



Black Iraqi Muslim drummers prepare the altar for a ceremony to summon African spirits. The model ship (center) represents the vessels that brought black people to Iraq as slaves. The Arab slave trade preceded the transatlantic slave trade by nearly one thousand years – there is belief among many that it still exists today. Arab slave traders transported “Black Africans” across the Red Sea, Indian Ocean, and Sahara Desert beginning around 650 A.D. As shown above, certain black Iraqi Muslim sects combine elements of Islam with African spiritual traditions. For this very reason it’s not unusual to see “blacks” being treated as second class citizen in nearly every country they have been dispersed to, which is not their own.

**Deuteronomy 28:68 (KJV)**

And the LORD shall bring thee into Egypt again with ships, by the way whereof I spake unto thee, Thou shalt see it no more again: and there ye shall be sold unto your enemies for bondmen and bondwomen, and no man shall buy you.

**Deuteronomy 30:1-3 (KJV)**

(1)And it shall come to pass, when all these things are come upon thee, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before thee, and thou shalt call them to mind among all the nations, whither the LORD thy God hath driven thee,

(2)And shalt return unto the LORD thy God, and shalt obey his voice according to all that I command thee this day, thou and thy children, with all thine heart, and with all thy soul;

(3)That then the LORD thy God will turn thy captivity, and have compassion upon thee, and will return and gather thee from all the nations, whither the LORD thy God hath scattered thee.

**Deuteronomy 30:17-20 (KJV)**

(17)But if thine heart turn away, so that thou wilt not hear, but shalt be drawn away, and worship other gods, and serve them;

(18)I denounce unto you this day, that ye shall surely perish, and that ye shall not prolong your days upon the land, whither thou passest over Jordan to go to possess it.

(19)I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:

(20)That thou mayest love the LORD thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.