

Frances



“THE MESSAGE BIBLE” CONTINUED . . .

Another appropriate title for “*The Message*,” could be The New Age “*Bible*.” There is so much New Age thought permeating “*The Mess*,” you couldn’t learn the Truth from it, no matter how hard you tried.

One piercing example of New Age doctrine occurs right in the middle of the Lord’s Prayer.

Matthew 6:9-13

King James:

(9) After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. (10) Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. (11) Give us this day our daily bread. (12) And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. (13) And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

TheMessage:

With a God like this loving you, you can pray very simply. Like this: ‘Our Father in heaven, Reveal who you are. Set the world right; Do what’s best—as above, so below. Keep us alive with three square meals. Keep us forgiven with you and forgiving others. Keep us safe from ourselves and the Devil. You’re in charge! You can do anything you want! You’re ablaze in beauty! Yes. Yes. Yes.

Containing metaphysical connotation, the phrase, “**as above, so below**”, is one of the most recognized in New Age philosophy. This motto is said to hold the key to all mysteries. In fact, all magical systems are believed to function as a result of this formula: “**That which is above is the same as that which is below . . . The universe is the same as God, God is the same as man. . .**”¹ One particular book written and published by the editors of the *New Age Journal* was actually entitled, *As Above, So Below*. Its introduction said, “*Thousands of years ago in ancient Egypt, the great master alchemist Hermes Trismegistus, believed to be a contemporary of the Hebrew prophet Abraham, proclaimed this fundamental truth about the universe: ‘As above, so below.’ This maxim implies that the transcendent God beyond the physical universe and the immanent God within ourselves are one. Heaven and Earth, spirit and matter, the invisible and visible worlds form a unity to which we are intimately linked.*” The book went on to say that older forms of religion can no longer serve people, but that the phrase, “*as above, so below*”, precisely describes the new “*emerging spirituality*” that will be able to serve people in the future.² Rick Warren even used a derivative of this New Age phrase to kick-off his purpose-driven gospel when he quoted Colossians 1:16 from *The Message*. It reads: “*For everything, absolutely everything, **above and below, visible and invisible, everything got started in him and finds its purpose in him***” and is placed on the first page of the first chapter of Warren’s book. Perhaps many New-agers have secretly joined Rick Warren’s ranks because they have recognized their own spirituality hidden in his agenda.

Also, how can anything “*innocent*” completely fail to recognize Jesus as “**Lord**”? In the King James

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translation of the Bible, “Lord” occurs 7,970 times, more than any other noun, but *The Message* only says “Lord” 71 times. In the King James Scripture, the phrase, “Lord Jesus” occurs 118 times, and the phrase, “Lord Jesus Christ”, occurs 84 times. Neither of these occurs in *The Message* at all! Instead, *The Message* prefers the term, “Master.” Another infamous New Age “Bible” entitled, *The Aquarian Gospel of Jesus Christ*, also prefers the term “Master Jesus.” *The Message* calls Jesus “Master” over 400 times and uses the New Age phrase “Master Jesus” 76 times. This is a subtle way that the New Age movement has found to drag Christ’s Lordship down to the level of their teachers and/or guides whom they call “masters.” These masters were not born divine; they must rise to the level of master through spiritual elevation.³ One writer explained: “The New Age Jesus became ‘the Christ’ only after purifying himself of ‘bad karma’ through many incarnations, and even now (as many New Agers believe) he is only one of several ‘masters.’”⁴ Alice Bailey, one of the most influential teachers of the New Age, said, “There is a growing and developing belief that Christ is in us, as He was in the Master Jesus . . .”⁵ What’s even more intriguing is that “Master” is part of freemasonry’s lingo as well; they call the presiding head of a Masonic lodge the “worshipful master.” The truth is that Freemasons worship at the altar of an all-inclusive universal god, the same pantheistic “Master God” of the New Age, and the Bible predicts that in the end times all of humanity will collectively worship one being who is inspired by Satan. Therefore, we must ask this question: Has the world already begun its submission to the beast (Rev.13:12)?

THE MASTER GOD

Genesis 15:8

King James:

And he said, LORD God, whereby shall I know that I shall inherit it?

The Message:

Abram said, “Master God, how am I to know this, that it will all be mine?”

Exodus 34:6

King James:

And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth.

The Message:

God passed in front of him and called out, “God, God, a God of mercy and grace, endlessly patient—so much love, so deeply true—loyal in love for a thousand generations.

Deuteronomy 6:4

King James:

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD.

The Message:

Attention, Israel! God, our God! God the one and only!

