

Dangers of the New Age Movement

The New Age Movement is **not new**. It is as old as the serpent's lies to Eve in the garden of Eden. It is the old pantheism, polytheism, occultism and naturalism that goes back to the Tower of Babel (Genesis 11) and takes us on to the "Whore of Babylon" in Revelation 17:5. The New Age Movement is an umbrella for many cults and self-improvement programs and philosophies. It is a type of recycled Hinduism, made more palatable for the Western mind in our century. It includes shamanism, humanism, and all of the mind-science religions. Though these groups go by many names, the shared beliefs that make them "**new age**" are as follows:

- 1.) The belief that the "divine spark" is within every human being, and/or that you are your own god;
- 2.) The belief that transformation comes through enlightenment, and mankind is constantly evolving towards perfection **through reincarnation**.

The New Age Movement includes the "false christs" and false prophets that Jesus warned about in Matt. 24:23-24; the spirits that are **not of God** that we are warned about in I John 4:1-3; the "other Jesus", "other gospel" and "other spirit" that Paul warns us about in II Cor. 11:3-4, and the antichrist of I John 2:18-19. Satan's lies are not new, he merely updates them for each new generation. The original lie to Eve is composed of three parts:

- 1.) "Yea, hath God said...?" (Gen. 3:1) - **Satan cast doubt on the word of God**. The New Age teaching is that God is not a **personal** God, but merely a **force**. If God is just a force, there can be no **word of God** (there are no commandments to keep, and therefore no moral absolutes). This is a very appealing lie, because a force requires nothing of you.
- 2.) "Ye shall not surely die...." (Gen. 3:4) - **Satan denied the reality of death**. New Age translates this into the teaching of **reincarnation**. Since God is a force, and we are a part of that force, we don't really die, but are merely "recycled" through reincarnation (hence, no belief in a resurrection or judgment - see Hebrews 9:27).
- 3.) "...your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods." (Gen. 3:5) - **Satan claimed Eve could be like God**. Some New Age teachers actually teach that the serpent was initiating Eve into "higher consciousness" . Becoming like God, or being your own God, is a fundamental teaching of all New Age religions and philosophies. A lot of present-day therapies are based on this lie, which is also called the "human potential movement". Their belief is that man is not a sinner, and there is nothing wrong with man that education and enlightenment will not cure. (See Romans 3:23, Jeremiah 17:9, Isaiah 64:6)

The list of groups, cults, organizations, etc. that are New Age in nature would be almost unending. As soon as one list would be completed, some new groups would spring up and need to be added. As Christians, we must "Do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God..." I John 4:1-3. If we are on the lookout for these basic teachings of New Age, we will be able to discern and identify whether a teaching is Biblical or New Age, whether it calls itself "Christian" or not.

What draws people to the New Age Movement, and how can we as Christians witness to those involved in New Age teachings? We must **not** look at the **individuals** as our enemies. Many people are drawn to New Age religions and philosophies by a desire for personal growth with the hope of affecting the world in a positive way. The New Age Movement promises fulfillment and tells people they can be in charge and control their situations. It promises them they can be their own god, but actually leaves them with a sense of emptiness and no real peace. The best way to witness to someone in the New Age is to realize they are on a spiritual search,

and they **may** only need to hear of **the true Jesus Christ** in order to put their faith in Him. Ask questions about their search for spiritual fulfillment, and be sensitive to the Holy Spirit. "Sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and be ready always to give an answer to any man **who asks you** the reason for the **hope that is in you**, with humility and respect" (I Peter 3:15). Follow the example of Jesus with the woman at the well (John 4:3-42). Jesus gently but firmly turned her questions around to what He wanted to talk about, and offered to her the "living water" that she really needed. The true seekers, and not those who have **already rejected the true Jesus**, will be open to the truth, if we are patient and use much prayer. If you find a Christian involved in the New Age Movement, be sure to tell them of the dangers, and help them to get out (See John 10:1-16; Rev. 18:4, & I Corinthians 10:14-21).

