

A Pyramid of Lies

How the Wolf Pack is Attacking and Destroying True Biblical Christianity

by Jeremy James



Heresy, error and false teaching are rampant in the church today, and yet very few Christians are taking the time to familiarize themselves with this ever-worsening trend. Much of what is published today as ‘Christian’ literature, or presented as ‘Christian’ television, is heavily tainted with false doctrine and worldly values.

This paper identifies the main heresies and false teachings in the modern church and the extent to which they have permeated Christian theology. However, we will not be exploring the entire spectrum of ways in which the plain teaching of God’s Holy Word is being stretched in every direction to support pagan, occult and materialistic doctrines. Lies can be multiplied indefinitely, to the point where no sane person could catalogue them all.

There is only one sure defense against error, heresy and false teaching and that is the Word of God. We must read and study it every day, and become so familiar with it that, when a false teaching crosses our path, it jars with our understanding of truth. When this happens we have either enough scriptural knowledge to refute it or enough discernment to know that we must explore the matter further and identify where exactly it conflicts with God’s Holy Word.

The Pyramid

Satan has created a pyramid of lies around which he is constructing his modern counterfeit church – see chart overleaf. These lies or heresies, eleven in all, are the infrastructure on which an outer facade of half truths, promises and enticing doctrines are being attached by a clever team of false prophets, charlatans and grievous wolves.

This paper is designed to provide believers with a set of tools that they can use to test what they are being taught, whether in their local church, their wider denomination, or through the ‘Christian’ media. As believers we are commanded to “Prove all things [and to] hold fast that which is good” (1 Thessalonians 5:21).

Even if you do not agree with all aspects of our analysis, it should nevertheless furnish you with more than enough evidence that a planned deception is under way within the church, that this deception has been very carefully designed, and that its primary goal is the creation of a One World model of Christianity that has no power to save anyone.

Recognizing a False Teaching

Perhaps the greatest barrier to recognizing a false teaching is believing that it could never take root in our local church, and that the sincere and well-meaning believers who frequent it would never knowingly spread a false teaching. But that’s the problem! Most people don’t knowingly spread a false teaching.

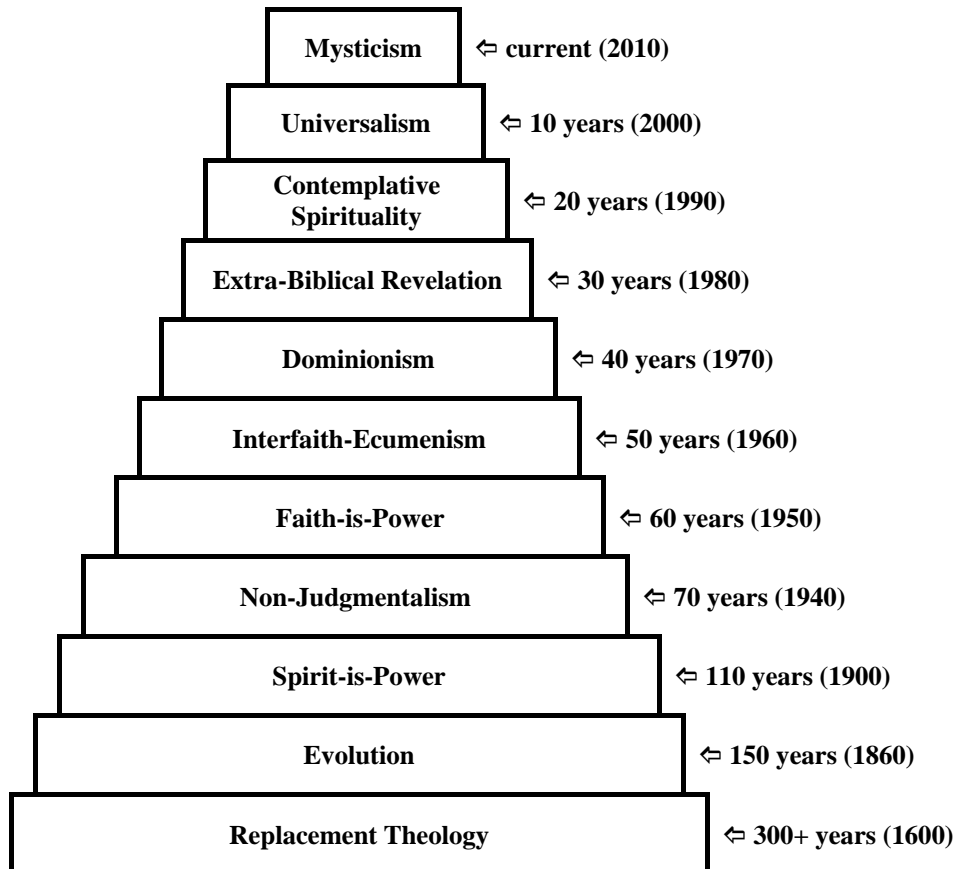
We must distinguish between the person who originates a false teaching – the wolf or deceiver – and the person who spreads it to others without checking to see whether it has any scriptural validity. The wolves already know that what they are teaching is contrary to Scripture, but their undiscerning listeners do not.

A lie that we hear from our friends – the people we trust – is probably the most dangerous lie of all. This is why it is vital to be familiar with the anatomy of the lies discussed in this paper and to know how to detect and refute them, even when they are spread unknowingly by people we trust and respect.

1. The Heresy of Replacement Theology

Our first candidate is Replacement Theology, which teaches that the church has replaced Israel in all of God’s promises. It states that, since the Jews rejected their Messiah at his First Coming, God has no further plans for the children of Israel. Thus all passages in the Bible relating to Israel, having a current or future application, are deemed to pertain to the church only.

The Pyramid of Lies



While somewhat idealized, this pyramid illustrates how major heresies and false teachings have infiltrated Bible-believing churches over the past century or more.

A short definition of each heresy may be found in **Appendix A**.

This pernicious heresy has done immense harm to the church and to society in general. It is without doubt the foundation on which anti-semitism has been built and millions of lives destroyed. The Roman Catholic Church has been an avid champion of this lie from the earliest times. For example, she used it to justify the awful carnage of the Crusades and to foment the visceral anti-semitism across Europe that led to the Holocaust. And she continues to use it to this day to wrest Jerusalem from the Jewish people.

This five-word lie – “the church has replaced Israel” – is probably the most dangerous heresy of all because, in addition to consigning about a quarter of the Bible to allegorical obscurity, it plays a major role in facilitating many other heresies.



By rejecting Biblical prophecy about the End Time, Replacement Theology undermines the literal Biblical teaching that Christ will return bodily to earth to establish the Kingdom and reign in person from Jerusalem as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. It also rejects, whether directly or by implication, many other truths about the End Time, such as the *harpazo* (rapture) of the church and the prophesied adoption by professing Christians worldwide of a false, interfaith-ecumenical gospel controlled by Rome.

The Book of Revelation makes absolutely no sense if the church has replaced Israel in God’s promises. Neither does the Book of Zechariah. In fact, over a dozen books of the Bible have extensive prophetic utterances relating to the End Time. Since virtually all of these concern the land of Israel, the city of Jerusalem, or the Jewish people – and frequently all three – there is no conceivable way they can be applied to the church. They are far too specific and too tightly interconnected to have application to any group other than the Chosen People.

The deception underlying Replacement Theology is extremely powerful, largely because it is supernaturally driven. Christ stated in Matthew 23:39 that “Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.” Satan is determined to ensure that the Jewish people, as a nation, never proclaim those earthshaking words – “Baruch haba b’shem Adonai.” He is therefore bent upon destroying them completely. And to do this he must turn the rest of the world against them. This corrupt doctrine forms a key part of his plan since it obliterates the entire foundation on which their hope is based, namely the prophetic promises of a Covenant God who always keeps His word.

Replacement theology has an irrational grip on those who espouse it. For example, both Luther and Calvin continued to teach it even after they had cast aside many of the perverted doctrines taught by Rome. Despite the subsequent fulfilment of major Biblical prophecy – the re-establishment of the Jewish homeland in 1948 and the recapture of Jerusalem in 1967 – the vast majority of professing Christians today still hold to the gravely mistaken view that Israel has lost her distinctive role in God's prophetic plan.

God has not abandoned His chosen people! And neither has He abandoned His chosen city. Again and again the Bible asserts that God has chosen Jerusalem from among all the cities on earth as the capital of His earthly kingdom. All of His promises focus one way or another on that city and on its distinctive glory as the place where His Son will reign eternally. Do you think for a moment that Satan will be able to wrest this city from the Sovereign Lord of all Creation? Do you seriously believe there is a single thing he can do to thwart the stated intentions of the Living God? Those who hold to Replacement Theology place more trust in Satan and his outrageous claims than they do in the plain Word of God.

Consider if you will the intimate terms in which the LORD has referred to Jerusalem, the city He has chosen forever for His only begotten Son:

The City of the LORD of Hosts	Psalm 48:8
Crown of Glory	Isaiah 62:3
Royal Diadem	Isaiah 62:3
The Gate of My People	Micah 1:9
Great among the Nations	Lamentations 1:1
Princess among the Provinces	Lamentations 1:1
My Holy Mountain	Ezekiel 20:40
The Holy Place of the Tabernacles of the Most High	Psalm 46:4
Holy unto the LORD	Jeremiah 31:40
The House of the God of Jacob	Isaiah 2:3
The House of the LORD	Psalm 27:4
The Zion of the Holy One of Israel	Isaiah 60:14

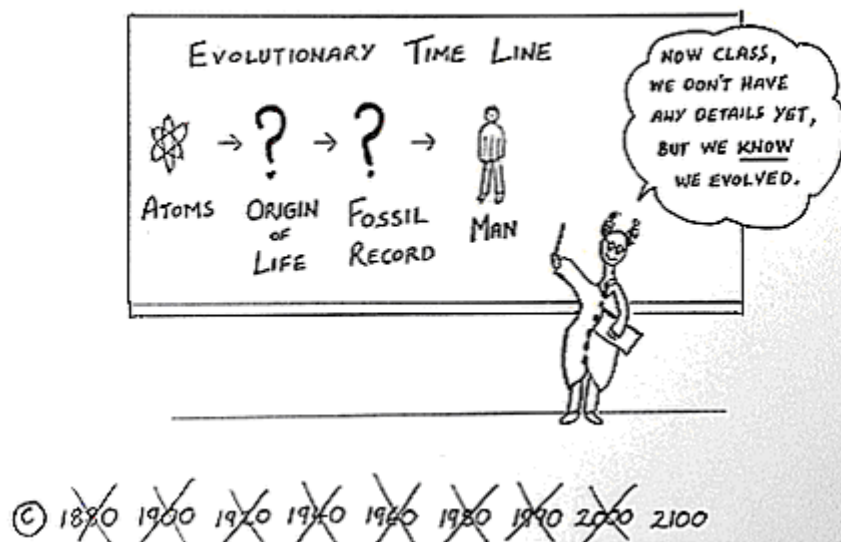
A more complete listing may be found in **Appendix B**.

These heartfelt titles and descriptions – over four dozen in total – express with formidable force the irrevocable nature of the promise that the LORD made to His holy city, “the Zion of the Holy One of Israel.”

The Book of Jeremiah actually applies the same name to Christ in verse 23:6 as it applies to Jerusalem in verse 33:16 – “The LORD Our Righteousness.” An identification of this kind, between the coming Messiah and his Holy City, is a glorious and unequivocal proclamation of God’s immutable purpose.

2. The Heresy of Evolution

While most Christians reject the pseudo-scientific nonsense known as Darwinian Evolution, a great many subscribe to an equally nonsensical version known as Intelligent Design (ID). They are drawn to this heresy because it relieves them of the need to reconcile the Book of Genesis with the cult of Darwinism. Instead of facing Darwinism head on and exposing its lies for what they are, they manufacture a pseudo-scientific fable of their own. According to the ID model, God has elected to exercise His sovereign power as Creator only in accordance with the system of blundering steps taught by the Darwinians. In doing this they reject the plain testimony of Genesis and turn it into an allegory that cannot be made to conform, even in outline, with the ID model. In short, Intelligent Design is a confused combination of unscriptural theology and medieval alchemy.



If a Christian cannot believe the account of Creation given in the Word of God, then his commitment of many other elements of Biblical truth is likely to be equally timid or tinged with unbelief. Rather than accepting what the LORD has plainly stated, he prefers instead to allegorize events that sceptics and materialists find offensive. These include such important elements in the Biblical narrative as the multiplication of languages at the Tower of Babel, the parting of the Red Sea, the provision of manna over an unbroken period of forty years, the deliverance of Jonah, the worldwide Flood, the ascension of Elijah, and the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.

