

THE NEW AGE MOVEMENT

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First of all it is important to say that The New Age Movement is different from all other cults. It has not a founder, no statements and no headquarters. While, from time to time, different places are used to promote this “new” philosophy.

The New Age Movement is

- religious in nature
- for the most part, it claims to be compatible with Christianity
- Its doctrinal and practices are definitely anti-Christian, and anti-biblical, particularly in respect of the New Testament doctrine of the uniqueness of Jesus Christ
- Many liberal Protestant Congregations are embracing one or more forms of New Age teachers to speak in their churches

Fundamentally, the New Age Movement’s world view is based upon two sources, both of which are ancient-occultism and Hinduism.

New Age practice is absolutely occult in nature. It mainly connect to the ancient mystery Religions

- Egypt
- Babylon
- Mesopotamia

And Esoteric

- Channeling
- Psychometry
- Radiance therapy



At midnight on August 11-12, 1831, that being who was to be known as Helena Petrovna Blavatsky took birth in Ekaterinoslav on the banks of the Dnieper River in the Ukraine. Her family was aristocratic, descended from German and Russian nobility. In peasant lore, her birthdate suggested that she would have great and mysterious powers, and since the robes of the presiding priest caught fire at her christening, it was believed that her life would be difficult.

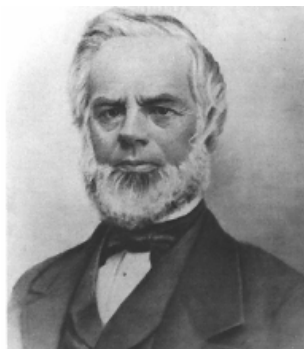
In July 1875 H.P. Blavatsky noted in her scrapbook: “Orders received from India direct to establish a philosophico-religious Society and choose a name for it – also to choose Olcott.” She published an open letter in the *Spiritual Scientist* for September 23, 1875,

in which she laid down the major themes and key ideas which were to be elaborated in the remainder of her life and in her writings. It was then that she founded the Theosophical Society, from which theosophy comes from.

From the root of theosophy came three groups



⇒ **Antroposophy**, founded in 1912, by Rudolf Steiner



⇒ **The Arcane School**, founded in 1923 by Alice Bailey

The **I am** sect, 1930’s with Phineas Parkhurst Quimby. Psychic healer

and philosopher, who taught that all disease was a product of the mind, and many problems are simply that product of “wrong thinking”. Quimby’s teaching became known as “New Thought” and spawned the mind of science cults, from which Christian Science originated.

Both Theosophy and New Thought were heavily influenced by Spiritism (also called Spiritualism, especially prior 1950), Quantum Psychics, and the concerns of society of that day and age. They think fostered by these groups helped set the stage for what is now the New Age Movement.

The New Age Movement emerged in the United States during the 1960s, and has experienced a steady growth ever since. The broad appeal of the New Age Movement as a Western phenomenon can be explained to some degree as the result of a changing culture. Americans have gradually abandoned the fundamental precepts of Christianity (prayer in school, Bible in courts, etc) which provided the cornerstone of civil life and jurisprudence in American society for more than 200 years. As a generation of baby-boomers has focused on human potential and the “god within us all”, Eastern philosophies of Monism, Pantheism, Hinduism, and Self Realization, continue to provide Americans, and even some Christians, with an alluring opportunity to throw off the “outdated ideas” of fundamental Christianity and to espouse a more “enlightened” worldview of God and reality. Some of the most notable celebrities have joined the political ambitions of the New Age Movement (goals include a United Nation’s sponsored Environmental Sabbath for the Goddess Earth), including Shirley MacLaine, Dick Gregory, Lindsay Wagner, Dennis Weaver, Dirk Benedict, Cloris Leachman, Richard Gere, Ally Sheedy, and the late John Denver. Many mainstream “Christian” denominations have also annexed the New Age ideas, and believers that once held strong doctrinal positions of the supremacy of Christ, have abandoned those views in exchange for a New Age universal philosophy. Examples include a witch who teaches principles of Goddess worship at a Roman Catholic college in California, and United Methodist pastors who propose replacing the name of Jesus with Sophia (Goddess of Wisdom) when reading about the crucifixion. Such persons claim we should join the efforts of New Agers and be sympathetic to “Goddess-minded Christians.”

