

# Contemporary Religious Cults (GTHE 638) - Lectures

THE  
BOOK  
OF  
MORMON

ANOTHER TESTAMENT  
OF JESUS CHRIST



UNMASKING  
THE NEW AGE

Douglas R. Groothuis



Summer 2015, 4<sup>th</sup> Session  
8:00 – 11:00 AM (M – F)

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Office Hours (4A 43A) : 11:00 – 12:00 (M-F)

# **Group Assignments**

- **Group 1 – Trina Lewis-Fleming, Star Hoyer, Jasmine Farrar**



# Content

- Orthodoxy vs. Heresy  
(Perfect/Complete Gospel vs. False Gospel)
- History of World False Religions/Cults
- Panorama of Cults
  - Freemasonry; Illuminati
  - Mormonism; Seventh-day Adventism; Christian Science; Jehovah's Witnesses
  - Baha'i; Unity; New Age
  - The Worldwide Church of God (Armstrongism); The Way International; Scientology
  - The Unification Church; ISKCON (Hare Krishna); The Children of God
  - Radical Islam

# Lecture for 6 July

## Introductory Lecture

### Study for First Devotion on the Trinity:

- Gen 1:1-2, 26; 3:22
- Matt 3:16-17; 28:19
- John 1:1-4; 14:26; 15:26;  
20:19-22
- Eph 1:11-14
- Heb 10:10-17
- 1 John 5:6-12; Rev 1:4-5, and:



Also: Read Tucker, Chap. 1, App. C; Sire, Chaps 1-4; Hebert, Sects. 1.2.1, 1.2.10

# Lecture on **Orthodoxy** vs. **Heresy** (**Complete/Perfect Gospel** vs. **False Gospel**)



*Orthodoxy vs. Heresy (Complete/Perfect Gospel vs. False Gospel)*

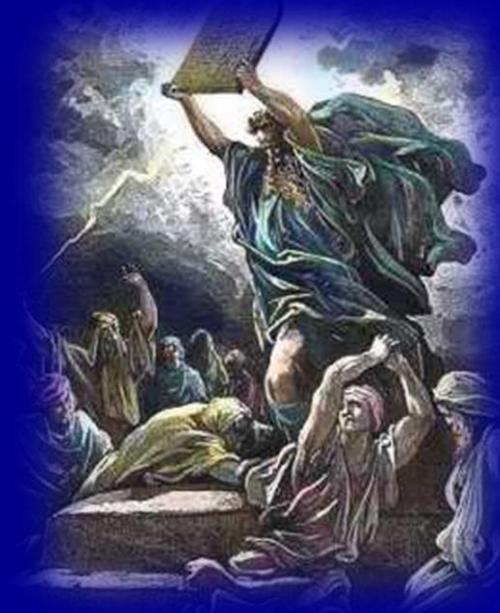
- **Orthodox** – from the Greek *ortho*, meaning, “straight or right,” and *dokeo*, meaning, “to believe, think” = Right or Correct Belief (Zodhiates, 1991; Kittel and Friedrich, 1985), and
- **Heterodox** – meaning, Different Belief from the Norm (Eliade, 1987)
  - **Heresy** – from the Greek *hairesis*, meaning, “choice of opinion” (Kittel and Friedrich, 1985), and has come to mean, “a teaching or doctrine that subverts/contradicts orthodox Christian beliefs; e.g., Trinity, divinity of Jesus, atonement” (Keeley, 1982)
  - **Cult** – traditionally means a “group of people.” For the purposes of this course, it means a “group that holds to one or more anti-Christian or heretical doctrines” (Tsoukalas, 1999).

*Orthodoxy* vs. *Heresy* (*Complete/Perfect Gospel* vs. *False Gospel*)

## ➤ **Origins of Christian Orthodoxy in Old Testament:**

In Covenants God made with Humanity; specifically:

- Mosaic Covenant
  - Decalogue (Exod 20:1-17);
  - Confession of God's Attributes on  
Mt. Horeb/Sinai (Exod 34:6-7);
  - The *Shema* (Deut 6:4-9)



## *Orthodoxy* vs. *Heresy* (*Complete/Perfect Gospel* vs. *False Gospel*)

### ➤ **Orthodoxy in the Early Church:**

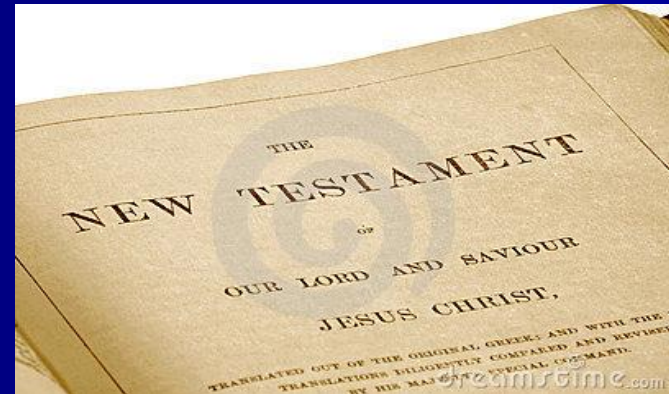
- 1) Accepted *Old Testament Canon* at Synod of Jamnia (AD 70-100);
- 2) Oral *Confessions or Creeds*, usually spoken at Baptism of New Believer (“Jesus is Lord” of Rom 10:9-10/1 Cor 12:3—expanded version of Phil 2:6-11—& Gospel in 1 Cor 15:3-8); Expanded to “*Apostles’ Creed*,” and *Rule of Truth/Faith* (Irenaeus, Tertullian, Origen, Athanasius) in 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> centuries AD;
- 3) By the end of 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD, acceptance of the *Four Gospels and other selected Apostolic Writings*; Integrated into the *Nicene Creed* (AD 325);





*Orthodoxy* vs. *Heresy* (*Complete/Perfect Gospel* vs. *False Gospel*)

➤ **Early Church (cont.):**



- 4) Finally, the *New Testament Canon* was closed at the **Council of Carthage (AD 397)** and *became the final authority for Orthodoxy* (combined with *tradition* [historic faith of the Church] and *reason* [based on tension of faith and reason], and later *experience* [from daily interaction with the Holy Spirit])

*Orthodoxy* vs. *Heresy* (*Complete/Perfect Gospel* vs. *False Gospel*)

➤ **Medieval/Reformation Church Orthodoxy:**

The above (in conjunction with the Apostles', Nicene, & Athanasian Creeds) led to Roman Catholic Church *Dogmas* (doctrines) and later to the various *Confessions* of Post-Reformation Protestantism (The Augsburg Confession (1530), The Council of Trent (1543-63), The Heidelberg Catechism (1563), The Second Helvetic Confession (1566), The Thirty-nine Articles of Religion (1571), The Five Arminian Articles (1610), The Canons of the Synod of Dort (1618-9), Westminster Confession of Faith (1646), and The Baptist Confession of 1689), including, what came to be known as: *The Wesleyan Quadrilateral* (Scripture, Tradition, Reason, and Experience).

➤ **Which have been consolidated into. . .**



*Orthodoxy* vs. *Heresy* (*Complete/Perfect Gospel* vs. *False Gospel*)

... THE

➤ **Five Central Core beliefs of Christian Orthodoxy:**

1. The Trinity;
2. The Deity of Jesus Christ (Fully God);
3. The Bodily Resurrection of Christ (Fully Man);
4. The Atonement of Christ;
5. Salvation by Grace through Faith

(Gomes, 1995)



*Orthodoxy* vs. *Heresy* (*Complete/Perfect Gospel* vs. *False Gospel*)

**Christian Orthodoxy** appears in **3 Branches/6 Streams**:

3 Branches:	6 Streams:
Roman Catholicism	Contemplative
Eastern Orthodox	Incarnational
Protestantism	Evangelical
	Charismatic
	Holiness
	Social Justice

➤ All agree with the 5-Fold Central Core Beliefs

*Orthodoxy* vs. *Heresy* (*Complete/Perfect Gospel* vs. *False Gospel*)

**Therefore:**

- **All Heretical Cults**  
**deviate from**  
**at least 1 of the 5**  
**Central Core**  
**Orthodox Beliefs**



*Orthodoxy vs. Heresy (Complete/Perfect Gospel vs. False Gospel)*

- This then shows the History of the growth of the Perfect/Complete Gospel vs. the False Gospel (Phil 1:6; 1 Cor 15; Eph 1:3-14; 1 Pet 1:3-6 vs. Gen 3:4-5, 13; 2 Cor 11:3-4) in light of the Parable of the Wheat/Weeds (Matt 13:24-30, 36-43)

*Orthodoxy* vs. *Heresy* (*Complete/Perfect Gospel* vs. *False Gospel*)

➤ For tomorrow – Study for Devotion on Jesus' Divinity:

- Matt 9:1-6; 12:8; 16:13-16;
- John 5:17-40; 10:24-39; 20:30-31;
- Col 1:15-20;
- Rev 1:12-18, and

➤ Also read: Tucker, Chap. 2;  
Sire, Chaps. 5-7; Hebert,  
Sections 3.1 – 3.5



# Lecture on History of **World Religions and Cults**



*Lecture on History of **World Religions and Cults***

- **All Heretical False Religions/Cults**  
**deviate from:**
- **At least 1 of the 5 Central Core Orthodox  
Christian Beliefs (which are also evident  
in the Old Testament)**



*Lecture on History of **World Religions and Cults***

- This started w/Satan's lies in the Garden of Eden (Gen 3:1-4): "You will not certainly die . . . And you will be like God . . .";
- This led to the Fall of Humanity, when **Satan**:
  - **stole** the stewardship authority/dominion God gave humanity over the earth;
  - **killed** humanity's spirit, which ultimately brought physical death;
  - and **destroyed** humanity's relationship with God (from John 10:10)



*Lecture on History of **World Religions and Cults***

- However, God gave the first promise of Messiah in Gen 3:15, separating the “seed of the woman” (prophecy of Jesus’ virgin birth) from the seed of Satan (continuation of sin/evil)—Kingdom of God from kingdom of Satan (Perfect/Complete Gospel vs. False Gospel per Matt 13 Parable of Wheat & Weeds)

## *Lecture on History of **World Religions and Cults***

- This **sin nature** from the Fall became worse—  
as **evidenced by fallen angels cohabitating w/women &  
producing the Nephilim** (Gen 6:1-4; 2 Pet 2:4; Jude 6),  
which led to the Great Flood (**Gen 7-8**).

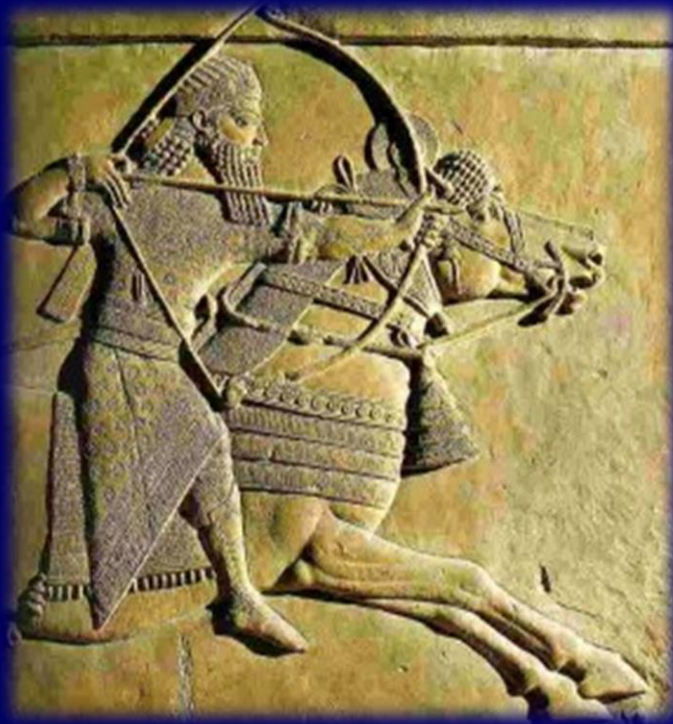


*Lecture on History of **World Religions and Cults***

- Then, the promise of Messiah was passed down through the blessed son of Noah, Shem (Semites) – Gen 9:26-27; and later, down to Abraham (by covenant, as the first Hebrew, to all God's chosen people) – Gen 12:1-3; 14:13; 15; 17:1-21



## *Lecture on History of **World Religions and Cults***



- But, the sin nature from the Fall (the seed of Satan) was passed down thru the cursed son & grandson of Noah—Ham and Canaan (Gen 9:18-27) . . . To the grandson of Ham, Nimrod (Gen 10:8-12)

## *Lecture on History of **World Religions and Cults***

### ➤ **This became evident through:**

- (1) his being a hunter for humanity (vs. trusting God to provide);
- (2) his building cities, an empire, and naming himself king (vs. God being King over His people) – **Gen 10:8-12**; and
- (3) his building of the great City of Babylon and Tower of Babel (direct violation of God's covenant with Noah/his son's in **Gen 9:1** to “multiply and fill the earth”) – **Gen 11:1-8**.





