

# Faith Baptist Church and Schools

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To Whom It May Concern:

Johnny Todd, professed ex-grand druid, is the subject of this letter.

Near the first of June, 1977, Brother Jack Chick of the Chick Publications called me and told me about Johnny Todd whom he had at that time known for about four years. I agreed to meet with Todd so that I could talk with him. During the conversation I became impressed with his knowledge of the occult and his knowledge of Masonic symbolism. After the first meeting, we had other meetings, sometimes with others besides the two of us.

Todd was invited to speak at a young people's rally in the Sacramento area in October of 1977; and after hearing good reports of that meeting, I decided to invite John to speak to our adult Bible classes on November 13. He did, and all went well.

I invited John to again address the adult Bible classes on January 1, just prior to his departure for an East Coast tour that lasted three months. Once again, all went well.

At the end of the Eastern tour, I received a letter from Dr. Tom Berry, pastor of Bible Baptist Church in Elkton, Maryland, giving good reports of Todd's meetings on the East Coast and in Indiana.

On Sunday evening, April 9, following his return from the Eastern tour, strange things began to happen around John. For example, he said that as he left the service, before others left the building, two shots were fired at him in the parking lot. No one saw this but John, himself. A half an hour later, while leaving in his car which was driven by another man, a shot heard by a dozen or more of our people was fired. No one saw the shooter, and nothing was hit. There were two or three other similar instances involving shooting or a man seen with a gun. There were some questions in my mind regarding the details of the shooting incidents which have not yet been answered to my satisfaction.

From that time on, I began to earnestly pray to the Lord to show me whether or not John Todd was genuine and trustworthy. I still trusted John, but at times questions would arise in my mind about him.

While in Wisconsin on May 23 and 24, speaking at Maranatha Baptist Bible College, I receive a call from Mike Griffin, one of our members who has been a member of our church most of the time since he grew up in our church. Mike had been loaned a tape by Todd which he had made of a newscast covering a meeting he conducted in Ventura, California. The tape was not a clean tape, and when the newscast ended, the tape went right into a session during

which John Todd was teaching witchcraft to several people. The date of the class was mentioned clearly by John Todd on the tape as March 3, 1976. On April 11, 1978, John had told me that he had gone into a period of backsliding and had actually sold some occult books out of his store in Dayton, Ohio; but he said, "I never went back into the occult."

On the tape of March 3, 1976, John was teaching the people in his class how to cast spells. He was talking to them about the importance of using old herbs because they had more power and then he said, "One reason witchcraft, I feel, is more powerful than Christianity, is it's got about 8,000 years upon it. It's got billions of people believing in it over that period of time. Christianity is a very new religion."

Discussion arose in the class concerning the gods and goddesses, and one of the people in the class asked John where the gods came from. Todd replied, "The gods were made by a higher supreme force that's beyond the gods."

Then Todd spoke of Diana and said, "Diana was not a god. She was a witch that progressed the tree of life to the tenth stage and became a god. Any of you sitting here could do it. It takes many, many lifetimes."

At the end of the class, he asked two of those in the class who expressed interest in joining a coven to remain afterward to talk with him and Sheila Todd, whom he called by her witch name which was Diana.

My deacons and I met with John and let him hear excerpts from the original tape he had loaned to Mike Griffin. Upon hearing the excerpts, Todd said that the whole meeting and what he had said was just a sales pitch which he made to those in the class. Todd said that he did not have the backing of the occult; therefore, the real witches would not patronize his store. He said that the class was conducted in an effort to drum up business. He also said the class was held during his period of backsliding.

After hearing the excerpts, Todd, in the meeting with our deacons on May 27, 1978, said, "That was done in the store and we just did it one time. We called a bunch of people together. We were trying to save the store at that time."

Upon checking the original full length tape by Todd made on March 3, 1976, there were several allusions to a previous meeting. Todd said, "Here's when I got started with my new instruments, consecration of atalmay, consecration of book of shadows, consecration of amlets, the one I've got now, midnight, 18th of March, 1975, a year ago, o.k.? In fact you were around living in our apartment at the time when I did it."

Todd also said, "I'm sorry, Phyllis, you weren't here when we last went over it."

Again, Todd said, "I thought we covered all this last week. But I'll do it for now."

He also said, "If you didn't get it last week, night winds, you'll hear us talk about the night winds a lot."

On Saturday, May 27, which was the day on which my deacons and I faced John Todd, I had just that morning received information from a tape of a message delivered by Todd in Indiana near the first of April, 1978. On that tape Todd said, "Baptist ministers like Tom Berry, Jack Hyles, Jack Chick and Roland Rasmussen have had to go armed 24 hours a day because of threats. I don't know about Van Impe--but I can speak of personal knowledge of the others."

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Now, John had tried to persuade me to carry a weapon, but he knew very well that I had not carried a weapon. When I faced him with this on May 27, he admitted that he knew I had not carried a weapon. He said that when he made that statement about my being armed that he was so tired he meant to say one thing and said another.

Upon recommendation of the deacons, on Sunday evening, May 28, Faith Baptist Church voted unanimously to remove John Todd from our church membership in order to remove our endorsement from his ministry.

It was my feeling that because of the above falsehoods spoken by John Todd, I could not risk endorsing a man and his message in whom I no longer had confidence. I felt that his false statements rendered suspect everything else he said.

Roland Rasmussen, Pastor