

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE NEW AGE MOVEMENT

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WHAT IS THE NEW AGE?

I have been writing articles about the New Age for over 4 years, although I have spent several years prior to this studying the New Age philosophy. During this time many questions have been asked about the New Age and its beliefs. The purpose of this booklet is to try to answer some of these questions.

1. WHAT IS THE NEW AGE MOVEMENT AND WHAT ARE SOME OF ITS GOALS?

The New Age Movement is a group of networking organizations that is working toward specific goals. One of the main goals is to bring to the forefront a one world leader who is called "The Christ" or "Maitreya." This person actually has nothing to do with the Christ of the Bible. Rather, this person is the one of whom John refers to in Revelation -- the antichrist. The New Agers themselves tell us specifically that the Christ they are looking for WILL NOT BE Jesus of Nazareth, but rather a NEW Messiah. Ruth Montgomery, one of the "heralds of the New Age," tells us that Jesus is not the Christ and that it will be a DIFFERENT Christ than in the Bible who will come to bring world peace. While in a trance, she asked her Spirit Guide (demon) about the Second Coming of Christ. She said: "I asked if Jesus of Nazareth would again reincarnate, in order to 'prepare the body for the Christ Spirit', and the Guides said that he would NOT [emphasis mine throughout booklet]." [1] The Guides continue: " 'In the twenty-first century, the soul of ANOTHER PERFECTED BEING will return to human incarnation..... and..... Christ will arrive at the beginning of a NEW ERA after the shift and the chaos. But it WILL NOT be the man who was ONCE incarnate and known as... JESUS. It will be another Wise One.'" [2]

Other New Agers deny the literal existence of Jesus Christ, yet, they, too, are looking for a "Messiah" who will soon come on the scene. If Jesus never lived, as some claim, who then are they expecting? Of course, it's the antichrist.

John tells us that "all the world wondered after the beast" (Revelation 13:3), and today we see more and more people turning to false cults and Eastern religions than ever before. The "whole world" (except God's people) is anxious about the great new leader that is on the horizon, and without knowing the Bible, they are helping to fulfill the prophecies that deal with the coming of the antichrist. Ruth Montgomery says that "in the New Age this warring planet will become

unified, with ONE GOVERNMENT, ONE LANGUAGE, and ONE CURRENCY." [3] If you know anything at all about end-time Bible prophecy, you can readily see that this is the EXACT plan of the antichrist in Daniel [11] and Revelation 13.

2. WHEN DID IT BEGIN? David Spangler, a New Ager, tells us "the image of a new age is not really new at all." [4] He is right. In fact, it is as old as the Garden of Eden. There Satan appeared unto Eve and told her she would not die as God had said (Genesis 3:4). This is the SAME LIE that the New Agers are promoting today. They teach that there is no such thing as death. They believe all that happens to a person is that when his spirit leaves the body, he will be reincarnated or reborn into another body. This process continues ON AND ON until we become perfected. The other lie that Satan told Eve was "ye shall be as gods" (Genesis 3:5). This lie also is promoted by New Agers. They claim that we continue to be reborn until we will be a God. New Age literature is filled with such statements. For example, in Reflections on the Christ, we find: "The New Age is essentially a time in planetary history when the fruits of revelation given and anchored by Jesus came into being. In human terms, this means it is a time when we learn to be at one with God ourselves, TO BE CHRISTS OURSELVES." [5] Man's Role in Evolution states: "For this purpose of the Universe is to create a new God -- and we are that God'." [6] Another New Age magazine, Self-Help Update, claims: "Thus you are part of God ... thus you are God." [7] In The Occult: A History, we find: "Man is literally a god....." [8] David Spangler says: "...I can say with all truth and honesty and sincerity and reality, 'I am God'." [9] You can see that Satan's lie "ye shall be as gods" certainly has a foothold in New Age beliefs.

3. WHAT ARE SOME OF THE NEW AGE BELIEFS? Although each group differs, some of the basic beliefs include: Jesus and the Christ are two SEPARATE entities, salvation by works, a hatred for fundamentalists and Jews, atheism or polytheism, amorality (homosexuality, abortion, etc.), socialism, a one world government, communal sharing or communism, evolution, reincarnation, we will be a God someday, God is not a Personal Being -- only an impersonal force, God is within everyone -- not somewhere out in the universe, and no right or wrong, no good or evil, no heaven or hell.

