

END-TIME DECEPTION IN THE CHURCH - TODAY!

End Time Deception in the Church - Today!

Points from 'Let No One Deceive You'

What The Bible Says

The Genealogy & Theology of Today's Deceptions

Revivals - The Spread of the Fire?

Wimber/ Toronto / HTB & the UK/ Pensacola / Lakeland

Soul Power vs. Spirit Power

False Prophets & Teachers

Wolves & Teachers of Doctrines of Demons

Two Common Deceptive Teachings Today

Word of Faith & Prosperity Gospel

Dominion & Kingdom Now Theology

The New Prophets & Apostles!

These messages, 'End Time Deception in the Church - Today!', are **Topical** - they are a review of the deceptions current in the church in these days

They are a follow-up to two earlier messages, 'Let No One Deceive You', those messages were **Foundational** - seeking to build our ability to detect and resist deception

Let No One Deceive You

A Recap

These messages were Foundational - seeking to build our ability to detect and resist deception

- What is Deception?
- How Deception Works
- How It All Began
- Resisting Deception – The Example of Yeshua
- Sources of Deception
- How to Guard Yourself Against Deception

- Some Reminders - which will be especially relevant to this message
 - Yeshua's Warnings *Matthew 24: 4, Mark 13:5; Luke 21:8*
 - Take Heed!
 - Watch Out!
 - Personal responsibility - "let no one deceive you"
 - Mingling of Truth with Lies
 - By eating the apple Eve's eyes will be opened...that is true...the trick of deceptive teaching is here...mixture!
 - There is Truth - but Mixed In with a Lie - 'You will be like God!'...that's untrue
 - This lie is behind many of today's deceptions
 - Seduction - to be like God - a deceptive appeal to vanity and pride
 - False Christs
 - Yeshua warned against False Christs - particularly in the end times

- Characteristics of 'false christs'
 - ❖ They come in His (Yeshua's) name
 - ❖ The show great signs and wonders
 - ❖ They deceive many, even the elect (Israel)
 - ❖ People go chasing after them
- A Way of Understanding 'false christs' - deceiving 'New Moves of God' or 'Prophets with New Revelation'
 - Purporting to bring **New Insights and Teaching about the Lord**
 - Purporting to be **New Manifestations of the Power of God**
 - Purporting to be **New and Deeper Experiences of God**
 - Purporting to be **Accompanied by Signs and Wonders**
- There have been many groups and individual False Teachers & Prophets which have been 'false christs' in recent times

Resources - List of Resources:

For these messages there is available a list of Resources - Websites, Booklets and Books which I recommend as worth looking at to understand today's deceptions

What The Bible Says

- Yeshua's Warnings

- False Prophets will Deceive Many

"Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?"

Matthew 24:3b

"Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold."

Matthew 24:11-12

- The context is 'the end of the age'
- In those days:
 - Many False prophets will arise - spring up all over the place
 - ❖ They will deceive many
 - Lawlessness will abound
 - ❖ Lawlessness - the Greek word (*anomia*) means illegality or violation of the law - Yeshua is talking about days when God's laws will be ignored and violated in great degree
 - ❖ Causes the love of many to grow cold
 - ❖ Yeshua is talking here about those who love God, but whose love wanes because they get caught up in the iniquity of the age - the world invades the church

- Many Will Come In His Name

"Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign when all these things will be fulfilled?" And Jesus, answering them, began to say: "Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am He,' and will deceive many."

Mark 13:4-6

'And He said: "Take heed that you not be deceived. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am He,' and, 'The time has drawn near.' Therefore do not go after them."

Luke 21:8

- The context is 'the beginning of sorrows' - the days at the end of the age before the tribulation

- **In those days many will come 'in Yeshua's Name'**
 - **Not claiming to be Yeshua - but claiming to speak in His name**
 - Effectively they will say 'I am' - the word 'He' has been inserted by translators - it is not there in the original Greek
 - **They will deceive many**
- **False Christs and False Prophets**

"For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. See, I have told you beforehand."

Matthew 24:24-25

"Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or, 'Look, He is there!' do not believe it. For false christs and false prophets will rise and show signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. But take heed; see, I have told you all things beforehand."

Mark 13:21-23

- **The context is the time of tribulation**
- **In those days False Christs and False Prophets - will arise - spring up all over the place**
 - **They will show 'signs and wonders'**
 - **They will deceive many - even the elect (Israel)**
- **Although these verses relate to the time of tribulation - we can readily see that these False Christs & False Prophets - with 'signs and wonders' exist today**

- **Paul's Warnings to the Thessalonians**

'Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.'

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4

- **The context is the period just before the time of tribulation**
- **In those days there will be a 'falling away'**
 - **Paul is describing a time of defection from the truth - applicable to mankind generally, and to those of faith**
 - **Paul is speaking about a lapse from faith to apostasy in the church - the Greek word used is *apostasia***

'And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.'

2 Thessalonians 2:8-12

- **The context is the time of tribulation - the coming of the 'lawless one', that is the Coming World Leader (often called the Antichrist)**
 - **In those days there will be**
 - **Lying signs and wonders - whose source is Satan**
 - **Unrighteous deception**
 - **God will send 'strong delusion'**
 - **Because they did not love of the truth (Yeshua and His word)**
 - **So that they will believe 'the lie' - that is falsehood - what lie??**
 - **The Age old lie from the Garden of Eden - 'You will be like God'**

- Although these verses relate to the time of tribulation - we can readily see that unrighteous deceptions exist today
 - Today many in the church seem to have lost their love of the truth - and to be have been deceived by lying signs and wonders

- **Paul's Guidance to Timothy**

'Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron,'

1 Timothy 4:1-2

- The context is the 'latter times' - this can be understood as meaning the 'church age' generally - it is certainly applicable to our day
- Paul is writing to a pastor about the church - warning there will be
 - Those who depart from the faith
 - Those who give heed to doctrines of demons
 - Those who swallow lies spoken in hypocrisy

'But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.'

2 Timothy 3:13-15

- Paul's warning of evil men and impostors indicates the nature of false teachers and false prophets
 - False teachers are deceivers often because they themselves are deceived...but...
 - False teachers who know their teaching is false are impostors - they are often out to simply make money or gain power or status

'For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.'

2 Timothy 4:3-4

- Paul's warning to the young Pastor, Timothy, is that believers will look for 'something more' or 'something different'
 - They will seek teachers who tickle their ears - telling them what they want to hear - seductive teachings
 - As Paul said to the Romans - they become those "who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator" (**Romans 1:25**)
- In the church today we see Christians flocking to churches where there is little sound bible teaching - but lots of messages which tickle ears, massage egos and have seductive appeal to pride

- **Peter's Warning**

'But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed.'

2 Peter 2:1-2

- Peter warns of false prophets who bring destructive heresies
 - They deny the Lord - that is they deny the truth about Him

- They bring destruction on themselves and on those who follow them - grave warnings indeed
- They blaspheme the way of truth - they despise those who teach true doctrine and despise knowledge of the scriptures
- **John's Warning**
'Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.' **1 John 4:1**
 - John warns believers to 'test the spirits' - in what spirit is a teacher or prophet operating - check it out with scripture
 - John warns that many false prophets have gone out into the world - if it was true in John's day, it certainly is evidently true in our day

The Genealogy & Theology of Today's Deceptions

Today's deceptions are, in reality not new - 'there is nothing new under the sun'

- **New Deceptions - Old Heresies**
 - **Nothing New Under The Sun**
'That which has been is what will be, that which is done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the sun.' **Ecclesiastes 1:9**
 - Today's deceptions are, in reality not new
 - They all have roots in the past
- **Roots & Branches**
 - **If The Root Is Holy...**
*'For if the firstfruit is holy, the lump is also holy; and **if the root is holy, so are the branches.*** **Romans 11:16**
 - To understand the teachings and utterances of today's plethora of False Prophets & False Teachers we need to examine the theological frame work that has informed most of them - that is the roots of the Latter Rain and Manifest Sons of God movements
 - **A Tree is Known By Its Fruit**
*'''For a good tree does not bear bad fruit, **nor does a bad tree bear good fruit.** For every tree is known by its own fruit. For men do not gather figs from thorns, nor do they gather grapes from a bramble bush. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and **an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil.** For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.'''* **Luke 6:43-45**
 - Fruit - not manifestations or experiences - but real fruit of biblical teaching

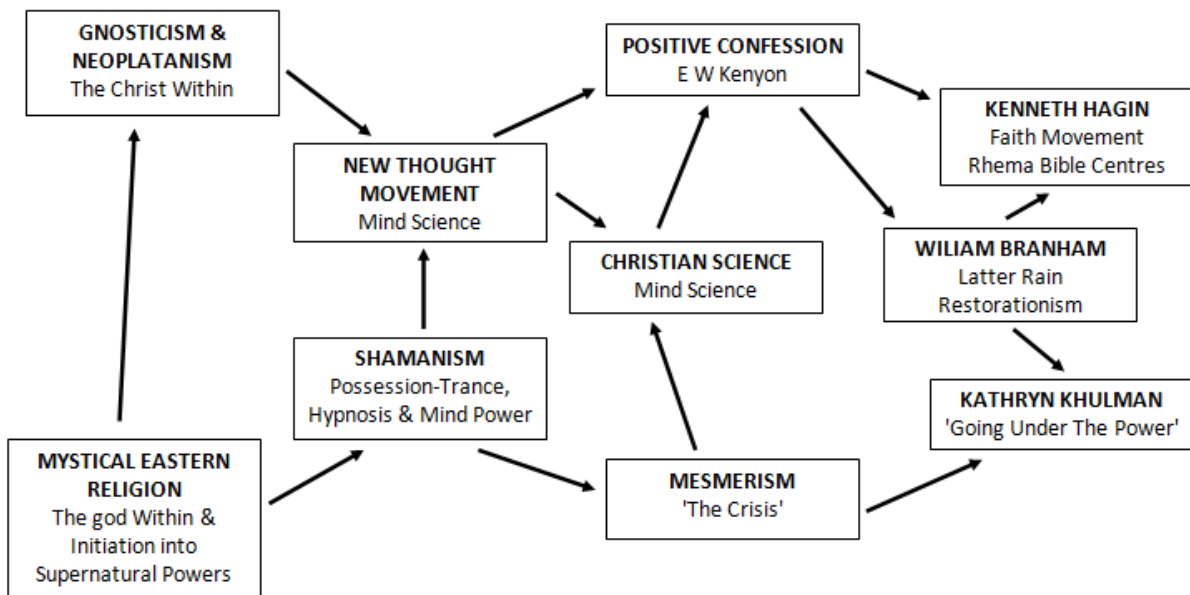
The Early Genealogy of Today's Deceptions

Notes: The Genealogy & Theology of Today's Deceptions

If I were to explain the teaching of each one of these movements in this early genealogy it would take some considerable time - and I want to focus on the so-called revivals and the false teachers and prophets of recent years

I have put together some notes for you about these theologies, movements and individuals - see separate notes on '[The Genealogy & Theology of Today's Deceptions](#)' please get a copy to read - I will be pleased to answer any question you have about them

