

# The Preacher and the Pythoness

Acts 16:16-24

## Introduction

Acts 16:14-15

### v16

*“spirit of divination / a pythonic spirit”* Gk *pythona*; (pro. *poo thone*) i.e., ‘python’

**Lydia:** a woman who received the Words of God. **Slave girl:** a woman who recites the words of a demon.

*Oracle* = ‘The medium by which a god reveals hidden knowledge or makes known the divine purpose.’

*Pythoness* = a female soothsayer or conjuror of spirits.

### v17

Satan is described in one place as “a serpent” (Gen. 3:1) And in another as “an angel of light” (2 Cor. 11:14).

**Uttering true statements does not authenticate a transformed life; nor does it reveal true motives.**

Luke 4:34

Mark 5:7

**Through the ages, God has challenged all those who claim to have a “spirit of divination.”**

Isaiah 41:21-24

Isaiah 44:7

The prophet issues a warning to God’s people: Isaiah 8:11-13, 16, 19-22

“necromancer” one who reveals the future (divination) by conjuring up the spirits of the dead.

A Hebrew word that also meant “ventriloquist.”

**God, in many cases, used *light* in various forms to reveal Himself and to lead His people in the OT.**

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” Psalm 119:105

Proverbs 6:23

**“Light” is a biblical metaphor used to describe the arrival of Messiah.**

Isaiah 60:1-3

Micah 7:8

**Jesus is the *Oracle of God*, the Light of life, the Rising Star, the Sun of Righteousness.**

Luke 1:68, 70, 76-79

John 1:4-5

Matthew 4:15-17

1 Peter 4:10-11

2 Peter 1:17

“For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” Revelation 19:10

Revelation 22:16