4. IS THE NEW AGE VIEW RELIGIOUS? Yes! The New Age is definitely a religion. They imitate almost every facet of Christianity, including a born-again experience (called "rebirthing"), and prayers. In fact, they even have their own bibles. Some of these "bibles" are: The Secret Doctrine, Revelation: The Birth of a New Age, The Book of Urantia, Oahspe, The Book of Hu/Tyana, The Aquarian Gospel of Jesus the Christ, etc.

5. IS THERE MORE THAN ONE NEW AGE GOD? Certainly! Many New Agers believe in many gods or polytheism. Hinduism, which is basically the foundation for the New Age, has literally millions of gods that are worshiped. Witches and pagans also have numerous gods and goddesses that they revere. Some of these gods are: Orion, Lucifer, Pan, Ceres, Diana, Tammuz, Baal, Isis, Amitabha, Baphomet, Hecate, Horus, Hypnos, Indra, Osiris, Jupiter, Kuan-Yin, Moloch, Vishnu, Brahma, Shiva, and Satan.

6. IS THE NEW AGE PHILOSOPHY WIDESPREAD? Marilyn Ferguson and other New Age sources claim that they are in every city and institution in the world. David Spangler tells us more about the extent of the New Age: "There really is no single, universal model for a new age

group. They come in all forms and sizes and engage in a multitude of activities. The book *Networking* lists over TWELVE-HUNDRED organizations, centers, cooperatives, groups, communities, and networks in fields ranging from health care and spiritual growth through politics, economics, and ecology to education, communications, personal growth, and inter-cultural relations. THERE IS HARDLY ANY AREA OF HUMAN INTEREST THAT DOES NOT HAVE SOME PEOPLE SOMEWHERE EXPLORING IT FROM A NEW AGE POINT OF VIEW....

"Most new age organizations work in areas of education, counseling, personal growth, ecology, health care, and international issues....

"One might not expect the military to be a scene of new age activity, but it is....

"There are also new age political organizations, such as the New World Alliance, which provides educational services to persons working at EVERY LEVEL of government." [10]

7. CAN YOU NAME SOME PEOPLE WHO ARE INVOLVED? There are so many people involved that it is impossible to name them all. However, I will list a FEW of the more prominent New Agers. They include: David Spangler, Dick Sutphen, Hazel Henderson, Peter and Eileen Caddy, Ruth Montgomery, Brad Steiger, Stuart Wilde, Paul Horn, Alan Leventhal, Ed Mitchell, James Robertson, Dr. Barbara Ray, Andreas Vollenweider, Fritz Hull, Fritjof Capra, Steven Halpern, Donald Keys, George Trevelyan (frequently known as "England's father of the New Age"), Elizabeth Clare Prophet, Norman Cousins, Paul Winter, William Irwin Thompson, Gina Cerminara, Robert Ellwood, Peter Russell, Marilyn Ferguson, Dion Fortune, Manly Hall, Willis Harman, Jessica Lipnack, Jeffrey Stamps, Shirley MacLaine, Sri Chinmoy, Benjamin Creme, Foster and Mary Bailey, Dr. Carlos Romulo, George Leonard, John Denver, Paul Hawken, Alvin Toffler, Jeremy Rifkin, Norman Lear, and Jim Channon.

8. ARE THERE ANY NEW AGE MAGAZINES? Below are a FEW that are taken from NEW AGE MAGAZINES or NEW AGE ADS that state OUTRIGHTLY that the magazines are NEW AGE magazines: *Crystal Well*, *Psychic Guide*, *New Times*, *Alternative Sources of Energy*, *Ecology Digest*, *Southern Exposure*, *Muscle & Fitness*, *Astrology '90*, *Cincinnati Journal of Ceremonial Magic*, *Organic Gardening*, *Circle Network News*, *Laughing Man*, *Co-Evolution Quarterly*, *Communities*, *Dawn*, *East West Journal*, *In Business*, *Mother Jones*, *Newservice*, *Parabola*, *Prevention*, *New Age Journal*, *Yoga Journal*, *Self-Help Update*, *Fine Homebuilding*, *At Home Together*, *Fine Woodworking*, *Solar Age*, *Let's Live*, *Vegetarian Times*, *Raise the Stakes*, *In Context*, *Many Smokes*, *Community Jobs*, *Your Good Health*, *Heart*, *Brain/Mind Bulletin*, *Magical Blend*, *Lady-Unique-Inclination-of-the-Night*, *Mothering*, *New Age Book Review*, *Leading Edge Bulletin*, *Macromuse*, *Women*, *Medical Self-Care*, *New Farm*, *ReVISION*, *The Movement*, *New Body*, *Total Fitness*, *Working Papers*, *South*, *Sing Out*, *Lorian Journal*, *Mother Earth News*, *Practicing Midwife*, *One Earth*, *Modern Times*, *The Sun*, *Sunrise Theosophic Perspectives*, *Rain*, *Herb Quarterly*, and *Songsmith Journal*. There may be some good articles in some of these magazines, but the New Age philosophy is nonetheless scattered throughout these periodicals.

