

## Two Great Spiritualistic Deceptions

The subject of the great spiritualistic deception at the beginning of earth's history in the Garden of Eden, and a great world-wide spiritualistic deception that is to occur at the end of time, is the theme of this chapter.

In the story of creation, Genesis chapter 1, we are told that God created light and He "saw that it was *good*." He created land and seas "and God saw that it was *good*." He created the plants on the third day "and God saw that it was *good*." He made two lights "and God saw that it was *good*." On the fifth day, life in the sea was created "and God saw that it was *good*." On the sixth day He created animals "and God saw that it was *good*." Then God created man (Adam) and woman (Eve). He looked over everything that He had made "and, behold, it was *very good*."<sup>1</sup>

The word *good* was used seven times in the story of creation. What did God mean by this expression, "*good*?" Webster's Collegiate Dictionary lists one of the definitions as:

...to be in harmony with the moral order of the universe.<sup>2</sup>

God was saying that he had created planet earth and all its inhabitants, and they were in perfect harmony with His laws for the universe. All of God's creations are under His fixed laws. His created intelligent beings are also under His moral law.

In the light from Calvary it will be seen that the law of self-renouncing love is the law of life for earth and heaven; that the love which "seeketh not her own" has its source in the heart of God; and that in the meek and lowly One is manifested the character of Him who dwelleth in the light which no man can approach unto.<sup>3</sup>

Every part of creation is in balance and ministers to some other aspect of the creation.

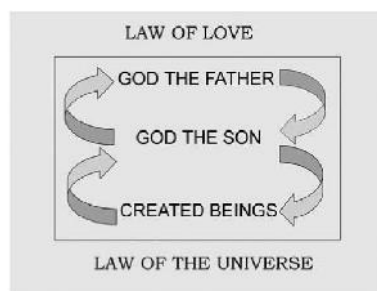
...There is nothing, save the selfish heart of man, lives unto himself.<sup>4</sup>...

Looking unto Jesus, we see that it is the glory of our God to give.

"I do nothing of Myself," said Christ: "the living Father hath sent Me, and I live by the Father."

"I seek not Mine own glory, but the glory of Him that sent Me."<sup>5</sup>

In these words is set forth the great principle which is the law of life for the universe. All things Christ received from God, but He took to give. So in the heavenly courts, in His ministry for all created beings: through the beloved Son, the Father's life flows out to all; through the Son it returns, in praise and joyous service, a tide of love, to the great Source of all. And thus through Christ the circuit of beneficence is complete, representing the character of the great Giver, the law of life.<sup>6</sup>



Man is placed in a universe that is under the law of God. Government cannot exist without

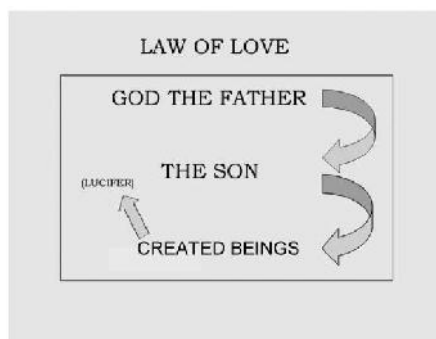
law.

Immortality was promised them (Adam and Eve) on condition of obedience; by transgression they would forfeit eternal life.<sup>7</sup>

God's law was first broken in heaven by Lucifer. Envious to be *first* was the driving force behind Lucifer's rebellion. He desired that heavenly beings give him the homage due only to God and His Son. He desired to control heaven, and he accused the divine Son of God of having this desire for self-supremacy.

With his own evil characteristics he sought to invest the loving Creator. Thus he deceived angels. Thus he deceived men. He led them to doubt the word of God, and to distrust His goodness.<sup>8</sup>

The circle of love (law of universe) is broken when we give Satan the honor due God, his deceptions are designed to entice us to do just that.



To deceive newly created man, Satan appeared to Eve in disguise. He chose the serpent as his *medium*. When Eve wandered from the side of Adam she felt some apprehension, but thought she had sufficient wisdom and strength to discern evil and to withstand it. When she approached the tree of *knowledge of good and evil* the serpent spoke to her. Fascinated, she stayed to listen.

She had no idea that the serpent was being used by Satan, about whom the angels had warned them. Satan, through the serpent, said that if she were to eat of the fruit of the tree, she would gain wisdom and know good and evil. She would become wise as God Himself.

Satan, the fallen prince, was jealous of God. He determined through subtlety, cunning, and deceit to defeat God's purpose. He approached Eve, not in the form of an angel, but as a serpent, subtle, cunning, and deceitful. With a voice that appeared to proceed from the serpent, he spoke to her. . . .As Eve listened, the warnings God had given *faded from her mind*. She yielded to the temptation, and as she tempted Adam, *he also forgot God's warnings*. He believed the words of the enemy of God<sup>9</sup>. . . .

