

# CHRISTOGRAM

## WINDS & DOCTRINES

### Plots to Capture the World

### JESUS IS THE DELIVERER

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The below article comes from Pat Holliday at [www.patholliday.com](http://www.patholliday.com).

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GIVE IT TO YOUR PASTOR

#### COLD AND LUKE WARM

The Laodicean church thought they were doing well and were spiritual. After all they were rich, so of course God must be blessing them. The wealthy mostly dress well and talk about their possessions to impress people. They focus on outward appearances and worldliness. But these people did not know their inward condition; they were blind and could not see. So the Lord asked if they would buy from Him gold refined in the fire (by their suffering) white garments (robes of salvation) and eye salve so they could see their condition. Today many see their success and prosperity as God's blessing. The Laodicean Church was lukewarm. The Lord wanted them either cold or hot. Hot water was used for healing; cold was used for refreshment. Instead, they could not make up their mind, they were standing for nothing, and were good for nothing. They lived in both worlds. Spiritually they could have been either all for God or not at all, but they were in between. If they were hot, they would have been approved. If they were cold, God could have changed them, but they were in the middle and He was unable do anything. This is the worst place to be, to be part of a church, doing church things, thinking you are a Christian when in fact you are not. The Laodiceans had just enough religiosity to get by and think they were fine. They were naked also. In the time of Christ all soldiers would sleep in their clothes, they would not take them off so they would be ready for battle. We are to be clothed in white garments, the righteousness of Christ. Jesus was saying they did not have his righteousness they were naked. Yet even this church is not hopeless; Christ can

come into the individual if He is allowed, “As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent “(v.19). This is the only Church that He is outside of and offers to come to the individual in the Church and not the collective Church, because the whole Church is removed from the truth of functioning in the word of God. This does not mean they abandon Gods word or name but only use portions of it that suit them, or change its meaning. <sup>1</sup>

The Church today is also sitting in this same fallen condition. Many have left the foundations of the Gospel. They are seeking things and emotional experiences instead of wisdom and knowledge of the Word of God and Jesus. Seductions are great and world wide. Many have lost their first love. Christians use to get excited about Jesus Christ but now they cheer when greedy preachers pick their pockets as men and women of God. We must return to the basics of the Word of God if we intend to make it into the kingdom of God.

"Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and in which you stand By which also *you are saved*, if you keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless you *have believed* in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scripture, (1 Cor. 15:1-4).

1. Paul teaches that the Gospel consists of four points. 1) He died for our SINS 2). Today, we see “Seeker Friendly” churches, they believe that they can fill their pews if they don’t speak of sin!

2. He was buried proving he died. Today, we have many teaching that the cross is not the reason that the reason that Christians receive Salvation! They teach that they are saved because Jesus went into hell and was beaten and tortured by Satan, therefore, they are saved because Jesus suffered the pain of hell in their stead. This is certainly a denial of the blood atonement of Jesus. If you are sitting under this terrible heresy, run to a Church that knows that there is no remission for sin apart from the blood of Jesus.

3. He rose again from the dead taking up the same body he came in. Some heretics are teaching that he only came back in the spirit. The twisting of the Word of God is the greatest danger of our time.

4. Jesus Christ is God. It is hard to believe but some are even teaching that “we are little gods.” In Gen 3:5, Satan is talking to Eve. He promised her if she would disobey God that she would become like or “as” God. Read the commentary below. Even Satan knew that Adam was NOT a God!

[Your eyes shall be opened] Your understanding shall be greatly enlightened and improved; and ye shall be as gods, *kee-'Elohiym*, like God, so the word should be translated, for what idea could our first parents have of gods before idolatry could have had any being, because sin had not yet entered into the world? The *Syriac* has the word in the singular number, and is the only one of all the versions which has hit on the true meaning. As the original word is the same which is used to point out the Supreme Being, (Gen 1:1), so it has here the same signification, and the object of the

tempter appears to have been this: to persuade our first parents that they should, by eating of this fruit, become wise and powerful as God (for knowledge is power), and be able to exist forever, independently of him. <sup>2</sup>

Satan did not infer that man could be a little god, he said if they disobeyed God, they could be LIKE (similar, similar, equal, equivalent, comparable), to God.

