

The background is a vibrant purple with large, flowing organic shapes in orange and yellow. In the top-left and bottom-right corners, there are patterns of small, white, slanted dashes.

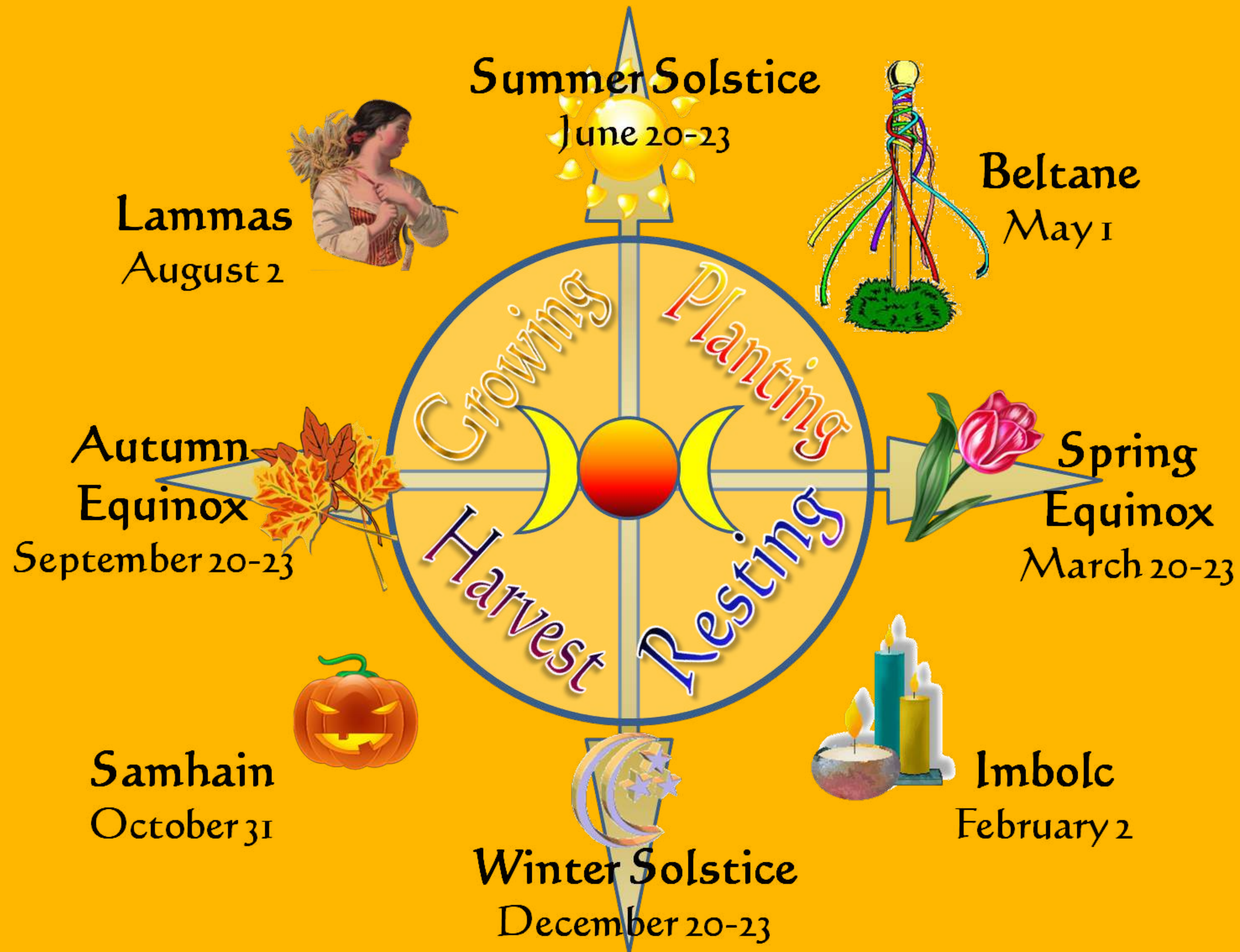
THE HALLOWEEN DECEPTION



THE HISTORY OF HALLOWEEN



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Halloween Timeline



FIFTH CENTURY B.C.E.

**The Celts observe the festival of Samhain
(pronounced Sawein) at the end of October,
when they believe ghosts and demons
roam the earth more so than at other times.**



FIRST CENTURY C.E.

**The Romans conquer the Celts and adopt
the spiritual rituals of Samhain.**

SEVENTH CENTURY C.E.

Pope Boniface IV is said to have established the annual celebration of All Saints' Day to honor martyrs.

ELEVENTH CENTURY C.E.

The second of November is designated as All Souls' Day to commemorate the dead.

All Saint's Day (All Hallow's Day) is called Hallowtide or Hallowmas.

Thus Halloween being called All Hallow's Eve.



EIGHTEENTH CENTURY C.E.

**The name of the holiday, Hallowe'en
(Hallow Evening) appears in print as
Halloween.**

NINETEENTH CENTURY C.E.

Thousands of people who move from Ireland to the United States bring with them Halloween customs that, in time, combined with similar customs of emigrants from Britain and Germany, as well as Africa and other parts of the world.



TWENTIETH CENTURY C.E.

Halloween becomes a popular nationwide holiday in the United States.



TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY C.E.

**Commercial interest in Halloween grows
into a worldwide multibillion-dollar
industry.**

History of Halloween

The background is a vibrant, abstract composition. It features a deep purple field with large, flowing, organic shapes in bright orange and yellow. In the upper-left and lower-right corners, there are clusters of white, dashed, diagonal lines that create a sense of movement or texture, resembling rain or a stylized pattern.

ORIGINS

The word *Halloween* or *Hallowe'en* dates to about 1745, and is of Ancient Celtic and integrated Christian origin. It comes from a Scottish term for *All Hallows' Eve* (the evening before All Hallows' Day).


In Scots, the word *eve* is *even*, and this is contracted to *e'en* or *een*. Over time, *(All) Hallow(s) E(v)en* evolved into *Halloween*. Although the phrase *All Hallows'* is found in Old English (*ealra hālgena mæssedæg*, mass-day of all saints), *All Hallows' Eve* is itself not seen until 1556.



Yet it goes further back to the Ancient Celtic feast of Samhain (Sahwin).


The Celts, who lived 2,000 years ago in the area that is now Ireland, the United Kingdom and northern France, celebrated their New Year on November 1.

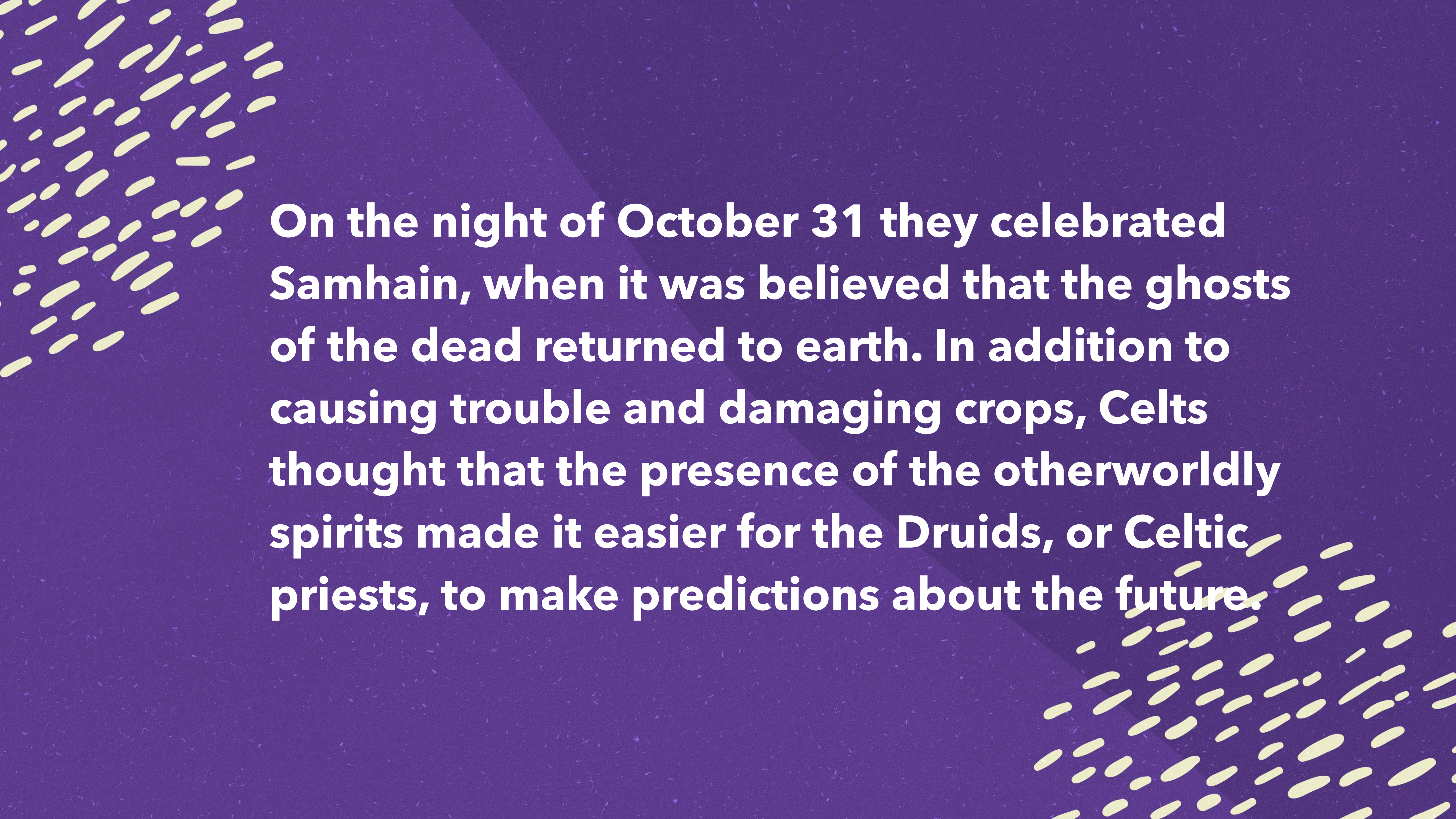





This day marked the end of summer and the harvest and the beginning of the dark, cold winter, a time of year that was often associated with human death.

Celts believed that on the night before the new year, the boundary between the worlds of the living and the dead became blurred or at its thinnest.






On the night of October 31 they celebrated Samhain, when it was believed that the ghosts of the dead returned to earth. In addition to causing trouble and damaging crops, Celts thought that the presence of the otherworldly spirits made it easier for the Druids, or Celtic priests, to make predictions about the future.





**For a people entirely dependent on the
volatile natural world, these prophecies
were an important source of comfort and
direction during the long, dark winter.**



To commemorate the event, Druids built huge sacred bonfires (bone fires), where the people gathered to burn crops, humans and animals as sacrifices to the Celtic deities.

During the celebration, the Celts wore costumes (to keep evil spirits away), typically consisting of animal heads and skins, and attempted to tell each other's fortunes.






When the celebration was over, they re-lit their hearth fires, which they had extinguished earlier that evening, from the sacred bonfire to help protect them during the coming winter.




By 43 A.D., the Roman Empire had conquered the majority of Celtic territory.

In the course of the four hundred years that they ruled the Celtic lands, two festivals of Roman origin were combined with the traditional Celtic celebration of Samhain.

