

"... Hereby know we the spirit of truth and the spirit of error"

The
DISCERNER

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HERESY-EXPOSING
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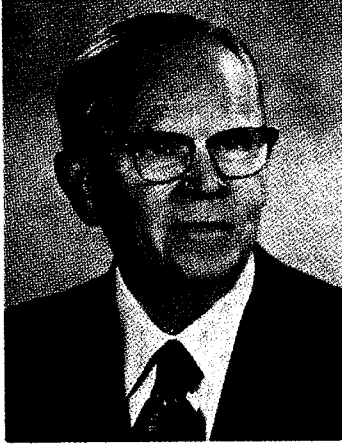
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Rev. Ewald Eisele

THE IMPACT OF RELIGION ANALYSIS SERVICE

Prof. John E. Dahlin, Editor



This article constitutes an overview of our ministry with which I have been associated for 33 years. During this long period, I have served as the director, and also the editor of the magazine, *The Discerner*. My ministry will be concluded in January, 1989, at our annual meeting and dinner. In addition to holding this responsible position, I have also served as a college and seminary professor, Bible teacher, lecturer, and pastor. Moreover, for 36 years I have maintained a weekly radio program over Northwestern College Network of Christian Radio Stations. Religion Analysis Service is a specialized ministry providing an important service in dealing with cults and false

systems of religion. It constitutes an agency of public enlightenment on the false teachings of our time. This is a challenging ministry and meets a primary need in today's world. These many off-center groups have been expanding phenomenally during the recent decades. These groups also have invaded every community in America. The cultic groups have now a membership of approximately 20 million people. This represents one-sixth of all the church members in the United States at the present time. These organizations are generally well organized and they have dynamic leaders and possess great financial resources for the expansion of their activities. All these spurious groups are a serious threat to Christianity. These preliminary statements may well serve as an introduction to this overview of our ministry through the years.

Unfortunately, very few organizations today are equipped and willing to openly oppose these false groups and provide the kind of service comparable to what we have continued to do in this vital area. We have come to grips with this challenge which we face with regard to the present-day activities of the cultic groups.

THE EARLY LEADERS

A group of dedicated men in this area, whom I will identify now, met to discuss the cultic situation, and if possible, organize, to oppose the false systems of religions, which were active in those years. These men actually became the charter members of our organization. They were: Rev. Enos Windsor of the Park Avenue Methodist Church of Minneapolis, Dr. Charles Feinberg, an educator and a scholar, and E. B. Jones, a clergyman, who became the director of the work during the early period. He had made a special study of certain cultic groups; other members were: George England of the Hospitality House, in which building several other Christian organizations had their offices; Arnold P. Peterson, Rev. Charles Richter, Dr. Louis Berk, Rev. Austin Sorensen and Rev. LeRoy Gager were a part of the early group. Last, but not least, was the esteemed Rev. Herbert Caneday, the only one of the group who has been a member of the Board since the inception of the organization, except for a very short time. The long service of our brother has been very much appreciated, as well as his wisdom in this specialized ministry. Since I assumed the leadership of the work about 50 men have served on the Board for longer or shorter periods. Miss Emma Yourdon, a literary woman, gave valuable service as a writer. Her articles appeared in our magazine and in a number of pamphlets, which were widely distributed.

A CONSTITUTION AND DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

These vital documents were arranged in the early period in order to inform people of our position as an

organization. Obviously, these documents revealed our total commitment to the Word of God, its inspiration and inerrancy.

THE NAME OF THE ORGANIZATION

The name, Religion Analysis Service was proposed by Dr. Feinberg and was accepted in a motion by a member of the Board. The name was wisely chosen, and it has been a proper definition of our ministry through the years. Our publication was named *The Discerner* and proposed to the Board by Herbert Caneday. It, too, reflected precisely the ministry to which we were committed. By a motion passed, it became our permanent name. These 2 names have served well as the objective and mission of our organization.

THE HEADQUARTERS

First, it was located at 5th and Hennepin in downtown Minneapolis, at the Lumber Exchange Building. Subsequently our work was moved to 9th and Hennepin, where we remained for 2 decades; this was at The Hospitality House. The office space was limited and the parking was available only at meters along the sidewalk of 9th Street. The area itself had deteriorated for some years, and was no longer desirable. Our office was moved to 27th and East Lake Street, where our work has been centered for the past two decades. Here we have had adequate space and parking which was desirable. We will need to move again to a more acceptable area of our city.

