This is not an article at this point. We are simply giving you some information you can use until we find time to write the article.

Read the DragonBall myth at this website: Tonari No Dragonball

The story may sound exciting, but the action is grounded in spiritual and psychic sources that God tells His people to shun. The following quotes from above website offers some glimpses into the message and influence of the DragonBall series of television episodes and comic books:

"Dragonball, written by the world-renounced Akira Toriyama, is an epic story of good versus evil...."

...but not from a Christian perspective. The Bible shows us repeatedly that all spiritual forces not of God come from occult sources. (See <u>Establishing a Global Spirituality</u>)

"In Toriyama's original work, merely called "Dragonball", the main character, Son Goku, is a super-strong, little boy who also happens to have a monkey-like prehensile tail attached to his backside."

Notice the interesting tie to the animal world. The shaman or "Medicine man" in earth-centered cultures around the world would often wear animal masks, horns, tusks, feathers, or fur in order to invoke a corresponding animal spirit.

"... he spent his early years living alone in the mountains, fending for himself. One day, a pretty, young girl named Bulma arrived in the area and introduced him to a grand adventure - tracking down the seven magical Red-Star Dragonballs, that, when brought together, call forth Shen-Lon the Eternal Dragon, who would then grant the summoner a single wish. After the wish has been granted, the seven Dragonballs scatter until the next time they are brought together."

The ritual of gathering the Dragonballs empowered the winner to invoke a personified spiritual being. No longer are children merely looking to impersonal psychic forces. This is a personal deity, which like Satan, masquerades as a benevolent god — or as the helpful genie in Aladdin's magic lamp.

"The rest of the first series shows little Goku fighting an odd assortment of strange and/or hilarious baddies, making new friends, summoning Shen-Lon, and slowly growing up."

"The manga for this series is a collection of sixteen tankoubans (graphic novels), and through the course of them, Son Goku would "participate in three martial arts tournaments, encounter and defeat an army bent on taking over the world, and build

lasting friendships with the people around him - many of which, surprisingly, were former enemies."

Remember, "manga" refers mainly to the <u>comic books</u>, which link the psychic powers and cosmic battles of the power behind martial arts.

"The second series, "Dragon Ball Z," picks up years after the end of "Dragonball". By now, Son Goku is an adult and married, with a four-year-old son named Son Gohan. In the first set of episodes, aptly termed the 'Saiyan saga', we uncover the secret of the Son family's unique tail (which has since been lopped-off on Goku)."

"As if that's not enough of a surprise for him (Goku had always thought he was an orphan), it seems that our beloved hero is also an alien! He originally hails from the planet called Vegeta, and is member of the war-like Saiyan race. Sent as a baby to the Earth to destroy it, he hit his head soon after grandpa Gohan had found him, and as a result, had completely forgotten his mission!"

"Radditz then goes on to describe his people -- ruthless, genocidal maniacs, who enjoy tromping on those weaker. Of course, it helps that they have incredibly high endurance levels and super-strength to do so. Also, with the help of a full moon, they are able to transform into giant were-monkeys, called Ooxary, who are unbelievably powerful (but only if you have a tail!)."

I will respond to the point about the full moon later.

"...because of their inattentiveness, the Saiyan race had an "accident" of sorts, and their home world was destroyed. ... of their entire race, only a handful of Saiyans exist still. They are Radditz, the Saiyan Prince, Vegeta, his henchman, Nappa and Goku."

"Giving Goku the typical bad-guy ultimatum - "join me or die" – Radditz kidnaps young Gohan... Goku and his friends bravely choose to fight, which leads to a host of new issues and problems, and the discovery of a latent power which resides within Goku and his son."

"Son Goku and his friends were forced time and time again to battle incredibly powerful opponents in order to ensure the safety and peace of their planet. This simple plot would successfully drive the story of DRAGONBALL until its end."

"Bravely, Goku, his granddaughter, Pan (daughter of Son Gohan and Videl), and Trunks (son of Prince Vegeta and Bulma) go on a trip into space to collect the seven Black Stars and stop the impending disaster."