But some of these neo Pentecostals say, didn't Jesus call them gods in John 10:34-38. "Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are gods?"

Jesus was referring to Old Testament where they referred to the MAGISTRATES judges, A "GOD," which did not mean that they were a god but it was a word describing honor and dignity of their office, (John 10:34-38).

#### Commentaries

[Jesus answered them] The answer of Jesus consists of two parts. The first (John 10:34-36) shows that they ought not to object to his use of the word God, even if he were no more than a man. The second (John 10:37-38) repeats substantially what he had before said, left the same impression, and in proof of it he appealed to his works.

Verse 34. [In your law] Ps. 82:6. The word "law" here, is used to include the Old Testament.

[I said] The Psalmist said, or God said by the Psalmist.

[Ye are gods] This was said of magistrates on account of the dignity and honor of their office, and it shows that the Hebrew word translated "god," <sup>a</sup>lohiym, in that place might be applied to man. Such a use of the word is, however, rare. (See instances in Ex 7:1; 4:16).

(Ex 7:1), " And the LORD said unto Moses, See, I have made thee a god to Pharaoh: and Aaron thy brother shall be thy prophet."

(Ex 7:1) [I have made thee a god] At thy word every plague shall come, and at thy command each shall be removed. Thus Moses must have appeared as a god to Pharaoh. <sup>\*\*1</sup>

(Ex 7:1 -NIV), "Then the LORD said to Moses, "See, I have made you like God to Pharaoh, and your brother Aaron will be your prophet,". (Ex 4:16).

16 He will speak to the people for you, and it will be as if he were your mouth and as if you were God to him.

(NIV Exo. 7:1) And the LORD said unto Moses, See, I have made thee a god to Pharaoh: and Aaron thy brother shall be thy prophet.

[I have made thee a god] Or "appointed thee." See the margin reference. Moses will stand in this special relation to Pharaoh, that God will address him by a prophet, i.e. by one appointed to

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<sup>1</sup> (from Adam Clarke's Commentary, Electronic Database. Copyright © 1996, 2003 by BibleSoft, Inc. All rights reserved.)

speak in His name. The passage is an important one as illustrating the primary and essential characteristic of a prophet, he is the declarer of God's will and purpose. <sup>3</sup>

### **NOTICE THE NIV SAYS LIKE A GOD**

(Exo. 7:1) Then the LORD said to Moses, "See, I have made you like God to Pharaoh, and your brother Aaron will be your prophet. NIV

In the above verse, God is telling Moses, since Pharaoh was a worshiper of all kinds of gods, because of the actions that he saw with his physical eyes, he (Pharaoh) would think of Moses like a god. However Moses was like puppet whose words were placed into his mouth by God.

(Ex 4:16 KJV) "And he shall be thy spokesman unto the people: and he shall be, even he shall be to thee instead of a mouth, and thou shalt be to him instead of God."

[He shall be thy spokesman] Literally, He shall speak for thee (or in thy stead) to the people.

[He shall be to thee instead of a mouth] He shall convey every message to the people, and thou shalt be to him instead of God . . . thou shalt deliver to him what I communicate to thee. <sup>4</sup>

Verse 35. [Unto whom the word of God came] That is, who were his servants, or who received their dignity and honor only because the law of God was intrusted to them. "The Word of God" here means the command of God; his commission to them to do justice.

[The scripture cannot be broken] (See Matt 5:19). The authority of the Scripture is final; it cannot be set aside. The meaning is, "If, therefore, the Scripture uses the word "god" <sup>a</sup> *lohiym* as applied to magistrates, it settles the question that it is right to apply the term to those in office and authority. If applied to them, it may be to others in similar offices. It cannot, therefore, be blasphemy to use this word as applicable to a personage so much more exalted than mere magistrates as the Messiah." <sup>5</sup>

(Jn. 10:34) "Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are gods?"

