



EXPOSING THE NEW AGE

Session 1: YOUTH, FAMILIES AND MUSIC By Hon Mrs Tirikatene-Sullivan, Former MP in NZ

"New Age: A mine-field to ambush the unwary adolescent - and their families may know nothing of this secret activity of the mind." - (John 10:10)

NZ now has one of the highest rates of youth suicide in the world. Rock/Gothic music has popularised the theme of reincarnation. This entices an impressionable adolescent to the belief that suicide is not going to end their existence? But the Bible teaches the opposite. **Hebrews 9:27** "It is appointed unto men to die ONCE, and then the judgement."

HYPNOTISM

Hypnotism plays a large part in so-called regressions to a former life. Thus 'proving' reincarnation. Their hopes have been dashed. They expected so much from SELF-HYPNOSIS TAPES assuring "success" at sport, with the opposite sex, among their peers. All hold out the false promise that the sought after goals were attainable. During visualisation they thought they saw their "instant success" was about to happen. No one warned them, because no one knew. Secrecy is implied: "Go to your very own bedroom and tune in to your tape; to succeed you need to be totally alone."

1 Timothy 4:1 "But the (Holy) Spirit explicitly says that in latter times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to **deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons.**"

ASTROLOGY

The yearning to know their future, predisposes adolescents to study their "star sign". They are told which "star sign" will provide the right match. This leads them in a futile search as they slavishly follow their horoscope. (Deuteronomy 18:10-12 "There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, [11] "or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead. [12] "For all who do these things are an abomination to the LORD, and because of these abominations the LORD your God drives them out from before you.

"It is Satan's way of classifying young subjects he intends to destroy." The unsuspecting young people read about the personality of their "star sign", and are deluded into believing it precisely reflects their behaviour patterns. In fact, they are learning to conform.

DRUGS

Peer pressure to "do what the rest are doing" and the ready availability of drugs from those who exploit it as a commercial commodity, combine to entice impressionable adolescents to at least try it. Many become fascinated with the new experience and keep chasing it to regain their original "high" - only to find the "highs" don't in fact get better, but fall off - as does their brain power. But they have already developed into regular users.

ROCK MUSIC

Personal walkmans provide a private world of music which goes wherever the listener takes it. This puts them in a world of their own - enabling them to escape reality. It is also a ready-made excuse to be "switched off" from work and responsibilities: they can opt out of everything they don't like. 1000's of tapes to choose from. POSTERS OF ROCK OR SPORTS HEROES ADORN THEIR BEDROOM WALLS.

VIDEO - Extracts from the video "HELL'S BELL'S" show the dangerous influences of the New Age and Occultism in Rock Music.

RECOMMENDED RESOURCE MATERIAL:

"New Age from a Biblical Viewpoint" - M. Basilea Schlink

"Rock Music - Where From? Where To?" - M Basilea Schlink

Obtainable from Evangelical Sisterhood of Mary,

C/- 150 Heretaunga Street, Palmerston North

Also: "The Seduction of our Children" - Anderson & Russo
available from any Christian Bookstore.

Also: "Hell's Bell's - The Dangers of Rock 'n' Roll" Video
available from Christian Video Network, Box 33793, Takapuna

Session 2: FEMINISM By Jayne Calkin

DEFINITION OF FEMINISM:

Has the goal of the elimination of the economic, social, political and individual oppression of women in the form of any sexual differentiation of roles in society.

But - is **more** than a political force with equality of sexes as its goals - real goal is - matriarchy - the power or domination of women over men - an androgynous unisex society.

ULTIMATE GOAL OF RADICAL FEMINISM is the rejection of Father God to be replaced by goddess worship, witchcraft and lesbianism ie. the total rejection and elimination of patriarchy.

FEMINISM IS A KEY ENTRY INTO THE NEW AGE (Genesis 3:1)

Do not be deceived by the agenda of feminism.

Five Main Agendas

1. Equal pay
2. Equal opportunity (these 2 agendas are the usual entry into feminism)
3. Abortion - "Women's rights"
4. Lesbianism - "Gay" rights
5. Goddess worship and witchcraft

1. **Equal pay** : We can agree.....