GENEALOGY OF TODAY'S DECEPTIONS 1



The notes include information about the of today's deceptions Latter Rain and Manifest Sons of God teachings which are on the next slide

I will try to point out, as cover the revivals and the false teachers and prophets of recent years, where their teachings flow from earlier genealogy

However I will make a few comments about this Early Genealogy of Today's Deceptions

- **Gnosticism**
 - The Greek: *gnosis* means knowledge - and it refers to knowledge based on personal experience or perception - with *gnosis* comes a fuller insight, and deeper spiritual understanding - it is secret extra-biblical knowledge
 - The idea that secret knowledge is the key to salvation was an early heresy in the church
 - John's first epistle was written to counter the gnostic heresy becoming prevalent in the church
 - You will notice as you read 1 John how many times John uses the phrase "by this we know" - countering the gnostic view

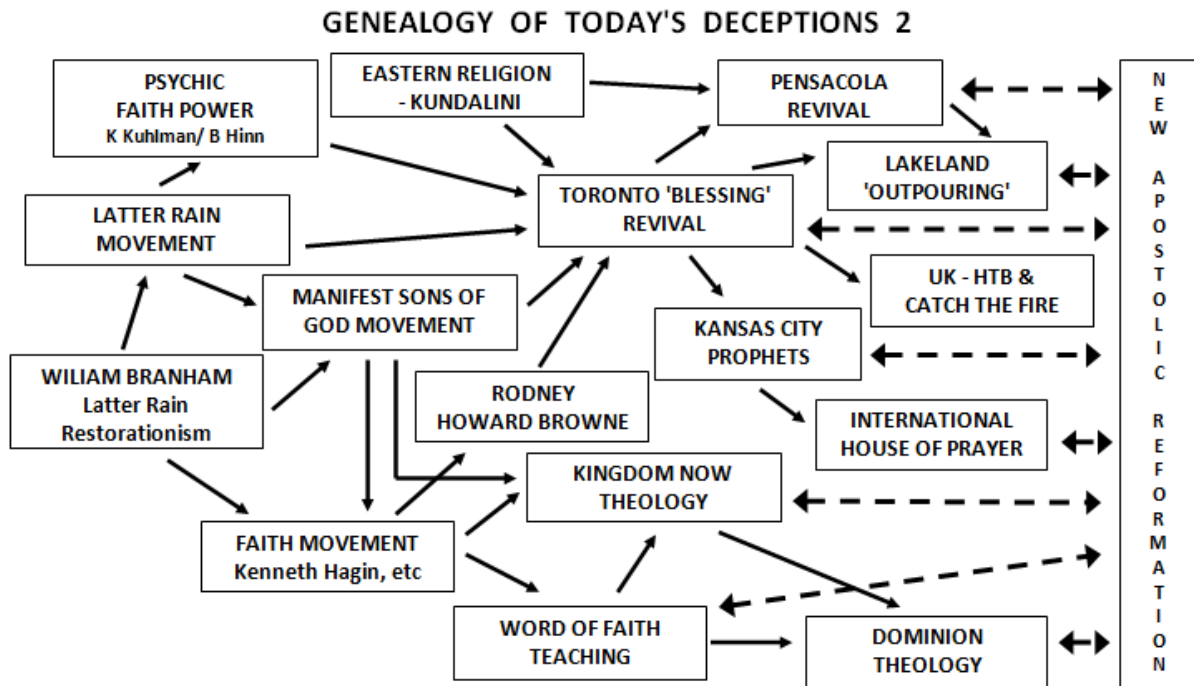
Recommended Reading: Bill Randles' book "Mending The Nets"
 - Bill Randles writes: *"We have the same problem today; Gnosticism in various forms has plagued the church for centuries. The "super-spiritual" have redefined the knowledge of God. An entire army of prophets, mystics neo-apostles and gnostics have been admitted into our churches and seminaries, and have in large part been successful in a redefinition of Christianity."*
 - **New Thought Movement - deceptive teachings**
 - Infinite Intelligence (or God) is everywhere
 - Spirit is the totality of real things
 - True human selfhood is divine
 - **'Divine' thought is a force for good**
 - **Sickness originates in the mind - so "right thinking" is healing**

- **Positive Confession - deceptive teachings**
 - **We have the power to believe for and speak into existence things that are not - our words are creative**
- **William Branham**
 - **Branham was responsible, in a great part, for the formation of what came to be known as the New Order of the Latter Rain**
 - He believed in the distributing of spiritual gifts by the laying on of hands - impartations in today's parlance
 - He believed in the restored ministry of prophets and apostles
 - He was the vanguard of many more to come who operate in this "end-time glory and power" ministry
 - Through his teachings he is an undoubted forefather of
 - The Latter Rain Movement
 - The Manifest Sons Of God Movement
 - The Toronto 'Blessing'
 - The Lakeland 'Outpouring'
 - The New Apostolic Reformation
 - **To understand the modern 'miracle revivals' or 'healing crusades' of Benny Hinn, Rodney Browne (laughter), Toronto, Brownsville, and Lakeland you need to refer to the healing revivals of the 40's-50's that were steered and popularized by William Branham**
- **Kathryn Kuhlman**
 - **She taught that Faith is *"That quality or power by which the things desired become things possessed"* - a mystical teaching of the psychic power of personal faith - 'psychic faith-power'**
- **Kenneth Hagin**
 - **Kenneth Hagin was an American Charismatic preacher - he is often referred to as the "father" or "granddaddy" of the "Word of Faith" movement**
 - **The roots of Hagin's Word of Faith theology can be traced to the cultic teachings of the New Thought Movement and to the Positive Confession taught by E W Kenyon, and to William Branham and Latter Rain**
 - **Hagin has been followed by many 'Faith' teachers - Oral Roberts, Benny Hinn, Kenneth Copeland, Rodney Howard-Browne, Creflo Dollar, Joyce Meyer, Paul Yonggi Cho, Joel Osteen and many others - and thousands of deceived disciples today**

The Recent Genealogy of Today's Deceptions

- **Seventy Years after WWII - so many deceptions**
 - **William Branham's teachings influenced for key movements:**
 - The 'Psychic Faith-Power' - with teachers such as Kathryn Kuhlman, who was followed by many others like Benny Hinn
 - The 'Faith Movement' - with teachers such as Kenneth Hagin, who has been followed by many others
 - The 'Latter Rain' movement which sprang up after WWII
 - The 'Manifest Sons of God' movement which sprang out of Latter Rain

- 'The River' - from these four deceptive teachings (Psychic Faith-Power, Word of Faith, Latter Rain, and Manifest Sons of God) has flowed a river of false teaching and deceptions
- When I was younger, you could direct a new believer to almost any church and know it would be OK - today deceptions are so prevalent it is difficult to find a biblical church (one which is free from spiritual mixture)



- **Latter Rain Movement**

- Latter Rain teaching is based upon **Hosea 6:3**, **Joel 2:23** and **James 5:7** - the idea is that the "early rain" was the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and the "latter rain" is the supposed outpouring of the Holy Spirit that has occurred in the 20th and 21st centuries

'Let us know, let us pursue the knowledge of the Lord. His going forth is established as the morning; He will come to us like the rain, like the latter and former rain to the earth.'

Hosea 6:3

'Be glad then, you children of Zion, and rejoice in the Lord your God; for He has given you the former rain faithfully, and He will cause the rain to come down for you—the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month.'

Joel 2:23

'Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain.'

James 5:7

- The 'latter rain' is in fact a reference to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Acts 2 - Peter interpreted it thus when he said "this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel" and quoted **Joel 2:28-32**
- But the 'Latter Rain movement' has a different interpretation - the lesser, former, rains are that in Acts 2, but we still have a greater 'latter rain' outpouring to come

- This 'latter rain' is what many of the so-called revivals - Toronto, Pensacola, Lakeland and others - have purported to be
- **The Theology of the Latter Rain Movement:**
 - **A New Mighty Outpouring** - 'Latter Rain' teaching is that before the **Second Coming** there will be a new mighty outpouring of the Spirit
 - **Restoration Concept Error** - God is restoring lost truths to the church
 - The Fivefold Ministry - especially that of Apostles and Prophets Davidic Worship - exuberant and with weird manifestations
 - Jesus cannot come back, even though He wants to, because WE haven't full 'restored all things'
 - Things will only get better on earth, until the Second Coming
 - **Uniting and Perfecting the Body of Christ** - the 'latter rain' is going to **unite and perfect the church** (note...it's not Yeshua who will do this!)
 - **Evolutionary Church Concept** - the church has been moving towards, and now is, the ultimate expression of God's purposes on earth
 - 'The apostles of the book of Acts will want to wait in line to interview the super-apostles of our day' - so say Rick Joyner and Mike Bickle
- **Manifest Sons of God Movement (MSOG)**
 - **The Manifest Sons of God Movement sprang from the Latter Rain Movement**
 - **MSOG teaching is based upon *Romans 8:19* - the idea is that creation is waiting for the revelation of the 'Sons of God' so that it can be delivered from corruption, and this will bring about the crushing of God's enemies and usher in the kingdom of God, taking the world for Jesus - this will happen, and has to happen, before the Lord can return**

*'For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for **the revealing of the sons of God**. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. *Romans 8:19-21**

 - **The Theology of the Manifest Sons of God Movement:**
 - **There will emerge an Elite Special Company of super-spiritual saints in whom the real purposes of God are to be accomplished**
 - **Distorted Christology** - Yeshua is just a pattern for the ultimate expression of God...that is, US - the end-time body of Christ
 - **Christ, the head of the church, is not complete without Christ the body (US, the church)** - whereas scripture teaches that Christ is complete in and of Himself...and we partake of His completeness
 - **The Corporate Christ** - because we are the **Body of Christ...we are Christ**
 - **It is the Manifest Sons of God who will put the enemies of God under Yeshua's feet**
- **Attributes of the LR and MSOG movements**
 - **Attacks on the orthodox church** - particularly those who are biblically challenging their teaching - **they are spoken of as being 'religious' or Pharisaic**
 - **Ridiculing of the 'blessed hope' of the Rapture** - when LR & MSOG teaching says we should be getting on with ruling and reigning as Sons of God
 - **Reliance on Allegory in preaching, bible interpretation and prophetic utterances**

- **The Fruit of William Branham, Latter Rain and Manifest Sons of God**
 - **This second, more recent, genealogy chart shows how the false teachings of William Branham, the Latter Rain movement and the Manifest Sons of God movement - have given birth to many deceptive children**
 - **It is easy to see how, from the foundation of the William Branham, Latter Rain and Manifest Sons of God movements, the Word of Faith, Kingdom Now and Dominion Theology - as well as the excesses of the various Charismatic Revivals and Outpourings**
 - **Many of the leaders associated with these deceptions are part of what is known as the New Apostolic Reformation - under the leadership of Peter Wagner - leaders who claim to be the new elite of apostles and prophets whom God has appointed to lead the church into its full maturity**

'Revivals'

