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“THE MESSAGE BIBLE”: CONTINUES NEW AGE TERMINOLOGY . . .

We have previously referred to “The Message Bible” as, “The Mess,” (as well as “The New Age Bible”) and now we think it deserves yet another title – “The Mystic Mess” – because it not only accommodates New Age doctrine, but the mystic spirituality of the New Age as well. Actually, the New Age Movement is not necessarily what you would call an organized religion; it is more of a globalized spirituality, versatile enough to filter through the religious traditions of any culture. This mystical spirit, in fact, stretches from beliefs in the far-East to the humanistic sciences of the West, and if you do not exercise careful discernment, your spirituality will “go global” right along with your latest efforts to expand your business. “The Mystic Mess” is, in fact, designed to help you make that transformation. With that said, let’s continue to look at more of its mystic New Age examples.

MYSTIC NEW AGE

We have discussed the concept of the term “the One” in previous articles as well, but just to refresh your memory, remember that “the One” is the universal spiritual force, the “god” of the New Age, who flows through all things creating “oneness” between them. You might say that any “spirit” in general is part of “the One” because all spirits are said to eventually flow into “the One” Great Spirit. By the aid of her spirit guide, Djwhal Khul, occultist Alice Bailey said, “The day is dawning when all religions will be regarded as emanating from the one great spiritual source; all will be seen as unitedly providing the one root out of which the universal world religion will inevitably emerge . . . they will accept the same truths, not as theological concepts, but as essential to spiritual living; they will stand together on the same platform of brotherhood and of human relations; they will recognize divine sonship and will seek unitedly to cooperate with the divine Plan. . . .”⁸ H.P. Blavatsky, another New Age occultist, teaches the following: “Brotherhood is a fact of nature. We are One at the highest spiritual component of our nature. We are sparks from one flame. . . . The religions of the world are branches on the tree whose trunk is

the one ancient – one universal – wisdom religion. The religions are the tributaries of one great river. . . . Humanity’s potential is infinite and every being has a contribution to make toward a grander world. We are all in it together. We are one.”⁹

THE ONE – NEW AGE

Acts 13:25

King James:

And as John fulfilled his course, he said, Whom think ye that I am? I am not He. But, behold, there cometh One after me, Whose shoes of His feet I am not worthy to loose.

The Message:

As John was finishing up his work, he said, “Did you think I was the One? No, I’m not the One. But the One you’ve been waiting for all these years is just around the corner, about to appear. And I’m about to disappear.”

Hebrews 2:11

King James:

For both He that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of One: for which cause He is not ashamed to call them brethren.

The Message:

Since the One who saves and those who are saved have a common origin, Jesus doesn’t hesitate to treat them as family.



Revelation 5:7

King James:

And He came and took the book out of the right hand of Him that sat upon the throne.

The Message:

He came to the One Seated on the Throne and took the scroll from his right hand.

ONENESS – NEW AGE

Ephesians 4:6

King James:

One God and Father of all, Who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

The Message:

... One God and Father of all, who rules over all, works through all, and is present in all. Everything you are and think and do is permeated with Oneness.

John 17:23

King James:

I in them, and Thou in Me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that Thou hast sent Me, and hast loved them, as Thou hast loved Me.

The Message:

Then they'll be mature in this oneness, And give the god-less world evidence That you've sent me and loved them in the same way you've loved me.

I Corinthians 10:17

King James:

For we being many are one bread, and one body: for we are all partakers of that one bread.

The Message:

Because there is one loaf, our many-ness becomes oneness – Christ doesn't become fragmented in us. Rather, we become unified in him.

Other terms used to describe New Age "oneness" are "interdependence" and/or "interconnectedness." They also speak of the essential unity of everything in the universe.¹⁰

Romans 1:14

King James:

I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise.

The Message:

"Everyone I meet – it matters little whether they're mannered or rude, smart or simple – deepens my sense of interdependence and obligation."

Next, we come to a particularly strange phrase found in the "Mystic Mess" wholly typical of mystical/cultic thinking: "the God of green hope". Scripture certainly never mentions anything about a "green hope," being that Christ is the only True Hope for humanity. But, quite amazingly, "Green" plays a major role in the hope of the unbelieving world and is, in a sense, their savior. In fact, the "Green God" has long been a symbol of immortality among the pagans, as they have not known the Everlasting Life God has offered to us through Calvary. "Green was, with the Druids, a symbol of hope and the virtue of hope, and with a Freemason, illustrates the hope of immortality."¹¹ The mantra of the environmentalists echoes this spirit: "go-green" they say, and Mother Earth will not perish. In fact, the environmental movement goes hand in hand with New Age "oneness" as well. The title of one particular book by William Anderson reads, Green Man: The Archetype of Our Oneness with Earth.¹²

Romans 15:13

King James:

Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Message:

Oh! May the God of green hope fill you up with joy, fill you up with peace, so that your believing lives, filled with the life-giving energy of the Holy Spirit, will brim over with hope!