The concept of God and man in The New Age Movement

New Agers define God as “an impersonal force pervading all creation”. This view is the logical result of New Age Movement’s most foundational belief=monism=Literally “One-ism”, and teaches that “all is one and one is all.” **(See also Appendix)*

The companion of Monism is Pantheism, which asserts that God is everything and everything is God. This concept, together with Monism, is universally embraced by New Agers. So, Pantheism (All is God/God is all) along with Monism (All is one) forms the foundations or substructure of not only The New Age Movement’s belief, but also of the Hindu worldview

A logical conclusion of both is that we are God. If all is one and all is God, we must be God, since we are part of all this one. One of the most cherished belief of New Agers is that they are God.

As mentioned at the beginning of this study on The New Age Movement, this cult has no leaders, even if actually is extremely important to mention some important authorities that operated and still operate in it.

- ❖ David Spangler
- ❖ Marilyn Ferguson
- ❖ Russell Chandler
- ❖ Shirley MacLaine

Central to a lot of New Age beliefs is the practice of “channeling.” This is not a new practice, however, but rather, spiritualism with a modern title. In this practice the people involved in the channelling allow themselves to be taken over by a spirit, an angel, deceased guru or wise man, or even an alien being.

It is interesting to observe the consistent pattern that emerges in channeling from spirits, the deceased, and alien entities. Most messages speak of the following themes: reincarnation, and the teaching that humans are god’s. Jesus is usually seen a just a wise teacher who was one of many, and the Bible is usually regarded as untrustworthy.

If you want to know what these beings look like, you will find that they have very kindly allowed, not only their messages to be channeled, but also their images as well. This is seen in the many channeled images and paintings created by those who have allowed themselves to be open to spirit entities. Such images are commonly seen in New Age Fairs.

Many channeled writings also exist. Probably one of the most popular today is *A Course in Miracles*. This book professes to be written from the dictation of an inaudible voice which was eventually claimed to be that of Jesus. Although the book, like many other religious books claiming some sort of inspired authority, like the Book of Mormon or the Divine Principle, has a Christian ring to it, its content actually conflicts with biblical Christian beliefs. For example, the Course declares the New Age pluralistic belief that all religions lead to God: *“Although Christian in statement, the Course deals with universal spiritual themes. It emphasises that it is but one version of the universal curriculum. There are many others, this one differing from them only in form. They all lead to God in the end.”* (*A Course in Miracles*, Viking, New York, 1996, Preface, ix). However, the Bible is emphatic in its declaration that there is only one way to God, and that is through Jesus Christ (e.g. John 14:6).