Lecture on History of *World Religions and Cults*

- Nimrod, w/his wife Semiramis, then established a Satanic “Chaldean Mysteries” Cult Religion, in which *they both were worshipped as gods (became Baal/Ashtoreth)*, leading humanity away from *the pure faith of Noah and Shem* and *teaching them instead to rely on themselves, their own strengths, and other external means to obtain “regeneration”* (Alexander Hislop, 1929)

## Lecture on History of *World Religions and Cults*

- From this sinister start in Babylon/Assyria (ca. 2250 BC), the **Chaldean Mysteries Cult Religion** became:
  - **Baal/Ashtoreth Worship in Canaan and surrounding area** — self-sustaining male/female gods of fertility and cycles of birth/rebirth—denying the Trinity, the Messiah, and humanity's need for one;
  - **Hinduism (ca. 1500 BC) in India** — Hinduism believes in polytheism and sees no need for a Messiah, atonement, salvation or bodily resurrection (replaced by the cycle of rebirths and oneness with the universe through self-consciousness);
  - **Sun and idol worship in Egypt (ca. 1000 BC)** — started in Babylon, became more prevalent in Egypt;
  - **Mithraism (ca. 600 BC) in Persia & Asia Minor (Turkey)** — Mithraism is considered a heresy based on Old Testament orthodox concepts of the Trinity, the Messiah and humanity's need for one. Specifically, Mithraism worships Lucifer/Satan as god and denies the deity of the Messiah, the need for atonement, or salvation by grace through faith in the Messiah;
  - **Jainism (ca. 500s BC) in India** — Jainism is a heretical religion, since it is completely ascetic, atheistic, secularly humanistic, & believes in reincarnation/need to be released from *karma*. As a result, it rejects the Old Testament concepts of the Trinity and the deity of the Messiah. Consequently, there remains no need for atonement or salvation by a loving God to restore relationship with His creation—humanity;

## Lecture on History of *World Religions and Cults*

- From this sinister start in Babylon/Assyria (ca. 2250 BC), the **Chaldean Mysteries Cult Religion** became (cont.):
  - **Buddhism (ca. 500s BC) in India** — Although being different from Jainism in several fundamental ways, Buddhism remains a heretical cult because of its secular humanistic beliefs, spiritism/demonism, & beliefs in reincarnation/need for reaching *nirvana* (extinguishment of life-ultimate death). Thus, it rejects the Old Testament concepts of the Trinity and the need for atonement or salvation by grace through faith provided by a loving God through a fully God/fully man Messiah;
  - **Zoroastrianism (ca. 570 BC) in Persia** — Zoroastrianism also falls into the heretical category, due to its polytheistic views, salvation by good works/choices made, and rejection of the Old Testament concepts of the Trinity and a need for a Messiah for atonement or salvation of humanity;
  - **Secular Humanism, Taoism, & Confucianism (ca. mid-500s - late 400s BC) in China** — Taoism is a mixture of an atheistic, secular humanistic philosophy and activist social agenda, focusing on right actions/good works, with a spiritual component also being addressed. As such, Taoism also rejects the Old Testament concepts of the Trinity, deity of the Messiah, and the need for any interaction with a deity for atonement, salvation, or anything else. Confucianism must also be labeled heretical, for its secular humanistic philosophy, polytheism, and lack of belief in the immortal soul of humanity; therefore, discounting all of the Old Testament concepts that form the foundation for the central core beliefs of Christian orthodoxy;
  - **Druidism (ca. 380 BC) in Britain, Ireland, & France** — Druidism is also considered to be heretical due to its polytheism (vs. Old Testament concept of the Trinity) and belief in reincarnation as a means of universal salvation (vs. Old Testament concept of the need for a Messiah and atonement/salvation appropriated by grace through faith);



## Lecture on History of *World Religions and Cults*

*From this sinister start in Babylon/Assyria (ca. 2250 BC), the Chaldean Mysteries Cult Religion became (cont.):*

- All of the above led up to the birth, life, death, resurrection, & ascension of the Messiah Jesus, & birth of the Church. At that time, there arose two major heresies that opposed the Early Church:
  - **Gnosticism** — Gnosticism comes from the Greek word *gnosis*, meaning knowledge. The Gnostics believed they held a secret and special knowledge that focused on dualism of: the good—spirit vs. the evil—matter. The material universe is considered to be a cosmic accident, created by an evil god (generally equated to the god of the Old Testament) . . . good spirits are trapped in evil bodies . . . knowledge (*gnosis*) of self is the key to deliverance . . . Jesus is the deliverer . . . he came to bring the true *gnosis* . . . and he came to earth as a spirit being, only appearing to have flesh and blood (phantom flesh). Gnosticism was a major threat to the true doctrine of the early Church and was vehemently opposed by John the Apostle, Apostolic Fathers Ignatius of Antioch and Polycarp of Smyrna, and most rigorously and effectively by Irenaeus (130-203), Bishop of Lyons (Dorries, 2002; 2006).
  - **Ebionism (Judaizers)** — The Ebionites believed in strictly following the Law of Moses, discounted Paul's interpretation of the Law, put Jesus on the same level as the Old Testament prophets, and denied Jesus' preexistence, virgin birth, Incarnation, or anything having to do with His divinity, until he was adopted by God the Father at His baptism or resurrection. This faction was called the "Judaizers" by Paul, who fought vehemently in opposition to them (Hagglund, 1968; Hart, 1999).
  - Foundations for the **Kabbalah** started w/syncretistic exiled Jews in Babylon (500s BC), it was not formalized in writing until **c. AD 120 by Rabbi Akiba in Israel**
    - The connection between Kabbalistic & Gnostic cults is secret knowledge (*gnosis*), only obtainable by being part of their group. In Kabbalah, this *gnosis* takes the form of a mystical interpretation of the Old Testament, which includes numerology, astrology, & Pantheism from the Magi Cult in Babylon (500s BC perversion of Zoroastrianism/Judaism, w/ portions of Chaldean Mysteries Cult Religion added). This is enticingly deceptive, reminiscent of Satan's work in the Garden of Eden, and a clear continuance of the Chaldean/Babylonian Mysteries cult false religion (Kirban, 1980; Livingstone, 2007).

*Lecture on History of **World Religions and Cults (cont.):***

## **Therefore:**

- The **Chaldean Mysteries Cult Religion** gave birth to **Zoroastrianism & the Magi Cult** during the time of Daniel and the exiles of Judah in Babylon (6<sup>th</sup> century BC).
- This then gave rise to the beginnings of **Kabbalah**, which became **Mithraism** (aka, **Jewish Kabbalah, Merkabah Mysticism, Therapeutae, Druidism, & Gnosticism**), during the time of the Messiah Jesus.



*Lecture on History of **World Religions and Cults (cont.):***

This then gave rise to further **Gnostic Cults:**

The **Christological heresies of Arianism, Apollinarianism, Nestorianism, Eutycheanism, Manichaeism, & Paulicianism (which led to Catharism, Bogomilism, the Knights Templar & Modern Witchcraft in the Medieval Period),** in the first four and one-half centuries of the Early Church

## Lecture on History of *World Religions and Cults (cont.):*

### And, after this came

- **Muhammad** and the birth of **Islam** (ca. AD 630), & its later **Radical Sects** (**Sufism, Ismailis, Nizaris [later Khojas], Wahhabis, & the Salafi Movement**)
- Islam primarily believes in peace/submission to the word of Allah, contained in **3 elements**: **1) Allah revealed his will to Muhammad, recorded in the Qur'an.** Muhammad taught he was one of a line of prophets; but his message (recorded in the Qur'an) was God's final word. In Islamic theology, Allah has given 104 revelations, of which 4 have been preserved: Pentateuch to Moses, Psalms to David, Gospel to Jesus, and Qur'an to Muhammad—the first 3 have been so corrupted they cannot be trusted; so, the Qur'an replaces these. Additionally, Muslims have Islamic Law (*shariah*—the path), taken from traditions/sayings of Muhammad; *Qiyas*, opinions of Islamic jurists; & *Ijma*, consensus from a group of Islamic judges. There are 2 main divisions within Islam: the vast majority, called Sunnites & minority, called Shiites. **2) There is a confessional element to Islam (*shahada*); i.e., —There is one God, who does not beget or is begotten . . . and there is like unto him no one. . . . There is no god by Allah, and Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah. 3) there remains an obligation of duties element Islam—the Five Pillars of Islam: a) Confession (*shahada*), addressed above; b) Worship/Prayer (*salat*) — five times a day, facing Mecca; c) Legal almsgiving (*zakat*); d) Fasting (*sawm*) — mainly in the month of Ramadan (in the summer); and e) Pilgrimage to Mecca (*hajj*) — must be performed at least once per lifetime. There is an **additional optional duty; jihad**, or exertion in the way of Allah (accomplished by protecting the faith, overcoming unbelievers, or purifying unbelievers). Islam teaches one final judgment at the end of time. After which, the faithful will spend eternity in paradise. If a Muslim dies in the act of jihad, they are assured a place in paradise (Levinson 1996:94-5; Ellwood 1998:177-8)**





Lecture on History of *World Religions and Cults (cont.):*

- **Islam** was rejected by other Arab tribes at its beginning. Then, it was considered idolatry and based on false, unsubstantiated visions by the Jews. *And finally, it was considered to be heresy by the Christians, since it rejects the Trinity, the deity of Jesus Christ and the need for atonement or salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ.*



*Lecture on History of World Religions and Cults*

*From this sinister start in Babylon/Assyria (ca. 2250 BC), the Chaldean Mysteries Cult Religion became (cont.):*

- And then, all these forms of the Chaldean Mysteries Cult Religion spread into all the earth via Europe, Africa, and Asia.
- For more information on this lecture, read Sects. 3.2, 3.3, and 3.4 from Hebert Dissertation (on D2L).