Though the individuals should not be seen as enemies, **the movement itself** is truly our enemy, and will be the platform on which the Antichrist will set up his one world system. Their ultimate goal of world peace through a one-world government and a one-world religion leaves no room for the absolute truths of the Bible. Ultra New Agers look upon Bible-believing, evangelical Christians as unenlightened, un-evolved persons who stand in the way of their goals, and who must be eliminated at all costs. When the Anti-Christ is in power, people will be so deceived as to think that by killing us, they are helping us to be reincarnated for another try at enlightenment the next time. J. Randolph Price, well-known New Age writer has a "spirit guide" called Asher. Asher, speaking through Price, has said that "Nature will soon enter her cleansing cycle" during which those who are **less evolved** will be "purified off the planet." (See II Thess. 2:9-12; Rev. 6:9-11; Rev. 17:1-9; Rev. 19:1-2; Rev. 20:1-4).

Last of all, here is a brief glossary of New Age terms. We should be alert and vigilant to recognize any New Age teaching by the beliefs listed above, and by the use of any of these terms.

NEW AGE TERMS

- **AKASHA** A Hindu term meaning the stuff of which the spiritual realm is composed. It is very sensitive to mental manipulation. Psychics are believed to be able to "read" the akashic records and determine what people did in their past lives.
- **ASTROLOGY** One of the most ancient and popular forms of fortune-telling or divination. Much of the New Age is based on astrological beliefs. It is basically the belief that the position of stars and planets at the moment of your birth have an effect on one's destiny.
 - **Isaiah 47:12-14** "Stand now with your enchantments, and with the multitude of your sorceries, wherein you have labored from your youth; if you think you will be able to profit, or if you think you may prevail. You are wearied in the multitude of your counsels. **See if your ASTROLOGERS**, your STARGAZERS, and your monthly PROGNOSTICATORS (fortune tellers, PSYCHICS) can stand up and save you from these things that shall come upon you. Behold, they shall be as stubble; the FIRE SHALL BURN THEM..."
- **AQUARIAN** From the astrological sign "Aquarius"; the Age of Aquarius is another name for the "new age" of enlightenment that is to come.
- **ASTRAL PROJECTION** The separation of the spirit/soul from the body by one's own will. Witches and Satanists have practiced this for ages, and I believe it is done with the help of demonic power. This practice is dangerous, because one opens oneself to the spirit realm, and it is therefore prohibited in the Bible by the same verses that forbid **dealing with familiar spirits** (Lev. 19:31; Deut. 18:9-12; Isaiah 8:19-20; Lev. 20:6).
- **AURA** The halo of energy **supposedly** radiated by each living thing. The aura changes color depending upon the emotions and health, and can be seen, felt and analyzed. Reading people's auras is called "Radiesthesia", and is supposedly used to do psychic readings and to diagnose physical ailments.