While science has made many edifying discoveries about the world around us, it has been dominated from the start by men who despise the God of Genesis and are satisfied only with 'explanations' that studiously exclude Him. Even before the advent of science as we know it, men have always preferred explanations based on magic and a multiplicity of gods rather than acknowledge a sovereign, omnipotent Creator.

According to the Darwinians, a new species evolves only through a long series of purely random processes, even though common sense – and science itself – tells us that random events always result in decay and loss of information. In reality, the evolutionists have accorded to 'random processes' exactly the same mysterious power of transmutation that the medieval alchemists ascribed to magic.

Here's a simple thought experiment to illustrate what we mean. Break an egg, whisk it, and pour it into a jar. Then seal the jar for a hundred million years. Will the egg turn into a chicken during that time? The Darwinians insist that it could since all of the ingredients needed to assemble a chicken are already present. All that is required is sufficient time for the necessary random processes to take effect. Alas, this is the kind of lunacy that passes for 'science' among evolutionists.

The so-called Big Bang theory of how the universe came into existence is yet another pseudo-scientific explanation of Creation, where incredibly complex phenomena are explained by a sophisticated combination of statistical magic and speculative physics. The mathematical models on which their conclusions are based have as much in common with the real world as a child's television cartoon. Reams of devastating counter-evidence are simply ignored. For example, if the Big Bang theory is correct, then the universe should comprise equal amounts of matter and anti-matter, when plainly this is not the case.

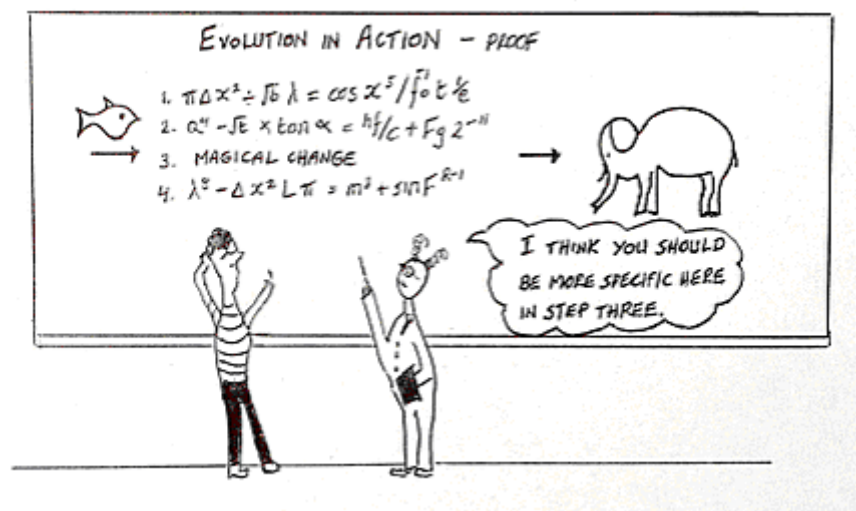
Evolution cannot work on any scale, cosmic or microscopic, without thousands if not millions of magical moments wherein, in violation of all known scientific laws, everything fortuitously happens to work out just as it should.

Any theory, no matter how absurd it may be, will acquire a measure of scientific credibility if enough assumptions are made in its favor. Today the most rudimentary standards of scientific rigor are being set aside to accommodate theories that refute the account given in Genesis. If the same standards of scientific integrity were applied to evolutionary biology as apply, for example, in the field of electronic engineering, its leading proponents would face long prison sentences for fraud.

Where is the extensive fossil record that is meant to substantiate the work of evolution? It doesn't exist. Where are the countless transitional species that ought to proliferate if evolution is occurring? There are none. Where are the mechanisms that ensure that only beneficial genetic mutations are transmitted to later generations? They don't exist either. Few commentators are prepared to face the plain reality that evolution is a scientific fraud and many of its leading proponents are barefaced liars.

Satan pushes an evolutionary worldview, not simply because it mocks the God of Creation, but because a person trapped in an evolutionary mindset can be made to believe almost anything, no matter how foolish or illogical.

Consider its implications for Biblical scholarship. If men can be made to believe that the Bible was first conceived and then written in a particular time and place – and thus a product of cultural evolution – then the 'truth' that it purports to contain must be relative. This is akin to saying that truth itself is evolving. And this is exactly what Satan wants, a fluid, non-doctrinal form of Christianity where Biblical truth can be reinterpreted, redefined, and even amended to fit the 'needs' of modern man.



Some of the leading branches of apostate Christianity – such as the Emerging Church, the New Apostolic Reformation, and the Purpose-Driven Church – are already doing this. They teach a brand of Christianity that is continually evolving and whose ultimate shape will be determined by the revelations, insights and convictions of their leaders. Indeed, their stated aim is to completely redefine Christianity and bring about a Reformation akin to that of Luther and his contemporaries. The big difference, of course, is that Luther sought to lead men back to the Bible and away from Rome, while the modern reformers want to lead men away from the Bible and back to Rome.

3. The Spirit-is-Power Heresy

This heresy states that every believer should be able to manifest the same signs and wonders that the Apostles performed after Pentecost.

All true believers know that the Living God can perform miraculous signs and wonders in our world today, but that He does so only in accordance with His sovereign will and not in accordance with the will of man. He is not a respecter of persons. So when anyone presumes to instruct God as to how and when He should perform them, to even the smallest degree, he has crossed a line. In a single step, he has moved from a state of humility and obedience to one of pride and rebellion.

The Spirit-is-Power heresy has been designed by Satan to lure as many Christians as possible across that line, to get them to contest to some degree, however small, the sovereignty of God.

In its most popular form, this movement teaches that true believers receive a special anointing by the Holy Spirit sometime after they are saved – perhaps months or years later – and that this anointing imparts certain charismatic gifts, including the gift of tongues, the gift of healing or the gift of prophecy. It is based on the false assumption that all believers, when endowed with the Holy Spirit, acquire a ‘power’ similar to that of the Apostles chosen by Christ. And just as the Apostles could seemingly exercise these gifts at will, so too should each of these ‘advanced’ believers with their ‘second anointing’.

Several times we are told in the Word of God that “the just shall live by faith” – Habakkuk 2:4, Romans 1:17, Galatians 3:11 and Hebrews 10:38 – but a great many followers of the Pentecostal Church and the Charismatic Movement reject this. They argue – falsely – that if a person has real faith, he will be filled with the Spirit and will manifest miraculous signs and wonders. And yet the Bible does not say this! John the Baptist, who was filled with the Holy Spirit from the womb (Luke 1:15), performed no miracles whatever in his lifetime (John 10:41). Not one.

Leaders of the modern signs-and-wonders movement would have rebuked him for his deplorable lack of faith!

There is so much doctrinal confusion within this movement, so much self-deception, emotional extravagance and downright fraud, that it is often difficult to reason with someone who follows it. After all, he has chosen to rely mainly on experiences rather than Scripture to confirm and validate his relationship with Christ. If he loses those experiences then his ‘faith’ simply drains away and he has nowhere to stand. So he must continually chase after new experiences and seek out the companionship and reassuring testimony of other, equally restless, individuals who share his hunger for signs and wonders.

In their perpetual quest for evidence of the miraculous, they ignore the terrible warning that Christ gave regarding all such individuals: “A wicked and adulterous generation seeks after a sign...” (Matthew 16:4). Note that he did not describe them as mistaken or misguided or badly informed. No, he went much further and described them as wicked and adulterous. Note also that the wickedness stems, not from the signs themselves, but from seeking after them.

The word ‘adulterous’ in this context means idolatrous. And idolatry is extremely offensive to God. So when foolish men presume to have the ability to ‘call’ upon the ‘spirit’ and direct it to carry out their bidding, they are no different from shamans, yogis and New Age gurus.

The Spirit-is-Power heresy treats the Holy Spirit as an energy or a force, just as the Gnostics did. By using the right techniques, the subject believes he can appropriate this force and use it for a spiritual purpose. However, the Bible teaches nothing of the kind. It tells us, rather, that the Holy Spirit is a Person and that He carries out the will of the Father – and His alone. The spirit that extreme sign-seekers contact in their trance-like states is another spirit entirely, an unclean, deceiving spirit that is able to produce convincing counterfeits of miraculous phenomena.

The Signs-and-Wonders movement deliberately ignores the plain statement in Hebrews that, in addition to the exercise of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, **all** of the signs, wonders and miracles performed by the Apostles and those who heard Christ personally were subject entirely to the will of God and were intended only to confirm and bear witness to the truthfulness of the gospel of salvation which they preached:

“How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him; God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?”
(Hebrews 2:3-4)

Believers who are afflicted with a craving for signs and wonders are generally intensely resistant to the idea that they might be deceived. They assume that, as Christians, the only spirit they can possibly contact is the Holy Spirit. But they are wrong. The Word of God warns that we must test the spirit to see if it is from God (“Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.” – 1 John 4:1). This clearly implies that we can be deceived if we are not careful. Alas, many believers interpret the “results” or manifestations as proof that what they are doing is scriptural. They forget that Satan and his vast hoard of fallen angels can convincingly duplicate many of these signs. Tongue-speaking is an incredibly easy sign for a demonic agency to duplicate – which is why it frequently occurs in many branches of witchcraft and paganism, including Voodoo, Santeria, Hinduism and various Animistic religions.

The gifts of the Spirit still exist today, but they are just that, **gifts** – not entitlements. We can't demand them. There is no technique that we can use to induce them. Our heavenly Father gives us what we need and not what we want. The great tragedy of the Spirit-is-Power movement is that it has turned many believers into modern versions of Simon Magus (or Simon the Sorcerer), who thought there was something he could do to acquire supernatural power (Acts 8). He offered silver to the Apostles for this purpose and was severely rebuked by Peter. The modern Simon Magus may not offer silver but his goal is the same, and he will often engage in protracted rituals to obtain by 'devotion', repetitive prayer and emotional intensity what Simon tried to obtain with money.



The 'second' anointing – as taught by the Spirit-is-Power movement – is a deception. It denies the wonderful truth that **all** who come to Christ are blessed with the indwelling of the Holy Spirit **the moment** they are saved. All believers are priests and all are accountable to the same High Priest, our wonderful savior Christ Jesus.

Consider Ephesians 3:1: “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with **all** spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.”

So, how many spiritual blessings have been withheld from born-again believers? The Word of God makes it perfectly clear. The answer is none, absolutely none.

Oswald Chambers put his finger on the carnality of sign-seeking by born-again believers when he said:

“God made man to have dominion over the life of the sea and air and earth, but God was to have dominion over man. Adam sinned by taking his claim to his right to himself [*i.e. Adam sinfully claimed dominion over himself*]. This claim to my right to myself works in those who are born again, and it is called “the carnal mind.” It expresses itself like this – “I want the baptism of the Holy Ghost; I want to be sanctified; I want to be filled with the Spirit; I want to be used of God.” All that springs from the wrong source, it is not drawing its life from the right place. When we receive and recognise and rely on the Holy Spirit, all that stops for ever.”

– Oswald Chambers, *If Thou Wilt Be Perfect...* (re 1 John 5:8-12)

The twelve Apostles, along with Paul, received exceptional gifts as evidence of their Apostleship, of the unique authority and ministry bestowed on them by Christ. “Truly the signs of an apostle were wrought among you in all patience, in signs, and wonders, and mighty deeds.” (2 Corinthians 12:12) These “signs of an apostle” must have been unique to the Apostles (and seemingly to a small number of disciples whom they anointed) since they would otherwise have been a source of confusion – and God is not the author of confusion. It would have meant that every believer who manifested these signs had received the same mandate from Christ as the Apostles, when clearly they had not.

The Twelve were the very foundation on which the church was built (“And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone” – Ephesians 2:20). And the foundation, once laid, cannot be laid again. The signs validated their ministry and enabled sincere believers to verify that the gospel which they taught was the one given by Christ himself and not one of the many counterfeit versions being taught by “grievous wolves” (Acts 20:29).

The Word of God marks the truly special stature of the Twelve when, in the Book of Revelation, it states that the foundations of the wall of the Eternal City, the New Jerusalem, will be inscribed with the names of the Twelve Apostles: “And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.” (Revelation 21:14) These twelve men will for all eternity be honoured in this special way as the foundation of the church.

We know for certain that the Twelve did not include Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles, because of two passages in the Gospels. Regarding the appearance by Christ to the Apostles on Resurrection Sunday, John 20:19-24 states: “Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you...But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came”, while Luke 24:33 states “And they rose up the same hour, and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven gathered together, and them that were with them...” Notice that Thomas was absent and yet eleven Apostles were present. This meant that the replacement for Judas, namely Matthias, must also have been present and his impending Apostleship confirmed. (See also 1 Corinthians 15:5-8.)