9. ARE NEW AGE GROUPS COMMON? *New Times* sends their catalog to OVER 5000 NEW AGE BOOKSTORES. The book, *Networking*, lists OVER 1200 ORGANIZATIONS. The *New Age Directory: Holistic Health Guide* includes OVER 3700 LISTINGS. The *New*

Consciousness Sourcebook: Spiritual Community Guide No. 5 lists THOUSANDS more and publishes a directory with OVER 10,000 LISTINGS. Again, the list is far too long to list all the groups, but here are a FEW that are called "New Age Groups" by New Agers themselves: Findhorn Community, The Farm, Interface, Tara Center, Lorian Association, Lindisfarne, Chinook Learning Center, Earth Community, High Wind Association, Sirius Community, and Reincarnationists.

10. IS THE NEW AGE KNOWN BY ANY OTHER TERMS? Yes! Other names include (but are not limited to) the following: Age of Aquarius, Networking Movement, Aquarian Conspiracy, Kingdom Age, Golden Age, Humanistic Psychology, Humanism, Secular Humanism, Christ Age, Age of Maitreya, Third Force, Atomic Age, Solar Age, Latter Days, New Consciousness, New Church, New Spirituality, Space Age, New Thought Religion, Human Potential Movement, War of Armageddon, End Time, Purification Period, and Transcendental Movement.

11. WHAT ARE SOME NEW AGE SYMBOLS? Some New Age symbols are the pentagram, unicorn, rainbow, 666, triangle (or pyramid), pegasus (wingedhorse), yin/yang, and the swastika.

12. WHAT ARE SOME "KEY WORDS" THAT NEW AGERS USE? The New Agers communicate in "code" or "buzz" words. This means that there are certain words, when used FREQUENTLY, that ALMOST CERTAINLY indicate that a person has some New Age ties. If you hear or read several of these words in a short time or space, you can get a good indication that the person with whom you are dealing is most likely a New Ager. However, NOT EVERY ONE who uses the following words IS a New Ager or even has New Age ties. The purpose of this list is to ALERT you to some of the New Age terminology and to watch ANY person MORE CLOSELY who uses a number of them or question them more directly as to what they really believe. Some code words are: global village, global vision, planetary, new age, peace, one world government, consciousness, altered states, spaceship earth, manifestation, initiation, transformation, meditation, global thread, holistic, wholistic, holism, oneness, interdependence, crowded planet, planetization, world citizenship, paradigm, transcendent, earth shift, spirit guides, world servers, transpersonal, redistribution, well-being, human potential, divinity of man, positive thinking, light, emerging planetary culture, guided imagery, brotherhood, UFO'S, ESP, cataclysm, mysticism, new world order, new culture, enlightenment, reappearance of the Christ, transition, Age of Pisces, Age of Aquarius, planetary citizen, Lucifer, right brain/left brain, metaphysics, life force, chi, prana, herbal remedies, and ecology.

