

Seven reasons why Christians should celebrate Halloween

By [Alan R. Rudnick](#)

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Is celebrating a holiday that honors ghouls, demons, ghosts, and everything that goes bump in the night dangerous or even evil?

Somewhere, in the halls of history, Halloween or All Hallows Eve, got hijacked. What started as a day to prepare for [All Saints' Day](#) (November 1st), Halloween became a spooky, evil, and candy filled observance. The term "Halloween" from its beginnings, had nothing to do with any pagan or evil beliefs. The Christian festival All Hallows Eve morphed into our current term *Hallowe'en*.

The key in understanding of the origins of the term Halloween comes from the sense of what is "hallowed" or "holy". In the Lord's Prayer, Christians pray, "Our Father, in heaven, hallowed be your name..." In the fourth century, John Chrysostom tells us that the Eastern church celebrated a festival in honor of all saints who died. In the seventh and eighth centuries, Christians celebrated "All Saints' Day" formally.

How did Halloween become associated with evil spirits? When we look at [history we discover](#):

More than a thousand years ago Christians confronted pagan rites appeasing the lord of death and evil spirits... the druids, in what is now Britain and France, observed the end of summer with sacrifices to the gods. It was the beginning of the Celtic year, and they believed Samhain, the lord of death, sent evil spirits abroad to attack humans, who could escape only by assuming disguises and looking like evil spirits themselves. The waning of the

sun and the approach of dark winter made the evil spirits rejoice and play nasty tricks.

If the Christian observance of

Halloween began with a religious focus, how can we reclaim Halloween from its current feared status? Here are 7 ways Christians can take back Halloween... [Read more](#) at *On the Bema*, part of the [CCblogs network](#).