Twelve and only Twelve.

No other Apostles were ever appointed. Paul had a special office, Apostle to the Gentiles.

The so-called 'apostles' of the New Apostolic Reformation and similar cults are either shameless frauds or seriously deluded people.

The office of apostle (*apostolos*) as it related to other individuals in the New Testament pertained to the assignment we know today as a church-planting missionary.

Apart from the Apostles and Barnabas (Acts 15:12), only two named individuals performed miracles after Pentecost – the disciples Stephen and Philip. It would appear that each had received a special anointing for this purpose from the Apostles. Both were members of a select group of seven disciples who were mandated to distribute alms to Gentile widows. Apparently the other five had received a similar anointing since Scripture records the names of all seven individuals – Stephen, Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas – and states: “Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them.”

It is clear that the continuation of a signs-based ministry after the time of the Apostles was not part of God’s plan – “The just shall live by faith.” Historical records from the immediate post-apostolic period, when all such signs had diminished considerably, give abundant confirmation of this.

The Gnostic, spirit-is-power heresy has done real harm to the church. By giving a special status to signs that Satan can easily duplicate, it has prepared the way for modern cults like the New Apostolic Reformation and their obsessive pursuit of the very things that Scripture says will mark the arrival of the Antichrist, “whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders” (2 Thessalonians 2:9).

4. The Heresy of Non-Judgmentalism

The first heresy that we examined, Replacement Theology, has exercised a firm grip over the Bible-believing church for over 300 years. The second, Evolution, took hold in the decades following the publication of Darwin’s *Origin of the Species* in 1859, while the third, the Spirit-is-Power movement, began to spread rapidly after 1900. The interval between each heresy has been growing shorter.

The next, Non-Judgmentalism, came along just 40 years later.

It began with a broad rejection of the Biblical principle of separation. This requires, among other things, that believers make a clear distinction and thus a clear separation, in all aspects of their lives, between the ways of the world and those of God. It is well expressed in the words of James 4:4 – “...know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.”

The practice of seeing the world in this way was increasingly depicted as a barrier to evangelism. Separation was condemned as cheerless elitism and a sign of weakness. The ‘new’ Evangelicals in America argued that effective communication of the Gospel required believers to cultivate greater contact with the world and its ways. After all, if Christians are strong in their faith then they should be able to mix with the world and demonstrate the durability and strength of their spiritual values.

This unscriptural argument held sway and the principle of Biblical separation was cast aside. Once this happened, conditions were ripe for the arrival of a new and highly destructive heresy known as Non-Judgmentalism.

This false teaching has been exploited shamelessly for decades by countless cults and sects in order to silence anyone who might dare to compare and contrast their beliefs and practices with the unchanging truths of Scripture. The Emerging Church thrives on this lie, as does the Interfaith-Ecumenical Movement. Anyone who asks hard questions is accused of being judgmental or divisive, of failing to allow others the right to interpret the word of God for themselves.

This attitude is reinforced by practices which convey the impression that the Bible is to some extent culturally relative. One such practice is the Roman Catholic exercise of *lectio divina*, where believers are encouraged to sit together in silence and repeat a verse of scripture over and over in their minds in order to find out “what it means to me.” Alas, the subjective interpretation of Scripture – “what it means to me” – is utterly irrelevant. We are required through diligent and patient study of the Word of God to come to a clear understanding of what it actually means, not “what it means to me.” The Bible is a record of objective truth, not a poetic narrative whose meaning varies in accordance with the experience, circumstances and sensibility of each person.

It is a mark of the wretched state of Evangelicalism today that a pagan practice like *lectio divina* should be adopted for use by true believers. Some advocates of this insidious practice even recommend that believers pick a single word from Scripture and repeat it over and over for a considerable period, seemingly with a view to becoming more ‘centred’ and inwardly silent. This is no different from mantra chanting, a practice well-known to polytheists, shamans and yogis.

When believers adopt practices of this kind, their ability to exercise discernment and sound judgment is fatally impaired. Anyone who is prepared to sit in silence and mentally repeat the same word over and over in order to get closer to God may rightly be compared with the weed-chewing hippies of the 1960s.

Scripture commands that we expose and rebuke false teaching of any kind: “Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine.” (2 Timothy 4:2) But one cannot reprove and rebuke without judging others! The Apostle goes on to warn that “the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine” (2 Timothy 4:3). He knew that the latter stages of the Church Age would be characterized by a sharp increase in the number of nominal Christians who refused to accept the absolute authority of Scripture but chose instead to manufacture their own personal version of Christianity (“...but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.” (2 Timothy 4:3-4))

Non-judgmentalists have devised a variety of slogans to conceal the scriptural deficiency of their position. Chief among these is: ‘In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity.’

Who should decide which doctrines are essential and which are not? It is not even Biblical to make a distinction of this kind. Non-judgmentalists do not accept that everything in the Bible is essential. Edifying perhaps, but not essential. True Bible-believers, on the other hand, recognize that, while not all verses are of equal importance, they are all of some importance and cannot be divided into two groups, essential and non-essential.



**‘In essentials, vagueness;
in non-essentials, plenty;
in all things, confusion.’**

- The *real* agenda

The non-judgmentalists maintain that the only really essential doctrines are those that cannot be rejected without destroying the very basis of Christianity. These include the Trinity, the virgin birth, the deity and humanity of Christ, the sinlessness of Christ, and his atoning death, burial and bodily resurrection. Provided a person accepts these essentials, they say, he is at liberty to interpret all other doctrines and teachings in accordance with his particular outlook and experience.

But he is not!

Christ, the Living Word, directed that we believe and observe **all** that he commanded. Since the Bible is the teaching of Christ in its totality, every word in the Bible is a red letter word. We are asked to study and understand, respect and uphold, every verse without exception. We have neither the authority nor the ability to condense any part of God's Holy Word or to break it into two parts, one essential and one non-essential.

So, when our great High Priest asks us to "believe all that the prophets have spoken" (Luke 24:25), he means exactly what he says. And this means raising our voices when any part of his Holy Word is cheapened, embellished or neglected. We must exercise true judgment and speak out with grace and patience, roundly and repeatedly challenging anyone who professes to be a Christian and yet devises or promotes doctrines and teachings that conflict with Biblical truth.

5. The Faith-is-Power Heresy

The faith-is-power or word-of-faith heresy teaches that our words and thoughts can shape reality and that, by choosing the right words and thoughts, and infusing them with sufficient faith, we can build a better world for ourselves. It teaches that man is entitled to claim the benefits that come from the correct exercise of these techniques, that God wants us to be happy and prosperous, and that Christians are weak only because they fail to claim what is rightfully theirs.

Faith-is-Power draws heavily on visualization, positive thinking, and the use of verbal formulas to effect changes in the world in accordance with one's personal will. In short, it is a system of magic. Most of it grew from the writings of gnostic and pagan authors of the 19th century, notably *In Tune with the Infinite* by Ralph Waldo Trine, the Christian Science works of Mary Baker Eddy, and the New Thought metaphysicians who believed man's imagination was the source of all creativity, healing and power. These in turn were adopted and given a more convincing Christian veneer by E W Kenyon, who twisted Scripture to fit his magical worldview. Nearly all of the Word-of-Faith teachers in business today are using concepts and ideas refined by Kenyon. They have further enriched their product by incorporating motivational psychology, self-improvement, and elements of the positive-thinking ideology developed by high-ranking Freemason and pastor, Norman Vincent Peale.

In just the same way that the Spirit-is-Power movement portrays the Holy Spirit as a substance that can be moulded and directed by our human will, the Word-of-Faith movement turns faith into a substance that believers can use to shape a better life for themselves. Instead of teaching faith in the power of God, they are teaching that faith itself is a power.

Ambiguity, artifice and evasion are recurring phenomena on the Pyramid of Lies. Faith-is-Power and similar movements may use the same terminology as Bible-based believers, but many of their words, especially those associated with key elements of Christian doctrine, will have a somewhat different meaning. Faith is not Biblical faith. Grace is not Biblical grace. Sin is not Biblical sin. Sometimes the differences can be significant.

Wolves and deceivers routinely use tricks of this kind to disguise their lies. They know that most of their listeners will proceed on the basis that, if something sounds okay, then it must be okay, and even if it isn't quite right, it can't do any harm. Much grief and hardship could be avoided if Christians would simply examine the way innovative and eccentric leaders are adapting basic Biblical terms for their own purpose.



The ultimate and generally unspoken lie behind the faith-is-power philosophy is that man is a god. Consider the following outlandish assertions by Word-of-Faith kingpin, Kenneth Hagin, from his book, *Zoe: The God-Kind of Life* (1981):

He [man] was created on terms of equality with God, and he could stand in God's presence without any consciousness of inferiority...

That means God has made us as much like Himself as possible. He made us in His image. He made us in His likeness. He made us the same class of being that He is Himself...

God took something of Himself, which was spirit, the life of God, and put it into man...He lived on terms of equality with God...

...God made man a faith man, because man belongs to God's class. A faith man lives in the creative realm of God. This is the end of the weakness message!

...No wonder Smith Wigglesworth said, "I'm a thousand times bigger on the inside than I am on the outside." He was realizing that he was a human-divine being. And that the divine part was a thousand times bigger than the human part...*That's who we are; we're Christ!*

Man is not inferior to God, he brazenly asserts, but the same class of being as God Himself, exercising power in the creative realm through faith.

Notice also his arrogant claim that "This is the end of the weakness message!" This, of course, is the message of the Gospel, the message that unredeemed man is a fallen creature who rebelled against his Creator and is now dead in trespasses and sins. Hagin and his followers reject the "weakness message", the message of the Gospel. They believe they have found something better.

6. The Heresy of Interfaith-Ecumenism

Considerable pressure is being exerted on Bible-believing Christians to accept Roman Catholics as fellow Christians rather than unsaved pagans steeped in idolatry and apostasy. This is being done in a variety of ways, primarily by emphasizing what Catholics and Evangelicals allegedly have in common. For example, many contemporary Evangelical hymns have so little scriptural or doctrinal content that members of virtually any religion can join in and sing along. It is also being promoted through countless books, videos, television programs and interfaith events. Some Evangelical churches are even teaching the Rome-approved gospel of the Alpha Course. Collectively these various initiatives are designed to highlight the global resurgence of Christianity that would surely result if Catholics and Evangelicals would only set aside their differences and work together in harmony.

The claim that Catholics are Christian would have been viewed as blasphemy by old-time Evangelicals. The Roman Church persecuted, imprisoned, raped, tortured and murdered millions of Bible-believing Christians down the centuries. She teaches so many heresies that it would be impossible to deal adequately with all of them in this paper. Catholics pray to Mary, call on the dead, bow before a piece of bread, trust in the sanctifying acts of a holy man with special powers, re-enact ad nauseum the sacrifice of Christ, ritualistically eat his flesh and drink his blood, accept extra-Biblical revelation from a man who calls himself the Vicar of Christ, reject the authority and finality of Scripture, earn their salvation through good works and participation in sacramental rites, reject the once-for-all atoning work of Christ on the cross, and expect to complete their salvation after death in a place called purgatory.

The Roman Church vowed centuries ago to destroy true Biblical Christianity (which she usually describes as 'Protestantism'). To spearhead and co-ordinate this wicked campaign she created and funded a world-wide militia known as the Jesuits (Society of Jesus), whose members practise self-flagellation, involuntary celibacy, devotion to the Virgin, and a form of auto-hypnosis known as the Spiritual Exercises of Ignatius Loyola. Working in secret under a vow of strict obedience, these highly-trained individuals have sworn a blood oath to carry out whatever deception is necessary to lure the "separated brethren" into the dark heart of the Roman church.

All born-again Bible-believing Christians are **currently** under formal condemnation by Rome, being subject to over one hundred anathemas formulated at the Council of Trent in 1545-1563 and reaffirmed at the Second Vatican Council 1963-1965. Under Roman Canon Law an anathema authorizes the Pope to punish offenders in any manner he considers expedient, including imprisonment, torture and execution.



Pope John Paul II celebrates a day of prayer on October 27th 1986 in Assisi, Italy. Representatives of all the major world religions participated at his invitation in this global, we-are-all-one ecumenical event.

When the Roman Church rules without any civil impediment, as she did in Croatia in 1941-1944, she implements her anathemas with ruthless vigor. Roman Archbishop Stepinac oversaw an organized program of slaughter in Croatia during this period, when 700,000 or more Orthodox Serbs – men, women and children – were rounded up and butchered by the ruling Catholic militia. Victims were told they would be spared if they converted to Catholicism, but many of those who did were also put to death. Virtually the entire Jewish community and thousands of Muslims were also murdered. The Jasenovac extermination camp, where many of these atrocities took place, was one of the most brutal in history and has been compared with Auschwitz by Jewish survivors. It defies belief, therefore, that Pope John Paul II effectively endorsed the work of Stepinac by having him officially beatified in October, 1998.

