

The Apostrophe

Are you involved in the New Age religion? Do you take part in yoga, sound baths, fortune telling, clairvoyance, astrology, speaking with the dead, reiki, or any other similar new age practices? It may surprise, or even shock, you to know that most of these seemingly benign, fun, or supposedly benevolent activities exploit a practitioner's desire to help others, but at the same time are Luciferian in origin. This sounds like a radical claim, but look at it this way; where does the power to heal, etc, come from? Because it certainly isn't from God! It is clearly stated in the Bible that we should not take part in such activities because they are demonic and lead people down a dangerous path away from God.

The difference between the New Age religion (and its myriad of component parts) and Christianity starts with a simple apostrophe:

In the New Age - We are all Gods. This is all about 'Me'

In Christianity - We are all God's. This is all about relationship with God, subservience to Him, and helping others come to salvation.

"We are all Gods" implies a self-centred, prideful, streak that says "I am the source of all power and I can be what I want, I can do what I want, I can manifest my own future by the power of my mind and by reaching a higher consciousness".

This has a powerfully alluring appeal as it is shrouded in the esoteric, occultic and mystic, and makes people feel special, almost supernatural. It is self-idolatry, and it exploits a desire for spiritual belonging leading to peace and enlightenment. A desire for oneness with the universe. It draws on energy limited to the physical universe, but at the same time claims to be spiritual. But there are many deities, masters, gurus, etc, so it is incompatible with belief in Christianity and the Ten Commandments, which state there is but one true God and there should be no idolatry. With the relentless demands by the secular world to remove bible teaching, and the moral guidance it provides, from mainstream consciousness, is society better off with the rise of such New Age beliefs that focus on 'self'? Do you think the world is heading to a better future? Or is everything getting crazier by the day?

On the other hand, "We are God's" puts God, the Creator of everything, at the centre of everything. It requires humility and an acceptance that we are not the ones in control, but that God is, and we should trust Him for everything. It requires obedience and a sanctification process of continually checking our behaviour against the highest standards. We must accept we are not perfect, that we are sinners in the eyes of the Lord, and that we can never have a full relationship with Him if we are holding on to sin, but that we must also always seek a righteous path. Therefore, we must truly repent for our sins. Christianity also rejects the material world as being most important and asserts that the destination of our eternal spirit is much more important than the flesh. 'Love thy neighbour as thyself' is a key commandment which demands humility, kindness, putting the needs of others before our own. This produces an outward expression of love, compared with the love of self in the New Age religion.

People involved in New Age activities are usually searching for answers to explain their existence in the modern world. Satan is more than ready to provide them – anything that makes you feel good. Anything but 'God'. But despite using pleasing terms like 'oneness', 'higher consciousness', and 'do what you want', this only leads to more questions, confusion about what the truth is, and a feeling that something is still missing. Whereas a belief in God, and studying the Bible, will provide all the answers. Satan is the god of this world, he is the father of lies and deception, and there is no doubt he has powers, and he has helpers. We are pawns in a spiritual war, and Satan wants you to be kept away from God. The New Age religion is one of the many deceptions he uses to achieve his goal.

If we are willing to accept that God exists and created everything, shouldn't we then try to understand Him and what He wants/expects from us? We are all sinners, and we must be able to deal with our sin to be able to have a relationship with God, now and in eternity beyond this physical existence. Sin is like a chasm between us and our Creator, and we cannot reach Him without a bridge. But the good news is that He

provided us with the solution through His enduring kindness and love for us. It is a free gift if you choose to accept it.

"For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life". John 3:16

Repent for your sins with all your heart, believe that **Jesus** died on the cross as a sacrifice to pay for your sins, and that he rose from the dead to conquer death.

Do you want to find out more? Here are some useful resources to begin your journey:

davidpawson.co.uk

derekprince.com

bibleproject.com

khouse.org

(produced by kingdomtracts.co.uk)