

Significant Lessons From The Seemingly Insignificant

Nov. 28, 2018 Lesson #42: New Age Spirituality: Beliefs

Purpose of this lesson: Be aware of and educate! Know The Enemy!

I Pet. 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

New Age Spirituality is stretching its tentacles around the souls of unsuspecting men and believers who are not disciplined.

Gal. 1:6 I marvel that ye are so soon removed from Him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel:

Gal. 3:1 O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you?

II Cor. 2:11 so that no advantage would be taken of us by Satan, for we are not ignorant of his schemes.

Ex. 23:24 "You shall not worship their gods, nor serve them, nor do according to their deeds; but you shall utterly overthrow them and break their sacred pillars in pieces.

Lev. 20:23 you shall not follow the customs of the nation which I will drive out before you, for they did all these things, and therefore I have abhorred them.

Deut. 12:30 ..that you do not inquire after their gods, saying, 'How do these nations serve their gods, that I also may do likewise?'

Deut. 20:16-18 But of the cities of these people, which the LORD thy God doth give thee for an inheritance, thou shalt save alive nothing that breatheth: But thou shalt utterly destroy them;... That they teach you not to do after all their abominations, which they have done unto their gods; so should ye sin against the LORD your God.

Judges 2:3 Wherefore I also said, I will not drive them out from before you; but they shall be as thorns in your sides, and their gods shall be a snare unto you. [God's words at Bochim]

"Do Not inquire after their gods to find out how they served their gods. It will become a snare to you. Therefore, it is not good to study eastern meditation, yoga or any other pagan idea and adapt it to our beliefs. [Christianize it] Yoga and meditation are rooted and practiced in Buddhism, Hinduism and New Age and forms part of their religious practices. We see many new age practices with roots in paganism are being introduced to the faith. People are attracted to "new" things even though these things are not new but are part of ancient pagan practices."

Millions of people today say, "I'm not religious, but I am spiritual." Many have left behind the religion they were raised in and adopted several new beliefs derived from "new age spirituality," "the new spirituality," or "human potential."

1. Spirituality is not a religion. Religion is a belief in someone else's experience.
2. Spirituality means having your own experience.

3. Being spiritual means you are in touch with your own divine self.
4. They believe all religions worship the same God. The differences in religions are cultural. "I am spiritual and I call my Higher Power, the Universe."
5. The Universe says to me: Allow me to flow through you and you will see the greatest magic you have ever seen. Connect with your higher, divine self.

Question: Are these beliefs really new? Are we one with the universe? Are we divine?

Eccl. 1:9 The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is nothing new under the sun.

The 70's: "New Agers" were worshipping the god of forces and promoting The Aquarian Gospel of Jesus Christ. While New Agers were enthusiastically advocating Yoga, meditation, crystals, spirit guides, and humming mantras as the ways and means to achieve global consciousness and enlightenment, most professing Christians could see Satan's strategy. But now...

Time has a way of changing things, doesn't it? *New Age: Making The Straight Way Crooked* It seems Christians have joined hands with the New Age. We have a New Age Christianity which the Bible specifically warns against. Today, churches promoting "Christian Yoga." "Christian" leaders promote contemplative prayer to enhance your prayer life and get in tune with God. What was once described as New Age and the occult is spiritually acceptable now. Why?

The Word of God has been undermined.

What is so POWERFUL about the New Age Spirituality? They are increasingly accepted because people feel a spiritual void in their lives from traditional religious beliefs.

1. The underlying word which might explain its popularity is VOID. [connect with spirit guides]
2. One of the chief appeals in New Age: It is EXPERIENTIAL in nature.

Spirituality much more a matter of experience than belief.

What you experience and feel is highly valued over objective truth.

3. It seeks to Improve The Natural Man and Uplift Him.

It is a religious movement centered in SELF- all you need is within - with no defined order of sin, repentance or salvation! It advocates education [knowledge] and cultivation to find the best that is within us. You become your own god!

4. New Age capitalizes on the void or gap in our lives by holding out eternal life in one hand and supernatural experiences in the other. Both of these are advertised as being available without a need for faith or repentance from sin.

- Supernatural experiences are yours without the need for "religion."

New Age: Just line up your chakras, raise your consciousness, elevate your frequency and you will attract positive vibes only from the Universe! Namaste! = Bow to the divine within you

Christianity: Carry your cross. You will be hated because of Jesus. You will be persecuted.