It is striking to observe the parallels between New Age channeling and the demon possession cases in the New Testament. For example, New Age believer and promoter, Shirley Maclaine, recalls the first time that she met her spirit guide, “Ramtha” who is channeled through J.Z. Knight: *“When she went into a trance and Ramtha came through, everything about J.Z. changed. The soul energy of Ramtha was in her. J.Z. is about five feet four inches tall and not particularly strong. When Ramtha came through, he picked me up in his arms and carried me around the room, nearly lifting me over his head. I could feel his masculine energy through her arms. I am a heavy, muscled woman weighing usually between one hundred thirty and one hundred forty pounds. Using his energy to strengthen J.Z.'s arms, he had no problem with my weight. (Sometime later I watched him lift a two-hundred pound man.)”* (*Shirley MacLaine, Dancing in the Light*, Mantam Press, New York, 1986, pp. 125-126). This modern day account of supernatural strength is very similar to what is recorded in the Bible when it speaks of those who were possessed by evil spirits. Mark 5 records an incident where Jesus and His disciples meet a demon possessed man in the area of the Gerasenes: *“They went across the lake to the region of the Gerasenes. When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an evil spirit came from the tombs to meet Him. This man lived in the tombs, and no-one could bind him any more, not even with a chain. For he had often been chained hand and foot, but he tore the chains apart and broke the irons on his feet. No-one was strong enough to subdue him.”* (*Mark 5:1-4*). A similar account of demonic supernatural strength is also found in the book of Acts where it is recorded that one man possessed by an evil spirit was so strong that he was able to overpower seven, very unsuccessful, Jewish exorcists: *“Some of the Jews who went around driving out evil spirits tried to invoke the name of the Lord Jesus over those who were demon possessed. They would say, “In the name of Jesus, whom Paul preaches, I command you to come out.” Seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, were doing this. One day the evil spirit answered them, “Jesus I know, and I know about Paul, but who are you?” Then the man who had the evil spirit jumped on them and overpowered them all. He gave them such a beating that they ran out of the house naked and bleeding.”* (*Acts 19:13-16*)

Another area of concern regarding channeling is that many New Age believers are quick to accept almost any message that is given. Every message, no matter how bizarre, or off the wall, is simply accepted as truth. It also seems that no concern is given regarding the actual 'source' of the message. For many, it just seems enough that the entity speaking through their chosen human vessels are actually giving messages. These entities

may claim to be either wise spirit guides, departed ascended masters, or alien entities, but it is rarely ever questioned as to whether they actually are or not. The bottom line is therefore, that those who pursue this practice are open to the very real possibility of falling prey to terrible deception. Along these lines, Douglas Groothuis has observed that even some prominent New Age practitioners themselves have recognised the potential of being deceived by channeled spirits: *"Emanuel Swedenborg, the famous seer of the eighteenth century, was well acquainted with the spirit world, having experienced detailed visions recorded later in book form. Nevertheless, he cautioned those courting the spirits: "When spirits begin to speak with a man, he ought to beware that he believes nothing whatever from them; for they say almost anything. Things are fabricated by them, and they lie... they would tell so many lies and indeed with solemn affirmation that a man would be astonished...if a man listens and believes they press on, and deceive, and seduce." (Samuel M. Warren, A Compendium of the Theological Writings of Emmanuel Swedenborg (New York: Swedenborg Foundation, 1977, p. 618. As quoted in Douglas Groothuis, Revealing the New Age Jesus, Leicester: IVP, 1990, p. 210.)* Along similar lines the Bible tells us that the ruler of dark spiritual world, Satan, is the author of lies. Jesus said of this spirit: *"He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies."* (John 8:44)

With the above evidence in mind, those in the New Age need to seriously re-evaluate the practice of channeling and ask themselves exactly who or what it is that is trying to communicate with them. The Bible warns of the very real danger of seductive spirits that will come to deceive people and draw them away from God and into bondage (1 Timothy 4:1; 2 Corinthians 11:14; 1 Samuel 28:3-20; 1 Chronicles 10:13-14; Exodus 22:18; Leviticus 19:31; 20:6 ; 27; Deuteronomy 18:9-12; Isaiah 8:19-20; Matthew 22:32).

The New Age Movement and the UFO's idea

The Idea of Myth

First, however, some remarks on the terms myth and new age would be useful. The expression "myth of the new age" is ambiguous. Myth (from the Greek **mythos**, originally "word") suggests two diametrically opposed ideas: on the one hand, myth suggests falsehood or deception; on the other hand, there is a tradition from Plato to the depth psychologists in which myth connotes stories and images, not literally "true," but expressive of deeply symbolic truths. In the study of new age phenomena, however, it is often hard to distinguish the two senses of myth. For example, consider the new age fascination with crystals. Some people take certain assertions about crystals seriously; for example, that they have curative properties or that they may be used as devices for "tuning in" to extra-terrestrial intelligences. Personally, I doubt the literalistic claims about crystals; nevertheless, I appreciate the spiritual beauty of certain stones. On the other hand, I would not rule out a priori the curative properties of certain stones, which might work by intensifying the placebo effect. The "myth" of crystals, in short, is a mixed bag. The same point applies to the much larger group of ideas that revolve around the myth of the new age.

