Checkin' Out My Walk #31 - Laodicea - The New Spirituality Movement

Rev. 3:20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

<u>I Tim. 4:1</u> Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

<u>Brooks:</u> "Christians: Sit up and pay attention! This planet is being taken over by some of the highest intelligences in the universe, beings that are also master manipulators, against which there is no defense except God."

<u>Warren Smith></u> former New Age Spirituality-"It is a tragedy of epic proportions that, not only are most Christians still unaware of the nature, power, and danger, posed by the New Age Spirituality ideas among us but, like frogs being slowly brought up to the boil, this adulterous generation inside the church has gradually been acclimatized into accepting ideas and practices that any self respecting Berean, unimpressed by "new revelation", would have run a mile from.

"God is not in the process of giving the Church "new revelation" that will supersede what He has already given us in His holy Word. He is not in the process of bringing a "new thing" into the Church. He is not in the process of taking His Church to a "new place" or to a "new dimension" or to a "new level." He is not in the process of bringing in a "new dispensation." He most certainly is not in the process of introducing a "new gospel" that contradicts in word and spirit everything He has ever taught us about our life in Christ. No, these are the plans of antichrist, and the Church had better beware."

<u>Tom Horn:</u> Many of the popular "Christian" doctrines advocated today are nothing more than the cultic propositions of Eastern mysticism and ancient paganism. These include concepts of psychic healing, self-realization, emotional experiences, rules of success, breathing techniques, positive confession, name it and claim it, environmental theology, the ecumenical movement, visualization, hypnosis by clergy, mind manipulation, and so on.

At times, even the activity within the "fundamental" church, including certain physical phenomena we sometimes embrace as the miraculous evidence of "revival," is a modern form of magic and opens the door for "old gods" and their mysticism to invade the church. Sincere people, in a quest to experience God, frequently mimic the doctrinal and physical activity of others. Many Christians have been drawn to mystical experiences rather than concentrating on God and His Word."

New Age beliefs are also <u>knocking at the door</u> of virtually every church in the world and at the door of individuals' hearts who are seeking a deeper spiritual experience. There is now a bold blending of holy faith with demonic influence. This synthesis of two opposing worldviews is nothing short of a satanic strategy meant to blur and twist the distinctions which separate real Christianity and New Age beliefs and activities.

The "New Age/New Spirituality Movement" is a loose collection of many things that has ancient pagan roots put in a new package. The polytheistic religions of the East and those in "New Age/New Spirituality" beliefs and witchcraft all have a common root source in ancient Babylon and they share the common polytheist and/or pantheist beliefs of the mystery religion that began at Babylon.

Note: Most "New Age" leaders call themselves part of the "New Spirituality" movement.

Caution: This "New Spirituality Movement" contains the same beliefs of "New Age" doctrine and Babylonian paganism. It just has a refined title. This "New Spirituality" movement is the latest effort to make polytheistic and pantheistic beliefs acceptable to the mainstream public.

<u>Note:</u> "Nothing has changed in Satan's game plan, just the names of the players, and in some instances, even the names are the same."

(Dr. Jones, co-author of The Gods Who Walk Among Us)

<u>Brannon Howse</u> author of Religious Trojan Horse: Exposing The Sinister Influences Sweeping the World Toward a Satanic Global Empire

"Looking back at the horrors of World War II many people think, "We're glad that's over with." They naively believe the days of people like Hilter are gone for good. Yet we live amid threats creating a worldwide nightmare Hitler only managed in a few countries."

"Satan oversees a worldwide assembly of unthinkable forces trying to capture the hearts of any men and women unaware of his sinister tactics. Politics alone will not seduce the world to follow his leaders. Neither will economics by itself. This time, the enemy of God and man is bringing together what history shows to be the most powerful of all influences: the <u>religions</u> of everyone on the planet." [Contemplative prayer is the bridge. >Tilden Edwards]

"Postmodernism has beguiled the world and conditioned people across the globe to embrace pagan spirituality and reject reason, logic, and absolute truth. Manipulating populations through education, environmentalism, economics, and ecumenicalism will culminate in a global empire that brings oppression on a scale never before seen."