THE OFFICE PERSONNEL

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Divers from the First Baptist Church had retired from the School System where they

had served as teachers in the High School. They were willing and anxious to serve and manage the routine office work. They became the first full-time people to serve in this capacity. For 12 years they worked voluntarily daily without any salary. And, in addition, they came to our office daily, first by streetcar; later by bus, and never collected from us the amount for the daily fare to and from the office. More than that, they gave generous amounts to help the work financially. I directed the over-all ministry through these decades.

The Divers demonstrated a dedication to God's work, practically unmatched in Christian service, and it was commendable.

Mr. Ed Steen, also from the First Baptist Church, had retired as an accountant at a large Chicago firm. He was impressed with our service and he desired to be helpful to the Divers who were reaching eighty years old. Steen's helpfulness was greatly appreciated. He wanted no pay for his service, like that of the Divers, and never made a request for compensation in taking the bus to the office. He took charge of the financial duties such as bookkeeping and banking for the office. I have never known a finer person and one as fully dedicated to the Lord. He also gave regular contributions to the work. After his departure in his early 90's, his daughter sent us \$500.00 twice in memory of her esteemed father—another example of dedication to the Lord's work. Mrs. Kay Anderson also performed services in our Lake Street office for many years and she accepted only what might be considered a token in salary. She never hesitated in serving a noble cause.

The time had come to employ a full-time office manager. All those mentioned, worked voluntarily without any remuneration. I am fully aware and recognize that most people cannot follow the pattern of service mentioned. Our Lord pointed out that servants are worthy of fair compensation for their labor. Often, however, in the Lord's work, it is being followed, that is, serving without any monetary compensation—this is precisely what I have discussed. A number of people have been happy to do this for a ministry such as that of Religion Analysis Service.

Our organization was led to invite Rev. Loren Pugsley to become our office manager to succeed the Divers. Rev. Pugsley became the first salaried director of the office work. The predecessors had worked on a voluntary pattern of service. Pugsley was approaching the retirement age, at which time he would go on Social Security. At that time it was not much, but yet very helpful. The paid salary we provided was less than adequate, but with Social Security one who was frugal could get along. After 12 years here, Pugsley retired and returned to Wichita, Kansas, his home area. During his time here, he was committed fully to this ministry in literature.

Rev. Ewald Eisele was called as office manager to succeed Rev. Pugsley. He had been a pastor in Brainerd, MN, and also in that general area. He has served in our ministry here for nearly 10 years. Eisele is an authority in cultic literature. With better office equipment, he has been able to put out a lot of work at the office. The work has expanded considerably. He, too, has had a very modest salary. The income

has been implemented by preaching almost every weekend. Rev. Eisele has taken our literature to a number of national conventions of religious organizations. The contacts made, and the distribution of our literature, have extended our ministry in wider areas.

In the office in recent years, only one other person has been there on a limited arrangement, and payment for that service has been underwritten by a friend of Religion Analysis Service.

THE OVER-ALL IMPACT OF THIS MINISTRY

I will include the entire scope of the ministry, including my long-time leadership. With a limited space in *The Discerner* it becomes a difficult task to do this adequately.

THE SACRIFICIAL ASPECT OF THE WORK

From the beginning period, it has been a sacrificial service. Every person who has labored directly in this ministry has done the work sacrificially. I am unable to find one exception to this statement. Each one has been willing to forego an adequate compensation for services provided for our organization. Either completely voluntary work, or inadequate compensation has been necessary in this ministry. I have never seen an equaled sacrificial service in any other ministry with which I am acquainted. [I make reference to Christian service.] Some people who are brain-washed by cultic leaders, and who have surrendered themselves to their dictatorial masters, will give sacrificially. These false leaders and their followers are not worthy to emulate with regard to giving sacrificially. You, as readers, have the

right to question my discussion of the pattern of service by our people. By God's grace, these dear people are willing to serve and to give to the utmost in their service to the Lord.