*Lecture on History of **World Religions and Cults** (cont.):*

Then, from these **two cultic streams**  
**(Gnosticism and Islam)** came **Modern**  
**Witchcraft** (1154), **Modern Secular**  
**Humanism, & Rosicrucianism** (ca.  
1400); and then, the cultic origins of  
**Freemasonry**

*Lectures for 8 July (cont.)*

*Lecture on History of World Religions and Cults*

➤ For tomorrow – Study for Devotion on Jesus' Humanity/Resurrection:

- Gen 3:15
- Matt 1:1, 16, 18-23;
- Luke 18:31-33; 24;
- John 19:28-42;
- Acts 1:1-9; 2:22-28;
- 1 Tim 3:16;
- Heb 10:5-10

➤ And also: **Turn-in cult of choice for study**; Read Sire, chaps. 8 – 10, Apps. 1-2; Hebert, sects. 3.6, 3.7.1





*Lectures for 9 July*

# Lecture on **Panorama of Cults**— Starting with **Freemasonry**



## *Lecture on **Panorama of Cults***

### ***Freemasonry***

- From Post-Reformation till 1717, in England, the Operative Masons (guilds of actual stone masons w/heritage dating back to the Tower of Babel, the Egyptian Pyramids, and Solomon's Temple) nearly became extinct , while the gentlemen **"speculative" masons or "Freemasons" increased rapidly & formed the Institution of Speculative Masonry in 1717**

## *Lecture on **Panorama of Cults***

### ***Freemasonry***

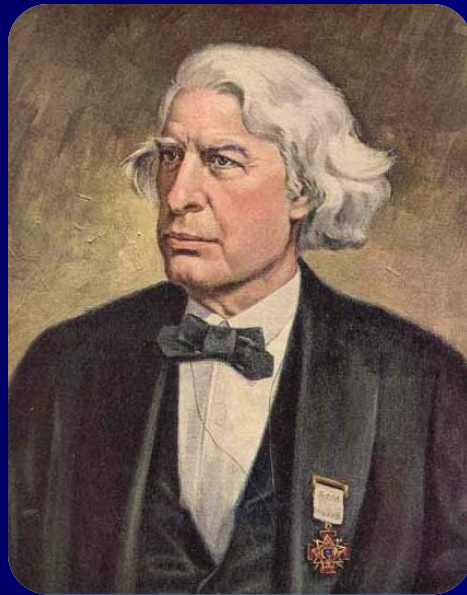
- Rev. James Anderson (1680-1739), Scottish Presbyterian minister and Rev. John T. Desaguliers (1683-1744), French philosopher, inventor and Protestant minister took the tools of the stone masons & applied symbolic meanings to them for moral instruction in a Freemason's life . . . & **disguised in biblical terminology, ancient pagan mysteries of Egypt**



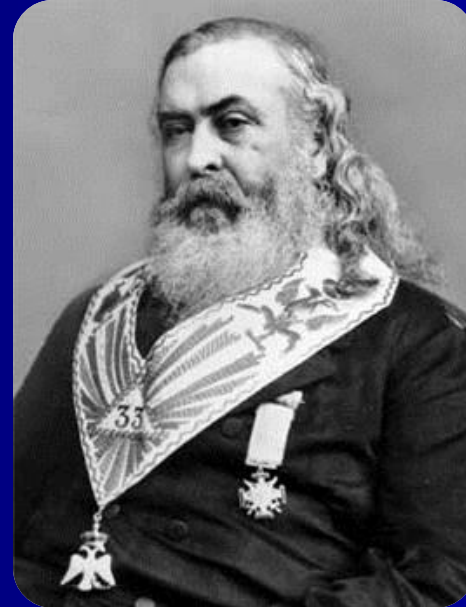
## *Lecture on **Panorama of Cults***

### ***Freemasonry***

- From these small beginnings, **Freemasonry** spread to Europe and America, primarily at the hands of **Albert G. Mackey (1807-1881)** in England and **Albert Pike (1809-1891)** in America



Albert G. Mackey (1807-1881)



Albert Pike (1809-1891)



## *Lecture on Panorama of Cults* *Freemasonry*

- Based on its 1<sup>st</sup> three degrees—Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Mason (which form the Blue Lodge—originally instituted in 1717), the following is a brief description of the Freemasons :
  - Blue Lodge – instituted as a speculative science in 1717.
  - York Rite Freemasonry, consisting of: Chapter of Royal Arch – founded in 1750; Council R.A.S.M. (Royal and Select Masters) . . . and, Commandery of Knights Templar – which originated in the United States in 1816.



## Lecture on *Panorama of Cults*

### *Freemasonry*

➤ **Scottish Rite** – composed of 30 degrees along with the first three degrees of Blue Lodge which equals 33 degrees.

- It was built on the rite of perfection of 25 degrees, and was devised in the College of Clermont in 1854.
- Albert Pike was the man responsible for revising the Scottish Rite, while serving as Grand Commander from 1859-1891.
- ***It should be noted here that the Scottish Rite is not only pagan but the most demonic and occultic branch of Freemasonry [emphasis added].***





## Lecture on *Panorama of Cults*

### *Freemasonry*

- **The Shrine (A.A.O.N.M.S.)** – a candidate must be a 32 degree Mason or Knights Templar to apply.  
*It is Muslim oriented with a Muslim death oath [emphasis added].*
- **Tall Cedars of Lebanon** –  
all Master Masons are eligible.
- **De Molay** – for boys from 14 to 21 years of age.



## Lecture on *Panorama of Cults*

### *Freemasonry*

- **Eastern Star** – for women whose relatives are Masons.
- **Rainbow Girls and Daughters of the Nile** – also for the daughters of Masons.
- **Various Square Clubs** – organizations to which any Mason can belong  
(Harris, *Freemasonry*, 1983).



## *Lecture on Panorama of Cults*

### *Freemasonry*

- Thus, the origins of Freemasonry lie deeply rooted in the Babylonian Mysteries cult false religion started by Nimrod and his wife Semiramis during the time of the Tower of Babel. It is further tied into the rise of the pagan worship in Israel around the time of Solomon and his sin of turning from Yahweh—God of his father David, Moses, and Abraham, Isaac, and Israel—to the idolatry of this Babylonian Mysteries cult.

## *Lecture on Panorama of Cults*

### *The Illuminati*

- From the foundation of Freemasonry, with its roots tied to the Babylonian Magi Cult (& its Kabbalistic/Mithraic beliefs & its modern version—the Lurianic, or New Kabbalah started around 1630-40, aka Shabbatean Heresy, Frankists, Zoharists or the Illumined) came the formal birth of the Illuminati by Adam Weishaupt in 1776 (Livingstone, 2007)



## *Lecture on **Panorama of Cults***

### ***The Illuminati***

- The **Illuminati** is based on **Egyptian occultism, Buddhism, Kabbalah, Catharism, Sufism, the writings of Voltaire, the German Freemasonry Lodge Theodore in Munich, and from Weishaupt's Jesuit training (Trainor, 2002), with the intent to overthrow established civilization/religion & establish a **New World Order**; using the following **seven-fold plan**:**
- 1) **Abolish all ordered Governments;**
- 2) **Abolish Private Property;**
- 3) **Abolish Inheritance;**
- 4) **Abolish Patriotism;**
- 5) **Abolish Religion;**
- 6) **Abolish the Family Unit; thereby creating chaos, and:**
- 7) **Establishment of a New World Order (over which they rule), controlled by "The Council of 13."**





## Lecture on *Panorama of Cults*

### *The Illuminati*

- By 1785, there were 15 Illumined Masonic Lodges in the 13 Colonies of America (including members, such as: Dewitt Clinton, Clinton Roosevelt, Horace Greeley, & Thomas Jefferson), where the primary objective was to design a “Rothschild-controlled” Central Bank (Kirban 1980)

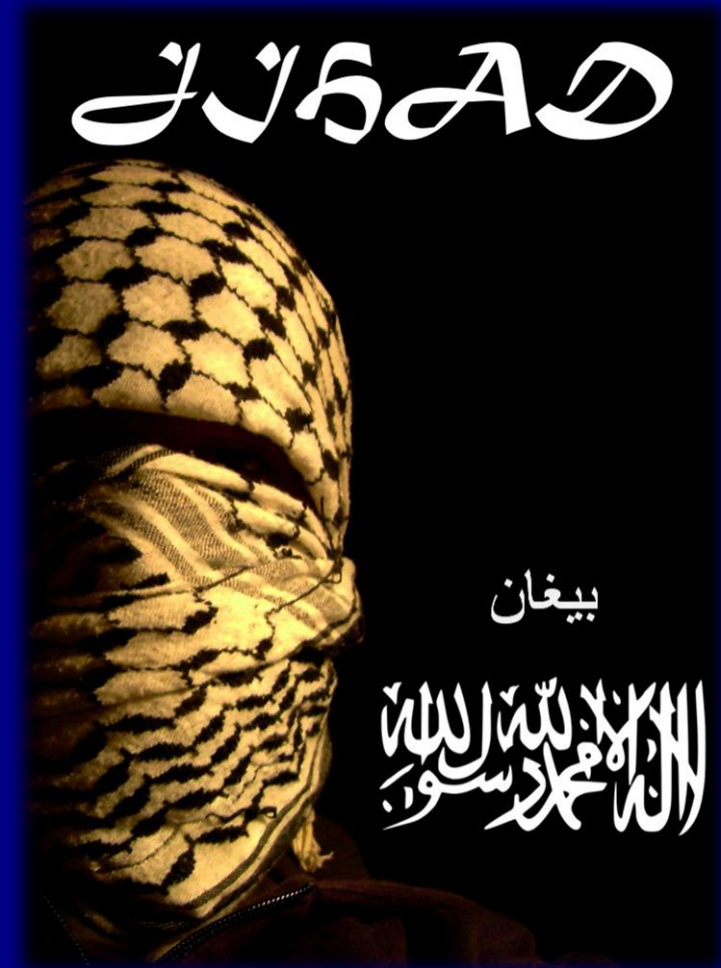




## Lecture on *Panorama of Cults*

### *The Illuminati*

- The **Illuminati** (via the **British Spy Network**) also developed ties to **brother occultists in Egypt** to create a **radical arm of Islam** thru **Mohammed Abdul Wahhab** (1712-1792) allowing one Muslim to kill another under the guise of **jihad**.



## *Lecture on **Panorama of Cults***

### ***The Illuminati***

- This was legitimized in 1746 in Saudi Arabia/became the “**Wahhabis**” In 1776, Wahhab declared himself to be leader of the Muslim world.
- In 1792, Wahhab died, but the movement continued with a goal of destroying the Ottoman Empire.
- In the 1820s, **Scottish Rite Freemasonry/British Rosicrucians** worked in Egypt w/the Grand Lodge of the **Fatimid Ismailis** to develop the **Salafi Movement** w/in **Islam**—the primary agent of this movement was Jamal ud Din al Afghani in 1857-8 (Livingstone, 2007).

## *Lecture on Panorama of Cults*

### *The Illuminati*

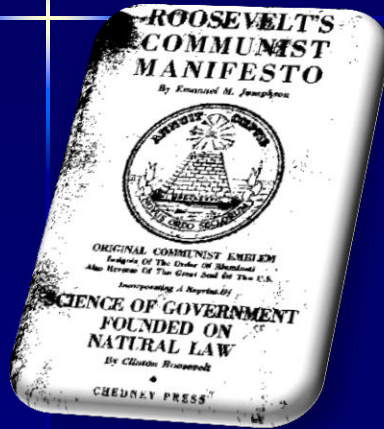
- Weishaupt died in 1830.

Guiseppe Mazzini took over the Illuminati in Europe & w/the help of the Money Barons (headed by Rothschilds), the Royal blood lines of Europe and Armenian/ Scythian/ Khazarian) were tied to the Modern Babylonian Mysteries Cult by the Order of the Garter (witchcraft), Freemasonry, & Illuminati (Livingstone, 2007).



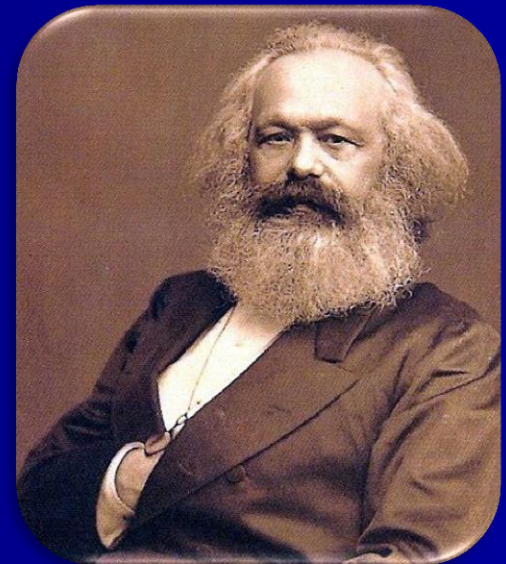
## Lecture on *Panorama of Cults*

### *The Illuminati*



- In 1841, Clinton Roosevelt published his book *The Science of Government Founded on Natural Law* (outlining the Illuminati's plan for a One World Government).