- **BIO-FEEDBACK** A quasi-scientific technique using a form of the electro-encephalogram machine to train people to control brain waves. Used for relaxation and stress management, but also used to induce altered states of consciousness.
- **CHANGE AGENTS** Refers to teachers, social workers, counselors, etc. These people are viewed as being primary agents for bringing about transformations in the way our children think and respond. Many of our public schools, libraries, and colleges are already infiltrated by New Age people who are hard at work pushing their agenda, which is nothing less than the destruction of traditional morality and religious values, and its replacement with New Age doctrine.
- **CHANNELING** New Agers believe that by entering an altered state of consciousness (usually going into a trance), they can allow a non-physical being (usually called a "spirit guide") to speak or act through them. To them, this non-physical entity is a super-evolved, higher type of being, and they are usually believed to be benign. However, the Bible calls this **DEALING with "FAMILIAR SPIRITS"**, which are **DEMONS**, and they are "wicked spiritual powers", interested only in our destruction (Ephesians 6:10-12; I Tim. 4:1; see also Deut. 18:9-12; II Chron. 33:1-19; I Chron. 10:13; I Sam. 28:3-19).
 - **I Chronicles 10:13** "So Saul died for his transgression (sin) which he committed AGAINST the LORD, even AGAINST the WORD of the LORD, which he did not keep, and also for ASKING COUNSEL of a **FAMILIAR SPIRIT**, to inquire of it."
- **CHRIST SPIRIT** Also called "Christ-Self" or "christ consciousness", it is the higher self that can be consulted for wisdom. This false "Christ" is energy, not a person, and was **not unique to Jesus**, according to New Age teaching. Therefore, to them, Jesus is **not** the only Christ, or the only begotten Son of God, but one of many on whom this Christ Spirit rested. (See I John 4:1-3; John 1:1-4 & 14; I Tim. 3:16).
 - **II Cor. 11:1-4** "...But I am afraid, lest as the serpent **deceived** Eve by his craftiness, your minds should be led astray from the simplicity and purity of Christ. For if one comes and preaches ANOTHER JESUS whom we have not preached, or you receive a DIFFERENT SPIRIT which you have not received, or a DIFFERENT GOSPEL which you have not accepted, you may put up with it."
- **CREATE YOUR OWN REALITY** A catch-phrase idea that reality is "plastic" or malleable and ultimately only exists in a spirit form. Therefore, you can alter your own reality by mind power.
- **CRITICAL THINKING** A discipline that removes all prior learned morality from upbringing in the family. This is why so many New Agers go into teaching our young people (see "Change Agents" above). Similar to "values clarification", where values are clarified through group decisions, with no absolutes (especially Biblical ones) ever being involved.
 - **I Timothy 4:1** "Now the Spirit expressly says that in the last days some will depart from the faith, giving heed to **deceiving SPIRITS** and DOCTRINES (teachings) of DEMONS; speaking LIES....."
- **CRYSTALS** The use of crystals in divination or fortune-telling is called **Crystalomancy**. Many New Agers wear crystals around their necks, and have larger crystals displayed all over their homes, believing them to convey energy, bring health, occult power or good fortune.
- **EARTH GODDESS** Also Called **Earth Mother**. Many in the New Age are ultra-conservationists because they actually worship the planet earth, and/or simply have no other hope for the future as the Christian has (the "Blessed Hope" - Titus 2:13; I Thess. 4:13-18).
- **ENERGY FIELDS** The list would be too long to mention, but beware of any therapy or course of study that talks about "energy fields" or "energy sources." The Bible recognizes only two sources of energy other than our own human energy, and those are: God and Satan. There is nothing neutral! Feng shui and other eastern practices using "forces of energy" may refer to it as "**Qi**" or "**Chi**", but these are NOT neutral or benign forces of the earth or universe, they are DEMONIC forces.
- **FENG SHUI** Pronounced "fung shway" - many people see this as a seemingly harmless interior decoration method, with the added "benefit" of good luck. However,

it relies heavily on these so-called "forces of energy" so that what the person is actually doing is positioning their home with items to attract demons.

- **I Corinthians 10:14-21** "Therefore, my beloved, FLEE from IDOLATRY.....What do I mean then? That a thing sacrificed to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything? No, but I say that the things which the Gentiles (non-believers) sacrifice, they sacrifice to DEMONS, and NOT to GOD; and I do not want you to have fellowship with DEMONS."
- **GLOBAL SOCIETY** A society that is one culture, one religion, has one leader, and has a centralized control of the monetary system. This is the ultimate goal (also referred to as "The Plan") of the New Age Movement: to usher in the "new age" of peace and harmony with this one-world system. It has already been predicted by God in His word in the book of Revelation, and our children are being indoctrinated in the public schools and by television to "think globally" and to believe that "we are the world".
- **KARMA** A Hindu term which means "cause and effect". Anything you do, good or evil, will come back to you - in this life, or in the next, as you are reincarnated. If your karma was "good", you will be reincarnated to a higher form, closer to the god-consciousness, and vice versa.
- **MANTRA** A special word to be chanted repeatedly in order to induce a change in consciousness. At the very least, it is "vain repetition" (Matt. 6:7), but at the worst, many mantras used in Yoga, Transcendental Meditation and other groups are actually the names of Hindu "gods". This means, according to the Bible, that these people are calling on demons to help put them in a trance, and eventually to be possessed by them (see I Cor. 10:20; Deut. 32:15-17; Rev. 9:20-21).
- **MASTERS, ASCENDED** These are believed to be spiritual entities which once had physical bodies, but have "evolved" beyond the physical. Their teachings are not to be questioned. Again, according to the Bible, these spirit beings are **demons**(Ephesians 6:10-12; I Tim. 4:1; see also Deut. 18:9-12; II Chron. 33:1-19; I Chron. 10:13; I Sam. 28:3-19). See "Channeling" above.
- **MEDITATION** New Age-type meditation, many times used for stress reduction, involves emptying your mind or "centering", and is the complete opposite of Biblical meditation. The meditation of the Bible involves focusing our thoughts on a particular passage in God's word, or on God Himself (Psalm 1:1-3; Psalm 119:11,15; Isaiah 26:3). We are **never** told to empty our minds, but rather to "**TAKE every thought captive** to the obedience of Christ" (II Cor. 10:3-5). If a person "empties his mind", he allows an open door for any and all kinds of demonic influence to come in (Matthew 12:43-45).
- **OCCULT HEALING PRACTICES** Homeopathy, hypnosis, pendulums, magnetic healing, polarity therapy, iridology, some forms of acupuncture, the use of crystals or pyramids, and others. These all have dubious scientific bases, claim to deal with **energy fields**, and are all rooted in pagan/occult world views.
- **PLAN, THE** See "Global Society" above. The manifestation of the Ascended Masters' plan on earth.
- **RAINBOW** Although the rainbow is a Biblical symbol of God's covenant (Gen. 9:13), in New Age teaching it is the Antahkarana, or bridge over which man must travel **to attain godhood**.
- **REALIZATION TECHNIQUES** The best known of these is Transcendental Meditation. Through special techniques, you open your mind to spirit beings and to "find the god within". Also known as self-realization, they include "The Forum", "Lifesprings", "Alpha Awareness" and "Silva Mind Control".
- **REINCARNATION** This teaches that no one ever really dies, but rather you go through hundreds of lifetimes in which you gradually perfect yourself by eliminating bad karma and attaining god-consciousness.
 - **Hebrews 9:27** "And as it is appointed for men to DIE ONCE, but after this the judgment....."
- **SPIRITUAL ENTITY** A non-human spirit being. Usually, these beings speak through "channelers" and claim to be "Masters" who have completely escaped the "wheel of karma", and are now perfect beings. Also known as "**spirit guides**". There is a great deal of talk and literature about **ANGELS** in the New Age Movement, which has crept

