The NEW AGE Movement



9/5/99

Introduction:

This New Age philosophy is really nothing new, but is a blend of Occultism and Hinduism (which started 2,000 B.C.)

Four tenets of Hinduism:

1. Monism - All is one
2. Pantheism - All is God
3. Maya - All is illusion
4. Reincarnation - All is recycling (to reach karma)

Appealing New Age concepts:

--Unlimited human potential
--Self-determined morality
--Perfection through self-awareness

In the New Age Movement, the focus is not on a sovereign God nor even on others, but the focus is on self.

A. The NAMES of the New Age Movement:

B. The SYMBOLS of the New Age Movement:

C. The BUZZ WORDS of the New Age Movement:

D. The Key PHILOSOPHIES of the New Age Movement:

Four major tenets:

1. ALL IS ONE
(Monism - All things are ONE)

2. ALL IS GOD
(The universe is god)

3. MAN IS GOD

4. Man needs a CHANGE IN CONSCIOUSNESS to discover His Deity

E. Other TEACHINGS of the New Age Movement:

1. **Reincarnation**
2. **Evolution**
3. **Relativism** (no absolutes; no rights and wrongs; no one single path to follow)
4. **Existentialism**
5. **Gnosticism**
6. **Vegetarianism**

F. The GOALS of the New Age Movement:



The NEW AGE Movement

Introduction:

The New Age movement is not an organization; nor an established religion; The title "New Age" is not a Denominational tag; but the New Age Movement is a PHILOSOPHY that is spreading trough politics, ecology, education, psychology, nutrition, entertainment, science etc. This philosophy is a mystery of iniquity inspired by Satan which will prepare the world for a Global Unity, a New World Order, and the emergence of the Antichrist.

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Why is the New Age Movement appealing to many today?

1) Christianity is perceived as a dead, impersonal religion (not attractive). The New Age offers "spiritual reality" to those seeking it.

2) Evolutionistic teaching in public schools has dulled people's dependency on God.

Three results of the denial of God's existence:

1) A deep-seated attitude of despair
God created man with a need to have a personal relationship with Him. To fill this void (lack of purpose in life), people have turned to alcohol, immoral relationships, drugs, the occult, spiritism, astrology, T.M., yoga. *"Vanity of vanities, all is vanity"* without God. "I don't know if there is any meaning to life" (Paul Tillick).

2) The denial of all moral absolutes
Since there is no sovereign, moral God who holds man responsible for His moral law, there are no moral absolutes. They say: the Bible's moral absolutes were written by man, and therefore man can deny or change them. All is relative (situation ethics). Homosexuality, cheating, lying, etc. is now justified. They say: Here is how man can create a utopia: --We must admit that God is dead --All of us must reject Satanic morality (All that is taught by Bible and Judaism is Satanic morality). Romans 1 - When the knowledge of God (through creation) is rejected, God judges man by giving him over to moral wickedness).

3) A tendency to deify man
Since there is no God to worship, then the only logical thing left is some form of nature ("Mother Earth") and the most logically exalted part of nature is man. New Age: Man is divinity, but hasn't discovered it yet. This is all a pre-conditioning for Satan's deified man, the Antichrist.

3) Technological advances point to man's great strides and potential

4) The ecological concerns have placed an emphasis on this world

5) Human pride and self-sufficiency

6) The "power of positive thinking" philosophy

Appealing New Age concepts:

--Unlimited human potential

--Self-determined morality
Very appealing to the rebellious nature of man. There is no authority outside of self.

--Perfection through self-awareness

In the New Age Movement, the focus is not on a sovereign God nor even on others, but the focus is on self.

A. The NAMES of the New Age Movement:

The Aquarian Conspiracy
New Consciousness
New Orientalism
New Gnosticism
Cosmic Humanism
Cosmic Consciousness
Human Potential Movement
Holistic Health Movement etc.

B. The SYMBOLS of the New Age Movement:

Yin & Yang	(The regenerating principle of life)
Rainbow	(A sign of world peace & unity)
Pyramid & triangle	
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A Circle with a point in the center	

C. The BUZZ WORDS of the New Age Movement:

Awakening
Centering
Consciousness
Cosmic Energy
Enlightenment
Holistic
Human potential
Synergistic
Transcendental

D. The Key PHILOSOPHIES of the New Age Movement:

Four major tenets:

1. ALL IS ONE

(Monism - All things are ONE)

"All boundaries and dualism have been transcended and all individuality dissolves into universal, undifferentiated oneness." (Fritjof Capra, The Turning Point, p. 371)

Everything and everyone is inter-related and inter-dependent. Ultimately there is no real difference between humans, animals, rocks, or even God (Kerby Anderson).

