Is the Urantia Book "New Age?"

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What exactly is "New Age?"

People not versed in the matter sometimes think that New Age is an outgrowth of the 1960's counterculture movement in the US, but the truth is that there is really nothing new about New Age doctrines. New Age is in fact one of the world's oldest religions and has been continually in operation as long as history bears record. It is often known by its more proper terms, monism or pantheism. Its core foundation gives birth to numerous philosophies and mystical traditions such as Buddhism, neopaganism, shamanism and occultism.

Some of the practices and beliefs associated with New Age include astrology, reincarnation, channeling, magic, necromancy, crystal healing, divination, Tarot cards, psychic healing, astral projection etc. It should be noted that the Urantia Papers are not "channeled" as many people wrongly assume. A channeled message (spiritism) comes through a person who consciously wishes to contact spirits in a wakeful state. The Urantia Papers were revealed through a "sleeping subject," who was utterly unconscious and apparently even bothered by the phenomenon occurring through him, something which he had never asked for and was never credited with. There is to this date no terminology to define this completely unique and heretofore unseen phenomenon; it is a first for our world.

It's noteworthy that there are as many beliefs and practices among New Agers as there are divergent viewpoints and practices within so-called fundamentalist religions. Our review will only highlight the general nature of New Age doctrine and certainly does not always apply to the ways and beliefs of the myriad of spiritualists who call themselves New Agers, often without even knowing what that really means. The overwhelming number of New Agers are good souls who have been rightly disappointed with the more obnoxious and primitive facets of evolutionary monotheistic religions, many of which still unknowingly "drain many an ancient pagan swamp and many a barbarian morass." (UB p. 2083) It is also true that many fundamentalist religionists have a right to fear and resent many New Age doctrines, expecting to "find deliverance from these ancient errors and pagan superstitions respecting the nature of the Universal Father." (UB p. 60)

The Urantia Revelation is with them regarding their more progressive features, but most certainly not of any of them. The angelic authors are clearly repulsed by the "barbarous" Christian notion that a Universal God of love would require a bloody murder of his own innocent and divine Son before forgiving humanity (a Pauline doctrine emanating from older pagan ideas regarding blood sacrifice), just as they reject many beliefs and practices of the so-called New Agers. It remains true that whenever we are confronted by groups holding crystallized viewpoints that are polar opposites, the truth has often been sacrificed somewhere in the middle.

While there is no end to the beliefs and practices found in the New Age movement, we are mainly concerned with its quintessential philosophical tenets and where these beliefs can, and sometimes do, eventually lead the unsuspecting soul when taken to extremes.

The central beliefs of New Age or monism/pantheism are:

God is an impersonal life force or energy manifestation — This fundamental aspect of New Age philosophy revolves around the idea that everything which exists emanated from a single source of divine energy, to which everything and everyone eventually returns. All is God, and God is all, the "I AM." The main element of this idea can be quite confusing and is at the epicenter of all the confusion both within and without the New Age movement. The Urantia revelation teaches that: "There are many elements of danger attendant upon the presentation to the mortal intellect of this idea of an infinite I AM since this concept is so remote from human experiential understanding as to involve serious distortion of meanings and misconception of values." (UB p. 1152) We will see some of these dangers in sections to come.

The fundamentalist religionists do not see themselves as an organic "part" of the whole of creation and therefore cannot understand the idea that we have all emanated from one central source. They believe in a personal God that has likes and dislikes and lives somewhere "up there," (instead of within) but unfortunately harbor a primitive and anthropomorphic concept of an angry and vengeful deity which the New Agers rightfully reject. The New Agers, on the other hand, believe that since we all emanate from one central source, then man literally IS God. This idea leads to the notion that all the seemingly individualized parts of the "whole" and all their interactions are in reality just illusions or "maya," and that everything (animate and inanimate) is just as divine as everything else. In other words, even though both these groups have a "God," their definitions of the term are utterly different.