There are cases when myths, understood at first as fictions, may become self-realizing or self-verifying. Difficulties multiply once we add the concepts of telepathy and psychokinesis (PK) to our hermeneutic, or system of interpretation. For instance, suppose H. H. Price, the Oxford philosopher, was correct when he stated that every "idea" is inherently psychokinetic, that is, that every idea has a tendency to materialize itself in some shape or form. Add to this the possibility that our ideas interact telepathically, so as to produce group thought processes. A group thought process might have even greater psychokinetic potential. This would mean that a **myth** understood in a purely fictional sense **might, under certain circumstances, objectify itself temporarily in space and assume physical characteristics**. A group mind that believed in the Virgin Mary might materialize appearances of the Virgin Mary. One might even succeed in capturing the appearance on film, as apparently was the case in Zeitun, Egypt, in 1968 A hairy creature with red glowing eyes might seem a hobgoblin buried in the collective unconscious; but if we posit the causal efficacy of telepathy and

psychokinesis, it is conceivable that from time to time the collective mind might create a near-tangible appearance of such a monster.

The psi (PK/ESP) factor, therefore, entirely confounds the concept of myth. We need, in fact, to keep this inherent ambiguity in mind when we use the terminology of myth and mythology.

The Idea of a New Age

The first thing to note is just how pandemic to Western, if not world, culture is the recurrent hope and expectation of a “new age,” a “new man,” a “new reality.” One of the mainstays of Western civilization is the New Testament, which documents a religion based on beliefs in a coming new age and in a power available to men and women to inaugurate this new age. The new age, it is said, will consist of a new moral order ruled by love and a new physical order transformed, or transformable, by a new holy or healing spirit. The Western world, in fact, is haunted by the hope and expectation of a new age. Saint John’s Book of Revelation is the primary text defining this expectation: “And I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away” (Rev. 21:1).

It was not until the beginning of the second Christian millennium that this outcry for total renewal began to make itself heard again. The new apocalyptic imagery began to influence 11th-century conceptions of history. You can trace this apocalypticizing of history back to the Calabrian monk Joachim of Floris - a primal “new age” thinker of the West (Reeves). According to Joachim, there are three stages in the evolution of history, each stage progressively under the dispensation of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The progression is from fear to joy, from the restraints of law to the liberty of love. According to Joachim, in the last stage of history, ruled over by the Holy Spirit, the church and all externally constraining institutions will dissolve, and we will enter a new age of universal free spirit.

This belief in a coming new age has influenced countless social and revolutionary movements in Western history (Cohn). The Italian Renaissance was a “new age” happening, and so were the European Enlightenment and the French Revolution. Karl Lowith shows how Joachim’s idea of the three ages of man even insinuated itself into Nazi ideologies of the Third Reich. Mircea Eliade shows how widespread the myth of renewal is in human history as, for instance, it is reflected in primitive new year rites. Current new age trends are only the latest out-croppings of a perennial plant.

Points of Method

In trying to understand the UFO experience as part of the making of a new age myth, there are three points that need to be stressed.