You must be a living sacrifice. The Devil seeks to destroy you. Sin tries to enslave you.

You are in a spiritual war!

Warren Smith 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 acclimated into accepting ideas and practices that any self-respecting Berean, unimpressed by "new revelation", would have run a mile from. Austin, Texas City Ordinance: Austin churches must hire homosexual, transsexual pastors.

Everett Piper: The temperature is increasing and the frog is boiling.

The predicted doctrine of Demons has entered the church.

II Cor. 11:3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

II Tim. 4:1-4 I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; ² Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine.

³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; ⁴ And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be Turned Unto Fables. [myths]

I Tim. 4:1 Now the Spirit speaks expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, Giving Heed To Seducing Spirits, and Doctrines Of Devils [demons]

1. Those who become enamored with *doctrines of demons* end up devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons.

Consider: Satan has his own system of doctrine *doctrines of demons*. Such doctrines find no basis in God's Word and are based on teachers' claiming to have received special, divine revelation from God. These revelations must now be accepted as "new truth."

Warren Smith: "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. [Heb. 1:1-2] No, these are the plans of antichrist, and the Church had better beware."

Note: Many will defend these "new truths" based on how happy, good or joyful they FEEL. They assume such good feelings must be of the Lord.

If the feeling can be ascribed to a supernatural work of God, the people are deceived.

Tom Horn: New Age beliefs are also knocking at the door 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 threads of New Thought, like a fine cobweb that is strong but invisible, have been cast so widely into the culture that it is crucial for Christians to be aware of and know how to recognize New Thought."

Brooks: "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."

Ps. 62:1-2 Truly my soul waits upon God: from him cometh my salvation.

He only is my rock and my salvation; he is my defense; I shall not be greatly moved.

Tom Horn: "New spirituality" movement is the latest effort to make polytheistic & pantheistic beliefs acceptable to the mainstream public. "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 Gaia who was the personification of the Earth and one of the Greek primordial deities. [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 heavenly gods, the Titans, and the Giants were born to her.]

The main tenant of New Age teaching is that every living thing is a deity, and each of us is on a journey from unawareness of our own divinity, to full Christ Consciousness.

To achieve these goals, they claim:

1. God is pantheistic = pagan belief that God is in everything; therefore, everything is God. "God is the tree."
 - Worship of the creation rather than the Creator.
 - Panentheism = "God is in the tree."

This belief stands in direct opposition to the Biblical teaching that God exists separate and apart from His creation.

Col. 1:16-17 For by Him all things were created...all things were created by Him and for Him.

He is before all things and in Him all things hold together."

- Theism = "God created the tree and holds it together by His power."
2. Humans are divine members of the whole "that God is." God is not outside of you; God is not separate from you. God is your ultimate identity.
 3. Jesus came to reveal this pantheistic nature of God and to teach humanity the gospel of Self-Realization. The "inner Jesus" is the real Jesus vs. the historical Jesus

Twist II Cor. 5:17: New creation in Christ Jesus - Jesus wants each of us to realize we are Christ ourselves just as much as He is."

"People to accept their "godness" and realize when we come together there is nothing humanity cannot accomplish. Claiming Jesus was a teacher and not God; The coming of this Master teacher 2,000 years ago was a milestone in the journey that marked a great acceleration in the process of moving back to alignment with the Light within. This master teacher was known as Jesus Christ. The man Jesus was a perfect child of the Goddess and God energy-just as we all are perfect children of the God-force."

"Self-realization = to know truth through yourself and not through others.

The knowledge of self, combined with divination and occult practices can elevate our spiritual condition to a level of self-divinity.

- Reject Bible's teaching: Salvation and redemption come through faith in Jesus Christ.
 - Man's problem was not sin, but incorrect thinking about his nature.
 - Man is a spark of the Creator suffering from amnesia.
 - Man does not BECOME divine.
 - Man's problem was a matter of birthing a new thought or consciousness to provoke awareness of one's innate divine nature.
 - Man is god and therefore the key to spiritual enlightenment and salvation is to recognize one's divinity and release it to achieve Christ-consciousness.
 - Achieve Christ's Consciousness when you become aware of this divine nature and pursue it through various disciplines.
 - Supernatural practices are used to cultivate self-realization, the expansion of one's mind and contact with the spirit world.
4. 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.
5. They look for the imminent appearing of a World Teacher who will, as Jesus did, illustrate the divine human potential.

