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What is Wrong with The New Age Movement

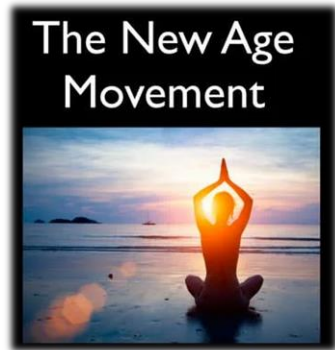
Question: *My family member is affected by some of these new age teachings. Can you share what is wrong with the new age ideas or practices?*

Response: That is a relevant question. The term "*New Age Movement*" coined in the 1970s or so covers a **loosely structured network of religious ideas, organizations and the people who are united by pantheism, religious pluralism and mystical spiritual values. It can also be called the *New World Consciousness*, or *Cosmic Consciousness*, vastly their basic convictions are almost the same. It is a new perception of reality, different from a biblical worldview of life.**

The New Age Movement is popular as some people want an alternative worldview to the traditional conservative view of life, **It draws from eastern and western religion, Secularism and Selfism. It is an eclectic, pluralistic and relative worldview when you combine all of them and make a new universal acceptable religion for all.**

The New Age Movement is a **pantheistic global cosmic movement, and it is more than a cult and it involves the practice of the occult too like yoga and crystals, although it has no one leader or unified organizational structure.** It is more of a creeping Influence that advocates a change in people's thinking by mysticism and emotional and the metaphysical and it is has a social and political agenda too supporting a one world new order.

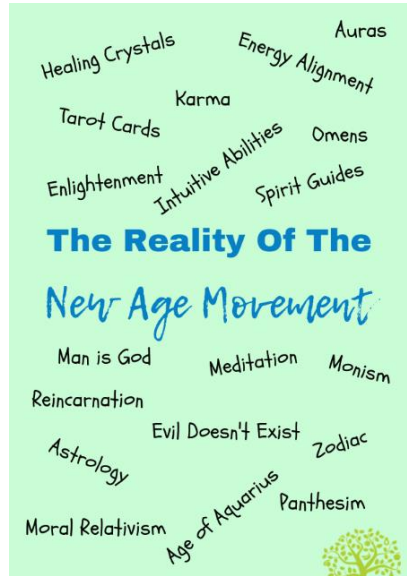
It is a potpourri of Mysticism, Humanism and man-centered supernaturalism. Borrowing a few ideas corrupted from conservative Christianity, and some technique from some spiritual teaching and practices of eastern religions and even Witchcraft, it creates a new kind of religion that includes feng shui, astrology, clairvoyance.



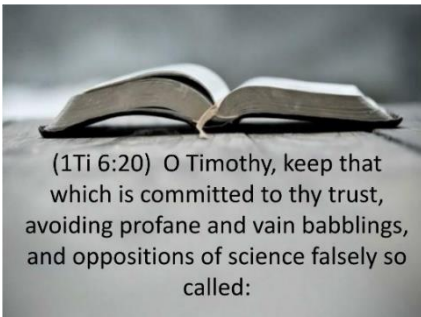
crystals, channeling, E.S.P., transcendental meditation, hypnosis, rebirthing, self-healing, visualization techniques, wizardry, even yoga and others. The New Age appeals to many youths and middle-aged people living in the post-modern era.

At the heart of the New Age thinking is the evolutionary belief that mankind evolved over billions of years, and we are entering into a new era which will bring a new Aquarius Spiritual dimension. By focusing deeply on our inner essences, we are supposed to recover the sacred wisdom of our true self which is divine.

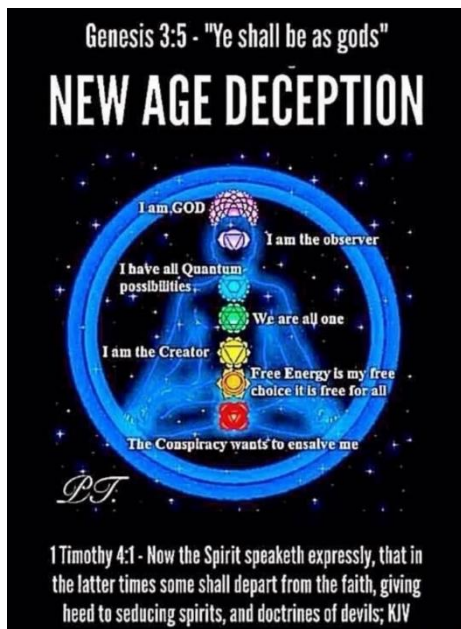
The assumption of the New Age is that all reality is one. **This assumption, technically called Monism, has its roots in Eastern and Greek philosophy. The so-called wisdom that will lead us to paradise is that all is one. "You are God", a lie at best and many have fallen to it. We need Christ to deliver us from this diabolical bondage and falsehood.**



The New Age Movement is a counterfeit philosophy that appeals to the feelings of individuals, leading them to think that that they are God. The emphasis is not only that reality is one, but that people achieve cosmic consciousness by means of meditation, visualization, yoga, abuse of substance like drugs, chanting, hypnosis, martial arts, sensory deprivation and others. **The New Ager believes that it is through cosmic consciousness that we attain cosmic oneness. On the conscious level, man is separated from God, but he can be one with God by his own. His conscious sense deceives his real self and transform his conscious thinking by some kind of spiritual reality not supported by the Word of God.**



The adherents are supposed to experience of cosmic consciousness is expressed by various terms including self-realization, enlightenment, God-realization, self-atonement, and Nirvana. This mystical experience produces the feeling of cosmic oneness where all distinctions between good and evil are confused and often mixed together.