1. First, we need to look at the whole UFO phenomenon. Some researchers focus on reports of alien abduction but dismiss so-called contactee stories - an error, in Michael Grosso’s view, since contactee and abduction stories overlap in theme and phenomenology. John Rimmer documents cases that illustrate this overlap.
2. Second, we should look for the connections between UFOs and other possibly related anomalous phenomena: “Big-foot,” visions of the Virgin Mary, near-death experiences, poltergeists, data suggestive of postmortem survival, “channeling,” and quite a bit more. As a heuristic principle, I assume that behind the huge tangled mass of psychic oddities there is some unity of meaning, some common mechanisms. We need to keep the relevant distinctions in mind while remaining alert to whatever unifying threads of meaning or mechanism we can find.
3. Third, my emphasis is on the historical-evolutionary dimension of our data. The modern UFO era came into prominence at the dawn of the nuclear era. The apocalyptic overtones of much UFO data are all too obvious. Nobody acquainted with the 1950s contactee movement would disagree. The more recent alien

abductions also have apocalyptic overtones. Alien abductions are a type of “rapture” experience, and the “rapture” is an apocalyptic motif. The key biblical passages are in I Thessalonians 4: 15-18: *For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the morning of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.* And in I Corinthians 15:51-53: *Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.*

Vico, Jung, and Psychical Research

There is a philosopher of history, Giambattista Vico, who offers a useful conceptual lens for our purposes (See Bergen and Fisch). If Vico is right, and we are at the end of the “age of men,” which is the age of rational culture turned rotten from the “barbarism of reflection,” then we are also on the threshold of a return to the “age of gods.” When a society begins to turn from hyper-rationalism and from what Vico calls “reflective malice,” there is a tendency for the collective imagination to body forth a new cycle of gods, values, and modes of consciousness. Vico’s new cycle – our “new age” - begins with a collective outbreak of “poetic wisdom.”

The new cycle begins with the appearance of “imaginative universals,” figures that embody universal truths and have the power to “civilize” us. In Vico’s science of the origins of humanity, imagination (fantasia) gave birth to the gods among the first men. What triggered the primal imagination, said Vico, were terrifying sky phenomena - lightning and thunder. To the first men, lightning and thunder were doubtless “unidentified” - hence truly awe-inspiring. It was this “unidentified” lightning and thunder that sent the first proto-men scurrying with terror into caves with their women. In this way, the moralizing influence of marriage was first established, and the first step toward civil society was taken. Vico said it took him years to learn to “enter” into the mentality of primal humans so he could reconstruct their inner world. Unexplainable sky phenomena thus triggered the imaginative self-making of the first humans. For Vico, awe inspiring sky epiphanies functioned to establish the first forms of the collective imagination.

In a similar Vicovian vein, present UFO phenomena may thus be seen as signaling the renewal of the collective imagination. Modern UFOs would be for modern people the functional equivalent of lightning and thunder. In both cases, you have phenomena that stimulate the collective imagination and reshape social life. Of course, in the new cycle a new civilization is being formed. The outcome of the terrifying “unidentified” forces will not be the institution of marriage; however, it might have something to do with the formation of a new sense of global identity - a new kind of “marriage” between members of the human race as such.

Jung offers a complementary perspective. Jung believed that UFOs marked the rise of a new myth for modern man. He called them signals of the “end of an era” - archetypes shifting in the collective unconscious, harbingers of a coming transformation of consciousness, heralds of new imaginings of god - and goddess-forms. Vico adds the historical, genetic, and evolutionary dimension to Jung's approach. To this Vico-Jung axis I wish to add the data and concepts of psychical research. The synthesis of Vico, Jung, and psychical research offers material for a powerful system for interpreting UFOs and related anomalies. Jung considered the possibility that UFOs were extraterrestrial spacecraft, but he stressed the psychological part of the experience.

Actually, there is little consensus in ufology. The hottest current claims in support of the extraterrestrial (ET) hypothesis remain bogged down in controversy. The Gulf Breeze Incident, the Hudson Night Siege, Strieber's visitor experience, MJ-12, and the Billy Meier story all sharply divide informed ufologists. But no matter what the external stimulus, the psychosocial response to UFOs still has to be studied. In fact, there probably are real physical UFO effects; but I am not convinced they are caused by machines from outer space.