In monism there is no personal God but only an impersonal and creative energy force that can never judge or harbor a personality that would entertain a "judgment day." Their notion of God is an "it," not a He. Therefore there can be no Christ in the sense that Christians see it, since at best Jesus could have only been a wise teacher on earth (or an "ascended master") who is ultimately no more divine than an ordinary or even lecherous mortal. All the descriptions of Jesus' miracles, resurrection and sayings about judgment day the true New Ager thus assigns to the misconceptions or even deliberate falsifications by later peoples who corrupted Jesus' original sayings, which according to them was devoid of a God that has a personality or one which would judge anyone. Since all is one and one is all, then there can be no such thing as "sin" either, only error in the minds of those who cannot see the perfection of the impersonal "God" as it manifests in a myriad of forms. Since all is God, and God is perfect, then the New Ager believes that everything manifest in the universe is part of a natural outworking of perfection, even though to the unlearned things may appear to be "good" or "bad." This further leads to the notion that people create their own realities and that the trick to happiness is to develop the ability to "see" perfection in so-called imperfection, and gain mastery over reality by deliberately manipulating it through the mind.

In fact, both the fundamentalists and the New Agers are right in certain respects and wrong in others. There never was and never will be a Universal Father that is "wrathful" or one that acts in anger. These are primitive ideas that had their origin in the minds of our distant ancestors, long before the prophets and Christ came to reveal the all-loving Father. To equate the ways of the Almighty with those of a common human, and an undisciplined one at that, is a disservice to Heaven. The fact that today's religionists perpetuate these reprehensible ideas only serves to show humanity's propensity for putting new wine in old skin even at the expense of Christ's admonishments. However, the Universal Father most certainly has a personality which harbors likes and dislikes, and the words of Christ in the Urantia Papers should make that abundantly clear to its readers and detractors alike: "My Father disdains pride, loathes hypocrisy, and abhors iniquity." (UB p. 1676) There are literally hundreds of pages in the Urantia Papers that intimately reveal a very personal Father God with a very real personality. The fact that the revelation also repeatedly speak of a judgment day should forever distinguish it from New Age doctrine as the core of monistic philosophy rejects any judgment or "separation" of right and wrong in a reality that is, in its view, the mere outworking of a divinity that pervades all that is. Certainly, the "judgmental" pronouncements found in the Urantia revelation will never be seen in any New Age work: "When the provisions of endless mercy and nameless patience have been exhausted in an effort to win the loyalty and devotion of the will creatures of the realms, justice and righteousness will prevail. That which mercy cannot rehabilitate justice will eventually annihilate." (UB p. 241)

Reincarnation – Reincarnation is an integral part of any New Age philosophy. Life is viewed as a continual process in a never-ending adventure, meant to purify our "illusions" of individuality or "separation" from reality. New Age teaches that after death, each individual will return to earth with a new body in order to complete the never-ending cycle of spiritual attainment. Release from the earth cycles will only come when one reaches the level of a "master," someone who has purified the senses, learned to see and avoid the illusions of separation, and mastered the art of living with this philosophy perpetually and perfectly held in mind. Some believe that each life brings individuals closer to this end, while others, such as found in some sects of Hinduism, believe that we can actually regress by defying the laws of karma and thus reincarnate as a lowly animal, doomed to start all over again.

But a religion devoid of a personal God and a disbelief in a universe that tends the garden by separating chaff from wheat can hardly accept a judgment day where personalities can actually be deprived of further existence. New Age doctrine therefore completely rejects the personal Father God and the idea that earth is a testing ground where immortality is either won or lost. In monism, immortality is automatic and inherent in the universe, and not something that can be procured through righteous living or lost through persistent iniquity. It must therefore also reject the fundamentalist conception of a "hell," a place where a vengeful deity sends all sinners to burn forever.