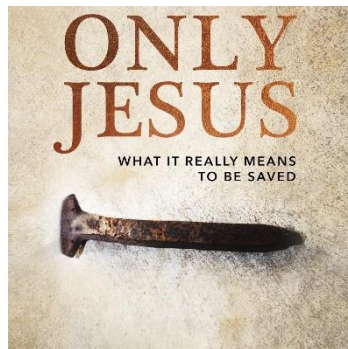


The origin of the New Age was found in the diabolical serpent to our first parents in the Garden of Eden that we can and shall be as gods (Gen 3:5). It is the cunning lie of the serpent that man's destiny and his salvation is within himself. Modern gullible man finds the old lie gratifying. When we do not seek the truth in God and his word, we will fall for any lie. Depraved man is vulnerable to this lie; he finds the false message of the sly serpent appearing to seem to offer special hope and power. **It exalts man to the place of God, gives him a false sense of security and makes him to be a kind of deity. This is a spiritual delusion at best and a malevolent deception at worst.**

New age philosophy teaches that man is the master of his destiny is contrary to the Bible and teaches that we do not need Christ and the gospel of his salvation. The lie of the devil of the divinity of man is to be exposed. The Word of God says, "For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie," (2 Thes. 2:10,11). Let us **Be Vigilant and Watchful and Warn** others to stay away from seductive false teaching of the end times that is impacting many. **Christ alone is the true and only Saviour for sinful and fallen man by His death at the cross and resurrection from the grave, and there is none other. Hope this helps.**

Jack Sin

(Read Peter Jones, *On Global Wizardy, Main Entry Editions*, 2010 for a deeper study.)



From the Pen of Rev David Yan....

***The Lord Leads Us in
Every Stage of Life
(Joshua 1:1-9; Hebrews 4:1-12)***



Joshua was commissioned by the Lord to lead Israel. It was a time of transition. The Lord leads his people in every stage of their transitory lives.

The name Joshua is rendered as Jesus in the Greek. There are similarities between Joshua and Jesus. Joshua led Israel to their promised land. Jesus leads the church to heaven. To get to heaven we need a leader. Jesus is that leader.

Joshua was divinely commissioned to lead Israel. Jesus was sent by the Father to gather in the elect. Jesus is the shepherd. We are His sheep.

Joshua was chosen. There was no other leader. Jesus was chosen. There is no other leader for the church. Jesus is the only Saviour.

Israel was not chosen because it was holier than other nations. Christians are not chosen because they are good but because God is good.

Joshua was given a special task---to lead Israel to the promised land. Jesus was given a special task---to save His people from their sins. Jesus could say "*It is finished.*" He has achieved his task.

Joshua-----Christ

<p>2. Joshua was God's appointed prophetic leader to replace Moses.</p> <p><u>Joshua 1:1-5</u> After the death of Moses, the LORD said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' aide: ² "Moses my servant is dead. Now then... As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you.</p>	<p>2. Jesus is God's anointed leader who fulfilled Moses' prophecy.</p> <p><u>Acts 3:22</u> For Moses said, 'The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you must listen to everything he tells you.</p>
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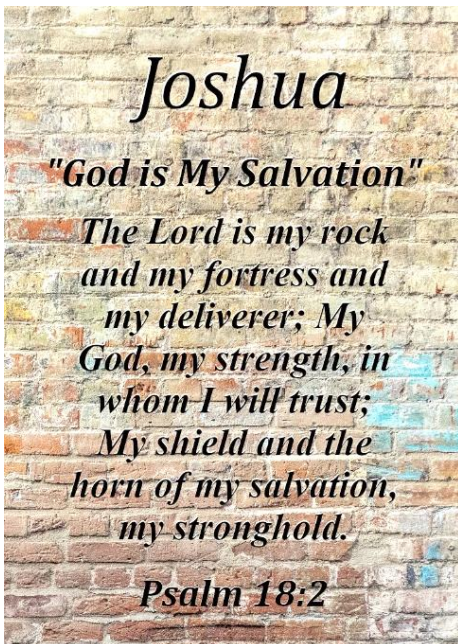
Israel went through different phases of life leading to the land of Canaan. But the land was not terminal but transitional. Israel must still clear the land and face their enemies. Christians are saved by faith in Jesus, but they are in transition. They must still work out their salvation and become more Christ-like while they are on earth.

Joshua would lead Israel to a specific destination---Canaan. Jesus leads His people to a specific destination which is heaven. Jesus has returned to heaven to prepare a place for his Church. He will return one day, and the Church will be with him forever.