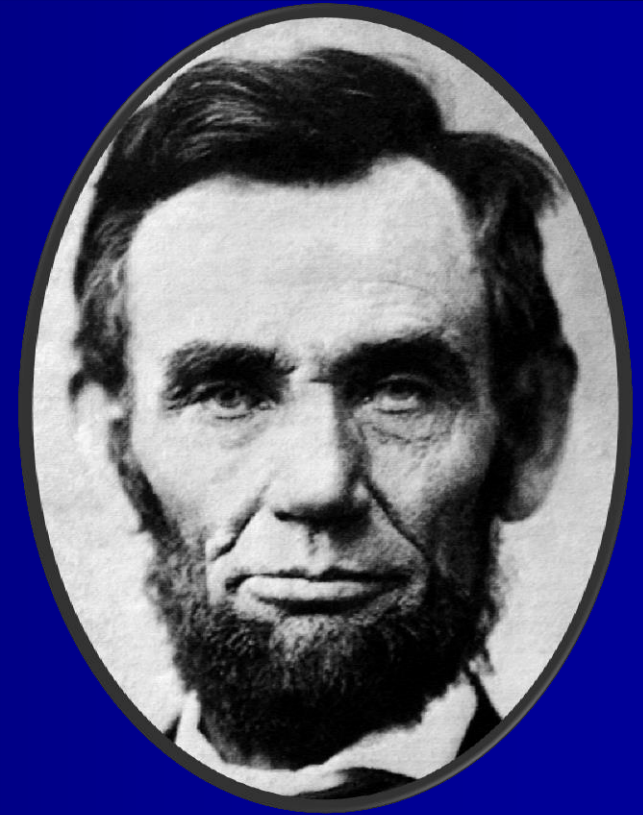
- In 1847, Karl Marx wrote "The Communist Manifesto," which gave birth to Fabian Socialism.



## *Lecture on **Panorama of Cults***

### ***The Illuminati***

- President Abraham Lincoln  
was **assassinated by an agent  
of the Money Barons because  
he would not sanction  
another US Central Bank.**





## *Lecture on **Panorama of Cults***

### ***The Illuminati***

- **After the Civil War, Albert Pike became the Leader of the Illuminati in America**, and in 1870 created a world-wide Masonic rite—The New and Reformed Palladian Rite—to centrally govern all Freemasons.
- Also in **1870 John Ruskin** started the **Fabian Socialist Society** in Oxford (Cecil Rhodes was his most famous student).





## *Lecture on **Panorama of Cults***

### ***The Illuminati***

- In **1871 Pike** gave **Mazzini** plans for **3 World Wars to usher in the New World Order**:
  - **WWI**—to enable Communism to destroy Czarist Russia;
  - **WWII**—Fascists vs. Political Zionists & establish a State of Israel/allow Communism to expand world-wide; AND . . .
  - **WWIII**—Judaism vs. Islam to destroy each other and create world-wide chaos.

## *Lecture on Panorama of Cults*

### *The Illuminati*

- Mazzini died in 1872. In 1889, Pike issued his final statement to the Palladian Councils:

“... The Masonic religion should be ...  
maintained in the purity of the  
Luciferian doctrine.”

Pike died in 1891.

*Lecture on Panorama of Cults*

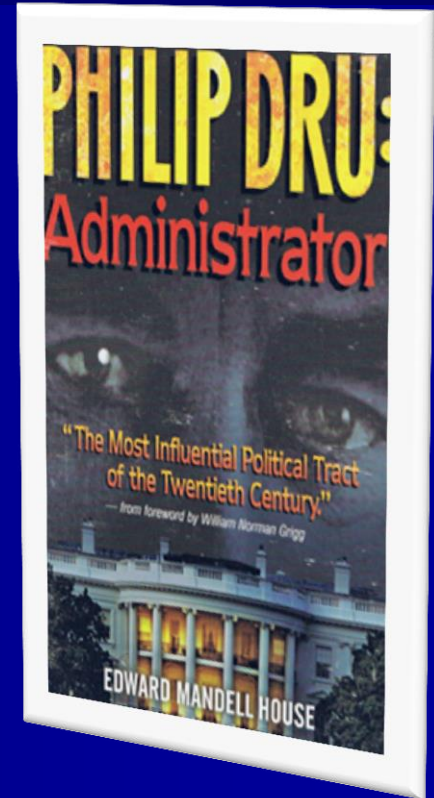
*The Illuminati*

- The Illuminati's work was then carried on by the "Round Table Groups" in England, the Money Barons infiltrating US Banking (Jacob Schiff, the Warburgs, John D. Rockefeller, J. P. Morgan) , from which, John D. Rockefeller started Standard Oil Co.; Edward R. Harriman, the Railroad Empire, and Andrew Carnegie, the Steel Empire – (Kirban, 1980; Brooks, 1983; Griffin, 1993)

## Lecture on *Panorama of Cults*

### *The Illuminati*

- In 1913, Col. House published his book *Philip Dru – Administrator*, which addressed the “man behind the man” concept of ruling America through “puppet” President Woodrow Wilson, the **Federal Reserve Act** was passed recreating the Central Bank in America (Fed. Reserve Banking System, controlled by the Money Barons)



## Lecture on *Panorama of Cults*

### *The Illuminati*

- Then, WWI, the Bolshevik Revolution on 1 May 1917, the formation of the League of Nations (forerunner of the UN) in 1919, and the collapse of the Ottoman Empire (and Turkey became a republic).
- Lenin took over from Mazzinni as the Illuminati's "global revolutionary."
- In 1921, the Council on Foreign Relations was formed in America to control politics, business, press/media, education, and money.



## Lecture on *Panorama of Cults*

### *The Illuminati*

- In 1932 (due to cooperation of Wahhabis and Salafis), Kingdom of Saudi Arabia established, and in 1936 the Saudis granted oil concessions to Socal (Standard Oil of California), Texaco (Texas Oil Co.)(Griffin), Standard Oil of NJ/Socony-Vacuum (Predecessors of Exxon-Mobil), BP (British Petroleum), Royal Dutch Shell, and Gulf Oil (collectively known as “**the Seven Sisters,**” which control the price of oil around the world).





## Lecture on *Panorama of Cults*

### *The Illuminati*

- Then WWII, the Yalta Conference (where Europe was divided per Lenin's plan of Communism), and the UN was established, and Allen Dulles (33<sup>rd</sup> degree Mason, Knight Templar, founding member of the CFR, and in-law of the Rockefellers) turned the US OSS of WWII into the CIA (Griffin, 1993, Livingstone, 2007).



## Lecture on *Panorama of Cults*

### *The Illuminati*

- In 1954, the Bilderbergers were established (as the European counterpart to the CFR & to run post-WWII Europe/the UN).
- In 1962 the Muslim World League was founded (officially combining the Wahhabis and Salafis).



## *Lecture on **Panorama of Cults***

### ***The Illuminati***

- In **1963, JFK was assassinated** and LBJ entered America into Vietnam.
- In **1969, Executive Orders** were established for the President during a “national emergency,” America’s currency was **taken off the Gold Standard**.



## *Lecture on **Panorama of Cults***

### ***The Illuminati***

- In **1973**, the **Trilateral Commission** was established (US, Europe, and Japan)
- Cabinet member **Zbigniew Brzezinski** outlined a four-stage plan for **New World Order**:
  - 1) Religious Universalism;
  - 2) Nationalism; 3) Marxism;
  - 4) the Technetronic Era, the **Yom Kippur War** (Egypt/Syria invaded Israel), and “**Oil Crisis**” started (Kirban, 1980; Griffin, 1993; Livingstone, 2007).



## *Lecture on Panorama of Cults*

### *The Illuminati*

- In 1979, Brzenski identified Iran, Afghanistan and India as an “Arc of Crisis” for the West, which opened the door for Iran to be command center of international terrorism in the 1980s, the birth of Al Qaeda, the 1993 WTC bombing, and ultimately the bombings of 9/11/2001—in preparation for WWIII.



## *Lecture on Panorama of Cults*

### *The Illuminati*

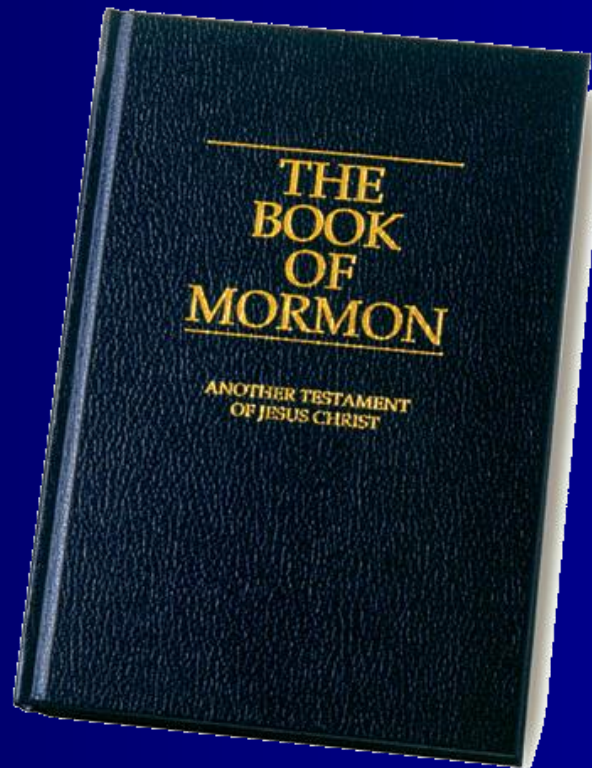
- The Illuminati denies the Trinity,  
the deity of Jesus,  
bodily resurrection,  
and the need for Atonement or Salvation—  
for Satan is god, and the Trinity is not,  
humanity can become like god  
(Secular Humanism).

## ***Lectures for 9 July (cont.)***

- Study for tomorrow: For Devotion on the Atonement:
  - Isa 53;
  - Matt 8:14-7; John 3:3-17;
  - Rom 4:24 – 5:2; 8:1-4, 29-30;
  - 2 Cor 5:14-21;
  - Eph 1:4-10; Phil 1:6; 1 Pet 1:3-6; Rev 5:5-10
- Also: Read Tucker, chap. 3; Hebert, sect. 3.7.2 (pp. 2-5)

# Panorama of Cults (cont.)

## Lecture on Mormonism



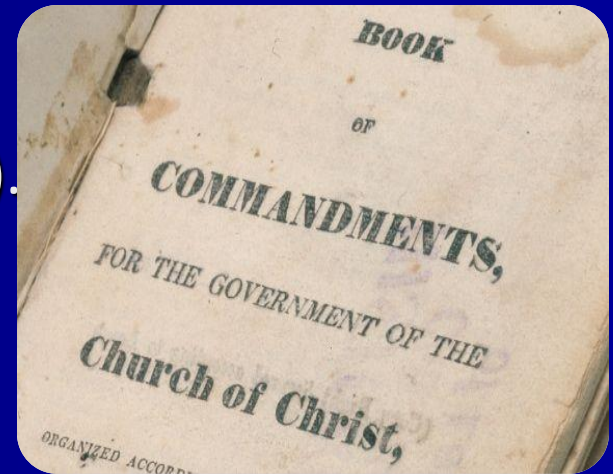
## Lecture on *Mormonism*

- **Mormonism** was started by Joseph Smith Jr., after receiving a vision in 1820 (of 2 personages—one apparently God the Father, the other Jesus Christ, His Son) in Palmyra, NY, & 4 visits from the “Angel Moroni” in 1823, telling of golden plates that outlined an ancient civilization in NE America where the “gospel” was delivered personally by Jesus to them.