Eve did not design to rebel against God. However, in believing Satan's lie, she distrusted God, and so came under the penalty of the law, which is death. We, in the judgment, will be held responsible for believing the truth and using opportunities to learn what is truth.

Satan's *great lie* is that disobedience to God does not result in death, but rather will lead to

a higher level of existence, and a broader field of knowledge. Had he (the serpent) not received this higher level of existence? Did he not now have the power of speech from eating the fruit?<sup>10</sup> He promised them that they would become wise like God.

Satan tempts men to disobedience by leading them to believe they are entering a wonderful field of knowledge. But this is all a deception.<sup>11</sup>

So, the first use of a *medium*, to gain man's attention and then to draw him into rejecting God's instructions, plunged the human race into sin and under the penalty of death. Satan has used the same pattern of deception since the fall of man. We are warned that the deception of the devil will be world-wide and greatly increased in power at the end of this world's history. Christ foretold this in Mark 13:22.

For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall show signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect.

In Matthew chapters 24 and 25 we have an enlarged recording of the conversation referenced above in Mark 13. When asked by the disciples about signs of His coming and the end of the age, He not only spoke of certain physical signs, but the real emphasis was on the great deceptions that were to come, so as to lead the saints astray. The parables appearing in these chapters are there to support the message of warning, *to not be deceived*. He said that even the *elect* might be *deceived*. The entire passage of these two chapters is making the point that deception will be almost overwhelming and could cost us eternal life. Deception that would cause us to reject salvation through Jesus Christ and follow the Prince of this world, Satan, unknowingly. Paul, too, warned of the great deception to come:

Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world and not after Christ. (Col.2:8).

E.G. White, in the book *Spiritual Gifts* Vol. 4, p. 87, refers to this verse as especially referring to the great spiritual deception that is to occur at the end of time.

Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders." (II Thessalonians 2:9). And no marvel: for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works. (II Corinthians 11:14, 15).

Paul also warned Timothy:

Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils. (I Timothy 4:1).

John, three times in the book of Revelation, wrote about this deception to come:

And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to

them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. (Revelation 13:13, 14).

And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. (Revelation 16:13,14).

And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. (Revelation 19:20).

Mrs. White adds this warning concerning events of the last days:

The last great delusion is soon to open before us. Antichrist is to perform his marvelous works in our sight. So closely will the counterfeit resemble the true that it will be impossible to distinguish between them except by the Holy Scriptures. By their testimony every statement and every miracle must be tested.<sup>12</sup>

There will be a false revival. Paul, in his second letter to the Thessalonians, points to the special working of Satan in spiritualism as an event to take place immediately before the second advent of Christ. Speaking of Christ's second coming, he declares that it is

...after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders.<sup>13</sup>

Present-day religions teach the imminent coming of a Messiah. Satan has done his best to have the world looking for someone other than the Son of God, a different Messiah. In the book of Revelation, chapter 11, we learn about the rise of spiritualism and militant atheism —“the beast from the bottomless pit,” in the latter part of the 19th century and its dominance in the French revolution. This power did not continue in the position as “head of government” but it did stay alive. It has been an influence in the world ever since and has been growing rapidly. In the last twenty-five years it has actually mushroomed to a place of prominence in the thinking of men. Satan has laid his trap carefully and is preparing to join with the forces of religion in our time.<sup>14</sup> He has been quietly at work to condition people's thinking until total control of their minds, and the rejection of God and His law is accomplished. We have seen in recent years the amalgamation of Eastern religions and their spiritualism with occultism of the West. This neo-occultism and neo-paganism has been planting its seeds of thought through the press, radio, schools, television, and in the churches.

For years the West has been seeing changes in that which is taught in schools, even to an open attack on the Creator God. In the entertainment industry, we see efforts to change the views of people by devaluating Christian concepts and elevating atheistic and paganistic ideas. This same shift is seen in music, games, comic books, movies, environmental movements, and in the special focus of this book, that of *health and healing*.

"...TENS OF THOUSANDS OF ENTRY POINTS  
TO THIS CONSPIRACY." --Marilyn Ferguson



### *Points of entry.*

Satan has developed his plan to deceive man until almost all external influences in our civilization are used as entry points to bring man's acceptance to his world view. In his world view, creation was not a six-day event and did not involve a sovereign God. God is nature and nature is god. We are gods and we only need to learn how to bring this "god" within us to its full potential. One of the avenues that Satan uses to deceive man into paying homage to him is in the field of health and healing. He works to get the human race to accept his version of the *origin* of man, and in turn, his false premise of the cause of disease. By accepting Satan's false concepts concerning the causes of disease, and resorting to his unsound methods of treatment, man gives reverence to Satan.