- into our society in general. These "angels" are the "spirit guides" or "ascended masters" to the New Agers, and are not the same as God's angels in the Bible. Again, these entities are actually **demons** (see "Masters, Ascended" and "Channeling" above).
- **Revelation 12:7-11** ".....and the DRAGON and **his ANGELS** waged war, and they were not strong enough, and there was no longer a place found for them in heaven. And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old, who is called **the DEVIL and SATAN**, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and **HIS ANGELS** were thrown down with him."
 - **TAROT** Divination or fortune-telling with a special deck of cards. New Agers believe that information about the future comes from the higher consciousness. Other forms of divination are: the Ouija board, I Ching, palm reading, numerology, and crystalomancy. **All forms of divination** are forbidden by God (see Deut. 18:9-12; Acts 19:3-20; Deut. 12:29-13:18; II Chron. 33:1-10).
 - **Deut. 18:9-22** "There SHALL NOT be found among you anyone who makes his son or daughter pass through the fire (human sacrifice), or one who uses divination (FORTUNE TELLING), or one who practices WITCHCRAFT, or one who interprets omens (PSYCHICS), or a sorcerer, or one who casts a spell, or one who CONSULTS with FAMILIAR SPIRITS, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead (SEANCES). For whoever **does these things is DETESTABLE to the Lord....**"
 - **UNIVERSAL MIND** The teaching that we are all part of a universal super-mind which permeates all things and has all the collective memories of the human race. It is similar to "The Force" in the Star Wars movies.
 - **VALUES CLARIFICATION** This concept trains students to discard all values of family or church, and instead use ethics arrived at through consensus among classmates, or situation ethics. See "Critical Thinking" above.
 - **VISUALIZATION** Imagining things into existence. Also known as "guided imagery", it assumes we have the power to create reality, and that by disciplined imagination of desired objects, and/or verbal affirmations of their existence, one can bring them into being. See "Akasha" and "Create Your Own Reality" above.
 - **YOGA and the MARTIAL ARTS** Hatha Yoga is the stretching exercises, but they are usually taught along with Raja Yoga, in which through meditation and Hindu mind exercises, you look within yourself to find the "god within". These mind exercises, and also those of the internal martial arts, such as Aikido, Hsing I and Pa Kua Kung Fu or Tai Chi, are especially dangerous, as they open the mind to the spirit world (see "Masters, Ascended" and "Channeling" above).