## Lecture on *Mormonism*

- These revelations were published in 1831 as the *Book of Commandments* (later renamed *Doctrines and Covenants*).
- Smith moved his new founded church to Kirkland, OH (where he built the 1<sup>st</sup> Mormon temple in 1836).
- In 1838, the church moved to Missouri (Land of Zion), then to Nauvoo, IL (where Smith outlined the 13 Articles of Faith—the standard creed of the church).
- Smith & his brother Hyrum were killed in Carthage, IL in 1844 & Brigham Young (President of the governing body – Quorum of 12) assumed leadership.





## Lecture on *Mormonism*

- In 1846, Young started the “migration of the Mormons” to Utah.
- Emma Smith (widow of Joseph Smith, Jr.) opposed the move & led another group to Independence, MO, which became known as the **Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints**



## Lecture on *Mormonism*

- **Mormonism teaches:**
  - That *Doctrines and Covenants*, *Book of Mormon*, and *Pearl of Great Price* are the Word of God/same as the Bible
  - The canon of scripture is still open to interpretation of the “living prophet of their church”
  - Plurality of gods (polytheism)—the god of this world is Elohim & Jesus, his son, was conceived physically thru sexual intercourse w/his wife;

## *Lecture on Mormonism*

- **Mormonism teaches:**
  - Preexistent spirit life (all human beings existed previously as spiritual offspring of celestial parentage) and all humanity can become gods
  - Baptism by proxy for the dead
  - Although there are 4 levels of final destiny, only the bottom, Hell, is reserved for the “sons of perdition”—the Devil, his angels, and those who are hopelessly unrepentant.

## *Lecture on Mormonism*

- These beliefs of Mormonism amount to heresy by:
  - 1) Denying the orthodox view of the Trinity
  - 2) Denying the orthodox view of the Deity of Jesus Christ
  - 3) Denying the orthodox view of the Atonement
  - 4) Denying the orthodox view of Salvation by Grace through Faith

## ***Lecture for 10 July (cont.)***

- Study for Monday: For Devotion on Salvation by Grace thru Faith:
  - Acts 4:12;
  - Rom 5:1-11, 15-21; 9:14-16, 10:8-17;
  - Gal 2:15-21; Eph 2:4-9;
  - Titus 2:11-14;
  - Heb 2:9-16
- Also: Read Tucker, chaps. 4, 6; Hebert, sect. 3.7.2 (pp. 5-9); **Bring Book Critique to Turn-in**

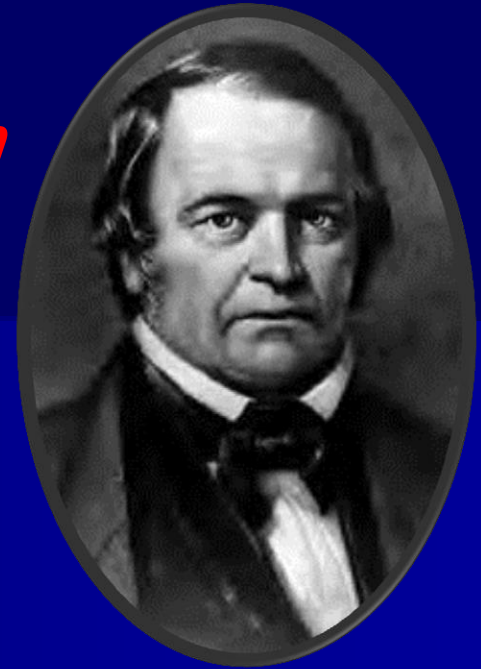
## **Panorama of Cults (cont.)**

### Lecture on **Seventh-Day Adventism**





## Lecture on *Seventh-Day Adventism*



- **Seventh-day Adventism** started with William Miller (1782-1849) and his predictions of the *Parousia* (2<sup>nd</sup> Coming of Jesus) in 1844
- Reinterpreted by Hiram Edson as the “Investigative Judgment”
- Joseph Bates’ doctrine of Sabbath Worship on Saturdays
- Ellen G. White’s “spirit of prophecy”

## *Lecture on Seventh-Day Adventism*

- By 1863, the Seventh-day Adventist Church was organized.
- Seventh-day Adventism primarily agree with the doctrines of Christian Orthodoxy, **except for:**
  - **Investigative Judgment – this undermines the Atonement and Salvation by grace through faith**
  - **Sabbath-Keeping – this as an additional doctrine that again negates the finished work of the Atonement and Salvation by grace through faith**

## **Panorama of Cults (cont.)**

### Lecture on **Christian Science**



## Lecture on *Christian Science*



- **Christian Science** was founded by Mary Baker Eddy (1821-1910), after her “healing” in 1866 & receiving a “direct revelation from God” to start the movement.
- In 1875, she officially named the cult Christian Science, completed her 1<sup>st</sup> edition of *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* (the movement’s bible), and purchased property in Lynn, MA.
- In 1879, she officially established the Church of Christ (Scientist) in Boston (which also became her headquarters).

## *Lecture on Christian Science*

- The major doctrines of Christian Science and conflicts w/Orthodoxy follow:
  - God is impersonal/indescribable & their Trinity is Life, Truth, & Love **(This directly contradicts the orthodox views of the Trinity and Deity of Jesus)**
  - Salvation is new birth of many moments of surrender to God—  
"progress is the law of infinity." **(This conflicts w/the orthodox views of Atonement & Salvation by grace thru faith)**
  - Sin and evil were destroyed by God & are unrealities destroyed by spiritual understanding **(This decries the need for the Atonement & Salvation by grace thru faith).**

## *Lecture on Christian Science*

- The major doctrines of Christian Science and conflicts w/Orthodoxy follow:
  - Jesus' atonement was only an example of God's love & the "way-shower" of how to be in unity w/God (This conflicts with the need for personal salvation by grace thru faith).
  - Jesus' death/resurrection were to uplift faith to understand eternal life (which is allness of soul/spirit & nothingness of matter) – (Conflicts w/orthodox views of Atonement, Salvation by grace thru faith, and the bodily resurrection).



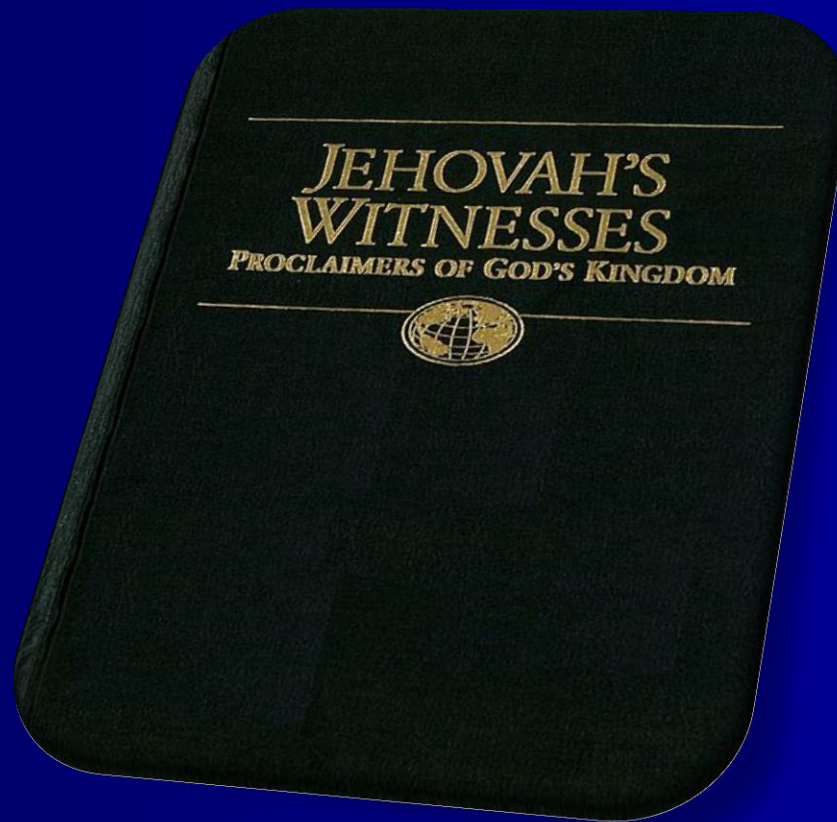
# 13 July (cont.)

- Study for tomorrow: For Devotion on Faith vs. Works:
  - Matt 5:13-20; 6:1;
  - Rom 4;
  - Eph 2:8-10; Phil 2:12-16;
  - Jas 2:14-26
- Also: Read Tucker, chaps. 5, 13; Hebert Sect. 3.7.2 (pp. 9-12)

*Lectures for 14 July*

## **Panorama of Cults (cont.)**

### Lecture on **Jehovah's Witnesses**



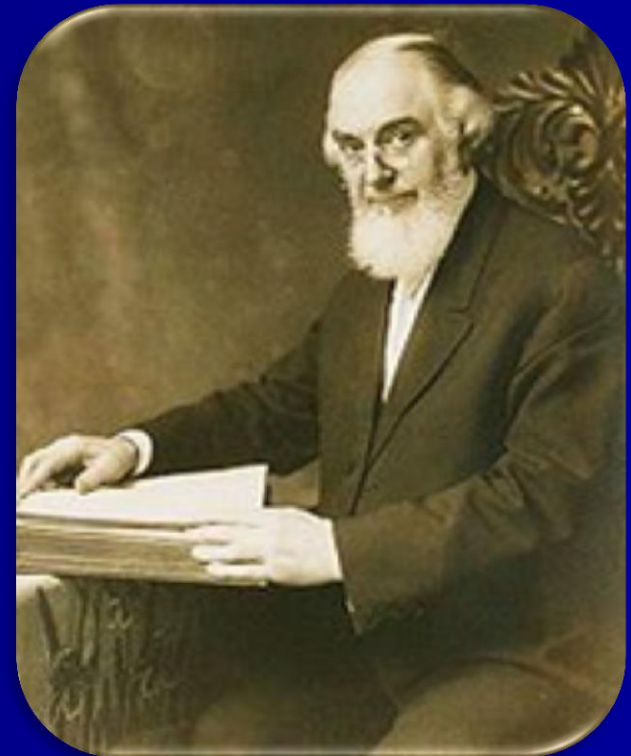
## Lecture on *Jehovah's Witnesses*

- The official name for the Jehovah's Witnesses is the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society
- The cult was founded by Charles Taze Russell (1852 – 1916), in 1884 (as Zion's Watch Tower and Tract Society) after being impacted by Seventh-day Adventists & Nelson Barbour (who taught the “second presence” of Christ—Jesus invisibly returning to earth, beginning in 1874).