Furthermore, since Jung wrote on UFOs, new data and new concepts have emerged that enrich the theory of terrestrial mind: psychedelic and near-death research, new concepts of evolutionary theory, and the all-important data of psychical research. A theoretically enriched concept of the collective human mind might help us account for the most remarkable UFO effects. Indeed, the more remarkable the effects, the more remarkable the implications for understanding the human mind.

The Search for Contact

The recurrent imagery of contact, oneness, and wholeness in the new age myth reflects the need to overcome the sense of alienation that troubles so many of our lives today. The theme of contact expresses itself in many guises: contact with higher beings, with light beings, with beings from another world; with the earth; with the feminine principle; with the right hemisphere of the brain. "Contacteeism" is a central feature of the UFO phenomenon (<http://freenet.msp.mn.us/org/mythos/mythos.www/UFO.HTML>)

The practice of Astrology in the New Age Movement

The impure spring

The origin of this impure spring dates back to 4000 B.C. with Chaldeans, priests of Bel-Marduk. Marduk was a temple, centre of big community. In fact Bel means "dung's god", the prince of demons from which we have the final word Beelzebub, Devil=Satan and so adversary or enemy of God and the beginner of every form of evil (John 8:44). Chaldeans constituted the dominant race and occupied all the most important areas. Only Chaldeans carried on ecclesiastic functions. In the capital city they considered very wise, but above all they were very skilful magicians, enchanters, sorcerers and astrologers (Daniel 1:4;2:2-4;4:7;5:11).

Chaldea were situated in the South part of Babylon (today South Iraq), at the end of the Persian Gulf. Subsequently it was given the name of Chaldea to all the alluvial plain that from Mount Hit arrived to the Persian Gulf.

Therefore with the first world wide religious centre we have the dictator Nimrod who initiated his kingdom with Babel (Genesis 10:8-10). Under his command was executed "the first big ecumenical piece of work": the construction of a tower which top had to "reach the heavens" (Genesis 11:1-9). The tower should have helped the Chaldeans to have a better observation of the stars, it should have been the first real astronomical observatory but with an astrological purpose.

The polytheistic use of following towers, copies of the original, exemplify the complete idolatry apostasy so typical of the Sumerians and following Semitic Babylonians of the plain of Scinear.

The greatest jealousy

The first description of God with the attribute of jealous is expressed to us by the word of God in Exodus 20:4-5, when God's people even being the only of monotheistic origin, occasionally worshipped foreign gods.

An authoritative dictionary asserts: "jealousy is the manifestation of wrath and fear to lose someone who is really loved and so wished to be never lost because of others." The jealousy of God is unique in its gender (Exodus 34:14-15), it is without fear because it is not God who needs us but we are those who need Him (Revelation 3:15-22). What is yet present in God's legitimate jealousy is surely wrath (Nahum 1:2-3; Zechariah 8:1-2). But God is not jealous because of idolatry but also because of the iniquity and unfaithfulness of who is often called by Him to be saved (Ezekiel 39:21-25). So God being jealous condemns also every kind of occult practice, judgement which is thrown on those who do and trust in these things instead of trusting in God (Deuteronomy 18:9-14; Exodus 22:18-20).

Some people enable others to read cards for them or predict their future by seers, gipsy or chiromancers, other people just for fun, enable palmists to read their hands, feet or the lines of their veins. And what to say about those who foretell by dreams? God's condemnation is clear and somebody attempts to say that they do all these things in God's name (Deuteronomy 13:1-3; Jeremiah 23:25-27; 27:9).

Also the horoscope is an elaborated form of forecast or prediction. Astrology presumes the influence of stars on the human destiny (Isaiah 47:4-5). It is a pseudo-science which always tries to defend its case but which is not able to answer not only to the biblical analysis but also to the philosophical and merely scientific one, like astronomy or astrophysics. Moreover it is notorious how numerous are the divergences inside the internal organs of those who practise astrology because it is based on a foundation ground which is not solid but insignificant and absolutely unreal.

