

NEW AGE PLANS

New Age (a blend of spiritual and occult practices) is a term that spiritualists (those who communicate with the so-called spirits of the dead) use to describe themselves. The New Age Movement emerged in the 1970s and 1980s. It draws from a wide range of spiritual and philosophical ideas—including Eastern mysticism, astrology, and alternative healing practices. Some common New Age practices include meditation, yoga, astrology, crystal/magnetic healing, a belief in reincarnation (belief that our souls, our consciousness, can be reborn into new bodies after death, allowing for multiple lifetimes), superior psychic abilities, and the idea of karma (believing people will live many lives). New Age practices often include a pantheistic belief, which is an understanding that the universe, nature, and reality are identical to divinity (a supreme entity). They don't believe in a supernatural God, but believe that everything in the universe is "God." Some of the more subtle New Age beliefs are searching for an entrance into the Adventist Church. Many of the other denominations openly support New Age ideas.

An example: Grounding ("earthing") is walking barefoot outside in direct contact with the ground. This supposedly helps the electrical current in your body. It is a practice that I extensively read about in a fiction book about magic (control, manipulation of supernatural forces). This book tells us that concrete will block the magical force gathered from the earth and through the feet. As someone certified in electrical work, I know that electricity is just as happy going through concrete as it is through dirt. One day, while walking barefoot on concrete, I was told—by a loyal, dedicated Adventist—that they had done much research on what I was doing and that it was harmful because the electricity couldn't travel through the concrete and I was damaging my body. I told them the rubber on their shoes would be much more damaging than concrete if that was really true. It was shocking to hear an Adventist express the sentiments of what I knew as druidic magic. (Druids were nature worshipers that were killed off by the Romans.) There is nothing essentially wrong with walking barefoot, but believing that it gives your body vitalizing energy and healing is a very different idea. Before anyone tries to defend it with science, they need to remember that hypnotism is also supported by "science falsely so called" (1 Timothy 6:20).

New Age Plans

It shouldn't come as a surprise that every evil of Satan is trying to infiltrate the churches. Jesuits and teachers of heresy want to stay within the churches and convert them to their beliefs; New Agers are no different. They have three methods to achieve their goal of converting the churches to their beliefs:

Discredit

New Agers practice something called the Silva Mind Control (a self-help program that aims to enhance abilities through relaxation, meditation, and visualization, claiming improved mental and physical well-being). This technique aims to reach, and maintain, a state of mental functioning called the alpha state, which is a brainwave frequency of seven to fourteen Hertz (Hz). Electrical activity, including what takes place in the brain, is measured in cycles per second, called Hertz. Daydreaming and the transition to sleeping are alpha states. This is an extremely important state of mind for witches; it is considered the basis of magick. (Magick and magic are considered different: People who use Satan's power to perform miracles don't like to be classified with sleight-of-hand tricks of magic.) José Silva, an American electronics repairman from Laredo, Texas, claims to have developed a program that teaches people to enter certain brain states of enhanced awareness. He also claimed to have developed several methods of mental processes to use while in these states, which allows a person to mentally project with a specific intent. (This is known as Astral Projection it is the act of leaving your body and visiting another location similar to what prophets experience but independent of God. It has been used by the CIA and is a common practice in the occult.) The information obtained in this manner can be acted upon to solve problems.

Those who practice the Silva Mind Control commune with "higher intelligences," which are demons. These practitioners of the Silva Mind Control generally arrive at three conclusions after such an experience: 1) They lose faith in the Bible. 2) They deny that Jesus was really who He said He was. 3) And they claim to be God, often using terms such as "I Am."

Many New Agers believe that Jesus also practiced the same forms of meditation. Some even say that Jesus studied Eastern mysticism in India during the 18 years that the Bible was silent about Him. They also say that God the Father does not kill, and the idea of sacrificing His Son stems from paganism.

They discredit (disgrace and cause to lose faith and trust in) the sacrifice and blood of Jesus. Some deny that Jesus ever resurrected; and others say their New Age messiah performed a cult ritual to revive Jesus. I am sure you can guess who the new-age messiah is (2 Corinthians 11:14).