Again we find the Urantia revelation at odds with both the fundamentalists and the New Agers. The Urantia revelation flatly rejects the notion of reincarnation: "And of all the contaminating beliefs which could have become fastened upon what may have been an emerging monotheism, none was so stultifying as this belief in transmigration—the doctrine of the reincarnation of souls—which came from the Dravidian Deccan. This belief in the weary and monotonous round of repeated transmigrations robbed struggling mortals of their long-cherished hope of finding that deliverance and spiritual

advancement in death..." (UB p. 1029). The idea of perpetual reincarnations has been with humanity for untold ages and its roots are so deep that apparently even the Son of God had trouble veering people away from its devastating effects: "The Master found it difficult to make men believe that their souls had not had previous existences." (UB 1811)

The Urantia revelation rejects the New Age concept of reincarnation, but it also negates the fundamentalist concept that humans go directly to either heaven or hell immediately after death. It methodically describes an ascending evolution of the soul through a myriad of levels in the universe's endless educational program with the ultimate aim of reaching Paradise. The concept of a perpetual hell where a fictitious wrathful deity sends disobeying souls to burn forever is also rightfully assigned to primitive religions and anthropomorphic concepts of God. There is a judgment day, and individuals who have "deliberately, consistently and persistently" shown disdain for righteousness are deprived of personality survival, but there is no "eternal hell" except in the minds and imaginations of vindictive humans. It is true, however, that these olden ideas of the eternal hell were sometimes propounded by well-meaning religionists in an effort to instill the fear of God in wayward people, even when they themselves knew better.

Free Will — Since New Age philosophy teaches that all which is manifest in reality is an expression of an impersonal and divine energy force, then it naturally follows that there can be no error or sin in the ultimate sense. The only error or sin that can be accepted with this monistic outlook on life is a person's inability or unwillingness to acknowledge this so-called fact. Adherents are encouraged to view the world through a lens of non-judgment, and see even the most atrocious crimes as mere illusions or necessary events which can do naught but help humankind work out its karmic program. This philosophy has different effects on different people, and can be fatal in both physical and spiritual realities.

Keep in mind that New Age does not teach that we are a mere part of God but that we ARE God, and that all pain in human experience stems from forgetting this quintessential truth. The ideas and thoughts that come into the human mind are thus taught to be infallible and perfect in their original form which can only be sullied when thoughts of "separation" are entertained. In other words, it teaches that the trick is to constantly remember that you ARE God because this "remembering" will activate the full potential of our latent powers as divine beings even though we are currently masquerading as humans in the "theatre of life." This kind of thinking can and has led some people down a disastrous road. At best it can free people from certain ancient and primitive religious ideas which designate humankind to the rank of cursed and sinful creatures tortured in this life and the next by the wrath of angry gods. At its worst, however, it can, and sometimes has, removed all notions of morality from the minds of certain adherents. If a person truly believes that s/he IS a divine God, and that all reality is mere illusion playing out a cosmic theatre then morality may be viewed as yet another restraining illusion which keeps one from entertaining every desire and idea that creeps into the mind, from the sublime to the wicked. A dash of belief in one's supposed automatic immortality, a pinch of belief in one's supposed divinity, and fanning the flames of the inherent animal nature and lust for power within each human being can, and sometimes has, created monsters of unimaginable proportions. We will study this problem in sections to come.

For now, let it be known that although the Urantia revelation does speak of the I AM concept, and although it does describe a spiritual evolution that will eventually lead all surviving mortals toward realms of true divinity as their will becomes progressively one with the heavenly Father, it quite explicitly states that human beings will NEVER become God because only the Father is infinite, omniscient and omnipotent: "Urantia mortals can hardly hope to be perfect in the infinite sense, but it is entirely possible for human beings, starting out as they do on this planet, to attain the supernal and divine goal which the infinite God has set for mortal man; and when they do achieve this destiny, they will, in all that pertains to self-realization and mind attainment, be just as replete in their sphere of divine perfection as God himself is in his sphere of infinity and eternity. Such perfection may not be universal in the material sense, unlimited in intellectual grasp, or final in spiritual experience, but it is final and complete in all finite aspects of divinity of will, perfection of personality motivation, and Godconsciousness. (UB p. 22)

Equality of all religions – All paths lead to God, so says New Age doctrine. The belief that all religions are equal is only natural to New Age belief, given its central tenet that all the individualized fragments of the one impersonal "energy force" are inevitably heading back to the one great source from which they sprang. In this belief system, involution is but natural and automatic and all paths must therefore lead back to "God."