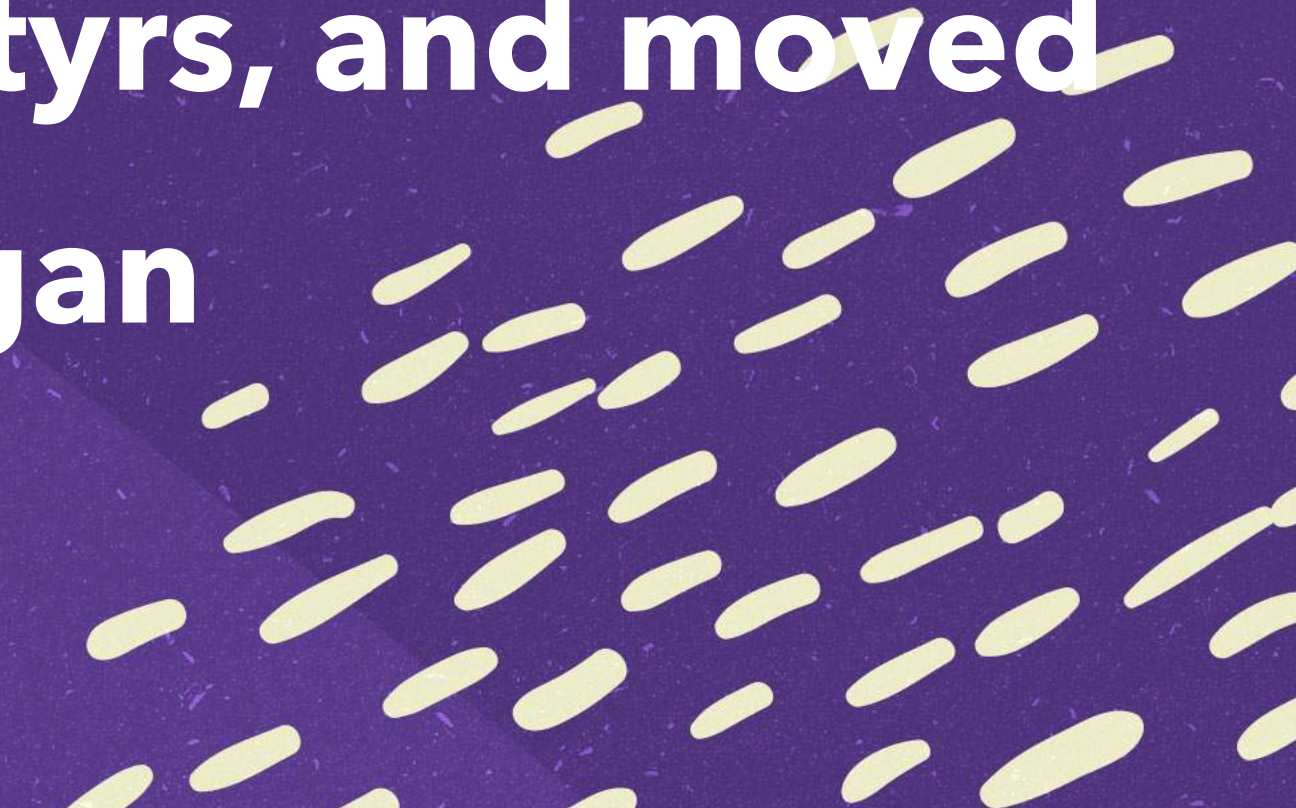


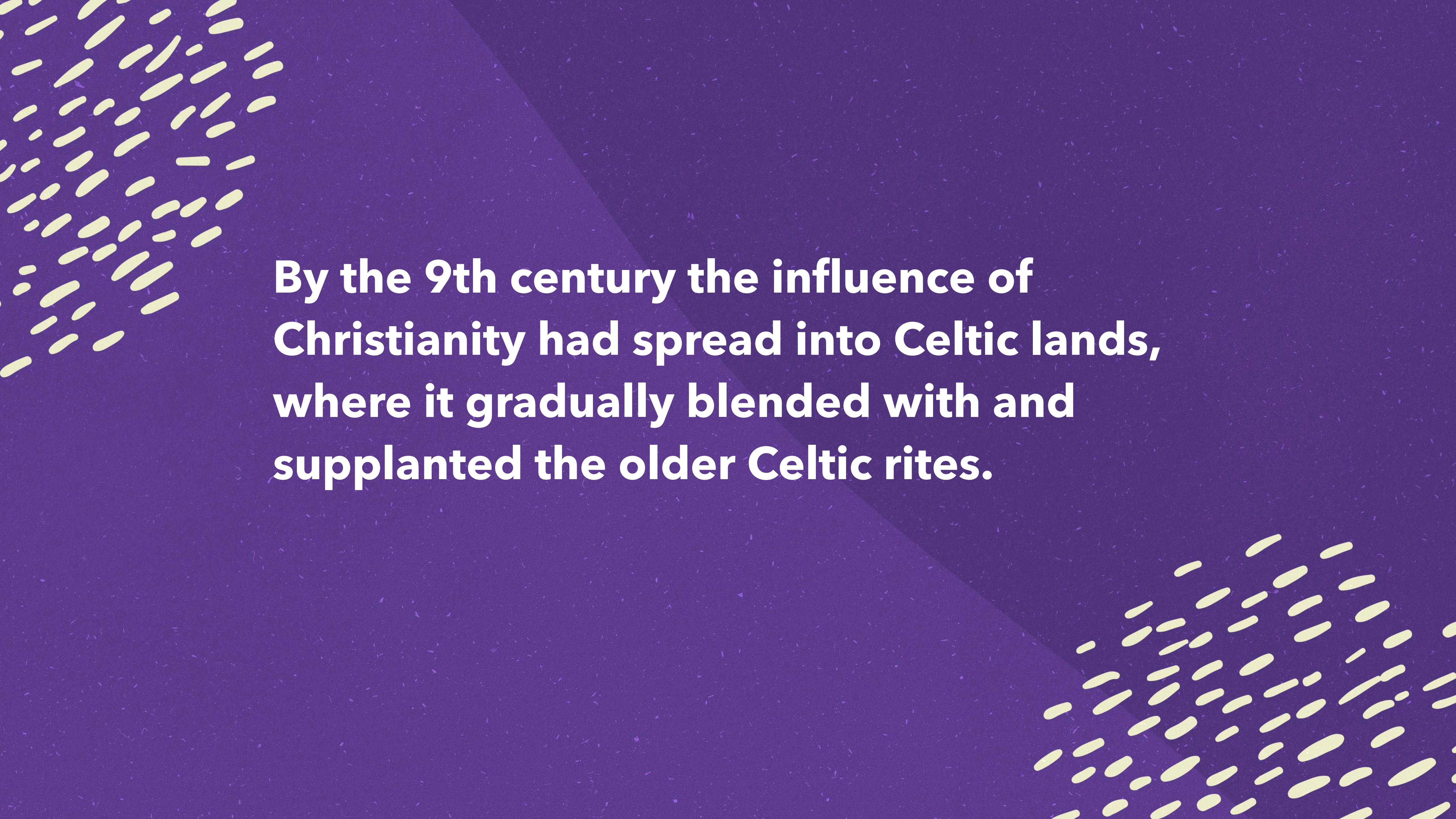
The second was a day to honor *Pomona*, the Roman goddess of fruit and trees. The symbol of Pomona is the apple and the incorporation of this celebration into Samhain probably explains the tradition of "bobbing" for apples that is practiced today on Halloween.



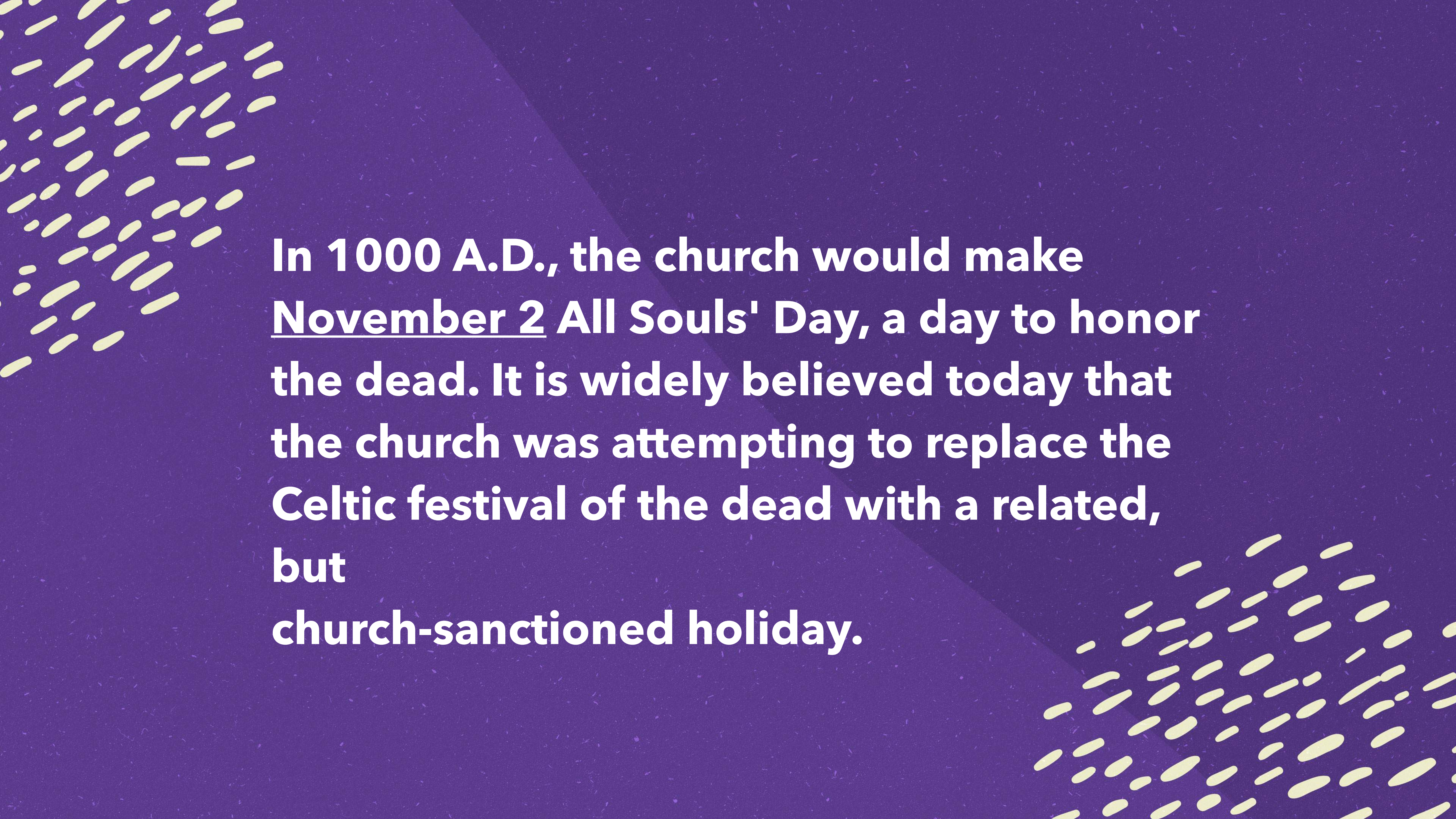
On May 13, 609 A.D., Pope Boniface IV dedicated the Pantheon in Rome in honor of all Christian martyrs, and the Catholic feast of All Martyrs Day was established in the Western church.

Pope Gregory III (731-741) later expanded the festival to include all saints as well as all martyrs, and moved the observance from May 13 (the Pagan feast of Lemuria, ancient Roman festival of the dead) to November 1.





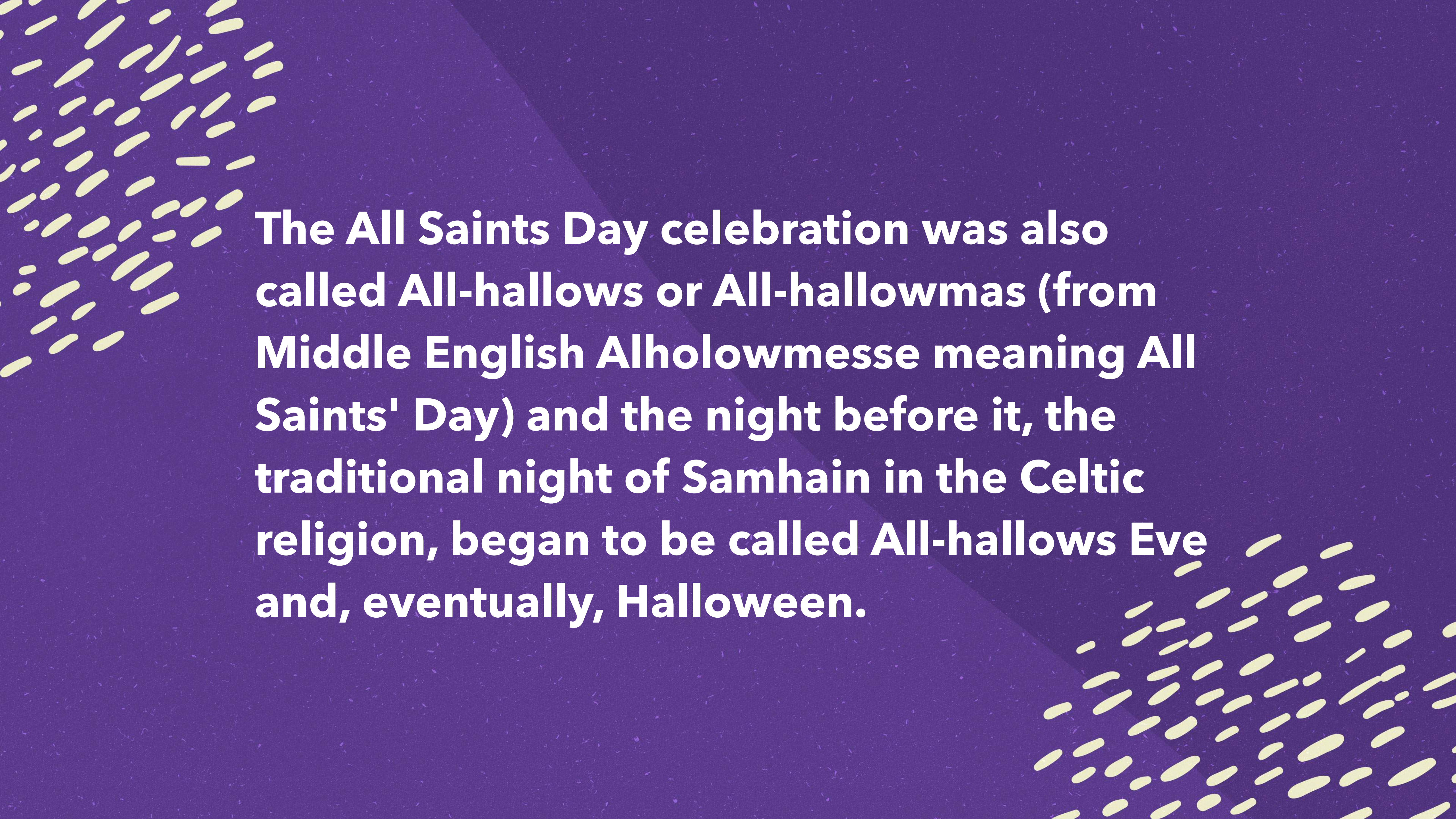
By the 9th century the influence of Christianity had spread into Celtic lands, where it gradually blended with and supplanted the older Celtic rites.



In 1000 A.D., the church would make November 2 All Souls' Day, a day to honor the dead. It is widely believed today that the church was attempting to replace the Celtic festival of the dead with a related, but church-sanctioned holiday.



All Souls Day was celebrated similarly to Samhain, with big bonfires, parades, and dressing up in costumes as saints, angels and devils.



The All Saints Day celebration was also called All-hallows or All-hallowmas (from Middle English Alholowmesse meaning All Saints' Day) and the night before it, the traditional night of Samhain in the Celtic religion, began to be called All-hallows Eve and, eventually, Halloween.

All Saints Day



Halloween Traditions



Trick or Treating & Costumes


The American Halloween tradition of "trick-or-treating" probably dates back to the early All Souls' Day parades in England.

During the festivities, poor citizens would beg for food and families would give them pastries called "soul cakes" in return for their promise to pray for the family's dead relatives.



The distribution of soul cakes was encouraged by the church as a way to replace the ancient practice of leaving food and wine for roaming spirits.

The practice, which was referred to as "going a-souling" was eventually taken up by children who would visit the houses in their neighborhood and be given ale, food, and money.