One answer to this is the supreme necessity of such a ministry as needy as Religion Analysis Service. This sacrificial pattern of service cannot be avoided if it is to be maintained. We would have been compelled to cease our ministry several decades ago if we had not been blessed with these sacrificial supporters. You, as readers, need to realize our work has no endowment funds, nor reserves to help us. And, we have very few churches which have placed this ministry in their regular church budgets. Some time ago, I asked one-hundred of the best churches I have known to place this ministry in their regular church budget—none made a pledge to do this. We are mainly dependent on individual contributors to maintain this ministry. They have kept our work alive during these decades. I realize that churches and institutions are hard pressed to meet all their commitments; hence, very few of these have provided help to our ministry financially.

I do not believe any other cause in America is dependent so much as we are for personal, sacrificial contributions. We thank God for these individuals who are dedicated stewards. A fine lady, living a distance from our city, has worked over four decades at a big establishment in a major city, and has sent our work \$300.00 yearly for more than a decade. I am proud to have been her pastor years ago. She has been led of God to do this. She is not a wealthy person. Many others, whose names

are too numerous to mention, have also been equally dedicated with lesser means to give such a large amount as the one mentioned. I know a large number of wealthy people, many of whom are Christians. I have not been able to tap this reservoir of funds very often. In the next paragraph I will discuss why our organization has had such a struggle for adequate funds, and I am not aware of any other Christian ministry during the past 43 years more worthy. Religion Analysis Service is not a popular organization.

A number of people believe that an opposition to cultic groups is a **NEGATIVE POSITION**—not a positive ministry. While these people may be sincere in their judgment, I believe that they are completely wrong in their viewpoint. Casually considered, it may seem their interpretation is correct. I am thoroughly convinced, however, that such an accusation of the so-called negative position cannot be sustained factually. Since the cultic membership in the United States has reached twenty-million people, it has become a very serious matter with all Bible-believing groups. None of the cultic systems present the true Gospel. Their doctrine is defective on the most vital teachings of the Holy Scriptures. For several decades I have carefully analyzed the teaching of all the principal cults. They constitute our largest missionfield. Our position may seem negative in rejecting their false teachings, but our position is very positive in seeking to reach these misguided people. Our objective is not mainly to oppose such groups, but rather to bring them to the Gospel of Christ. This is positive,

and it rejects the classification made. The N. T. writer, Jude, calls this ministry "pulling them from the fire." Let me illustrate this further: When I was on the KTIS radio network, I spoke one day on: "Christ the Bread of Life for a hungry and needy mankind." A woman, a patient at the Metropolitan Hospital in our city, listened to my presentation. She called for the nurse. The head nurse on that floor responded, and she realized the patient was terribly distressed and she seemed to be a hopeless case spiritually. The nurse had me paged when I was in the line to have lunch at the dining room of the College. I responded and took the phone. The nurse asked me to come as soon as it was possible as the patient was confused and desperate. I responded and said I would come after having lunch. She suggested that I skip the lunch and come immediately. I did. The nurse took me to the patient's room and said she would stay on when I would deal with her spiritual needs. The poor, benighted woman listened with a rapt attention as I gave her the basic Scripture promises with regard to salvation. In repentance and confession of her sins she sought salvation through Christ. The nurse and I saw when the light broke through. It was an extraordinary sight that will long be remembered. Let me ask, was this negative or was it positive? You know the answer—positive—of course. I do not ever remember witnessing the power of the Gospel as I did at this occasion. It was manifested in the life of this confused lady, who moved out from darkness to the light. She had been totally confused by false religious systems. We

thank the Lord for the power of His Word.

Two of the most well known pulpiteers of today give their major emphasis on positive thinking. I agree to much of that which they have to say, but somehow it is much similar to trying to move the boat forward with only one oar. There are both the positive and negative aspect of the Gospel of Christ.

Shortly before he passed away, Dr. Harry Ironside dictated an article for *The Discerner* magazine at our office. He dealt with the negative area of God's Truth, and he pointed out that a large part of the Bible has been arranged in that pattern, in both the New and Old Testament. Our Lord used that method again and again, always with a real positive objective.