Of course, this is far from the tenets of monotheistic religions and for good reason. Obviously, a religion that does not recognize a God with personality and a universe with a "judgment day" is not the same as one which holds those concepts as the cornerstone of its faith. Nor is a religion that teaches "an eye for an eye" to be equated with one that teaches us to love and forgive our enemies. Some religions teach violence and are ultra-militaristic, while others promote peace and are ultra-pacific. The so-called Church of Satan is a recognized religion in the US, but that can hardly be thought of as a path that leads to God.

As usual, the truth is somewhere in the middle. Evolutionary monotheism (as opposed to revelatory monotheism) is static and intolerant due to the primitive foundation from which it began. Being crystallized by nature it cannot tolerate differences or maintain that flexibility needed to keep up with the mandates of true religion as it grows and evolves with each passing generation. The Urantia revelation is clearly against this approach: "If different religions recognize the spirit sovereignty of God the Father, then will all such religions remain at peace. Only when one religion assumes that it is in some way superior to all others, and that it possesses exclusive authority over other religions, will such a religion presume to be intolerant of other religions or dare to persecute other religious believers. (UB p.1486) While it discourages intolerance, however, it is quite adamant about the exclusivity of Jesus' advanced religion in that it harbors the most progressive method of approaching divinity: "Religion does need new leaders, spiritual men and women who will dare to depend solely on Jesus and his incomparable teachings. (UB p.2082)

Astrology — The notion that inanimate objects or whirling rocks (planets) in outer space determine human destiny has been around for a long time and had its greatest vogue during the days of Babylon. It is indeed difficult to believe that it still influences modern people who actually make decisions about

daily life based on it. Whether it's casting stones, reading Tarot cards or interpreting planetary movements, humanity has clear fascination with anything that purports to be able to divine the future. The Nazis based many of their military campaigns to the movement of stars, and many kings and Presidents in modern times are still captive to this pseudoscience always to be found among New Age circles. The Urantia revelation clearly rejects astrology: "The courses of the stars in the heavens have nothing whatever to do with the events of human life on earth. Astronomy is a proper pursuit of science, but astrology is a mass of superstitious error which has no place in the gospel of the kingdom." (UB p. 1680)

Oracles, magic, numerology, necromancy, divination – The Urantia revelation also rejects these so-called New Age practices and relegates them to primitive superstitions that have no place in modern society. It is written that "Divination, sorcery, and witchcraft are superstitions of ignorant minds, as also are the delusions of magic. The belief in magic numbers, omens of good luck, and harbingers of bad luck, is pure and unfounded superstition." (UB p. 1681) Regarding contact with the dead we are told: "Those who go to the mansion worlds are not permitted to send messages back to their loved ones. It is the policy throughout the universes to forbid such communication during the period of a current dispensation." (UB p. 1230) On foretelling the future and arbitrary channeling (except for authentic visions by bona fide prophets) through oracles and signs we hear: "The intention and will of the spirits were studied by means of omens, oracles, and signs. And these spirit messages were interpreted by divination, soothsaying, magic, ordeals, and astrology. The whole cult was a scheme designed to placate, satisfy, and buy off the spirits through this disguised bribery." (UB p. 963) It cannot be contested that in all the nearly 2,100 pages of the Urantia Book, there is not a single mention of a human being that has, in all history, contacted the celestials arbitrarily and at will.