[Is it not written in your law] The words which our Lord quotes are taken from (Ps. 82:6), which shows that, under the word law, our Lord comprised the Jewish sacred writings in general? (See also Jn. 12:34; 15:25).

[Ye are gods?] That is, judges, who are called <sup>a</sup> *lohiym*. That judges are here meant appears from (Ps. 82:2, etc.), and also from what follows here. And this is probably the only place where the word <sup>a</sup> *lohiym* is applied to any but the true God. See Parkhurst under the root '-l-h. (Jn. 10:34; John 10:35).<sup>6</sup>

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

[For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.] No man who does not have divine assistance can either find the way to heaven, or walk in it when found. As Christ, by his sacrificial offering, has opened the kingdom of God to all believers; and, as a Mediator, transacts the concerns of their kingdom before the throne; so the Spirit of God is the great agent here below, to enlighten, quicken, strengthen, and guide the true disciples of Christ; and all that are born of this

Spirit are led and guided by it; and none can pretend to be the children of God who are not thus guided. <sup>7</sup>

[Are the sons of God] Are adopted into his family, and are his children. This is a name of endearment, meaning that they sustain to him this relation; that they are his friends, disciples, and imitators; that they are parts of the great family of the redeemed, of whom he is the Father and Protector. It is often applied to Christians in the Bible; (Job 1:6; Jn. 1:12; Phil 2:15; 1 Jn. 3:1-2; Matt. 5:9,45; Lk. 6:35). This is a test of piety which is easily applied. <sup>8</sup>

### **PREACH THE GOSPEL**

(Mark 16:15-18), “And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. 17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; 18. They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.”

(Matt. 7:22-23) “Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? 23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.”

The Spirit and the Word will always agree. God’s ministers will not twist the Word to make it say whatever they want it to say.

As to miracles and signs and wonders and miracles

Miracles are not done by the person but in the name of Jesus. However, according to the Bible, the devils and the antichrist will be able to do great signs and wonders.

(Rev 13:14), And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.

(Rev 16:14), For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

(Rev 19:20), And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

The Gospel concerns *Gods son* and his work for us. The Son of God came as the savior (1 Jn 4:14), That he is Lord of the universe (which relates to a triune nature of God) We stand in it by trusting in his work. Salvation is a gift freely given not earned. We work from salvation not toward it. Our part is that we are commissioned to preach it and to make disciples.

(2 Cor. 11:3), "But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he who comes preaches *another Jesus* whom we have not preached, or if you receive a *different spirit* which you have not received,

or a *different gospel* which you have not accepted-- you may well put up with it." (you will have to endure it, or you wear it beautifully. Or you put up with quite well).

### **SATAN'S SECRET PLAN**

How is Satan capturing the Church? Is there is a master plan? Yes! His puzzle is rapidly coming together to pull the New Age Church into force.

Author, Jesse Penn Lewis writes about a Christian lady of the last century, Mrs. McHardie who wrote a manuscript about how Satan was plotting to capture the world by ensnaring men by hypnotism in three areas:

- (1) Men of science
- (2) Men of business
- (3) Men of religion.<sup>9</sup>

This was made known to Mrs. McHardie by a medium under the direction of the evil spirit controlling her. We can observe this satanic plot as it unfolds in our day. It is advantageous to recall her words on the history of spiritism. "From the history of Spiritism we learn the first stage that enabled the spirits to break through into communication with man was the discovery by Anton Mesmer, known as mesmerism (hypnotism). Following him, many of his converts made more and more "discoveries," producing phenomena which almost seemed incredible. But, it was when Mesmer assumed the position of a "man of science" and appealed to the scientific world to examine "natural phenomena" declaring that he wanted for his "discovery" the unqualified approval of the most "scientific men" of the age, the Satanic scheme of capturing men of science succeeded. For the Psychological Researchers admit Mesmerism is "The rock where all mental sciences (including that of Christian Science) were hewn."<sup>10</sup>

Mrs. McHardie describes the investigation of Mesmerism. Mesmer's pupils discovered many new techniques after they had been given the "key." The "key" was Mesmerism (hypnosis). The investigation of the mysterious psychic forces latent in subconscious minds advanced rapidly.