New Agers spiritualize away the Second Coming, saying that the messiah comes to each person in the secret chambers of their mind. There is great discredit cast upon the name of Jesus. Satan naturally wants everyone to believe that the highest name, Jesus, has no power (Philippians 2:9-11). They make every effort to convince people that the Bible is filled with errors or that it is not trustworthy. They encourage a strife about words. The wisdom of Satan can be seen on display; strife breeds confusion and every evil work (James 3:16-18).

1) New Agers say that the gifts of the Spirit, prophecy, and miracles are for everyone, not just for God's people. This creates an opportunity to call miracle-working demons messengers of God. 2) They discredit Christianity by teaching that the Bible contains hidden truth that, when properly understood, teaches that all inspiration for all religions comes from God—that every religion is a way to God, and it does not matter which you follow because they all arrive at the same place. The world just needs love (acceptance of sin and heresies) and peace (no proselytizing).

There are a lot of complete lies they claim to be true. The main ones are these two: They teach 1) that mankind never fell from grace, and thus, God will not hold them accountable for any action. 2) they also teach that it is not God's desire for us to experience trials (Acts 14:22 says the opposite). This is a lie that many people share when they complain about the difficulties in their lives. 3) New Agers provided the belief that Jesus secretly had children and a wife.

Infiltrate

New Agers join churches for the specific intention of corrupting their faith and converting Christians to their way of thinking. Fiction books, television shows, video games, board games, and music are full of New Age beliefs and references to the occult. New Agers often make Christian books and movies (such as the TV show, *The Chosen*), music, etc. I am sure you will meet these "cosmic Christians" sooner or later. (Cosmology is the scientific study of the universe, with its origin and development.) New Agers also try to combine the results of the efforts undertaken by scientists into the Christian doctrines of divine creation. Here are some ways to identify them:

1) They believe that there is no such thing as gender-specific callings—such as pastors, elders, etc. This stems from the worship of the wife of Nimrod, Astarte. She is known by many names—including Ishtar, Asherah, Diana, Artemis, Cybele, Isis, Gaia, and Kali. The "Queen of Heaven" refers to Ash-toreth (also called Astarte), the Canaanite goddess, a fertility goddess whose worship was condemned by the prophet Jeremiah in Jeremiah 44:15-23.

Most significant of these names, for the purpose of this newsletter, is Asherah or Ashteroth and Gaia. Some scholars and archaeological evidence suggest that Asherah was worshiped as a consort (a divine spouse) of Yahweh in ancient Israel and Judah (written in the Kuntillet Ajrud inscriptions—a set of jar and plaster inscriptions, the carving or engraving of markings, symbols, or designs into stone surfaces, and art discovered at the site of Kuntillet Ajrud, the Sinai Desert in Egypt). Some New Age and fringe Christian groups hold the belief that the Holy Spirit is feminine and a wife of God the Father. It will inevitably end in nature worship. Gaia is also known as Mother Earth and this of course has the same result: nature worship. This ties into the practice of grounding, people walk barefoot in order to get power from the "Spirit of the earth." Easter is the day in which Ishtar was traditionally worshiped. It is no surprise that it has crept into the churches.

2) New Agers also want to remove, as far as possible, the many references to God and Christ in the Bible. They also want gender to be removed. They are performing the will of their master, Satan, who wishes that he could reduce the light of the "Sun of Righteousness" to silence or ineffectiveness.

3) Another goal they have is to politicize the churches. This effectively destroys their influences. Nikolai Lenin politicized the churches in order to destroy the influence of religion in Soviet Russia. One of Satan's greatest lies is that unity guarantees purity and goodness. The unity of politics and churches is not a pure, or even a good, thing. Some use the Bible to promote political views as biblical. They try to say that it is a Christian duty to have a specific political allegiance. They use the Bible to argue for political activism. This is not the way of Jesus. He said, "My kingdom is not of this world: if My kingdom were of this world, then would My servants fight" (John 18:36). Unfortunately, many servants fight and this has proven to be a very effective way to destroy the influences of the churches. Even now, we are struggling over the politicization (influencing issues with political motives) of vaccine mandates.

4) The New Age principle is at war with those who believe that the only way to God is through Jesus and obedience to the Ten Commandments. The New Agers don't like the idea that there is only one way to God, which is through Jesus. These errors are shown by those who say, "God looks at the heart; as long as people are showing love to one another, they are saved." Jesus said:

"But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth."—John 4:23-24.