How astrologers arrive to show their horoscopes as a beneficent science? Astrology attracts only those who wish to have quick and easy answers, but it does not succeed psychologically with what it receives. It is more a strange religion, pretty occult, rather than a science.

The old, modern and occult sciences!

There are many kind of sciences in which the devil hides himself, and often even the church does not notice it. To escape to similar astuteness it is very important to ask the Lord his grace and his light. We will limit ourselves to list only some of them, obviously fruit of an accurate, historic and scientific examination:

They are: sight diagnosis; homeotherapy; psychoanalysis; autoanalysis; graphology; suggestion and autosuggestion; hypnotism; magnetism; homeopathy; acupuncture; acupressure; yoga; partie's dynamism; and not to mention radioesthesia; pendulum; the divine or magic wand, the christian science; theosophy; antroposophy and many others.

As it happened with Babel, man does not do other than commit himself to the maximum with the purpose of reaching his own aim with his own strength, without God and without the redemption and grace offered in the Lord Jesus. Man, if he does it consciously or not, accepts the help of the prince of this world, who himself masquerades as an angel of light (2 Corinthians 11:13-15). Famous men in all over the world have even claimed to apply a kind of therapy of "worldwide type".

Someone has also affirmed to have the ability to teach to his patients how to assume the roll of God. Technicalities are manifold and consequences are rather catastrophic. In most of the cases it is possible to succeed in dragging an individual in a sphere of thought which even takes far away to a certain point in which the person is pleased with himself without feeling the slightest remorse or qualms of conscience about his own sins, thoughts prompted by the Holy Spirit who brings us to Lord's feet to receive his forgiveness and his eternal salvation. Besides very man is a sinner (Romans 3:21-24) and when man does not accept this truth he risks to desert exceedingly from the chances of salvation. And it is not because God is not able to save but because man deliberately decides to sink in his sins without accepting the assistance the Lord wishes to offer him.

The only intermediary

At this point we believe it is clear enough that man is involved in whirl of ideology which willy-nilly overwhelm and drag him in ocean of ambiguity and dissatisfaction.

But history tells us about individuals sometimes ironically called "antisocials" because of their logical spiritual separatism, who for centuries have been distinguishing themselves in the middle of a confused and full of contradictions society. In the Old Testament they were simply called monotheist believers or believers of one God only, that God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, today Christians, and that is to say the real followers of Christ, continue to maintain not a tradition, neither a separatist politics but with pride they carry the flag of a faith which is not mock but sincere (1 Timothy 1:5), unique in its sort because it is confirmed not only by

history and by thousands of facts still present in our society, but particularly by the light of the unique, real and infallible Word of God, the Holy Bible.

The Holy Bible is the book which has changed and saved millions of people at the stage of physical and above all spiritual death, giving a true final aim which only the gospel of Jesus Christ presents and which only his followers can reach (Philippians 3:13-15).

Therefore it is clear for all those who want continue to maintain their bond with all that which offends God, that also if all this is done in an absolute secrecy it is not useful for the purpose merely spiritual. Because what is hidden to men can't be the same in the presence of the light of God who knows and judges the work of every single person (Ecclesiastes 12:14).

Today we have to face so many people that it is very difficult to be sure they are really sincere. Many of them pass themselves off as Christians, practising things which have nothing to do with the biblical christianity, even affirming to be mediums (the occult version of the word "mediator") between God and men. But this is absolutely false, as the only mediator between God and men is Jesus, the son of God (Matthew 7:15-28; 24:23-51; 1 Timothy 2:5).

That's why Christians have no fear to preach what is light in a world of darkness, because there is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known (Matthew 10:26-28).