Demons don't die. The same demonic forces that controlled the Church of Rome – during the long centuries of rape, torture and murder of the Inquisition, in her campaign of slaughter during the Thirty Years War, and during her reign of terror in Croatia – *still* control her today. So, when Evangelicals welcome the Roman Catholic Church into their bosom, they are displaying an ignorance, a naivety, and a blatant disregard for the Word of God that is truly breathtaking.

There is another tragic aspect to all of this. Over a billion souls are held in spiritual bondage by Rome and her ancient system of idolatry, and yet thousands of Evangelical churches across America and Europe are refusing to witness to them. The Roman gospel is a false gospel, a paganised perversion of God's holy Word that cannot save anyone.

The Christ of Roman Catholicism is not the Christ of the Bible but a man-made icon, a sentimental counterfeit assembled from pagan antecedents and false theology. The Roman Jesus is actually a fragile figure who needs his 'mother' to help him save humanity. Since his death on the cross was inadequate for our salvation (according to Roman theology), he must be sacrificed again and again in the 'holy sacrifice' of the mass in order to produce the grace needed to cover our sins. He is a 'god' whose flesh may be eaten by his followers or kept in a golden receptacle. Inconstant and remote, he does not always choose to hear the prayers of his followers but delegates the task to his 'mother' instead, whom Rome declares to be a mediatrix and co-redeemer with the Roman Jesus.

Contrast this with the true and living Christ! The Christ of the Bible is King of Kings and Lord of Lords! He is no longer nailed to a cross or subject to ongoing sacrifice at the hands of sinful men, but Risen and Triumphant! He did everything necessary for our salvation when he died once on the cross. He conquered death on our behalf and set us free forever from the power of Satan. He is our only Mediator with the Father, our one and only Redeemer. In him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. He is the Light of the World and the Lord of Hosts, Son of the Most High God and Savior of all who believe in him. And he is coming again in awesome power and glory to rule the entire earth in person from his holy temple in Jerusalem.

That, dear reader, is the Christ that true Christians believe in. If you think a female figure or the church or the sacraments or good works or personal suffering can add even one atom to what Christ has achieved for your salvation, then you have not found Christ. And if you have not found Christ, then you are lost.

The Bible teaches that, without Christ, all religions are in darkness and have no truth in them whatsoever. In stark contrast, the Interfaith-Ecumenical movement teaches that each of the world's major religions has *some* of God's truth and that it is incumbent on Christians everywhere to identify that truth and use it as a basis for co-operation, fellowship and shared understanding. Some even hold to the heresy of Universalism which states that all 'good' people, regardless of their religious beliefs, will be saved eventually.

The Jesuits have done extensive work over the past hundred years or more to prepare the way for the merger of all 'Christian' denominations under the umbrella of Rome. In their Extreme Oath of Induction they pledge to infiltrate the pastorate of all Evangelical and Reformation churches and subtly insinuate their paganised version of Christianity. Published in the US Congressional Record in 1913 and available on the website of the **European Institute of Protestant Studies** (director: Ian Paisley), it contains an extensive account of their modus operandi, with such disturbing statements as -

“It is just to exterminate or annihilate impious or heretical Kings, Governments, or Rulers...among the Calvinists, to be a Calvinist; among other Protestants, generally to be a Protestant; and obtaining their confidence, to seek even to preach from their pulpits...You have been taught to plant insidiously the seeds of jealousy and hatred between communities, provinces, states that were at peace, and to incite them to deeds of blood...to take sides with the combatants and to act secretly with your brother Jesuit, who might be engaged on the other side...the end justifies the means. You have been taught your duty as a spy...none can command here who has not consecrated his labours with the blood of the heretic...I [*the candidate*] am dispensed with to assume any religion heretical for the propagation of the Mother Church's interest...I do further promise and declare that I will have no opinion or will of my own or any mental reservation whatever, even as a corpse or cadaver (*perinde ac cadaver*), but will unhesitatingly obey each and every command that I may receive from my superiors in the militia of the Pope...I do further promise and declare that I will, when opportunity presents, make and wage relentless war, secretly and openly, against all heretics...as I am directed to do, to extirpate them from the face of the whole earth...and with the dagger which I now receive I will subscribe my name written in my blood in testimony thereof.”

[Note: The Jesuits deny the existence of this Oath, but it is regarded as genuine by many Bible scholars and was confirmed by Dr. Alberto Rivera, who left the Jesuit Order in 1967.]

This form of covert infiltration is far more common than people realize. For example, it was used extensively for decades in the Cold War between the Soviet Union and the Western powers. Spies and double-agents were given years of in-depth training in the art of deception and then placed in lowly administrative jobs in a target country. From there they would advance gradually into positions of influence or strategic importance. We should hardly be surprised therefore if the same type of deception is being used by the Master of Deception in his ongoing war against true Christianity. After all, his future success and very survival depend on it.

Given that the Extreme Oath of the Jesuits actually stipulates the use of such duplicity, we must assume that, not only is it happening, but that it has been under way for some time. The Oxford Movement in Britain in the 1840s is regarded by many as a prime example of the strategic subversion of the Anglican church by Roman operatives. See, for example, Walsh (1898): “At present the Church of England is literally honeycombed with Secret Societies, all working in the interests of the scheme for the Corporate Reunion of the Church of England with the Church of Rome.”

In more recent times, according to *Time* and *Newsweek*, Chuck Colson, a convicted criminal with political connections at the highest level, passed himself off as a born-again Christian in order to shorten his prison sentence. He then went on to co-ordinate a program that led to the agreement and publication of the infamous document, *Evangelicals and Catholics Together*, in 1994. There is every reason to believe that the Vatican recruited Colson for this purpose, to betray the Evangelical church in America and set it on a path to Ecumenical disintegration.

Subversion gets results. This is why so many seemingly orthodox Evangelical churches and seminaries can suddenly and inexplicably jettison their principles and accept serious doctrinal compromises that perfectly accord with what Rome wants to achieve. For example, a leading Evangelical theologian or writer may start to endorse Mormonism; another will contend that the God of the Bible is the same as the god of the Koran; another will champion contemplation or interfaith spirituality; another will argue that the Bible was never meant to be read as a literal, inerrant record of God’s plan for mankind; another will raise doubts about the sinfulness of homosexuality; and so on.



In pursuit of her stated goals, the Roman Catholic Church also promotes works by authors whose teachings just happen to align with her interfaith-ecumenical agenda. Especially useful in this regard are books by non-Catholics that sow the seed of Romanism among Evangelicals. These include, for example, the writings of Richard Foster, a Quaker theologian. It is impossible to read his outrageously ecumenical book, *Celebration of Discipline*, which has sold over a million copies to date and greatly influenced Evangelicals across America and Europe, and not conclude that the only thing missing from it is the *Imprimatur* of a Catholic bishop.

The Roman Catholic Church is also working quietly in other ways to draw Evangelicals into her net. Such behind-the-scenes initiatives include the negotiation of mutual recognition agreements with various Protestant denominations on key doctrines of faith. For example, on January 29, 2013 – a dark day in Biblical Christianity – the main Presbyterian denominations in North America signed such an agreement with Rome in relation to baptism – “We rejoice at the common faith we share and affirm in this document.” The Word of God and the blood of the martyrs were simply forgotten. By signing this agreement, the Presbyterian churches demolished a central pillar of the Reformation. The fundamental doctrine of salvation by faith alone was cast aside. Instead they decided – in a most underhand way – that the Reformation had been a great misunderstanding and that Roman Catholics were really Presbyterians in disguise.

The spread of the Interfaith-Ecumenical heresy has not been an accident but is the direct result of a co-ordinated, well-funded campaign by the Vatican to subvert true Christianity and forge a one-world church controlled by the Papacy. The Bible itself warned that such a church would form in the End Time to displace Biblical Christianity and usher in the Antichrist.

7. The Heresy of Dominionism

Dominionism teaches that Christ cannot return to earth until the church has established its authority (dominion) over all nations and instituted a form of global theocracy, a one-world government founded on Biblical principles. In other words, according to Dominionism, the church brings in the Kingdom *for and on behalf of* Christ. [This unscriptural teaching is also known as Kingdom Now Theology, Reconstructionism, or Restorationism, depending on whether one views it from a Pentecostal or a Reformed background.]

Dominionism has become very popular in recent years, largely because it exploits the huge vacuum created by Replacement Theology. If the church has replaced Israel, the Dominionists reason, then she has appropriated the special role that Israel was to play in the second coming of Christ.

Dominionism also suits the ecumenical agenda of the Roman Catholic Church because it accommodates the Second Coming of Christ, which the Evangelicals expect, but places *before* it a monumental step that is not found anywhere in scripture, namely the Christianization of all nations.

The Dominionist argument goes broadly as follows: Man was given dominion over the earth in Genesis but lost it through the Fall. The Messiah subsequently regained it on our behalf and it is now incumbent on believers everywhere, acting corporately, to exercise their God-given authority and – street by street, city by city – to reclaim the world from Satan. If this is achieved, they reason, the unsaved everywhere will be liberated from Satan’s power, which they believe is exercised mainly through a web of demonic strongholds located across the planet. Then, upon witnessing the miraculous signs and wonders that will be performed by Christians in the ‘New Apostolic Age’, non-believers will turn to Christ in their millions and Christian dominion over all nations will be established.

Alas, this entire scenario conflicts sharply with Scripture. Consider, for example, the words of Paul:

“This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come... Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.” (2 Timothy 3:1,12 & 13)



The last days will be characterized by a progressive collapse in moral standards, where evil men and their fawning accomplices will exercise ever greater control over the earth, to the point where all true Christians will be persecuted. This is the opposite of what the Dominionists are claiming!

Consider also the words spoken by Christ in his Olivet discourse:

“For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.” (Matthew 24:21)

So, not only will the moral condition of the world become progressively worse, but civil and military turmoil will become so intense that it will surpass anything mankind has ever seen. Indeed, this period of devastation will be so severe that “unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved” (Matthew 24:22).

Dominionists are either deluded or deceitful. It is impossible to reconcile these plain statements about the End Time with the peaceful global theocracy envisaged by the Dominionists. Indeed, they have to dismiss, allegorize or pervert a large portion of Scripture in order to sustain their position. Nearly all of the prophets refer to the terrible judgment that will befall the whole of mankind in the End Time. In His mercy the LORD repeated many of these prophetic details in the Book of Revelation and added even more, including the sequence in which many of the events foretold by the prophets would unfold. What is more, he has made it abundantly clear that they will all take place before Christ returns bodily to earth to destroy the Antichrist, his vast armies, and the Satanic world system.

Dominionists seem to be arguing that the Book of Revelation is describing what *would* happen if man delayed for too long before exercising his God-given authority and establishing a global theocracy. By using this deluded argument they not only erase the Book of Revelation and a wealth of Biblical prophecy regarding the End Time, but they imbue their own false message with a sense of prophetic urgency – *Listen to us, act now or face destruction.*

The strange people behind the New Apostolic Reformation are eager to convince the world that their leaders are Apostles and Prophets on a par with – or even greater than – those of the Bible. Many of them insinuate that anyone who rejects their message or questions their authority is an unwitting agent of the Antichrist. Indeed, in his book, *The Final Quest*, so-called prophet Rick Joyner clearly implies that at some stage these supposedly demon-possessed people will have to be eliminated.



By undermining the veracity of End Time prophecy, Replacement Theology has cleared the way for Dominionism. Straightforward Biblical warnings about the End Time – many of which are stark and terrifying – are simply cast aside and a blissful utopia postulated in their place. What is more, this glorious utopia is established entirely by man through the exercise of his remarkable spiritual talents. Thus only when man has done his wonderful work can Christ return.

What appalling arrogance!

The Dominionist doctrine has transferred from Christ to the church the supernatural authority and power that are needed to bring in the Kingdom. Since Dominionism also teaches that this authority and power is vested primarily in a gifted cadre of advanced believers – who in turn are led by even more advanced ‘Apostles’ and ‘Prophets’ – the entire transformation of the planet will, in this prospectus, be overseen and controlled by a small group of people.

Dominionism is a cunning Satanic deception – and a very dangerous one. Not only does it cause backslidden and deceived believers to neglect the primary task that Christ has given them, namely to preach the gospel to the unsaved of all nations, but it supports the common goal of the four major political confederacies in the world today – Freemasonry, Marxism, Islam, and the Roman Catholic Church. The goal? The creation of an all-powerful world authority controlled by a small self-appointed elite.