Another illustration: a man and his wife in a neighboring state were confused and misled by certain cults. The couple received our literature along with other good material. It led to their spiritual restoration and placed them on the right track. Soon thereafter this man was led to enroll in Dallas Theological Seminary for training in full-time Christian work. Not many years thereafter, he became the managing editor of *The Good News Broadcaster*, the publica-

tion of the Back to the Bible organization where he served for over a decade. His testimony with regard to our literature appeared in one issue of our magazine, *The Discerner*. Let me ask, was this negative in what our literature achieved for this person?—you know it was positive! The charge sometimes made about our work as being negative is ill-founded and false.

For years I have tried my best to arrange my priorities to be effective. Sometimes we need to rearrange them. On my list of priorities, Religion Analysis is first. I fear for many, our ministry may be the last in their priorities. I feel satisfied with my choice, however.

This is my final article as the director of this ministry. I have provided 150 articles during the years, most of which are editorial. Moreover, I have prepared about sixty-five Newsletters. It is one part of our ministry, all of which has been without any salary—by my choice. Thanks to all of you for your prayers and support continually.

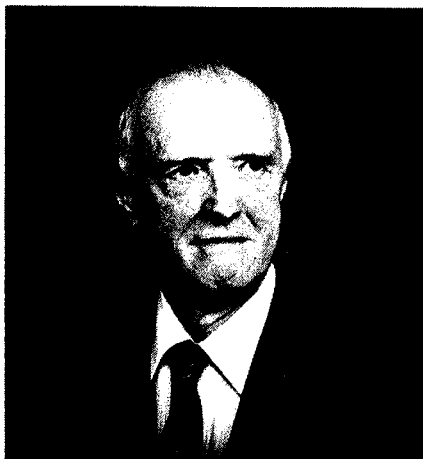
Read my introduction to the new leader who succeeds me, in this January issue. He is worthy of your prayer and support.

* * * * *

New Subscriptions To The Discerner

Some of you have relatives, friends, and also pastors who would enjoy reading The Discerner. Why not send in a subscription for them for \$2.00 a year? The publication has pertinent information on the Cults which will be appreciated.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW LEADER, DR. WILLIAM BEVIER



At the annual meeting and dinner of Religion Analysis Service, Prof. John E. Dahlin will conclude his 33-year ministry as President and the Editor of its publication, *The Discerner*, to be held January 24. He will then introduce Dr. William BeVier of Northwestern College to succeed him in this ministry. This arrangement was made at the October meeting of the Board. Dr. BeVier has excellent credentials and the qualifications for the position as an able leader. For 14 years he has been at Northwestern College in Roseville, as teacher of the Bible, and six of these as Dean of Education.

“THE POWER BEHIND THE CULTS”

by Dr. Roy E. Knuteson, Sr. Pastor, Fellowship Bible Church, Fort Collins, CO 80526

We are witnessing a cult explosion, unlike anything Christianity has ever seen in its 2,000 year history. Every year new cults arise and the older ones continue to flourish, and the end is nowhere in sight. In fact, Jesus

HIS EDUCATION

BA from Drury College, Springfield, Missouri
TH.M and TH.D. from Dallas Theological Seminary
MA from Southern Methodist University
Ed.D, all but dissertation, from Wayne State University

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Part-time instructor, Wayne State University, 1968-69
Detroit Bible College, 1960-74
Professor, Northwestern College, Roseville, 1974 to present; Dean six years, and Prof. of Bible

PASTORATES

Pastorates and interim pastorates in Presbyterian, Southern Baptist, Conservative Baptist, Evangelical Free, and Independent churches.

For a number of years, Dr. BeVier has been vice chairman of the Board of Religion Analysis Service and is well acquainted with its ministry, and will do well in the leadership of the organization.

The BeViers have two married daughters, one in Detroit (a nursing specialist in Michigan), the other an announcer of a Christian radio station at Fargo, ND.

1987 Retired Chaplain, Army Reserves (Colonel).

predicted that, as the age draws to a close, there would be a continual increase in religious activity, culminating in the greatest cultic leader of all—the false Messiah (Matthew 24:24). Under divine inspiration

of the Holy Spirit, the Apostle Paul prophesied that "the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn away their ears from the truth and turn aside to myths" (II Timothy 4:3-4).

Everywhere we look, we can see with our own eyes the absolute accuracy of the Word of God. Never has the religious scene been in such a state of confusion as it is right now. And, it is going to get worse! II Timothy 3:1, 5 states: "Mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. People will . . . have a form of godliness, but deny its power."