13. WHAT TECHNIQUES ARE PART OF THE NEW AGE PHILOSOPHY? A few techniques which are most familiar are: Acupuncture, Acupressure, Martial Arts (such as Karate, Judo, Aikido, etc.), Biofeedback, Positive Thinking, Positive Mental Attitude (PMA), Holistic Health, Transcendental Meditation (TM), Reflexology, Visualization, Hypnosis, Silva Mind Control, Erhard Seminar Training (est), Zen, Yoga, and Relaxation. There is nothing wrong with taking a break or resting, but the New Agers use the word "RELAXATION" as a COVER-UP for MEDITATION, ZEN, YOGA, AND OTHER FORMS OF OCCULTISM. If your doctor recommends "STRESS REDUCTION" or "RELAXATION" be VERY CAREFUL of what techniques are being employed. Most often you will discover that these "RELAXATION" sessions

INCLUDE biofeedback, visualization and other New Age techniques. By using the term 'RELAXATION', New Agers have been able to ensnare Christians into OCCULT PRACTICES WITHOUT the Christian being aware of what is actually involved. One New Age magazine proudly states: "One of the biggest advantages we have as New Agers is, once the OCCULT, METAPHYSICAL AND NEW AGE TERMINOLOGY IS REMOVED, we have concepts and techniques that are very acceptable to the general public. So we can CHANGE THE NAMES and demonstrate the power. In so doing, we open the New Age door to millions who normally would not be receptive." 11

14. IS THERE ANY GOOD IN THE NEW AGE? After all I've said, you probably have gotten the impression that there is nothing good about the New Age. This is incorrect. There are SOME good things taking place within the New Age ranks, such as the food for the hungry. However, most often this is only a COVER-UP to fund other New Age activities. The Hunger Project was established to deal with world hunger, but it has been reported that NONE of the over one million dollars has gone to feed starving people. More often such funds are used to PROMOTE a New World Government in which all the wealth of the world is to be redistributed. Tara Center, the main New Age group to promote a New Age Christ, states: "In the first stage REDISTRIBUTION will be the keynote..... This is nothing more than COMMUNISM on a WORLD-WIDE scale.

New Agers will promote many things that SOUND GOOD, just to get supporters. The problem is that MOST PEOPLE DO NOT KNOW what the OBJECTIVE is BEHIND the cause they are supporting. Peace is an excellent idea, however, the Great Peace March that has taken place has really NOTHING to do with peace. It is being promoted by New Age groups and it is just another gimmick to gain ground in their plan to take over the world and bring in a leader who is to be the new "Christ" (the antichrist!). New Agers will worm their way into ANYTHING that will help promote the cause of the New Age. This includes churches, education, government, health care, and hundreds of other areas.

15. WHO'S THE HEAD OF THE NEW AGE MOVEMENT? Although the New Age is mainly promoted through the Lucis Trust (formerly LUCIFER PUBLISHING COMPANY) and its affiliates, the head of the New Age Movement is really SATAN. Satan has always wanted to be worshiped. If you read Isaiah 14 and Ezekiel 28 you will find that he wanted to be like the Most High. Satan's original name was LUCIFER which means "LIGHTBEARER," and II Corinthians 11:14 tells us that "Satan himself is transformed into an ANGEL OF LIGHT." If Satan can get man to believe that humans are God, then Satan himself is being worshiped in a round-about way and this is what he wants.

If Satan, or Lucifer, is the originator of the New Age Movement, you would think that the New Agers would revere him. Do they? Believe it or not, they CERTAINLY DO! For proof let's look at David Spangler's book, Reflections on the Christ: "Lucifer prepares man in all ways for the experience of Christhood and the Christ prepares man for the experience of God.... But the light that reveals to us the presence of the Christ, the light that reveals to us that path to the Christ COMES FROM LUCIFER. He is the light giver it is his light that heralds for man the dawn of a greater consciousness....

"LUCIFER works within each of us to bring us to wholeness, and as we move into a new age, which is the age of man's wholeness, each of us in some way is brought to that point which I term the LUCIFERIC INITIATION, the particular doorway through which the individual MUST PASS if he is to come 'fully' into the presence of his light and his wholeness." [12]

Later in the book he says: "LUCIFER came to give us the final gift of wholeness. If we accept it then he is free and we are free. That is the LUCIFERIC INITIATION. It is one that many people now, and in the days ahead will be facing, for it is an initiation into the New Age." [13]

Revelation 13 tells us that there will be a day when no one can buy or sell WITHOUT the antichrist's mark. Could this possibly be the LUCIFERIC INITIATION Spangler says that we will be faced with soon? I think it is and if we are not careful we will be taking this LUCIFERIC INITIATION WITHOUT even really realizing what we are doing. You may ask, "How could we not know?" The answer really is simple. If we are involved in New Age practices, we will become SO ACCUSTOMED to the New Age ideas and beliefs that we, too, will be DECEIVED into thinking that Lucifer is God. If we believe he is God, it certainly won't be hard to take an oath to that effect. II Timothy 3:13 says: "Evil men and seducers shall wax WORSE AND WORSE, DECEIVING and BEING DECEIVED."