We have now studied the most fundamental facets of the New Age philosophy, and have contrasted these beliefs against the revelatory monotheism contained in the Urantia revelation. Clearly, the Urantia Papers are anything but New Age, even though the Urantia Book currently sits in the New Age section of most book stores. The reason for this unfortunate and confusing situation is that the Urantia revelation is in a league of its own, providing a philosophy and a revealed religion that is totally unlike anything this world has ever seen outside of Jesus' original teachings. In other words, it sits in the New Age section of book stores simply because there is no section for "revelatory monotheism" to be found. The complexity of the subject matter has further confused the masses as is witnessed by ignorant condemnations by Christians who clearly do not understand the profoundly monotheistic nature of the Urantia revelation, Urantia Book readers who do not distinguish the fundamental differences with New Age doctrines, and New Agers who think that the Urantia Revelation is one of their own.

Lucifer and his New Age Rebellion

Life is full of surprises. The following treatise is going to be surprising not only for many Christians, but even more for many Urantia revelation believers. In fact this entire paper represents a series of unnerving discoveries that were impressed upon the mind of the author over a period of several years. The nature of these findings is such that many of its most important points are likely to be rejected by

the reader's mind at first, and it should be noted that much of it will take some time to digest. And this is because many of these truths run so contrary to what people have been taught to believe.

According to the Urantia revelation, Lucifer was the name of a trusted and brilliant but comparatively low-ranking celestial authority. He enjoyed a fairly autonomous executive role and was entrusted with the affairs of our planet among many others. Satan was the name of his chief assistant. They directed our planetary affairs and nurtured our slow evolutionary process from a distant world which was the capital of our local area of the universe. From this local capital world Lucifer governed under the direction of the Most Highs and many other higher ranking Paradise sons for hundreds of thousands years before initiating a rebellion against God's government, causing a pandemonium that continues to this day, at least in our world. The rebellion occurred approximately two hundred thousand years ago. This is one of the most fascinating parts of the Urantia revelation but our focus shall remain solely on the content of his "Declaration of Liberty" or the "Lucifer Manifesto," which consisted of a series of charges he brought against God's government.

It should be noted that the common perception of the devil and his followers has, throughout the centuries, become a mere caricature that has no basis in reality. Many people envision horned beasts or ugly demons speaking devilish things and harboring nothing but hate for human beings. This is simply not the reality we face. As we will see throughout the course of this paper, the fallen beings were, and still are, brilliant beings that on the surface seem quite benevolent and their utterances seem quite spiritually enlightened to the unlearned. The path to hell was literally paved with good intentions.

At the time of the beginning of the rebellion, a planetary ruler by the name of Caligastia was in charge of our world, Urantia. He is now called the "devil," after he followed Lucifer and Satan into open rebellion against God and thrust our world into utter confusion and pain. According to the Urantia Papers, Lucifer openly challenged the authority of God's government as it hailed from Paradise and deified himself as the sole authority for our local universe sector, assigning Caligastia and other planetary ruler who followed him into rebellion (38 in all) as the "god" of their individual worlds. The cause of the rebels was listed under three heads (the following is taken from Urantia Book, page 603 onward):

First Charge

"The reality of the Universal Father. Lucifer charged that the Universal Father did not really exist, that physical gravity and space-energy were inherent in the universe, and that the Father was a myth invented by the Paradise Sons to enable them to maintain the rule of the universes in the Father's name. He denied that personality was a gift of the Universal Father... He traded on reverence as ignorance. The charge was sweeping, terrible, and blasphemous."

Lucifer's first accusation was the most important. Essentially, he became an atheist and denied the existence of a Father God. However, it's important to distinguish this type of secularism from what may be termed materialism. In other words, Lucifer did not deny the wonder of the cosmos, he just denied that there was a personal creator or original designer. He intimated that "space-energy" was inherent in the universe, and that reverence was ignorance. So far, this sounds remarkably like a New Age doctrine in its core foundation: the rejection of a personal Father God, followed by the assignment of all cosmic

phenomenon to an impersonal energy manifestation permeating the universe. He also traded on reverence as ignorance because in his mind, he already was God. Remember that in monism there is no need to revere a creator or any "higher" being since all is one, and all is God. So reverence can only be seen as a mistake, or an inability or unwillingness to see one's own divinity.