- **Revivals - The Spread of the Fire? ... Or is it the spread of a deadly virus?**
 - **John Wimber - Signs and Wonders**
 - **Wimber founded and lectured at Fuller Church Growth Institute**
 - It was here that he came into contact with C Peter Wagner
 - **In 1977 Wimber became pastor of Vineyard C F in Anaheim, California - beginning with a small Bible Study group it grew rapidly to 6,000 members**
 - **In 1981 he began 'Power Evangelism**
 - **Prophecy in the name of the Holy Ghost**
 - **Prayer to the Holy Ghost**
 - **Manifestations (sometimes violent) - bouncing, shaking, falling down, weeping, electricity**
 - **Fuller Seminary - Course MC510**
 - **Teaching 'Signs, Wonders and Church Growth'**
 - **Teaching of the need for a 'Paradigm Shift' - a total change in world view...but in a faith context - the downplaying of 'doctrine' or 'head knowledge' in favour of mystical experience**
 - ❖ *"God is bigger than His written word," John Wimber*
 - **Birth of the 'Signs and Wonders' movement, Power Evangelism & Ministry, and 'The Third Wave'**
 - ❖ **First Wave - Pentecostal movement**
 - ❖ **Second Wave - Charismatic movement**
 - ❖ **Third Wave - Signs & Wonders and Power Ministry**
 - **Wimber, and the Vineyard Church movement, had a worldwide influence - and were very much the forerunners for later 'revivals'**
 - **Toronto 'Laughing' Revival**
 - **Beginnings**
 - **Summer 1993: Randy Clark, Pastor of a St Louis Vineyard Church, hearing of 'revival' and 'manifestations', attends a Rodney Howard Brown meeting at Kenneth Hagin Jr's Rhema Bible**

Church in Tulsa Oklahoma - and was prayed for to receive 'a fresh infilling of the Holy Spirit'

- January 1994: John Arnott, pastor of Toronto Airport Vineyard, hearing of 'revival' and 'manifestations' at Randy Clark's church, invites him to Toronto - and then the 'Toronto revival' began
- What Happened
 - Manifestations - uncontrolled
 - ❖ Laughing
 - ❖ Drunkenness
 - ❖ Shaking
 - ❖ Weeping
 - ❖ Animal Noises
 - Impartations
 - ❖ A striking ability to 'pass it on' - like a virus
 - ❖ Rapid Spread - in the US and then worldwide
 - ❖ The phrase 'Toronto Blessing' was first coined at HTB
 - 'Soakings' & 'Carpet Time' - minutes or hours on the floor, sometimes paralysed, sometimes with sexual experiences
 - Christians from all over the world travelled to Toronto to receive 'the blessing' - and take it back to their church
 - ❖ Yeshua warned against this - **Mark13:21-23; Luke 21:8**
- Problems
 - ❖ Lack of Biblical Basis - in the teaching, or for the manifestations and 'happenings'
 - False Exhortations
 - ❖ The 'New Thing' which supersedes Scripture
 - ❖ Lack of Discernment - 'Just Go With It!'
 - ❖ Criticism of Bible-based Churches and Teachers
 - ❖ Exalting of Experiences over Truth
 - Ministry Times - 'Come Holy Spirit' - but evidence points to 'another spirit' which came, not the Holy Spirit
 - Passion - exhortations to 'Passion for Jesus' reflected in ecstatic worship and inappropriate 'erotic' teachings and experiences
 - Drunkenness, irreverence, 'party-time' - the influence of Rodney Howard Browne (the 'Holy Ghost Bartender')
 - ❖ 'Token' the Ghost'- John Crowder & Benjamin Dunn

For more background, depth and analysis:

[Recommended Reading: Bill Randles' book "Weighed And Found Wanting"](#)

- Holy Trinity Brompton & the UK
 - Toronto Comes to the UK
 - **Eleanor Mumford**, wife of Pastor John Mumford of the Southwest London Vineyard attended the Laughing Revival in Toronto in 1994. Upon her arrival back in England, she testified of her experiences in Toronto and the Laughing Revival broke out in the Vineyard congregation, in the general services and in various house meetings. One of these meetings in May 1994, was attended by Nicky Gumbel, the then curate at **Holy Trinity Brompton**

- At the house meeting, Eleanor Mumford told of her experiences in Toronto and “invited the Holy Spirit to come.” The moment she did that, strange things began to happen. One person was thrown across the room and lay on the floor howling and laughing.
- **Nicky Gumbel** got himself together and rushed to a meeting at Holy Trinity Brompton, where he apologized for being late. When he closed that meeting with prayer and said, “Lord, thank you so much for all you are doing and we pray you’ll send your Spirit,” the same strange phenomena were again manifested.
- When **Sandy Millar**, vicar of Holy Trinity Brompton, found out about the spiritual slayings of Gumbel and other HTB people, he and the other leaders invited Eleanor Mumford to speak at both the morning and evening Sunday services on May 29. When Mrs. Mumford finished speaking, she invited the Holy Spirit to come. The Laughing Revival broke out in HTB and the mainline British newspapers quickly broadcast it to the nation. On May 31, Millar and the pastoral director from HTB flew to Toronto to examine the “Toronto Blessing” firsthand.
- **HTB becomes a catalyst for the spread of the Toronto Laughing Revival in the UK - and even for the Pensacola Outpouring**
 - Pentecostal evangelist **Steve Hill** was on his way back to the States from a missionary trip. Stopping over in London, he stayed with a charismatic Roman Catholic couple who open their home for visitors. Hearing of the happenings at Holy Trinity Brompton, Hill sought out Sandy Millar and requested that he lay hands on him - Millar did so and Hill was knocked down. It was Steve Hill who was preaching in Brownsville when the 'Pensacola Outpouring' began.
- **The Contagion Spreads**
 - **Today many UK churches are influenced by Toronto, Pensacola & Lakeland**
 - ❖ Many Anglican churches - e.g. St Andrews Chorleywood where David Pytches and Mark Stibbe were ministers
 - ❖ Catch The Fire churches - some are direct plants from Toronto & Lakeland, others are old Vineyard churches
 - ❖ Revival Fires Ministry - Trevor & Sharon Baker
 - ❖ Locally - Ansdell Baptist
 - **Every denomination seems to have been infected** - in some cases right from its national leadership, in other cases certain churches within it (e.g. some Anglican churches)
 - **Many independent churches are also infected**
- **Pensacola Outpouring or Brownsville Revival**
 - **Beginnings**
 - **In 1995 on June 18th, evangelist Steve Hill was ministering at John Kirkpatrick's Brownsville AOG and a 'revival' broke out**
 - **Steve Hill, after experiencing the 'Toronto Blessing' at HTB, had been prayed for by John Arnott and the people at Toronto**
 - **What Happened**
 - **As in Toronto - Manifestations, Impartations, Soakings, etc**

- **Claims of hundreds of thousands of converts - unproven**
 - **Christians from all over the world travelled to Brownsville to receive 'the anointing' - and take it back to their church**
- **Problems - same as Toronto**
- **Lakeland Outpouring**
 - **Beginnings**
 - **In 2008 on April 2nd, Todd Bentley of Fresh Fire Ministries was invited to preach at Ignited Church in Lakeland, Florida**
 - **What Happened**
 - **As in Toronto and Pensacola - Manifestations & Impartations**
 - **Excesses in worship and ministry - BAM!**
 - **Claims of miraculous healings - unproven**
 - **Aired on GOD TV, the revival rapidly became known worldwide**
 - **Christians from all over the world travelled to Lakeland to receive 'the anointing' - and take it back to their church**
 - **Todd Bentley Commissioning by NAR Prophets - June 2008**
 - ❖ **Beware the New Prophets pp82-87**
 - **Todd Bentley revealed as adulterer - 2009**
- **What Spirit Is Behind These Revivals?**
 - **Evidence points to 'another spirit', not the Holy Spirit**
 - **Lack of Sound Biblical Teaching by Leadership - the misuse and misinterpretation of scripture**
 - **Emphasis on 'Experience' over 'Knowledge of Scripture'**
 - **Manifestations like those in eastern religions and new age mysticism**
 - **The Kundalini spirit - the 'serpent power'**
 - **Kundalini - A Sanskrit word meaning "coiled one" - it refers to a form of primal energy said to be located at the base of the spine**
 - **Different spiritual traditions teach methods of "awakening" kundalini for the purpose of reaching spiritual enlightenment and a range of supernormal powers**
 - **The manifestations seen in the so-called revivals are the same as those in Kundalini**
 - **Common manifestations of the Kundalini spirit (taken directly from a Kundalini web site):**
 - Muscle twitches, cramps or spasms.
 - Energy rushes or immense electricity circulating the body
 - Itching, vibrating, prickling, tingling, stinging or crawling sensations
 - Involuntary bodily movements: jerking, tremors, shaking; feeling an inner force pushing one into postures or moving one's body in unusual ways
 - Headaches, pressures within the skull
 - Intense heat or cold
 - Spontaneous vocalizations, including laughing and weeping, as unintentional and uncontrollable as hiccups
 - Mental confusion; difficulty in concentrating
 - Altered states of consciousness: heightened awareness; spontaneous trance states; mystical experiences (if the individual's prior belief system is too threatened by these, they can lead to

bouts of psychosis or self-grandiosity)

Psychic experiences: extrasensory perception; out-of-body experiences; past life memories; astral travel; direct awareness of auras and chakras; contact with spirit guides through inner voices, dreams or visions; healing powers

Intensified understanding and sensitivity: awareness of one's environment (including "vibes" from others)

[See notes on 'The Genealogy & Theology of Today's Deceptions'](#)
[Recommended Reading: Andrew Strom's book "Kundalini Warning"](#)

- Personal Testimony
 - The spirit behind these manifestations is a Sexual Spirit
 - The spirit behind these manifestations is an Aggressive Spirit
 - Warning against Houses of Prayer
 - Beware of invocations like 'Come Holy Spirit'

Spirit Power vs. Soul Power

- How are deceptive manifestations possible?
- Why are spiritually sensitive and seeking Christians being so easily deceived?
- What lies behind all the unusual manifestations?