"In 1784 a pupil of Mesmer discovered "Clairvoyance" (hearing spirit voices) as the result of mesmeric sleep (or hypnotic sleep). Then he accidentally stumbled upon "Thought Reading." Ancient (occult) books were studied for further knowledge and it was seen these "secrets of nature" had once been made known to a few. But, through Mesmer and his pupils, the time came for these (secrets to be made known to many). Satan plans or the movement to begin advancing now so that it would engulf the world in darkness."<sup>11</sup>

Hypnotism, Neurology, and psychometrics all became popular with the discovery that the mind can act outside the human body, that the "psychometric sensitive" can read the past like an open book. Numberless other "discoveries" continued to follow, including one called "Statuvolism," signifying a peculiar condition produced by the will in which the subject can "throw his mind" to any distant place and see, hear, feel, smell, and taste what is going on there.<sup>12</sup>

Mrs. McHardie explains the beginning of “research” into “pantheism.” “Then through a revivalist preacher, somewhere about 1847, came a discovery which the preacher called “Pantheism.” This eventually caused him to leave the ministry to devote himself to the investigation of Pantheism or the “trance.” Large numbers became magnetically affected at his lectures. He attributed the power in these trances to the power of the self-induction inherent in human life.” By this he believed the mind could withdraw itself from the consciousness of pain and cure diseases.<sup>13</sup>

The above writings by Jesse Penn-Lewis were written in the Wales Revivals. Her insights show us some of the demonic problems that we are facing today.

### **PANTHEISM - TRANCE - CAPTURING THE MIND**

**Polytheism**, the seeking after other gods, or believing ALL PATHWAYS LEAD BACK TO GOD has captured the imagination of many Christian leaders. They are boldly teaching this blasphemous error to unsuspecting churchgoing people to seize them for the One World Religious System that is being formed for the Antichrist.

**Trance.** These ungodly false Christian leaders are using the power of mass Hypnotism, Neurology, and psychometrics to bewitch Christian Churches.

In the beginning scientific men only followed up these “discoveries” as branches of Natural Science. They were making no attempt to connect spirit agencies with the phenomena, teaching and doctrine being carefully withheld by the spirits. The spiritual connection came when parapsychologists began researching psychic phenomena. J. B. Rhine and his wife are considered the originators in America).<sup>14</sup>

We now have Satan’s capture of the “men of science!” Next came the development of the plot to capture “men of business.” “The plan was to show how to put these pseudo scientific “discoveries” to practical account for success in business. To this end, books were widely advertised offering ways to develop “The Power Within.” Business men everywhere were urged to use “mind power” and mental magnetism to attract friends and success and to develop ‘strong, magnetic attractive personalities.’<sup>15</sup>

Along with the capture of men of science and business came a prodigious effort to reach “men of religion.” How successful this has been seen today in the veritable landslide of professing Christian teachers who have absorbed the demonic teaching of the rationalistic views of the Bible. Many of these so-called Christian teachers object to the Atoning work of Christ! To wipe out this doctrine of the atoning blood of Christ has long been the last goal of Satan and his followers and has now won to a large degree.<sup>5</sup>

The subtle, undermining work of the deceptive spirits of Satan is now reaching its climax. We can see how section after section of our leaders has been captured by the enemy. The strategy has been masterly. First “Men of Science” lead the way, then “men of religion” capitulated to the new science and lastly Satan finds an agent in the secular world who professes Christianity to propagate it into the Church.<sup>16</sup>

## **SOUL FORCE**

Author, Corrie Ten Boom, touches the heart of “soul-force” when she wrote: “Psychology is profitable, even necessary, but not enough.” It is not surprising in the closing days of this Age. The book of Genesis is being greatly contested by the devil in his try to overthrow its authority. It is not only because it contains the basic truth of the Fall and of the Gospel of redemption, but because it also holds the key to all the problems of the present time. The gilded bait offered to Eve during her temptation in Eden, “*We shall be as God . . .*”