The pivotal book that officially launched the New Age movement was Marilyn Ferguson's *The Aquarian Conspiracy*, published in 1980. This book was "an important New Age manifesto that attempted to announce and popularize what the New Agers chose to publicly display in their Movement." The book set forth futuristic thinking that has become so commonplace in our culture that an entire generation has grown up believing its basic assumptions. One of the key topics in this book was Ferguson's assertion that the radical overhaul of society could be based upon health care "**reform**" -- a "**transformation**" explained in the chapter "Healing Ourselves." Ferguson wrote "'The new paradigm of health and medicine enlarges the framework of the old, incorporating brilliant technological advances while restoring and validating intuitions about mind and relationships.'"(p. 247)<sup>15</sup>

Chapter 4 in *The Aquarian Conspiracy* titled "Crossover: People Changing" lists a number of medical disciplines that Ferguson refers to as *points of entry* and "psychotechnologies," to facilitate change in a person's world view. They include: biofeedback, autogenic training, music in combination with meditation and imagery, psychodrama, self-help programs such as 12 step of AA, all forms of meditation, yoga, EST, Silva mind control, dream journals, Arica, Theosophy, Science of Mind, A Course in Miracles, all body disciplines and therapies, Tai Chi Ch'uan, karate, Sufi stories, koans, whirling dervishes, etc., etc. In the chapter on *Changeover* further explanation is made as to the steps involved in a change—transformation of an individual. Step one, is experimenting with an *entry point*. Step two, is *exploring* further the entry point and possible additional ones. This going deeper into the healing technique in search of something enticing, actually a beginning of breaking the grip of one's deeply established core values, and

allows for a change to a new set of guide lines (pantheistic) for one's life. Step three, is *integration*, wherein the individual trusts an *inner guru*. Contact with an inner guide, an inner child, or as C.J. Jung says "the divine child." This is a stage where contact is made with demons—fallen angels. Step four, *conspiracy*, (def. to breathe together) discovering additional sources of power and the ways to use it, such as self healing, healing others, and attempting to heal society, a conspiring for renewal. Is it any wonder that the New York Times referred to the book *The Aquarian Conspiracy* as the New Age Bible.

In II Kings 1, it is written that Ahaziah, king of Israel, fell and sustained serious injury. He sent a messenger to inquire of Baalzebub, god of Ekron, as to whether he would recover from his injuries. God sent Elijah the prophet to intercept the messenger of the king as he traveled toward Ekron. Elijah sent him back to the king with the question:

Is it because there is no God in Israel that you go off to consult Baalzebub the god of Ekron?  
(II Kings 1:3 NIV).

A captain and fifty soldiers were sent to arrest Elijah and to bring him to the king. When they attempted to arrest Elijah, fire from heaven consumed them. The king sent another fifty, who suffered the same fate. The captain of a third group pleaded with Elijah not to allow fire to consume them, and God told Elijah to go with the captain to see the king.

As Elijah faced the king he repeated the question,

Is it because there is no God in Israel that you go off to consult Baalzebub the god of Ekron?  
(II Kings 1:3 NIV).

Elijah told him that because of this inquiry of Baalzebub he would not recover from his injuries but would die. We must be very careful not to be found "inquiring of the god of Ekron" regarding our physical status. Many sincere Christians are deceived by Satan and are indeed inquiring of the god of Ekron.

In the same manner do men and women dishonor God when they turn from the Source of strength and wisdom to ask help or counsel from the powers of darkness. If God's wrath was kindled by Ahaziah's act, how does God regard those who, having still greater light, choose to follow a similar course?<sup>16</sup>



Satan has long been preparing for his final effort to deceive the world. The foundation of his

work was laid by the assurance given to Eve in Eden:

Ye shall not surely die... in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes will be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.' (Genesis: 3:4, 5).

Little by little he has prepared the way for his masterpiece of deception in the development of spiritualism. Spiritualism leads, by word and practice, to the belief in immortality (a spirit life after death), and it often involves communication with the spirit world. Satan has not yet reached the full accomplishment of his designs; but it will be reached in the last remnant of time. Says the prophet John:

I saw three unclean spirits like frogs...they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. (Revelation. 16:13, 14).

Except those who are kept by the power of God, through faith in His word, the whole world will be swept into the ranks of this delusion. The people are fast being lulled to a fatal security, to be awakened only by the outpouring of the wrath of God.<sup>17</sup>

As we turn our attention to the advancement of spiritualism into the field of health and healing, let us look again to God's messenger, Ellen White, for guidance in appraising various treatment methods. Those who have been persuaded by apparent achievement of the false sciences will praise them and point out the apparent good they have accomplished, yet without understanding the power that is behind these sciences and the extent of deception.