What is the propelling force behind the tremendous surge of false doctrine and cultic activity? Why do many of the cults out-strip the growth patterns of good, fundamental churches? What is the secret to the great commitment of cult members, as compared with most evangelical Christians? The Jehovah's Witnesses, for example, are motivated to door to door witnessing without benefit of a prodding clergy, and without a sure gospel. Pastors complain that they can't get their laymen, much less their leaders, to duplicate this kind of dedication with the real thing! What is this amazing power behind the cults?

TWO MOTIVATIONAL FACTORS

There is a lot of drive bound up in the human ego, and especially when it is coupled with the two greatest motivational features of all the cults. The first driving factor is the exclusive nature of each cultic group.

They proclaim, and believe, that their particular group, and theirs alone, is the only true religion on earth. This has been historically true within Catholicism and all the fringe groups. This concept has tremendous power if truly believed. It can cause unregenerate people to do all kinds of exploits in the name of the gods, or their religious cause. Great sacrifice has been demonstrated by the missionary force of these various movements all around the world. It ought to be a motivating force for real Christians as well.

The second motivational force is the inherent, carnal idea that human effort is necessary to whatever "salvation" the particular group offers. Somehow, there is deeply ingrained in the human spirit the belief that religious works are needed, and it is being constantly demonstrated within organized religion. And as a result, whether it be the tabulation of calls made, the amount of literature sold, or the number of meetings attended; or the completion of a two-year "missionary" stint, as in the case of the Mormons, it is all a great testimony to the power of "works" upon the human soul. People naturally, because of the Fall, want to say they have done something for the cause. Young people, particularly, are caught up in this frenzy of activity for "the movement." Witness the continuing fund-raising tactics of the Moonies and others. It is almost mind-boggling what is accomplished through the sheer power of the human mind when it is fully committed to a particular religious leader or concept. Would to God that we could see this same kind of dedication, and more, within true Biblical Christianity.

THE REAL SOURCE OF RELIGIOUS POWER

The Bible draws back the curtain and reveals the true source of cultic motivation and growth. According to Ephesians 6:12, the real power is "the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms." It is the Devil, the "god of this age," who is the force behind it all. The Scriptures reveal that Satan is assisted by an untiring and devoted cadre of evil henchmen who are organized to accomplish their common, unrighteous purposes, through religious activity. This is the unseen world of demons.

Because Satan is limited in time, space, and power, he must extend himself through his many fallen angels who are just as wicked and as powerful as he is. Satan is not in charge of a divided army (Matthew 12:24-26). Instead, he motivates them as a compelling dictator to accomplish his diabolical will. The Devil and his angels are constantly at work since they need no rest as we humans do. They combine their super-powerful resources of information to get the job done. This is very evident in astrology readings.

In addition, Satan has vast intelligence and has therefore created a network of information which enables him and his demons to carry out stratagems on a world-wide scene. II Thessalonians 2:9 reveals that this satanic army is capable of producing "all power and signs and false wonders." Jesus said they would cause their religious dupes to "perform great signs and miracles to deceive—even the elect—if that were possible" (Matthew 24:24).

Since there are actually millions upon millions of these evil spirit-

beings in the world, their combined intelligence and powers are very effective and efficient. It is literally true: "The whole world is under the control of the evil one" (I John 5:19). Beside all this, these demons have had thousands of years of successful history in the promotion of many false gospels. They, therefore, scheme powerfully, and work continuously to affect the world's philosophy and the course of religious history. They are constantly promoting rebellion against God and His purposes. Revelation 12:9 states that Satan is the one who "leads the whole world astray."

I Timothy 4:1 reveals that "in the latter times, some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons." Based on the revelation of God, we can say unequivocally that all the various and seemingly conflicting doctrines of false religion are inspired of the Devil. He is the master of religious intrigue and during this age, he is the victor. We believers are encouraged and comforted by the fact that our sovereign Lord and Defender—the Lord Jesus Christ—is still in control and therefore limits the devastation that this demonic horde might design.