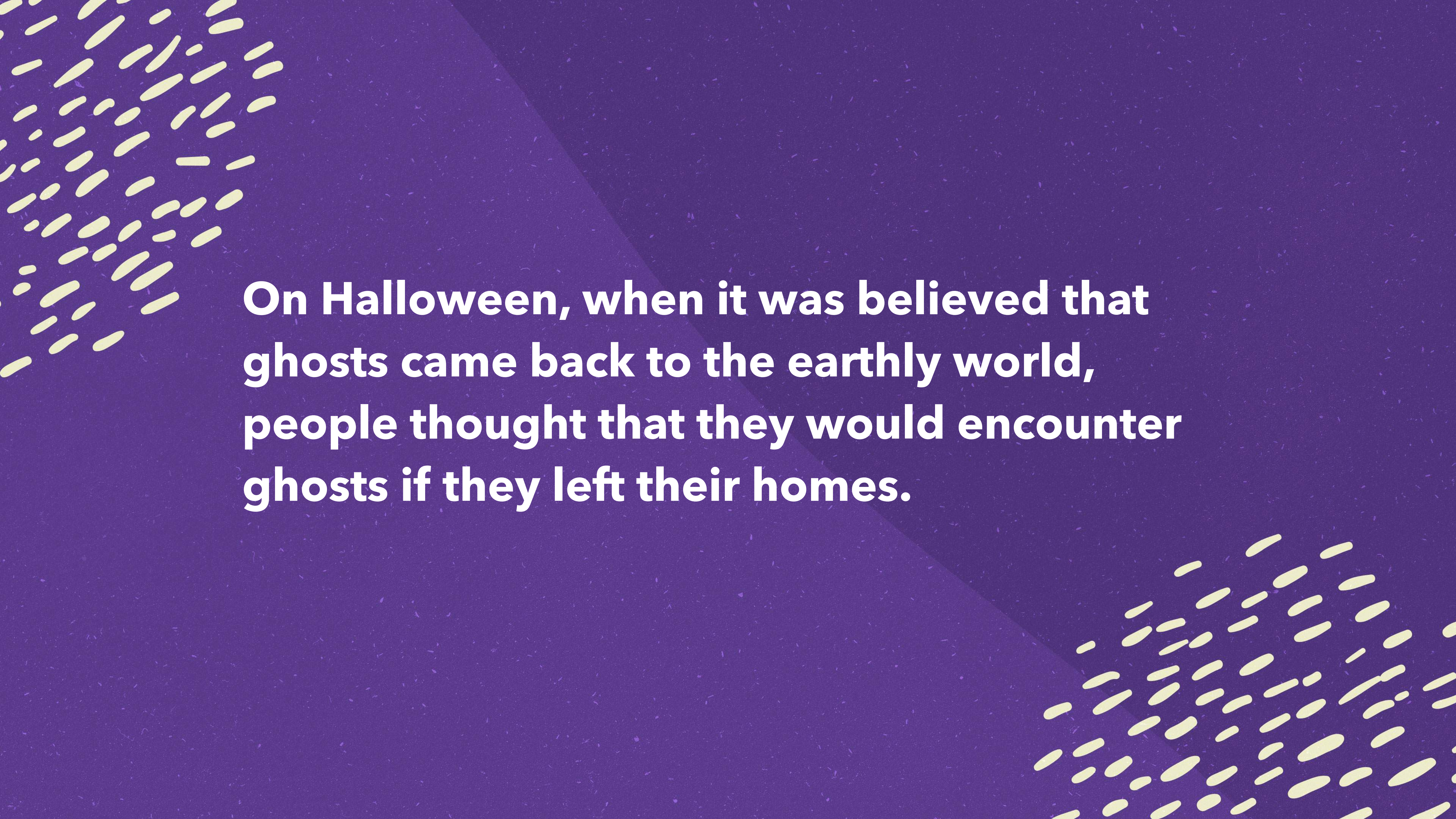




The tradition of dressing in costume for Halloween has both European and Celtic roots.

Hundreds of years ago, winter was an uncertain and frightening time. Food supplies often ran low and, for the many people afraid of the dark, the short days of winter were full of constant worry.






On Halloween, when it was believed that ghosts came back to the earthly world, people thought that they would encounter ghosts if they left their homes.



**To avoid being recognized by these ghosts,
people would wear masks when they left
their homes after dark so that the ghosts
would mistake them for fellow spirits.**



On Halloween, to keep ghosts away from their houses, people would place bowls of food outside their homes to appease the ghosts and prevent them from attempting to enter.



Rutabagas and Jack

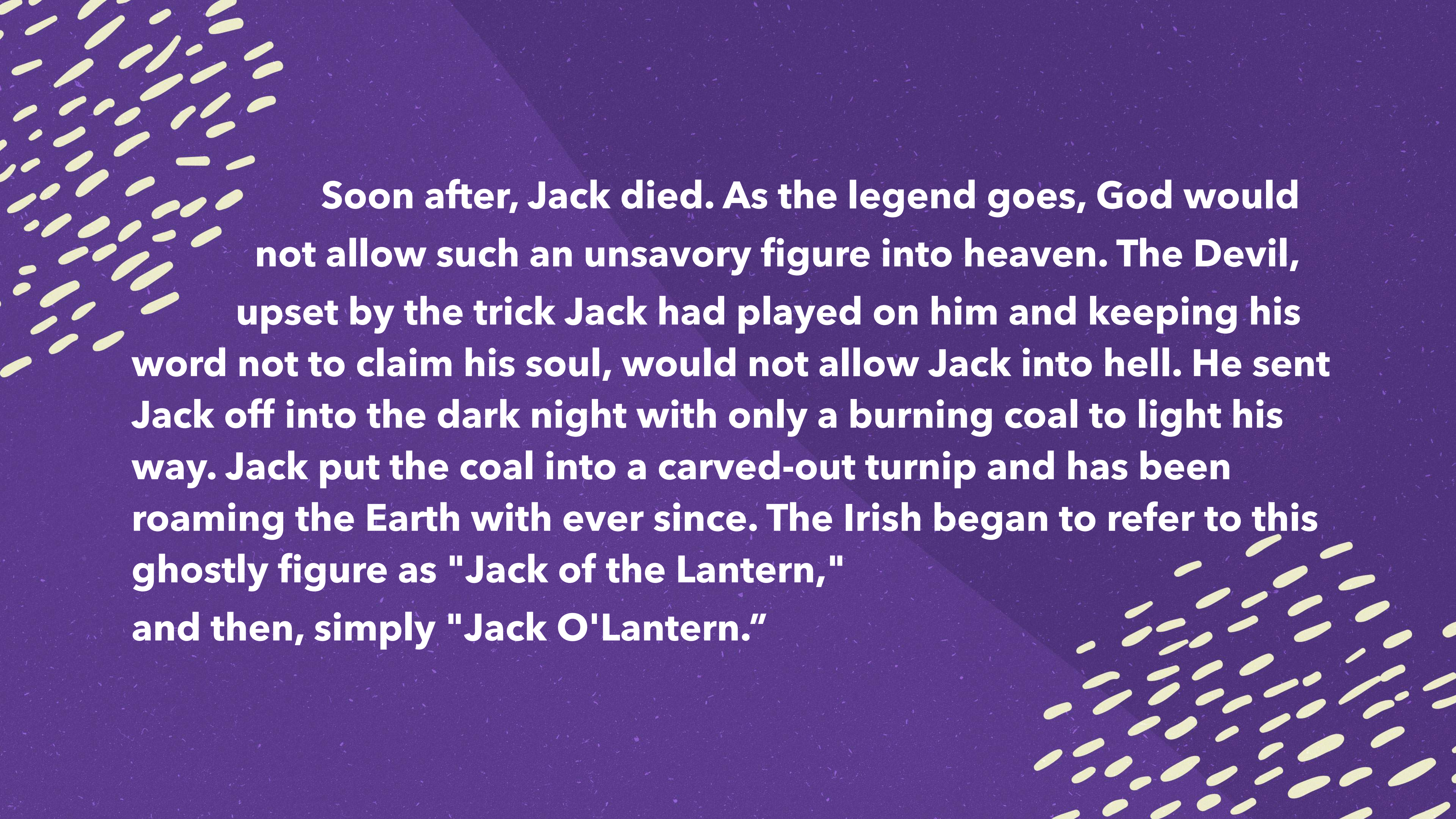


**For centuries, people have been making
Jack-o'-Lanterns at Halloween.**

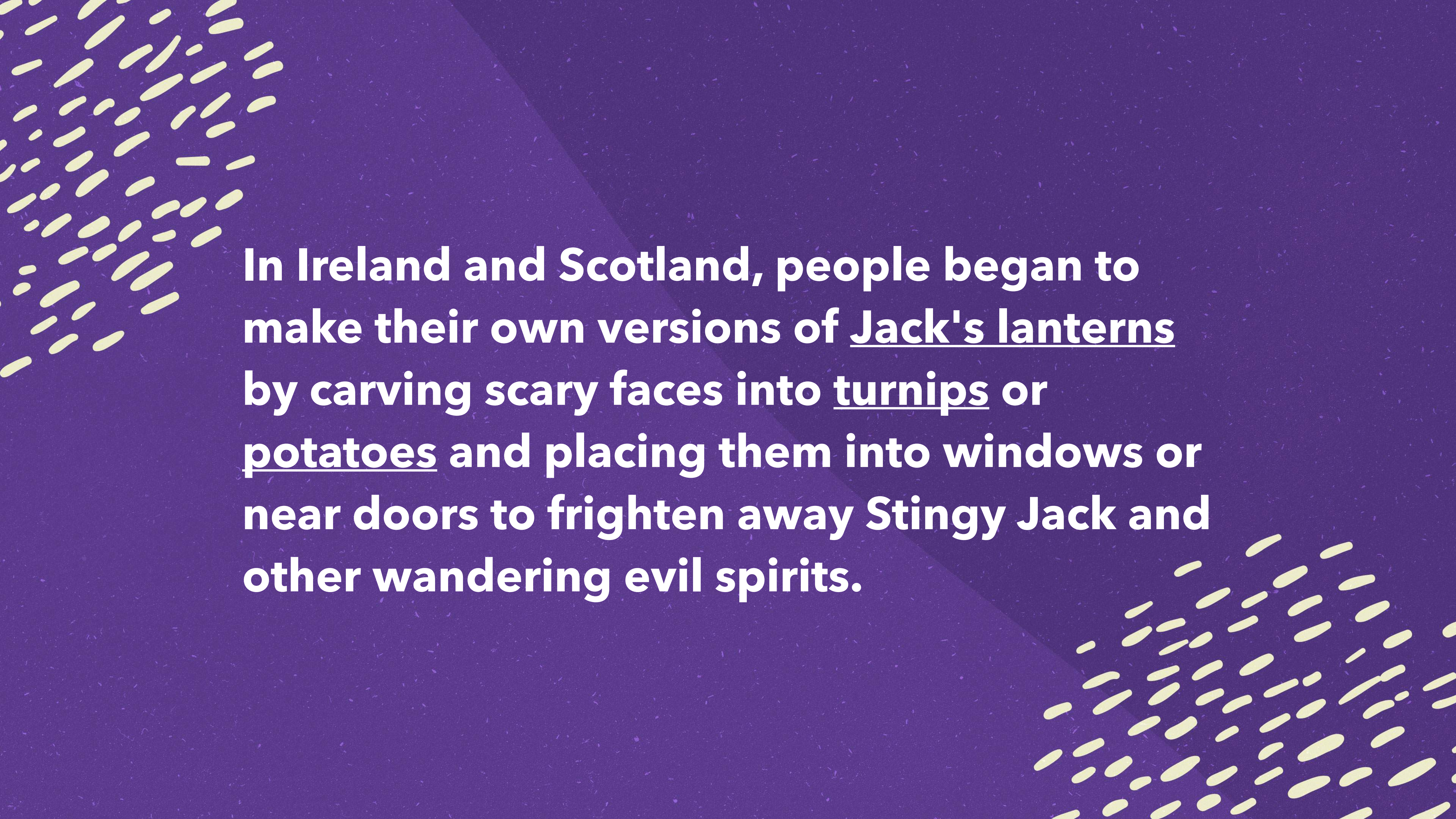
**It originated from an Irish myth about a man
nicknamed "Stingy Jack."**



According to the story, Stingy Jack invited the Devil to have a drink with him. True to his name, Stingy Jack didn't want to pay for his drink, so he convinced the Devil to turn himself into a coin that Jack could use to buy their drinks. Once the Devil did so, Jack decided to keep the money and put it into his pocket next to a silver cross, which prevented the Devil from changing back into his original form. Jack eventually freed the Devil, under the condition that he would not bother Jack for one year and that, should Jack die, he would not claim his soul. The next year, Jack again tricked the Devil into climbing into a tree to pick a piece of fruit. While he was up in the tree, Jack carved a sign of the cross into the tree's bark so that the Devil could not come down until the Devil promised Jack not to bother him for ten more years.



Soon after, Jack died. As the legend goes, God would not allow such an unsavory figure into heaven. The Devil, upset by the trick Jack had played on him and keeping his word not to claim his soul, would not allow Jack into hell. He sent Jack off into the dark night with only a burning coal to light his way. Jack put the coal into a carved-out turnip and has been roaming the Earth with ever since. The Irish began to refer to this ghostly figure as "Jack of the Lantern," and then, simply "Jack O'Lantern."



In Ireland and Scotland, people began to make their own versions of Jack's lanterns by carving scary faces into turnips or potatoes and placing them into windows or near doors to frighten away Stingy Jack and other wandering evil spirits.

Rutabagas (turnips)




The background is a solid dark purple. A diagonal band of a slightly lighter shade of purple runs from the top-left towards the bottom-right. In the top-left and bottom-right corners, there are clusters of small, yellow, elongated dashes or seeds, arranged in a pattern that suggests a field or a close-up of a seed head.

In England, large beets are used.

Beet Lanterns





Immigrants from these countries brought the Jack O' lantern tradition with them when they came to the United States. They soon found that pumpkins, a fruit native to America, make perfect jack-o'-lanterns.

