



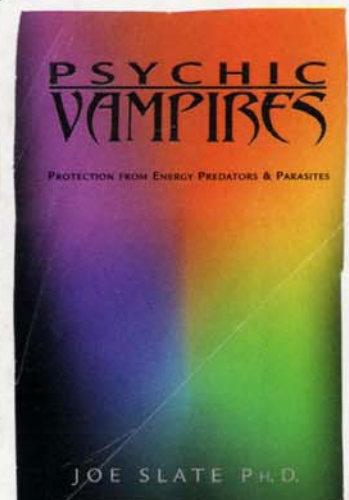
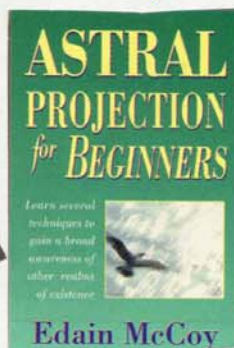
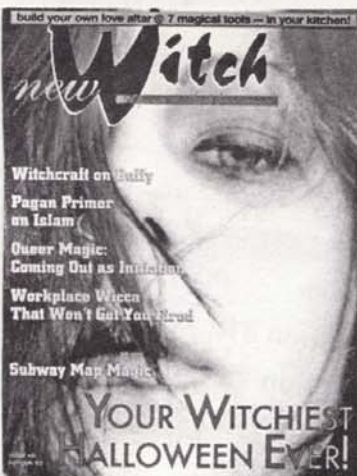
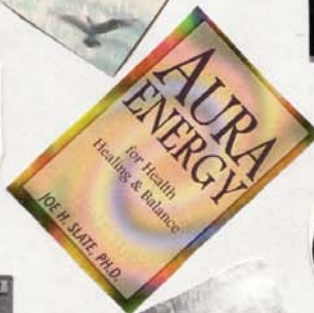
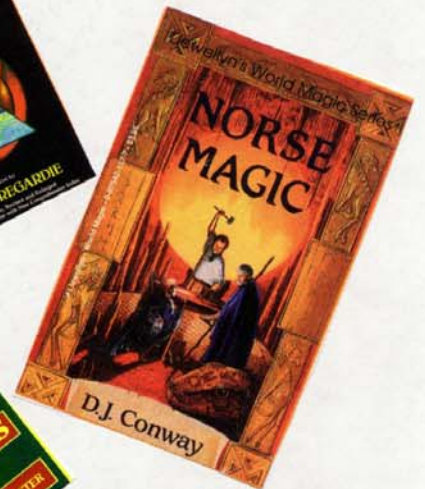
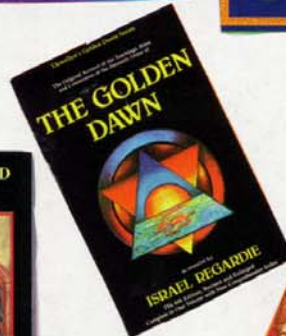
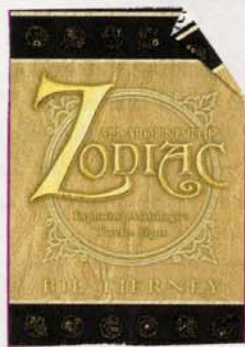
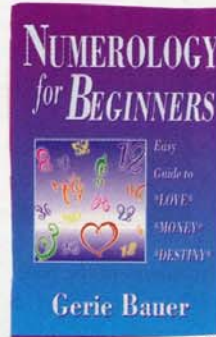
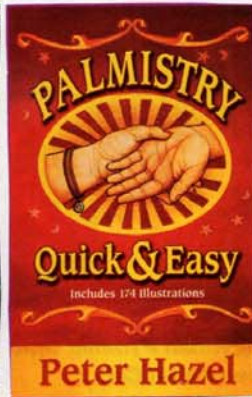
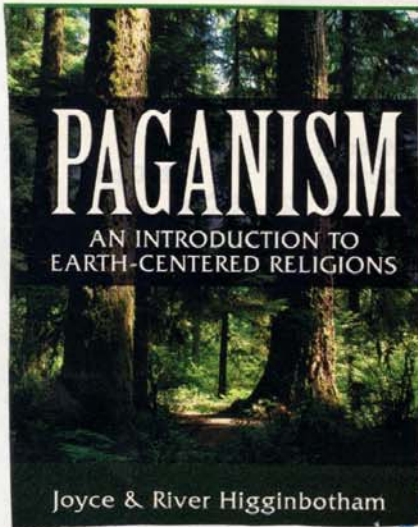
JESUS PEOPLE NEWSLETTER

4338 Third Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95817

FREE

The "Reality Check" Zine

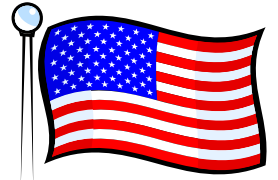
Editor: Thomas Adcock



THE DARK SIDE

"WIDE IS THE GATE, AND BROAD IS THE WAY, THAT LEADS TO DESTRUCTION, AND MANY THERE BE WHICH GO IN THERE: STRAIT IS THE GATE, AND NARROW IS THE WAY, WHICH LEADS UNTO LIFE, AND FEW THERE BE THAT FIND IT." JESUS CHRIST

A SIMPLE SOLDIER



He was getting old and paunchy
And his hair was falling fast,
And he sat around the Legion,
Telling stories of the past.

Of a war that he once fought in
And the deeds that he had done,
In his exploits with his buddies;
They were heroes, every one.

And though sometimes to his neighbors
His tales became a joke,
All his buddies listened quietly
For they knew whereof he spoke.

But we'll hear his tales no longer,
For ol' Bob has passed away,
And the world's a little poorer
For a Soldier died today.

He won't be mourned by many,
Just his children and his wife.
For he lived an ordinary,
Very quiet sort of life.