The LORD in His mercy has warned of this global government and it behoves us to take His warning seriously. The whole of the Book of Revelation is a stunning description of these future events, while literally hundreds of passages in the Old Testament refer to the same judgment. We ignore them at our peril.

8. The Heresy of Extra-Biblical Revelation

The Bible is the Word of God, therefore in order to modify its teachings one must undermine its authority in some way or come up with additional revelation. The Roman Catholic Church does both, firstly by enthroning the Pope as the Vicar (or earthly representative) of Christ and thereby giving a Scriptural authority to his pronouncements, and secondly by using ‘Tradition’ as a way of justifying non-biblical doctrines, such as veneration of the so-called Queen of Heaven. Rome has also added several books to the Bible, known as the Apocrypha, which were not given by God but which she exploits as though they were.

Since the Protestant churches have no Papal figure or ancient tradition that they can use for this purpose, they are obliged to seek revelation from other sources. Mystics and prophets are therefore indispensable for the creation of new doctrine. For example, the cult of Seventh Day Adventism, which is a counterfeit of true Christianity, is based on the writings of Ellen White, a 19th century ‘prophetess’. Her alleged visions of heaven are taken by her disciples as evidence that her pronouncements constitute additional revelation from God. In accepting her writings as a divinely inspired source of fresh truth, her disciples are rejecting the plain command in Scripture to neither add to nor take from the Word of God.

The New Apostolic Reformation (and similar cults) try to argue that the two Greek words in the New Testament that denote revelation – namely *logos* and *rhema* – are actually designating two *modes* of revelation, one written and one spoken, and that the Biblical prohibition applies only to the *logos* or written word of God. On this basis, the so-called apostles and prophets of today are claiming to receive spoken (*rhema*) revelation from God, including instructions regarding the future direction of the church.



However the *rhema/logos* argument is bogus since the words are used interchangeably in Scripture and cannot possibly have the bizarre meaning that the NAR and others allege.

They further try to justify their position by claiming that valid revelation – the kind *they* receive – neither contradicts nor modifies the written Word of God. But this too is deceitful. Simply by making a prophetic declaration that corresponds exactly with a verse from Scripture, the so-called prophet is implying that the LORD has *approved* what he is doing, that his fresh revelation is *proof* of his authority, and that anyone who dares to say otherwise is opposing the will of God.

Fresh revelation, no matter how innocent or benign it may seem, is actually a cunning form of mind control. Its author is Satan, not the Holy Spirit.

Many of the counterfeit apostles and prophets in the marketplace today are also claiming to perform a range of supernatural signs and wonders in the Spirit-is-Power tradition. Even without objective evidence of any kind to substantiate their claims (many of which are outrageous), their followers accept them as proof that the ‘apostle’ or ‘prophet’ in question is a true servant of God and that his revelations are genuine.

In addition to their ‘revelations’ and their ‘miracles’, many of the so-called prophets and apostles are also claiming to be the leaders of a Global Reformation ordained by God to bring in the Kingdom. Thus we have an interweaving of several lies – extra-biblical revelation, signs-and-wonders, and dominionism – to form the apostate tapestry known as the New Apostolic Reformation.

The fact that the various Pyramidal lies can link together in this way is highly significant.

The table below reveals the extent of this interconnectedness. Our analysis shows that every lie supports, and is in turn supported by, at least two other lies. This would suggest that the Pyramid has been very carefully designed.

Support within the Pyramid for each Heresy

1	Mysticism is supported in particular by...	2	3	4	6
2	Universalism is supported in particular by...	6	7	8	10
3	Contemplative Spirituality is supported in particular by...	1	2	6	9
4	Extra-Biblical Revelation is supported in particular by...	1	3	5	9
5	Dominionism is supported in particular by...	4	6	9	11
6	Interfaith-Ecumenism is supported in particular by...	2	3	8	11
7	Faith-is-Power is supported in particular by...	8	9		
8	Non-Judgmentalism is supported in particular by...	2	6	10	
9	Spirit-is-Power is supported in particular by...	4	5	7	8
10	Evolution is supported in particular by...	1	2	6	
11	Replacement Theology is supported in particular by...	2	5	6	

The table also reveals that two of the lies – Universalism and Interfaith-Ecumenism – are making a major contribution to the overall structure and integrity of the Pyramid by supporting in each case at least six other lies. It is notable that they are virtually identical to the two great lies of Freemasonry, namely the ‘universal brotherhood of man’ and the ‘universal fatherhood of god’. Through their determined promotion of these false propositions, the Masons have long tried to convince the world that all men share a common destiny and that all religions worship the same god.

We should hardly be surprised that the ‘Light Bearer’ – the god of Freemasonry – is using the same two lies, albeit in repackaged form, to undermine and destroy Biblical Christianity.

Once the capstone is set in place and the final lie of *Mysticism* is fully operational, the full spectrum of lies will likely function with greater deceptive power than ever before.

The willingness of supposedly evangelical Christians to study books and other material based on fresh revelation is truly disturbing. Consider, for example, the massive sales achieved by the *Jesus Calling* books, written by Sarah Young. They could more aptly be entitled *Demon Calling*. Naïve and undiscerning Christians are refusing to consider the possibility that one or more of the countless fallen angels who work for Satan could be the source of these messages. Mediums and psychics channel such poison on a regular basis.

Many sincere believers are truly confused over this issue. They believe that God must speak to us today as He spoke to the prophets of old, but they are mistaken. They forget that believers are described as priests, not prophets. It is our task and privilege to propagate and expound the incredible wealth of truth that has *already* been revealed. We are not to try to add to it in any way (if that were possible). Indeed the Bible expressly warns that anyone who tries to do this will be severely punished (Revelation 22 and Deuteronomy 4).

The Word of God contains everything we need for our edification, sanctification, and service to God. “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.” (2 Timothy 3:16-17). Note the words “perfect” and “all good works.”

So who benefits when anything – anything! – is added to Scripture or treated as fresh revelation? The answer ought to be obvious – Satan and the countless false prophets who serve him.

Those who love Him know that God speaks to us today **through** His written Word **by** the power of the Holy Spirit. His Word is as true, alive, relevant and sufficient in our ‘modern’ world as it was when it was first recorded. Truth doesn’t change. The Holy Spirit ensures that all believers benefit in full from this heavenly bounty. Christ promised that this would be so: “Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth” (John 16:13). So when professing Christians turn to extra-Biblical revelation of any kind, they are rejecting the promise that Christ made and trusting instead in sweet-sounding words from another source.

9. The Heresy of Contemplative Spirituality

The doctrine of Contemplative Spirituality teaches that man can get closer to God by using a range of prayer-like techniques – meditative, contemplative, and imaginative – that will enable him to bypass the limitations of his human faculties and enter an altered state of consciousness.

This is a fairly new heresy, having grown substantially in popularity only in the last fifteen years or so. Based on the Catholic monastic tradition, it employs a range of techniques very similar to those used by the early monks and mystics to enter a trance-like state and ‘experience’ God. These techniques were intended to empty the mind and take the practitioner beyond traditional prayer into a two-way communication with God.

Traditional prayer was seen primarily as a vehicle for praising and worshipping God, for confessing sin and petitioning our wonderful Creator. Contemplative prayer, on the other hand, was intended to go further, to be more experiential and allow the practitioner to actually hear the living whisper of God in the depths of his soul.

To its advocates, contemplative prayer is more real and immediate than traditional prayer, a kind of silent dialogue with God that transcends the intellect and admits the practitioner into a realm of spirituality that would otherwise remain inaccessible.

Alas, contemplative prayer has no Biblical basis whatever. There is not a single occasion anywhere in Scripture where a righteous person empties his mind and enters an altered state of consciousness in order to commune with God.

One of the most frequently cited scriptures in support of contemplative prayer is Psalm 46:10 – “Be still, and know that I am God.” But this claim is mischievous since Psalm 46 is about the End Time tribulation and the Second Coming of Christ. It has nothing whatever to do with contemplative prayer. The Psalm describes the war and desolation, upheaval and trauma, that will fatally disfigure the earth prior to the momentous return of Christ to reign forever as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. He will immediately cause all war and strife to cease – “Be still, and know that I am God!” Everyone on earth will bow before him and acknowledge his sovereignty. As the Psalmist says, “He will be exalted among the heathen; he will be exalted in the earth.”

Evangelicals are being lured into a terrible trap when they embrace contemplative spirituality and try to follow the path of the Roman Catholic mystics. They are foolishly assuming that the monks of the first millennium were born-again Christians – rather than Christianized pagans – and that their methods and experiences were scriptural and God-ordained.

Their so-called transcendental encounters and infusions of bliss are portrayed as genuine expressions of the Holy Spirit, when in reality they are nothing but a product of the mystical psychology that is common to all religions. In their essentials they differ little from the “inner experiences” reported for centuries by the hermits and ascetics, gurus and mystics, yogis and rishis of the Middle East, India and Asia. In their relentless quest for enlightenment and ‘god-realization’, they too sank daily into long hours of formal meditation, mindless introspection and repetitive prayer, vainly pursuing a goal that no man can ever attain.



When believers turn to contemplative spirituality to ‘rediscover’ true Christianity, they are being exceedingly foolish. Instead of ancient practices grounded in Biblical truth, they are finding and assimilating the same Gnostic apostasy and Babylonian magic that have characterized Rome from the earliest times.

Contemplative Spirituality invariably leads the practitioner into Mysticism. Even though he may have set out initially to find a ‘deeper’ form of prayer, he is employing methods and techniques which by their very nature engender a mystical mindset. Evangelicals don’t seem to understand this. If they took the time to examine the lives of the most admired Catholic contemplatives, they would see that every one of them, without exception, fell headlong into mysticism.

The popular magazine, *Christianity Today* – which pretends to be Evangelical – consistently promotes Roman Catholic heresies and beliefs. The level of discernment among mainstream Evangelicals is so abysmal that they fail to recognize its blatantly interfaith-ecumenical agenda. It has been especially strong in promoting contemplative spirituality and the Catholic monastic tradition. Among the many unbiblical authors it has cited with approbation are Henri Nouwen (a Roman Catholic priest), Brennan Manning (a Roman Catholic priest), Thomas Merton (Roman Catholic priest), Richard Rohr (Roman Catholic priest), Ignatius Loyola (Jesuit), Thomas à Kempis (Roman Catholic cleric), Julian of Norwich (Roman Catholic mystic), Teresa of Avila (Roman Catholic mystic), G K Chesterton (Roman Catholic apologist), and Richard Foster (a Quaker theologian).

The magazine also gives positive coverage on a regular basis to Emerging Church leaders who applaud these apostate authors, including Rob Bell, Tony Campolo, Mark Driscoll, Tony Jones, Dan Kimball, Brian McLaren, Erwin McManus, Beth Moore, Donald Miller, Doug Pagitt, Robert Schuller, Chuck Swindoll, Dallas Willard, and William Young.

The strategy that they are using is really quite clever. Rather than trying to convince Evangelicals that Catholic contemplative prayer is the best form of prayer, they have opted instead to convince them that the most spiritually aware of the early Christians employed it regularly. The argument runs as follows:

Catholics of the first millennium were Christian within the evangelical meaning of the term. Many of them were monks who lived in remote places, like the so-called Desert Fathers, or in a monastic environment, like the Benedictine monks. They developed the practice of Christian prayer to a high degree, but their knowledge was not widely disseminated. The giants of the Reformation later lost sight of it entirely. As a result Evangelicals today are bereft of this essential dimension of true Christian spirituality and would benefit enormously if they introduced it into their lives.

A good trick indeed, but utterly deceitful!

The reality is that these early monks and hermits had already departed from the clear teaching of the Bible on prayer and worship and had adopted instead a range of practices that either conflicted with the Word of God or had no scriptural basis whatever. As we have seen, most of these were drawn from pagan traditions and included prolonged repetitive prayer, excessive fasting, harmful asceticism, hymnal chanting, necromancy, goddess worship, idolatry, prayer walking, vows of celibacy, and sacramental rites. By promoting self-hypnosis, mental conditioning, and even nervous exhaustion, these practices took the individual beyond his rational mind into a state of great sensitivity and exposure to supernatural influences. They were not much different from the methods employed by Buddhist monks and Hindu ascetics to induce an altered state of consciousness. When the Catholic monk Thomas Merton travelled to Thailand in 1968 to meet his Eastern counterparts, he was delighted to confirm that their experiences were nearly identical to his own.



Walking the Labyrinth:

Yet another pagan practice being promoted by the Roman Catholic Church.