Pumpkin Lanterns



© Ocean / Corbis

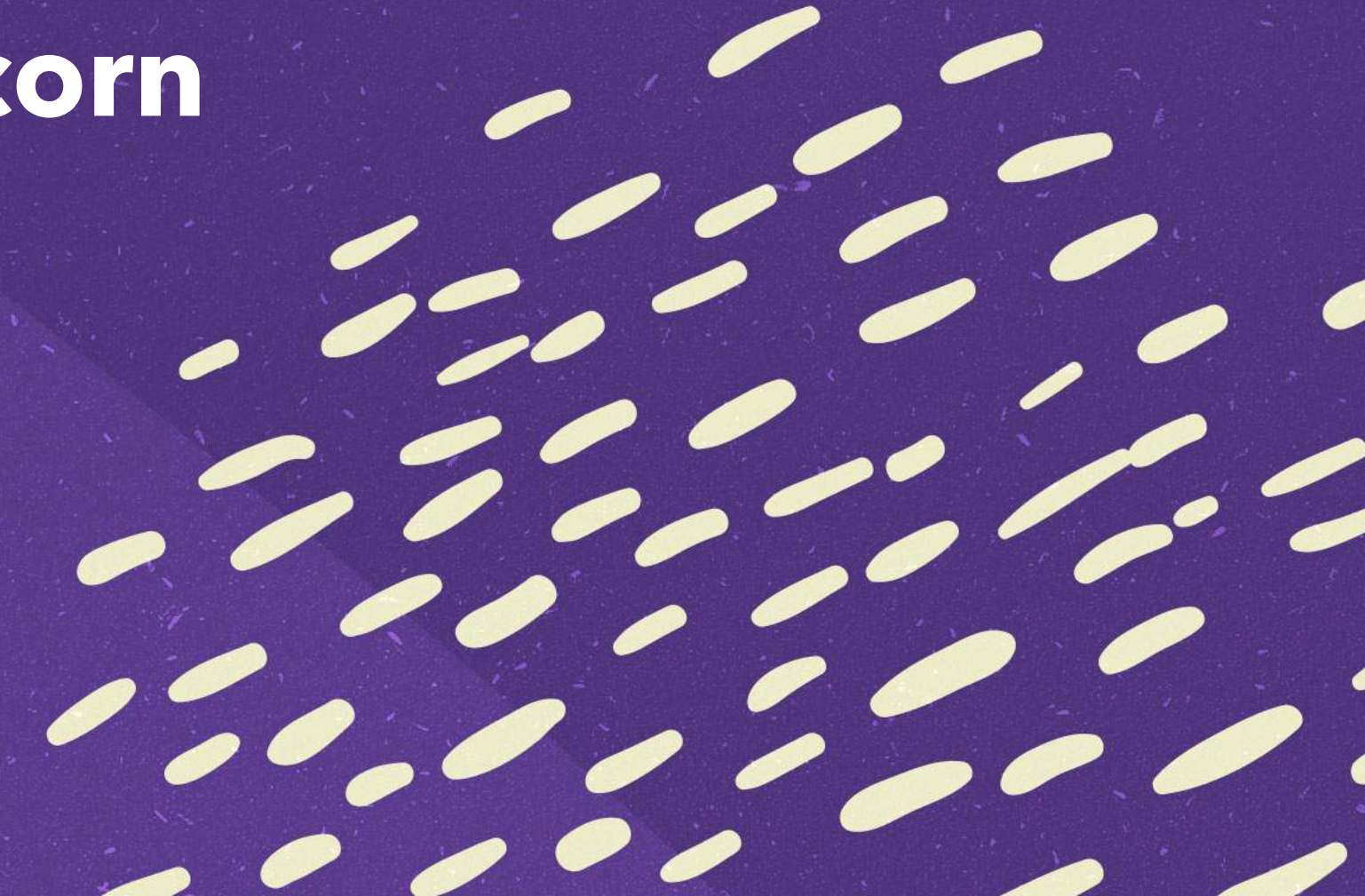


The Corn Spirit Corn Dollies (Grain Dollies), Corn Babies, and Candy Corn



At the end of each harvest season, the Celtic people would not harvest a limited amount of grain. It was thought that if all the plants were harvested, the Corn Spirit would be displaced, and it would drift away, unable to find its way back.


The leftover grain would be crafted to look like a man, woman, or significant spiritual symbol. Since the corn dolly symbolized the spirit of the Corn, it was often included in important ceremonies and celebrations. Come Spring, the corn dolly would be ceremonially burned before planting any new crops for the year.



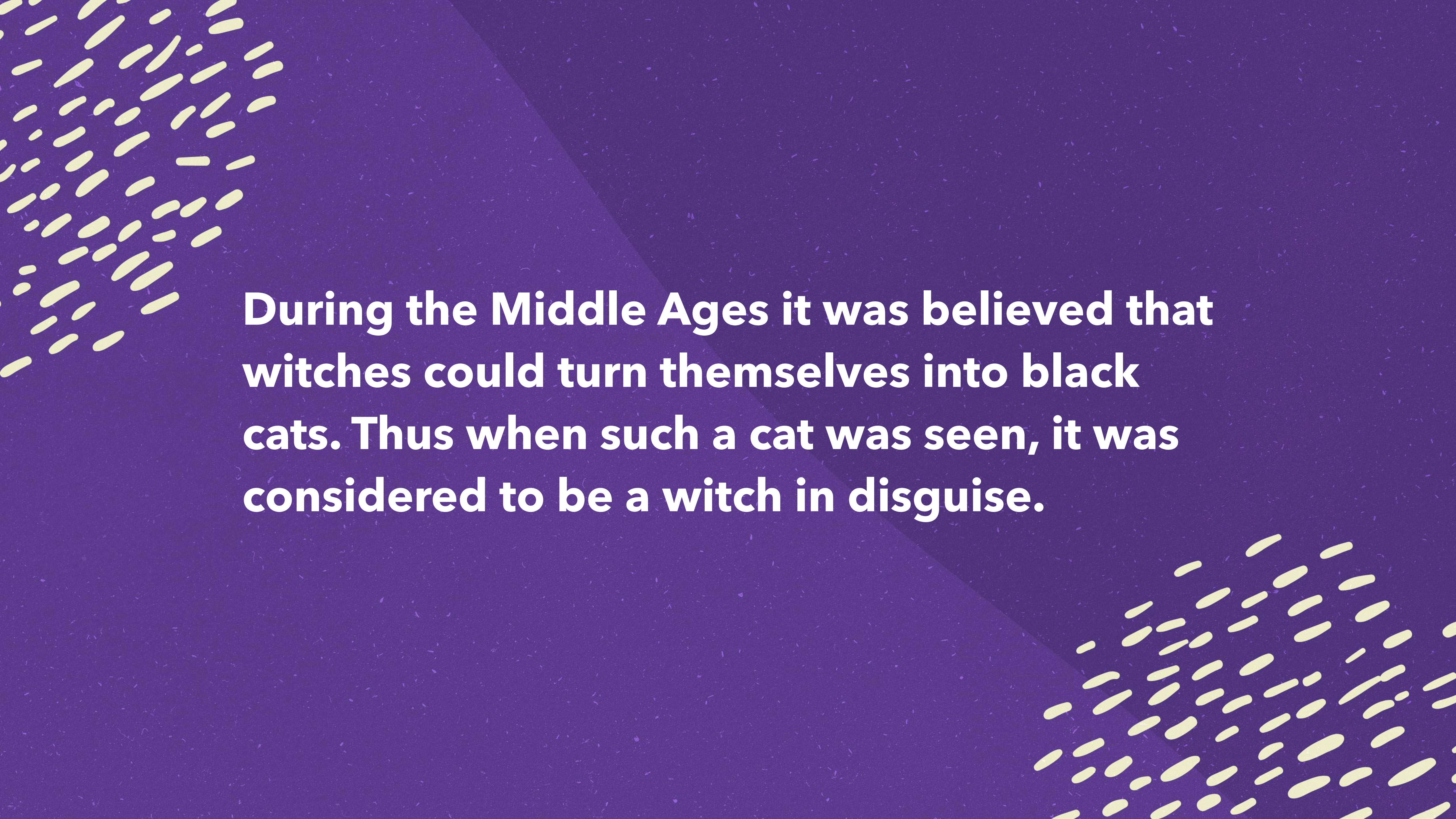
Corn Dollies (Grain Dollis, Grain Mothers, Corn Babies)



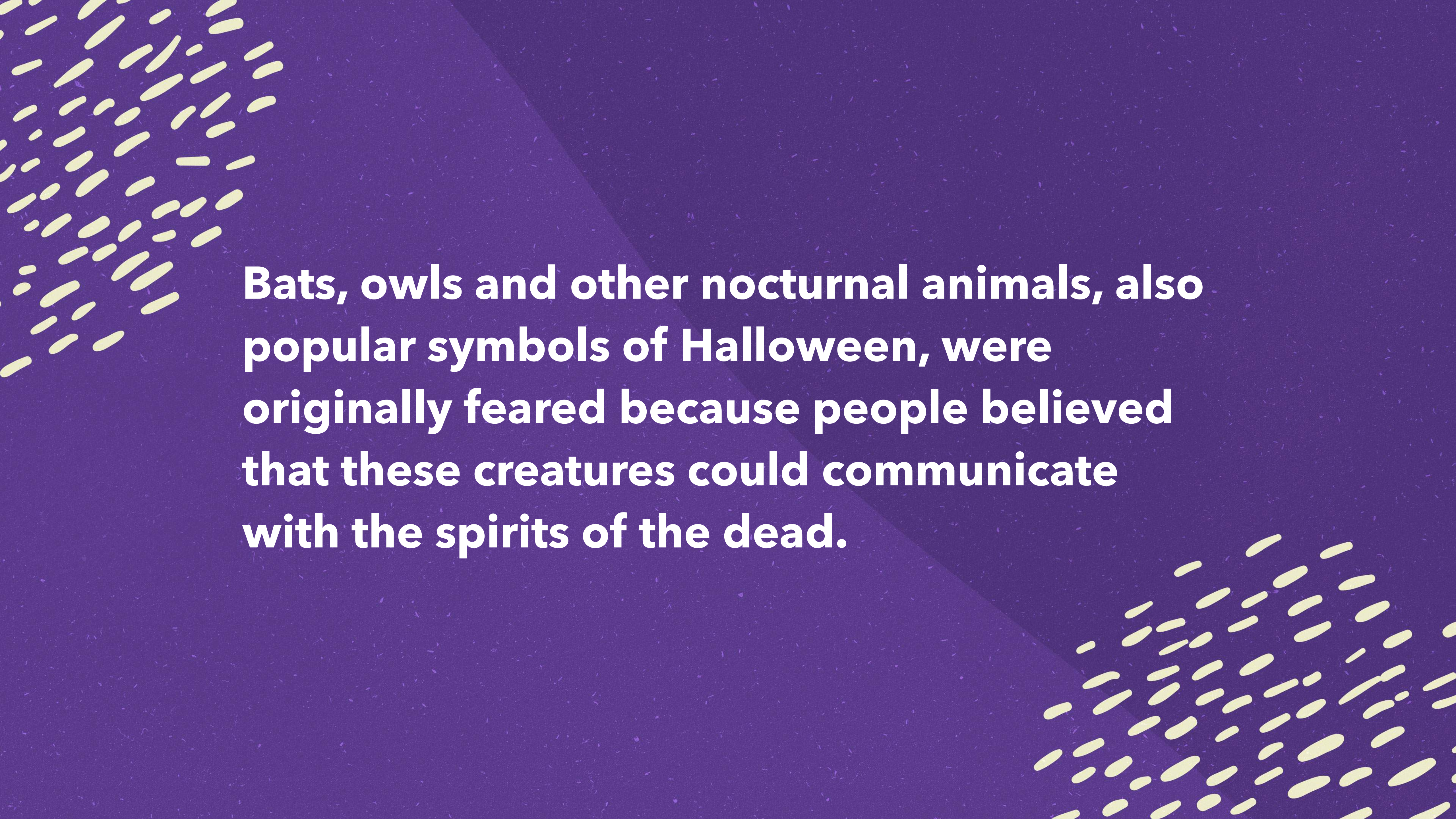
Black Cats



**Black cats have religious origins as well.
Black cats were considered to be
reincarnated beings with the ability to
divine the future.**

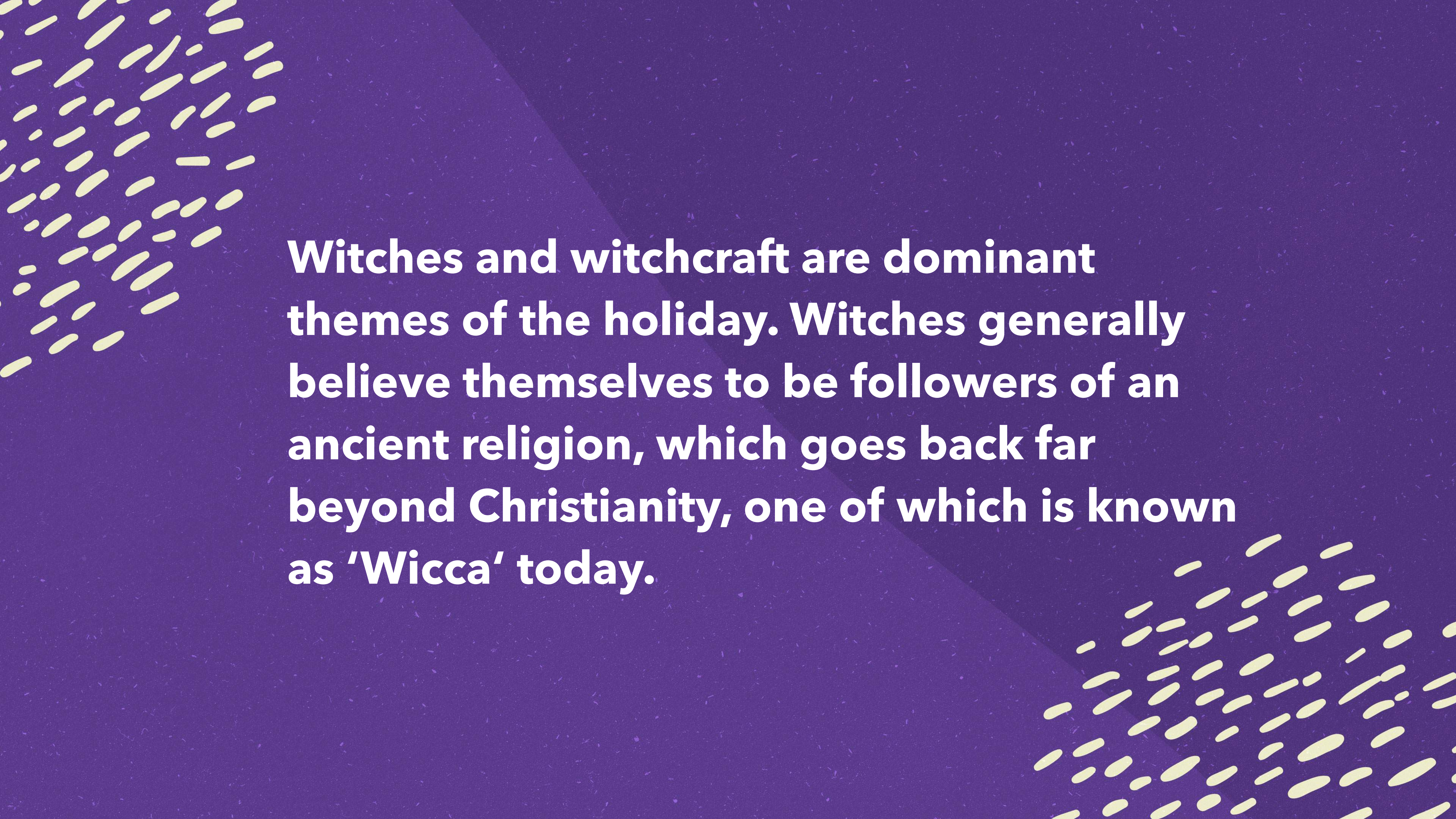


During the Middle Ages it was believed that witches could turn themselves into black cats. Thus when such a cat was seen, it was considered to be a witch in disguise.