- Spirit, Soul & Body

To understand what is happening and why, we need to understand about Spirit, Soul and Body - what they are; what are their functions and power; and how creation, the fall and being born again affect them

If I were to seek to explain this in any depth it would take some 30 minutes - and I want to focus on the other aspects of this message

I have put together some notes for you on '[Spirit Power vs. Soul Power](#)' - I suggest you get a copy to read - if you have questions arising from them I am happy to try to answer them

- 1. The Lord God Created Man

'And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.' **Genesis 2:7**

- Body - formed of the dust of the earth
- Spirit - breath of God
- Soul - a living being (soul)
 - When the spirit and the body were joined man became a living soul
- Three separate entities - *1 Thessalonians 5:23*
- Characteristic
 - ❖ Angels - spirit
 - ❖ Animals - flesh (body)
 - ❖ Man - soul

- **Relating**
 - **Body - the external world**
 - **Spirit - the spiritual world...the Lord God**
 - **Soul - the determining will**
 - ❖ **Bonding body and spirit - to keep them in proper relation**
 - ❖ **Soul in subjection to Spirit , keeping body subject to Spirit**
- **The Power of Adam's Soul**
 - **Authority and Physical Prowess**
 - ❖ **Ruling the Earth**
 - ❖ **Dominion over Every Living Thing**
 - ❖ **Strength**
 - **Brain Power and Memory**
 - ❖ **Naming the Animals**
 - **Managerial Power**
 - ❖ **Tending the Garden**
 - ❖ **Keeping the Garden**
- **2. The Fall**
 - **Man becomes 'flesh'**

'And the Lord said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years." **Genesis 6:3**
 - **The power of 'living soul' which distinguishes Adam from us is lost**
 - **The soul now is subject to the dominion of the flesh**
 - **The power in man's living soul becomes latent (hidden)**
 - **The Soul Becomes A Commodity - *Revelation 18:11-13***
 - **Satan, and his puppet the Antichrist, wish to use the human soul as an instrument for their activities**
 - **Satan seeks to stir up man's soul to release its latent power as a deception for spiritual power**
 - ❖ **Hence the various religious practices to release man's soul power - e.g. in Buddhism, Hinduism, Taoism, Christian Science**
 - ❖ **Hence the Humanistic Psychology techniques to release man's soul power - e.g. Mesmerism, Hypnotism, Telepathy, Clairvoyance, etc**
- **3. Born Again**
 - **Man's need is for spiritual re-birth - *John 3:6-7; Romans 8:2-11***
 - **Only the Lord God, through Yeshua's shed blood and by the Holy Spirit can do this**
 - **The Believer is 'born of the Spirit' - a new God-given spirit**
 - **The born again spirit in the believer cannot receive another spirit - 'a Christian cannot be demon-possessed'**
 - **God's Spirit in man is to rule the Soul (Fruit of the Spirit) - which in turn is to rule the body (in fact, to put to death the desires of the flesh)**
 - **However - Satan seeks to undermine the Spirit's work in the believer by attacking the soul**
 - **Encouraging man's soul to rule the Spirit**
 - **Satan attacks our weaknesses**

- ❖ Those through life experiences (e.g. rejections) - where prayer to release from its grip may be helpful
- ❖ Those through rebellion (wilful sin) - here repentance, forgiveness, renouncing and release are necessary
- Hence Satan's deceptions - and his big lie, as in the Garden, 'you shall be like god'
- God only works through the Spirit in man, never through his Soul
 - Hence - importance of the Fruit of the Spirit...in the soul
- Soul Power vs. Spirit Power
 - Man's Soul is Satan's working instrument through which he seeks to achieve his aims
 - Satan makes use of man's soul power to manifest his strength and his deceptions
 - Hence the psychic soul-force behind the manifestations and 'soakings' and 'slayings in the spirit' - counterfeits of the true working of the Spirit
 - It is soul power (psychic soul-force) which is at work in the so-called revivals, their false 'signs and wonders', their manifestations, and their power to transfer
 - The Spirit alone gives life - *John 6:63, Romans 8:2, 1 Peter 3:18*
 - Satan's lies, deceptions and counterfeit signs are at work in today's 'revivals', false teachings and false prophecies to deceive Christians into his power - they give him the ability control our soul and its latent power
 - That is why those who have been deceived may need prayer for release from the grip they have allowed the enemy to have over their soul

See notes on '[Spirit Power vs. Soul Power](#)'

Recommended Reading: [Watchman Nee's book "The Latent Power of the Soul"](#)

False Prophets & False Teachers

- Wolves & Teachers of Doctrines of Demons



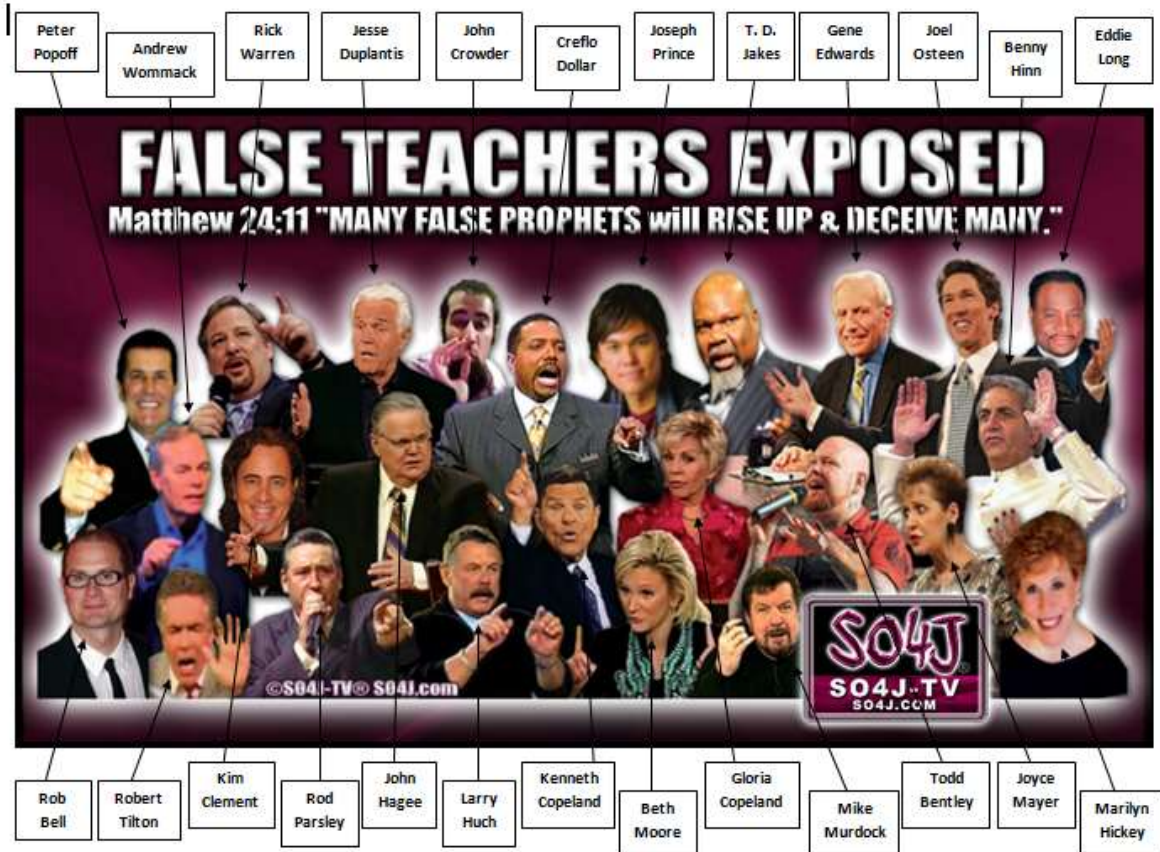
- Picture of False Prophets - Sorry! They're Just a Pack of Wolves
"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits." **Matthew 7:15-16a**

- **Teachers of Doctrines of Demons**

*'Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to **deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons**, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron.'* **1 Timothy 4:1-2**

- **Picture of False Prophets/Teachers - Another Pack of Wolves**

- **You may recognise some of these wolves**



- **False Prophets and False Teachers - almost too many to speak of...even to read a list of names would take about 10-15 minutes**

- **Beware - some false prophets and false teachers are lovers of Israel with an understanding of Israel's place in God's purposes - e.g. John Hagee who endorses the 'Dual Covenant' theology and the Prosperity Gospel**
 - **Beware of Christian TV - it is full of mixture**
 - **GOD TV and its blanket Lakeland coverage**
 - **TBN - a glance at the TBN schedule reveals spiritual mixture, with much false teaching and deception**

- **Two Common Deceptive Teachings - Today!**

- **Word of Faith & Prosperity Gospel - the latter is a function of the former**
 - Distorts the biblical concepts of faith and covenant
 - Reduces God to the image of man and elevates man to the status of God
 - Lowers Jesus to being a product of positive confession who took on a satanic nature at the cross
 - Promotes the occult practice of creative visualization
 - Sees Faith as a spiritual force - and this 'force of faith' is released by words...positive confession

- **Kingdom Now & Dominion Theology - the former is a concept within the latter**
 - Dominion over every area of life has been restored by the first coming of Christ - the goal of the church is to take over the world and establish the kingdom of God
 - The church is Israel - Israel no longer has any place in prophecy as a nation or a people
 - The earth, not heaven is the ultimate home for the church
 - The current age is the full expression of the Kingdom of God, and that Christ cannot return to earth until a certain level of maturity and development is reached by the Church - only then can Christ return - not to take us to His Father's house (as He promised His disciples in John 14)...but to reign over the Kingdom we have established for Him
 - Liberation Theology and Kingdom Now Theology spring from the root of Dominion Theology
- **The New 'Apostles' and 'Prophets'**

Word of Faith & Prosperity Gospel

- **Roots & Shoots - much of the theology of the Faith movement can also be found in such clearly pseudo-Christian cults as Religious Science, Christian Science, and the Unity School of Christianity - and in the ministry and teachings of William Branham and the Latter Rain and Manifest Sons of God Movements - see *Genealogy Charts***
 - **Phineas Parkhurst Quimby (1802-1866) - over a century before the Faith movement became a powerful force within the Church**
 - **The father of New Thought, he popularised the notion that sickness and suffering ultimately have their origin in incorrect thinking**
 - **His followers held that man could create his own reality through the power of positive affirmation (confession)**
 - **Metaphysical practitioners have long taught adherents to visualise health and wealth, and then to affirm or confess them with their mouths so that the intangible images may be transformed into tangible realities - and although proponents of Faith theology have attempted to sanitize the metaphysical concept of the “power of mind” by substituting in its stead the “force of faith”, for all practical purposes they have made a distinction without a difference**
 - **Metaphysics - much of Faith theology is derived directly from metaphysics, principally the 'Positive Confession' theology of Essek W. Kenyon - some of the substance, style, and scams, endemic to the movement, can be traced primarily to the teachings and practices of certain post-World War II faith healers and revivalists operating within Pentecostal circles**
 - Kenneth Copeland and Kenneth Hagin point to T. L. Osborn and William Branham as men who greatly influenced their lives and ministries
 - Benny Hinn gives William Branham a hearty “thumbs up” as well - in style, Hinn gravitates more toward such faith healers as Aimee Semple McPherson and Kathryn Kuhlman