He held a job and raised a family,
Going quietly on his way;
And the world won't note his passing,
Though a Soldier died today.

When politicians leave this earth,
Their bodies lie in state,
While thousands note their passing,
And proclaim that they were great.

Papers tell of their life stories
From the time that they were young
But the passing of a Soldier
Goes unnoticed, and unsung.

What is the greatest contribution
To the welfare of our land,
Some jerk who breaks his promise
And cons his fellow man?

Or the ordinary fellow
Who in times of war and strife,
Goes off to serve his country
And offers up his life?



The politician's stipend
And the style in which he lives,
Are often disproportionate,
To the service that he gives.

While the ordinary Soldier,
Who offered up his all,
Is paid off with a medal
And perhaps a pension, small.

It's so easy to forget them,
For it is so many times
That our Bobs and Jims and Joes,
Went to battle, but we know,

It is not the politicians
With their compromise and ploys,
Who won for us the freedom
That our country now enjoys.

Should you find yourself in danger,
With your enemies at hand,
Would you really want some cop-out,
With his ever waffling stand?

Or would you want a Soldier—
For home, his country, his kin,
Just a common Soldier,
Who would fight until the end.

He was just a common Soldier,
And his ranks are growing thin,
But his presence should remind us
We may need his like again.

For when countries are in conflict,
We find the Soldier's part
Is to clean up all the troubles
That the politicians start.

If we cannot do him honor
While He's here to hear the praise,
Then at least let's give him homage
At the ending of his days.

Perhaps just a simple headline
In the paper that might say:

"Our Country is in Mourning,
A soldier Died Today."

STATEMENT OF FAITH

We Believe:

In the Triune God: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Jesus Christ is True God and True Man. The Holy Spirit is a Divine Person. The Old and New Testaments are God's Divinely Inspired words. All have sinned and come short of the Glory of God and are in need of salvation. Salvation has been provided through Jesus Christ for all men. It is the will of God that every believer be filled with the Holy Spirit. Healing is provided through the redemptive work of Christ and is available to every believer. The Church consists of all those who have received Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Saviour. There shall be a bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust. In the personal, visible, imminent return of Jesus Christ. In Water baptism, and observance of the Lord's Supper.

“...let them alone...if it be of God you cannot stop it. You will be fighting God Himself. From Acts chapter 5, verses 34-39

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NOTICES

1. Free Bible course by mail to teenagers (ages 13-19)
2. Free Bible correspondence course to prison inmates.
3. Free Christian literature and Bibles to "poor" foreign countries, as we can afford to.
4. Bible course by mail comparing cults with Biblical Christianity. 12 lessons, \$25 ea. Each lesson includes books. Send \$25 for lesson one.
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Jesus People Information Center
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This free literature goes out constantly 2-3 times a week in the U.S., and to foreign counties once a week 52 weeks a year.

INFORMATION FROM LITERATURE WE RECOMMEND!

THE GREAT DECEPTION!

One of the biggest advantages we have as new Agers is, once the occult, metaphysical and new Age terminology is removed, we have concepts and techniques that are very acceptable to the general public. So we can change the names and demonstrate the power. In so doing, we open the new Age door to millions who normally would not be receptive. On the other hand, the Born-Again Christians, our most vocal antagonists, relate everything back to the blood of Christ and to the Bible. But our momentum will become so great that the combined efforts of all antagonists can't stop us unless they do so politically. Laws are the only way to block the New Age movement from growing within the consciousness of our population...New Age Activists encourage you as an individual to network with your family, friends, and associates, and to infuse New Age concepts and awareness into every area of your personal world, from the office to the bridge club, from the schoolroom to the Little League.

Dick Sutphen. *What Is-New Age Activists*, vol. 1, no. 1 newsletter, Summer 1986). (from article on New Age Movement. See the article on our web site at www.mission.org/jesuspeople

BIAS

It's not that there's been a total news blackout of anti-American hate in the Middle East—Nightline has done some good, intelligent work in the area—it's just that we need more than pictures of happy Palestinians reveling in the death of thousands of Americans. And we need more than what has become a staple of Middle East television news coverage: young children throwing stones at Israeli soldiers—the perfect made-for-television David and Goliath story. What we need are stories that connect the dots, not just back to Afghanistan and its backward and repressive Taliban government, but also between the fanatics in New York and Washington and a cultural environment in the Arab world where even “moderates” hand out candy to celebrate the massacre of Americans.

But here the media—apparently feeling squeamish about stories that put the “underdogs” in a bad light—keep us virtually in the dark. And it's not just little tidbits like “I Hate Israel” and articles about Jews taking Christian blood that I—and almost all Americans—knew nothing about. Here's a quick rundown of what goes on in much of the Middle East

as reported by Ms. Nirenstein in *Commentary*—news that is virtually ignored on the big American TV networks:

In Egypt and Jordan, news sources have repeatedly warned that Israel has distributed drug-laced chewing gum and candy, intended (it is said) to kill children and make women sexually corrupt...

[Palestinian television] recently asserted that, far from being extermination camps, Chelmo, Dachau, and Auschwitz were in fact mere “places of disinfection”

On April 13—observed in Israel as Holocaust Remembrance day—the official Palestinian newspaper Al-Hayat al-Fadida featured a column...entitled “The Fable of the Holocaust.”

A columnist in Egypt's government-sponsored Al-Akhbar thus expressed his “thanks to Hitler, of blessed memory, who on behalf of the Palestinians took revenge in advance on the most vile criminals on the face of the earth. Still, we do have a complaint against [Hitler], for his revenge on them was not enough.”