Ray Yungen: New Age: "The Age of Aquarius [synonymous with New Age] is when we are all supposed to come to the understanding that man is God.

One New Age writer states, "A major theme of Aquarius is that $\operatorname{\mathsf{God}}$ is within.

The goal in the New Age of Aquarius will be how to bring this idea into meaningful reality."

"Contrary to many peoples' thoughts, the New Age did not die out in the 60's but was slowly but surely integrating into every facet of society - medicine, business, schools, science and religion. The last frontier for the New Age to conquer was the evangelical church. It is with great sadness we see that it has finally achieved that victory."

<u>Thomas Horn</u>: "The gospel according to the New Spirituality Movement is an expansive idea centered around the birth of a new world "consciousness." As a religion of monism (all is one), they 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. Their goal is to harmonically converge the world's

energies with the power of <u>Gaia</u> who was the personification of the Earth and one of the <u>Greek primordial deities</u>. [Gaia was the great mother of all: the primal Greek Mother Goddess; creator and giver of birth to the Earth and all the Universe; the <u>heavenly gods</u>, the <u>Titans</u>, and the <u>Giants</u> were born to her.] To achieve these goals, they claim: God is pantheistic (God is all and all is God). Humans are divine members of the whole "that God is."

They teach that Jesus came to reveal this pantheistic nature of God and to teach humanity the gospel of Self-Realization. Afterwards, Jesus ascended to a place of distinction to live among the Masters of the Spiritual Hierarchy - Buddha and Krishna. Jesus promised the essence of God would be revealed from time to time. They look for the imminent appearing of a World Teacher who will, as Jesus did, illustrate the divine human potential. The New Spirituality theology is preparing the world for the coming of the False Prophet and the Antichrist."

"Pagans claim this religion of Self-realization is older than Christianity. That's true! ["Self-realization means to know truth through yourself and not through others. By seeking God first, through self-realization, all things - strength, power, prosperity, wisdom, health and immortality, will be added unto you." Yogananda] The gospel according to the New Spirituality 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) It will zenith during the reign of the Tribulation god-king." This "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."

Thus, history repeats itself, and the ancient Egyptian gospel of men becoming "gods" is fashionable again.

Christians have wondered how the Antichrist would deceive the earth's masses. How could one convince millions of people, especially in countries where Christianity exists, to exchange their souls for temporary earthly benefits? Then the New Spirituality Movement came along with its focus on human-potential and self-empowerment. It successfully drew many Christians away from Christ-exalting doctrines. Old-fashioned gospel preaching was replaced with positive thinking, self-realization, pop psychology and mystical experiences which tantalize the flesh. These have been sanctioned as "the last great revival." Celebrity preachers advance sermons focusing on "the inner self." People think God will meet with believers and grant their many requests. This is being touted as dynamic Christianity. Jesus warned of an "evil and adulterous generation that seeks after a SIGN. Physical and mystical thrills are becoming the benchmark of many. The result is a growing superficiality among some Christians who are preoccupied with mysticism and "me-ism."

Note: "An inward-focused generation of "religious people" willing to trade their soul for whatever makes them happy is exactly what is necessary for the appearance of Antichrist. "You can stamp my hand if you'll give me what I want" is the required attitude."

"Has an effective strategy been found to woo Protestants away from the preaching of God's Word? Are more being led into supposedly wonderful spiritual exercises such as Center & Contemplative Prayer, Prayer Labrinths, Lectio Divina and Spiritual formation? Then as a powerful seductive spiritual experience engulfs their being during these exercises, the "angel of light" overwhelms their senses with an experience of spiritual ecstasy banishing the Biblical warnings and the "still small voice" of the genuine Holy Spirit. Now they are hooked on "the experience of Christ Consciousness" and "Contemplative Prayer" which becomes their new spiritual focus. They neglect to study and teach the deep Truths of God's Word. The seduced "saint" is reveling in his seduction and praying earnestly to his new found god of love, "Please do it again!", "Please be intimate with me again" while the true God's truths are neglected and gradually exchanged for Ecumenical truths acceptable and adaptable to all the great religions of the world which are moving along "the broad way leading to destruction" as they intimately worship their god."