The Bible teaches that creation is not unified in itself, but held together by Christ (Col. 1:17).

2. ALL IS GOD

(The universe is god)

The New Age Lie about God:

God is the Cosmos
God is Energy (An impersonal Force in all of nature)
God is Ever-changing (in form & matter)

All of life (and even non-life), they teach, has a spark of divinity within.

Scriptural refutation:
--All things are not "god"
--Creation declares His glory but exists apart from God (Ps. 19; Rom. 1:19ff).
--Pantheism and creation worship results when man suppresses his innate knowledge of God.
--God exists apart from creation and is a personal God.

3. MAN IS GOD

Beware of:

The human potential emphasis (in movies, songs, literature, business seminars)

The human goodness emphasis (The reality of sin & its effects is ignored)

If "all is one" and "all is god," then "we are gods."

We are, according to New Agers, ignorant of our own divinity. We are "gods in disguise." The goal, therefore, of the New Age Movement is to discover our own divinity.

Shirley MacLaine's spirit guide, her "Higher Self," explains, "Each soul is its own god. You must never worship anyone or anything other than self. For, you are God. To love self is to love God." (Shirley MacLaine, Dancing in the Light, p. 358).

The New Age philosophy comes from Satan and resembles Satanism in many ways. The essence of Satanism is explained as follows:

> "And he must---as a Satanist knowing this, realizing what his human potential is---eventually (and here is one of the key points of Satanism) attain his own godhead in accordance with his own potential. Therefore each man, each woman is a god or goddess in Satanism."
>
> (Anton LaVey, the High Priest of the Church of Satan)

"I am my own redeemer" (fourth chapter of the Book of Satan).

"Do what thou wilt is the whole of the law" (Alister Crawley).

The Bible teaches that we are created in God's image and likeness (Gen. 1:26) (having a moral nature as well as intellect, emotion, and will), and therefore have human dignity and value (Ps. 8:6-8; Ja. 3:9), but man is man and God is God.

In essence, He is a personal, triune, sovereign, holy God, and we are finite, mortal, sinful human beings.

4. Man needs a CHANGE IN CONSCIOUSNESS to discover His Deity

In the New Age Movement, there is much talk of the "Christ Consciousness." They teach that you don't need Christ as a person; you simply need the awareness of the Christ within you. You need to become conscious that you are a "Christ."

Various methods are employed for man to achieve an altered state of consciousness so as to realize his "true human potential."

All methods are designed to "shift normal brain function"; to "drop beliefs and dogma; to bypass critical thinking and judgments so as to awaken the individual to new awareness" (Doctrines of Demons).

New Agers ignorantly open themselves up to the spirit realm of demons through altered consciousness.

Some methods:

Hypnosis (A trance to reach the subconscious mind so as to bypass critical thinking)

Channelling (with Spirit Guides) (Direct contact with spiritual entities)

Yoga ("Yoga" = To YOKE with "the ALL")

T.M. (Transcendental Meditation)

Visualization (ex. "imagine yourself filled with light")

EST (Erhard Seminars Training) (Psychology & Eastern metaphysics for self help & better business management etc.)

Astral Projection (Out of the Body experiences)

Subliminal Persuasion (ex. Self-hypnosis tapes which reach the unconscious mind)

Biofeedback (Instruments for self-monitoring)

Floating (In tanks of water at relaxation centers)

Tarot Cards

Visualizing or Imaging (The ability to manipulate objects, people, or events by your own will or mind)

Repetitious Chanting (To repeat a "Mantra" - the name of a Guru or god over & over again)

SEE: Deuteronomy 18:9-12

The Biblical use of your mind:

1. Never surrender or lose control of your mind or thought processes

   "Be sober" - sound in thinking

2. Never stop critiquing everything you see and hear

   "Prove [test] *all things"*

3. Never open up yourself to any spirit except God's

   (EX: the man who swept his life clean, and then had seven demons take over)

4. Fill your mind continually with God's Law (truth)

   Our minds should be transformed (Rom. 12:2) by God's Word, not conformed to the spirit of this world.