The tragedy, of course, is that many of these men **did** succeed in contacting the supernatural realm, but it was not the realm of the Living God. The awful truth is that the god of the pagan religions and the god of the Catholic mystics is the same supernatural being – the angel of light known as Lucifer.

As the Bible says, “And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.” (2 Corinthians 11:14) He can exploit this powerful supernatural ability to beguile his subjects and draw them further into his net. When he chooses to use it, the brilliance of his light can be overwhelming and intensely addictive.

Alas, no one by emptying his mind can outwit Satan!

Both for his edification and for his protection, every Christian should fill his heart and mind at all times with the Word of God – “Thy word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against thee.” (Psalm 119:11)

Even a cursory examination of the writings of such leading Catholic mystics as Thomas Merton, Teresa of Avila and John of the Cross will reveal that the Bible played only a very minor role in their understanding of God's will and purpose. One finds scarcely any evidence that their inner lives were directed by Scripture. On the rare occasions when they did quote from Scripture, it was usually to bolster a doctrine or a belief that they had already established from another source. The writings of Thomas Merton have probably had the greatest influence on the modern contemplative movement, yet he exhibits a far greater interest in, knowledge of, and dependency upon the writings of other mystics and mystical philosophers than he does on the Bible. In many respects Merton was no nearer to Christianity than the Buddhist monks whom he greatly admired.

To make matters worse (if that were possible), the undiscerning Evangelicals who imbibe this patently unbiblical propaganda do not seem to realize that the Catholic mystics were also goddess worshippers. They prayed in veneration and supplication to the Virgin Mary, the Queen of Heaven, the All-Holy Mediatrix. The Catholic Catechism contains copious evidence that Rome regards Mary as a Co-mediator with the Father, a Co-redeemer with Christ, and a Co-worker with the Holy Spirit. Merton had a vision of her as a young adult and yearned for years to meet her again. This craving for ecstatic union with the goddess is very common among contemplatives of all religions and a disturbing symptom of the dark deception that has enslaved them.

10. The Heresy of Universalism

Nearly all apostate movements in Christianity today are deeply resistant to the concept of hell, a place of continual fiery judgment where unrepentant sinners are justly consigned for eternity. The leaders of these movements express their resistance by ignoring the concept of hell entirely, by rejecting it outright, or by making it applicable only to the most wicked individuals but certainly not "ordinary people."

This heresy is very closely related to the teaching that 'God is love', which in practice is really a shorthand for 'God is love and love only and would never condemn anyone to hell.'

Universalism is the reverse side of the 'no hell' coin. If there is no hell, then everyone goes to heaven eventually. And if everyone goes to heaven eventually, then there is no hell.

The champions of this doctrine believe that the Living God, by some mysterious means not revealed in the Bible, has provided for the salvation of all souls, with the possible exception of the most wicked and depraved. They teach that all who strive to live an ethical life, regardless of whether or not they have come to a saving faith in Christ, are spiritually connected with him through their righteous deeds and good intentions.

They cling to the first part of the following verse but ignore the second: “The LORD is...not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.” (2 Peter 3:9)

The Universalist heresy exploits the fact that, in our fallen state, we find it almost impossible to understand the depth and purity of God’s holiness. To perceive even a small part of His holiness is to acknowledge the corresponding wretchedness of our own spiritual condition and thus the absolute need for repentance. On the contrary, man is determined to find *some* good in himself, even though the Bible clearly teaches that there is none. Even the best of the best among the masses of humanity are fatally polluted by sin.

The Universalist heresy is closely related to what followers of the New Age call God’s unconditional love. Selected passages are lifted from Scripture to demonstrate that God is exclusively a God of love. And since he is a Being of unlimited capacity, his love must be unconditional. This means it could never have been his intention, when he created man, to allow even one person to end up in hell. Perhaps some incorrigible individuals will have to endure a period of temporary punishment – in a place similar to the Roman Catholic purgatory – but even they will pay off their sin debt eventually and join the rest of humanity in heaven.

This is an incredibly powerful deception. It seems to offer a perfect solution to the problem of sin, **not** through repentance and faith in the redeeming blood of Christ, **but** through a process of progressive sanctification based on the individual’s good works. But if this is true then the traditional concept of sin and those who promote it – those irritating born-again Evangelicals – must be wrong.

The old-time Bible preachers taught that God hates sin and that only those who are born again will be saved. To be born again means to undergo a sudden and complete transformation through heartfelt repentance and genuine faith in the saving blood of Christ. However, the universalists argue that the old-timers defined this principle far too narrowly. They greatly over-emphasized God’s condemnation of sin and paid not nearly enough attention to the unlimited bounty of His unconditional love.

The universalists contend that the traditional view was not only misconceived but intolerant and possibly even harmful. God made us to be happy, to live life to the full, and to rejoice in the great love that He has for us.

Some are even taking this argument a step further and stating that, since everyone will be saved eventually, then all religions must worship the same God. How could it be otherwise? And if this is the case then no religion should claim to be the only source of truth. When Christian Fundamentalists make such claims they are acting contrary to the message of love that Christ brought to the world and are even contributing to a climate of bigotry and intolerance. The real Christians are those who are broad-minded enough to accept their brothers and sisters in other religions and to co-operate with them in building a better world for all, just as Christ intended.

All of this is pure hokum of course, but it carries weight in an age where so many professing Christians are guided far more by experience than by Scripture, who are rapidly adopting New Age ideas, and who believe in the ‘modernising’ of traditional Biblical theology in order to meet the needs of a changing world.

It never occurs to them that God’s Word is truth, that truth is unchanging, and that Jesus Christ is “the same yesterday, and today, and forever.” (Hebrews 8:13) The Bible is perfect just as it is, and so are each and every one of the traditional doctrines of Evangelical Christianity.



The substitutionary atonement of Christ is probably *the* core doctrine of Christianity. It teaches that Christ died **in our place** in order to atone **in full** for our sins. As leading evangelical scholars have taught down the centuries, to modify or dilute this doctrine in any way is to reject true Biblical Christianity. For example, Rome teaches that Christ did not atone in full for our sins but must be subjected to death again and again in the Catholic *sacrifice* of the mass. She also teaches that man through his good works participates in his own atonement.

Had any alternative means of salvation been available to the Father He would have chosen it above the agonising death of his Son. So, when Universalists contend that men can receive this gift without repentance and without faith, indeed without even hearing the gospel, they are rejecting the substitutionary atonement of Christ. They are rejecting the basic truth that salvation is obtained through grace alone by faith alone in Christ alone. Without this it is impossible to be born again and to live thereafter in a personal relationship with Christ. This is why Jesus made the following startling and decisive statement in his sermon on the mount:

“Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. 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? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.” (Matthew 7:21-23)

Is it possible to hear words more shocking or more painful? – “I never knew you: depart from me...”

To the Universalist, the voluntary sacrifice by our Savior on the cross is seen as an exemplary act, a visible expression of the selflessness of Christ and of the immense love that God has for all mankind. But it is not seen as a *necessary* act without which the whole of mankind would be cast forever into outer darkness.



The substitutionary atonement of Christ did not simply bring us closer to God or ameliorate our spiritual condition or teach a sublime truth. Rather, it saved us from eternal damnation. And if you do not *believe* with all your heart that Christ did this for you – that he willingly paid your entire sin debt for you – and that his sacrifice was absolutely essential for your salvation, then you are lost.

Eternal separation from God is an alarming reality. It can only be described as a living hell. Thus to deny the doctrine of hell is to render superfluous the incredible sacrifice that Christ made for each one of us on the cross.

In short, to reject the doctrine of hell is to reject the Gospel. When one considers the large and ever-growing proportion of professing Christians who no longer accept the reality of hell and eternal damnation, it is obvious that a great many churches today are filled with false converts.

11. The Heresy of Mysticism

Mysticism is predicated on the belief that man is a little god (a concept sometimes known by the technical term *anthropotheism*) and that God himself permeates everything (a belief known as *panentheism*). Together they constitute the two great pillars of paganism and are Luciferian to the core.

Don't be put off by these fancy words, anthropotheism and panentheism – the ideas behind them are extremely simple, like many of Satan's most successful lies.

Panentheism should not be confused with the better known term, *pantheism* – the belief that God *is* everything. Rather, panentheism states that God *fills* everything, like a cosmic energy interpenetrating all of space, matter and time. Followers of the New Age movement describe this as the Cosmic Intelligence, while practitioners of magic and witchcraft refer to it as The Force. For metaphysical 'Christians' like Chuck Missler, it is the Holographic Universe.

These twin heresies, anthropotheism and panentheism, underpin Christian Mysticism. Since God is said to permeate everything, then he is substantially and immediately present in each and every person. Accordingly, since God is already within us, we should be able to communicate with Him directly – and engage in a living dialogue with Him – by entering the silent depths of our innermost being. This is similar to the principle of Contemplative Spirituality, which we have already discussed, but it goes much further by identifying this interior journey with salvation itself.

To the mystic, the average man is a little child who has not yet realized his own divinity. He is constantly distracted by the world of external sensations and has neither the motivation nor the self-discipline to go within and find God. The mystic, on the other hand, has fostered an intense devotion to the goal of illumination and, through the steady application of ancient contemplative techniques, is proceeding on an inward journey that will one day culminate in a direct existential encounter with God.

Defenders of this heresy like to quote Luke 17:20-21 in support of their view that God is within us: "The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you." But they are guilty of a serious error of interpretation since Jesus, in addressing the Jews, was not saying *God is within you* but rather that *the kingdom of God is among you* (or *in your midst*).

John the Baptist had already alerted the Jews to this remarkable fact when he urged them to “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” (Matthew 3:2) Jesus himself preached exactly the same message at the start of his ministry: “From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” (Matthew 4:17) When Jesus made the statement about the kingdom in Luke 17, he – the King – was already in their midst and the kingdom that he had come to inaugurate was at hand, if only the nation of Israel would accept it.

The advocates of mysticism also like to point to another statement by Jesus in support of their view that man is a god:

“The Jews answered him, saying, For a good work we stone thee not; but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God. Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are gods? If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken; Say ye of him, whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, I am the Son of God? If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not. But if I do, though ye believe not me, believe the works: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him.” (John 10:33-38)

Many sincere students of the Word fail to see that Jesus is using irony here. The Pharisees would have known this since he was referring to two key passages in the Old Testament – from Psalm 82 and Isaiah 41 – where the LORD used irony to rebuke men for thinking they were gods. The word for ‘gods’ in these passages was *elohim*, which can mean either ‘divinity’ or ‘judges’ and ‘rulers’. The Pharisees were rulers and judges, representatives of God on earth, but they were certainly not gods. Had they been *righteous* rulers and judges, as God requires of His representatives, they would have understood Scripture, “which cannot be broken”, and would have known that the claim made by Jesus was well founded.

Psalm 82:5-7 states: “They know not, neither will they understand; they walk on in darkness: all the foundations of the earth are out of course. I have said, Ye are gods; and all of you are children of the most High. But ye shall die like men, and fall like one of the princes.” The theme of this Psalm is the correct administration of justice and men’s failure to rule justly. In their wickedness, through their exercise of a god-given function – the role of magistrate – they think they are gods, when in reality they will die like men. It is significant in this regard that the Father has delegated to Christ the task of judging the entire earth – “For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son” (John 5:22). Thus only one judge will be divine and that Judge is Christ.

The passage from Isaiah employs a similar tone of irony in its rebuke:

“Let them bring them forth, and shew us what shall happen: let them shew the former things, what they be, that we may consider them, and know the latter end of them; or declare us things for to come. Shew the things that are to come hereafter, that we may know that ye are gods: yea, do good, or do evil, that we may be dismayed, and behold it together. Behold, ye are of nothing, and your work of nought: an abomination is he that chooseth you.” (Isaiah 41:22-24)

If they were gods they would know the past and the future and would possess all knowledge. But when they are challenged by the LORD to give evidence of their divine stature, they can't. In reality, they are pathetic – “Behold, ye are of nothing, and your work of nought”!

The Bible **never** teaches that the kingdom of God is within you. It never teaches that you are God or any part of God or that you will ever become God or any part of God. You are not divine in any sense whatever but a created being only, and will remain forever a created being. The mystics, however, take an entirely different view. They teach – in line with Hinduism, Buddhism and a host of cults and sects – that man in his essence is a divine spark and that his task here on earth is to connect that spark with the Godhead. The mystics believe they have found a way to complete this task and cite many dazzling experiences in the ‘light’ as proof of their success.

The sad reality is that the mystics – every one of them, including the Roman Catholic mystics – have been completely deceived by Satan.