<u>Eric Barger</u>: Considered an authority on the cults, the New Age, and rock music. From his past as a former drug addict and rock n' roll musician who was deeply involved in the New Age movement, Eric has emerged since he gave his life to Jesus Christ as a great defender of Christianity in America and the truths of God's Word.

"The New Age Spirituality or the Emergent Church follows this: experience over reason, spirituality over doctrinal absolutes, images over words, feelings over truth, earthly justice over salvation, and social action over eternity."

New Age belief = spiritual experience trumps the Word of God.

The "New Age" or "New Spirituality" movement in a nutshell:

- We are all powerful spirit beings.
- We pre-existed before our present lives on earth.
- Reincarnation
- Pantheism
- Worship of the creation rather than the Creator
- The human species will evolve into its Christ consciousness or God state.
- God is a force, everyone and everything is part of this creative force.
- Because God is in everything, collective thoughts create reality.
- The mother earth is part of the force and she is a living entity.
- If human abuse of mother earth continues she will have to defend herself with severe natural upheavals.
- We must reduce our population and eliminate all the negative thinking people (Monotheistic fundamentalism) by education or removal.
- Some in the "New Age" believe that our parent species are alien life forms.
 They say these aliens planted us here sometime in the past and that they are due to return.
 This belief will set the world up for the great deception.

Note: Occult's view of the last days: Once these people leave this earth, the new world leader will take his rightful place over the world.

Warren Smith, author of "The Light That Was Dark- From The New Age To Amazing Grace," was deeply involved in "The New Age Spiritual Movement." A riveting testimony of a man who thought the gods of the New Age were leading him towards light and truth until his shocking discovery that the light he was following was actually a darkness that could destroy his life.

This is Warren's touching story of how in his search for a Savior he was sidetracked into the occultic darkness. "Led down a yellow brick road by pied piper spirits, I had, with the best intentions, landed in a metaphysical New Age where the Christ proclaimed was not the real Christ at all. A well-orchestrated and exquisitely timed series of supernatural synchronistic experiences had convinced me that my involvement in alternative spirituality was meant to be."

I had unknowingly plugged into the spirit world not realizing most of the voices I was listening to were part of the deception the real Jesus had warned about. My journey to the occult began with a psychic reading which convinced me I was spiritually underdeveloped.

I resolved to remedy this and search for something to fill this void.

I studied *A Course In Miracles* and dabbled in other occult & New Age practices. From his many years of experience under that influence, Warren has dedicated his life to warning Christians about the dangers of the New Age Spirituality and help us recognize how we can avoid these satanic influences from creeping into our churches.

- 1. "All New Age teachings are heading up to a process where the world is going to be told to get on-line. <u>Atonement</u> will be a word that will be used. This "Atonement," or "atoning," is when each person remembers and affirms and experiences their "oneness" (at-one-ment) with God and creation. We are all one because God is in everyone and everything. When we recognize our oneness we can all come together and help achieve world peace.
- 2. The plan is to get this great heretical idea that god indwells his creation accepted. (centering prayer, contemplative prayer, prayer labyrinths, etc.)
- 3. The Shack was a very popular book not only in the world, but it was actually at the top of the New Age bestseller list and it was in every Christian bookstore. The "Jesus" of The Shack" said, God who is the ground of all being dwells in and around, and through all things."

 Note: If you look carefully at the book when the world creation is brought up it is a capital "C." Those from the New Age know when you see creation with a capital "C" it means that God indwells His creation.

