

The Oologah Informer
December 28th, 2014

*Just the other day I broke a mirror, and the first thing my friend said was, "that's seven years of bad luck."
Does the Bible Speak about Such Superstitions?*

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Service Times

Sunday

Bible Class: 9:30 A.M.
Worship: 10:30 A.M. & 5 P.M.

Wednesday

Bible Study: 7 P.M.

Preacher:

Russ Earl

AM Sermon:

Road to Calvary – Lesson 6
"The Scourging of Christ"
(Mk 15:14-15)

PM Sermon:

Your relationship with God
(1 Jn 2:1-5)

Sunday AM Bible Class:

The book of Judges – D. Jackson

Wednesday Bible Class:

Fellowship - Swearingen

In SEARCH of the Lord's Way

Tulsa KWHB TV 47
Sunday mornings at 7:30am

The Gospel Playlist Radio Network

Our internet radio network will go live in January of 2015.
Visit www.gospelplaylist.org for more info.

To answer this question, we first need to determine what "superstition" is. *Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary* defines "superstition" as "a belief or practice resulting from ignorance, fear of the unknown, trust in magic or change or a false conception of causation." Superstitions, such as the one you inquired about, come from the ignorance of man, especially to the truth revealed in God's Word. Let's look at a few common superstitions, and how they relate to the truth of God's Word.

• **SEVEN YEARS BAD LUCK FROM BREAKING A MIRROR.**

This belief comes from the ancient myth that the image in the mirror (or any other reflective object) was our actual soul. Thus the breaking of a mirror resulted in the soul being astray from the body. Early Romans believed that man was renewed every seven years. When these ignorant concepts were joined, the belief came about that for seven years (until the time of renewal) your soul would be astray, and thus you would have bad luck. God's word teaches that it is God who is in control of our soul (Matthew 10:28; Acts 2:27; 1 Thessalonians 5:23). The idea that breaking a mirror would separate man from his soul would actually teach the death of man, for man without his soul is dead (James 2:26).

• **A BLACK CAT CROSSING YOUR PATH IS BAD LUCK.**

This foolish teaching comes from the idea that black cats are connected with the supernatural activity of witches and such (a belief begun during the witch hunts of the middle ages). Again the Bible is very clear that such beliefs are founded on ignorance and rejection of God. The idea of such supernatural beings is always associated with idolatry and the rejection of the true and living God (Deuteronomy 18:9-12; 1 Kings 17:16-18). God called the claims of such people a "thing of nought" (Jeremiah 14:13-14).

• **IT IS BAD LUCK TO WALK UNDER A LADDER.**

This idea comes from the days before the gallows, when criminals were hung from the top rung of a ladder. It was believed that their spirits lingered underneath and thus to walk beneath a ladder was to enter the area of evil ghosts and spirits. The Bible concept of death and the destiny of the spirit of man is far different! In Ecclesiastes 12:7, we are told that at death "the spirit shall return unto God who gave it." Many other passages in God's Word teach that the spirit does not linger upon this earth at all upon the death of the individual (cf. Luke 16:19-31; Hebrews 9:27). An examination of other superstitions (13 is an unlucky number, don't step on a crack, if you spill salt throw some over your shoulder, etc.) would likewise show a basis in those things which are clearly ignorant of, and in opposition to, the truth of God's Word. Given the teachings of God's word and the foolishness of superstitions, it is easy to see the validity of the saying, "As knowledge increases, superstition fades." Instead of filling our minds with and

falling prey to the foolish superstitions of man we ought to strive to study the Word of God that we not be deceived. As Paul said, “As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving. Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power...” (Colossians 2:6-10).