2. **Equal Opportunity** : In the late 1800's early 1900's
NB: Accompanying the desire for equal opportunity come the demands for 24 hour, seven days a week, state funded child care, and with these demands a whole new set of problems are created.

3. **Abortion** - "Women's Rights" Psalm 51:5 "David said he was sinful from the time his mother **conceived him**. God did not say "Protoplasmic tissue was conceived which upon emergence from my mother turned out to be me"
Prov 23:22 "Listen to your **father** who gave you life"
Psalm 139:13 "You made all the delicate inner parts of my body and knit them together in my mothers womb."

STATISTICS

1.5 million abortions per year in America (25 million babies killed so far) By the end of the year 2000 we will have killed 45 million babies.

12,000 abortions per annum in New Zealand.

LESBIANISM

"Equal Rights" Radical feminists say "Feminism is the theory - lesbianism is the practice" (Romans 1:26 Living Bible "That is why God let go of them and let them do all these evil things, so that even their women turned against God's natural plan for them and indulged in sex sin with each other")

GODDESS WORSHIP AND WITCHCRAFT

Deuteronomy 18:10-12 "There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead. For all who do these things are an abomination to the LORD, and because of these abominations the LORD your God drives them out from before you."

QUOTE FROM AN EX-FEMINIST:

"Dynamic, committed Christian women are the key to reaching the hearts of feminists"

Session 3:
EDUCATION - ADULTS AND CHILDREN
By Jean Mackey

1. What is the problem?
2 Timothy 1:7: "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind."
Ephesians 6:12: "For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places."
2. Exposing some of Satan's schemes to control the minds of our young people.
3. Switch on the light.
Proverbs 22:6 "Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it."
4. Examine some material available for the delight, stimulation and creativity of our children and how it is being polluted.
Isaiah 54:13: "All your children shall be taught by the LORD, And great shall be the peace of your children."
5. School curricula.
John 14:6: "Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."
2 Corinthians 10:4-5: "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ."
Isaiah 46:1-2: "The idols of Babylon, Bel and Nebo, are being hauled away on ox carts! But look! The beasts are stumbling! The cart is turning over! The gods are falling out onto the ground! Is that the best that they can do? If they cannot even save themselves from such a fall, how can they save their worshippers from Cyrus?" (Living Bible)
6. How to protect our households.
7. Group prayer.

SUGGESTED READING:

The Bible - God
Your Kinds and the Occult - Johanna Michaelsen
The New Age - Old Lie in a New Package - Selwyn Stevens
The Seduction of our Children - Neil Anderson & Steve Russo
Turmoil in the Toy Box - Phil Phillips
Turmoil in the Toy Box II - Joan Hake Robie

Session 4: MEDIA, BUSINESS, GOVERNMENT By June Coxhead-Dooney

FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES

- New Age (NA) is the oldest lie.
- Where there is a counterfeit there is also an original.
- Satan not just different but totally opposed to God.
- NA uses Christian terms - a totally different meaning.

Numerous entrance points to the new age. Considering three

1. **MEDIA**
Media desensitises and informs
 - (a) **Influencers include:**
Beatles/Shirley McLaine/Marilyn Ferguson/John Denver/Linda Evans/Ted Turner
 - (b) **Movie makers**
"Three week survey on prime TV time USA - 32 had occult or satanic themes."
 - (c) **Publishing**
A billion dollar annual turnover
Fiction/journals/secular magazines and radio
2. **BUSINESS**
Burgeoning \$3-4 billion industry
 - (a) **Health food shops**
 - (b) **Business seminars**
 - (1) The Forum (Formerly known as EST - Erhard Seminar Training)
 - (2) Transcendental meditation
(Founded by Guru Maharshi Mahesh Yogi)
 - (3) Silva Mind Control (Founded by Charles Garfield, based on Zen Buddhism)
 - (c) **Psychic consultants**
 - (d) **Children's toy business**
 - (e) **Sports world**
3. **POLITICS**
"What begins in mysticism ends in politics."
NA political unity is not so much organisational as ideological.
 - (a) **Key political NA thinkers:**
Dr Robert Muller/Senator Gary Hart/Barbara Max Hubbard/Prince Phillip
 - (b) **Green Peace**
Strong underlying NA philosophy
 - (c) **New Age influences on legislation**
Homosexuality/family Break-up/abortion and euthanasia / legalisation of marijuana.
 - (d) **World Government Agenda - Parliamentarians for Global Action**
Ratification UN charter / international army / unification
4. **RESPONSE AS CHRISTIAN WOMEN**
 - **Have faith not fear (Revelation 3:21)**
 - **Have discernment (1 Corinthians 2:15-16; Matthew 24:4)**
 - **Greater emphasis on holiness (Revelation 19:7)**