In addition to these examples, Ms. Nirenstein cites a textbook for Syrian tenth graders which teaches them that “the logic of justice obligates the application of the single verdict [on the Jews] from which there is no escape: namely, that their criminal intentions be turned against them and that they be exterminated.” And she notes that in June 2001, two weeks after the fatal collapse of a Jewish wedding hall in Jerusalem, Palestinian television broadcast a sermon by a Muslim imam praying that “this oppressive Knesset [Israel's parliament] will [similarly] collapse over the heads of the Jews.”

I did not know any of that because it's simply not the kind of news that we normally get from the Middle East—certainly not from network evening newscasts or from *Dateline*, *20/20*, or *48 Hours*, three news magazine programs that are usually too busy peddling the trivial and sensational to bother with more significant stories. And besides, that kind of news makes liberal journalists uneasy. After all, these are the same people who bend over backwards to find “moral equivalence” between Palestinian terrorists who blow up discos in Tel Aviv filled with teenagers, on the one hand, and Israeli commandos who *preemptively* kill terrorist ringleaders *before*

they send their suicide bombers into Israel on a mission to kill Jews, on the other.

On September 11, right after the networks showed us the pictures of Palestinians celebrating American deaths, they also showed us Yasser Arafat expressing his condolences and giving blood for the American Victims. This, in its way, represented a kind of moral equivalence: while some Palestinians celebrate, the news anchors were suggesting, their leader does not; he is somber and, we're led to believe, absolutely shocked. But we could have done with a little less moral equivalence on the part of the press and a little more tough journalism. Someone should have asked the leader of the Palestinian people if he understood that the cultures that he and other "moderate" Arab leaders preside over "carefully nurture and inculcate resentments and hatreds against American and the non-Arab world," as a *Wall Street Journal* editorial put it. And if that's asking too much of a field reporter covering a seemingly shaken and distraught Arafat in the wake of September 11, then an anchor back in New York should have wondered out loud about that very connection.

But to have asked such a question might have been viewed as anti-Arab (and therefore pro-Israeli), and reporters and anchors would rather be stoned by an angry mob in Ramallah than be seen in that light. So we didn't learn that day if Chairman Arafat quite understood his role in the celebration he so deplored. Not did we get an explanation on the news about why there were not thousands of other Arabs in the streets—on the West Bank or in Jerusalem or in the "moderate" Arab countries—expressing their *condolences*. Was it because they are afraid to show support for American victims of terrorism? Or was it because they, like the Palestinians we saw with great big smiles, didn't feel that bad about what happened?

If the networks can give us months and months of Chandra and JonBenet and Lorena Bobbitt and Joey Buttafuoco, then they can give us more than they do about the river of hatred that breeds suicide bombers.

But this is where journalists—given their liberal tendency to empathize with, and sometimes even root for, the "underdog"—run into a big problem: if they start to connect those ideological and religious dots, they may not like what they find.

Bernard Goldberg, *Bias*, Washington DC: Regnery Publishing, Inc. 2002, pp. 202-204

Bhakti (Hinduism). One of the four paths of HINDUISM. The word *bhakti* itself means devotion.

Bhakti Yoga is, then, a YOGA dedicated to "the way of devotion." It consists of meditation, recitation of MANTRAS, and closely following the teachings of a GURU. Bhakti is the most popular form of Hinduism.

Yoga (Hinduism). One of the oldest words in the HINDU religion. Yoga is the path followed so as to realize God within.

George A. Mather and Larry A. Nichols, *Dictionary of Cults, Sects, Religions and the Occult*, Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House, 1993, pp. 37, 326

RELIGIOUS TEACHERS

Charan Singh and Sawan Singh Ji: Founders and leaders of Radhasoami Satsang Beas, a religion based on what is called Surat Shabd Yoga (the yoga of "divine sound and light"), from which much of the American cult of Eckankar was derived.

Kirpal Singh: Singh is the founder of Rhuani Satsang, a further development of Radhasoami.

John Ankerberg and John Weldon, *Encyclopedia of New Age Beliefs*, Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 1996, p. 219

SLANDER

In 1994, the Reverend Jesse Jackson blamed the Christian Coalition for the Holocaust. (Seriously: "The Christian Coalition was a strong force in Germany.")⁸⁶ While he was at it, he blamed the Christian Coalition, formed in 1989, for slavery, too. Not only that, but, Jackson said, Martin Luther King had gone to the South specifically "to fight the Christian Coalition."⁸⁷

Jackson refused to apologize, the Clinton Whitehouse refused to comment, and David Saperstein, director of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism, took the occasion to criticize the "religious right." Saperstein said religious right leaders had uttered "hate-filled statements, intolerant statements, and I think the religious right needs to be held accountable."⁸⁸

If it seems unfathomable that Heaven's Gate cult members could have really believed a spaceship riding shotgun on Comet Hale-Bopp was coming to take them to heaven, consider that half the populace believes that a vast band of religious radicals is overrunning a nation—a nation that seemingly never tires of primetime sitcoms celebrating lesbianism, rampant promiscuity, and the perennially hilarious girl-faking-orgasm routine. Half the country not only

believes in the "religious right," but deeply fears and hates it.

86. Thomas L. Friedman, "George W.'s Makeup Exam," *New York Times*, November 7, 1999. In his capacity as a *New York Times* columnist, Friedman also advised the Democrats to "run commercials over and over again just showing that look on his face." He even suggested an appropriate voice-over for the commercial.

87. Adam Nagourney, "We Must go Forward Together: Clinton Team Capitalizes on the Limelight," *USA Today*, January 18, 1993, p. 1A.

88. Caroline Schaefer, "A Case Study: *Later Today's* Asha Blake Suffered from a Sluggish Metabolism Until a Pro Showed Her How to Get Up and Go," *In Style*, Summer 2000, p. 175.

