

THE NEW AGE MOVEMENT

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Introduction

The New Age Movement (NAM) is in the news today because of its fantastic claims.

- "Christ" has returned!

- We are all gods and Christs!

- The popularity of astrology, reincarnation, crystal balls, tarot cards, séances, Ouija boards, channeling, psychics, gurus, astral-travel, pagan groups, witchcraft, Satanism, devil worship, ESP, UFOs, numerology, good luck charms, crystals, TM, Eastern religions, "mind" cults and Gnostic mystery religions.

- A "New Age" has dawned.

We must look beyond the surface to the underlying concepts, political goals and programs of the NAM. We must not spend too much time on nut-cases or con-artists. The NAM is far more serious than gurus, Zen-masters and psychics ripping off the gullible and the naive. The success of the NAM constitutes a clear and present threat not only to the Church but also to the nation. We must look beyond its Surface Sensationalism to its Underlying Concepts/Goals/Programs

I. The Terminology of the NAM.

A. The NAM is Not "NEW" in the sense of not previously known. The concepts of the NAM are very old. The same ideas and practices were called the occult or witchcraft not to long ago. For example, what once was called "mediumship by a witch" is now called "channeling by a psychic friend."

B. "New" as opposed to "Old:"

Age of Pisces	Age of Aquarius
The Old	The New
Christianity	New Age Movement

C. "New AGE" in sense of an idealistic utopianism: the belief that history is moving toward an ideal age in which harmony and peace will prevail over all the earth. This was originally a biblical concept involving the Return of Christ, the Resurrection and Judgment Day. But instead of Jesus making a "new Heavens and a new earth," the NAM says man will bring it about by his own powers.

Utopianism	
Christian	Humanistic
Jesus at His return to earth.	Man will bring it about.

Humanistic Utopianism	
secular	religious
materialistic	spiritualistic
Marxism	NAM
dialectic	event/evolution

Both Marxism and the NAM are Christian heresies in this sense.

II. What is the NAM?

It is a religious form of Humanism: the belief that man is the measure of all things and thus the Origin and Judge of truth, justice, morals and beauty. Man is his own "god" literally or figuratively.

Humanism	
secular	religious
no God no absolutes	no God no absolutes
relativism	relativism
autonomy	autonomy
subjectivism	subjectivism
materialism	spiritualism
all is matter	all is mind
rationalism	mysticism
"science"	parapsychology
anti-Christian	anti-Christian

III. The NAM is religious atheism:

It denies the existence of an infinite/personal God who exists outside of and independent of the universe.

IV. The NAM Misuses the word "God."

The NAM takes the word "God" and applies it to the universe. The problem with this is that the attributes of the universe and God are opposites.

God	The Universe
infinite	finite
eternal	limited by time
omnipresent	limited by space
omnipotent	limited in power
omniscient	limited in knowledge
sovereign	limited in control
immutable	mutable
perfect	flawed/imperfect
good	evil/good
independent	dependent

V. The NAM's solution:

It denies the existence of the universe! The world we see around us is an illusion! Our body does not exist. Evil does not exist. Pain, sickness and death are all illusions! We are not limited or finite in any way. "Mind" or "consciousness" is all that really exists.

VI. The NAM's world view leads to:

A. solipsism, egoism, selfishness

B. no concern, compassion or help for the sick, handicap, old or dying. The NAM does not build hospitals or nursing homes.

VII. When did the NAM begin?

It began in the 1950's with J. B. Rhine. It became popular in the 1960's and led to drugs, rebellion, the Beatles, Gurus, free sex, Cayce, Dixon, cults, ESP, etc.

VIII. Why did it become popular?

A. The failure of secular humanism to provide a materialistic basis for truth, justice, morals or beauty. Man was reduced to an animal, machine, a meaningless accident in a backwater without dignity/worth/meaning.

Man --> a dog

B. Because of the failure of secular atheism, many '60s humanists became religious atheists. Example: John Denver.

C. Humanism has always swung between two poles:

materialism

spiritualism

"man is a dog"

"man is a god"

D. Humanism is doomed to swing back and forth because it is reductionistic, i.e., man is reduced to only one element: body/mind, matter/spirit.