- Continue steadfast in prayer (1 Peter 4:7; 1 Thessalonians 5:4-6,11)

REFERENCE BOOKS

"Inside the New Age Nightmare" - Randall N. Baer

"America, The Sorcerer's New Apprentice" - Dave Hung & T.A. McMahon

"What is the New Age?" - Michael Cole, Jim Graham, Tony Higton, David Lewis

"Unmasking the New Age" - Douglas R. Groothuis

Session 5: MIND, HEALTH AND FITNESS By Dale Garratt

MIND

Philosophy of the New Age - Monism - all is one

- good and evil are one
- all is interrelated
- interdependent
- no difference between God, a rock, a cabbage, a person
- no divisions
- no boundaries
- no absolutes

one continuous reality

Shirley MacLaine - powerful influence.

- Quote:
1. You are all gods
 2. You have lived before and will live again
 3. There is no death
 4. We create our own reality (destiny, existence)

The New Age movement is eclectic, it draws from many sources and religions, it is greatly diverse, difficult sometimes to pin down. However, it is always a homogenous soup of God, us and the universe.

Quote from George Leonard, New Age activist: "Honour and worship your own being, all knowledge, power and truth are within you. Each of us is the entire universe and we are omnipotent." This sounds very much like what Lucifer said in Isaiah 14:14: "I will be like the most High God." It is commonly felt that the New Age movement is based on the worship of Lucifer.

In the '60s, the "Age of Aquarius", the New Age became visible, the counter-culture led by the Beatles and other musicians claimed the square mind was enslaved in technology and materialism. So they coined the phrase, "If it feels good, do it", coupled with the teachings of Maharshi Mahesh Yogi, the New Age was established. Self-realisation, enlightenment, illumination, Nirvana (Buddhist), Satori (Zen), at-one-ment (Hinduism).

Note: Christian at-one-ment is in the atonement of Jesus on the Cross.

NEW AGE THINKING

1. The only way out is in (ward)
2. Not reconciliation with God, but realisation that we are God.
3. The cosmic self is wisdom and power.
4. The realisation of oneness leads to spiritual power and well-being.

HEALTH AND FITNESS

Holistic taken from Greek - Holos - meaning whole.

The goal of New Age holistic health is not to treat the sickness so much as the whole person, body, mind and spirit. A lot to be said in favour of this. However, most of the practices and methods of treatment are based on Pantheism - all is God and all is one. This Eastern myth permeates most holistic cures.

Acupuncture, biofeedback, iridology, rebirthing, self-hypnosis, colour-therapy, macrobiotics and yoga are all based in false religions. Then **some** forms of osteopathy, chiropractic healing, homoeopathy, reflexology and meditation are also at question. It is necessary to carefully check out the philosophy of a practitioner before submitting to the treatment.

Homoeopathy was founded by Samuel Hahnemann, a follower of Confucius, deeply involved in the occult and Freemasonry. It should be noted the Bible speaks of God-given healing properties in leaves (Ezekiel 47:12). It also recommends meditation in Psalm 1 and many other passages.

Other forms of divination used in conjunction with health are: tarot cards, palm reading, seances, numerology, biorhythms, kirilian photography, colour therapy and naturopathy.