Warning: This is contrary to Scripture.

Psalm 39:5 "Verily every man at his best state is all together vanity."

- 4. Throughout the churches people are having spiritual experiences [that will bring in hopefully from the Devils' standpoint] <u>new revelations</u> which will <u>end up birthing a new world view</u>. The main vehicle is through contemplative prayer, a code for the meditation.
- 5. This voice from the enemy is doing a good job through contemplative prayer.

He is trying to bring in this very simple bottom line teaching that <u>we are all connected</u>. We are all one, we are all god. Those that don't subscribe to divinity could be hindering world peace and would have to be dealt with in the future.

- 6. New Age leader Neale Donald Walsch said he was speaking for his God:
- "There are a 1,000 ways to God and they will all get you there, except for one, and that's the one that denies that there are a 1,000 ways to God."
- 7. "The recognition of God is the recognition of yourself. The journey to the cross should be the last useless journey." "We save ourselves by recognizing that we are God. The only thing satanic is to not believe in your own divinity."

Ray Yungen: "In order to spot New Age beliefs when they come into your church or Christian college, it helps to know who the influential New Age leaders are. Their teachings have made major inroads into our society and are moving full speed ahead, altering the message of Jesus Christ as being the only way of salvation and pressing society into a mold that says, 'All paths lead to God.'" A few leaders are: Barbara Marx Hubbard, Neale Donald Walsch, Marianne Williamson, Deepak Chopra, and Wayne Dyer.

<u>Barbara Hubbard</u>: "I went through the Gospels, Acts, Epistles, and the book of Revelation, verse by a verse, writing for six months without stopping or "thinking" in the ordinary sense. I just asked "what does this mean?" and the ideas flowed through a poised mind. It was the most wonderful period of my life. I produced a massive treatise called a book of Co-Creation. [The last section, inspired by the book of Revelation, has been published as The Revelation: A Message Of Hope For The New Millennium.] I was <u>infused with the spirit</u> of the evolutionary Christ and felt that this is what we can become, as we are all changed... [102]

<u>Horn:</u> "When the simple <u>God given</u> gifts of rational thought and logic are thrown out of the proverbial window, we allow our minds to become blank canvasses, fertile ground for a powerful spiritual being to plant in it whatever he wishes...the meaning of the Scriptural texts carefully manipulated to give credence to his ideas and his plans. Common sense dictates that when we are reading and endeavoring to understand something written by someone else, we ask the question "What did the original author mean?" But, of course, common sense and logic are now seen as the antithesis of 'spirituality' and don't stand a chance against exotic concepts such as being "infused with the spirit of the evolutionary Christ".

Be aware of some common themes now being taught by many well-known Christian leaders:

- 1. Global Peace Plans
- 2. Meditation contemplative prayer labyrinth walks
- 3. Global Connectedness unity & community
- 4. Ecumenism Find Truth in All Religions

Sept. 23: Pope Francis is scheduled to visit the White House for discussions with Pres. Obama about their shared values on caring for the poor (wealth redistribution), religious freedom, immigration (elimination of borders), environmental issues (global warming), etc. Sept. 24: Pope Francis is scheduled to address a joint session of Congress about world peace, religious values (probably a need for a world religion), caring for the poor, etc. Sept. 25: Pope Francis is scheduled to address the UN. He will give the speech to kick off the conference on the new "sustainable" development agenda. He has said climate change will be his legacy! He wants to reduce the world's population, regulate global climate change, establish a global constitution, establish a global court and establish a one-world government. ["What is even more alarming is who will be on the stage with the Pope when this encyclical is formally released. John Schellnhuber is a German professor who has some very radical views on climate change. For instance, he believes that our planet is overpopulated by at least six billion.] Sept. 25-27: The UN plans to hold a Sustainable Development Summit to expand the role of global governance (world government). They plan to discuss global economic issues, climate change, global education and gender equality. It is really a plan to control the life of everyone on earth.