Consider: "The New Spirituality theology is preparing the world for the coming of the False Prophet and the Antichrist."

New Age Thought:

- A "Golden Age of Enlightenment": Man will finally recognize the inherent sacredness of all things. Man will live from a heightened state of consciousness in which a world of peace and unity will be a byproduct.

Personal Transformation Will Lead To Planetary Transformation: A profoundly intense mystical experience will lead to the acceptance and use of New Age beliefs and practices.

Consider: Could this spiritual experience woo believers away from God's Word?

The experience banishes the Biblical warnings "still small voice," God's Holy Spirit.

As a powerful seductive spiritual experience engulfs their being during these exercises, they become hooked on the experience. The seduced saint is reveling in His seduction & praying earnestly to his new-found god of love: Please Do It Again!

When sufficient numbers of people have achieved these powers, a major spiritual, physical, psychological and cultural planet-wide transformation is expected. A New World Order, a New Age will develop. This will be a utopia in which there is world government, and end to wars, disease, hunger, pollution, and poverty.

Consider: The New Age Movement has a plan to use the church as a womb so to speak to birth world illumination. This will be a mass realization of humanity becoming "little gods" aware of their "Christ Consciousness" within.

The New Order cannot fully come to pass until the Old Order is done away with. Who is of the old order? It is the Christian who holds tight to Biblical Christianity.

- 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.

Tom Horn: 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 meditation, 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.

Finding Grace at the Center, Thomas Keating and Basil Pennington write: "We should not hesitate to take the fruit of the age-old wisdom of the East* and "capture" it for Christ.

*Isa. 2:6 For You have forsaken Your people, the house of Jacob, because they are filled with eastern ways; They are soothsayers like the Philistines. They are pleased with the children of foreigners. [East (qedem) denotes antiquity or that which is of old as well as the East.]

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. They desire to "break out the candles and incense," pray the "lectio divina," and learn ascetic disciplines.

"Pagans claim this religion of Self-realization is older than Christianity. That's true! New Spirituality Movement's 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 climax 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, postmodern and politically correct." Thus, history repeats itself, and the ancient Egyptian gospel of men becoming "gods" is fashionable again.

Ps. 57:11 Be exalted above the heavens, O God; Let Your glory be above all the earth.

Hab. 2:14 "For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

Concepts Of...

New Age/Occult/Eastern

God's Word

<p>Man</p>	<p>Basically good Inherently divine Part Of God</p>	<p>Created in God's image but also has a sinful nature Gen. 1:26 Isa. 59:2 Rom. 3:23</p>
<p>God</p>	<p>Impersonal force Creative energy or principle Manifests as nature or various gods</p>	<p>Personal living God Sovereign Ruler of the Universe Only Living True God Isa. 44:24-26 Isa. 45:5-7</p>
<p>Earth</p>	<p>Sacred, Living Organism Has Consciousness Assisted by Earth Spirits</p>	<p>Created by God for His own purposes to ultimately glorify Him Col. 1:16 Rev. 4:11</p>
<p>Salvation</p>	<p>By works: Liberation from this life by evolving through re-incarnation Performance of Good Works Enlightenment by following a guru, through meditation in special rituals Enlightenment through realization of one's divine nature No Need For Salvation</p>	<p>By Grace Through Faith In The Death Of Jesus Christ To Pay for our sins & His Resurrection To Give Us His Life John 3:16 I Cor. 15:20-26 Eph. 2:4-8</p>
<p>Evil</p>	<p>Does not exist or is defined as ignorance. Caused by evil spirits to be warded off. Part of dualistic oneness composed of good/evil so that in reality, there is no good or evil.</p>	<p>Evil is rebellion against God's will through man's sinful nature and through Satan. Prov. 8:13 Matt. 15:19 John 3:19-20 John 8:44 I John 3:8</p>
<p>Jesus Christ</p>	<p>An enlightened teacher like Buddha A man who achieved "Christ consciousness" and awareness of man's innate divine nature which all can achieve. Avatar of the Age of Pisces Graduate of esoteric mystery schools</p>	<p>The 2nd Person of the Trinity. God's only begotten Son (same nature as God). The promised Messiah. The God-Man who perfectly obeyed the Father enabling Him to be the sacrifice for all sin by His death & shedding of blood on the cross. The only Mediator between God & man. John 4:25- 26 Acts 4:12 Romans 5:9-19; 8:1 I Tim. 2:5 Heb. 2:14 I John 5:11-12</p>