Hypnotism, Neurology, and psychometry all became popular with the discovery that the mind can act outside the human body. When they began this body of research, scientific men only followed up these “breakthroughs” as branches of Natural Science. They were making no attempt to connect spirit agencies with the phenomena, teaching and doctrine being carefully withheld by the spirits. The spiritual connection came when parapsychologists began researching psychic phenomena.<sup>17</sup>

## **HINDRANCES**

Self consciousness the following hindrances:

1. Self-will: No regard for the wishes of others.
2. Selfishness: Undue regard for one’s own interest.
3. Egoism: Giving “I” supremacy in all thoughts.
4. Egotism: Giving “I” undue prominence in speech and action.
5. Self-conceit: Undue high opinion of oneself.
6. Pride: Undue sense of one’s own imagined superiority.

Many Christian pastors are promoting this outlandish new “Christianity” that I call, the I, me, you better homes and garden - Disney world Christianity. Their worldly dialogue is leaving the Word of God and Jesus as a side line of their sermons and promoting themselves. These particular ministers are very popular and extremely wealthy. This perverse gospel that is tied to the many anomalous versions of the Bible and producing shallow, spiritually destitute, self-centered people void of faith. The spirit of materialism has captured the pulpits and so-called Christian leaders are buying great mansions, cars, designer clothes and are living like kings and queens on God’s money while the world that Jesus died for, is falling into the pit of hell. This financial success will be their great judgement at the seat of the Savior. He will say to them, depart from me, you workers of iniquity, I never knew you!

“ Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; 2 Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron”; (1 Tim. 4:1-2).

## **DECEPTION**

The problem with psychology is, it is not an exacting science because it changes with the fashions of the time, and, it is a man-made philosophy.

When the basic theme of the Cross of Christ is withdrawn from the Church as its fundamental topic, the spirit of the world comes in and self-denial is discarded and souls will be lost, Satan takes the control of ones life and his schemes begin to dominate. Satan's aggressive goal is to pervert the spiritual authority of the Church over him and his demons and to enslave its members to the spirit of the world. His seductive delusions are intended to subvert the very foundation of Christ's mission of redemption of the souls of people.

Satan works to keep men and women in the sphere of the flesh as "carnal" Christians to produce material oriented or "soul power" mental driven Christians. One of his diabolical devices is to turn of the Gospel away from Christ onto ones self. He does not care what or who you worship just as long as you don't worship Jesus Christ.

The reason God cannot work through man's "self-consciousness" is that out man's conception of his life apart from God's Word. This self driven illusion does not reveal the truth of man's soul condition according to his spiritual condition before the throne of God.

## **DECEIVED ON PURPOSE**

Warren Smith tells the church how he was misled by demonic demons in the New Age. "I knew I was being spiritually led when I was in the New Age. I just didn't know that I was being led by a deceptive spirit world. I didn't even know that there was a deceptive spirit world or that there were such things as deceptive spirits. I didn't realize that deceptive spirits could present themselves as 'God' and 'Jesus' and the 'Holy Spirit.' I didn't know that the Bible warns about these deceptive spirits and tells us to test the spirits to make sure that we are not being deceived by 'another Jesus,' 'another spirit,' and 'another gospel,' (1 Jn. 4:1; 2 Cor. 11:3-4).<sup>18</sup>

After his conversion to Jesus, Warren Smith stumbled across the new changing church that is taking God's people away from the traditional Jesus to change their views concerning the Bible and Jesus Christ to New Age thinking. He discovered that Rick Warren and many associates are no longer teaching the Word of God with Jesus Christ as the center of the Gospel, but are using New Age transformation of the human mind techniques to turn them to the global religions of the world. Apostle Paul warned in, (Col 2:18), "Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind."<sup>19</sup>

When you follow a person or a man instead of the Word of God and Jesus, you may well find yourself being controlled by a man-made system, then you may well loose your soul. These new Christian leaders are being used as "change agents," "working through mass hypnotizing techniques, people are being held spellbound People are being led into a new type of Christianity that works

by the power men and women through teaching by the flesh and emotions. Some are using bewitching spirits to brainwash and control the people. Others are using hypnosis, using mind control to bewitch the people. They use the spirit of mesmerizing the people to produce an "altered state of consciousness" which puts the person practicing them into direct contact with the spirit world and opens them up to possession by demons.<sup>20</sup>

(2 Tim 4:1-5), "I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; 2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; 4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. 5 But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry."

