## New Age Beliefs Common Among Professing Christians :: By Geri Ungurean

Well, what shall we say then? Shall we say that it is okay with God for true Christians to also believe in Doctrines of demons? As the Apostle Paul would say:

"God forbid it!"

The secular world believes that there are no moral absolutes – no absolute right – no absolute wrong. They will tell us that everything is relative. What is good for one person may not be good for another. I have two words for this:

### HOG WASH.

As blood-bought, born again believers we know that there ARE moral absolutes. We know this because the Lord told us in His Word. First, He gave us His Commandments. We who are under Grace know that God gave us these laws to show us His standards – His perfection – His holiness.

We who have been redeemed by the blood of the Son of God, Jesus Christ, understand that we cannot keep every Commandment. Jesus proved that to us when he said that if we even think thoughts of lust or anger — it is just as if we had committed adultery and murder!

So, what is a person to do to get right with God? First, a person must admit to God that they are a wretched sinner in need of a Savior. The Savior (Jesus Christ) died a horrific death on a Cross on Calvary 2,000 years ago. He went to the Cross and gave His life so that whoever believes and trusts in Him would be reconciled to God for eternity.

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

"Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him" (2 Corinthians 5:17-21).

# So, You Believe in God

You say you believe in God; in other words, you believe that He exists. Let's see what the Bible says about that:

"You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble!" (James 2:19).

God is not in the least impressed that you believe that He exists. He sent His only Son to earth to die. Why? To pay the debt for all of the sins of this world; and He asks those who want to be right with Him and have their sins forgiven, to repent (agree with God that they are sinners) and TRUST the finished work of Christ as He died and rose from the dead to conquer hell and death.

We must believe and trust this for ourselves.

# What Does God Want us to Do?

We must admit that we are sinners. We must believe Him and ask Him to be our Savior, and to make us the people He wants us to be.

The demons know that God is real and they know Jesus, but they certainly want nothing to do with Him. They exist to do the bidding of their master – Satan.

I read an article today which made me realize that the number of blood-bought, born-again believers is sadly quite small. Remember what Jesus said about this?

"Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it" (Matthew 7:13-14).

Read that passage over again. The Lord Jesus clearly admonished us to enter by the narrow gate which leads to life. He said that few will find that "narrow way" and also that this way is difficult. He spoke of the wide gate and how it leads to destruction. He also said that many will go in by the wide gate.

Pretty clear, wouldn't you say?

And this leads us to the reason I wrote this article. I want to ask the reader a question: Do you believe that the Bible is the infallible and inerrant Word of God? If you answered yes, then you should be very interested in the findings of the ministry of which I will post in this piece.

## From pewresearch.org

## 'New Age' beliefs common among both religious and nonreligious Americans

Most American adults self-identify as Christians. But many Christians also hold what are sometimes characterized as "New Age" beliefs" – including belief in reincarnation, astrology, psychics and the presence of spiritual energy in physical objects like mountains or trees. Many Americans who are religiously unaffiliated also have these beliefs.

Overall, roughly six-in-ten American adults accept at least one of these New Age beliefs. Specifically, four-in-ten believe in psychics and that spiritual energy can be found in physical objects, while somewhat smaller shares express belief in reincarnation (33%) and astrology (29%).

	Believe spiritual energy can be located in physical things	Believe in psychics	Believe in reincarnation	Believe in astrology	NET Believe in at least one
All U.S. adults	42%	41%	33%	29%	62%
Christian	37	40	29	26	61
Protestant	32	38	26	24	57
Evangelical	24	33	19	18	47
Mainline	43	44	33	30	67
Historically black	41	43	38	34	72
Catholic	47	46	36	33	70
Jnaffiliated	47	40	38	32	62
Atheist	13	10	7	3	22
Agnostic	40	31	28	18	56
Nothing in particular	r 61	52	51	47	78
Source: Survey condu	cted Dec. 4-18, 2017, am	ong U.S. ad	ults.		

But New Age beliefs are not necessarily replacing belief in traditional forms of religious beliefs or practices. While eight-in-ten Christians say <u>they believe in God</u> as described in the Bible, six-in-ten believe in one or more of the four New Age beliefs, ranging from 47% of evangelical Protestants to roughly seven-in-ten Catholics and Protestants in the historically black tradition.

\*\*I must insert a comment here. I do not believe that Catholicism is a "denomination" of Christianity. I believe it is a cult.

Moreover, religiously unaffiliated Americans (those who say their religion is atheist, agnostic or "nothing in particular") are about as likely as Christians to hold New Age beliefs. However, atheists are much less likely to believe in any of the four New Age beliefs than agnostics and those who say their religion is "nothing in particular." Just 22% of atheists believe in at least one of four New Age beliefs, compared with 56% of agnostics and eight-in-ten among those whose religion is "nothing in particular."