The most common New Age form of fitness is Yoga, which is a Hindu form of holistic exercise. The word Yoga comes from Sanskrit, "yo" and "ga" - man and God. The aim is to make them one. Based on Hinduism, the two cannot be separated and it is designed to release the spirit for union with the God-force and to move the "serpent force" up the spine to the brain. Be careful of exercise videos using Yoga techniques. Deuteronomy 18:10: "It is an abomination to the Lord."

Martial arts is another form of fitness pursuit for New Agers. The whole purpose of the moves is to balance the YIN and YANG by an uninterrupted flow, ending one action with the beginning of the next. It is rooted in Buddhism and Taoism.

SPIRITUAL BASE OF TRUTH

James 5:16: "Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

Acts 3:16: "By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through Him that has given this complete healing to him as you can all see."

Ephesians 5:29: "No one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church - for we are members of His body."

PARA-PSYCHOLOGY THEN OPENS UP THESE POSSIBILITIES:

Telepathy, ESP, Precognition (predicting the future), channelling (contacting other spiritual beings and in particular "the masters"), meditation (to achieve higher levels of reality and spirituality). For example, Shirley McLain claims her book "Out on a Limb" was inspired by an extraterrestrial named Mayan.

New Agers claim that mankind can be saved by raising his own consciousness to tap the forces and energy within him. This leads to a need for constant meditation and yoga-related techniques to reach beyond the conscious mind to other realms, transcending the natural mind as in transcendental meditation. Some of the celebrities who evangelise these theories are John Denver, Yoko Ono, Diana Ross, Carly Simon - they have wide influence through music and public visibility.

SCRIPTURAL BASE OF TRUTH

1. Romans 3:23. Mankind has sinned but God has provided atonement.
2. Matthew 28:18. God has all and final authority, mankind and the devil do not.
3. Psalm 2:2-5: The destiny of the nations who are into monism (end result fear).
2 Corinthians 4:4. They have become blinded by Satan.
Jeremiah 18:9. If a nation turns its mind to evil and refuses to obey Me, then I will change My mind and not bless the nation as I wanted to.
4. God deplors psychic powers. Deuteronomy 18:10. Anyone involved in psychic powers of divination, channelling, calling up the dead, fortune telling etc is an object of horror and disgust to the Lord your God. The secret things belong to the Lord your God.

THE SCRIPTURAL WAY TO WISDOM AND KNOWLEDGE

Proverbs 1:7: "How do we become wise?"

"Trust and fear the Lord (reverence and honour Him), for only fools refuse to be taught." "Listen to your Father and Mother, what you learn from them will stand you in good stead and it will gain you many honours." (Living Bible)

Session 6: WORLD ISSUES OVERVIEW By Trish Jenkins

New Agers believe they can and should change the world. They have a mission! It is to "save" the world and usher in a new age.

ENVIRONMENTALISM - respecting all living things and eradicating pollution from the earth. Both Christians and New Agers have a care and concern for the environment but there the similarity ends.

Christian God is the creator of this world, including men and women. Genesis 1:1, 2:3; Nehemiah 9:6; Psalm 102:25

New Age God is everything and everything is god.

Christian God is separate and distinct from His creation.
Genesis 1

New Age God is an energy, a consciousness, a life force.

Christian God is personal. Genesis 1:27.

New Age God is not distinct from the world - for "all is one."

Christian The world belongs to God who has given us stewardship over it. Psalm 24:1; Psalm 72; Luke 12:42-48; 1 Corinthians 4:2

New Age The world is god and therefore to be worshipped.
(Pantheism - pan = all Theos- god)

Romans 1:25 says, "They changed the truth of God into a lie and worshipped and served creation instead of the Creator."

GLOBALISM - A form of political and social philosophy. Christians and New Agers recognise world-wide problems and look forward to a new world but:

Christian Our problems are the result of evil and of human sin.

New Age Our problems arise from ignorance of our divinity and our lack of oneness with all things.

Christian We believe the real "new age" began when Jesus rose from the dead and that He will return in power and glory and rule the earth with love and justice.

New Age Believe the new age will be a one-world economic and social system under global control by a one-world government with "Messiah" who will implement their "plan".

Although **world domination is the ultimate goal** there are numerous intermediate goals of a political, social and economic nature including:

Zero population growth/forced limitation of family size.