Then, too, we know "the rest of the story." It has already been revealed that the Devil and his demons will exert even more power in the coming days. Their forces will be used in terribly wicked ways. During the coming "great tribulation," these evil beings will be unleashed to kill and destroy (Revelation 7:13-19), and to deceive the whole world through the supernatural powers of the Devil's marvel - the "man of lawlessness" (II Thessalonians 2:3), who "will oppose

and exalt himself over everything that is called God, or is worshipped" (v. 4). The "one-world church," soon to be organized will be dominated by the AntiChrist. We can therefore expect many more cults and religions to arise. It may appear as though Satan has triumphed over God at last. But, no! The Bible reveals that this man is "doomed to destruction" (II Thessalonians 2:3) and so are his demonic followers (Revelation 20:10). Jesus Christ will emerge as the final victor "for he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet" (I Corinthians 15:25).

THE GREATER POWER OF GOD

Understanding then, the real power behind the cults, we can go against the enemy with an even greater dedication and strength. Paul stated it this way:

"For though we live in this world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of this world. On the contrary, we have

divine power to demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ" (II Corinthians 10:3-5).

Clad in the full armor of God, we can "stand against the Devil's schemes" (Ephesians 6:11); we can hold up "the shield of faith with which we can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one" (Ephesians 6:16); and we can unsheath the mighty "sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God" (Ephesians 6:17) to back down the Satanic forces of evil, even as our Lord did in the desert (Matthew 4:4-11). We are "more than conquerors" (Romans 8:37), and we will triumph in the end "because the one who is in you (us) is greater than the one who is in the world" (I John 4:4).

(All Scripture quotations are from The New International Version of the Bible.)

FALSE INTELLECTUALISM

The basic principle of true intellectualism is set forth in the Scriptures. We read "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, a good understanding have all they that do these commandments" (Ps. 111:10). This rules out the possibility of an atheist being an intellectual. The Psalmist also identifies a false intellectual in these words: "The fool hath said in his heart there is no God" (Ps. 14:1; 53:1). In other words, such a person is unable to reach sound conclusions. When a person maintains an independence of God, even being contemptuous of God, objective thinking is not possible.

In addition, those who take the modernistic approach to the Scriptures, also fail to achieve a sound intellectual status. Their hall-mark is a continuous boasting of scholarship. The Apostle Jude says "Their mouth speaketh great swelling words." On the other hand, a true scholar humbly examines all evidences, and this includes all points of view. In my examination of writings of liberals, I seldom find an evangelical scholar being quoted. Evangelical scholarship is passed over as if it never existed. This is a non-intellectual position and it demonstrates narrow-mindedness and a bigoted position, as well as a

manifestation of a lack of fairness.

False intellectualism is the product of minds infected by egotism and a boundless confidence in men's own ingenuity in arriving at the right judgment on all matters under consideration. Unless God is given the preeminent position, which He deserves, none of these so-called in-

tellectuals is capable of presenting a philosophy which makes sense. Yet in the secular and humanistic society of our time, a person in such a category is considered an authority in the academic discipline which he has chosen. The most proper statement regarding such an individual is that of a pseudo-intellectual. J.E.D.

MARY IN THE KORAN

The concept of the Madonna, the mother and child idol, appears in almost all the ancient religions. Observers of the revival of ecumenism in these last days say that virgin Mary worship will be a major unifying factor in drawing all of today's major religions together into the final, one-world, apostate, super-church.

The Vatican is carefully manipulating the public image of their Madonna idol which they call the "Virgin Mary." New apparitions of her are springing up all over the world with messages which stress unity and harmony among all people. Dire consequences are predicted upon those who ignore her ecumenical messages.

Whenever another religious system shows a spark of interest in Mary, they try to fan it into flame. In 1985, when the Pope visited several nations in Africa with large Islamic populations, special emphasis was made in the Catholic press that the Muslim's sacred book, the Koran, contains several references to "the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God."

In one place in the Koran, God is speaking of Mary to Mohammad: "O Mohammad, attend also to her who kept her virginity and into whom we poured part of our spirit. Of her and her Son we have made a sign for the universe."

In other Koran passages, Catholicism thinks it sees references to their dogma of the Immaculate Conception of Mary: "O Mary, God has chosen you and purified you. He has chosen you above all the women of the world." In another place Mary's mother is quoted as saying, "O Lord, I vow and consecrate to you what is already within me. Accept it from me."