Americans who consider themselves to be spiritual but not religious also tend to accept at least one New Age belief. Roughly three-quarters of U.S. adults in this category hold one or more New Age beliefs, including six-in-ten who believe spiritual energy can be located in physical things and 54% who believe in psychics. And among those who say they are religious and spiritual, 65% espouse at least one New Age belief.

Americans who <u>reject both the religious and spiritual labels</u> also are more likely to reject New Age beliefs. Roughly three-in-ten or fewer in this group believe in psychics, reincarnation, astrology or that spiritual energy can be found in objects. And fewer than half (45%) affirm one or more of these beliefs.

# U.S. adults who say they are neither religious nor spiritual tend to reject New Age beliefs

Among those who identify as	can be located in physical things	Believe in		Believe in astrology	NET Believe in at least one	
religious and spiritual	41%	43%	33%	29%	65%	
religious but not spiritual	35	27	27	29	58	
spiritual but not religious	60	54	45	39	77	
neither religious nor spiritua	al 28	27	22	19	45	

Note: Respondents were asked two separate questions: "To what extent do you consider yourself a RELIGIOUS person? Are you very religious, somewhat religious, not too religious, not at all religious?" and "To what extent do you consider yourself a SPIRITUAL person? Are you very spiritual, somewhat spiritual, not too spiritual, not at all spiritual?" The table shows combined results from both questions. Respondents are categorized as "religious" if they describe themselves as "very religious" or "somewhat religious," and they are categorized as "spiritual" if they describe themselves as "very spiritual" or "somewhat spiritual."

Source: Survey conducted Dec. 4-18, 2017, among U.S. adults.

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There also are gender, age and other demographic differences associated with New Age beliefs. For instance, just as women <u>are more likely than men to identify with a religion</u> and to engage in a number of religious practices, women also are more likely to hold New Age beliefs. Across all four measures – belief in psychics, reincarnation, astrology and that spiritual energy can be found in objects – larger shares of women than men subscribe to these beliefs. And overall, seven-in-ten women hold at least one New Age belief, compared to 55% of men.

#### Women more likely than men to affirm New Age beliefs Believe spiritual energy Believe in Believe in Believe in NET Believe in at least one in physical things psychics reincarnation astrology Men 37 % 34% 27% 20% Women 46 47 39 37 Ages 18-29 45 42 39 32 30-49 45 41 35 34 50-64 42 42 34 27 65+ 33 36 22 21 High school or less 42 42 39 33 Some college 45 45 34 31 College graduate 38 34 24 22 White 38 40 29 26 Black 45 45 43 39 Hispanic 55 43 37 30 Republican/lean Rep. 34 39 26 24 Democrat/lean Dem. 47 41 38 32

Note: Whites and blacks include only non-Hispanics. Hispanics can be of any race. Source: Survey conducted Dec. 4-18, 2017, among U.S. adults.

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Also, adults under age 65, those who have not graduated from college, racial and ethnic minorities, and Democrats and those who lean toward the Democratic Party are more likely than others to hold to at least one New Age belief. <a href="mailto:source">source</a>

# Kabbalah

I have written quite a few articles on Kabbalah. It is a mystical belief system which began with the Jewish people. There is a Jewish website called <a href="mailto:chabad.org">chabad.org</a> where a person can learn all about Kabbalah (I would not recommend this). Israel has many Kabbalist Rabbis, so this shows how widely accepted this is.

Hollywood was taken with the practice of Kabbalah years ago. I believe that the novelty of it has worn off a bit, but you will still find celebrities involved in Kabbalah.

Let me just give the reader a sampling of the beliefs of Kabbalah:

Reincarnation

**Eastern Meditation** 

**Psychics and Mediums** 

All mystical practices

I have actually been reprimanded for writing on this subject. There are well-meaning brothers and sisters in Christ who do not like anything disparaging said about the Jewish people.

Seeing that I am an ethnic Jew, and a watchman on the wall – it would be disingenuous of me to sweep this under the proverbial carpet.

Do you not remember in the Old Testament, when God sent out his Prophets to warn His people of taking on the traditions and practices of foreign lands? This was detestable to God and still is! I love my people but not as much as our Father loves them.

The reason I am bringing up Kabbalah is that I wondered how much this practice can be blamed for Christians getting involved with New Age practices. It's something to think about.

# **Apostate Christianity**

But I do think it is more likely that those who call themselves Christians, yet love astrology and believe in reincarnation – were never truly Christian to begin with. Deception abounds in these last days. The socalled Social Justice gospel has nothing to do with repentance and trusting the Lord Jesus Christ for Salvation.

Recently, I even found that George Soros has for years been funding this apostate movement through his Open Societies NGO. Such a diabolical person.

So Brethren, if you partake in New Age practices which have been discussed in this article, you truly need to repent of this and ask forgiveness from God. Maybe you are a new Christian and have not sat under solid Bible teaching.

Or maybe you have realized by reading this piece that you have never gotten right with God. It is not too late. He waits for you with open arms:

**How Can I Be Saved?** 

**A Sermon For Sunday** 

Shalom b'Yeshua

MARANATHA!

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