Ann Coulter. *Slander-Liberal Lies About the American Right*, New York: Crown Publishers, 2002. p. 187

"It is to our disgrace that the gay and lesbian communities hold greater influence over our legislative bodies, both locally and nationally, than does the Church." Rick Scarborough "Enough is Enough" 1996

"To an increasing number of Americans, the word 'tolerance' has come to symbolize heavy-handed liberalism, officially sanctioned sexual deviances, group privileges, big government, and hostility toward Judaism and Christianity." Robert Knight "The Age of Consent" 1998

"The state-sanctioned humanism that is rapidly consuming all our hard-won freedoms in America would probably not have been possible if Christians had not abandoned the doctrine of Christ's Lordship." George Grant "The Changing of the Guard" 1995

"We are fast becoming an anti-Christian nation, thanks to our friends in the American Civil Liberties Union, People for the American Way, and the Democratic Party." Don Feder "A Jewish Conservative Looks at Pagan America" 1993

"Christian values are in retreat in the West today, primarily because of the church itself. If Christianity has failed to stem the rising tides of relativism, it is because the church in many instances has lost the convicting force of the gospel message." Charles Colson "Kingdoms in Conflict" 1987

"Anytime you hear the concept of the separation of church and state being talked about these days, it is never in regard to maintaining the restraints on

government; instead, it is always talking about what Christians and churches cannot do." Dr. D. James Kennedy "Character and Destiny" 1994

THE CULTURE WAR CONTINUES

In Crete, Illinois, a lesbian couple in Crete-Monee High School has been named "Cutest Couple" in the yearbook. Administrators, who have encouraged "gay" glorification, applauded the choice. Bob Knight, of the Culture and Family Institute see the situation clearly, from a traditional point of view. "The administrators...ought to be sacked," he says, "You've got two sexually confused girls, one of them only 15 years old, and [the administrators are] actually applauding their sexual confusion." He called the attitude of the administration "beyond irresponsible," and points out that "Nobody is born gay," and that lesbian women have a higher risk of certain bacterial infections, cervical and breast cancer and more likely to abuse alcohol and drugs. (ANS).

Tom C. McKenney. *The Good Word*, Words for Living Ministries, P.O. Box 413, Marion, KY 42064, Feb/Mar 2003. www.wordsforlivingmin.org

THE CURIOUS RISE OF ANTI-CHRISTIANISM

Prominent in the assault against traditional Judeo-Christian values, I am sorry to say, were a number of Jewish organizations. In fact, it was the ferocity and unfairness of the attacks that brought me, and many others, into the fray. One famous battle in this cultural tug-of-war came in 1994 with the publication of two volumes that I consider biased and bigoted. *The Political Activity of the Religious Right in the 1990s: A Critical Analysis*, published by the American Jewish Committee (AJC), harshly criticized religious Christians because they, among other things, "adamantly oppose social acceptance of homosexuality as an alternative lifestyle." Whether one thinks homosexuality is right or wrong, the AJC was attacking the right of Christians to freedom of belief.

Since those beliefs are based on the Bible in which I too believe, I felt I could not remain silent while the AJC suggested that Judaism somehow supported the acceptance of homosexuality. For over three thousand years Jewish tradition and Jewish law have been unambiguous about homosexuality: it is a SIN. Now an organization with the word "Jewish" in its title was vilifying Christians for taking the authentic Jewish position on Homosexuality. I felt as if I had emigrated to Alice's Wonderland, where logic and rationality were completely turned around.

I did everything in my power to remind Americans that Judaism was actually the source for opposing homosexuality as an acceptable lifestyle. I reminded Americans that although many Jews (whose real faith is secular humanism) support the homosexual agenda, this tells us as much about Judaism as the entertainer Madonna tells us about the Roman Catholic faith.

The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) similarly published a book filled with unfair and untrue defamation of religious conservatives. It contained such unrestrained invective as, “The religious Right brings to the debate over moral and social issues a rhetoric of fear, suspicion and even hatred.” As a rabbi and as a Jew, I was embarrassed at the tone of both these books. Had any Christian Association published anything comparable about the Jewish community, cries of anti-Semitism would have rung out far and wide—and been justified.

I found myself unable to ignore the above diatribes, so the organization I head, Toward Tradition, published a repudiation of the sentiments in a large paid advertisement in the *New York Times* that was signed by fifty prominent Jewish conservatives and called for Jewish conservatives to band together. The response was overwhelming. Letters poured in from Conservative and Reform Jews all over the country who, because of their traditional values, had been made to feel unwelcome in their synagogues and local Jewish establishments. Many Orthodox Jews contacted us with gratitude for telling America that the American Jewish Community and Anti-Defamation League did not represent them.

RABBI DANIEL LAPIN, *America's Real War*, Sisters, Oregon: Multnomah Publishers, 1999. (pp. 39-40.)

BUDDHISM AND CHRISTIANITY

There are radical differences between Buddhism and Christianity that make any attempt of reconciliation between the two faiths impossible. The Buddhistic world view is basically monistic, that is, the existence of a personal creator and Lord is denied. The world operates by natural power and law, not divine command.

Buddhism denies the existence of a personal God.

Any concept of God was beyond man's grasp and since Buddhism was a practical approach of life, why not deal with practical things? India, where Buddhism was born, had so many Hindu gods that no one could number them. They were often

made in the image of men, but Buddhism was made in the image of concepts, great concepts about life and how life should be lived. If the truth were known, you often tell yourself, Buddhism has no God in the Hindu or Christian sense, nor does it have a saviour or a messiah. It has the Buddha. And he was the Enlightened One, the Shower of the Way (Marcus Bach, *Had You Been Born in Another Faith*, Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 1961, p. 47).