- Faith teachers such as Robert Tilton and his female counterpart, Marilyn Hickey, have copied many of the scams pioneered by Pentecostal preachers such as Oral Roberts and A. A. Allen - in fact, Tilton and Hickey have managed to exceed even their predecessors'!
- **Error begets Error and Heresy begets Heresy** - from the cultic progression of E. W. Kenyon's 'Positive Confession' theology, the **deviations from orthodox Christianity were at first minor** compared to those that characterized the later stages of his ministry - and **with each of Kenyon's successive disciples, the errors become even more pronounced** - through **Kenneth Hagin** (who popularised and plagiarised Kenyon prolifically), to people like **Kenneth Copeland** and **Charles Capps** - and is **now reaching heretical heights** that are almost inconceivable through ministry leaders like **Frederick Price, Benny Hinn, Robert Tilton, Creflo Dollar** and many others
- **Counterfeit - twisted texts, make-believe miracles, and a counterfeit Christ** are all common denominators of the Faith movement's leading teachers
- **False Teachings**
 - **Faith is a Powerful and Tangible Force**
 - **False interpretation of *Hebrews 11:1***
'Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.'
Hebrews 11:1
 - **Kenneth Copeland interprets the word "substance" as some transcendent, primary element that makes up the universe**
 - **Faith was and is activated by spoken words** from the onset of creation (both God's original creation of the world and all subsequent creations, whether by God or man)
 - **Faith is a mystical force which** when properly used according to set spiritual laws **will create and change spiritual and physical reality**, including physical health and healing, wealth and prosperity.
 - **Faith is a creative power expressed by words of faith**
 - Kenneth Copeland teaches that **"God used words when He created the heaven and the earth....each time God spoke, He released His faith - the creative power to bring His words to pass"**
 - Copeland teaches that **"words are spiritual containers"**, and the **"force of faith is released by words"**
 - ❖ Fred Price says: "God believed in His heart that what He said with His mouth would come to pass, and He dared to say it"
 - Consistent with this idea, many Word of Faith teachers, including Kenneth Hagin, claim that **God has a spirit body with a literal mouth with which to speak his words of faith**
 - **God only works through faith** - Copeland affirms that **"God cannot do anything for you apart or separate from faith"** for **"faith is God's source of power"**
 - **What's Wrong With This Teaching?**
 - **Faith is not a tangible force** - 'substance' in ***Hebrews 11:1*** is the Greek word **'hypostasis'** which, in context, **means an assured impression** - other translations render hypostasis more precisely as **"being sure"** (NIV), **"to be sure"** (TEV), and **"assurance"** (NASB)

- **Faith is a channel of living trust** - not a tangible material or energetic force - **it is an assurance in the soul and spirit that God is faithful and His promises never fail** (even if sometimes we do not experience their fulfilment during our mortal existence)
- **Words are not 'faith-filled containers'** - God created the universe, He literally spoke it into existence *ex nihilo* (out of nothing); but **where the WOF cult errs is that they teach that God was using a spiritual law, the law of faith to create the universe**
- **God encourages us to have faith - in Him and in His word**, not in 'faith-power' words we utter
- **God works both in response to our faith but also despite our faith** - He is the Almighty God, He can do as He wishes, when and where He wishes - see *Job Ch. 38 & 39*
- **Disheartens believers and criticises them for lack of faith**
- **Believers are 'little Gods'**
 - **We are God Manifest** - Kenneth Copeland over-emphasises similarities between God and man to the point where any distinction becomes virtually nil: "God's reason for creating Adam was His desire to *reproduce* Himself....Adam is as much like God as you could get, *just the same as Jesus....Adam, in the Garden of Eden, was God manifested in the flesh*"
 - **All of God's attributes, authority, faith, ability was invested in Adam - and we are the new Adam**
 - **God is someone "very much like you and me"** - based on a false interpretation of passages like *Isaiah 40:12*
 - **Inflated view of the universe in general and man in particular - allied to their diminished view of God**
 - **Human beings were created to be gods:** based on a false interpretation of Scriptures concerning man's likeness to God and his dominion over the earth - from passages such as *Genesis 1:26-28*

"Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth." **Genesis 1:26-28**

- **Jesus Christ is God incarnate - and so are we (believers): the believer is as much an incarnation as was Yeshua** - Kenneth Copeland says it's not that Jesus wasn't God, but that Jesus lived as a mere man in order to pave the way for us to live like he did - **indeed, according to Copeland, God told him that if he had known the Word of God as well as Jesus did that he - Copeland - could have done what Jesus did in defeating the devil**
- **What's Wrong With This Teaching?**
 - **Adam (and we) are not 'God manifested in the flesh'** - the terms, in Genesis 1:26, 'image' (Hebrew: *tselem*) and likeness (Hebrew: *demuth*) simply mean similarity or resemblance, not identity - the specifically avoid saying man is a precise copy of God
 - **Mankind is wholly distinct from both God (2 *Samuel 7:22, Isaiah 46:9, Mark 12:32*) and angelic/demonic beings (*Psalms 8:5,***

Hebrews 2:7); but, even after the fall, **man still bears the image of God** (*1 Cor. 11:7*)

- **We are not 'little Gods'** - believers are 'sons of God' (Hebrew: *bonei Elohim*) - i.e. direct creations of God... 'born again' (*John 1:12-13*), but we do not share God's nature, since Christians are simply "adopted" — and not "natural" — sons of God (*Ephesians 1:5, Galatians 4:5-7, Romans 8:14-19 and 23*)
- **We are not created to be gods** - we are created to be God's worshippers, servants and the bride of His Son
- **Manifestation of the kingdom of God through us is by His power in us** (*2 Cor. 4:7*), not by our spoken 'faith-words'
- **Covenant gives God Access to the Earth through Man**
 - **Adam's transgression empowered Satan to evict God from the earth** - "God's on the outside looking in," says Kenneth Copeland
 - **God needed a covenant with somebody.... Copeland says "He had to be invited in, in other words, or He couldn't come"** and "the reason that He's making covenant is to get into the earth" - "God is on the outside looking in," and "In order to have any say-so in the earth, He's gonna have to be in agreement with a man here", says Copeland - an agreement was struck between God and Abram that "gave God access to the earth"
 - **What's Wrong With This Teaching?**
 - **God has not been evicted from the earth** - He is still in control (*Psalms 2, 47:8, 93:1-2, 135:6; Eph. 1:20-23; Col. 1:15-17*) - although man's rebellion has given Satan 'rights' to earthly power (he is the prince of the power of the air [*Eph. 2:1-3*] and the god of this world [*2 Cor. 4:4*])
 - **God's Covenants are for His purposes to bless the Jewish people and, through them, all mankind** (*Genesis 12:1-3*) - they are not a means of God gaining access to earthly power
- **The Power of Words (of Faith)**
 - **We should speak words of faith like God does:** since words spoken in faith are inherently powerful (*Proverbs 18:21*), what we say, if we believe it, is basically what we get
 - **False interpretation of Scriptures concerning the power of our words and 'asking in faith'** - passages such as *Prov. 18:21* and *Mark 11:22-24*

'Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.'

Proverbs 18:21

'So Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God. For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.'

Mark 11:22-24

- **Speaking Things Into Being** - the believer can 'speak things into being' - for instance, by making proclamations - a teaching of 'Mind Science' and Christian Science' which has more to do with mysticism than scripture
- **Positive Confession and Creative Visualisation** - the power of **OUR** words and our visualising to bring things into being or make things happen - spiritually and physically
 - **Emphasis on guaranteed physical healing**

- **Emphasis on prosperity** and that God intends all His people to be prosperous
- **Emphasis on declarations and proclamations** to bring down strongholds and drive out the demonic and satanic powers
- **What's Wrong With This Teaching?**
 - **False understanding of Power and Authority** - even Yeshua only did what He saw His Father was doing (*John 5:19*)...He was submitted to the Father - Authority is the Lord's (*Matthew 28:18*) but he gives Power to His disciples to do His will (*Matthew 10:5-8*)
 - **Confessing things into existence; it is nothing short of witchcraft** - which simply defined is manipulating reality through the use of spiritual power
 - **Positive Confession takes away the sovereignty of God and makes man the determiner of his destiny** - 'positive confession' comes from non-Christian metaphysical cults, not from the Bible.
- **God is Obligated to Obey Our Words of Faith**
 - **The Authority of the believer**
 - **Being born again means becoming a god** - according to Kenneth Copeland - on conversion the believer undergoes a total and immediate change of nature, says Copeland "You don't have a God in you; you are one"
 - **The believer's change of nature (into a god) brings with it a proportional change in ability** - Copeland says "Every man that has been born again has had this faith [viz. God's] put inside him," and that "This faith is good enough to make all things possible to the believer"
 - **Knowing and exercising the rights set forth under the 'covenant' guarantee success in confession**
 - **Copeland's concept of covenant rights translates into** what has been termed the "**health and wealth**" or "**prosperity**" message; he says "The basic principle of the Christian life is to know that God put our sin, sickness, disease, sorrow, grief, and poverty on Jesus at Calvary" and he asserts. "For Him to put any of this on us now would be a miscarriage of justice."
 - **Leads to 'Name it and Claim it - Mark it and Park it' theology**
 - **The New Testament balances our rights in Christ with our responsibility that goes along with these rights**
 - **False interpretation of Scriptures concerning binding and loosing, asking anything in Yeshua's name, and faith in prayer** - passages such as *Matthew 18:18-20* and *Matthew 21:21-22*

"Assuredly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them."

Matthew 18:18-20

'So Jesus answered and said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what was done to the fig tree, but also if you say to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' it will be done. And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive."

Matthew 21:21-22

- **What's Wrong With This Teaching?**
 - **False understanding of the power and authority of the believer** - more about this when we look at Dominion Theology
 - **God is reduced to merely being an 'errand boy'** whose role is to make sure the WOF cultist gets all the goodies they have confessed.
 - It is a **'rights-centred' gospel rather than a 'grace-centred' gospel**
 - **It stems from the false 'Gnostic dualism'**, in WOF, that everything that is good is of God, and everything bad is from the devil

- **God's Favour Results in Riches - Material as well as Spiritual**

- **False interpretation of Scriptures concerning God's blessings on those who fear him - passages such as *Proverbs 3:9-10, 10:22; Psalm 35:27, 84:11; and 2 Corinthians. 8:9***

'Honour the Lord with your possessions, and with the firstfruits of all your increase; so your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow with new wine.'

Proverbs 3:9-10

'The blessing of the Lord makes one rich, and He adds no sorrow with it.'

Proverbs 10:22

'Let them shout for joy and be glad, who favour my righteous cause; and let them say continually, "Let the Lord be magnified, who has pleasure in the prosperity of His servant."

Psalm 35:27

'For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord will give grace and glory; no good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly.'

Psalm 84:11

'For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.'

2 Corinthians 8:9

- **Prosperity is achieved through Words of Faith spoken out by the believer (Positive Confession) - and through 'Planting Seeds of Faith' - giving to their ministry!!!**

- Creflo Dollar writes, *"When we pray, believing that we have already received what we are praying, God has no choice but to make our prayers come to pass. . . . It is a key to getting results"*

- **What's Wrong With This Teaching?**

- **Focus on the prosperity of the believer is contrary to scripture which tells us to seek first the kingdom of God (*Matthew 6:33*)**
- **WOF Prosperity teaching is based on giving** - and the ones who get rich are the WOF teachers
- **The prosperity gospel focuses so much on man's desires that it may lead people to pray selfish, shallow, superficial prayers** that don't bring God glory -further, when coupled with the prosperity doctrine of faith, this teaching may lead people to attempt to manipulate God to get what they want—a futile task...**this is far removed from praying "Your will be done"**

- **Physical Healing is Guaranteed in the Atonement**

- **Based on a false understanding of scriptures, such as *Matthew 8:16-17 and 1 Peter 2:24***

'When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: "He Himself took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses."