The Lord will not forsake His people. He never abandoned Israel. He will not abandon his church. We are safe in the palm of His hands. There is no stronger hand than the hand of God. In Him we are secure.

Joshua must be strong and courageous. Jesus was strong when He resisted the temptation of the devil. He was courageous when He faced the unbelief of His own people and the violence of the Gentiles.

Joshua must meditate on the law of God. Jesus meditated on the Scriptures. He would retreat to the mountains and gardens to meditate and pray. He resisted the devil by quoting Scripture. At the very beginning of his public ministry, He quoted Scripture.



The lesson we learn is that the Lord leads His people in every phase of their lives. He did so when Israel was in transition. He does so today.

Whatever your situation, be assured that in Christ you have someone who is with you in every phase of your life. You may be having sad or happy days. The Lord is with you. You may be a teenager or a young adult and going through the struggles of youth and adolescence. The Lord is with you. You may be in your middle or final days. The Lord will lead you.

In every phase of life Jesus leads His people. What a blessed assurance this is. Come in faith to him now. Enter into this blessed assurance.

Rev David Yan
Emmanuel Church, Auckland, NZ

The Lord's Day 14 Jul 2024 at Sovereign Hope BPC

A profitable time of learning at the Sunday School class by Bro Marcus Chui



Last Sunday's Visitors from Hope BPC (Adelaide)

- ***Dr Houston & family (son of George & Grace Lai)***
- ***Nathan (son of Dn Kelvin)***



Happy & Satisfied faces at Lunch Fellowship!

***Blessed Birthday, Simon!
Celebration at
St Andrews Senior Care Centre,
Bedok South,
on 11 July 2024.***



EXODUS - SUPERNATURAL GUIDANCE IN THE WILDERNESS OF LIFE

LORD'S DAY PROGRAMME FOR JULY - SEPTEMBER 2024

JULY

- 7** Overcoming the Bondage of the World [Exodus 1:1-22]
- 14*** Divine Preservation in the Plan of God [Exodus 2:1-25]
- 21** God's Answers for Man's Excuses [Exodus 3:1-22]
- 28** When God Used Human Vessels [Exodus 4:1-21]

AUGUST

- 4** Powerful Display of Divine Power [Exodus 8:1-28]
- 11*** Typology of the Passover Lamb [Exodus 12:1-27]
- 18** Song of Gratitude & Praise [Exodus 15:1-27]
- 25** When Teamwork & Prayers Matter [Exodus 17:1-16]

SEPTEMBER

- 1** The Wisdom of Collective & United Service [Exodus 18:12-27]
- 8*** Relevance of the Moral Laws [Exodus 20:1-17]
- 15** When An Idol Displaced God [Exodus 32:1-23]
- 22** Using Our Gifts & Talents to Build the House of God [Exodus 35:21-35]
- 29** Why Jesus Matters in This & the Next Life [John 14:1-14]

Memory Verse

Exod 3:14 And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.

Announcements

1. Welcome to our Worship Service! If you are here for the first time, do leave us your contact numbers in our guest book before you leave. Those who share the church vision to acquire a place of worship in due time, may designate your offerings to the SHBPC Church Building Fund.
2. Bro Joseph brings us God's Word this morning on "**God's Answers for Man's Excuses [Exod 3:1-22]**", a new quarterly study on the "**Book of Exodus – Supernatural Guidance in the Wilderness of Life**".
3. Pastor is preaching and serving the Lord's Supper at Gospel Light BPC this morning.
4. Next Sunday, Pastor will preach on "**When God Used Human Vessels [Exod 4:1-21]**".
5. Sunday School classes after the worship service continue as follows:
 - Class by Joseph
 - Studies in Ezra (Dr Kwong Leen)
6. Chinese Fellowship meets on every Sunday night at 7pm via Zoom with both local and overseas brethren. We have systematic studies on Old Testament Foundations and the 10 Commandments. Join us for a time of profitable learning. **[Zoom ID:883 9662 4157 Passcode: 218178]**.
7. Do send your prayer items to Pastor and join us for Church Prayer Meeting on Wed at 8pm via Zoom. The prayer list is available in church. **[Zoom ID:863 7527 5431 Passcode: 625551]**.
8. Pray for:
 - Medical: Pastor Lazarus [blood condition], Anthony [lung cancer: narrowing airways], Samuel Wong [multiple health conditions], Auntie Chwee Lian [hip fracture], Daniel Phang [high blood pressure], Kin Hoong [monitoring of heart and lungs pressure].
9. **Church Family Day** will be held on the morning of **National Day Wed Aug 9** at the Singapore Botanic Gardens. Details will be available soon. All are welcome! Register with **Paul Tan (hp: 9731-4733)**.
10. Love gifts, Offering and Tithes to the Lord can be given in the following ways:
 - **Cheque** payable to **Sovereign Hope Bible Presbyterian Church** and mail to church address. (Kindly write the full name of the church as indicated.)
 - **Fund transfer** to Church **UOB** Account **392-308-825-1**
 - **PayNow** to Church UEN: **T19SS0116FSOV**

Kindly indicate "**Church Building Fund**" if you would like to designate towards this cause.