A universal credit card system - abolish cash money

A world food and water authority

Redistribution of the world's wealth

A universal tax

The establishment of a world economic system

Disarmament

Global agencies to handle distribution of global resources

A one-world religious system

Scriptures: Revelation 13:15-17 2 Thessalonians 2:3,7
Revelation 18:1-15 1 John 4:1-3

CHRISTIANS RESPONSE - Daniel 11:32

1. Know the revealed Christian truth - soak yourselves in the Scriptures.
2. Know the enemy - Satan is a liar - New Age is one of his subtle, destructive, counterfeit religions.
3. Pray and praise.
4. Love New Age "victims".

Proverbs 14:12 says: **"There is a way that seems right to man but in the end it leads to death"**

Session 7:
CHURCH AND CHRISTIANITY
By Pat Subritzky

1. **How does the New Age Movement affect the Church?**
 - (a) The New Age teaches unbelief in the Bible; Christians are taught to believe that the Bible is totally the inspired Word of God.
 - (b) New Age's fundamental beliefs run contrary to Christianity (Genesis 3:5).
 - (c) Many people accept that there is only one God but do not believe that the only way to Him is through Jesus Christ (James 2:19).

2. **Can New Age Movement deceive the Christian believers?**
 - (a) Many New Agers who have become Christians, have difficulty in finding the right church.
 - (b) The Church has paid a heavy price for her uncertainty, her compromise and her refusal to recapture the beating heart of New Testament Christianity.
 - (c) The Christian response to New Age must not simply be in words but also in demonstration of God's power.

3. **Where does the New Age appear?**
 - (a) Through feminism the gender in the Bible is being changed.
 - (b) New Age says, "Faith in man" - The Bible says, "Faith in God."
New Age says, "Power is in man" - The Bible says, "Power is God's"
 - (c) Power in me versus Power by God is a fundamental dividing line between the New Age and Christianity.

4. **What is the approach?**
 - (a) New Age does not solve the problem of sin - there is no provision for salvation.
 - (b) Christians regard the Cross of Christ as central to salvation and to the establishment of the kingdom of God.
 - (c) New Age philosophy urges us to accept ourselves as we are whereas the Christian Gospel urges us to repent of our sin and be reconciled to a holy and righteous God through His Son Jesus.

5. **How does New Age challenge Christianity?**
 - (a) In the area of the spiritual. Young people especially are looking for excitement in the spiritual realm and turn to wrong spirits.
 - (b) A spirituality which is rooted and grounded in Jesus Christ needs to be discriminating and alert.
 - (c) New Age spirituality is concerned with change of consciousness, personal and universal, a way of inner directed meditation and positive thinking.

- (d) New Age believes in successive reincarnation. Jesus gave directions that we would be raised from the dead to be with Him forever.

6. **What is the answer to the New Age Movement?**

- (a) Christianity is not a religion but a relationship with Father, Son and Holy Spirit, because God loves each one of us.
- (b) Only when you put your trust in Jesus Christ will you have that relationship with God.
- (c) The heart cry of Christianity is not self-fulfilment but self-denial, not for its own sake but in order to bless God and benefit mankind.
- (d) We are to watch and wait, confident of God's sovereignty, assured of Christ's victory, expectant of His return.

7. **Where is the New Age leading? (Conclusion)**

- (a) The liberating truth is that if we confess our sins He (Christ) is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9). This is the Good News that New Agers need to hear.
- (b) Let us seek the Lord for the wisdom, courage and love and power to confront effectively the New Age counterfeit so that many New Agers may truly become, "New creatures in Jesus Christ." (2 Corinthians 5:17).
- (c) Quote from Randall Baer: "What I have experienced as a Christian far surpasses the most incredible, mind-blowing, mystical experiences I had as a New Ager."
- (d) We are to love the New Ager but not their lifestyle - to help them leave it for a better way.
- (e) We must pray for the people involved in the New Age. God is not going to allow them to march off into oblivion, He wants to use us to reach them.
- (f) To present effectively the Gospel to New Agers we should be well-armed for spiritual battle.

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