



WARNING Disturbing images



New Age religion is a collection of groups and individuals; it's a mixture of beliefs and practices.

It's a mess, and it's everywhere.





The "Mother" of the New Age is generally thought to be <u>Helena Blavatsky</u> (a Russian philosopher, occultist, and author who co-founded the Theosophical society in <u>1875</u>). In the early 1870s, Blavatsky was involved in the Spiritualist movement, but She gained an international following as the leading theoretician of Theosophy, the esoteric religion that the society promoted.



As the New Age movement encompasses both old and new philosophy, science, spirituality, and mysticism, it's start date is pretty fluid.

But, the New Age movement was "officially" started in the 1970s in most of your western nations as a form of western esotericism.

Although it was spoken of, and promulgated some time before then, most notably being defined & phrased in the 19th century.



New Age's Basic Belief

New Age focuses on the belief that the planet had reached a fresh stage of religious transformation involving humanity's divine potential to achieve healing, higher consciousness, and planetary peace in the dawning of the true Age of Aquarius.

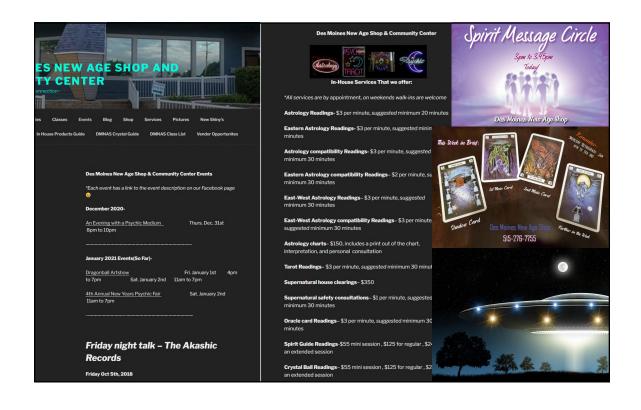


Key Ideas of New Age

- · All the world's great religions teach essentially the same truths
 - God can be experienced through many paths and understood in many ways.
- Human beings are divine.
 - The universe came from an ultimate and single source, a divine energy.
 - God is all and all is God. "God" is the principle that is identified with the universe.
 - Emphasize the "God within," our "God consciousness," or the divinity of all humanity
 - They don't talk about original sin or sins.
 - · Rooted in Eastern religion and philosophy
 - e.g. The film "Out on a Limb" Shirley MacLaine, "I Am God."
- Human beings have potential to achieve higher consciousness and divine perfection.
 - This is at the heart of New Age belief.

Key Ideas of New Age

- Reincarnation and karma provide the best explanation about the past and future of human beings.
 - Influenced by Eastern religion, particularly Hindu teaching.
 - Emphasizes positive aspects of reincarnation & karma.
- Psychic claims, channeling, astrology, crystals, and the occult world provides important paths and tools to achieve higher consciousness.
- Alternate and holistic medicine is a helpful corrective to the West's obsession with traditional Western medicine.
 - Modern medicine reduces medicine to mere technology.
 - Accept almost anything in alternative medicine, e.g. acupuncture, reading body aura, talking to a dolphins for emotional health









Key Ideas of New Age

- The task of the New Age is to bring peace to planet earth and achieve harmony among all people and tribes and nations.
 - In "Aquarian Conspiracy," describes an open conspiracy of people working together to transform the political, educational, and social order to improve planet earth.
- Morality is relative, and religious absolutes are often harmful.
 - e.g. Shirley MacLaine defending her affair with a married British politician by saying that they used to be lovers in a previous life.
 - New Age leaders wouldn't think it's wrong to have sexual relations with members.
- Eternal spirit masters and teachers have been communicating New Age messages to people for thousands of years.
 - Spirit guides and teachers, including Jesus of Nazareth.
 - Speaks highly of Jesus. But, to them, Jesus is not the Christ but one "spirit master."
 - Human's spiritual nature = "higher self" = the "Christ" within = divine energy

• "The Secret" by Rhonda Byrne

- Byrne and other Secret teachers have appeared on Larry King Live, The Oprah Winfrey Show, Nightline, ABC News, Ellen DeGeneres, and The Today Show.
- "The Secret" is about the <u>Law of Attraction (LOA)</u> the idea that all humans attract everything into their lives through the power of thought.

Meaning, the universe is like a giant cosmic genie who says to each person:
 "Your wish is my command."

How is the Christian faith different from the New Age religion?
* The Christian faith is God's revealed truth of Jesus Christ's salvation to us sinners.
 The Christian faith has one central truth revealed by God = Jn 3:16 (Jn 3:16; Heb 1:1-2) vs. New Age's eternal spirit masters and teachers. No revelation from God.
J. 2. 2. 2. 2. 4. 4. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2.

John 3:16 (CSB)

¹⁶ For God loved the world in this way: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.

1. The Christian faith has one central truth revealed by God = Jn 3:16 (Jn 3:16; Heb 1:1-2)

vs. New Age's eternal spirit masters and teachers. No revelation from God.

- -God loves us personal & relational.
- −God sought us out love.
- -He revealed Himself to us love.
- -New Age is man-made, man-centered, no relationship with God

- 1. The Christian faith has one central truth revealed by God = Jn 3:16
- 2. The Christian faith has one Creator God. (Jn 3:16; Is 44:6, 8, 24; 45:5, 6, 7, 14, 18, 21, 22; 46:9)

vs. New Age has no transcendent God separate from creation.

- −God is a personal being, not energy, who exists apart from all creation.
- -He wants a relationship with us.

- 1. The Christian faith has one central truth revealed by God = Jn 3:16
- 2. The Christian faith has one Creator God.
- 3. The Christian faith has one human root problem sin & judgment (Jn 3:16; Rom 3:9-11,23; 6:23)

vs. New Age has no transcendent God to sin against.

Sin is "ignorance" of one's inner potential.

- -We are accountable to Him.
- -It's reality.

- 1. The Christian faith has one central truth revealed by God = Jn 3:16
- 2. The Christian faith has one Creator God.
- 3. The Christian faith has one human root problem sin & judgment
- 4. The Christian faith has one salvation from one Savior Jesus Christ (Jn 3:16; Ac 4:12)
 - vs. New Age has no salvation, no forgiveness of sins.
 - -Jesus Christ's only salvation is the heart of the Christian faith.

* Like other religions, New Age is a man-made religious movement that is man-centered with no salvation from sin and no relationship with God.

Only the Christian faith is God's revealed truth of Jesus Christ's salvation to us sinners.