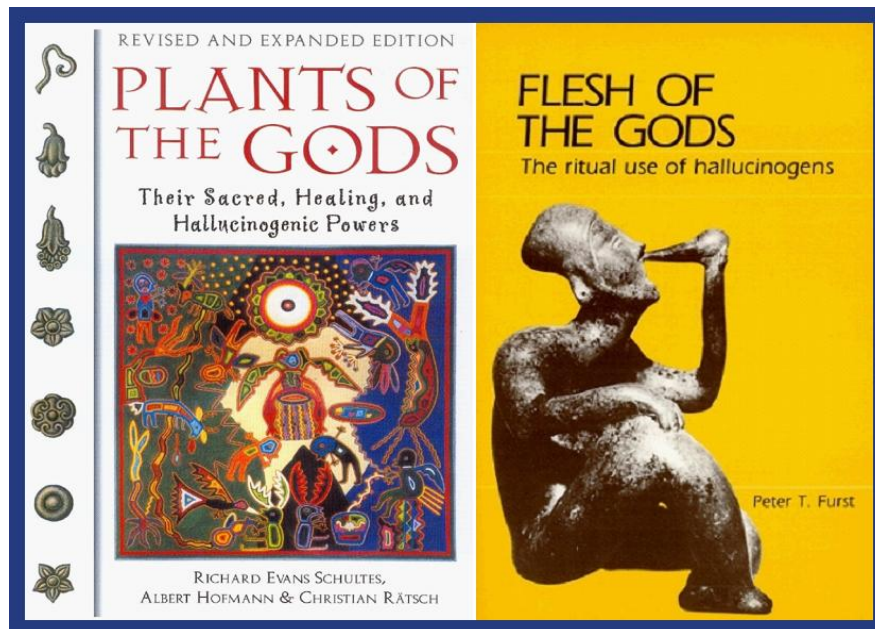
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These are the things Manasseh practiced and led the people to practice also. They were in idolatry against God because these things were all used in worship and interaction with satan and the fallen angels. They committed spiritual adultery against God.



Hallucinogens and Shamanism Edited by Michael J. Harner. Pharmakia is ancient witchcraft through the use of drugs like hallucinogens and psychedelics.



Look at these two books: Plants of the Gods – Their sacred, healing, and hallucinogenic powers by Richard Evans Schultes, Albert Hofmann & Christian Ratsch - Flesh of the Gods, The ritual use of hallucinogens by Peter T. Furst. The gods that are spoken of here are fallen angels. These plants, potions and drinks were used to invoke hallucinations and put the one using them in contact with what they believed were gods. People have always been hungry for supernatural

experiences. This is what pharmakia means in the Bible. Drugs, plants, drinks, potions that altar the mind and open the person up to the fallen angels.

Evocation is the act of evoking, calling upon, or summoning a spirit, [demon](#), [deity](#) or other [supernatural](#) agents, in the [Western mystery tradition](#). Conjunction also refers to a summoning, often by the use of a magical spell. The conjunction of the [ghosts](#) or spirits of the dead for the purpose of [divination](#) is called [necromancy](#). Comparable practices exist in many [religions](#) and [magical](#) traditions and may employ the use of mind-altering substances with and without uttered word formulas.

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Here are the mind-altering substances and notice they work even if no words are uttered. They connect you to the kingdom of darkness.

In ancient times it seems that the sorcerer/witch/enchanter - would themselves use hallucinogens or use them on their subjects to contact and summon up the spirit realm - demons. Babylon also mixed magic and medicine practices together. So someone seeking to be healed would bring a sacrifice or make an image of the diseased body part in worship of the god they were calling on. And they would be prescribed medicine (herbs etc.) to take as well.

bandages and balms. Occasionally, we find other forms of therapy, for example, healers dealt with the supernatural origin of the disease by invoking magic and performing rituals. They summoned the help of specific deities, such as the healing goddess Gula. This goddess was also associated with dogs, and healers used her symbolic animal to fashion golden amulets like the one below that would protect against diseases.

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These healers are actually witches. It is the same thing for the healers in new age, new age is idolatry against God and those who claim to be healers in that false religion are seeking to satan and his kingdom and not to Jesus.

Thousands of years ago, in spaces darkly enclosed or dazzlingly open, many in the ancient Mediterranean and Near East consumed psychoactive substances that helped transport them into altered states of consciousness. Guided by skilled specialists, they danced, chanted, and drummed, often remarkably adorned and masked. Or they held perfectly still, in the throes of trance or waking dreams. They saw psychedelic art without and hallucinatory visions within. They journeyed near and far to sanctuaries and ritual settings, where individually and collectively they sought an experience beyond the ordinary—what the Greeks termed *ekstasis*.

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CLOSING

Research:

Three points on 'pharmakeia' - translation, practice, interpretation

I think there are really three questions here: one about translation, one about the practice of medicine, and one about interpretation for today.

First, translation: The word *pharmakeia* is very much like our word for 'drugs': that is, it can refer to many things. When I use the word "drugs" I can be referring to Tylenol (which can be purchased over the counter) or to prescription drugs (which require the oversight of a physician), but I can also be referring to illegal drugs (such as meth). Which I am referring to will depend entirely on context; generally, when someone uses the word 'drugs' they have a specific meaning in mind rather than all three. The word *pharmakeia* is much the same. It has a range of meanings. It can refer to magic, but it very often refers to the practice of medicine or what might be called healing arts (see Liddell and Scott, a Greek-English Lexicon). It does not refer to both of these things at the same time. It depends on context. In the New Testament the word *pharmakeia* occurs three times (Gal 5:19-21; Rev 9:21; 18:23). Each time, it is translated as 'sorcery' or 'magic' and it is something that is spoken of in negative terms. The translators have chosen this definition because of the context. This does not mean that every possible definition of the word *pharmakeia* is condemned. It depends on context.

Second, you ask if the practice of medicine is condemned in the New Testament. By no means. There are two verses that point to a positive view of the practice of medicine: "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick." (Matt 9:12; Mark 2:7; Luke 5:31). Why say that the sick have need of a physician if medicine is condemned? And Colossians 4:14 brings greetings from "Luke, the physician." Why would Luke's profession as a physician be mentioned if it were viewed as inappropriate or tantamount to sorcery? The New Testament certainly recognizes that healing can occur in other ways besides through the care of a physician: Jesus is presented as the quintessential healer. Both Mark and Luke tell a story about a woman who had been ill for many years and who had seen many physicians, none of whom were able to help her (Mark 5:26; Luke 8:43). This does not condemn the medical profession; rather it describes the desperate state of the woman.

Third: interpretation for today. Healing is a complex process. Most any physician today would agree with this and I believe such a view is present also in the New Testament. It involves individuals such as family or friends who support us (think of the four friends who carry the paralytic to Jesus); it involves treatment by physicians and licensed mental health care specialists and may include the appropriate use of specific drugs; it involves faith – that is, trust in God; it also involves our own willingness to engage in actions and activities that promote health.

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I'm not a fan of a lot of what is done in the medical industry today. However, most of us understand by now that all medicines come with side effects. And the side effects can be deadly.

PRAYER

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