Second Charge:

"The universe government of the Creator Son–Michael. Lucifer contended that the local systems should be autonomous. He protested against the right of Michael, the Creator Son, to assume sovereignty of Nebadon in the name of a hypothetical Paradise Father and require all personalities to acknowledge allegiance to this unseen Father. He asserted that the whole plan of worship was a clever scheme to aggrandize the Paradise Sons. He was willing to acknowledge Michael as his Creator-father but not as his God and rightful ruler. Most bitterly did he attack the right of the Ancients of Days—"foreign potentates"—to interfere in the affairs of the local systems and universes. These rulers he denounced as tyrants and usurpers. He exhorted his followers to believe that none of these rulers could do aught to interfere with the operation of complete home rule if men and angels only had the courage to assert themselves and boldly claim their rights. He contended that the executioners of the Ancients of Days could be debarred from functioning in the local systems if the native beings would only assert their independence. He maintained that immortality was inherent in the system personalities, that resurrection was natural and automatic, and that all beings would live eternally except for the arbitrary and unjust acts of the executioners of the Ancients of Days."

With the elaboration of Lucifer's second charge, the Urantia revelation gives us a better glimpse into the mind of this arch rebel, and the philosophy behind it. If there is no Father God, as he asserted, and he was just as divine as the Paradise Sons, then it would follow that he and his followers should be able to rule their lives in their own name and none other. He therefore wanted absolute authority to do as he wished based on his own supposedly divine will. Reverence and worship he assigned to weak minds that did not understand their own perfect and divine nature. Keep in mind that in New Age thought there is no room for judgment and certainly no room for judgment day. Lucifer knew full well about the reality of this periodic event, but did not agree with it. He therefore denounced the Ancient of Days as "tyrants and usurpers" who deprived mortals of personality status during judgment day. He asserted that "resurrection was natural and automatic" and "all being would live eternally" if only God's government would cease to deprive them of life. As reviewed earlier, New Agers believe that immortality is automatic and that there is no such thing as evil or sin, so it would follow that the wicked are not wicked at all but merely actors upon reality's "theatre." This is all classic New Age philosophy.

Third Charge:

The attack upon the universal plan of ascendant mortal training. Lucifer maintained that far too much time and energy were expended upon the scheme of so thoroughly training ascending mortals in the principles of universe administration, principles which he alleged were unethical and unsound... He advocated that ascenders should enjoy the liberty of individual self-determination. He challenged and

condemned the entire plan of mortal ascension as sponsored by the Paradise Sons of God and supported by the Infinite Spirit.

Just as students of the New Age movement are taught to trust their first and most elemental instincts and thoughts, so too did Lucifer demand self-determination for himself and his followers. If one believes that s/he is perfect and divine already, then the age-long process of taming the animal nature, the difficult road of self discipline, and the sometimes limiting reality of fraternal cosmic relationships becomes irrelevant and even "unethical." And all of this madness was initiated under the title of "declaration of liberty."

Once the rebellion broke out the core philosophy behind the movement began to take its toll and show its ugly face. The following quotes are extracted from the Urantia revelation, pages 604 to 609:

"Satan proclaimed that worship could be accorded the universal forces—physical, intellectual, and spiritual—but that allegiance could be acknowledged only to the actual and present ruler, Lucifer, the "friend of men and angels" and the "God of liberty." Self-assertion was the battle cry of the Lucifer rebellion."

There is good reason why so many angels and so many mortals fell at the time of the rebellion, and why so many unsuspecting souls continue to be swayed by this heinous ideology. With a subtle twist of fundamental and universal truths Lucifer and his followers created a false philosophy that on the surface sounded quite benevolent and spiritual in nature but in reality gave them total power to manipulate and enslave their followers. Freedom of religion and worship was allowed since all religions supposedly are equal to one another anyway but allegiance was reserved only for Lucifer, the so-called "God of liberty." One can imagine the confusion as this ranking official told the angels that they were free to do what they wanted and to not worry about God or his government, so long as they remained loyal to his own personal authority. Although the nature of this philosophy is clearly monistic, keep in mind that this is the inevitable result of that philosophy once taken to its extreme and logical end. The overwhelming majority of New Agers would never entertain committing the heinous acts and orgy of death and destruction that these fallen creatures dared to enact once they gave themselves the right to declare total "self assertion."

