

New Age Movement – Teaching Notes

New Age movement is based on an Astrological Theory that each age lasts two thousand years

The age of Pisces (fish) was the Christian era which was to end about 2000 AD

- Focused on the rational
- Focused on the assertive
- Focused on the scientific
- Focused on the intellectual
- Focused on the masculine

The age of Aquarius is next – Musical Hair – Song, “The Age of Aquarius”

*When the moon is in the seventh house, and Jupiter aligns with Mars,
Then peace will guide the planets, and love will guide the stars,
This is the dawning of the Age of Aquarius?
Harmony and understanding, sympathy and trust abounding,
No more falsehoods, or derisions, golden living dreams of visions,
Mystic crystal revelation, and the mind’s true liberation.
Aquarius! Aquarius! Aquarius!*

This age will be focused on (a common symbol for this age is the rainbow)

- The Intuitive
- The Spiritual
- The Feminine
- The human potential
- Harmony
- World Peace
- Ecology

How Should We Then Live – Francis Schaeffer – Reformation to the Enlightenment was a major shift in understanding our culture and world. Science, intellect, materialism diminished the Judeo-Christian worldview. In a similar way, the New Age Movement is advocating another reformation.

The New Age Movement rejects rationalism and certainly rejects the tenants of the Christian faith. The biblical concept of God as creator, the supernatural, the miracles, the resurrection and incarnation are explained away as myth or primitive thinking. The “rational” has replaced “faith.” Professor John Lennox – the role of science today is to provide an answer for everything that now requires faith – (my summary)

So, What is the New Age Movement?

An umbrella that includes diverse groups that seek a heightened spiritual consciousness with social and personal transformation, eradication of hunger, sickness, poverty, racism, sexism, and

war. They have a high value for individual autonomy and personal spirituality influenced by eastern religion and occult practices. (See explanation below).

- No leader
- No sacred text
- No organization
- No structure
- Mixture of eastern mysticism and occult practices
- Emphasis on holistic health
- Like the idea of world peace
- Loves ecology – mother earth
- Seeks spiritual enlightenment

Eastern Mysticism

- TM (Transcendental Meditation)
- Reincarnation
- Karma
- Zen
- Tai Chi
- Yoga
- Levitation
- Astral Projection
- Etc. – this is a partial list

Occult Practices

- Astrology
- Horoscopes
- Fortune-telling
- Clairvoyance
- Consulting the dead
- Mediums
- Channeling
- Spirit Guides
- Tarot Cards
- Etc. – partial list

Deuteronomy 18:10-12

Leviticus 19:26; 31

Galatians 5:20

Revelation 9: 20-212

New Age Concepts: God is All – this is pantheism

- God is non-person
- God is impersonal
- God is a creative force
- The earth is divine
- Planets and stars and crystals have power and influence
- Everything is God and God is in all things
- You find God by looking within – the inner light

Genesis 3:5 – “you will be like God”

How You Get Enlightened – Education – Books – Conferences - Experiences

- Self-realization
- Self-fulfillment
- Self-help
- Self-improvement
- Self- worth
- Self-esteem
- Self-love

The highest goal is for personal happiness, personal fulfillment, personal success, personal satisfaction.

Contrast this with the life and message of Jesus:

- Mark 8:34
- Philippians 2:5-8
- Matthew 16:25, 26

Syncretism – the synthesizing of all religions into one (kind of)

- No moral absolutes
- No sin – only ignorance
- Right and wrong self-determined
- No accepted standards for morals or ethics
- Summary – “If it feels good do it”
- No repentance
- No salvation
- No hell
- No Judgment of your life by a supreme being – Hebrews 9:27
- Genesis 3:4 “you shall not surely die.”

Strong warning from our Lord Jesus:

- Matthew 24:24-27
- Colossians 2:8
- 2 Timothy 4:3-5

Christianity vs the New Age

God the Father

- Personal, loving, available and directly involved in our lives
- Can relate and know
- Can come to and are encouraged to do so
- Can talk to and taught how to pray to Him
- Our Father – abba
- Made us for Himself

God the Son

- Revealed the Father
- Came from the Father
- Gave us the words of the Father
- Lived in obedience to the Father
- Offered Himself for our sins
- Rose from the dead
- Saves us
- Forgives us
- Transforms us

God the Holy Spirit

- Fills us
- Empowers us
- Teaches us
- Reveals Jesus
- Gifts us
- Produces fruit in us

Renunciation and Repentance