Bats, owls and other nocturnal animals, also popular symbols of Halloween, were originally feared because people believed that these creatures could communicate with the spirits of the dead.

Witches



Witches and witchcraft are dominant themes of the holiday. Witches generally believe themselves to be followers of an ancient religion, which goes back far beyond Christianity, one of which is known as 'Wicca' today.



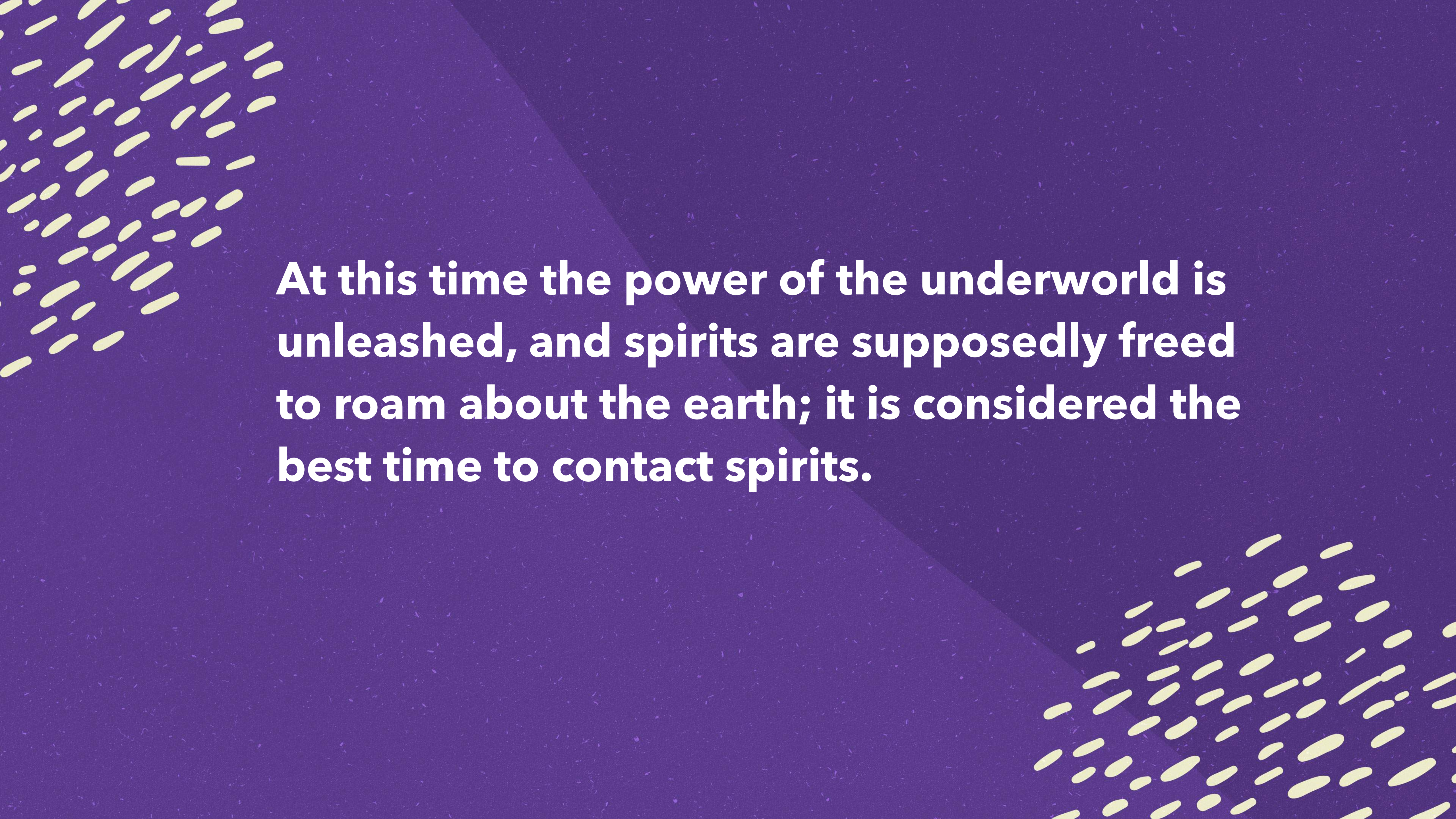
Witches are really just one side of a modern revival of paganism - the following of pre-Christian nature religions, the attempt to return to worshipping ancient Norse, Greek or Celtic gods and goddesses.



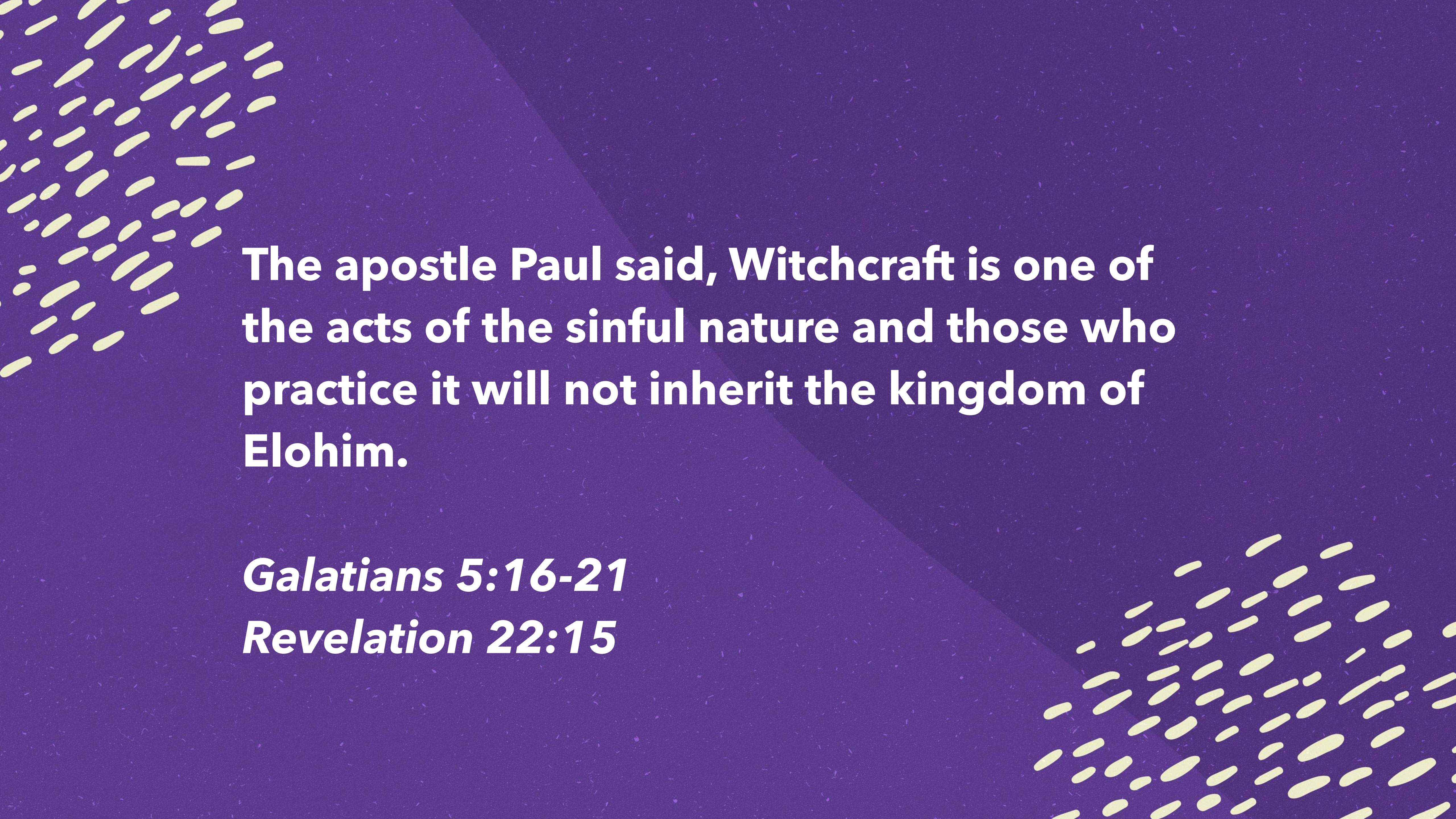
To witches, Halloween is a festival of the dead, and represents the end and the beginning of the witches year.

It marks the beginning of the death and destruction associated with winter.





At this time the power of the underworld is unleashed, and spirits are supposedly freed to roam about the earth; it is considered the best time to contact spirits.



The apostle Paul said, Witchcraft is one of the acts of the sinful nature and those who practice it will not inherit the kingdom of Elohim.