Matthew 8:16-17

'who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.' **2 Peter 2:24**

- **Health is our Right under the covenant - in the Atonement, Christ bore all our sicknesses and diseases - so healing is guaranteed**
 - Kenneth Copeland writes in 'Healed ... to Be or Not to Be': *"The first step to spiritual maturity is to realize your position before God. You are a child of God and a joint-heir with Jesus. Consequently, you are entitled to all the rights and privileges in the kingdom of God, and one of their rights is health and healing"* (p. 25).
 - A B Simpson writes in 'The Gospel of Healing': *"There is no longer need that we should suffer what Christ has sufficiently borne. Thus our healing becomes a great redemption right that we simply claim as our purchased inheritance through the blood of Christ's cross."* (p. 300)
- **Health is achieved through Words of Faith spoken out by the believer (Positive Confession)**
 - Kenneth Copeland says "Your faith will cause the power of God to be manifested in your life. His power is always present. It will do what you need it to do."
- **All failure to receive the promised blessings falls squarely on the shoulders of the individual believer - it is never the fault of the healer**
 - **WOF teachers will blame lack of knowledge (scripture) of God's divine healing, lack of belief (faith), hidden sin, Satanic attack, failure to receive or hold on to ones healing, lack of giving (tithing, seed-sowing, ministry donation), etc**
- **What's Wrong With This Teaching?**
 - **Healing does not depend on faith**
 - ❖ **Otherwise unbelievers would never get well**
 - ❖ **Only one out of ten lepers had faith but all were healed (Luke 17:12-19)**
 - ❖ **Many characters in scripture had illnesses (e.g. Paul and Timothy) from which they were not healed - rather...God's grace was sufficient to get them through**
 - **It is a false understanding of scripture (such as *Matthew 8:16-17 and 1 Peter 2:24*) to say that Christians should never be sick**
 - **Sickness is not usually of demonic origin, but it is a consequence of the fall which remains operative today**
 - **Yeshua never used "positive confession" when He healed or when He taught us to pray, do miracles, or call upon God for anything**
 - **Disheartens believers and criticises them for lack of faith**
 - ❖ **It leads some to declare, when told they are ill, "I'm not receiving that" - or to deny they are ill when they are**
- **Yeshua's Spiritual Death and Rebirth in Hell - a false understanding of Atonement**
 - **Yeshua died spiritually as well as physically - His 'spiritual death' consisted of being separated from God (*Matthew 27:46*), and becoming sin (*2 Cor. 5:21*) and suffering in hell (*Acts 2:27, 31*) - Yeshua was born again in hell and then rose from the dead (*Colossians 1:18*)**

- **Jesus was Born Again...in Hell** - because He became like we are, separated from God, because **He tasted spiritual death for every man**. His spirit, His inner man, went to hell in our place.... **Jesus is the first person ever to be born again**
- **Atonement was through 'spiritual death'** - Copeland says, “It wasn’t a physical death on the cross that paid the price for sin...anybody can do that” - and he says that Jesus “put Himself into the hands of Satan when He went to that cross, and took that same nature that Adam did [when he sinned]” -and he says that Jesus “had to give up His righteousness” and He “accepted the sin nature of Satan”
- **What's Wrong With This Teaching?**
 - **The Bible depicts Yeshua as having an immutable divine nature** (*Hebrews 1:8-12, 13:8; Malachi. 3:6*) he did not become a satanic being or die spiritually
 - ❖ In saying that “spiritual death means separation from the life of God”, Copeland tacitly admits that Jesus completely lost His deity
 - **Yeshua is the way the truth and the life** (*John 14:6*) - He said that He has “life in Himself” (*John 5:26; cf. 1:4*), He is “the resurrection and the life” (*John 11:25*)
 - The “spiritual death of Christ” teaching entails an **implicit denial of Christ’s deity and, in turn, of the Trinity**
 - **Yeshua was not dragged into hell by Satan, but instead committed His spirit to the Father** (*Luke 23:46*) and went directly to paradise (*Luke 23:43*)
 - **It Is Finished!** - Jesus bore our sins, God the Father poured out His wrath on the Lamb of God who took our place **on the cross** - **when Jesus said “it is finished” He was directly referring to His atoning death for the sins of the world**
 - There is **no Biblical evidence of Satan or demons dragging this “man” (Yeshua - whose nature was now united with Satan’s) into hell to be tormented**
- **The Old Lie - At the core of 'Word of Faith' is the same lie Satan has been telling since the Garden: “You shall be as God” (*Genesis 3:5*)**
 - **Word of Faith teachers include:**
 - **Kenneth Hagin**
 - **Kenneth Copeland**
 - **Oral Roberts**
 - **Robert Schuller**
 - **Rodney Howard Browne**
 - **Benny Hinn**
 - **Frederick K. C. Price**
 - **John Avanzini**
 - **Robert Tilton**
 - **Marilyn Hickey**
 - **Paul Yonggi Cho**
 - **Charles Capps**
 - **Jerry Savelle**

- **Morris Cerullo**
- **Paul Crouch**
- **Creflo Dollar**
- **Jesse Duplantis**
- **Joyce Meyer**
- **Joel Osteen**
- **Bishop Eddie Long**
- **Mike Murdock**
- **Peter Popoff**
- **Joseph Prince**
- **Andrew Womack**
- **Big Church Leaders - Brian Houston, Bill Johnson**
- **And Many More...**
- **Andrew Womack - particularly effective (and dangerous) in the UK, with whole churches coming under his false teaching and doctrine**

Kingdom Now & Dominion Theology

- **Roots & Shoots**
 - **Dominion Theology or Dominionism, is sometimes known as Restoration Theology**
 - **There are many streams within the Restoration Movement - one of which is Kingdom Now Theology - but their teachings are broadly similar**
 - **Essentially this is a modern repackaging of Latter Rain and Manifest Sons of God teaching**
 - **This teaching can be traced back several centuries, but its recent explosion dates from the Latter Rain, or Manifest Sons movements that began in 1948 in Canada in apparent revival. It was declared to be heresy by the Assemblies of God in 1950.**
 - **Latter Rain teaching** says that the "early rain" was the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and the "latter rain" is the supposed outpouring of the Holy Spirit that has occurred in the 20th and 21st centuries - and we still have a greater 'latter rain' outpouring to come...**WRONG!**
 - **The 'latter rain' is in fact a reference to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Acts 2 - Peter interpreted it thus when he said "this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel" and quoted *Joel 2:28-32***
 - **This 'latter rain' is what many of the 'so-called' revivals - Toronto, Pensacola, Lakeland - have purported to be**
 - **Manifest Sons of God teaching** says that creation is waiting for the revelation of the 'Sons of God' so that it can be delivered from corruption, and this will bring about the crushing of God's enemies and usher in the kingdom of God, taking the world for Jesus - this will happen, and has to happen, before the Lord can return
 - **The last-days overcomers must manifest total victory over all foes in these bodies (without a resurrection), even over death - hence the name "Manifest Sons"**

- **Clear relationship to the Word of Faith and Positive-Confession teachings** (Hagin, Copeland, et al.) - **the exercise of Faith-Power and the practice of Making Declarations are part of the methodology of Dominionism**
- **Links to the Discipleship/Shepherding movement** (Mumford, Simpson, et al.) - **the exercise of authority by 'apostles' and 'prophets'**
- **Counterfeit - twisted texts, prophetic scriptures are denied** or regarded as fulfilled (Preterist views), and a **counterfeit Heaven on Earth expectation** are all common denominators of the DT's leading teachers
- **Other Alliances of Restoration Theology**
 - It is now a **guiding force behind the New Apostolic Reformation**
 - The **'Shepherding' (Discipling) movement of fellowships and house churches**, of which it has been an integral part
 - The **Transformations Movement**
 - The **P.E.A.C.E. Plan and Purpose-Driven materials** of Rick Warren
 - The **Word-Faith movement**
 - The **'Social Gospel' (Seeker Friendly church) and 'New Age' agendas**
 - The **Spiritual Warfare Movement - with its false teaching on 'Power and Authority'**
 - The **Church Growth Movement - e.g. Rick Warren, Bill Hybels, etc - with its emphasis on welcoming in the world and watering down the gospel to grow the church**
 - Closely related in belief are several other groups
 - **Reconstructionists** such as Gary North, et al.
 - **Christian Socialists** such as Jim Wallis (of Sojourners), Tom Sine, et al.; whose major focus is on cleaning up the earth ecologically, politically, economically, sociologically, etc
- **Many Charismatic Christians and Churches have been influenced in one way and another by Dominionism and Restoration teachings**
- **False Teachings - Dominion Theology**
 - **De-emphasis of the Gospel of Salvation - and substitution with the Gospel of the Kingdom, or embellishing the Gospel of Salvation with the addition of the 'Kingdom' message**
 - **Jesus is seen as corrupted or inadequate** - He becomes a nebulous touchy-feely character, the object of our "passion", a "god within", a "force", a "liberator from oppression", and even one of many "christs"
 - **Jesus' role as Saviour and Redeemer is diminished and truncated - and His work is unfinished**
 - **Jesus didn't quite defeat Satan on the Cross, He didn't get the whole job done – the church must finish the job – the onus is on man...and the church on earth must make up for His lack**
 - **Emphasis on Old Testament Law and Covenants, works and deeds, and minimizes (or even mocks) salvation by faith through grace.**
 - **The Church is to have Dominion over the Earth - Dominion Theology (Dominionism), sometimes called Restoration Theology, is based on a false understanding of the role God gave to Adam to have dominion over the earth in Genesis 1:28**

"Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Genesis 1:18

- It says **Man lost dominion over the earth** when Adam and Eve succumbed to Satan's temptation in the Garden of Eden - and **God "lost control" of the earth to Satan** at that time (a' la Word-Faith teaching)
- It says **God has since been looking for a "covenant people" who will be His "extension," or "expression," in the earth and in order to take dominion back from Satan** - note...we do it not God!
- It rests on **human ability and wisdom and power**
- **This is to be accomplished through "overcomers" (the 'new breed' or the 'Joel's army) who, by yielding themselves to the authority of God's apostles and prophets for the Kingdom Age, will take control of the kingdoms of this world - the church is this 'new breed'/'Joel's Army'**
- Many Dominionists believe that the death and resurrection of Christ actually restored the earth to its pre-fall state and Christians now simply need to rule and reign to see that in effect
- Preterism is closely allied with Dominion Theology - the prophetic scriptures are denied or fulfilled in 70AD - and the rapture of the church is denied
- **The Church is the 'New Israel' - the promises to the Jewish people (and the Old Covenant) are applied not to them but to Christians today**
 - **Replacement theology is a key element in Dominionism**
- **The Salvation of Christ (Restoration) also includes**
 - **Total and Complete Healing from all Infirmities**
 - **The Return of Man's Rule (Dominion) and Reign over the Earth - now as it was in the days of Adam and Eve before the fall**
 - **This will require religious unity - hence Ecumenism is a strong trait within Restoration Theology**
 - **Restoration requires a church system based on human leadership and direction - hence the new 'elite apostles and prophets'**
- **There are Conditions for the Return of Yeshua - the role of the Church is to create a universal kingdom of God on earth**
 - **Christ cannot return until all His enemies have been subdued - by the Church - this is completely contrary to scripture**
 - **The Church presents the restored world to Christ on His return**
- **False Teachings - Kingdom Now Theology (an element in Dominionism)**
 - **Kingdom Now Theology sees the 'Restoration of All Things' as the prime objective and purpose of the Church - we can and should live in the Kingdom Now by ruling and reigning on the earth in victory, and devoid of all illness**
 - **Why then do we need Jesus Christ to return at all?**
 - **Misapplication of Millennial Scriptures - in part, the error of Kingdom Now Theology stems from the misinterpretation of prophetic scriptures which will actually only have their fulfilment in the Millennium**
 - Hence there is a **strong trait of Amillennialism** in the understanding and teaching of Kingdom Now Theology teachers
 - See teaching on the Millennium on SYMF website - 'Are You Ready?' - for a full review of millennial scriptures
 - **'Restoration of the Tabernacle of David' - defined as the completion of perfection of the Bride of Christ, and necessary to usher in the Kingdom Age**
 - **Emphasis on ecstatic worship**