II Samuel 7:18

King James:

Then went king David in, and sat before the LORD, and he said, Who am I, O LORD God? and what is my house, that thou hast brought me hitherto?

The Message:

King David went in, took his place before God, and prayed: Who am I, my Master God, and what is my family, that you have brought me to this place in life?

Ezekiel 37:3

King James:

And he said unto me, Son of man, can these bones live? And I answered, O Lord GOD, thou knowest.

The Message:

He said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” I said, “Master God, only you know that.”

MASTER JESUS

Acts 7:59

King James:

And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.

The Message:

As the rocks rained down, Stephen prayed, "Master Jesus, take my life."

Acts 11:20

King James:

And some of them were men of Cyprus and Cyrene, which, when they were come to Antioch, spake unto the Grecians, preaching the Lord Jesus.

The Message:

Then some of the men from Cyprus and Cyrene who had come to Antioch started talking to Greeks, giving them the Message of the Master Jesus.

II Corinthians 4:14

King James:

Knowing that He which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus, and shall present us with you.

The Message:

And what we believe is that the One who raised up the Master Jesus will just as certainly raise us up with you, alive.

I Corinthians 12:3

King James:

Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed: and *that* no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Spirit.

The Message:

For instance, by using your heads, you know perfectly well that the Spirit of God would never prompt anyone to say "Jesus be damned!" Nor would anyone be inclined to say "Jesus is Master!" without the insight of the Holy Spirit.

Revelation 22:20-21

King James:

(20) He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus. (21) The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

The Message:

(20) He who testifies to all these things says it again: "I'm on my way! I'll be there soon!" Yes! Come, Master Jesus!
(21) The grace of the Master Jesus be with all of you.
Oh, Yes!

Another underlying theme of New Age thought occurs in the mystic sense of the term, "The One." The One is the universal spiritual force which is god and flows through all things; it is inherent in all individuals and may easily manifest among collective hearts and minds. Put in a nutshell, it means that creation is god! New Age guru, H.P. Blavatsky, says, "The esoteric theogony begins with the One. . . ." She includes both Jehovah and satan as being part of the same cosmic "One." ". . . Jehovah — esoterically (as Elohim) — is also the Serpent or Dragon that tempted Eve. . . ."6 Expounding on the "One" concept is "oneness." "Oneness" is an unusual word, not found in most dictionaries, but it is completely familiar to New Age followers: "Everything is one with everything else. All that is on Earth is an expression of the One Deity and is permeated with its energies."7 According to such a philosophy, even unredeemed humanity would have to be "one" with God to some degree. It also gives credence to another common heresy found in today's church known as "ultimate reconciliation", which teaches that everyone, including evil men and the Devil himself, will eventually discover salvation.

THE ONE — NEW AGE

John 6:46

King James:

Not that any man hath seen the Father, save He which is of God, He hath seen the Father.

The Message:

No one has seen the Father except the One who has his Being alongside the Father—and you can see me.

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- 1 (Smith. Warren, *Deceived on Purpose* p.31).
- 2 (Smith. Warren, *Deceived on Purpose* p.30).
- 3 (Watkins. Terry, *Mystic Mess. Dial-the-Truth Ministries*. 2005)
- 4 (Miller, Elliot. *A Crash Course on the New Age Movement*, p.30)
- 5 (*The Externalization of the Hierarchy* p.592).
- 6 (*The Secret Doctrine*. Vol. 1 p.94 & p.73).
- 7 (Yungen, Ray. *A Time of Departing*, p.52).

To Be Continued . . .

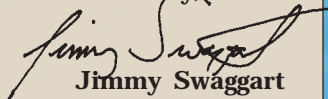
FROM ME TO YOU

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I implore you to pray for us daily. As well, I implore you to support the work financially. Some of you who hold this magazine in your hands are being used of God greatly as it regards your support. You, under the Lord, are the muscle and the sinew of this Work. To say "thank you" seems to be so woefully insufficient, but yet, as I've already stated, what you're doing is not for personal acclaim, but rather because it's a privilege to do so.

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Sincerely,



Jimmy Swaggart

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swaggart@cogeco.net

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July 6, 2007

Sponsored by:
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Hopewell, AR

Pastor John Roberts
Heber Springs, AR
Contact Person: Mike Armstrong
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July 18-22, 2007

Family Worship Center
International Youth Camp
Pastor Gabriel Swaggart
Baton Rouge, LA (225) 768-3072

July 27-29, 2007

Faith Family Worship
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www.faithfamilyworship.com

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