5. Bring your thoughts into captivity (don't let them run loose!)

   II Corinthians 10:5

6. Focus your thoughts on Godly virtues (Phil. 4:8)

E. Other TEACHINGS of the New Age Movement:

1. Reincarnation

"Karma" - a belief that we reap in this life for what we sowed in past lives.

Reincarnation: In the East, it's punishment
In the West, it's a fad

The Bible teaches:

--Man dies once (Heb. 9:27)
--Men is resurrected (I Cor. 15), not reincarnated

2. Evolution

Life exists for evolutionary purposes (hence the great interest among New Agers in the environment and animal rights).

3. **Relativism** (no absolutes; no rights and wrongs; no one single path to

follow)

"Until mankind realizes there is, in truth, no good and there is, in truth, no evil -- there will be no peace" (Shirley MacLaine, Dancing in the Light, p. 357).

EX: The danger of Values Clarification classes in schools is that it teaches children to discover and clarify their own values (which may differ from their parents' teaching).

Anything is permissible if everything is "god."

Mary Baker Eddy (1821-1910), founder of Christian Science, taught that evil was an illusion and could be overcome by corrective thinking.

4. **Existentialism**

Knowledge is derived from experience (emotional feelings not rational faculties determine truth to a New Ager). The emphasis is on the subjective (feelings) instead of the objective (proven facts).

5. **Gnosticism**

Man's mind becomes his "god." The mind creates reality.

"We already know everything. The knowingness of our divinity is the highest intelligence" (Shirley MacLaine)

6. **Vegetarianism**

F. The GOALS of the New Age Movement:

Since the New Age Movement is a loosely structured network of organizations, without any particular human leaders heading it up there is no provable human conspiracy
per se. However, since New Agers all share common values (based on mysticism and monism -- the world view that "all is one") and a common vision (a coming "new age" of peace and mass enlightenment, the "age of Aquarius") there is an agenda. This agenda is produced by the "spirit of Antichrist" (the spirit of Satan) and it includes:

1. A New World Order (New political structures)

2. Global Unity & Peace
(Including elimination of those who oppose such unity of world governments)

3. Ecumenism
(A global unity & syncretism of all religions)

Conclusion:

The New Age Movement is really the "old age" movement dressed in new linguistic garb. Cp. Genesis 3:

"Indeed hath God said?" (v. 1) -	Moral relativism
"Ye shall not surely die" (v. 4) -	Reincarnation
"Then your eyes shall be opened" (v. 5)-	Change of Consciousness
"Ye shall be as gods" (v. 5) -	Human Deification

Christianity and the New Age Movement have critically different views on vital issues such as the following:

GOD

New Age: A consciousness in nature (everything is part of "God")

Christianity: The Supreme Creator who is distinct from His creation (yet in His omnipresence His Spirit pervades creation). Everything is separate from God and inferior to God)

ORIGINS

New Age: Evolution - Life has evolved through natural processes (a cycle of reincarnations which continues)

Christianity: Creation - Life has been created by a supernatural God (creation has ceased; no new life forms emerge)

AUTHORITY

New Age: The self-experience

Christianity: Jesus Christ and His Word, the Bible

SALVATION

New Age: Enlightenment through repeated reincarnations

Christianity: Eternal life through Jesus Christ's resurrection

In the New Age movement:

--The Bible has been replaced by self-awareness.

--God has been replaced by man's deity.

--The Holy Spirit has been replaced by spirit guides

--Ministering angels have been replaced by demons (who appear to be angels of light - II Cor. 11:14)

--Right and wrong has been replaced by gray relativism

--Truth has been replaced by experience

--Individual uniqueness has been replaced by cosmic oneness

* It is vitally important to define your terms when talking to a New Ager.

Has the New Age lie been believed (to any degree) by you?

--Is your trust in God or self?

--Do you worship things? (materialism)

--Do you read the Bible to derive truth (or to determine your own)?

--Do you have personal standards based on Biblical principle or personal taste?

--Are you morally pure?

--Do you fulfill God's will or your own?

--Is Jesus just a spiritual teacher or is He Lord of your life?

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Christianity and the New Age Movement have critically different views on vital issues such as the following:

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