Christ taught very plainly that the Father is utterly inaccessible to man except through him: “All things are delivered to me of my Father: and no man knoweth who the Son is, but the Father; and who the Father is, but the Son, and he to whom the Son will reveal him.” (Luke 10:22)

There is absolutely no mysticism of any kind among true believers. It is impossible to experience God directly until Christ returns and establishes the Kingdom, for “in him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily” (Colossians 2:9).

As the prophet proclaimed, the true believer waits for the Lord: “And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him” (Isaiah 25:9). By the words “in that day” Isaiah is referring to the second coming of Christ.

Consider also the exhortations in the letters to the Thessalonians:

“...and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God; and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come” (1 Thess. 1:9-10).

“And we have confidence in the Lord concerning you, that ye both do and will do the things which we command you. And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ.” (2 Thess. 3:4-5)

As we noted in the section on Contemplative Prayer, the mystics are often ‘rewarded’ for their efforts with an inner light or a blissful, albeit temporary, state of deep tranquility. But these are devious enticements to keep them in the game. Satan has the power to infuse his ‘light’ into the minds of those who are foolish enough to invite him in. But it is a counterfeit spirituality, a dead ‘light’ having no goodness whatever. As Christ warned, “If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!” (Matthew 6:23)

Through his ‘light’ persona Satan is also making himself known to the world at large through the so-called Marian apparitions, where he appears to children as a beautiful and beguiling woman. While pretending to be the Virgin Mary, he fills their tender minds with lies designed to lure the community in which they live into a fatal fascination with the supernatural. These apparitions are occurring with greater frequency, not only in so-called Christian countries but in countries that are not even nominally Christian.



The capstone of Mysticism on the Pyramid of Lies

This campaign by the fallen angels to lure humanity into their thrall is gaining momentum and looks certain to play a major role in the unfolding End Time deception.

Since man could never become God, God became man. By adding a human nature to his divine nature, He made it possible for men, through faith and repentance, to enter into His presence. By his sinless sacrifice on the cross, Christ defeated death and repaid our sin debt for us. In so doing he freed us from the power of Satan.

This is a joyful and overwhelming reality for all who are saved ... but not for the mystics. To them, Christ is not so much the way as a guide along the way, a kind of ascended master. In their philosophy, it is up to man to experience the way for himself, to brave the hidden dangers – such as the so-called “dark night of the soul” – that await all who set out to experience the Godhead and tackle the successive stages of “ascent” through “the interior castle”. But none of this is scriptural. None of it is consistent with the Gospel or the positional reality enjoyed by all who are born again in Christ.

It is typical, however, of the psychological encounters and emotional battles fought by shamans, yogis, and New Age gurus. Buddhist monks and the so-called masters of Zen meditation report very similar experiences. And all of them – without exception – are dead in trespasses and sins, without the salvation that is found only in Christ. Their experiences, dazzling though they may be, are grounded wholly in a demonic source.

Catholic mystics like Teresa of Avila, John of the Cross and Thomas Merton gave lip-service to Christ. Their approach to God was completely unscriptural, a man-made plan of redemption, and sinful in the extreme. The god of the mystics is not the LORD God of the Bible but a Satanic counterfeit. They were utterly deceived and anyone today who adopts their ways will pay a terrible price.

Evangelicals who want the perceived benefits of contemplative prayer, or *Christian meditation* as it is sometimes called, and who model their methods on mystics like St Francis of Assisi or Thomas Merton, really need to ask themselves some very hard questions. Francis had the stigmata, while Merton had visions of the Virgin Mary. Remember the words of Christ: “A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.” (Matthew 7:18) So why would any true believer want to eat from a tree that brings forth evil fruit? Marian apparitions are the work of the Enemy. So too is the stigmata, the wounds (supernaturally-induced) in the hands and feet of certain Catholic mystics that are supposed to enable them to share in the suffering of Christ. This is appalling blasphemy, but to the mystics, in their dark delusions, it is a badge of great honor and distinction.

As we have already noted, contemplative spirituality is a stepping stone to experiential mysticism. Centering prayer, walking the labyrinth, *lectio divina* and other Roman Catholic practices are increasingly being adopted by Evangelicals in the naïve belief that they will deepen their spirituality. But they are gravely mistaken. They are designed by the Enemy to sedate one's mind and induce a state of mild hypnosis. The more often they are practiced, the more quickly they produce an altered state of consciousness. When this happens – and it is very subtle – one's mind becomes incapable of functioning in a discerning and sober manner as the Bible requires.

What is more, these practices constitute a tacit admission that the Word of God is not sufficient for our spiritual needs, that we want something more and we want it now. They can thus serve as a silent invitation to invisible forces. Once the practitioner has entered an altered state of consciousness he is more receptive to irrational or intuitive influences and will absorb thoughts and impressions from virtually any source. He may even have an “experience” which he identifies with “God” and will re-double his efforts in order to have it again. So he spends more and more time in contemplative prayer and repetitive, mind-numbing monastic practices, trying to regain his mystical experience. This is how demonic deception works. Before long he has abandoned the Bible entirely (apart from a few favorite verses) and is guided almost exclusively by the writings of the mystics and their modern counterparts.

Mysticism is the crowning capstone on the Pyramid of Lies and a sure road to self-destruction. If left unchecked, it will eventually turn Christians everywhere into introspective dreamers and erase all denominational distinctions. Catholicism, ecumenism, and universalism will merge with New Evangelicalism and the Emerging Church to form a supernatural supermarket, a mystic bazaar where everyone can find a brand of spirituality that suits their taste. The stage will then be set for the arrival of the Antichrist.

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Your Two Deadly Weapons

If you are a born-again Christian, you have two deadly weapons at your disposal, namely prayer and Scripture, and Satan fears them both. Indeed, they would appear to be the only things that he fears. Both connect us in a special way with our heavenly Father and place insuperable barriers in Satan's path. But we must use them!

The Pyramid of Lies is designed to induce believers to voluntarily set aside their two deadly weapons. Generally speaking they cannot be taken from us by force, but we can be tricked into laying them down or accepting ineffectual substitutes.

The following table illustrates how this works.

Heresy / Lie	Effect	Target
1. Replacement Theology	Removes large parts of the Bible by converting them into allegory.	Bible
2. Evolution	Makes God so remote and so distant that He is hardly likely to hear our prayers.	Prayer
3. Spirit-is-Power	Makes prayer unnecessary since man is able to manifest supernatural phenomena.	Prayer
4. Non-Judgmentalism	Demeans the Bible by making it subject to human opinion and social acceptance.	Bible
5. Faith-is-Power	Makes prayer unnecessary since man is able to manifest supernatural phenomena.	Prayer
6. Interfaith-Ecumenism	Demeans the Bible by treating it as one of many possible expressions of truth.	Bible
7. Dominionism	Makes prayer unnecessary since man is able of himself to bring in the Kingdom.	Prayer
8. Extra-Biblical Revelation	Demeans the Bible by treating it as an incomplete or dated expression of truth.	Bible
9. Contemplative Spirituality	Replaces Biblical prayer with a manmade counterfeit.	Prayer
10. Universalism	Succeeds in making <u>both</u> the Bible and prayer irrelevant.	Bible <u>and</u> Prayer
11. Mysticism	Makes Bible unnecessary since man is able to receive direct revelation. Makes prayer unnecessary since man has passed the stage where prayer is needed.	Bible <u>and</u> Prayer

The Pyramidal lies attack the Bible in six different ways and Prayer in seven! This shows the strategic purpose behind the lies and the rationale for their selection. They serve Satan’s goals extremely well by inducing Christians to lessen their reliance on the only weapons they have!

The Pyramid and Satan’s Lies in the Garden

Given that Satan is capable of generating an almost limitless variety of lies and distortions, it may seem surprising that the eleven heresies outlined in this paper should play such a central role in his overall plan. But, as the Preacher says, “The thing that has been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun.” (Ecclesiastes 1:9)

The chart below gives a dramatic illustration of this. Each of the eleven Pyramidal lies fits neatly into the template established by Satan in the Garden:

- “**yea, hath God said?**” (Genesis 3:1)
- “**...knowing good and evil**” (Genesis 3:5)
- “**ye shall not surely die**” (Genesis 3:4)
- “**ye shall be as gods**” (Genesis 3:5)

How Satan's Four Lies in the Garden relate to the Pyramidal Lies		
“yea, hath God said?” (Genesis 3:1)	#1 Replacement Theology	Rejection of what God said.
	#2 Evolution	Rejection of what God said.
“...knowing good and evil” (Genesis 3:5)	#4 Non-Judgmentalism	Truth is relative to the individual.
	#8 Extra-Biblical Revelation	Adding to the word of God.
“ye shall not surely die” (Genesis 3:4)	#6 Interfaith-Ecumenism	All religions have truth, therefore all are saved.
	#10 Universalism	No damnation and therefore no death.
“ye shall be as gods” (Genesis 3:5)	#3 Spirit-is-Power	The divine power to control the cosmic spirit.
	#5 Faith-is-Power	The divine power to mould one's universe.
	#7 Dominionism	The divine power to bring in the Kingdom
	#9 Contemplative Spirituality	Sharing in God's holiness by entering His presence.
	#11 Mysticism	The realization of one's own divinity.

The Word of God records the four lies in the Garden, the very lies that led to the Fall and destroyed man's relationship with his Creator. Thus they must express something truly significant about the strategy that Satan has been using for the past six thousand years. The Pyramid is merely an elaboration of that strategy.

The lies are deep and widespread...

The Pyramidal lies have been working their way through the various branches of Christianity for a very long time. As each takes root, it prepares the ground for the next one. Thus the pace of acceptance has accelerated. More have been adopted in the past half century than in the three centuries before that.

Now that Mysticism, the mother of all lies, has appeared on the scene, we can expect it to add synergy to its predecessors. Apostasy will accelerate and all who oppose it will be brushed aside.

The following chart attempts to identify the main denominations that have accepted, or are demonstrably in sympathy with, each of the lies. Naturally, the more a church has been infiltrated or infested by heresy, the less likely it is to preach the fundamentals of the Gospel. While this may vary from place to place, from church to church and from pastor to pastor, the chart reveals an overall trend that is deeply disturbing. It would suggest that within 15-20 years it will be extremely difficult to find a church anywhere in the world where the pure Word of God is being soundly and consistently taught.

How the lies are taking root in certain denominations

	New Apostolic Reformation	Word of Faith	Purpose Driven	Emerging Church	Charismatic/Pentecostal (*)	Reformed
Replacement Theology	●	●	●	●	?	●
Evolution/ID	?	?	●	●	?	●
Spirit-is-Power	●	●			●	
Non-Judgmentalism	●	●	●	●	●	●
Faith-is-Power	?	●			?	
Interfaith-Ecumenism	?	?	●	●	●	●
Dominionism	●		●	●		
Extra-Biblical Revelation	●				●	
Contemplative Spirituality			●	●	?	●
Universalism				●		
Mysticism	?			?		

* It can be difficult to determine exactly what Pentecostals and Charismatics actually believe since so many of them view Biblical scholarship as a barrier to spirituality. This in itself is a source of great compromise and confusion.

... and the wolves are ravenous

The standard of discernment in the church today is so deplorable that some of the wolves don't even bother to dress like sheep. A seemingly deranged man, covered in tattoos, can prance around the stage, kicking old ladies, and be deemed a prophet by his followers. Then a group of self-anointed 'apostles' can come along and, in a blasphemous public spectacle, anoint him in turn. It defies belief.

As bizarre as their conduct may be, the wolves in this category are probably not as dangerous as the ones who, with sweet humility and saintly demeanor, preach 98% of God's Holy Word. They know that few of their undiscerning listeners will notice the difference and fewer still will detect the pagan or occult nature of the doctrines they are teaching, often in the guise of Biblical scholarship and enlightened exegesis.

Most ‘Christian’ television is a parody of true Christianity, a kind of freak show. But today’s ‘believers’ are largely indifferent to this kind of thing. If someone dumped a truck-load of manure on their front lawn, they would “think positive” and plant roses. They are so keen to see the best in everything that they ignore the evil which they ought to condemn.

“Ye that love the LORD, hate evil” (Psalm 97:10), but they don’t hate evil. Why? Because they don’t love the LORD.

“The fear of the LORD is to hate evil” (Proverbs 8:13), but they don’t fear the LORD.

When men neither love nor fear the LORD, they lose all Biblical discernment – and the false prophets exploit this with ruthless satisfaction. They will even work together like wolves in a pack to round up and corral their intended victims.

Once the capstone of mysticism has been set firmly in place on Satan’s pyramid of lies, the global company of wolves will enjoy a terrible feast.