Nobody can reject Truth and enter into heaven because they "have the spirit of love." Love is not human; it is only of divine origin. The devil can appreciate a human love that excludes Jesus. Demons can unite with anyone who will drop the Lordship

of Jesus and emphasize peace and love. After all, wasn't this Satan's first deception—peace and love without obedience?

Deceive

In these last days, Satan will use the pursuit of peace to deceive the world into following him. Part of the mission of New Agers is to deceive Christians into thinking that peace is more important than Truth. They will do this by accusing anyone who takes a stand for truth by calling them divisive, rebellious, unloving, etc. It should be noted that there are people who are divisive, rebellious, and unloving; but things are not always as they appear.

Another deception is that riches are available to every true Christian if they merely will them to be theirs. This can be seen at work in the prosperity gospel. The human will cannot bend reality to meet its desires:

“And which of you with taking thought can add to his stature one cubit (approximately 18 inches)? If ye then be not able to do that thing which is least, why take ye thought for the rest?”—Luke 12:25-26.

Wealth does not come because of people's spiritually advanced minds. If it did, Jesus would have been richer than Solomon. This is just a lie that some New Agers use to defend their covetous desires. They say, “As a child of God, it is a sin to be poor; it is your birthright to prosper and succeed.” In their opinion, success is a birthright. Ellen White says:

“True success in any line of work is not the result of chance or accident or destiny. It is the outworking of God's providences, the reward of faith and discretion [ability to use wisdom and judgment in the best way], of virtue and perseverance. Fine mental qualities and a high moral tone are not the result of accident. God gives opportunities; success depends upon the use made of them.”—*Prophets and Kings*, 486.2.

Riches are given to those who make use of their opportunities. Success is dependent upon laboring in a wise way.

“In all labour there is profit: but the talk of the lips tendeth only to penury [severe poverty].”—Proverbs 14:23.

It is foolishness to believe that we can speak or will things into existence.

One of their most successful deceptions is the idea that the restoration of a kingdom ruled by Christ on earth is the divine plan. They hope to set up a one-world government of love and peace, one that will last a thousand years. It is to be centered in Jerusalem, where they expect their messiah to appear. Interestingly enough, Adolf Hitler was into the earlier forms of New Age. He had hoped to make the Third Reich an empire that lasted a thousand years. The Third Reich means “Third Realm (kingdom)” or “Third Empire”; it referred to the Nazi claim that Nazi Germany was the successor to the earlier Holy Roman Empire. Many of the top leaders were interested in the occult. Hitler said that Aryans were the master

race. (This race has never existed and does not exist. But, in Hitler's time, this idea was “pushed” to be a superior group of people; and this has different meanings to different people.)

New Agers also believe in a master race. This master race will appear when the shifting of the earth takes place. Today, this shift is referred to in terms of “vibrations,” also called “vibes” (distinctive feelings capable of being sensed, which produce an emotional reaction in other people). This shift is looked forward to with eager anticipation as a moment when “the mother, (mother earth) will fill her vessels with the spirit”—the Age of Aquarius. They believe this shift will bring in a new age of enlightened beings, men who have awakened to their “godhood.” Special beings, “the reincarnated guides” who take possession of the human body, are to come first. It is declared that these beings will help humanity achieve “godhood.” They appear when the old “soul” is removed from a person and a new “reincarnated, superior soul” replaces the old “soul.” What a soft way to say someone has become demon possessed! They classify everyone on earth as either an Atlantean (often portrayed as a warlike and powerful race) or Lemurian (a peace loving race). They believe the master race is only comprised of Lemurians. These names appear in a lot of the more recent works of fiction in the fantasy genre.

The highest mystery in New Age is the great deception that “Ye are gods.” The Catholic Church's highest mystery is that Christ can be recreated into a wafer at the command of a priest. The Bible also calls these ideas mysteries—the “mystery of iniquity” (2 Thessalonians 2:7) and “mystery Babylon the great, the mother of harlots and abominations of the earth” (Revelation 17:5). “Abominations,” in these texts, refer to offensive, hated, and wicked things to God. Ironically, the pope seems to have set the stage for the New Age; since he thinks he's god too. These two powers work closely together with apostate Protestantism, which politicizes religion.

