

Myths: Halloween is Devil Worship

By: Taji Wolf

Edited by: Ivy Huang

Date: January 14th, 2026

Sources:

- <https://blogs.loc.gov/headlinesandheroes/2021/10/the-origins-of-halloween-traditions/>
- <https://www.churchesfellowship.co.uk/halloweenfactnotmyth>

Halloween has become synonymous with pumpkins, witches, zombies, demons, and all sorts of mythical beings. But over the years, the true meaning of the celebration has lost all semblance of its meaning, especially within religious circles.

Many religions (I will not be naming names) are *very* strict on whether they celebrate the supposed “devil holiday” or not. It all comes down to their religion and what they interpret it as. But what really is the origin of the spooky holiday made to collect candy and wear costumes, and how did it end up as the most hated holiday in religion?

The name “Halloween” comes from the “All Hallow’s Eve” or simpler Hallowe’en, where “Hallow” was the olden english word for “Holy”. This day marks the evening before All Hallows Saints day, a day where the church celebrates the lives of the saints, which originally the day came from Pope Boniface IV. The day was originally on October 31st, but was later changed to November 1st where it stays to this day. Some believe this change was made because of the celebration/thanksgiving of the lives of those who had died on the ancient Celtic celebration of Samhain (Samhain meaning “Summer’s End” in Gaelic).

The “Summer’s End” made sense as in the northern hemisphere, the time during October and November transforms the lush landscape into a land of dead and decaying trees, plants, and a wasteland of death.

The transformation of a celebration made to worship the lives of Christianity's most beloved saints into a holiday that has been outcast by the very people that created it has a lot to do with pop culture, or more specifically, American pop culture.

The carving of pumpkins originates from an Irish legend about a man called Stingy Jack. The wearing of costumes originates from Samhain as they wore it to avoid being terrorized as evil spirits by disguising themselves as one.

These are only a few things that were only introduced in the Americanized interpretation of a century old celebration that has been contorted so much that the creators have abandoned it, and for that, we have 1900s America to thank for that.