There are those who deify the Buddha but along with him they worship other gods. The Scriptures make it clear that not only does a personal God exist, but He is to be the only object of worship. “‘You are My witnesses,’ declares the Lord, ‘And My servant whom I have chosen, in order that you may know and believe me, and understand that I am he. Before Me there was no God formed, and there will be none after Me’” (Isaiah 43:10 NASB). “‘Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel and His Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: ‘I am the first and I am the last, and there is no God besides Me’” (Isaiah 44:6 NASB). “‘I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You shall have no other gods before Me’” (Exodus 20:2, 3 NASB). “‘Then Jesus said to him, ‘Begone, Satan! For it is written, “You shall worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only’”” (Matthew 4:10 NASB). “‘Jesus therefore said to them again, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who come before Me are thieves and robbers; but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he shall be saved and shall go in and out, and find pasture’” (John 10:7-9 NASB).

There is no such thing in Buddhism as sin against a supreme being. In Christianity sin is ultimately against God although sinful actions also affect man and his world. The Bible makes it clear, “‘against thee, thee only, I have sinned, and done what is evil in thy sight’” (Psalm 51:4, NASB).

Accordingly man needs a savior to deliver him from his sins.

The Bible teaches that Jesus Christ is that Savior and He offers the gift of salvation to all those who will believe, “‘The next day he saw Jesus coming to him, and said, ‘Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!’” (John 1:29 NASB). “‘And she will bear a son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for it is he who will save His people from their sins’” (Matthew 1:21 NASB). “‘For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord’” (Romans 6:23 NASB).

According to Buddhist belief, man is worthless, having only temporary existence. In Christianity man is of infinite worth, made in the image of God, and will exist eternally. Man's body is a hindrance to the Buddhist while to the Christian it is an instrument to glorify God.

The Scriptures reveal, "Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth'" (Genesis 1:26 NASB). "or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?" (I Corinthians 6:19 NASB).

Another problem with Buddhism is the many forms it takes. Consequently, there is a wide variety of belief in the different sects with much that is contradictory. John B. Noss makes an appropriate comment:

"The rather odd fact is that there ultimately developed within Buddhism so many forms of religious organization, cultus and belief, such great changes even in the fundamentals of the faith, that one must say Buddhism as a whole is really, like Hinduism, a family of religions rather than a single religion" (John B. Noss, *Man's Religions*, New York: Macmillan Company, 1969, p. 146).

With these and other differences, it can be seen readily that any harmonization of the two religions simply is not possible.

Josh McDowell and Don Stewart, *Handbook of Today's Religions*, Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1983. pp. 320-321

MEDITATION:

Meditation is one of the most popular of all modern religious practices. Meditation techniques have assumed a prominent place in large numbers of physical, spiritual, and health therapies where relaxation is a primary goal. A recent article titled "Unwind and Destress" in *Prevention*, America's leading health magazine, endorsed Maharishi Mahesh Yogi's transcendental meditation (see 468) as well as a form of Buddhist "mindfulness" or *vipassana* meditation (762:85-86). Herbert Benson, M.D., is the author of a bestselling text, *The Relaxation Response*, which also emphasizes the stress reducing benefits of meditation (903).

Meditation is increasingly found in schools and is an important pillar of transpersonal, or New Age, education. Wilson Van Dusen, a psychologist with an interest in the psychic realm and the occult Swedenborgian religion (see his *The Presence of Other Worlds*), points out that "meditation is one of the foundations of transpersonal education" (1090:98; cf. p. 101).

Because meditation is widely viewed as a positive practice with a wide variety of applications, almost any topic in this volume may employ meditation as an adjunct. This is why Eastern, occult, and other New Age forms of meditation are increasingly used in our society among both laypeople and professionals. Such meditation, however, is typically combined with a particular religious perspective. This perspective sees the purpose of meditation as inducing a form of spiritual enlightenment, one that harmonizes with the occult goals and beliefs of the religious view advocated. Spiritual goals aside, meditation is also recommended enthusiastically for its alleged mental and physical health benefits. But as we will see, such meditation is far from healthful.

Given the number of people who are practicing meditation today, we believe it has become a significant social problem. In 1975 William Johnston warned in his *Silent Music: The Science of Meditation*, "Anyone with the slightest experience of meditation knows about the uprising of the unconscious and the possible resultant turmoil, to say nothing of the increased psychic power that meditation brings. All this could have the greatest social consequences if meditation becomes widespread" (438:26).

But today meditation has become widespread. Meditation is practiced by 10 million to 20 million people in this country (cf. 949:135). Almost four million people have been initiated into Maharishi Mahesh Yogi's occult system of transcendental meditation alone (468). Dozens of Hindu and Buddhist gurus or groups all require meditation practice in conjunction with their religious programs. Examples include: Nichiren Shoshu Buddhism, Swami Kriyananda, Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh, the Siddha Yoga Dham of America (SYDA) Foundation (Swami Muktananda), Sai Baba, Yogi Bhajan, Swami Rama, Maharaj Ji, Kirpal Singh, Self Realization Fellowship (Paramahansa Yogananda), Chogyam Trungpa, Sri Chinmoy, the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON), and Da Free John. These all stress the importance of occult meditation. For example, Rajneesh's "chaotic meditation" is particularly bizarre—and dangerous (249/1040).

Hundreds or relatively new spiritistic religions also have meditation agendas: the Association for Research and Enlightenment (based on the psychic readings of Edgar Cayce), the Church Universal and Triumphant (founded by Mark and Elizabeth Claire prophet), Eckankar (begun by Paul Twitchell), the Gurdjieff Foundation, the Rosicrucians, Theosophy, **Anthroposophy**, Astara, and many more.

Established traditional, mystical, and occult religions in America, such as Sufism, Sikhism, Taoism, and Tantrism stress the importance of their meditation procedures. Scores of new Age therapies, such as those found in the growing field of transpersonal psychology, require or recommend some form of meditation in conjunction with the therapy (943/860). And endless occult practices, such as witchcraft, druidism, cabalism, and mediumism offer their own brand of meditation.