## *Lecture on **Jehovah's Witnesses***

- Russell started his own publication, *Zion's Watch Tower & Herald of Christ's Presence* (1879)
- He was known for date-setting of Christ's return (visibly in 1914) and
- His belief that the Great Pyramid at Giza was a sign of prophecy



## *Lecture on Jehovah's Witnesses*

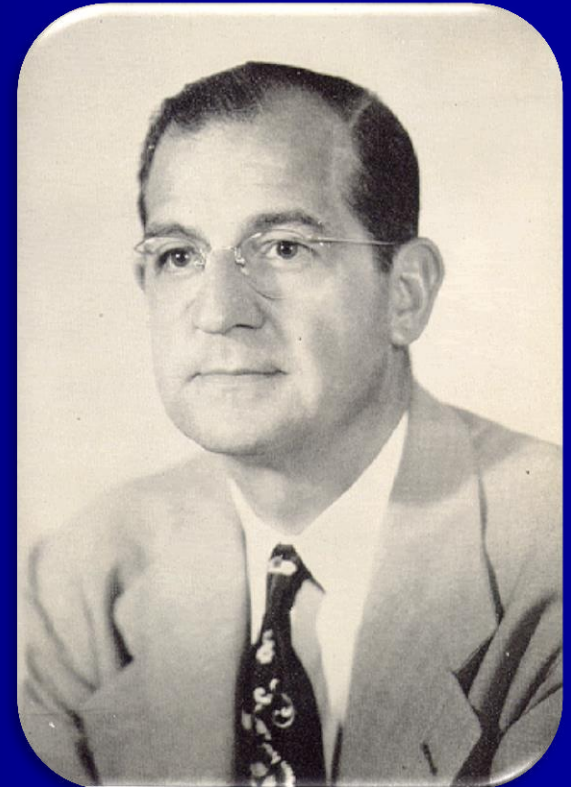
- In 1916, Russell was succeeded by Joseph Franklin Rutherford (who developed a theocratic/autocratic government)
- He changed Russell's date of 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming to 1925
- He identified 144,000—remnant class—as only sure believers to go to heaven
- In 1931, he renamed organization, Jehovah's Witnesses.





## *Lecture on Jehovah's Witnesses*

- In 1942, Rutherford was succeeded by Nathan Homer Knorr, who:
  - established their Bible School of Gilead for missionaries
  - imposed strict moral code
  - moved date of 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming (1975).





## *Lecture on Jehovah's Witnesses*



- In 1975, Knorr was succeeded by Frederick W. Franz, who:
  - instituted disfellowshipping for apostates
  - Instituted policies against blood transfusions and saluting the flag
  - moved HQ to Brooklyn, NY

## *Lecture on Jehovah's Witnesses*

- The major doctrines of Jehovah's Witnesses and conflicts w/Orthodoxy follow:
  - Jesus was “a god”/perfect man, but not God incarnate (Denies Trinity & Deity of Jesus).
  - Salvation is granted by will of Jehovah to 144,000, & others must work into heaven by being faithful witnesses on earth (Denies Atonement for all/Salvation by grace thru faith).

Lectures for 14 July (cont.)

## Panorama of Cults (cont.)

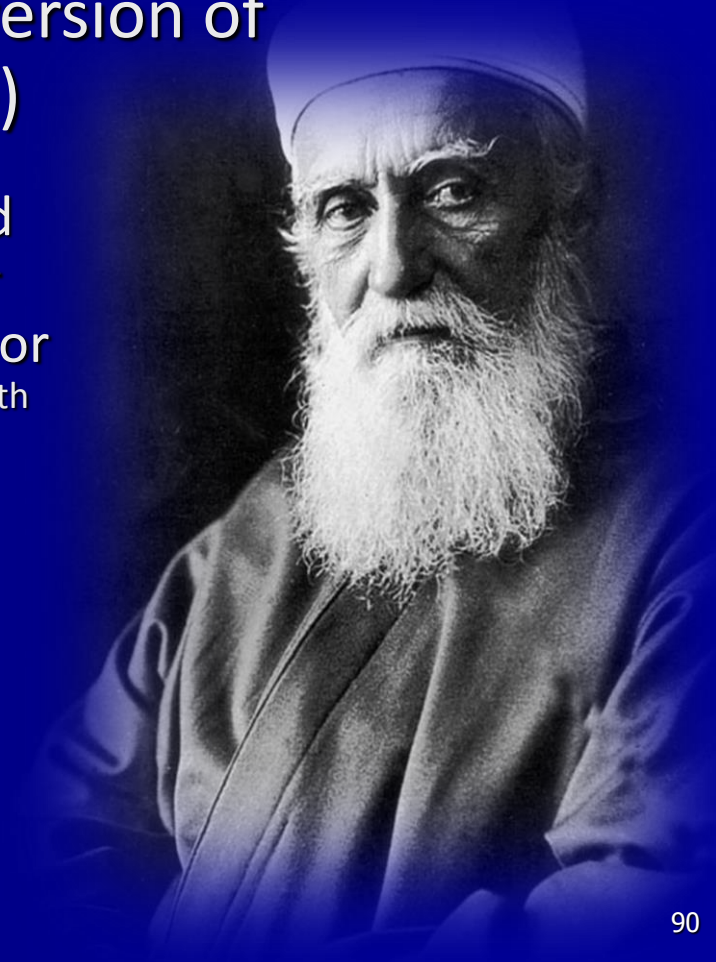
Lecture on Baha'i



The Baha'i House of Worship, Wilmette, IL

## *Lecture on Baha'i*

- **Baha'i** is an updated, moderate version of Islam (non-violence, unity, peace)
  - Believe that 2 more prophets followed Muhammad (Mirza Ali Muhammad or the “Bab” in 1844 & Mirza Husayn Ali or “**Baha'u'llah**,” declared himself the 12<sup>th</sup> Imam or Messiah in 1863)



## *Lecture on Baha'i*

- In 1892, Baha'u'llah died & left writings saying he was the Promised one of all prophets—the “divine manifestation” & in his era peace will be established, & name his son, **Abdu'l-Baha** as sole interpreter of his teachings/authority in matters of faith.





## *Lecture on Baha'i*

- In 1908, Abdu'l-Baha set up “Universal House of Justice” as governing body for Baha'is, in addition to his grandson, assisted by a small group of advisers, “Hands of the Cause of God”





## Lecture on *Baha'i*



- Baha'is beliefs that conflict w/orthodoxy follow:
  - God is “far beyond any human comprehension” (Conflicts w/orthodox doctrines of personal Triune God of the Bible, Who desires relationship w/humanity thru Atonement & Salvation by grace thru faith provided by Jesus Christ).
  - Manifestations of God, who taught progressive revelations of God, ending w/Bab & Baha'u'llah (Conflicts w/orthodox doctrine of Divinity of Jesus Christ).

# 14 July (cont.)

- Study for tomorrow: For Devotion on Gnosticism:
  - Gal 1:6-12;
  - 1 Tim 4:1-5; 2 Tim 3:1-5;
  - 1 John 4:1-6; 1 John 5:1-12; 2 John 7;
  - Jude 4-20
- Also: Read Tucker, chaps. 7, 15; Hebert Sect. 3.7.2 (pp12-15); Groothuis

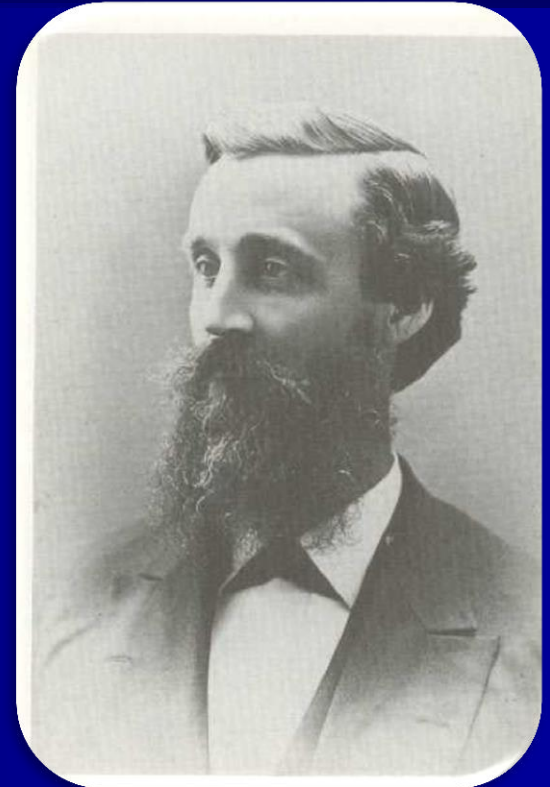
## **Panorama of Cults (cont.)**

### Lecture on **Unity**



## *Lecture on Unity*

- **New Thought & Unity** emerged from **Christian Science**
  - In 1880s Julius Dresser & Warren Evans organized “Church of Divine Unity,” which became “New Thought” (emphasizing unity of all religions, & each person must “be loyal to the truth as he sees it”)—from within New Thought came the Unity School of Christianity or Unity



Julius Dresser

## Lecture on *Unity*

- **Unity** was founded by Charles (1854-1948) & Myrtle (1845-1931) Fillmore
  - In 1889, Charles began publishing a magazine— *Modern Thought*, retitled *Christian Science Truth*, & finally *Unity*
  - In 1892, the Fillmores signed a covenant addressing their philosophy, 1903, the Unity Society of Practical Christianity was incorporated in Kansas City, MO & 1914, Unity School of Christianity formed in Lee's Summit, MO



## *Lecture on **Unity***

- **Unity's beliefs that conflict w/orthodoxy follow:**
  - View of God is pantheistic & animistic—creative mind, God is in us to the extent of our consciousness & everything is part of divine essence, differing only in degree of manifestation (conflicts with Triune God of the Bible).
  - Deifying humanity/humanizing God—Secular Humanism (rejects need for Atonement & Salvation by grace thru faith).



## *Lecture on Unity*

- **Unity's beliefs that conflict w/orthodoxy follow:**
  - Jesus is an "inner-Christ'" residing in everyone, attained an unparalleled divine awareness, & whose resurrection was not unique/win the capabilities of anyone who learned to control energy forces around/in them (conflicts w/doctrines of Deity & bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ).
  - Reincarnation (conflicts w/doctrine of bodily resurrection).
  - Power of human mind over the body, even to the point of death (conflicts w/doctrines of atonement & salvation by grace thru faith).

# *Lectures for 15 July*

## **Panorama of Cults (cont.)**

### Lecture on **New Age**



## *Lecture on New Age*

- **New Age** developed as a natural progression from Unity and Baha'i & became the “umbrella cult” for all cults in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century—acting as the culmination of approx. 3,700 years of Babylonian/Chaldean Mysteries False Cult Religion—including Kabbalah & Gnosticism—& laying the groundwork for the New World Order/New World Religion led by Antichrist.



## *Lecture on New Age*

- **Modern New Age** was  
founded as the  
Theosophical Society by  
Helena Petrovna Blavatsky  
in 1875 in NYC

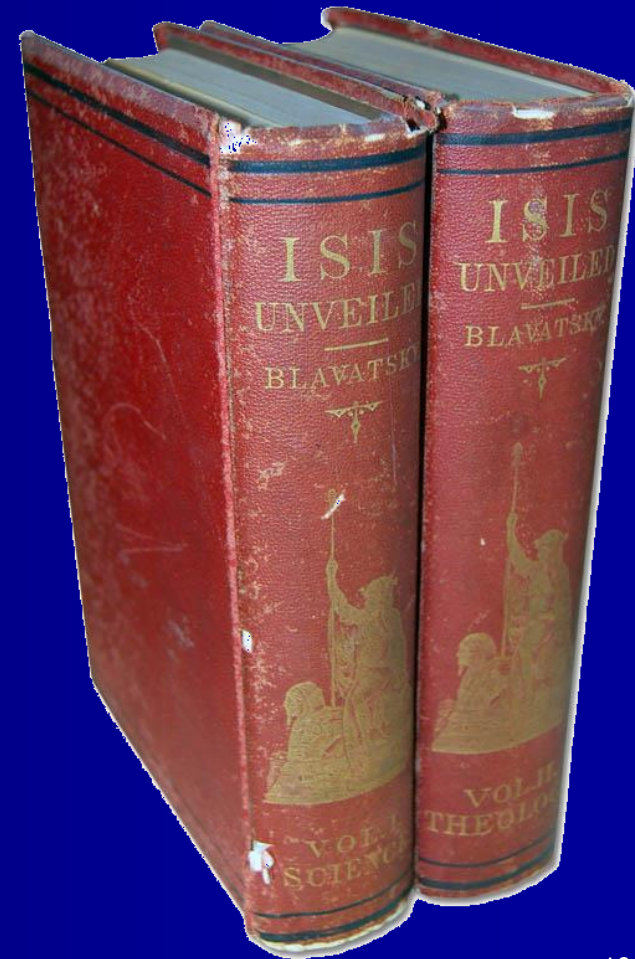


## *Lecture on New Age*

- Everything was good, except orthodox, monotheistic religions: Judaism, Christianity, & Islam
- The leaders received their orders from “spirits” or “elementals” (named adepts/initiates), belonging to the “Great White Brotherhood”
  - These spirits directed the leadership to move to India in 1875 & keep the society & its teachings secret for a time (ending up for 100 years)