"He was bold and persistent in the advocacy of the "equality of mind" and "the brotherhood of intelligence." He maintained that all government should be limited to the local planets and their voluntary confederation into the local systems. All other supervision he disallowed. He promised the Planetary Princes that they should rule the worlds as supreme executives... He contended that "majorities rule," that "mind is infallible." The freedom allowed him by the universe rulers apparently sustained many of his nefarious contentions. He defied all his superiors; yet they apparently took no note of his doings. He was given a free hand to prosecute his seductive plan without let or hindrance."

We find yet more New Age thought here. Since God is all and all is God, then it is a given that different potentials in mind and personality are mere "illusions," which explains the "equality of mind" pronouncement. This belief in the inherent equality of all beings in all the worlds would then naturally

lead to the assertion that "majorities rule," (democracy) since all thought emanate from one central divine source and therefore the "mind is infallible."

The entire plan of encouraging the reproduction of the highest and most accomplished types of humans beings, while limiting the reproduction of the least able types, was labeled as "racist." In fact the entire universe is filled with beings of diverse capabilities and potentials and we are hardly born equal, this being a deliberate design meant to foster the altruistic urges of all beings.

So important is it to understand the difference between true and false liberty, and so large a role has this confusing distinction played in the rebellion that has torn our world apart, that the authors of the Urantia revelation have a section dedicated solely to pointing out the differences:

"Of all the perplexing problems growing out of the Lucifer rebellion, none has occasioned more difficulty than the failure of immature evolutionary mortals to distinguish between true and false liberty...True liberty is the quest of the ages and the reward of evolutionary progress. False liberty is the subtle deception of the error of time and the evil of space... Unbridled self-will and unregulated self-expression equal unmitigated selfishness, the acme of ungodliness. Liberty without the associated and ever-increasing conquest of self is a figment of egoistic mortal imagination. Self-motivated liberty is a conceptual illusion, a cruel deception. License masquerading in the garments of liberty is the forerunner of abject bondage. True liberty is the associate of genuine self-respect; false liberty is the consort of self-admiration. True liberty is the fruit of self-control; false liberty, the assumption of self-assertion. Self-control leads to altruistic service; self-admiration tends towards the exploitation of others for the selfish aggrandizement of such a mistaken individual as is willing to sacrifice righteous attainment for the sake of possessing unjust power over his fellow beings." (UB pp. 613-614)

Our study of core New Age or monistic/pantheistic philosophies revealed their fundamental and underlying principles. This included the assertion that a Father God does not exist, that God does not have a personality and is merely an impersonal energy manifestation pervading all universe, that we are all divine and need no guidance or teaching other than the realization of that fact, that sin and iniquity are mere illusions, that immortality and reincarnation is natural and automatic, that we are all equal with each other and with God himself and need to worship no higher authority than ourselves, that self-assertion and free will are the acme of perfection, and that all monotheistic religions are in error and must be brought back to the true way for the world to become whole. Our study of the Lucifer Manifesto showed that its core principles were exactly the same, and that war was declared on God's government because it did not adhere to this philosophy. Lucifer thus put himself up on the throne of God and encouraged his subordinates to do the same, and create a government on the fallen worlds that reflected these ideas and ideals.

The fundamental facets of this rebel government are, therefore, comprised of the following points:

There is no personal God, no "Creator," and therefore no laws other than free will.

The entire universe is but a series of random and inherent energy manifestations.

All beings are born "equal," and all forms of "racism," sexism or "separativeness" are illegal.