Meditation is also offered in many new contexts: at the local YMCA, at churches, in schools, in sport clinics, and even in some hospitals. The United Nations has an unofficial meditation adviser, guru Sri Chinmoy, who is a practiced meditator and spiritist (810:53-68/811:9-20, 26-29). Chinmoy conducts meditation sessions for government officials in the United States, Congress, and the British Parliament (565:311).

If our view of new Age meditation is correct, then it will not offer the benefits claimed by promoters. However, before we proceed to examine the goals, nature, practices, and potential consequences of meditation, we must first discuss its influence in the church and in other areas of society. We will begin looking at its influence on children.

249. Tal Brooke, *Riders of the Cosmic Circuit: Rajneesh, Sai Baba, Muktananda... Gods of the New Age*, Batavia, IL: Lion 1986. Available from SCP, P.O. Box 4308, Berkeley, CA 94704.

438. William Johnston, *Silent Music: The Science of Meditation*, New York: Harper & Row, 1975.

468. A critique is found in John Weldon, Zola Levitt, *The Transcendental Explosion*, Irvine, CA: Harvest House Publishers, republished by Zola Levitt Ministries, Dallas, TX, 1991.

565. Sri Chinmoy, *Meditation: Man-Perfection in God-Satisfaction*, Jamaica, NY: Agni Press.

762. Porter Shiner, "Unwind and Destress," part 1, *Prevention*, July 1990.

810. Sri Chinmoy, *Astrology, the Supernatural and the Beyond*, Jamaica, NY: Agni Press, 1973

811. Sri Chinmoy, *Conversations with the Master*, Jamaica, NY: 1977.

860. Raymond J. Corsini (ed.), *Handbook of Innovative Therapies*, New York: John Wiley, 1981 (This book discusses some 250 therapies.)

903. Herbert Benson, *The Relaxation Response*, New York: William Morrow, 1975.

943. We examined over 40 issues of the *Journal of Transpersonal Psychology*. This revealed that Eastern and occult forms of meditation have great importance to transpersonal psychologies.

949. Roger N. Walsh, Frances Vaughan, eds., *Beyond Ego: Transpersonal Dimensions in Psychology*, Los Angeles, CA: J.P. Tarcher, 1980.

1090. Wilson Van Dusen, "On meditation" in James Hendricks and Gay Fadiman, eds., *Transpersonal Education: A Curriculum for Feeling and Being*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, 1976.

John Ankerberg & John Weldon, *Encyclopedia of New Age Beliefs*, Eugene Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 1996, pp. 380,381.

For the complete article on meditation you can purchase the *Encyclopedia of New Age Beliefs* from your local Christian bookstore or contact us. We request a \$30 donation for this book—We pay the shipping costs..

J.P. Editor Speaks Out

FREEDOM—FROM WHAT?

Consider how often the Bible is quoted by Hollywood, Madison Ave., the media and Americans in general, ignorantly. An example: "*The truth shall make you free*" has been used to express every situation except the one the Bible intended. "Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. They answered him, We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free? Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin. And the servant abideth not in the house for ever: but the Son abideth ever. If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed. (John 8:31-36 KJV) No religion, mental or spiritual discipline, no philosophy, no human effort can make you free from the guilt and the certain coming judgment of sin. Only the Lord Jesus Christ gives true freedom.

WE GET LETTERS

We do NOT have a Pen-Pal Program.



Hello Tom,
Thank you so much for your continued interest in me. I look forward to the 5 books you said are coming. I feel like I have turned my whole self over to Christ now... Thank you.
Dorothea Puente
Valley State Women's Prison, Chowchilla, CA

Tom,
It's been awhile since I've seen you... I have a new address. I want to say a few things. I want you to know you are partly responsible for all the charity work I do now. I watched you downtown and you do what you preach. You have ignited this good and wonderful part of me. In 1998 I found a Jesus People Magazine on my car windshield that had a poem in it "America the Beautiful or So You Used To Be" At that time I chose to do nothing. Last May I found that newsletter in my closet and after reading the newsletter and memorizing the poem I got fired up to do something to help society. And I'm still fired up.
Hieu Tran,
Citrus Heights, CA

Editor: He got saved! and gave his testimony at River of Life Church, West Sacramento

Greetings...
We need Bibles and books explaining the Bible—good books. Muslims are building mosques everywhere and are growing in numbers fast...
Brother John Chirwa, Final Hours Ministry
Sorgin, Malawi, Africa

Editor: I've gotten other letters from Africa saying they don't want anymore of the "prosperity, name it and claim it" preachers coming from America anymore. Well, they sure won't get that disgusting false gospel from me. This group did get some good Biblical books from us.

J.P.
I'd like your Bible course... I have 2 1/2 years left to do in here and I would like to better myself before I get out....
Dart Delory,
State Prison, Florence, AZ

Editor: Over 75 million tracts, hundreds of thousands of free Bible courses, books, Bibles, audiotapes and newsletters have gone out free from this ministry in the last 31 years. I need some regular financial supporters. Any person who wants to help us financially or any pastor is free to check our financial records. How's that for "accountability"?