### **OLD WORDS CHANGES TO NEW WORD MEANINGS = NEW DOCTRINES**

We tend to hear Biblical words through the mental filter of the traditional church, but the new postmodern context changes the old meanings. So when the "intentional interim pastor" promises to "lead a spiritual/discovery/change process that seeks to understand and to embody what it means to be the church."<sup>21</sup>

#### **✓ TRADITIONAL OR EXPECTED MEANING**

Healthy Church

One that follows Biblical guidelines & demonstrates God's love, strength, peace & perseverance.

#### **REAL MEANING (New Paradigm)**

Healthy Church

Low standards for Biblical knowledge, comprehension and uncompromising obedience to God. High standards for the attitudes, adaptability and group thinking needed for community service and social solidarity. (2 Tim. 4:2-5).

#### **✓ TRADITIONAL OR EXPECTED MEANING**

*Vision*

A God-given understanding of His will and intentions.

#### **REAL MEANING (New Paradigm)**

A statement written by trained leaders or managers to inspire the masses to follow their program, share their mission and support the planned changes.

✓ **TRADITIONAL OR EXPECTED MEANING**

Purpose-Driven Church

Educating members according to planned results.

✓ **MISLEADING OR STATED MEANING**

The church branch of a global management system based on international rules and standards for group communication and community oneness. The church fits into the worldwide system through partnerships, dialogue and other consensus building strategies, surveys and assessments, and government incentives for community participation.

*Team building*

- ★ Agreement through facilitated group discussion.
- ★ Strengthening group relationships by seeking common ground on various subject.
- ★ Building unity and guiding opinions through surveys, questionnaires and group dialogue.
- ★ Reaching a predetermined outcome through facilitated dialogue by which group members are pressured to conform their understanding of "divisive" Scriptures and values in order to build unity.

Conflict Resolution

- ★ Resolving conflicts.
- ★ Learning to settle disputes peacefully.
- ★ Learning to synthesize beliefs and trade politically incorrect absolutes or beliefs for compromise positions that fit the new pluralistic attitudes needed for the envisioned 21st century unity.

Spiritual Abuse

- ★ Learning to know & experience God together.
- ★ Group members -- sensitized to the feelings of other members -- express their own understanding of Scriptures and adjust the Author's words and intent when these might offend group members. Biblical accuracy is sacrificed on the altar of consensus.
- ★ Teaching a distorted gospel or false doctrine, while claiming the authority to teach God's truth and function as a pastor or shepherd.
- ★ Spiritual abuse can occur when . . .
  1. "a leader uses his or her *spiritual position* to control or dominate another person,"

2. "when *spirituality* is used to make others live up to a 'spiritual standard.'"
  3. "shame is used in an attempt to get someone to support a belief, or...to fend off legitimate questions."
- ★ "There are spiritual systems in which...the members are there to meet the needs of the leaders...
  - 1. These leaders attempt to find fulfillment through the religious performance of the very people whom they are there to serve and build.
  - 2. This is an inversion of the body of Christ. It is spiritual abuse." (p.23).
  - ★ "The Christian life *begins* with freedom from dead works, from religious systems and from all human attempts to 'please God'.
  - ★ It's time for many of us to shake off the religious systems and expectations we've created, and *return to that joyful freedom in Christ.*" (p.26).

Short Glossary (See a more complete glossary here: Church Growth & Management.

Aggressors:

People who raise factual arguments -- and their voices -- in a group context that calls for compromise.