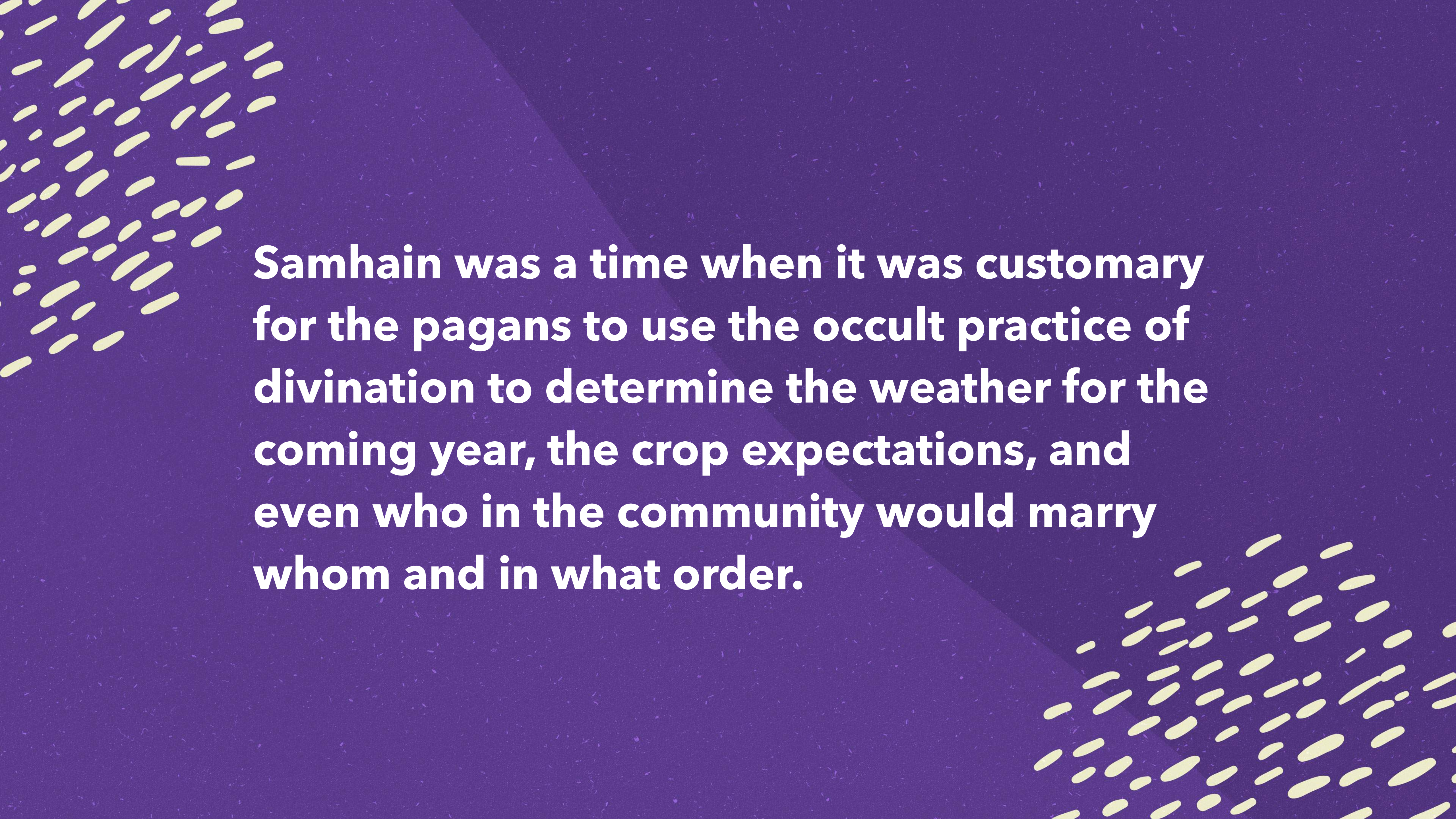
Galatians 5:16-21

Revelation 22:15

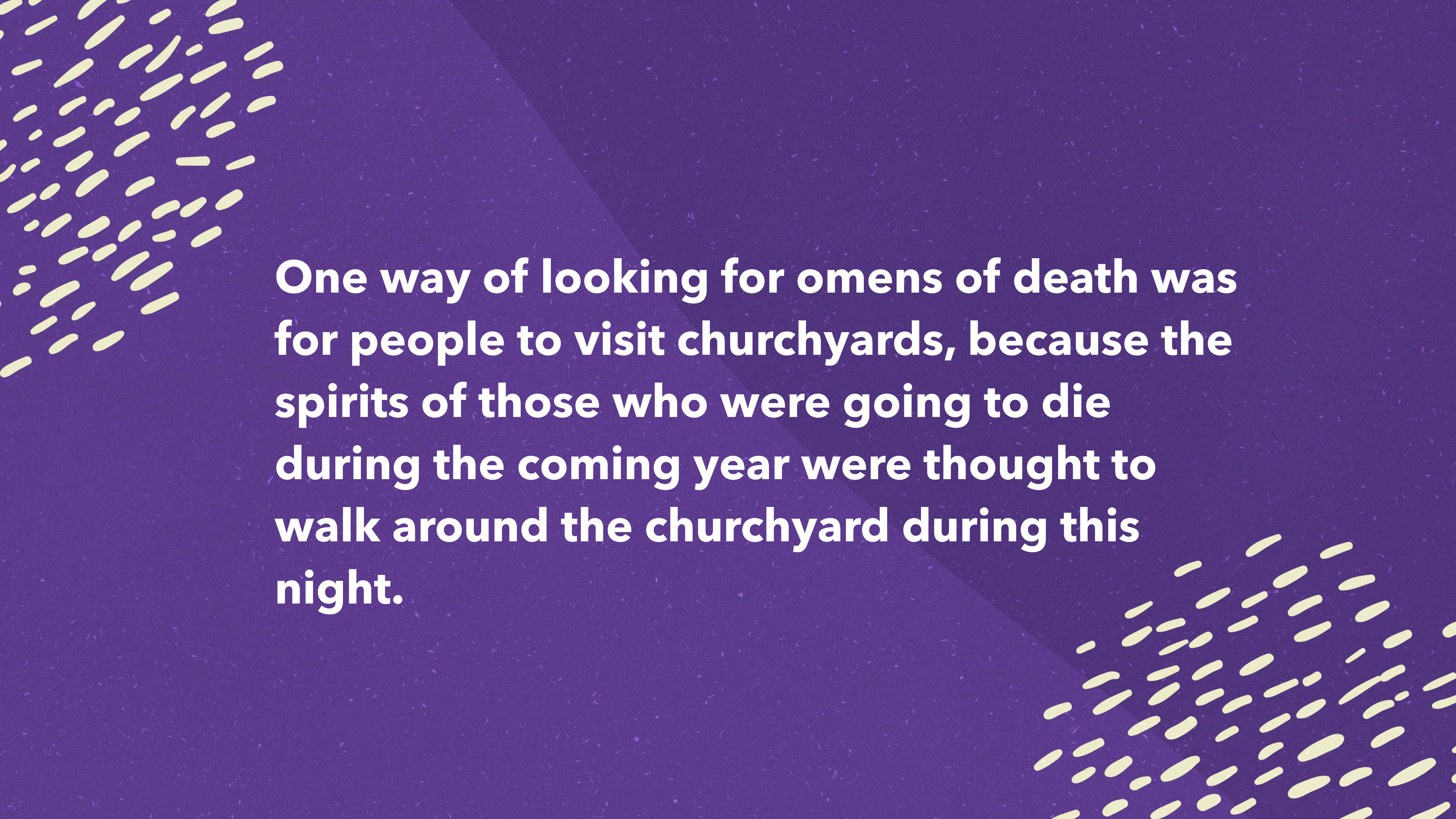
Divination



The various activities traditional to Halloween are mostly associated with the idea of obtaining good fortune and foretelling the future.



Samhain was a time when it was customary for the pagans to use the occult practice of divination to determine the weather for the coming year, the crop expectations, and even who in the community would marry whom and in what order.



One way of looking for omens of death was for people to visit churchyards, because the spirits of those who were going to die during the coming year were thought to walk around the churchyard during this night.



Witches and wizards believe that on this night they can communicate with the dead.


The Bible calls attempts at communicating with the dead, Necromancy.

Leviticus 19:31








Bobbing for Apples



Dates back to when the Romans conquered Britain, bringing with them the apple tree, a representation of the goddess of fruit trees, Pomona.

The combination of Pomona, a fertility goddess, and the Celts' belief that the pentagram was a fertility symbol began the origins of bobbing for apples.



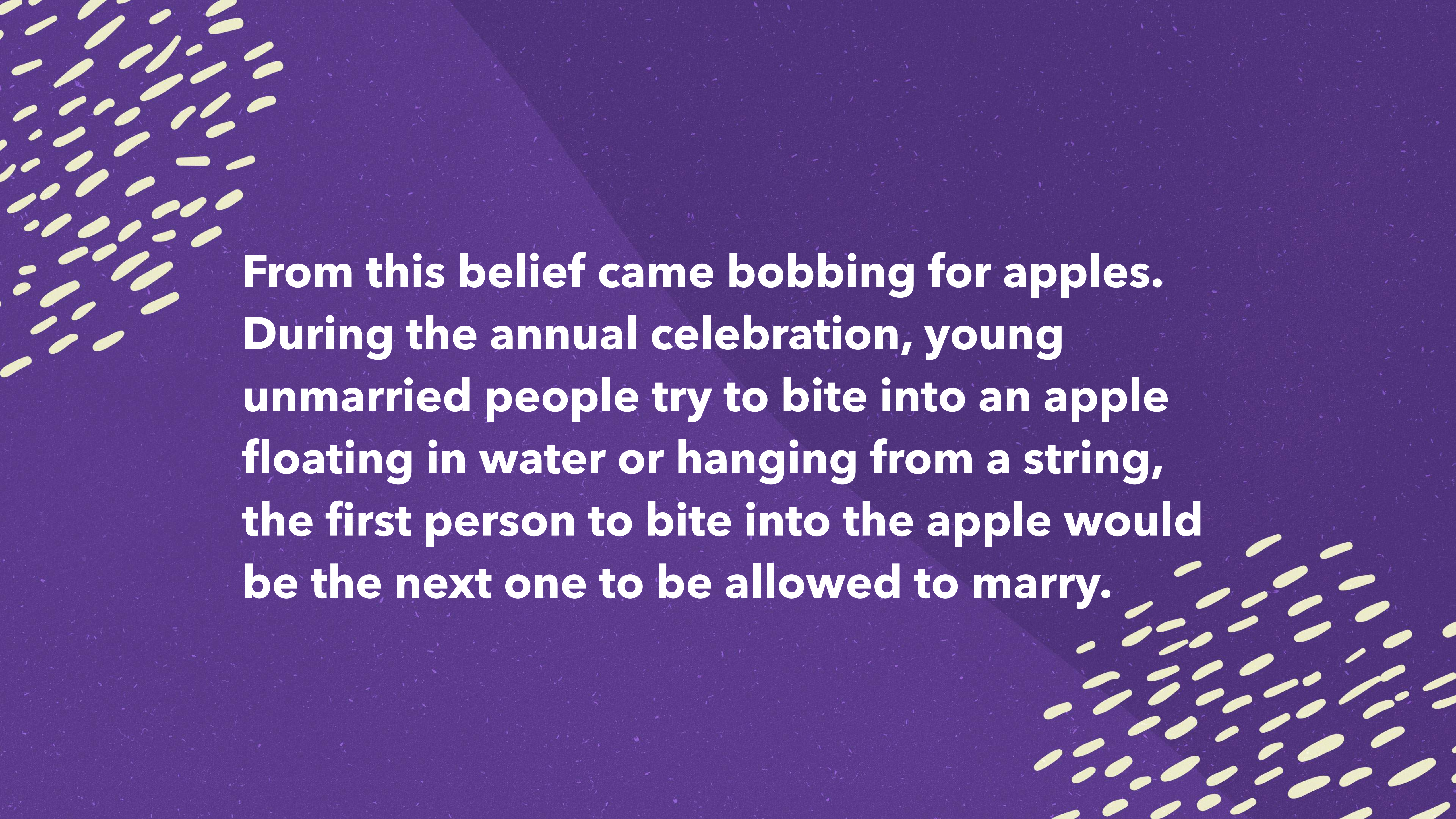


When an apple is sliced in half, the seeds form a pentagram-like shape, and it is thought that the manifestation of such a symbol meant that the apple could be used to determine marriages during this time of year.


Pomme

(french for **Fruit** or **Apple**)





From this belief came bobbing for apples. During the annual celebration, young unmarried people try to bite into an apple floating in water or hanging from a string, the first person to bite into the apple would be the next one to be allowed to marry.



Girls who place the apple they bobbed under their pillows are said to dream of their future lover.


Peeling an apple and throwing the peel over one's shoulder was supposed to reveal the initial of one's future spouse.






Weakness


Animal Slaughter & Bonfires



Samhain is a time for getting rid of weakness, as pagans once slaughtered weak animals which were unlikely to survive the winter. A common ritual calls for writing down weaknesses on a piece of paper or parchment, and tossing it into the fire.

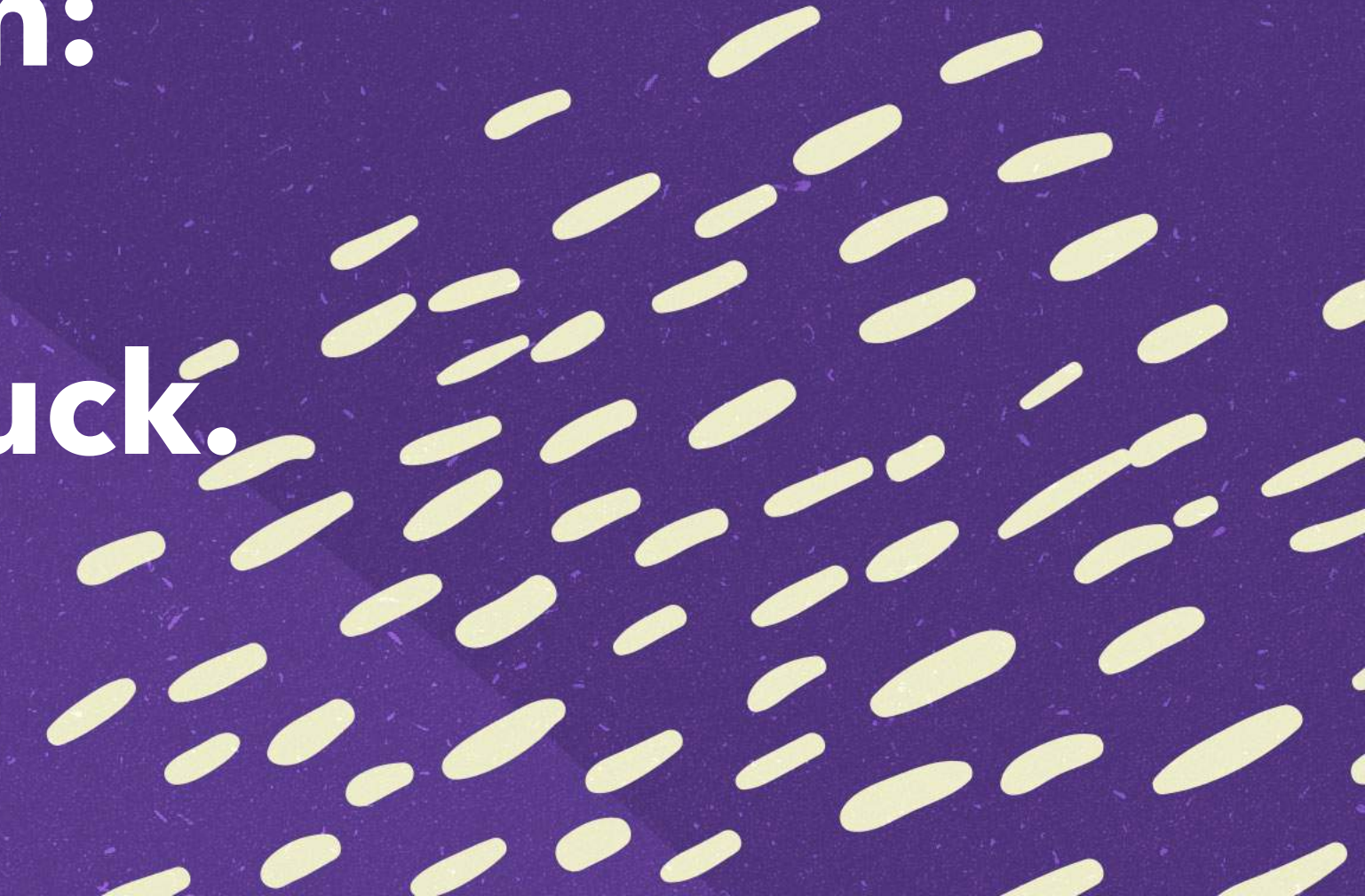
Christians have adopted this practice, through the "ceremonial burning of sins", by writing down their sins on pieces of paper and throwing them into bonfires.





There used to be a custom of placing a stone in the hot ashes of the bonfire. If in the morning a person found that the stone had been removed or had cracked, it was a sign of bad fortune.

**Nuts have been used for divination:
whether they burned quietly or
exploded indicated good or bad luck.**



Ghosts

Ghosts are the universal symbol for departed spirits and occult visitations. Decorative ghosts may be cute, but to the countless victims of demonic bondage and oppression, the spirit world is no joke.

Skeletons

Skull, bones and skeletons symbolize death, disease and the shortness of earthly life.

Gravestones

Christians may see it as a memorial to those who died, but others see it as an exciting symbol of death and as the place where the world of the living meets the world of departed spirits.

The Christianization of Halloween

How did Halloween become associated with Christianity?

Roman Pantheon: built by Hadrian 100 a.d.

Pantheon: temple to Roman goddess, Cybele.

Here is where Romans prayed for their dead.

607 A.D. Emperor Phocas gave the pantheon as

a gift to Pope Boniface IV. Boniface

reconsecrated the Pantheon to Mary. Here is

where Roman

Catholics prayed to Mary for their dead.