- **Mike Bickle's false 'Bridal Paradigm'**
- **Power in Words (Our Words)** - We have power and authority - believers are indwelt by the same Holy Spirit as was Jesus, we have all authority in heaven and on the earth - the 'little gods' teaching of the Word-Faith movement
- **WE have the Power to believe for and speak into existence things that are not, and thus we can bring about the Kingdom Age - hence:**
 - **Emphasis on Positive Confession** - based on speaking things into being
 - **Emphasis on Spiritual Warfare and Proclamations** - based on a false understanding of spiritual power and authority
- **Signs & Wonders** - John Wimber, the founder of the Vineyard churches, taught a particular application of kingdom theology - emphasising signs and wonders as the coming of the kingdom of God
- **Kingdom Now and Dominion Theology underpin the teaching of the 'Apostles' and 'Prophets' of the New Apostolic Reformation (NAR)**
 - **The Elite Sons** - there will emerge an Elite Special Company of super-spiritual saints in whom the real purposes of God are to be accomplished - **these are the 'apostles' and 'prophets' of the NAR**
 - **These 'Manifest Sons of God' are the 100 fold fruit of the earth** - most of the church are too carnal and insensitive to receive this revelation
 - The **'Elite Concept' is very seductive and appealing** to people - and you can join it by receiving an impartation from one of the elite
 - **Spiritual Elitism is seen in the 'New Breed' Concept** of Mike Bickle, Paul Cain and John Wimber
 - **Hence we have many 'Elijah's', 'Imminent Apostles', 'New Prophets' and a 'Joel's Army'** who have sprung up in today's church - self propagandists with big egos and big ministries

Recommended Reading / Viewing

Bill Randles' book "Beware The New Prophets"

Justin Peters DVD "Clouds Without Water"

The New 'Apostles' & 'Prophets'

- **Recap - False Prophets & False Teachers**

- **Wolves**

*"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but **inwardly they are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits.** Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles?"* **Matthew 7:15-16**

- **Teachers of Doctrines of Demons**

'Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, 2 speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron,' **1 Timothy 4:1-2**

- **Two Common Deceptive Teachings**

- **Word of Faith & Prosperity Gospel**
- **Kingdom Now & Dominion Theology**

Having looked at these now common deceptive teachings - lets now look at a **modern day movement which links them together with the addition of the false new generation of so-called apostles and prophets - The New Apostolic Reformation**

The New Apostolic Reformation isn't an official organization, nor can it be characterized by a common creed; it is instead a loosely knit and often unaffiliated network of leaders who share a common vision and goal for the visible Church

You may never have heard of the New Apostolic Reformation (NAR) - but you will have come across many of those who are part of it (they are all over Christian TV) - some deny they are NAR, but their teaching betrays that they are!

New Apostolic Reformation (NAR)

- **Roots and Shoots**
- **Teachers - the so-called Apostles and Prophets**
- **Teachings**
- **Biblical Tests**

- **Roots & Shoots**
 - **William Branham, Latter Rain and Manifest Sons of God movements**
 - **Bob Jones** - his 'prophetic words', given over four decades, **influenced many leaders in the New Apostolic Reformation movement**, including Mike Bickle, founder of the International House of Prayer (IHOP) in Kansas City, Missouri.
 - **The Kansas City Prophets (Paul Cain, etc)** - the NAR has roots in the Kansas City Prophets who brought grandiose claims that a 'new breed' of super prophets were beginning to arrive on planet earth who would change the world forever
 - **It has roots in the Word Faith and Pentecostal movements**
 - **The NAR theology is predominantly that of Dominionism**
- **The New 'Apostles' & 'Prophets'**
 - **The New Apostolic Reformation** - Peter Wagner (Founder), Mike Bickle, Todd Bentley, John Crowder, John Dawson, Joy Dawson, Ted Haggard, Bill Hamon, Cindy Jacobs, Bill Johnson, Rick Joyner, Patricia King, Chuck Pierce, Dutch Sheets, Ed Silvano, etc
 - **Big Churches & Big Church Leaders & Big Ministries** - Rick Warren, Bill Hybels, Bill Johnson, Marc Dupont, John Arnott, Che Ahn, Todd Bentley, John Kirkpatrick, Wes & Stacey Campbell, James Ryle, etc
 - **Predominance on Christian TV channels** - such as God TV and Trinity Broadcasting Network (TBN), even on Revelation TV
 - **Denial - some of these self-proclaimed 'apostles' and 'prophets' deny they are part of the NAR...but they all teach the same error**
- **C Peter Wagner**
 - **The Founder of the NAR**
 - Wagner was a **professor of church growth at Fuller Theological Seminary**, where he taught for 30 years (1971 to 2001)

- He **first coined the term “New Apostolic Reformation”** to refer to the growing number of churches in the 1990s that started to accept the idea of present-day apostles
- He wrote six books on the topic of apostles
- **He was the presiding leader over the International Coalition of Apostolic Leaders** during its formative years, from 2001 to 2010.
- **C. Peter Wagner invented the term "New Apostolic Reformation"**
 - He then **pronounced himself God's appointed leader of it**
 - It's a **loosely knit association of teachers, churches and ministries** on the outer fringes of anything resembling Biblical Christianity
 - Supernatural Signs & Wonders; Dominionism; The Latter Rain Movement; Joel's Army; The 7 Mountain Mandate; Third Wave Revivalism; IHOP; Bill Johnson's Bethel Church, The Hillsong Media Empire... **these are all a part of this shape-shifting movement in one way or another - and it is gobbling up churches and deceiving millions around the world**
- **NAR Leaders - 'Apostles' and 'Prophets'**
 - **Roots in hyper-charismatic movement**
 - **This movement began to be taught and believed inside the hyper-charismatic movement**, such as Toronto, Lakeland, IHOP, Kansas City Prophets, Mike Bickle, etc
 - **Now it has gone viral - big names on the political right began to align themselves with the big names from the charismatic Christian side**
 - The combination of the Kingdom Now/Dominionism theology, with the Pentecostal/Charismatic movement, and the moralism of the Conservative Right, creates a dangerous pandemic - each of these groups are tremendously influential and powerful
 - **And it is all over Christian TV**
 - **Self Appointed 'Apostles' and 'Prophets'**
 - **This movement is loaded with self-appointed “apostles” and “prophets”**
 - They take *Ephesians 4:11-13* out of context to defend the idea that the office of apostle and prophet are still valid today
 - If by “apostles” and “prophets” one means Christian leaders of the same kind as the twelve apostles or the apostle Paul, they are clearly mistaken - there are no church leaders today whose authority cannot be questioned, or through whom new doctrinal revelations are given to the church, or whose teachings must be accepted by all Christians
 - There are no new apostles and prophets - the foundations of the New Jerusalem are the 12 Apostles...no mention of the NAR
 - **The leaders of this movement believe and teach that Christians have a mandate to reclaim “for Christ” Seven Mountains of Influence:**
 - 1 – Business
 - 2 – Government
 - 3 – Family
 - 4 – Religion
 - 5 – Media
 - 6 – Education
 - 7 – Entertainment

- **Seeker Friendly - reaching out to redeem the world but at the expense of abandoning the true gospel** - of confession of sin, forgiveness through Yeshua's atoning death, and living a new life in holiness, by the Spirit
- **Ecumenical - seeking unity at the expense of doctrinal truth** - and even embracing the new age and mysticism of the 'Emerging Church
- **To quote John MacArthur on the New Apostolic Reformation "It is not new, it is not apostolic, and it is not a reformation"**
- **The Todd Bentley 'Commissioning' - Bankruptcy Revealed**
 - **Spiritual Bankruptcy**
 - **If anything shows how spiritually bankrupt these self-proclaimed 'apostles' and 'prophets' are it is the 'commissioning' of Todd Bentley at Lakeland on 23rd April 2008**
 - **NAR leaders gathered to 'commission' Bentley at a special ceremony** - those present included C Peter Wagner, Ché Ahn (pastor of Harvest Rock Church in Pasadena, California), John Arnott (of Toronto Airport Christian Fellowship in Canada), Bill Johnson (pastor of Bethel Church in Redding, California), and Rick Joyner (founder of MorningStar Ministries in Charlotte, North Carolina)
 - **False Prophecy**
 - **C Peter Wagner proclaimed (prophesied) over Bentley:**
 - *"This commissioning represents a powerful spiritual transaction taking place in the invisible world. With this in mind, I take the apostolic authority that God has given me and I decree to Todd Bentley, your power will increase, your authority will increase, your favour will increase, your influence will increase, your revelation will increase.*
 - *"I also decree that a new supernatural strength will flow through this ministry. A new life force will penetrate this move of God. Government will be established to set things in their proper order. God will pour out a higher level of discernment to distinguish truth from error. New relationships will surface to open the gates to the future."*
 - **Less than 4 months later (15th August 2008) it was revealed...** that Todd Bentley had entered into an unhealthy relationship on an emotional level with a female member of his staff (in fact he was adulterous) - **and this had been going on at the time of his 'commissioning'...yet none of the 'apostles' and 'prophets' discerned it**
 - **The so-called 'Lakeland Revival' fell apart**
 - **No Apology or Admission of Failure**
 - **None of the 'apostles' and 'prophets' admitted their failure**
 - **The NAR leaders instead were interested in Bentley's restoration** and ministry - and...with Rick Joyner overseeing the process...Bentley was duly re-instated in his ministry by these NAR leaders less than 2 years later - and was soon back on Christian TV
 - Fortunately, **Governments have shown better discernment than the NAR**
 - In January 2012, Bentley was denied entry into Australia
 - In August 2012, he was banned from entering the United Kingdom
 - In September 2012, he was forced to cancel a trip to Pakistan