Principal Conclusions

Given the evidence examined in this paper, and the baleful trend that we are witnessing today as the church sinks further into apostasy, the following conclusions would appear to be warranted:

1. The church worldwide is under systematic attack.
2. The attack has been under way for some time.
3. The wolves are increasing in number and skill.
4. The lies being taught are interconnected.
5. The attack is both planned and co-ordinated.
6. The Catholic Church is deeply involved in this attack.
7. Most born-again Christians are largely unaware of the danger.
8. Many of those who *are* aware of the danger are confused.
9. The pace of apostasy is accelerating.
10. The church will likely break in two in 20-25 years.
11. The small born-again remnant will be pressed to convert.
12. The active persecution of the remnant will then commence.

Jeremy James
Ireland
March 9, 2013

For further information about the ongoing attack on true Biblical Christianity, including links to the papers listed in Appendix E, visit www.zephaniah.eu

The website includes a paper on *True Salvation and the True Gospel*.

APPENDIX A

A Short Definition of the Eleven Heresies

Replacement Theology	The belief that the church has appropriated all of the promises that God made to the children of Israel and that Israel has no further distinctive role in God's plan.
Evolution	The belief that all life evolved over millions of years through purely random chemical and biological processes.
Spirit-is-Power	The belief that every believer should be able to manifest the same signs and wonders that the Apostles performed after Pentecost.
Non-Judgmentalism	The belief that no Christian has the right to judge another, except possibly in relation to doctrines critical to salvation.
Faith-is-Power	The belief that faith is itself a power than the believer can use to improve his life and receive supernatural blessings.
Interfaith-Ecumenism	The belief that all professing Christians are of equal standing in God's eyes and that denominational distinctions are harming the church.
Dominionism	The belief that the church is empowered and commissioned by God to bring in the Kingdom for and on behalf of Christ.
Extra-Biblical Revelation	The belief that God still speaks fresh revelation today into the hearts of selected or anointed individuals.
Contemplative Spirituality	The belief that man can have a dialogue with God by finding within himself the great silence where He supposedly dwells.
Universalism	The belief that all who live an ethical life, regardless of whether they have heard or accepted the Gospel, will be saved eventually.
Mysticism	The belief that man has within himself a divine essence that allows him to have direct personal experience of God.

APPENDIX B

49 Biblical References to <i>Jerusalem</i>			
City of David	2 Samuel 5:7	The City of the LORD	Psalms 101:8
Zion”	2 Samuel 5:7	The City of the LORD of Hosts	Psalms 48:8
“The Holy City	Nehemiah 11:1	Crown of Glory	Isaiah 62:3
The City of God	Psalms 46:4	Royal Diadem	Isaiah 62:3
The City of Righteousness	Isaiah 1:26	The Gate of My People	Micah 1:9
City of Truth	Zechariah 8:3	Great among the Nations	Lam. 1:1
The Joy of the Whole Earth	Psalms 48:2	Princess among the Provinces	Lam. 1:1
Ariel (“The Lion of God”)	Isaiah 29:1	My Holy Mountain	Ezekiel 20:40
Joyous City	Isaiah 22:2	Holy unto the LORD	Jeremiah 31:40
Rock of the Plain	Jeremiah 21:13	The House of the God of Jacob	Isaiah 2:3
The City of the Great King	Psalms 48:2	The House of the LORD	Psalms 27:4
Hephzibah (“My delight is in her”)	Isaiah 62:4	The Zion of the Holy One of Israel	Isaiah 60:14
Beulah (“Married”)	Isaiah 62:4	The Mount of the Congregation	Isaiah 14:13
The Holy Mountain	Zechariah 8:3	The Mountain where God desires to Dwell	Psalms 68:16
The Mountain of the LORD of Hosts	Zechariah 8:3	The Perfection of Beauty	Psalms 50:2
The Glorious Holy Mountain	Daniel 11:45	The Beauty of Israel	Lam. 2:1
The Beloved City	Revelation 20:9	O Tower of the Flock	Micah 4:8
The Faithful City	Isaiah 1:26	The Stronghold of the Daughter of Zion	Micah 4:8
The City called by Thy Name	Daniel 9:18	The Throne of the LORD	Jeremiah 3:17
City of Rejoicing	Zephaniah 2:15	Exceedingly Beautiful	Ezekiel 16:13
The City of Judah	2 Chron. 25:28	The LORD Our Righteousness	Jeremiah 33:16 *
A Quiet Habitation	Isaiah 33:20	The Mountain of His Holiness	Psalms 48:1
The City of Our Holy Feasts	Isaiah 33:20	The City of Our God	Psalms 48:1
	The Place of the Name of the LORD of Hosts	Isaiah 18:7	
	Holy Place of the Tabernacles of the Most High	Psalms 46:4	
	Yahweh Shammah – “The Lord is There”	Ezekiel 48:35	

* ‘The LORD Our Righteousness’ is also given as a name for the Messiah in Jeremiah 23:6

APPENDIX C

Authors whose teachings conflict with Biblical Christianity

Note: This list is merely a sample of the authors whose writings endorse a contemplative, ecumenical, universalist, psychological, mystical, pagan, or occult interpretation of Christianity and yet are widely promoted in ‘Christian’ bookstores as literature consistent with traditional Evangelical beliefs.

Che Ahn	Kenneth Hagin Sr	Bruce & Clyde Narramore
John Avanzini	Bill Hamon	Watchman Nee
Teresa of Avila	Willis Harman	Henri Nouwen
Todd Bentley	Jack Hayford	John Ortberg
Rob Bell	Marilyn Hickey	Joel Osteen
Mike Bickle	Benny Hinn	George Otis Jr
Ken Blanchard	Charles & Frances Hunter	Doug Pagitt
Reinhard Bonnke	Bill Hybels	Rod Parsley
Marcus Borg	Tony Jones	Earl Paulk
William Branham	Cindy Jacobs	Norman Vincent Peale
Rodney Howard Browne	T D Jakes	Basil Pennington
Jonathan Cahn	Bob Jones	Eugene Petersen
Paul Cain	Tony Jones	Chuck Pierce
Tony Campolo	Bill Johnson	Frederick Price
Charles Capps	William Johnston S J	Oral Roberts
Morris Cerullo	Rick Joyner	Pat Robertson
David Paul Yonggi Cho	Julian of Norwich	Richard Rohr
Kim Clement	Thomas Keating	John & Paul Sandford
Kenneth Copeland	Morton Kelsey	Agnes Sanford
Larry Crabb	Thomas à Kempis	Robert Schuller
John of the Cross	E W Kenyon	William Shannon
Paul Crouch	Sue Monk Kidd	Dutch Sheets
Finis Jennings Dake	Dan Kimball	Charles Stanley
Jack Deere	Brother Lawrence	Perry Stone
Anthony de Mello	C S Lewis	Lee Strobel
James Dobson	Max Lucado	Leonard Sweet
Creflo Dollar	Brennan Manning	John Michael Talbot
Mark Driscoll	Brian McLaren	Jeremy Taylor
Jessie Duplantis	Erwin McManus	Gary Thomas
Meister Eckhart	Thomas Merton	Jack Van Impe
Tilden Edwards	Joyce Meyer	C Peter Wagner
Richard Foster	Calvin Miller	Rick Warren
Matthew Fox	Donald Miller	Dallas Willard
Francis Frangipane	Chuck Missler	John Wimber
Nicky Gumbel	Beth Moore	Mark Yaconelli
Madame Guyon	Myles Munroe	Philip Yancey
Ted Haggard	Mike Murdock	William Paul Young

APPENDIX D

Trustworthy Christian Authors

One hundred years ago, one could trust perhaps 95% of all new books purporting to be evangelical. Today the proportion has fallen to 5% or less. Most of the Christian publishing houses have been taken over by non-Christian organizations and are concentrating primarily on innovative, ecumenical, and unorthodox writers. Books by reputable evangelical authors are still being published but the number has fallen dramatically. Top billing is now being given to books that promote two or more of the Pyramidal Lies.

In terms of sheer accessibility, clarity, compassion, and most importantly, scriptural truthfulness, there are few expounders of the Word of God to compare with H A Ironside. He was a wonderful interpreter of scripture and carried his considerable knowledge with great humility. I highly recommend him.

Of living writers, both Dave Hunt and David Cloud are excellent in my experience.

Some Biblically sound Christian writers (but please be discerning and test everything against the Word of God):

Robert Anderson	Dave Hunt	William Pettingill
David Baron	H A Ironside	A T Pierson
J Sidlow Baxter	Clarence Larkin	Matthew Poole
Richard Bennett	Herbert Lockyer	J C Ryle
Lewis Sperry Chafer	C H Macintosh	Graham Scroggie
David Cloud	Alva McClain	Renald Showers
David L Cooper	William McDonald	C H Spurgeon
J N Darby	Vernon McGee	R A Torrey
Arno Gaebelein	F B Meyer	Merrill Unger
James M Gray	G Campbell Morgan	John Walvoord
Henry H Halley	Henry Morris	H L Willmington
Matthew Henry	Dwight Pentecost	John Whitcomb

Some good books for born-again Bible-believing Christians:

General:

Richard Bennett	Catholicism: East of Eden The Truth Set Us Free
E H Broadbent	The Pilgrim Church
Lewis Sperry Chafer	Major Bible Themes Satan
David Cloud	The Future According to the Bible The Glorious History of the King James Bible Israel: Past, Present and Future The Pentecostal-Charismatic Movements Seeing the Non-Existent
John Foxe	Foxe's Book of Martyrs
Arnold Fruchtenbaum	Footsteps of the Messiah
Keith Gibson	Wandering Stars
Alexander Hislop	The Two Babylons
Dave Hunt	A Cup of Trembling Occult Invasion The Seduction of Christianity Whatever Happened to Heaven? A Woman Rides the Beast
H A Ironside	Holiness - The False and the True The Mysteries of God Talks on the Second Coming
Rick Jones	Understanding Roman Catholicism
Clarence Larkin	The Book of Revelation
Herbert Lockyer	All the Messianic Prophecies of the Bible All the Prayers of the Bible
John MacArthur	Charismatic Chaos
Alva McClain	The Greatness of the Kingdom
Henry Morris	The Long War Against God Many Infallible Proofs Scientific Creationism
Alan Redpath	The Making of a Man of God
Renald Showers	There Really Is a Difference
C H Spurgeon	Morning and Evening: Daily Readings
Merrill Unger	Biblical Demonology
John Walvoord	The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit

Reference:

David Cloud	Encyclopedia of the Bible and Christianity
A R Fausset	Bible Encyclopaedia and Dictionary
Matthew Henry	Commentary on the Whole Bible
Holman [publisher]	Holman's Bible Dictionary
Jamieson/Fausset/Brown	Commentary on the Bible
Merrill Unger	Bible Dictionary Commentary on the Old Testament
J Walvoord & Zuck R	The Bible Knowledge Commentary
H L Wilmington	Wilmington's Guide to the Bible.

APPENDIX E

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APPENDIX F

Other relevant papers by the author - available on the Internet (www.zephaniah.eu) -

Title	Date	Pages
Replacement Theology		
<i>One of Satan's Greatest Lies: How Replacement Theology has Rejected and Perverted the LORD's Prophetic Purpose for Israel</i>	12/2011	37
<i>The Commitment to Israel of the Pre-incarnate Christ</i>	03/2012	21
<i>Proof of the Legal and Moral Right of Israel to Exist as a Sovereign State</i>	06/2010	29
Evolution		
<i>The Shameless Fraud known as Darwinian Evolution</i>	03/2012	37
Ecumenism		
<i>The Stained Glass Curtain Deception: Why Evangelicals who Partner with the Roman Catholic Church are in Rebellion Against God</i>	11/2012	20
<i>Evidence that Christianity Today is a Mouthpiece for the Roman Catholic Church</i>	10/2012	28
<i>The Apostles Creed: A Dangerous Ecumenical Distortion of True Biblical Christianity</i>	04/2012	14
Emerging Church		
<i>The Cotton-wool Gospel and the Emerging Church Movement</i>	04/2011	6
<i>Beware of Warrenism and the False Theology of the Purpose-Driven Church</i>	05/2010	20
Freemasonry		
<i>Freemasonry and the British Monarchy: Why the Queen of England Pretends to be a Christian</i>	05/2012	18
New Age Paganism / Mysticism		
<i>Eighteen New Age Lies: An Occult Attack on Christianity</i>	02/2009	19
<i>The New Age Movement is Designed to Destroy True Biblical Christianity</i>	03/2011	13
Paganised Christianity		
<i>The Great Pentecostal-Charismatic Error</i>	08/2012	17
<i>Lupus Occultus: The Paganised Christianity of C S Lewis</i>	03/2010	23
<i>Do You Worship the Roman Catholic Jesus or the True Jesus of the Bible?</i>	06/2011	11
<i>Why Christians should Never Pray to the Virgin Mary</i>	05/2009	42