## *Lecture on New Age*

- Blavatsky was assisted by C. W. Leadbetter, an English clergyman, who moved to India
- She wrote *Isis Unveiled* and *The Secret Doctrine*
- Annie Besant succeeded Blavatsky as leader & failed in the attempt to bring forth their Christ (Krishnamurti) in 1929





## *Lecture on New Age*

- The leadership then passed to Alice Ann Bailey (former wife of an Episcopal Rector & who later married Foster Bailey)
  - She & her husband wrote many books describing specific instructions for disciples of the “masters”—primarily focusing on the divinity of man, reincarnation, & disbelief in God’s Word (Bible)—All published by Lucifer Pub. Co. (later changed to Lucis Pub. Co.)
  - 1975 was set for the dissemination of all New Age info/plans for world domination by Lucifer



## *Lecture on New Age*

- In 1962, the Scottish town of Findhorn became the new HQ of New Age (run by Peter & Eileen Caddy & Dorothy McLean)
  - In 1970, this group gained a new member in **David Spangler** (w/ his spiritual advisor, ex-Mormon Myrtle Glines), where he wrote *Revelation: The Birth of a New Age*
    - In 1973, Spangler moved to Madison, WI to form the Lorian Assoc. to further market New Age & in 1975, began to publish material on the plan



## *Lecture on New Age*

- In 1982, the New Age put forth Lord Maitryea as their new Christ (this also came to naught)



- The beliefs of New Age that conflict w/Orthodoxy are as follows:
  - Central spiritual being, aka "The Source" of "The God of Force" (Conflicts w/Triune God of the Bible).
  - "God Immanent" (god within), or the divinity of humanity (Conflicts w/need for Atonement/Salvation).
  - Law of Rebirth/Reincarnation (Conflicts w/Bodily Resurrection & Atonement/Salvation).

## *Lecture on New Age*

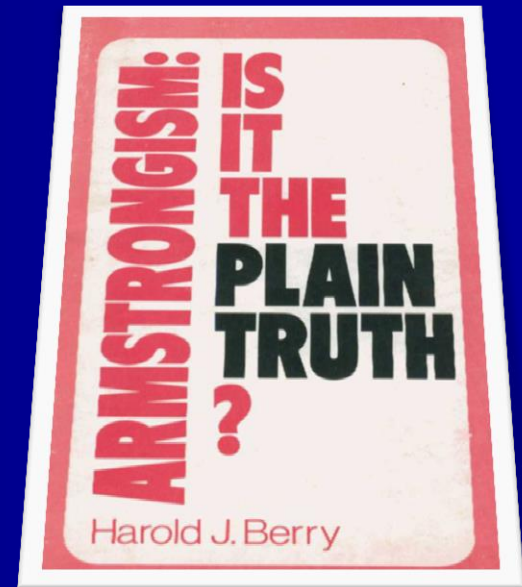
- The beliefs of New Age that conflict w/Orthodoxy are as follows:
  - Jesus and the Christ are 2 separate entities—w/Christ being an office, not a man (Conflicts w/Trinity & Deity of Christ).
  - Salvation is by initiation & works (Conflicts w/ Salvation by Grace thru Faith).
  - Interconnectedness of all things—Doctrine of Wholeness (Animism & Conflicts w/Triune God of Bible).
- New Age's goal of New World Order & New World Religion = the Illuminati's goal exactly!

# 15 July (cont.)

- Study for tomorrow: For Devotion on the Judaizers:
  - Rom 2:17-29;
  - Gal 2:7 – 5:14; 6:15;
  - Eph 2:11-22; Phil 3:1-11; Col 2:6-23;
  - Titus 1:10-16
- Also: Read Tucker, chaps. 8-9, 14

## **Panorama of Cults (cont.)**

### Lecture on **The Worldwide Church of God – Armstrongism**





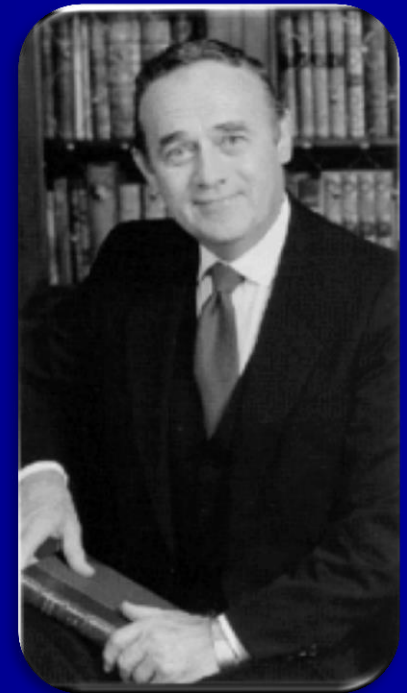
## Lecture on *Armstrongism*

- **The Worldwide Church of God (or Armstrongism)** was founded by Herbert W. Armstrong (1892 – 1986) in 1934 & became national/international in 1946.
  - Started “The Radio Church of God” & *The Plain Truth* Bulletin in 1934
  - In 1946, increased both & did first baptizing tour



## *Lecture on **Armstrongism***

- Armstrong believed he was singled out to proclaim God's message to this age &:
  - Maintained Authoritarian control
  - Established Ambassador College
  - Tried to pass authority to his son, Garner Ted, but in the end separated him from the church in 1978 (who started his own Church of God International) & then treated Stanley Rader as his son
  - In 1985, wrote *Mystery of the Ages* (outlining his beliefs) & named **Joseph W. Tkach** his successor
  - Died in 1986



Joseph W. Tkach

## *Lecture on Armstrongism*

- **The beliefs that conflict w/orthodoxy follow:**
  - Seventh-day/Sabbath worship (Conflicts w/ the finished work of the Atonement and Salvation by grace thru faith)
  - British-Israelism (belief that Tribes of Israel migrated to Britain & North America/became chosen) – (Negates the Atonement/Salvation by Grace thru faith for all)
  - Belief that humanity can become gods (Conflicts w/Trinity; Deity of Jesus; Atonement & Salvation by Grace thru faith)



## *Lecture on **Armstrongism***

- The beliefs that conflict w/orthodoxy follow:
  - No Trinity, but two Gods (The Father of Jesus Christ & Jesus Christ, who became god upon his resurrection) – **(Conflicts w/Trinity; Deity of Jesus)**
  - Salvation only comes thru obedience to the OT Law **(Conflicts w/Atonement/Salvation by Grace thru faith)**
  - However; In 1989, The Worldwide Church of God began to rewrite/modify its doctrines

*Lectures for 16 July*

## Panorama of Cults (cont.)

### Lecture on the United Pentecostal Church (UPC)



### Lecture on UPC (cont.)

- Much of the following information is taken from *Mead's Handbook of Denominations* (11ed.) and from a book titled *Jesus Only Churches*, one in a series of Zondervan's, *Guide to Cults and Religious Movements*.
- The *United Pentecostal Church International* (UPCI) emerged out of the Pentecostal Movement that began in Topeka, Kansas in 1901. It traces its organizational roots to October 1916, when a large group of ministers withdrew from the Assemblies of God over the doctrinal issues of the "oneness of God and water baptism in the name of Jesus Christ." It broke away from Assemblies of God and other Pentecostal Churches. UPCI came to be known as "Oneness" or "Jesus Only" Pentecostals, because they did not believe in the Trinity, and believed water baptism was necessary to get one's sins remitted, and the formula for being baptized was in Jesus' name only; not in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. The UPCI was founded in 1945.
- UPCI Churches are known as "Jesus Only" Churches because they **reject the Trinity**. They also believe one must be baptized in water and speak in tongues in order to be saved (**rejecting salvation by grace through faith**). They hold to "Holiness" standards of dress and appearance and recreational activities as do other "Holiness" Churches. UPCI further believe that speaking in tongues is evidence of the baptism of the Holy Spirit; and thereby, one cannot be saved without speaking in tongues. Holiness is not the result of some act subsequent to salvation, but should be the norm at the moment of salvation for every Christian. **This is the heresy of Lordship Salvation.** [http://www.jesus-is-savior.com/FALSE%20Religions/Pentecostal/upc\\_exposed.htm](http://www.jesus-is-savior.com/FALSE%20Religions/Pentecostal/upc_exposed.htm).



## **Panorama of Cults (cont.)**

Lecture on **The Way**  
**International**



## Lecture on *The Way*



- **The Way** was founded by Victor Paul Wierwille (1916 – 1985) in 1955.
  - Developed a “Power for Abundant Living Class” (based on John 10:10)
  - In 1968, he rode around USA on a motorcycle, **preaching anti-Trinitarian/anti-church views**
  - In the 1970s, started Rock of Ages festivals to attract non-church going young people
  - **Treated himself as God’s spokesman for this age**

## *Lecture on **The Way***

- Developed a Root, Trunk, Limb, Branch, & Twig organization
- Maintained “special insight” into interpretation of Bible
- Wierwille wrote book, *Jesus Christ is not God*. Also denies virgin birth, implies virgin conception w/Holy Spirit – (Conflict w/Orthodox Trinity & Deity of Christ)
- The Holy Spirit is also not part of the Trinity, but the gift w/all his manifestations, from the Giver—God, Who is spirit – (Conflict w/Orthodox Trinity)
- Died in 1985 & was succeeded by Craig Martindale

# Panorama of Cults (cont.)

## Lecture on *Scientology*

- The **Church of Scientology** was founded by L. Ron Hubbard (1911 – 1986) in 1954, 4 yrs. after the release of his book, *Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health*.
- Designed to heal physical/mental illnesses through therapy/clearing harmful memories (engrams)



## *Lecture on Scientology*

- Marketed “Pop Psychology” as religion w/following tenets:
  - Every human being is a “thetan”—an immortal spirit w/limitless powers (conflicts w/need for Atonement/Salvation by grace thru faith)
  - Every person has a “Reactive Mind Bank” containing “engrams,” suppressing these powers over matter, energy, space, & time (conflicts w/sin & need for Atonement & Salvation by grace thru faith)
  - Thru “auditing” (therapy) the engrams are erased, the Bank emptied, & thetans restored back to original state—becomes an Operating Thetan (a god, which apparently neither Jesus Christ or Buddha achieved), apparently accomplished thru reincarnation (conflicts w/Trinity; Deity of Christ; resurrection of the body; & Atonement/Salvation by grace thru faith)

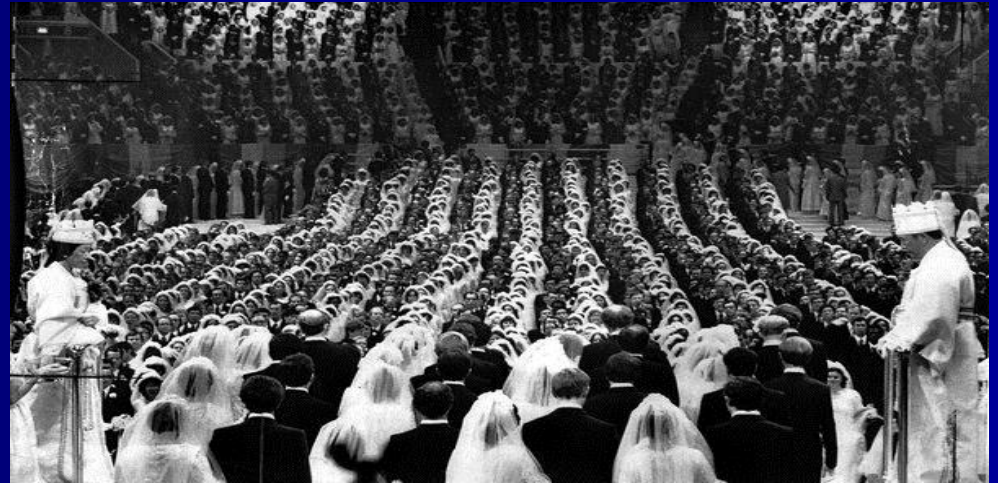
# 16 July (cont.)