For two centuries the major celebration in the Pantheon took place in May and was called, "All Saints Day." In the 9th century Pope Gregory moved All Saints Day to Nov.1 to coincide with the ancient Druid and pagan practices that had been going on for centuries—the church was accommodating the recently conquered German Saxons and Norsemen of Scandinavia. Thus the wedding of All Saints Day to Halloween.



How does Yehovah view Halloween?

Halloween is celebrated by Believers and non-Believers alike.

What does the Bible say?



Hear the word which יהוה speaks to you, O house of Yisra'ël. Thus said יהוה, "Do not learn the way of the nations, and do not be awed by the signs of the heavens, for the nations are awed by them. "For the laws of these peoples are worthless, for one cuts a tree from the forest, work for the hands of a craftsman with a cutting tool. "They beautify it with silver and gold, they strengthen it with nails and hammers so that it does not topple.

Jeremiah 10:1-4 (ISR)



Do not allow a practiser of witchcraft to live.

"Anyone who sacrifices to any god other than *Yehovah* alone is to be completely destroyed.

Exodus 22:18, 20

Appearance of Evil


Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them;
Ephesians 5:11

Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness?
2 Corinthians 6:14



But do test everything – hold onto what is good, but keep away from every form of evil.

1 Thessalonians 5:21-22

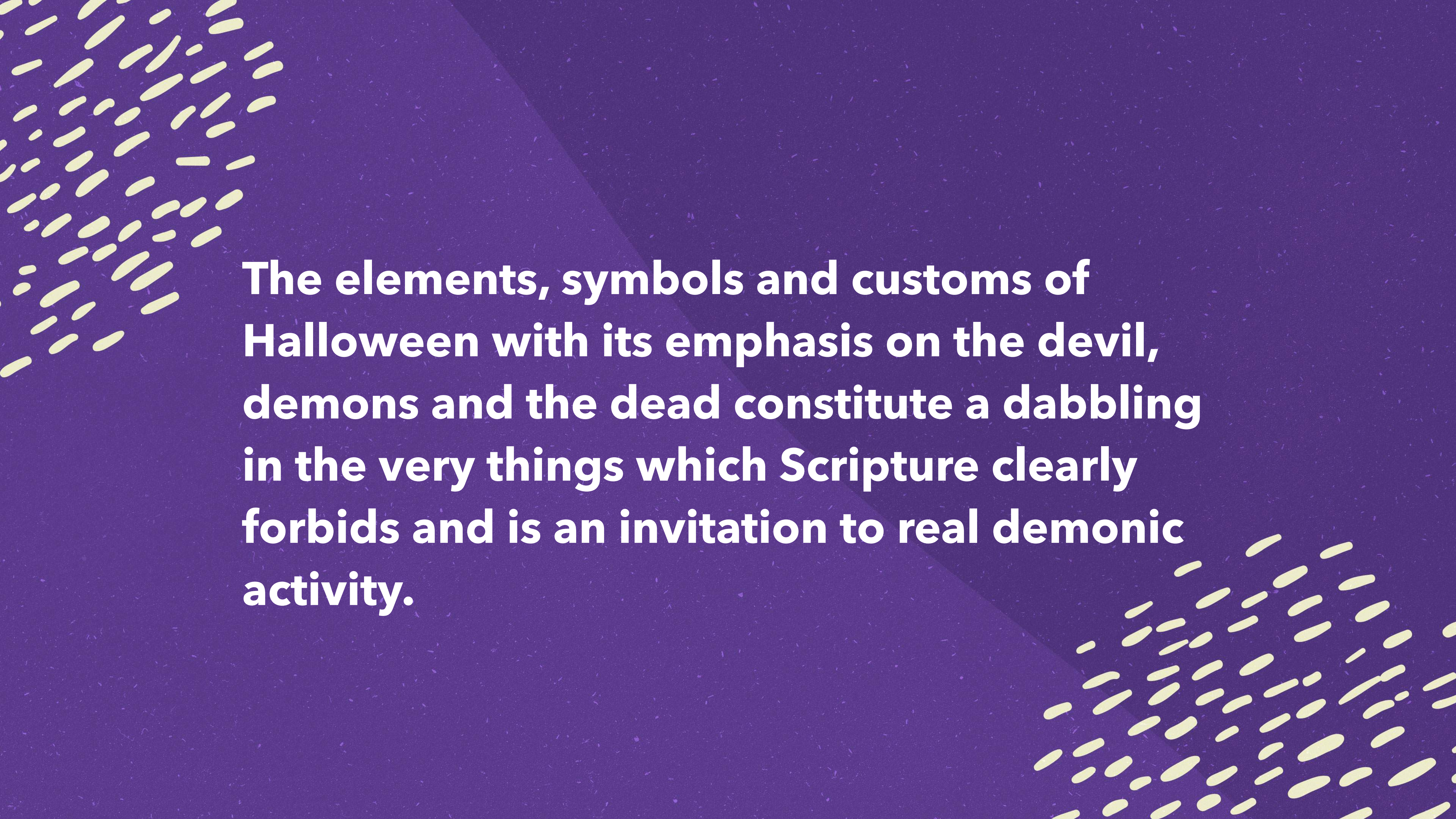


With the exaltation of grotesque and frightening costumes, images and decorations such as witches, goblins, vampires and devils; Halloween obviously does not exalt Yeshua in any way at all. Halloween celebrates the very powers of evil that nailed Yeshua to the cross!

Celebrating Death

Halloween is a pagan religious festival.
It is obviously not Biblical nor Messianic.

So why do Believers pretend to be evil
creatures, emulate evil deeds and participate in
festivities dedicated to the worship of the
devil?



The elements, symbols and customs of Halloween with its emphasis on the devil, demons and the dead constitute a dabbling in the very things which Scripture clearly forbids and is an invitation to real demonic activity.

Divination

There must not be found among you anyone who makes his son or daughter pass through fire, a diviner, a soothsayer, an enchanter, a sorcerer, a spell-caster, a consulter of ghosts or spirits, or a necromancer. For whoever does these things is detestable to *Yehovah*, and because of these abominations *Yehovah* your Elohim is driving them out ahead of you. You must be wholehearted with *Yehovah* your Elohim.

Deuteronomy 18:10-13



Don't follow the path of the wicked or walk on the way of evildoers.

Proverbs 4:14

Do not follow the crowd when it does what is wrong; and don't allow the popular view to sway you into offering testimony for any cause if the effect will be to pervert justice.

Exodus 23:2



Tradition

For many people Halloween is a tradition; many join in the celebration of this supposed “holiday” without giving any thought to what is being celebrated.

Halloween, typically, has always been observed by certain families and they see no need to change this tradition.




After all, what's the harm in it?

**The Bible says we will be defiled by the
unfruitful deeds of darkness.**

Halloween is a high holy day of the occult!





**Clinging To Our Traditions Halloween
without controversy is a work of darkness
(*Eph. 5:11*). Believers have no business in
any form of participation connected to this
“holy day of the occult.”**

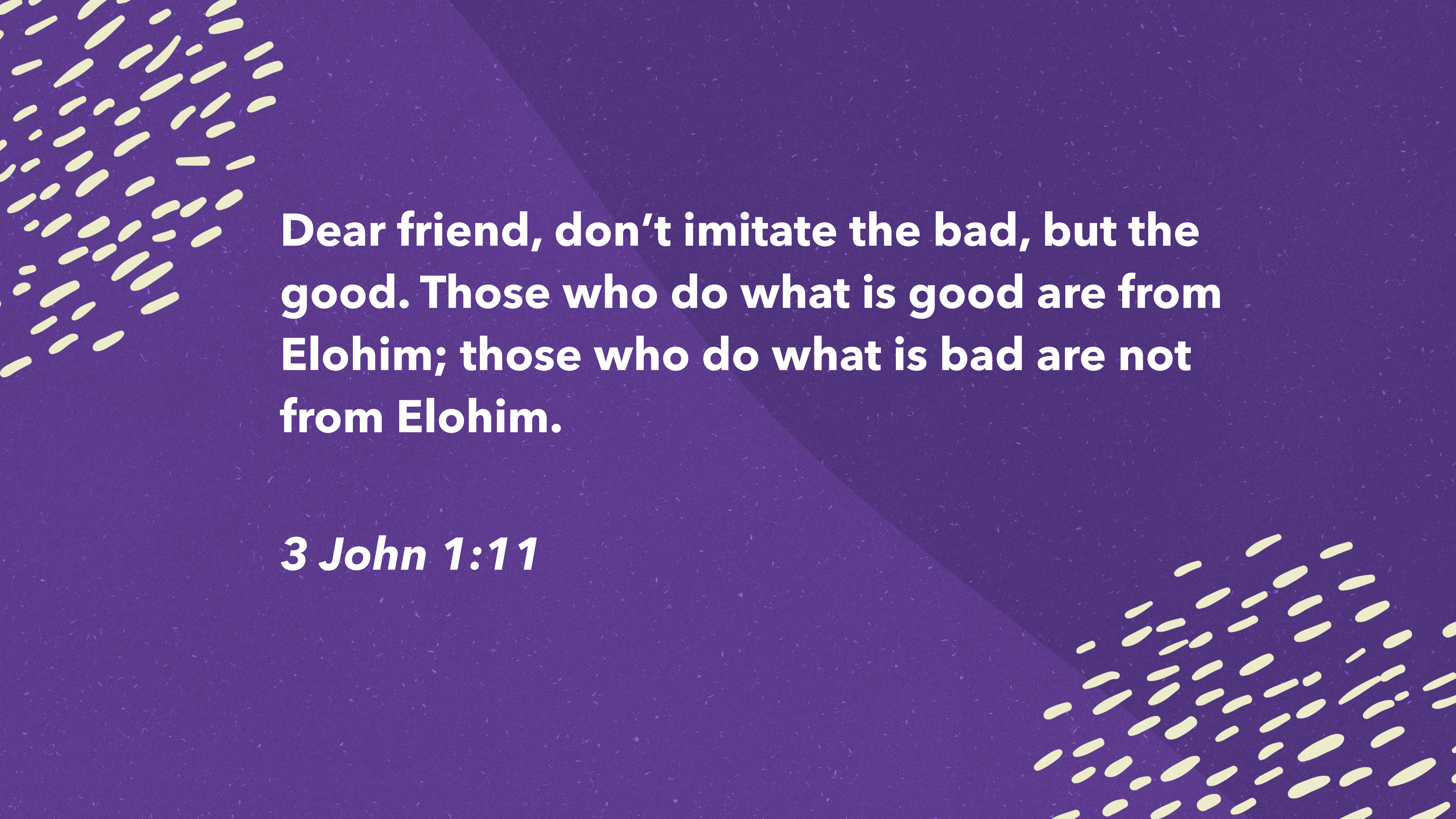
When confronted with the truth of Elohim's Word (It is truth, *John 17:17, 8:32, Heb. 4:12*), a true believer should submit to the authority of scripture. To the one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin (*James 4:17*) .

Pharisees

Pharisees followed tradition rather than the Word of Elohim.

Yeshua said to the Pharisees: "Indeed, why do you break the command of Elohim by your tradition? Thus by your tradition you make null and void the word of Elohim!"

Matthew 15:3,6



Dear friend, don't imitate the bad, but the good. Those who do what is good are from Elohim; those who do what is bad are not from Elohim.

3 John 1:11

Are we “lipservicing Elohim?”

Then Yehovah said, “Because these people approach me with empty words, and the honor they bestow on me is mere lip-service; while in fact they have distanced their hearts from me, and their ‘fear of me’ is just a *mitzvah* of human origin...”

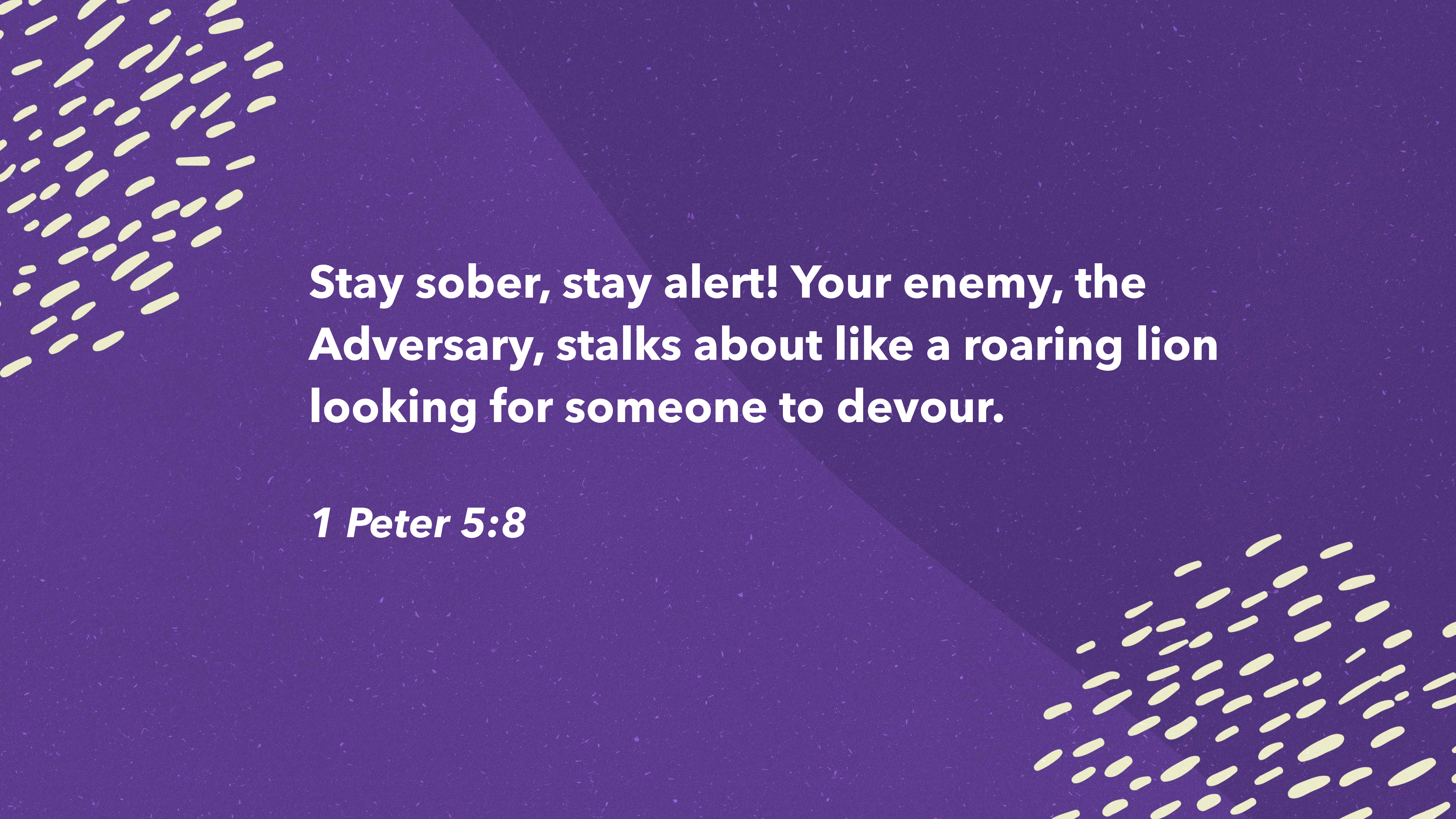
Isaiah 29:13

Are we Cultural Believers?