Jesus People,
Please send me your free magazine and some books...
Armonado Garcia
State Prison, Edinburg, TX

Jesus People,

We have received the two boxes of soft and hard cover books you donated to our chapel here for the men to read...
Chaplain James Brown
Rivers Correctional Institution, Winton, North Carolina

Dear Tom,
God bless you. The sole purpose of this letter is to thank you and encourage you. God knows the countless lives you have touched over the years through your obedience to His calling on your life. I personally was brought aware of your honesty and sincerity with regard to serving our Lord... I cannot explain how I knew you were the "real deal" but I believe (now that the Holy Spirit has been molding me these past six years) I was shown by the Holy Spirit your heart is committed to Jesus. There are so many ministers and ministries looking to puff themselves up and receive fame and fortune. It sickens my soul to see much of what passes itself off as "Christian". I know you have given selflessly and obediently. I pray the years are not wearing you down... I hope someday to be able to help you in a financial way. I'm still reserved about being bold for the Lord. Pray for me... With utmost sincerity,
Tron Armstrong,
Ironwood State Prison, Blythe, CA

Jesus People,
Thank you for the two books you sent. I would still like to have a good Bible dictionary...
Billy Ray Rigs
San Quentin Prison, CA

Jesus People,
I'm writing you because I'd like you to send me some Bible materials...
Jose Gonzales
State Prison, Corcoran, CA

Dear Jesus People,
I recently read your awesome newsletter. I am requesting your free Bible course for prison inmates and subscription to your free newsletter...
Dennis Mason
State Prison, Beeville, TX

Dear Jesus People,
Thank you for the package which included Floyd McElveen's book on Mormonism. It was very, very good and I donated it to our library here. Unfortunately in the lockdown situation we are in we can only receive visits from Mormon or Roman Catholic missionaries. so a lot of brothers get bad teachings on the Bible.
Chadwick Bower
Arizona State Prison, Florence, AZ

Jesus People,

I'm writing to get your free magazine and any Bible studies you have...

Arlene Starling
Valley State Women's Prison, Chowchilla, CA

Jesus People,
Please send me your magazine and any books that can get me closer to Christ. This is my first prison stay and the worst experience I've ever had. I want to change my life.
Desrae Jordon
VSPW, Chowchilla, CA

Jesus People,
Please send me your free magazines...
Rudy Stunetz
State Prison. Lancaster, CA

Dear Jesus People,
I would like your newsletter and a free Bible course also any books on Islam as my room mate is a Muslim and does not believe Jesus died for our sins...
Bonnie Starr
Women's Dept of Correction, Dwight, IL

Dear Brothers and Sisters,
I saw one of your newsletters and I would like more...
David Madden
U.S. Fed Penitentiary, Beaumont. TX

Hi, I'm 51 years old and doing a 7 year sentence. My room mate said you had a great free Bible course and I want to learn all I can about our Lord...
Dolores Wolford
Women's State Prison, Chowchilla, CA

J.P.
Thank you for responding quickly to my request for Christian books... You are doers of the word...
Burnam Lowell
County Jail, Woodland, CA

Hi, Please send me your Bible studies...
Robert Mello
Massachusetts Correctional Institute, Norfolk, Mass.

J.P.I.C.
Can you send me a good Bible? I'm attending a Bible class in here now. I am 49 years old and have been locked up 22 of those years. I want to come back to the Lord and I now see things more clearly...
Jerry Blandan
Chuckwalla State Prison, Blythe, CA

Dear Jesus People,
I found out about your ministry from my 2 room mates. I was encouraged by the literature you sent here and I know now Jesus is my only hope...
Terri Ortiz
Women's Prison, Chowchilla, CA

Bro. Adcock,

I applaud your efforts to expose cults and minister to prisoners... I worked on the other side of the fence for 27 years and I know there are some pretty good people who do some pretty awful things. I say here with no reservation – Yes, a leopard can change his spots (with God's help). Rejoice in your persecutions...
William Toal
P.O. Box 82
Vail, IA 51465

Dear Sir,
Please send information on the Bible...
Monte Graf
State Prison, Oshkosh, Wisconsin

J.P.
I'm not in jail for rape or murder, just burglaries and I want to study the Bible with you...
Lamont Bennett,
State Prison, Somerset, PA

Jesus People,
Thank you so much for all the material you sent me. The Lord has really blessed me through you. Please continue to send your newsletters as you print them...
Trace Olivas
Pleasant Valley State Prison, Coalinga, CA

J.P.
I'm writing again to thank you for all the Christian books you blessed us with here at our church inside here.
Frederick Davidson
State Prison, Soledad, CA

J.P.
I am writing for your free Bible course...
Paul Pierson
State Prison, Draper, Utah

Tom,
I've been studying the Bible from R.B. Thieme Ministry and I am uncertain about his eternal security doctrine... Can you send me info on this? ...
Richard Miles
Vallecito State Prison, Angels Camp, CA

Dear Sirs,
I saw one and please send me your newsletters to read here on Death Row...
Leo Perry
Union Correctional Institute, Raiford, FL

Dear Jesus People,
A room mate here gave me your newsletter. I see you have a free Bible course and I want it and any books to teach me what the Bible really says like "the Believers Conditional Security" I have rededicated my life to Jesus and was baptized in here...
Carol McCallion
Valley State Woman's Prison, Chowchilla, CA
Jesus People,

Years ago I used to get the Hollywood Free paper. Now I want yours. Your tracts are very good and we need more Christians out on the street witnessing like you guys do.
Gary Campbell,
Bend, Oregon

Jesus People,
Please send me your free Bible course...
Clyde Kirby
Dillwyn Correction Center, Dillwyn, VA

Dear Jesus People,
This is the first time I ever saw one of your newsletters and it blew me away. You guys have so many things going on and I felt the power in what you do as I read the newsletter. I am 17 1/2 years old and have been a Christian for 10 years. I'm glad you guys sent tracts and books to Romania because I am Romanian and want to be a missionary for Jesus Christ all over the world...
Adrian Luminere,
Sacramento, CA

Dear Friends,
Can you send me a Bible and any books to teach me about our Lord and Savior?...
Jason Green
Miami Correctional Facility, Bankee Hill, IN

Jesus People,
I am writing because I want to do your Bible correspondence course. My walk with the Lord is brand new, but I'm very eager to learn more...
Michael Call
Riverside Regional Jail, Hopewell, VA