- Study for tomorrow: For Devotion on Antichrist:
  - Dan 7:8, 24-26; 9:27; 11:40-45;
  - Matt 24:15-24;
  - 2 Thess 2:1-12;
  - 1 John 2:18-23; 4:1-3; 2 John 7-10;
  - Rev 13:1-10; Rev 17:3, 8-14; 19:19-21
- Also: Read Tucker, chaps. 10-12.



## Panorama of Cults (cont.)

### Lecture on The Unification Church



The Rev. Sun Myung Moon, right, with his wife, Hak Ja Han, married 2,075 couples at Madison Square Garden in 1982.

## Lecture on *The Unification Church*

- Commonly known as **the Unification Church**, the Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity (HSA-UWC) was founded by Reverend Sun Myung Moon (1920-2012) in South Korea in 1954. Moon was raised in the Presbyterian Church after his parents converted to it from Confucianism in 1930.
- On Easter morning in 1936, Moon claimed that Jesus visited him and asked him to complete the mission that Jesus had left unfinished on earth because of his untimely crucifixion, namely, establishing God's kingdom on earth and bringing peace for all humanity. According to Moon, Jesus was unable to fulfill his mission of bringing salvation to the earth, and therefore a new Messiah had to come. Moon accepted this mission from Jesus and began developing his own doctrinal ideas based on Christianity and other religions.
- In 1948, the Korean Presbyterian Church excommunicated Moon after deciding that his views were incompatible with orthodox Christianity. In 1954, he officially founded the Unification Church and began seeking converts, one of whom was Young Oon Kim. She became the first HSA-UWC missionary to the United States in 1959 and spent much of her time translating Moon's major religious work, *Divine Principle*, into English. Missionary efforts in the United States, however, were rather unsuccessful, and the HSA-UWC had only several thousand members by the early 1970s.
- The church's official teachings, the *Divine Principle*, was first published as Wolli Wonbon in 1946. The second, expanded version, Wolli Hesol, or *Explanation of the Divine Principle*, was not published until 1957.  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Unification\\_Church](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Unification_Church).
- According to Moon, Jesus failed in his mission to accomplish spiritual and physical salvation, he did not come to die on the cross, and his crucifixion was against the will of God.
- In the mid-1970s, the HSA-UWC headquarters was moved to New York. Moon had built a multi-million-dollar empire in Korea and Japan through capitalistic efforts and gained notoriety for his support of President Richard Nixon during the Watergate scandal.
- <http://theresurgence.com/2012/09/03/sun-myung-moon-and-the-unification-church//>

## Lecture on *The Unification Church*

- The beliefs that conflict w/orthodoxy follow:
  - By exalting Moon as the “Second Advent of the Messiah,” they deny the deity of Jesus, His bodily resurrection, and atonement
  - Through their concept of “indemnity,” “they atone for” their “sins through . . . acts of penance,” which denies the orthodox doctrine of salvation by grace through faith
  - Finally, by denying Jesus’ divinity, they also disregard the orthodox doctrine of the Trinity

## **Panorama of Cults (cont.)**

### Lecture on **ISKCON** (Hare Krishna)



## Lecture on *ISKCON (Hare Krishna)*

- **The Hare Krishna Movement — formally known as ISKCON, the International Society of Krishna Consciousness** — is a semi-monastic, ritualistic, regimented religious movement based on *Vaishnava* Hinduism. In part modeled on the *Bhakti* (loving devotion) Movement of the 16th-century Hindu saint Caitanya, ISKCON was founded in 1965 by A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada (1896-1977), who moved to the United States from India with the intention of bringing "Krishna consciousness" to the West. Hare Krishna followers worship the Hindu god Vishnu in his earthly manifestation as Krishna. The ultimate goal of Hare Krishna devotion is to achieve "Krishna consciousness," attained by strict ethical living and spiritual devotion, especially repetitive chanting of the Hare Krishna mantra: "Hare Krishna Hare Krishna/Krishna Krishna Hare Hare/Hare Rama Hare Rama/Rama Rama Hare Har." [http://www.patheos.com/Library/ISKCON-\(Hare-Krishna\).html](http://www.patheos.com/Library/ISKCON-(Hare-Krishna).html)
- As a branch of Hinduism, Hare Krishna believes in an updated, more scientific reincarnation



## Lecture on *ISKCON* (Hare Krishna)

- The beliefs that conflict w/orthodoxy follow:
  - By worshipping Krishna as “Supreme Personality of the Godhead,” with Brahma, Vishnu, and Siva only incarnations of Krishna, they deny the Orthodox doctrine of the Trinity
  - They see Jesus Christ as their “guru . . . preaching god consciousness” and “our spiritual master,” but not God incarnate; thus denying the divinity of Jesus.
  - They also do not believe that Jesus accomplished the Atonement or in salvation by grace though faith, due to their Hindu belief in *karma* and reincarnation.



## **Panorama of Cults (cont.)**

### Lecture on **The Children of God**



# Lecture on *The Children of God*

- The **Children of God (COG)** was started in 1968 in Huntington Beach, California. Many early converts were drawn from the Hippie Era & Jesus Movement of late 1960s/early 1970s. The group later changed its name to the **Family of Love**, **The Family** and recently **The Family International**. After a number of image makeovers, The **Family International** now refers to itself as a church, and prefers to be known as a wholesome family-values New Religious Movement (NRM) with alternative views and counter-culture. However, it is still referred to as a cult in the media, often as: The Free Love Sex Cult or The Family Cult.
- **Founder David Brandt Berg (1919-1994)**, was a former Christian Missionary Alliance pastor, who later came to be known as **Moses David**, **Mo**, **Father David**, **King David**, **Dad and Daddy** to adult group members, and **Grandpa** to the group's youngest members.
- **Berg's** four children, spearheading a "Teens for Christ" group, first attracted followers through their Huntington Beach Light Club ministry to the hippies. As the group's numbers grew, they moved to Texas, where they cooperated for a while with TV evangelist Fred Jordan. They acquired the use of several properties, including a ranch property they called the Texas Soul Clinic (TSC), named after Fred Jordan's ministry. From TSC, the group launched sackcloth demonstrations and sit-ins downtown, prophesying doom against America and the Church system, attracting the attention of the media. It was first at TSC that the media began referring to the group as **the Children of God**.
- New converts who joined the movement were subjected to the rote memorization of isolated scripture verses, which when recited, gave the impression a disciple's in-depth Bible knowledge. They were taught that their new lifestyle, rejecting mainstream Christianity, emulated the lives of early Christians. They would proselytize in the streets and distribute literature. **The Children of God** created controversy with its ideas of apocalypticism and revolution against the outside world that they call "the System," along with its central tenet that true disciples must drop out and "forsake all." Forsaking all literally entails abandoning all responsibilities and cutting ties with any and all—job, school, family, friends—and selling all that they have, handing over the entire proceeds to the group. Disciples assume a new biblical name and identity—true legal names are often kept secret even from each other. Like deep cover role play, without any possibility of debriefing, some members who joined as teenagers in the late 60s are still incognito today.
- In 1974, the group launched a new form of so-called evangelism called Flirty Fishing—using sex to win converts and support. The practice was supposedly discontinued in 1987 due to fears of the AIDS epidemic. The group's liberal sexuality—and its publication and distribution of writings, photographs and videos advocating and documenting adult-child sexual contact and the sexualization of children—led to numerous reports of child sexual abuse.
- Members of **the Children of God** founded communes, first called "colonies," but now referred to as "homes," in various cities around the world. Soon after founding and living with the first communes, **Berg** moved away and lived in secrecy, his whereabouts known only to top leaders. He communicated with his followers through more than 3,000 published letters written over 24 years, called "Mo Letters" by members of the group. **Berg** proclaimed that he was God's prophet for today's era, the last age of the "endtime," and predicted that his death would be inseparably intertwined and timed to the last 7 years of the world—he would die in 1989 and Jesus would return in 1993. Berg died in 1994, when his mistress Karen Zerby took over leadership of the Family. The January 2005 murder-suicide of heir apparent Ricky Rodriguez led to considerable renewed media attention on the group and its treatment of children growing up in their environments.  
<http://www.exfamily.org/the-family/3.0.history-of-the-family.shtml>

## *Lecture on The Children of God*

- The beliefs that conflict w/orthodoxy follow:
  - Based on the “Mo Letters,” Berg’s interpretation of the Bible is the “Word of God for today” and states that:
    - “God the Father had intercourse with the Virgin Mary, in order to have Jesus, so Jesus enjoyed sexual relations with his female followers”
    - “Jesus was a creation of God”
    - The Holy Spirit is: the “goddess of Love,” or “God the Mother” (all of these statements deny the orthodox doctrines of the Trinity and the Deity of Jesus, which in this case, therefore, negates the Atonement)

## ***Lectures for 17 July (cont.)***

- Study for Monday: For Devotion on Orthodoxy:
  - Gomes' short Five-Fold Version of Orthodoxy
- Also: Reread Hebert Sect. 3.4 (pp. 9-12); Read Hebert, Part 4

## **Panorama of Cults (cont.)**

### Lecture on **Radical Islam**





## *Lecture on **Radical Islam***

- **Radical Islam** is the resurrection of the Terrorist factions of Islam, established in conjunction w/ **The Illuminati (Sufism, Ismailis, Nizaris [later Khojas], Wahhabis, & Salafi Movement)**, resurfaced in the 1980s as Al Qaeda (Qaida) & other factions in Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, Palestine, Lebanon, & Syria to begin Pike/Mazzini's Plan for WWIII & the Islamic Antichrist.





## *Lecture on Radical Islam*

- Originated out of **Shiite form of Islam—12<sup>th</sup> Imam or Mahdi, who:**
  - Ties in **w/New Age Lord Maitreya (1982), and**
  - Fulfillment of Daniel 2, 9, 11 (**precursor—Antiochus IV (Ephiphanes) of Syria**—approx. 171-165 BC), of Antichrist/10 nation Islamic Confederation (Ps 83; Dan 2, 7; Rev 13, 17)

## Lecture on *Radical Islam*

- Beliefs of Islam that conflict w/orthodoxy are as follows:
  - There is only one God, Allah, w/Muhammad his prophet (Conflicts w/Doctrine of the Trinity)
  - Jesus was one of the line of prophets (not the most important—Muhammad was), born of Mary, was not resurrected, and was neither God, nor the Son of God (Conflicts w/the Deity of Christ & Bodily Resurrection)
  - Muslims must work to complete the 5 Pillars of Islam, & if faithful will enter paradise, & if martyred in *jihad* assured place in paradise (Conflicts w/Atonement & Salvation by grace thru faith)

## *Lecture for 20 July (cont.)*

- Study for Tomorrow: For Devotion on Orthodoxy:
  - Gomes' short Five-Fold Version of Orthodoxy
- Also: Come prepared for Presentation #1

# Presentation for 21 July

## ➤ Presentation # 1 -

# Presentation for 22 July

## ➤ Presentation # 2 –

# **Presentations for 23 July**

## **➤ Presentation #3 –**