In another place, Mohammad tells his daughter, Fatima, "Thou shalt be the most blessed of all women in Paradise, after Mary." In such passages the Pope is attempting to see a common worship of Mary that can be used to draw Islam under the tentacles of the Vatican.

—From *Battle Cry*,
Published by Chick Publications,
Used with permission.

THE NEW AGE MOVEMENT

by Rev. Ewald Eisele

The NAM is an emerging threat to Biblical Christianity and the freedoms of liberty as they are known in America. It is RELIGIOUS, POLITICAL, COMMERCIAL and EDUCATIONAL. These four areas overlap and compliment one another.

While the religious part of the movement was begun in the Garden of Eden with the statement, "Ye shall be as gods," for all practical purposes it was conceived in 1875 when a Madam Helene Blavatsky founded the THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY. This is a religious organization based on Buddhist, and other eastern religious, teachings. Its textbook is *ISIS UNVEILED* (1877). Isis is one of the two chief Egyptian goddesses (sister and wife of Osiris) and is goddess of nature, love, learning, fertility and the moon. While some think of this Society as a cult, it is, in reality, part of the occult which is totally demonic and under the control of Lucifer or Satan.

When Blavatsky died, her followers numbered 100,000. She was succeeded by Annie Besant. In 1929, she launched an abortive effort to produce an anti-christ world messiah. She died in 1933 having written 22 books.

The next leader and real guiding light of the movement was Alice Bailey. She wrote 25 books which are considered to be the bible of the movement. These are the blueprint for all of the operations and activities of present-day leaders. What she wrote is followed religiously. Two of Bailey's books are anti-semitic: *THE RAYS OF LIGHT* and *EXTERNALIZATION OF THE HIERARCHY*. To quote Joseph Carr, in his *THE LUCIFER CONNECTION*, page 75:

The New Age Movement is not just opposed to Christianity but also orthodox Judaism . . . Jews, whether or not they are religious, will ultimately find the New Age Movement (especially the Alice Bailey wing) anti-semitic right down to the core.

Bailey claimed in 1949 that Jews would have to go through the "fires of purification" before they could enter the New Age because of "bad racial karma"—a distinctly anti-semitic statement that was made only four years after the world was shocked by the crimes of the Holocaust. One New Age writer admitted in a book that Adolf Hitler was the movement's most famous proxy disciple.

One of the things Alice Bailey wrote and emphasized is, "The battle will be fought largely with mental weapons and in the world of thought." She died in 1949.

With really no visible organization, the movement functioned quietly until 1975, the year Alice Bailey said they should "go public."

Today there is a network or coalition of millions of sincere participants in more than 10,000 NA organizations. Not all participants agree on all points, but all have one goal. Some openly affirm that they are committed to bringing in a NA new world order, but many are involved in organizations and corporations or groups without knowing of the involvement in the movement or network.

There have been statements made, pro and con, regarding a "conspiracy" aspect of the movement. Two things should be kept in mind:

1. Every New Age group is not knowingly working with all of the others to "take over the world."
2. Christians work together to bring about universal Christianity. Communists do the same for their philosophy, and Moslems do the same in order to bring about universal acceptance of Islam. None of these could be classed as a conspiracy.

But there is a growing undercurrent of expectation that the world is on the brink of something extraordinary and that some kind of transformation is coming. A New World View is in the wings of the stage of world events and thinking, and is expected to come "on stage" at any moment.

While working toward one end, the movement has no uniforms, membership cards or rolls, dues, or official officers or leaders. But since the entire New Age Movement is Satanic it needs no visible organization. Satan can operate—does operate—on the spiritual level to influence and guide the movement without having to have a physical headquarters on earth.

The basic aim is to bring about a re-vamping or re-shaping of the course of the world and the thinking of mankind. The end really is a transformation of the world into a community of only one government and only one religion.

The movement is known by many names. Some of these are movements and/or philosophies in their own right.

THE AQUARIAN CONSPIRACY (a book by this name by Marylyn Ferguson)

THE THIRD FORCE

THE THIRD WAVE — The first wave of change was unleashed 10,000 years ago by the invention of agriculture. The second wave of change touched off the industrial revolution.