“The sins of Babylon will be laid open. The fearful results of enforcing the observances of the church by civil authority, the inroads of spiritualism, the stealthy but rapid progress of the papal power—all will be unmasked.”—*Great Controversy*, 606.

Final Thoughts

“Lest thou shouldest ponder the path of life, her ways are moveable [easily relocated], that thou canst not know them.”—Proverbs 5:6.

It is important to note that New Agers don't have a set group of beliefs; rather, they believe what they are instructed by the spirits they meet while practicing the Silva's Mind Control. Even the name, Silva Mind Control, does not fully cover the actual practice. It is known by many names. Here are a few:

Mindfulness Meditation:

This type focuses on cultivating awareness of the present moment, observing thoughts and feelings without judgment.

Transcendental Meditation:

Involves focusing on a specific mantra (a word or sound), to achieve a state of deep relaxation and transcendence (great, excellent ability).

Guided Meditation:

These meditations are led by a voice of an instructor, often using imagery or prompts to guide the meditator through a specific experience or state of mind.

Mantra Meditation:

This practice involves repeating a word, phrase, or sound (mantra), to focus the mind and promote calmness.

Walking Meditation:

This involves paying attention to the sensation of walking, focusing on each step and the movement of the body.

Loving-Kindness Meditation (Metta):

This type cultivates feelings of compassion, kindness, and goodwill toward oneself and others.

Body Scan Meditation:

This involves bringing attention to different parts of the body, noticing any sensation or tension.

Concentrative Meditation:

This type focuses on a single point of attention, such as the breath or a visual object, to train the mind to focus.

Contemplative Meditation:

This type involves exploring deeper questions and insights about oneself and reality, often with the goal of connecting with something beyond one's self.

Each of these forms of meditation serve the purpose of the Silva mind control. New Age focuses on holistic healing. God gave us some forms of natural healing. But, here are some He did not give: Reiki (energy healing through touch therapy), acupuncture (traditional Chinese medical therapy), yoga, crystal healing (transparent rocks or glass jewelry), magnetic healing, positive/negative ion healing, and breathing techniques such as "box breathing". This is a technique where one inhales, holds, exhales, holds, each for four seconds. (These breathing techniques should not be confused with the deep, normal breathing that Ellen White recommends.) Some forms of aromatherapy (healing through the pleasant smells of essential oils) are New Age. For instance, putting essential oils on crystals or in a bag of crystals to wear in any way, such as around the neck or wrist, is dabbling in the occult.

New Age focus: This is the power of thought that

wills things into existence. Positive thinking can change the world; negative thinking puts off negative vibrations that others can "feel" because they are connected, meaning people are connected to everything around them, including other people. Interestingly enough, this seems to be the perverted concept of something Ellen White calls an "atmosphere":

"Angels of light create a heavenly atmosphere about the soul, lifting us toward the unseen and the eternal."—*Acts of the Apostles*, 153.

"The completeness of Christian character is attained when the impulse to help and bless others springs constantly from within. It is the atmosphere of this love surrounding the soul of the believer that makes him a savor of life unto life and enables God to bless his work."—*Acts of the Apostles*, 551.

"Angels of God had charge over His people, and as the poisonous atmosphere of evil angels was pressed around these anxious ones, the heavenly angels were continually wafting their wings over them to scatter the thick darkness."—*Early Writings*, 269-270.

This atmosphere is not a sign that we are all connected, but it is evidence of the spiritual battles that are going on around us. Since New Agers are awake to spiritual realities, they can somewhat distinguish things; yet they believe the demons they speak to are kind and fair, which shows that they are still horribly deceived.

In conclusion, it would appear that New Age is having more of an effect on the churches than Catholic doctrine; either way, they are all working together to unseat the faith of mankind in the Bible. Though all the powers of hell are arrayed against the Word of God:

"The counsel of the Lord standeth forever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations."—Psalm 33:11.

Hold on to the Bible. It can be absolutely trusted and is the only source of pure, clear truth in the world.

For a finished work,



Jonathan Taylor

Wisdom is justified of all her children. -Luke 7:35

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