We don't dare class or compare ourselves with some of the people who advertise themselves. In measuring themselves against each other and comparing themselves with each other, they are simply stupid.

2 Corinthians 10:12

Believers must compare themselves to the Word of Elohim and NOT to people of the of the prevailing culture!



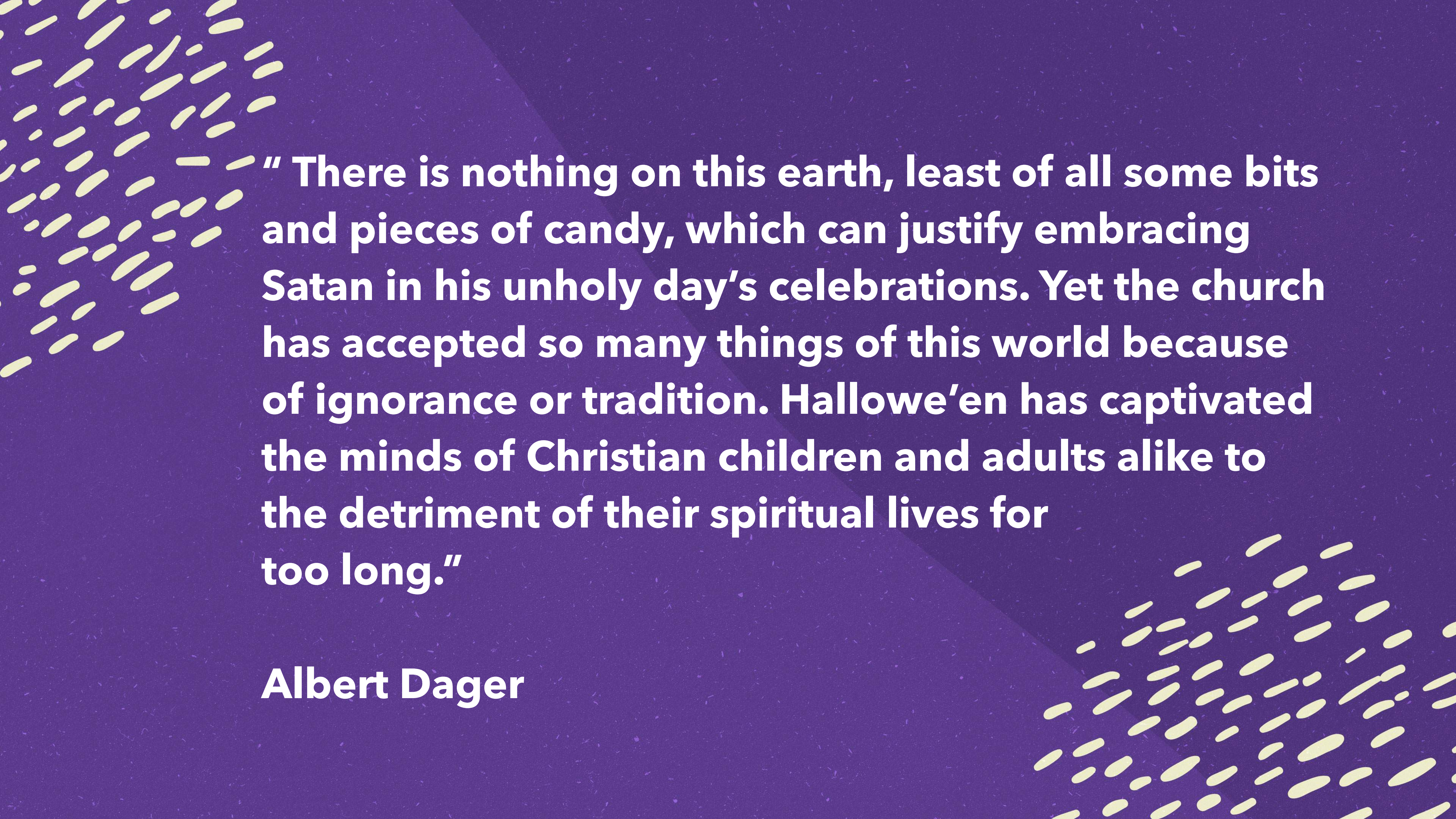
Stay sober, stay alert! Your enemy, the Adversary, stalks about like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

1 Peter 5:8

Should Believers be Set-Apart

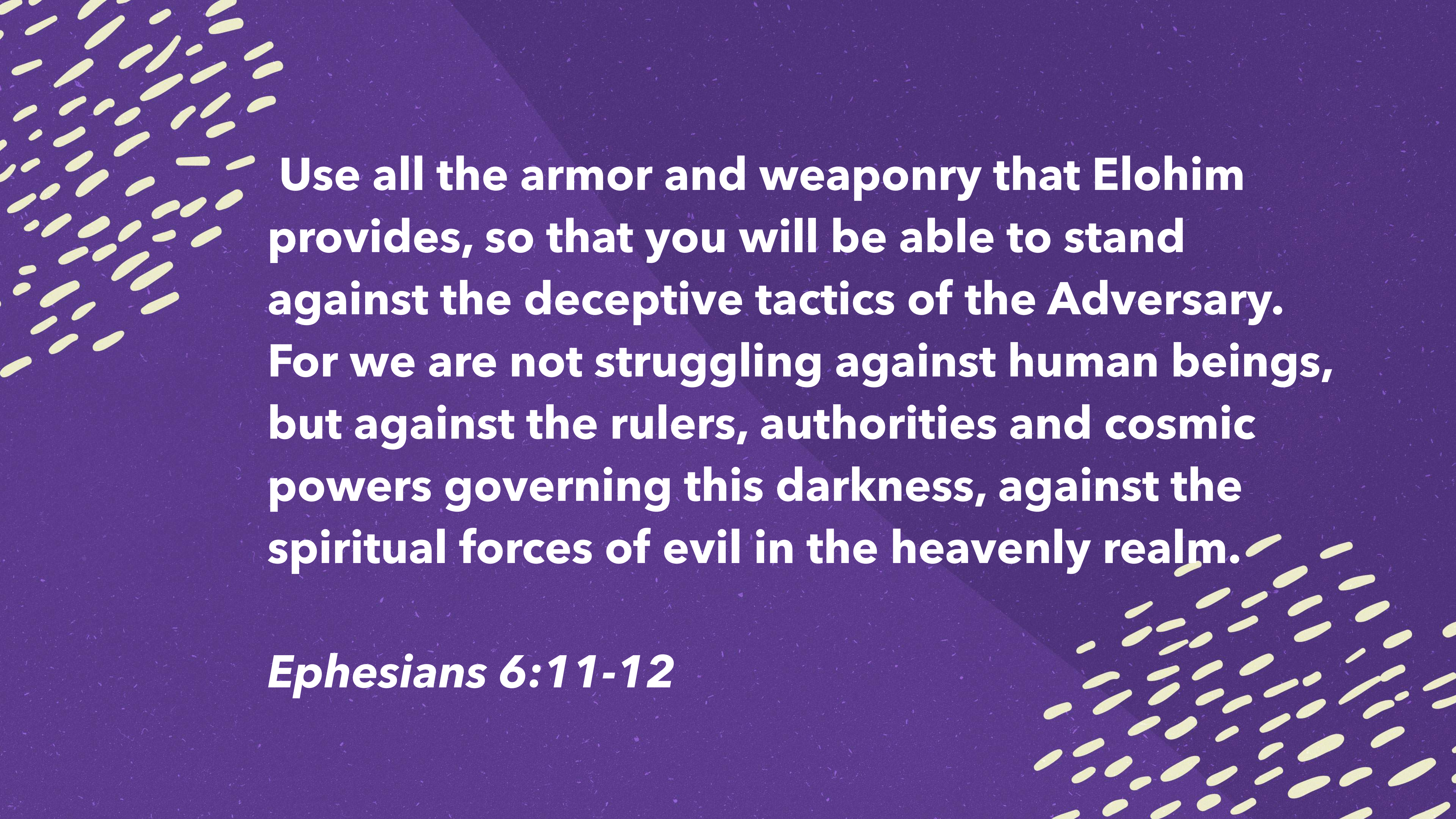
"Is it suitable for the Body of Christ to embrace the symbols of Satan for any cause and for the excuse of "fun," induce fear in people? How easy it is to become oppressed by evil spirits if we don't keep our guard up and continue in the peace and joy of Christ, but instead allow ourselves to indulge our senses in momentary pleasures revolving around Satan and his domain."

Albert Dager



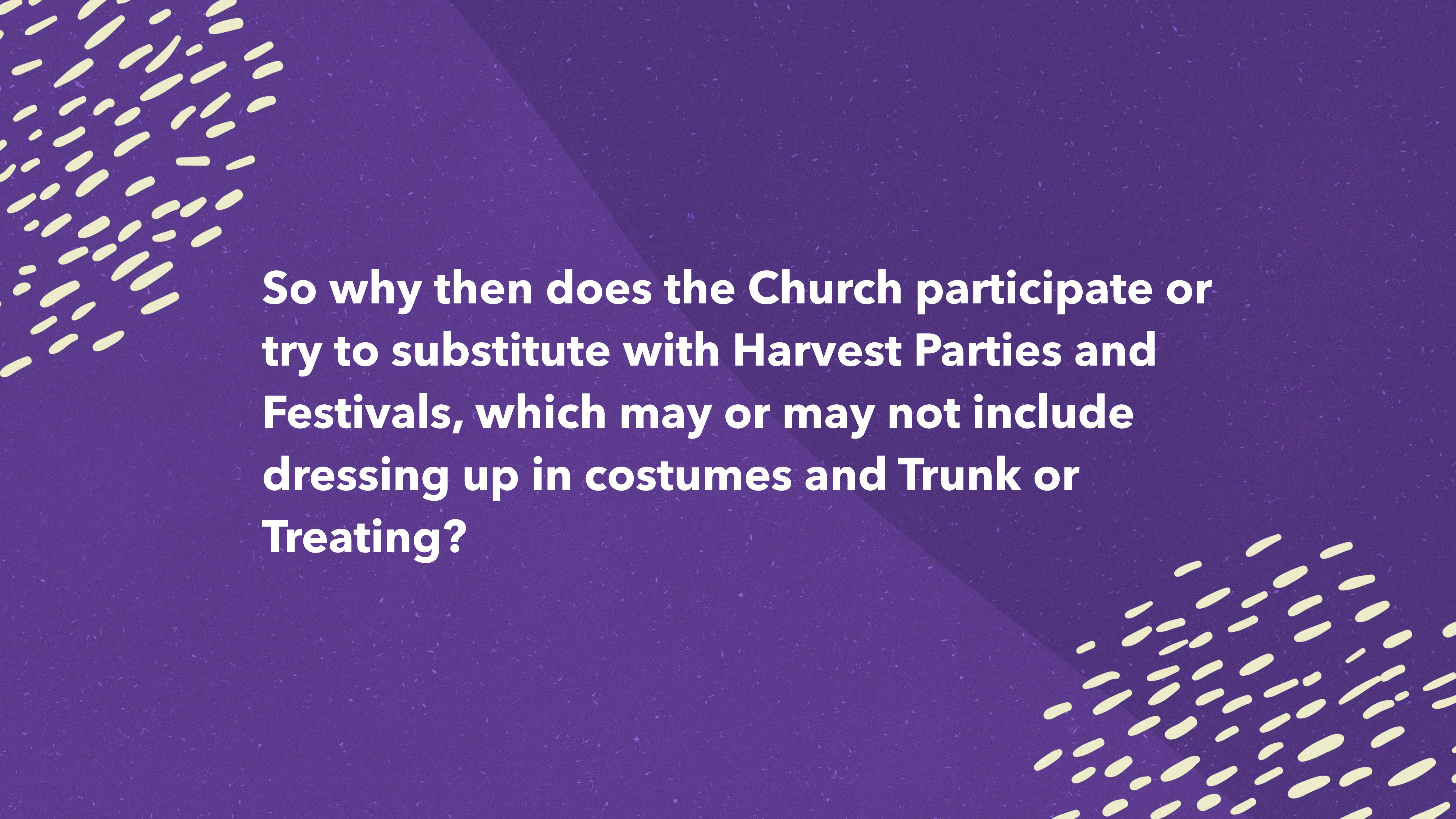
“ There is nothing on this earth, least of all some bits and pieces of candy, which can justify embracing Satan in his unholy day’s celebrations. Yet the church has accepted so many things of this world because of ignorance or tradition. Hallowe’en has captivated the minds of Christian children and adults alike to the detriment of their spiritual lives for too long.”

Albert Dager



Use all the armor and weaponry that Elohim provides, so that you will be able to stand against the deceptive tactics of the Adversary. For we are not struggling against human beings, but against the rulers, authorities and cosmic powers governing this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realm.

Ephesians 6:11-12



So why then does the Church participate or try to substitute with Harvest Parties and Festivals, which may or may not include dressing up in costumes and Trunk or Treating?



THE HISTORY OF HALLOWEEN