THE HUMAN POTENTIAL MOVEMENT

THE PLAN (the favorite name—nearest to an official name)

THE NEW CONSCIOUSNESS

THE NETWORK MOVEMENT

THE TRANSCENDENTAL MOVEMENT

THE NEW SPIRITUALITY

SECULAR HUMANISM

HUMANISM

NEW THOUGHT RELIGION

HUMANISTIC PSYCHOLOGY

THE HOLISTIC MOVEMENT

PLANETARY INITIATIVE

THE AGE OF AQUARIUS

The entire movement is called a **NETWORK**. The reason is simple. A net is not dependent on a single strand. If one breaks the net as a whole it is still good. So, too, with the organization. If one segment drops out or does something drastic, the movement just drops the individual or group and goes on as though it or they never existed.

An example of this is the case of **JIM JONES** and **THE PEOPLES TEMPLE**. Moving to Guyana with his so-called church, he was listed in the 1972 "SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY GUIDE" (a NA handbook) as one of theirs, until the massacre. Then he was mentioned but **ONCE**, only in order to call him a

“religious fundamentalist.” He was promptly dropped, never mentioned again, and the network goes on.

Networking is the operational method. It is a code word that refers to the thousands of groups around the world that are working toward the realization of the INTERCONNECTEDNESS of all life through the establishment of a one world system. Many network members expect the UN to one day function as the CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM in the new world order.

There are certain “buzz words” by which we can recognize NA influence (every use of these words or terms does NOT mean that the user has a NA connection).

HOLISTIC
TRANSFORMATION
SPACE SHIP EARTH
GLOBAL VILLAGE
INTERDEPENDENT or INTERDEPENDENCE
MANIFESTATION or MANIFEST
INITIATION or INITIATE

CROWDED PLANET (a threat from the concept of over-population of the world. There is no such threat! Good books on the subject are: *THE ULTIMATE RESOURCE*, by Juliam L. Simon; *THE MYTH OF OVER-POPULATION*, by R. J. Rushdoony; *STARVATION OR PLENTY*, by Colin Clark).

TRANSCENDENTENT
CONSCIOUSNESS-RAISING
PARADIGM or NEW PARADIGM
THE VISION or NEW VISION
PLANETARY VISION
GLOBAL VISION
TRANSPERSONAL

NA teachers, speakers and writers often use a common terminology, and Christians should be alert to the vocabulary that is commonly used in NA literature. However, merely using a term popular with this network (consciousness, transformation, holistic, global or even new age) no more indicates acceptance of New Age philosophy than the use of the term “evangelism” indicates acceptance of Christianity. Single buzz words are inadequate to determine world-view orientation. A larger interpretive context is required.

Since 1975, when they went public, there have been several national and international pronouncements or activities.

They have produced their own NEW AGE DIRECTORIES for major cities; a SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY GUIDE; have acquired dozens of authors; have several magazines. They have sponsored several widely publicized and accepted “events” such as HANDS ACROSS AMERICA, WORLD INSTANT OF CO-OPERATION, WE ARE THE WORLD, LIVE AID and HARMONIC CONVERGENCE.

(This article will be continued in the next issue of *THE DISCERNER*.)

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PERTINENT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

John E. Dahlin, Editor

QUESTION . . . Do people within the cultic system constitute a mission field, and an area of our responsibility?

ANSWER . . . Yes, and it is unfortunate that some Christians seem to lack an interest in seeking to win them to Christ. The great commission of Christ excludes none. The whole world is included. This includes all people. Read carefully Mt. 28:19-20; Acts 4:12; I Tim. 2:4. One great mission has as its motto: "The world is our field." This applies to the misdirected cults who are deceived by the false systems of religion. John 3:16 makes it clear that all of mankind is involved in God's plan of salvation.

QUESTION . . . Do we have evidence that in today's world many unsaved people are led to Christ and out of the false systems of religion?

ANSWER . . . Religion Analysis Service has witnessed God's power in many lives. Romans 1:16 is God's demonstration of His power to save all who believe. This includes the people of the various cults. Even among the 800 million Mohammedans some are being won to Christ—usually one by one. Jesus won the great Pharisee and traditionalist Saul on the road to Damascus, and the Jewish leader Nicodemus. See John's Gospel, chapter 4. We must not underestimate God's power to save people ensnared in the false religious system in our time.