- APPENDIX -

PANDEMONIUM!—THE PAGAN GOSPEL OF THE NEW AGE GOD-KING



The gospel according to the New Age Movement is an expansive idea centered around the birth of a new world "consciousness." As a religion of monism (all is one), New Agers hope to accomplish what the builders of the Tower of Babel failed to do—unify the masses of the world under a single religious umbrella, and, at the macro level, harmonically converge the world's energies with the power of Gaia. To promote such goals, New Agers claim that God is pantheistic (God is all and all is God) and that humans are divine members of the whole "that God is." According to New Ageism, Jesus came to reveal this pantheistic nature of God and to teach humanity the gospel of Self-Realization. After illustrating the divine principle of "God within us all," Jesus ascended to a place of distinction to live among the Masters of the Spiritual Hierarchy—Buddha and Krishna. Jesus promised that the essence of God would be revealed from time to time, and thus New Agers look for the imminent appearing of a World Teacher who will, as Jesus did, illustrate the divine human potential. In this way, New Age theology prepares the world for the coming of the False Prophet and the Antichrist.

Pagans claim such a religion of Self-realization—a belief that will be championed by the Antichrist—is older than Christianity. That's true. The gospel according to the New Age Movement—a gospel of "becoming god"—is as old as the fall of man. It began when the serpent said to the woman "ye shall be as gods" (Gen. 3:5), and it will zenith during the reign of the Tribulation god-king. The New Age movement provides the perfect creed for implementing such an end-time religion. It unifies the religions of the world. It consecrates the forces of nature. It provides for human divinity, and it is vogue, post modern, and politically correct. Tal Brooke—former New Age disciple of Hindu holy man, Sai Baba, confirms that "the New Age movement, and its progeny, Gaia, are spiritually correct for a new world order. Christianity is not." Thus, history repeats itself, and the ancient Egyptian gospel of men becoming "gods" is fashionable again! Consequently, New Age celebrities such as Shirley MacLaine represent themselves as "I AM that I AM" at human potential symposiums around the world, and the Vice President of the United States, Al Gore, describes God in terms of "a constant and holy spiritual presence in all people, all life, and all things" [emphasis added]. The president's wife, Hillary Clinton, channels the spirits of the dead, and members of the House of Representatives warn Congress of "increasing evidence of a government-sponsored religion in America...a cloudy mixture of New Age mysticism, Native American folklore and primitive earth worship."

For many years Christians wondered how the Antichrist would deceive the earth's masses. How does one convince millions of people, especially in countries where Christianity exists, to exchange their souls for temporary earthly benefits? Then the New Age Movement came along with its focus on human-potential and self-empowerment and successfully drew many Christians away from Christ-exalting doctrines. Old-fashioned gospel preaching was replaced with positive thinking, self-realization, and pop psychology, and mystical experiences which tantalize the flesh were sanctioned as "the last great revival." As a result, celebrity preachers advance sermons focusing on "the inner self," and Sunday morning services begin with shouts of "Are you ready for God to do great things!?" The implication that God will meet with believers and grant their many requests is touted as dynamic Christianity. The days of unconditional Christian devotion are threatened as contemporary congregations expect God to "manifest" Himself and please the whims of the audience. Although Jesus warned of an "evil and adulterous generation [that] seeks after a sign," physical and mystical "thrills" have become the benchmark of many popular Christian gathering places. The result is a growing superficiality among some Christians who are preoccupied with mysticism and "me-ism."

While many Christians and New Age devotees are sincere, giving people, the lasting result of the New Age Movement is nevertheless demonic, self-absorbed, and paves the way for the coming of paganism's preeminent materialization - the god-king of the Great Tribulation.

It is really interesting, and very informative the story of a former New Age devotee, *Judy Vorfeld*. She re-discovered the real Jesus after embracing New Age ideas. She became involved in freelance writing as a result of experiencing the dangers involved in participating in the New Age Movement. For many years she actively avoided anything to do with the Christianity of her childhood. But then she discovered more than she expected and rededicate her life to the only and real God.

I would like to conclude this study quoting the Scriptures.

Let us "search the scriptures daily, whether these things were so" (Acts 17:11), and as John warned in (1John 4:1)

*Beloved, do not believe every spirit,
but test the spirits, whether they are of God;
because many false prophets have gone out into the world*

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