

DIMENSIONS OF

SPIRITUALITY?

CAVEAT EMPTOR: LET THE

BUYER BEWARE.

This article is written as a warning for New Agers and to help Christians stay on their path and to warn them and others of the consequences of delving into new age circles.

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For me it's Christ and the Christian faith. But for others it's the lure of possible new knowledge from some spiritual entity, spirit guides, channeled information, accessing angels? or ascended masters.

For still others it's embracing Buddhism, Hinduism, Taoism, variations of paganism, or other eastern religions. And to all those embracing the "New Age" of spiritual enlightenment, I give the following warning, **CAVEAT EMPTOR: LET THE BUYER BEWARE.**

Ruth Montgomery, one of the most highly honored woman journalists of her day, was assigned to investigate the strange phenomena of communication with spirits of the dead. She investigated and ultimately succumbed to what she was investigating. This led to "Spirit entities" writing books through her and she became known as the "Herald of the New Age"¹.

¹ Ruth Montgomery with Joanne Garland, Ruth Montgomery: Herald of the New Age (Fawcett Crest, 1986, pp.71-111.

Last year a patient of mine, Colleen (not her real name), started taking a class in "angels" which taught her how to access their spirit guides to let them work through her to do automatic writing much like that which transpired with Ruth Montgomery. Unknown to me at the time, Colleen was introduced to this class by one of my former employees! At first she started to listen to the information and then began to act on it. It proved rewarding as her confidence was building in this new found faithful spiritual guide. The course she attended continued to encourage her to access her guide. So, she continued to follow its guidance, giving up more and more of her free will. With just enough things manifesting to keep her coming back for more she continued to follow its guidance. But then things began to go terribly wrong! This spirit guide started directing her to kill herself and her children. She was so traumatized that even the police were involved. Mark 9:22 "The spirit has often thrown him into fire and into water to destroy him. But if you are able to do anything, have pity on us and help us!"

Thankfully things were resolved with no physical harm being done. However emotional and spiritual scars still remain. This is where the course leaders refused to acknowledge what was going on and were powerless to counsel her. 1Peter 5:8 "Be clear-minded and alert. Your opponent the devil is prowling around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour." Mathew 7:15 "Beware of false prophets who come to you in sheep's' clothing but inwardly are savage wolves."

The former employee (who led Colleen to this class) was very sociable and outgoing. She was taking the same class

and unannounced to me started acting on her spirit guide given information. I confronted her on this class and told her none of that is allowed in my clinic or with my patients. I proceeded to educate her and my other staff on the perils of delving into this domain. The information was not received well and what ensued thereafter was the spread of malicious gossip to patients and staff that I and my clinic were going under. Refusing to be held accountable for her actions she blamed the destructive gossip as being not from her but merely 'information' from her spirit guide. Thankfully she is no longer with my clinic, NaturoMedic.com.

Very few in the New Age realm want to admit to the possibility of demonic entities and oppression and fewer still can do anything about it when it does come up. Carl Jung, the founder of Jungian psychology, went through psychotic episodes as did New Age propagandist Shirley MacLaine. Carl Jung also was almost destroyed by the spirits he accessed. "The dread implications of the incredibly persistent visitations from all manner of spirit entities that continued to haunt him for much of his life.....led him to the brink of suicide....It was during this time that "Philemon" became his spirit guide."² "Philemon represented a force which was not myself.... It was he who taught me psychic objectivity, the reality of the psyche...He was a mysterious figure to me. At times he seemed quite real, as if he were a living personality. I went walking up and down the garden with

him, and to me he was what the Indians call a guru."³

New Agers are still clinging to Hollywood gurus such as Shirley MacLaine for new enlightenment. Shirley MacLaine wrote a book titled "Out on a Limb" the title describes where Shirley was when she wrote it. Surprisingly, even the New Age Journal has criticism of her: "I found the implications of her philosophy basically cruel and callous... MacLaine's basic truth is that we create our own reality...Are you poor? You chose poverty because you needed certain life lessons....Did you lose a loved one? ...You participated in creating that reality... nobody is a victim. Only now the poor are not poor because they are unfit ... but because they want to be poor...If I were a dictator, I could think of nothing better than to have a nation dedicated to following MacLaine's agenda."⁴

"The murderer is fulfilling Karma. As Edgar Mitchell, Shirley MacLaine, et al tell us, there are "never any victims."⁵ **2Ti 4:3** "For the time will come when people will not put up with healthy doctrine but with itching ears will surround themselves with teachers who cater to their own needs."

Shirley MacLaine propagates the age old idea that: "If you don't see me as a God, it is because you don't see yourself as a God."⁶ This temptation goes back to mans original sin: Genesis 3:4-5 "The

² P112, America The Sorcerer's New Apprentice The Rise of New Age Shamanism, Dave Hunt and T.A. McMahon, Harvest House Publishers 1988.