To Whom It May Concern:
I found one of your tracts, "Is There Hope for a Man Like Me?" in our chapel here and I'd like the free magazine advertised on the tract... I saw myself on the "Texas Ten most wanted" and turned myself in. I lost my family but now have Jesus and He told me to get over it and that's what I'm trying to do...
Victor Slaton,
State Prison, Huntsville, Texas

Editor: If anyone could read all the letters I get they would know that the Bible is so very true. the wages of sin is death (death in many ways) But the gift of God is eternal and abundant life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

J.P.
Please send me your Bible studies...
Edward Taston,
County Detention Center, Lawrenceville, GA

Dear Jesus People,
Please send me the Jesus People magazine you have...
Eddie Woods
State Prison, Angola, LA

Dear Sirs,

I found a new testament in our little library here and your address was inside it and would like to read the free magazines you offer. I hope your are still at this address..
M. Walters
State Prison, Kuna, Idaho

Editor: We've been at this same address nearly 30 years. I've seen a thousand ministries start and close up. In many cases just because they could not "turn a profit." These people are not really called by God. If God calls you, you will do it, no matter what.

Dear Jesus People,
I would like you to send me some material about Jehovah's Witnesses. They started coming to the prison every Wednesday not long ago. I started reading the watchtower Magazine and the people seem sincere. But they say God is not a trinity because the word "trinity" is not in the Bible and I need help again about them...
Phyllis Walker
Tutweiler Women's Prison, Wetumpka, AL

Editor. The word "Theocratic Kingdom" is not in the Bible either. The word "Hell" is. Enclosed are four books on the cult of Jehovah's Witnesses.

Jesus People,
I'm incarcerated here and want to spend my time in positive constructive activities. I'd like to take your free Bible course...
Carlos Jose Pagon
U.S. Penitentiary, Beaumont, TX

Dear Friend,
Praise the Lord for your ministry! I was under the bondage of Roman Catholicism most of my life until I found the Great Physician in a roach-infested jail cell. The Lord has given me favor with the men here and I need books on Mormonism, Jehovah's Witnesses and Seventh Day Adventists to pass around to show the men they don't tell the truth.
Carlos Martinez
State Prison, Dublin, VA

Jesus People,
I haven't written you for quite awhile but I was wondering if you have any books on prayer or revival? They make great witnessing tools. Our little chapel doesn't have much...
Andrew Mayer
Liberty Correctional Institute, Bristol, FL

Editor: Yes, we have many books on those two subjects and several were sent to him.

J.P.
Please rush me your free magazine and anything you have on the cult of Jehovah's Witnesses...
Michael Kirby
Walton Correctional Institution, Defuniak Springs, FL
Jesus People,
Your newsletter is great and the outline you have on Christian Science I use when witnessing to them..

Gay Dively
Baden, PA

J.P.I.C.

I want to thank you for spreading the true word of God. I received your address from a Christian brother in here. I'm hoping you can help me with some books about prayer...
Birney Clark
Calif. Medical Facility, Vacaville, CA

Dear Jesus People,

I want to get your free magazine. I'm really sure Jesus is the Lord now. I don't even watch TV anymore...
Michael Eggenberg
Calif. State Men's Colony, San Luis Obispo, CA

Jesus People,

A volunteer who comes to our chapel gave me your address to write for free Christian books...
William Moody
Calhoun Correctional Institute, Blountstown, FL

Jesus People,

Please send me info on Seventh Day Adventist, Jehovah's Witnesses and the Wiccan Religion and why a Christian should not believe them...
Charles Whitfield
Boyer Road Correctional Facility, Carson City, Mich.

Dear Jesus People,

I saw your name and address inside a book I checked out in the chapel here. I am new in my walk with Christ and am very hungry to study God's word. Can you let me take your Bible course?
Elizabeth Huber
Valley State Women's Prison, Chowchilla, CA

Jesus People,

I saw your address in a book that was among a large supply you sent to the chaplain. It said "free Christian Magazine" inside the book. Could you send me one and send one to my brother...
Katherine Charlesboix
Calif. Women's Prison, Corona, CA

Jesus People,

Thank you for the free magazine. Do you have information on the different religious groups that all claim to be Christian?...
William McKee
Mobile County Metro Jail, Mobile, Ala.

Jesus People,

I saw a book you donated here called "The Compact Guide to the Christian Faith". Could you please send me one to study...

Keith Lynn

Federal Prison Camp, Yankton, South Dakota

Jesus People,

You helped me understand the error of Calvinism. Now I need help on the deceit of Ellen G. White, the prophetess of the Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Robert Bidelle
Oak Glenn Prison, Yucaipa, CA

Dear Sir,

This is my second time asking you for help. I hope you can help me again. I have turned my life completely over to Jesus Christ and would like more good Christian growth books.

Pamela Superville

Federal Correctional Institute, Danbury, CT

Jesus People,

I am here on Death Row and would like any books you can send me...

Gregory Smith

San Quentin, CA

You are a jerk to write against Arnold Murray. Study your Bible, verse by verse, chapter by chapter. Fool!
No name and address.

Dear Friends,

Please put me on your mailing list to receive the newsletter. I got the newsletter at San Quentin Reception Center. I need "Five Points of Calvinism considered" as well as any information you can send me on the JW's. We need any teaching material you can send and will use it in our studies.

Please pray for me and for my children. Especially my little girl to be kept in safety and under the protection of the angels, in the name of Jesus. Thank you for your consideration, and burden for those incarcerated, and for your prayers.

Dan Coryell

Pleasant Valley State Prison, Coalinga, CA

Jesus People,

I'm writing to give you my new address and request more help. I need books for the men on Calvinism, Word Faith Movement, Islam and "eternal security" and the Christian Identity movement.

Adam Scott

Branchville Correction Facility, Tell City, IN

Editor: Five books sent.

We need help! We are turning thousands of people away from cults and false doctrines all the time. It costs money!
Thank you! Jesus People, Editor

And the letters keep coming, every day.

