WHAT IS A DEMON? WHAT IS DEMONOLOGY?
What is a Demon?

A MODERN DEFINITION

- Malicious supernatural being
- Causes harm, suffering, disease and death
- By temptation or possession
- Under the Devil’s command
What is a Demon?

A METAPHOR

- Give into temptation
- Act in poor judgment
- Feel depressed
The Role of Demons

EXPLANATION OF EVIL

• Cause disease & illness
• Create bad events
• Punish the good & reward the bad
The Role of Demons

PERSONIFICATION OF EVIL

- Devil and his demonic army
- Supernatural evil
- Serial killer
- Superhero arch-villain
What is Demonology?

PERSONIFICATION OF EVIL / SATANOLOGY

• Study of the Devil

• God’s opponent in Apocalyptic Judaism
What is Demonology?

FOLKLORE AND MAGIC

- Legends about demons and monsters
- Local beliefs about protection & exorcism
- Magical amulets & incantations
What is Demonology?

CULTURAL STUDIES

- Dante’s Inferno
- Milton’s Paradise Lost
- Goethe’s Faust
What is Demonology?

THEOLOGICAL RHETORICAL ANALYSIS

- Rhetoric: the language someone uses to persuade
- Insiders against insiders (e.g. 2 Corinthians)
- Insiders against outsiders (e.g. Revelation 13)
What is Demonology?

MEDIEVAL DEMONOLOGY AND WITCHCRAFT

- Malleus Maleficarum (The Hammer of Witches)
- The Discoverie of Witchcraft
- Daemonologie
What is Demonology?

OCCULTISM & WESTERN ESOTERIC TRADITIONS

- Natural magic and hermetic philosophy
- Spiritualism
- Occult Philosophies of Cornelius Agrippa
- Angelic magic of John Dee
- Solomonic traditions of the Golden Dawn
What is Demonology?

SUMMARY

- Protection from evil
- Exorcise evil
- Control evil
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