- ★ Blockers: People who put a damper on the conversation, saying "you can't do this" or "talk about that . . ."
- ★ Consensus: "the process of abandoning all beliefs, principles, values, and policies in search of something in which no one believes, but to which no one objects; the process of avoiding the very issues that have to be solved, merely because you cannot get agreement on the way ahead. What great cause would have been fought and won under the banner 'I stand for consensus'?"<sup>22</sup>

Delphi Method or Technique:

- ★ Dominators: *People who keep insisting that their position is right -- they know what they believe and hold their position, refusing to seek "common ground."*
- ★ Inclusive: "A theory of salvation that suggests that although God save people only on the merits of Christ, not all who are saved have consciously known of Jesus or heard the gospel. God saves those, who, although they have not heard of Jesus, nevertheless respond to the best of their knowledge to the revelation of God available to them. This view stands in contrast both exclusiveness, which suggests that God saves only those who consciously respond to the presentation of the gospel of Jesus Christ, and to pluralism, which sees saving value in non-Christian religions."<sup>23</sup>

(2 Tim 3:1-7), "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. 2 For men shall

be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, 3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, 4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; 5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. 6 For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts, 7 Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.”

(Eph. 4:14; Eph. 4:15), “That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

[Be no more children] Children, here, are opposed to the perfect man in the preceding verse; and the state of both is well explained by the apostle's allusions. The man is grown up strong and healthy, and has attained such a measure or height as qualifies him for the most respectable place in the ranks of his country.

The child is ignorant, weak, and unsteady, tossed about in the nurse's arms, or whirled round in the giddy sports or mazes of youth; this seems to be the apostle's allusion. Being tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, refers to some kind of ancient play, but what I cannot absolutely determine; probably to something similar to a top, or to our paper kite.

[By the sleight of men] The words *en tee kubeia* refer to the arts used by gamblers, who employ false dice that will always throw up one kind of number, which is that by which those who play with them cannot win.

[Cunning craftiness] It is difficult to give a literal translation of the original words: *en panourgia pros teen methodeian tees planees*. "By cunning, for the purpose of using the various means of deception." *Panourgia* signifies craft and subtlety in general, cheating and *imposition: methodeia*, from which we have our term method, signifies a wile, a particular sleight, mode of tricking and deceiving; it is applied to the arts which the Devil uses to deceive and destroy souls; (see Eph 6:11), called there the WILES of the Devil. From this it seems that various arts were used, both by the Greek sophists and the Judaizing teachers, to render the Gospel of none effect, or to adulterate and corrupt it.<sup>24</sup>

Paul writing to the Corinthian church presents three terms that are used which are connected to being deceived.

1) Another Jesus - (*allos*) is a primary word; "else," different (in many applications) The name is the same, it's the name Jesus from the Bible but it is not the Jesus of the Bible. He is different one, with some similarities on the surface level.

2) *A different Spirit* -(heteros)-to number as opposed to some former person or thing the other of two; referring to quality: that is, one that is not of the same nature, form, class, or kind, to be different

3) *Another Gospel* (heteros) of uncertain affinity; different: altered, strange. It is not the same one Paul preached, it has a qualitative difference.

If someone teaches that Jesus didn't obtain our salvation at the cross but finished it in hell by suffering and needed to be born again that is another Gospel. The bible is clear it is the blood shed at the mercy seat that forgave us. If someone teaches we can all do what the apostles did, that is another Gospel.

(Gal 1:6-9), "I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel:Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert *the gospel of Christ*. But though we, *or an angel from heaven*, preach *any other gospel* unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed."

*Another gospel; the same sort*"; heteros expresses a qualitative difference and denotes "another of a different sort. "Paul speaks of "a different (heteros), which is not another" in contrast to any *other Gospel* (allos, another like the one he preached),

Angels were always involved in revelation to mankind. Paul under prophetic inspiration warns the believers then and us now of receiving new understanding from a spiritual source that would alter what was first delivered to them. To be perverted means to twist a thing around, they destroyed it by having additions to grace.

To anathematize someone is to label them a false teacher or prophet. If someone teaches another gospel that affects who Christ is or how one relates to him, or distorts grace by subtracting or adding any work it becomes another Gospel. <sup>25</sup>

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