... but it is a power which will yet work with all signs and lying wonders—with all deceivableness of unrighteousness. *Mark the influence of these sciences*, dear reader, for the conflict between Christ and Satan is not yet ended.<sup>18</sup>

Ellen White spoke of three popular therapies of her day, warning of their connection to spiritualism, that of phrenology, psychology, and mesmerism. Let us take a brief glimpse at each of these *mind cure* therapeutic methods.

Phrenology emerged in the 1800's and taught that by feeling the shape of the skull, a person could determine the character and personality of an individual. Phrenology also included *mind therapy*, by pressure placed on certain areas of the skull it was believed that the personality traits and mental makeup could be changed. It was a pseudoscience that taught phrenology as psychological insight and self knowledge, all originating from within. It contributed to the popular psychology of the nineteenth century and functioned in the same way as psychoanalysis permeated psychology of today. In the mid-later 1800's phrenology in the USA became part of a counter-culture movement as distinguished by new dress styles, communes, mesmerism (hypnotism), and revival of herbal remedies. It did not make successful inroads into regular medical thought. (see encyclopedia—phrenology)

In the 1800's and early 1900's, the term, "psychology", had a somewhat different meaning than it does today. Noah Webster's 1828 dictionary defines it thus: n.[gr. Soul, and discourse.] A discourse or treatise on the human soul. Or the doctrine of the nature of the soul.

Popular psychologist of the 1800's and early 1900's presented a theory of the "subconscious

mind” and focused inward to self-love, self-acceptance, self-improvement, self-worth, self-esteem, self, self, etc., and based their therapeutic methods upon this foundation. Some of the more influential psychologists were believers in the occult and had connection with spirits. Jung had a spirit guide by the name of Philemon. Their “mind cure” theory was to look within our minds to find solutions to life stresses and problems, rather than pointing them to the greatest healer of the mind—Jesus Christ the Divine Son of God. These psychologists, some of who were connected to the spirit world, might use mind altering methods, such as hypnosis, including cocaine, in analysis and therapy to their patients.

Today, psychology is generally considered a science of the mind and human behavior, and has gained some understanding of mental processes, yet it suffers from a solid standard which allows many theories and approaches to mind cure. It is often practiced in a way that presents the same dangers as in the past. (see chapter 19— Psychology)

Mesmerism referred to a therapeutic approach to health that was patterned after the teachings of a Dr. Mesmer who lived in the late 1700’s and early 1800’s. He was a graduate of the Medical School of Vienna. He was also an astrologer and believed in the association and sympathy of the cosmos, earth, and man. He started his medical practice, after graduation from medical school, by using magnets in an attempt to treat disease. This was an ancient practice that repeatedly, over many centuries came and left the field of medicine. Eventually he found that by just placing his hands over a body, he could get the same response that he did with magnets. This practice evolved into what is now known as hypnotism. In many encyclopedias, Mesmer is called the father of hypnotism, a method of *mind cure*. Mrs. White gave strong warnings against its use.

This entering in of Satan through the sciences is well devised. Through the channel of phrenology, psychology, and mesmerism, he comes more directly to the people of this generation and ***works with that power which is to characterize*** his efforts near the close of probation. The minds of thousands have thus been poisoned and led into infidelity.<sup>19</sup>

We have reached the perils of the last days, when some, yes, many, ‘shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils.’ Be cautious in regard to what you read and how you hear. Take not a particle of interest in spiritualistic theories. Satan is waiting to steal a march upon everyone who allows himself to be deceived by his hypnotism. He begins to exert his power over them just as soon as they begin to investigate his theories.<sup>20</sup>

John, in the Biblical book of Revelation, chapter sixteen, has warned us that spirits of demons will be the method and power by which the world will be brought together to place all men under one system (Satan’s), at the end of time. John also points out that there will be another very small group that will not accept the control by this spiritistic power, and they keep the commandments of God and have the faith of Jesus.

This book *Exposing Spiritualistic Practices in Health* has been written to expose this spiritistic power as it works through health and healing. The scope of this deception is so large and so many different deceiving methods are used that it is impossible to cover them all, so I have focused on revealing the foundation from which the many counterfeit healing methods explain their power and origin. With a reasonable understanding of these principles, it is possible to determine for oneself whether a particular healing modality is real or spiritistic. First it is needful that we look at God’s system of health and healing and understand its principles so that we may be able to recognize the counterfeit. The next chapter identifies God’s system, and the



beneficial effects of following its principles are substantiated by contrasting the results with that of the counterfeit.

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