You may wonder how such a change in our thinking could take place. Actually, it is FAR MORE SUBTLE than you may believe. For instance, a woman who has migraine headaches sees her physician. He tells her to try VISUALIZATION or BIOFEEDBACK. She may think that it is a HARMLESS technique, but what MOST PEOPLE, including many physicians, DO NOT KNOW is that VISUALIZATION is an ancient OCCULT TECHNIQUE! SORCERERS, VODOO PRIESTS, and WITCH DOCTORS have practiced VISUALIZATION for thousands of years in their MAGICAL RITES for both cures and curses, but now it is considered a "neutral" MIND CONTROL method by which to obtain health, wealth, and happiness. The procedure has NEVER changed, but the name by which it was known has! New Agers BRAG that they have taken OCCULT and WITCHCRAFT techniques, CHANGED THEIR NAMES, and then presented it to the uninformed public as a "SCIENTIFIC" method, and that these people have fallen for it. We must be VERY CAREFUL that we do not become ensnared in the New Age trap. Don't say that we will never be deceived, for the Bible tells us "let him that THINKETH he standeth TAKE HEED lest he fall" (I Corinthians 10:12).

If you are a Christian but have been ensnared in New Age techniques, confess your involvement and ask God to forgive you. If you have never accepted Christ as your PERSONAL Savior, the first step is to be born again. John 3:3: "EXCEPT a man be born AGAIN, he CANNOT see the kingdom of God." How can one be born AGAIN? We all know that we were born once, our physical birth, but can we enter into our mother's womb and be born the second time (see John 3:1-17)? No. The second birth comes by being born into the family of God. John 3:16: "For God so LOVED the world [that includes YOU!] that He GAVE His only Begotten Son, that WHOSOEVER [that includes YOU] BELIEVETH [trusts, clings to, relies on] Him [God's Son, Jesus] should not perish [in hell], but have everlasting life." All you need to do is sincerely believe with all your heart that Jesus is the Son of God and to be willing to turn from your sins and ask Jesus to come into your heart and help you to live for Him, and He WILL do it. John 6:37: "Him that cometh to Me I will IN NO WISE cast out." I John 1:9: "If we CONFESS our sins [not

to men, but to God], He is FAITHFUL and JUST to FORGIVE us our sins, and to CLEANSE us from ALL unrighteousness." Romans 10:9: "If thou shalt CONFESS with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt BELIEVE in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou SHALT be saved [born again]."

If you would like to be born again, pray your own prayer or sincerely pray the following:
Dear Jesus, I realize that I am a sinner. I believe that You died for my sins. Please forgive me of my past sins and come into my heart. Save me for Your sake, and help me to live for You. I ask this in Your name. Amen.

If you sincerely prayed and asked Jesus to forgive you of your sins, you will have the assurance that you are now a child of God. John 1:12: "But AS MANY as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that BELIEVE on His name." Read your Bible EVERY day (start with the book of John), and find a Bible-believing church where you can worship God with other born again believers.

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ENDNOTES

1. Ruth Montgomery, *Strangers Among Us* (New York: Coward, McCann & Geoghegan, 1979), p. 251.
2. *Ibid.*, pp. 251-252.
3. *Ibid.*, p. 35.
4. David Spangler, *Emergence: The Rebirth of the Sacred* (New York: Dell Publishing, 1984), p. 19.
5. David Spangler, *Reflections on the Christ* (Scotland, Findhorn Publication, 1977), p. 29.
6. *Man's Role in Evolution* (pamphlet issued by the Theosophical Society in England), p. 5.
7. Dick Sutphen, ed., *Self-Help Update* (Issue #26) p. 8.
8. Colin Wilson, *The Occult: A History* (New York: Random House, Inc., 1971), p. 568.
9. Spangler, *Reflections*, op. cit., p. 62.
10. Spangler, *Emergence*, op.cit., pp. 119-123.
11. "Infiltrating the New Age into Society," *What Is*, Vol. 1, No. 1 (Summer 1986), p. 14.
12. Spangler, *Reflections*, op.cit., pp. 43-44.

13. Ibid., p. 45.

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THE END