All individuals should have the "freedom and liberty" to pursue happiness as they see fit without State guidance or limitations on "unsocialized ambition."

Majorities rule.

All religions have equal status before the State.

Freedom of worship is allowed, but allegiance can only be to the state and its rulers.

The State must not be guided by God's laws or his kingdom.

Education is secular.

Compulsory spiritual education is illegal.

Self-assertion is encouraged rather than self-control.

If these concepts seem familiar it is for good reason. These are the fundamental principles of "secular democracy," which is currently being nurtured in the world and applauded as the acme of social attainment and governmental oversight. Yes, it is difficult to imagine for most people who have been taught that they are living in a utopian system ruled by wise men. These concepts are being taught to children in schools, scholars in universities, and the masses through television, who then go to instill these very same "progressive" ideas throughout the world by force. God's government is actually governed by enlightened rulers who are appointed to their positions and answer to a supreme authority, in what may be called an enlightened theocracy. This sort of theocracy is quite different from the types we see in our world, obviously, and it stands only because of the conscious and willing loyalty of its members, never by force.

The potential harm of pantheistic/New Age thought

Since all is God and God is all, then reality is but an illusion or a game played by "God", and therefore THERE IS NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GOOD AND EVIL. Good and Evil are supposedly just illusionary manifestations of the one force which is the pantheistic, impersonal "God." This philosophy is perfectly in line with the notion of an impersonal God which does not differentiate between good and evil and therefore can never "judge" or have a "judgement day." This is why Lucifer rebelled against the government of Michael, and railed against the Ancient of Days for causing the cessation of existence for those who had used their free will to destroy and kill their fellows. The evil caused by these individuals, which caused the Ancient of Days to nullify their existence, would be seen as just a part of the "theatre" of existence in Lucifer's pantheistic perspective on reality, you see. These evil-doers were just manifestations of "God" he claimed, and should be left alone. Pantheism, then, negates morality for those who wish to negate morality — it gives them the loophole they need.

The next problem with monistic pantheism or New Age comes from the way of its attitude towards life. Since all life is an illusion or a theatre, and everything is already a manifestation of "God," then what is

there to change? Why would anyone go out of their way to change the state of the world? THE WORLD IS JUST FINE THE WAY IT IS, or at least it would be if everyone believed this pantheistic philosophy. The problem this philosophy causes is fatalism. It robs individuals of those passions and motivations that would cause them to desire to change the world for the better. It trades progress for complacency, evolution for stagnation, and KILLS the God-given and innate desire to reach for the pinnacle of perfection. This philosophy would naturally cause Lucifer to reject the whole structure of universe progression since in his mind, everyone already is "God" and there's no reason for them to go through all that education.

Another serious issue that comes out of New Age thought is the problem of free will. If everything and everyone is a manifestation of God, and everything that happens is the will of "God," then we are no more than automatons and THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS FREE WILL. Perhaps the greatest problem stemming from monistic pantheism is this notion, otherwise known as omnificence. If everything is the actual doing of "God," then what's there to worry about, what's there to improve, and what's there to reject? All religions are "equal" and "the same," then, even if their philosophies are totally different.

Of course, if you believe that you yourself are in essence the pinnacle of divinity (a natural outcome of pantheistic thought), then there is no need to pray to anything or anyone, since no one can be higher than you yourself. This philosophy then DISCONNECTS THE BELIEVER WITH HIS/HER MAKER and robs them of the power that comes from prayer and worship of a higher being.

In short, New Age is a distortion of reality. The belief that life is but an illusion and a "theatre" actually leads the adherent to a reality that is illusionary and a life that is no more than an act in a meaningless play.

Most people who study New Age don't even know the core philosophy and are harmless. The problem is with another sort of human being, one who does go to the core of the philosophy and exploits the loopholes therein to negate morality, reject responsibility, and persecute anyone that would tell him there is a difference between right and wrong.

In other words, the New Age thought itself is merely a "gateway drug" to the more sinister world of the occult, which also revolves around monistic pantheism.