E. When humanism is the dominant world view in any culture, the culture swings back and forth from materialism to spiritualism.

Ancient Greece	
materialism	spiritualism
Heraclitus	Parmenides
matter	mind
empiricism	mysticism
Aristotle	Plato

19 th Century	
Early: materialism	Late: spiritualism

20 th Century	
Early: materialism	Late: spiritualism

F. The popularity of humanistically based religions depends on whether the culture is in a materialistic or spiritualistic phase.

Popular Forms of Materialism	
secular	religious
atheism	Neo-orthodoxy
agnosticism	Paul Tillich
skepticism	"God is dead"
Marxism	soul sleep
anti-miracle	annihilationism
anti-ESP	SDA
anti-God	WT
rationalism	Armstrong

Popular Forms of Spiritualism	
secular	religious
ESP	spiritualism
Parapsychology	occult
SPR	witchcraft
Psychics	NAM

G. This explains WHY the NAM is so popular at this time. Western humanistic culture is swinging toward its spiritualistic pole.

IX. Only when a culture is dominated by the Christian world view does it escape from both materialism and spiritualism.

The Biblical World View:	
Reality is matter/visible	spirit/invisible.
Man is body/flesh	mind/spirit.

X. The NAM will lose its popularity when the culture swings back to its materialistic pole. Psychism always becomes boring. The rip-offs, con-games and frauds run it into the ground. You can only pretend that "There is no pain" until you

are in pain! To say "There is no death" never stopped anyone from dying! Ex.: Mary Baker Eddy. The mere act of stubbing one's toe tends to vanquish all claims to divinity! When you have kids you find out that you are not omniscient or omnipotent. Is it any wonder that the NAM is primarily composed of affluent singles!

XI. How widespread is the NAM?

It has invaded every area of society and has thousands of organizations in an international network:

religion	sports	music	sales	military	UN
science	psychology	art	business	medicine	
education	cartoons	movies	police	politics	

XII. Is the NAM dangerous? Yes!

1. It is psychologically damaging.
2. It is socially worthless.
3. It is financially disastrous.
4. It is scientifically fraudulent.
5. It is spiritually delusive.
6. It is biblically satanic and demonic.

XIII. Why should we be concerned?

The goals of the NAM call for the destruction not only of the Church but also the nation. In search of its monistic ideal of "ONENESS," the NAM wants three things:

- A. A ONE-WORLD GOVERNMENT** run by a charismatic leader trained in the occult arts of psychism. The NAM names Hitler as their first attempt! The U.S. constitution must be destroyed. The UN must take over.

B. **A ONE-WORLD RELIGION** run by a NEW AGE CHRIST who will be forced on all religions. There will be NO FREEDOM OF RELIGION.

C. **A CENTRALIZED CONTROL** of money, food, goods, jobs and births. If you do not accept their one-world government or religion, you will be denied money, food, jobs, goods and the right to have children. "Illegal" babies will be murdered as in China. People who resist "re-education," i.e., NAM teaching, will be denied work. There will be no human or civil rights: No freedom of religion, speech, assembly or of the press! **THIS IS THE DARK SIDE OF THE NEW AGE MOVEMENT.**

XIV. Our greatest fear:

The NAM is the final fulfillment of the biblical prophecies about the anti-Christ and the end of the world. What is scary is that there is a direct correspondence between the biblical anti-Christ and the NAM!

- A. NAM doctrines: I John 2:18-23; 4:1-4; II John 7-11; II Thess. 2:1-5.
- B. NAM miracles: II Thess. 2:9-12; Rev. 13:12-15.
- C. NAM goals: A one-world government and religion dedicated to the destruction of the Bible and Christianity: Rev. 13:3-18.

Conclusion

Since the essence of Humanism is rebellion against God, it has always sought to destroy the people and worship of God. Be it materialistic Marxism in the Communist World or the spiritualistic New Age Movement in the West, the Church faces its greatest challenge today as it proclaims the Gospel to a lost and dying world.



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