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“ONE”

Christians today need to understand that an intrinsic part of accepting mystical theology is accepting the concept that there are “many paths to God.” In more secular terms, this mind-set is often called “unity in diversity.” You see, the New Age concept of “one,” in reality, means “many.” The usage of the term “one” is meant to deceive as it fakes common ground between Christianity and other faiths. Due to their belief that all various paths lead to the same god, a sinner can be called a “child of God” just as long as he joins in the pursuit of the universal spirit and does his best to live up to whatever “light” he has been given. Tragically, this lie abolishes any need to convert sinners to the true Christian Faith and/or teach them how to receive Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Currently, top “leaders” in government and religious circles are making major efforts to produce tolerance for such pluralistic spirituality. In fact, they say that the refusal to embrace ecumenical “oneness” threatens the world’s welfare and security. In an interview with ABC News’ Charles Gibson, President George W. Bush responds to the question of whether Christians and Muslims worship the same God: “I think we do. We have different routes of getting to the Almighty.” At the 2007 National Day of Prayer, Bush stated the following: “Americans of many faiths and traditions share a common belief that God hears the prayers of His children and shows grace to those who seek Him. . . . There is a power in these prayers. . . . I ask the citizens of our Nation to give thanks, each according to his or her own faith, for the freedoms and blessings we have received and for God’s continued guidance, comfort, and protection.” Rick Warren is another example. At the UN Interfaith Prayer Breakfast in September 2005, he says: “You may be Catholic or Protestant or Buddhist or Baptist or Muslim or Mormon or Jewish or Jain, or you have no religion at all. I’m not interested in your religious background. Because God did not create the universe for us to have religion. He came for us to have a relationship with him.” On Larry King Live in 2005, Warren said, “I have known many people who believe in the Messiah of Jesus, regardless of what religion they are, because they believe in him. It’s

about a relationship, not a religion.” In a 1997 interview with Robert Schuller, Billy Graham made this statement: “I think everybody that loves Christ, or knows Christ, whether they’re conscious of it or not, they’re members of the Body of Christ. . . . He’s calling people out of the world for His name, whether they come from the Muslim world, or the Buddhist world, or the Christian world or the non-believing world, they are members of the Body of Christ because they’ve been called by God. They may not even know the name of Jesus, but they know in their hearts that they need something that they don’t have, and they turn to the only light that they have, and I think that they are saved, and that they are going to be with us in heaven.”¹³

CHRIST AND HIM CRUCIFIED, THE ONLY WAY

But be forewarned, just as the Word of God has forewarned mankind for centuries, Christ and Him Crucified is the only way to God the Father. And if you believe in mystical unity (a.k.a. “oneness”), you have definitively denied Jesus Christ:

“And it came to pass, as He was alone praying, His disciples were with Him: and He asked them, saying, Whom say the people that I am? They answering said, John the Baptist; but some say, Elias; and others say, that one of the old prophets is risen again. He said unto them, But whom say ye that I am? Peter answering said, The Christ of God. And He straitly charged them, and commanded them to tell no man that thing; Saying, The Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be slain, and be raised the third day. And He said to them all, If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for My sake, the same shall save it. For what is a man advantaged, if he gain the whole world, and lose himself, or be cast away? For whosoever shall be ashamed of Me and of My Words, of him shall the Son of Man be ashamed, when He shall come in His own glory, and in His Father’s, and of the holy angels” (Lk. 9:18-26).

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- 8 (Alice Bailey & Djwhal Khul, Problems of Humanity, Chapter V – The Problem of the Churches, III. The Essential Truths, www.laluni.helloyou.ws/networks/bk/problems/prob1056.html)
- 9 (“Checklist of Some Principles of Theosophy,” Blavatsky Net Foundation, www.blavatsky.net/theosophy/theosophy-checklist.htm)
- 10 (Martin, Walter. The New Age Cult, p.129.)
- 11 (Kenneth Tuckwood, Talks on Freemasonry)
- 12 (Watkins. Terry, Mystic Mess. Dial-the-Truth Ministries. 2005)
- 13 (Kjos. Berit. “From Pentecost to Pluralism”. Trading Truth for Solidarity-Part I, www.crossroad.to/Excerpts/books/in-name-of-purpose/18-One-god-many-paths.htm)