³ C. G. Jung, Memories, Dreams, Reflections (Pantheon Books, 1963), pp6,9.

⁴ New Age, November/December 1987, Dennis Livingston, "Taking on Shirley MacLaine", 9. 79.

⁵ P235, America The Sorcerer's New Apprentice The Rise of New Age Shamanism, Dave Hunt and T.A. McMahon, Harvest House Publishers 1988.

⁶ James W Sire, The Universe Next Door (Downers Grove, Ill: Intervarsity, 1976), p66

serpent said to the woman (Eve) You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it (the apple) your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

Jack Moses (a friend, patient and former channeller) is currently running a ministry (www.spiritguided.net) to warn New Agers and people seeking spiritual enlightenment through psychics and similar means about the Pandora’s box that awaits them. Jack himself was an inquisitive and misguided youth searching for spiritual enlightenment. He attained high positions in the spiritualist movement, “I was teaching mediumship development classes, giving "messages" during public services, giving private readings, doing trance channeling, developing my physical mediumship, all this in addition to taking ongoing development classes, and studying related material for many hours every week.” “I had done "entity-detachment" work, and cleared supposed "haunted houses" successfully many times.” During an entity detachment session his transformation to Christianity commenced: “ She (the person receiving the session) was having "entity attachment" problems. Without going into detail, it was only prayers in the name of Jesus Christ that were effective in overcoming very powerful entities of a kind that I had not experienced before.” “Only sincere prayers to God in the name of Jesus were effective in actually making these spirits leave the people in need. Other techniques only gave the appearance of doing so. In the light of these spiritual encounters during this period of time, I began to take the things I read in the Christian literature much more seriously. Two things were becoming undeniably evident to me. The

first was that spiritual beings exist that are much more powerful and malevolent than I had ever realized before. None of the spiritualists that I studied under, had counseling from, or whose writings I studied, ever taught about or mentioned spirits of this level of darkness and power. It became obvious to me that these were, in fact, demons. The second was that somehow, the only way to have any influence on them, and to, in fact get them to "detach" from someone is by praying biblically based prayers in Jesus' name.” “In these ten years I have had bitter-sweet experiences in ministering to a number of people who have unwittingly opened the door to spiritual oppression through their actively or passively opening themselves to "spirit" in one way or another. It has been bitter because I continue to see the reality of the damage that involvement in these various practices can bring. It has been sweet to see that real spiritual liberation and healing take place each and every time people call out to Jesus Christ to deliver them from oppressive and dangerous spiritual impostors.” Jack Moses, former channeller and spiritualist. John 10:10 “The thief comes only to steal, slaughter, and destroy. I have come that they may have life, and have it abundantly.” Check out Jack’s story at spiritguided.net.

Someone receiving and acting on advice from one of the channelers, ascended masters, guardian spirits, or through some enlightened being is possibly giving up their free will to that entity and allowing it to get a foot in the door of their mind. If one gets and acts on bad information resulting in bad effects, the person through whom this information is being conveyed is quick to denounce any responsibility for actions on their part as

they blame it on the “spirit entity”. So hypothetically let’s say my patient Colleen acted on the spirits information given to her through automatic writing, killing herself and her kids. Who is responsible? The spirit, Colleen, my former employee who introduced her to the course, or the course that taught her the technique? Well I don’t believe you can charge a spirit. You could say it was Colleen’s fault, my former employee’s fault or you could blame it on the people who taught the course. **Caveat Emptor: Let The Buyer Beware**. The same rules apply for employers checking out resumes of employees, hiring a contractor or even consulting a healer or an alternative health care professional. Don’t open yourself up to anything from any realm until you see its resume. Oh and don’t forget to check references!!! I’m being facetious but that’s the problem in the spirit world there are no resumes or references. And if there were how could you check them?

On April 23, 2005 in Hull Quebec, Ms Louise Lortie a self proclaimed Naturopath who had no professional training, was convicted of manslaughter and criminal negligence in the death of a twelve year old. Ms Lortie told the court that “she consulted a crystal ball, pendulum and her archangel Michael” in making treatment recommendations to the mother and twelve year old child. She told the child to stop her insulin. In three days the child went into a diabetic coma and died⁷. **In Quebec, New York and other unregulated jurisdictions anyone can call themselves a Naturopathic Doctor**. In Ontario it takes at least seven years of full time study to become a Naturopathic Doctor. A lot of Naturopathic Doctors are

strongly inundated with New Age teachings.

“New Agers’ are charging into the relatively unmapped wilderness of the psyche...should remember that strange beasts with unknown habits lie hidden in new territories. The uncleared and unfenced regions of the psyche contain a good many vipers, carnivores, freaks, and monsters.... The necessary weapons and instructions for confrontation have not yet been issued to the average person.”⁸ The above paragraph contains two warnings: 1) Don’t go in, 2) Instructions for confrontation have not yet been issued.