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Did you know that radical environmentalism, sustainable development, and the green agenda can be traced back to the socialist agenda of Nazi Germany? Did you know the holocaust was largely based on German paganism and the sacrifice of the Jews was seen by Hitler as a sacrifice for fertility and virility? Do you know that death camps were filled with oak trees as part of the symbolism of known German paganism? Did you know that bio-spheres and huge parks were created by killing the Jews that owned the land? The sacrifice of the Jews and all others that were deemed genetically, mentally, and ethically inferior for the production of a superman race were also seen as a plight upon mother earth and thus must be sacrificed. Sadly, many have rewritten history and the murder of 11 million people by the Nazis are not properly or historically taught for the pagan, environmental sacrifices that they were. When the Nazi worldview was mixed with Darwinian evolution, Friedrich Nietzsche's superman concept, and Hitler's antisemitism, the final solution to this perceived capitalistic, environmental, and genetically inferior overpopulation was a pagan, sacrificial extermination. It has been found that radical environmentalism was largely behind the Nazi agenda and is very similar to the overpopulation agenda, green agenda, and sustainable development agenda of today.

The New Age of Disgrace, by Sherry Shriner: "In a New Age there is no tolerance for true Christianity. Michaelsen (Johanna Michaelsen, author of "Like Lambs to the Slaughter") says, "In New Age thought traditional Christianity blocks the evolution of the human race, threatening the global unity necessary for racial survival. 'Unity' is the password of the day: unity at all costs; unity at the expense of truth. Those who stand in the way of "unity" - especially religious unity - are increasingly being viewed with a hostile eye, for these "narrow-minded disrupters" are seen as standing in the way of the establishment of the peace and the

very survival of the entire planet. Those people (such as Fundamentalist Christians) who insist on maintaining their "archaic and provincially orthodox" beliefs and literal interpretations of Scripture must either learn to become "open-minded" and blend in or else risk being eliminated - entirely."

Like many other "one world" groups, New Agers look forward to the elimination of existing political systems and national boundaries. They are prepared to welcome the subsequent blending of all nations and peoples into planetary culture, with a single court of justice, a single police force, a single economic and education system - all under a single government dominated by a super-bureau of what they call themselves, "enlightened ones".

You should know, if you are a Christian - a Bible believing Christian who believes in the birth, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ the Son of God - that you are a <u>primary target</u> of *The Plan*. In fact, the <u>only</u> thing that stands between Satan and the successful implementation of this global blasphemy of one world religion and government is you and the other determined Christians throughout the world who stand against them. This is why the defeat and conquest of Christianity is their number one priority.

New Age leaders know that only if they are able to undermine credibility of the Bible, discredit it, and weaken the Christian church will they be able to fulfill the ascension of power of their New Age Messiah and the establishment of one world religion and one world government. The horrible truth about this movement is they do not want to compete with Christianity; they want to destroy it."

Ray Yungen "... instead of opposing Christianity, the occult would capture and blend itself with Christianity and then <u>use it as its primary vehicle for spreading and instilling New Age Spirituality consciousness!</u> The various churches would still have their outer trappings of Christianity and still use much of the same lingo. If asked certain questions about traditional Christian doctrine, the same answers would be given. But it would all be on the outside; on the inside a contemplative spirituality would be drawing in those open to it.

"In wide segments of Christendom this has indeed <u>already occurred</u>.... Thomas Keating alone taught 31,000 people mystical prayer in one year. People are responding to this in large numbers because it has the external appearance of Christianity but in truth, is the diametric opposite. What a skillful spiritual delusion!"

"The body of Christ that should have been a bulwark against evil has, with apostate leaders and a Biblically illiterate population, latched on to the coat tails of the world and adopted practices that are DIRECTLY derived from the Occult. We are cheerfully walking labyrinths, indulging in Contemplative Prayer, adopting Yoga, babbling in languages unknown to us, and ordering God around as if He were a celestial page boy."