- **NAR Teachings**
 - **New Moves of God**
 - **Links to 'outpourings' such as Toronto, Pensacola and Lakeland**
 - **Emphasis on Experience over Biblical Discernment**
 - **The New Apostolic Age**
 - **There are new Apostles on the earth today**, anointed to represent and speak for God here on Earth
 - **These "Super Apostles" are equal to (even exceed) the original Apostles** – the ones who witnessed Jesus' life, death and resurrection and were appointed by Christ Himself to the office
 - **These new apostles are commissioned by God, their authority may not be questioned**
 - Its founder was C. Peter Wagner, who claimed that **the Church of the 21st Century will be ruled by Apostles and Prophets** - Wagner anointed himself NAR's "Presiding Apostle"
 - **Denial of the Sufficiency of Scripture**
 - **God is doing new things (e.g. manifestations)**
 - Though members are not always charismatic, **they frequently emphasise a manifestation of "Glory" and "God's presence,"** and often **claim a special anointing to receive direct revelation from God, perform healings and other signs and wonders**
 - **They teach that our purpose is to achieve our dream destiny** so that we can change the world
 - **God is releasing new understandings (in fact false teachings)**
 - **The Church fulfilling its destiny - dominion over the world**
 - **Revival** - Revival on a massive scale is key in this movement. There is a **strong emphasis on an "end times harvest"** through a great awakening that we can usher in. Often these 'revivals' are held in stadiums and reach millions around the world via live stream technology; they are marketed and produced like rock concerts.
 - **All scripture verses about an end times falling away are ignored**, and get replaced with hyped-up claims about the 'Next Big Thing' that's always just around the corner
 - **The New Apostles and Prophets have been sent by God to bring these things to the church at this time:**
 - **To bring new understanding (the old Gnostic heresy)**
 - **To usher in the final climax of the Church Age**
 - **To prepare the Body of Christ**
 - **To bring Unity - at the expense of biblical doctrine** - is almost always used as both the how and the why in this movement
 - **Unity - for the sake of bringing Heaven to Earth - is leading to the blurring of doctrinal and denominational lines**, often bringing together well-known leaders of charismatic, reformed, Word of Faith, seeker-friendly, emergent, progressive and Roman Catholics churches, all under one umbrella
 - **Unity with 'The Emerging Church'** - with its adoption of New Age (occult) and mystic practices

- **New Prophetic Standards - they teach that it is acceptable for prophecy not always to be accurate - thus excusing the false prophecies they bring**
 - Rick Joyner writes "*Bob [Jones] was told that the general level of prophetic revelation in the church was about 65% accurate at this time. Some are only 10% accurate, a very few of the most mature prophets are approaching 85% to 95% accuracy. Prophecy is increasing in purity, but there is still a long way to go for those who walk in this ministry. This is actually grace for the church now, because 100% accuracy in this ministry would bring a level of accountability to the church which she is too immature to bear at this time. It would result in too many Ananiases and Saphiras*" Rick Joyner - '*The Prophetic Ministry, Morningstar Newsletter*'
 - **Scripture knows nothing of inaccurate prophecy - except to say that such is false prophecy**
 - **In Old Testament times, false prophets were to be stoned - see *Deuteronomy 13: 5, Ezekiel 13:8-9, and 2 Peter 2* (whole chapter)**
- **Kingdom Now & Dominion Theology teachings undergird the NAR**
 - The Gospel of the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth
 - The Church is, in these latter days, to fulfil its calling - to redeem the earth in preparation for Christ's return
 - Spiritual Warfare, Proclamations and Declarations - the methodology
 - Watering down the gospel and God's word - to gain influence
 - The emphasis is on US (the Church) bringing all this about - not on Yeshua and His coming again to rule and reign
- **Word of Faith & Prosperity Gospel teachings are inherent in the NAR teachings**
 - Positive Confession and Visualisation practices
 - Manifestation of the kingdom of God through the church (us) by our spoken 'faith-words' - we create and cause to happen

- **Biblical Tests**

- **Manner and Teachings**

'Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them. For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple.'

Romans 16:17-18

- **Equating their words with Scripture**
 - **Claiming the authority of an Apostle or Prophet whose words are 'gospel' and cannot be challenged**
 - **Critical of those who oppose them - calling them Pharisaic**
 - **New agendas and ways of gaining dominion - e.g. Seeker Friendly Church and New World Order programmes**
 - **Unbiblical practices and manifestations and false teachings - as previously described**
 - **What God's Word Says:**
 - ❖ **His word is the lamp to our feet**

'How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word.'

'Forever, O Lord, Your word is settled in heaven.'

'Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.'

'The entrance of Your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.'

Psalms 119: 9, 89, 105, 130

❖ **We are to obey Yeshua's commands not the NAR**

'Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.' Amen.'

Matthew 28:19-20

❖ **We are to watch out for deception**

'And Jesus, answering them, began to say: "Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am He,' and will deceive many.'

Mark 13:5-6

❖ **We are to watch out for false doctrine**

'Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron,'

1 Timothy 4:1-2

○ **Rejecting Authentic Doctrinal Christian teaching**

- **False Teachings** - as previously described
- **Claiming to bring new biblical teaching which supersedes or enhances scripture**
- **Twisting and Misinterpreting Scripture** - even rewriting the Bible (*The Passion 'Translation'*)
- **What God's Word Says:**

❖ **Keep to the good doctrine you were taught**

'But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.'

2 Timothy 3:13-15

❖ **Beware of teaching that 'tickles the ears'**

'For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.'

2 Timothy 4:3-4

❖ **Be Mature - not Children who are Easily Deceived**

'That we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,'

Ephesians 4:14

❖ **Those who are Deceived have not 'Grown Up'**

'For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.'

Hebrews 5:12-14

○ **Emphasising Experience over Scripture**

- **Claiming that manifestations of hysterical laughter, animal noises, loud ecstatic 'tongues' and 'carpet time' - are of the Holy Spirit**
- **Telling people to 'switch of their minds' and go with the experience - switching off discernment!**
- **Telling people 'you won't find this in scripture...it is a new work of God for today'**
- **Twisting or Denying 'inconvenient' scriptures - to justify the 'new teaching' that they bring**

➤ **What God's Word Says:**

- ❖ **Beware of being conformed to the world - of meetings that are like cafes, rock concerts or TV talent shows**

'And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.'

Romans 12:2

- ❖ **Test everything - teaching, manifestations and experiences with God's Word**
- ❖ **Discern the spirits**

'Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.'

1 John 4:1

○ **Dominating the Lives of their Adherents and Members**

- **Focus on experiences and 'ballyhoo'**
- **Lack of pastoral care**
- **Adoration of Leaders**
 - ❖ **They exalt themselves as 'apostles' and 'prophets'**
 - ❖ **They exalt their words as superseding scripture**
- **Criticism of Discernment and Biblical Critiques**
- **Emphasis on Experience**
- **A Holy Spirit centred ministry rather than a focus on The Father and The Son**
- **What God's Word Says:**
 - ❖ **Look for teachers and elders who are godly examples - and don't judge by appearances**

'The elders who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed: Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.'

1 Peter 5:1-4

- ❖ **Beware of false teaching that actually ends up destroying lives and faith**

'But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed.'

2 Peter 2:1-2

○ **Intimidating and Demanding Absolute Conformity**

- **Condemning critics who challenge their teaching and base their criticisms on God's Word - critics called Pharisaic**
- **Ministries that act like cults - e.g. IHOP...seeking to cut off contact with others and engaging in mind control techniques**
- **Many ex-members of these ministries testify to their un-biblical practices and culture of fear**
- **What God's Word Says:**
 - ❖ **Watch out for teachers and ministries whose approach is impure and whose ministry is raucous**
 - ❖ **Look to see if there are fruits - is there a growth in holiness and are there fruits of the Spirit?**

'But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy.' **James 3:17**

- ❖ **Watch out for teachers and ministries whose focus is to draw people away from real churches and into their ministry meetings**

'Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves.' **Acts 20:28-30**

- **Greedy and Lavish Living**

- **Many of the false teachers have been caught out in ungodly living - adultery, fraud, false claims, etc**
- **Many of the Word of Faith and NAR teachers are very wealthy people - their wealth has come by fleecing the deceived**
- **What God's Word Says:**

- ❖ **Avoid teachers whose lives are ungodly**

'But as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy." **1 Peter 1:15-16**

- ❖ **Watch out for teachers and ministries whose focus is money and giving to their ministry**

'He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.' Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world.' **1 John 2: 6, 15-16**

- **Judging Prophetic Ministry**

Scripture offers two tests...of how to judge the prophet and prophecy

- **Simple Test**

- **Does what the prophet prophecies come to be?**

'When a prophet speaks in the name of the Lord, if the thing does not happen or come to pass, that is the thing which the Lord has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you shall not be afraid of him.' **Deuteronomy 18:22**

- **Excusing Inaccuracy - a trait of the new prophets**
- **Jonathan Cahn purports to be a teacher and prophet - but his teaching is false and his prophecy presumptuous - he has deceived many by his books, TV appearances and videos**

- **Subtle Test**

- **Even if a prophecy comes to be - or, like many modern prophecies, is very general and non-specific - the test is does it lead you to focus on the Lord, does it glorify Him?**

"If there arises among you a prophet or a dreamer of dreams, and he gives you a sign or a wonder, and the sign or the wonder comes to pass, of which he spoke to you, saying, 'Let us go after other gods'—which you have not known—and let us serve them,' you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams, for the Lord your God is testing you to know whether you love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul." **Deuteronomy 13:1-3**

- **Judge the Message rather than judging by Results or Experiences - other religions and the demonic have strange manifestations, miracles and make accurate predictions**
- **The False Prophet can be discerned by his false teaching**

- **Antichrist can be discerned by inconsistent teaching - John gives us the tests in his epistles - where he is writing about discerning Gnosticism**

'Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son. Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also.'

1 John 2:22-23

- **Antichrist denies the deity of Jesus**

'By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.'

1 John 4:2-3

- **Antichrist denies the humanity of Jesus**

For many deceivers have gone out into the world who do not confess Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.

2 John 1:7

- **The teachings of the New Apostolic Reformation - with their Dominion Theology and Word of Faith Doctrine - effectively:**

- ❖ **Deny Yeshua's divinity and the complete atonement through His death on the cross and victory over Satan**
NAR view the work of Yeshua as needing completion by the church
- ❖ **Deny His distinctive humanity as born of Mary & The Holy Spirit**
- ❖ **It is Antichrist - by biblical definition**

Recommended Reading / Viewing

Bill Randles' book "Beware The New Prophets"

Geivett & Pivec's book 'A New Apostolic Reformation'

Justin Peters DVD "Clouds Without Water"

Finally

How should we respond to what is happening in this deceptive age in the church?

- **Seek the Lord - not experiences**

Jesus said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the first and great commandment.'

Matthew 22:37-38

- **Believe the Truth – not the lie**

'And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.'

2 Thessalonians 2:8-12

- **Love Him who is 'The Truth'**

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

John 14:6

- **Study & Believe His Word - which is Truth**

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 complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Reminder - List of Resources, Notes and Recommended Books & Videos