Medical Doctor turned Eastern Guru W. Brugh Joy stated: “Not one person knows what (psychic power) is or all of its aspects, and no one has ever known, despite attempts over thousands of years to master this knowledge. Tapping these energies is fire, and the consequences...can be psychosis, aggravation of neuroses, acceleration of disease processes and suicide”⁹

Jacob Needleman, a University of California at Berkeley professor warns: “(In the psychic market) there’s no Better Business Bureau. Let the Buyer Beware. You should be open minded, but not so open minded that your brains fall out.”¹⁰

Eileen Garrett was called “the greatest living medium”¹¹. For more than 30

⁸ Critique, A Journal of Conspiracies and Metaphysics, Issue 25, Dennis Stillings, “Ramtha, Channelling and Deception,” pp106,110-111.

⁹ W. Brugh Joy MD, Joy’s Way (Thatcher, 1979) pp 8-9.

¹⁰ US News and World Report p 69.

¹¹ P172, America The Sorcerer’s New Apprentice The Rise of New Age Shamanism, Dave Hunt and T.A. McMahon, Harvest House Publishers 1988.

⁷ Ottawa Citizen, Page A12, April 23, 2005.

years a variety of entities spoke through Eileen; most noteworthy of these entities were Uvani and Abdul Latif. Latif had communicated through other mediums over the centuries and was well known in the spiritualist circles. While under Latif's control, Eileen Garrett was able to speak and write: Arabic, Greek, Latin, Hindi, Hebrew, German, French, and Italian. Latif could also transcribe ancient texts through Mrs. Garrett. Mrs. Garrett's own skepticism of her strange powers prompted her to research and fund research on parapsychology. Some of the research was conducted by New York physician, Dr Cornelium H Traeger, a specialist in heart disease and arthritis.¹²

Dr Traeger believed that Uvani, Latif and others were not distinct entities with their own minds, but were splits of Eileen Garrett's psyche. Dr Traeger tested her "blood count, bleeding time, clotting time, respiration, pulse, heart pressure and cardiac reaction by an electrical cardiograph, as well as by the injection of various drugs."¹³ "The tests were carried out with the full cooperation of Mrs Garrett and her two control guides: Uvani and Abdul Latif... When the bleeding time,....., blood counts etc. were checked the results suggested an actual change in the physical composition of the mediums blood when she was entranced (and were different for each control entity)." "No human heart could show records so diametrically opposed and divergent.... When Abdul Latif was in control she became diabetic"¹⁴. Other tests performed included the Berneuter

Personality Inventory tests, polygraph and Page's Behaviour Analysis. These tests conducted on Mrs Garrett, Uvani and Abdul concluded in fact that they were all independent personalities. The spirit Abdul stated he could jump in and out of Eileen whenever he pleased even against her will. Eileen Garrett bordered on psychosis for most of her life rather than accept what was going on. Mrs Garrett instead "agreed with her husband that she must be crazy."¹⁵

The research on Mrs Garrett provides proof of physical demonic manifestation in individuals. It also shows that the human victims can be powerless to stop these demons and are left to cope with the consequences.

Another patient, this one from Wisconsin, was dealing with spiritual warfare; I suggested he read the book *The Bondage Breaker* by Neil Anderson. He used this book successfully for two months then the forces of evil reentered his life this time more forcefully than ever. His parents frantically called me for help. Mathew 12:43-45 "Whenever an unclean spirit goes out of a person, it wanders through waterless places looking for a place to rest but finds none. Then it says, 'I will go back to my home that I left.' When it arrives, it finds it empty, swept clean, and put in order. Then it goes and brings with it seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they go in and settle there. And so the final condition of that person becomes worse than the first. That's just what will happen to this evil generation!"

Thankfully a Christian employee heard of a pastor Rick Ellis from Tennessee who was well versed in deliverance work. Next thing we knew Pastor Rick

¹² P171-2, America The Sorcerer's New Apprentice.

¹³ Alan Spraggett, *The Unexplained*, New York 1967, p68-71.

¹⁴ P171-2, America The Sorcerer's New Apprentice.

¹⁵ Alan Spraggett, *The Unexplained*, New York 1967, p68-71.

flew from Tennessee to Wisconsin to deliver this patient from demonic oppression rekindling the family's faith in Jesus Christ.

At the young age of eighteen I had not yet developed a relationship with God or Jesus Christ in spite of my exposure to religion. Around that time my health began to deteriorate and I became paralyzed with body tissue wasting. As it continued to worsen I felt death approaching and so I called out to God saying: "God do with me as you please." Thankfully with God's blessing my health turned around with my paralysis abating and strength slowly returning. However my muscle control was still not what it should have been and my energy was terrible. So for the next two years I searched different practitioners-- medical, homeopathic, nutritional, acupuncture and naturopathic. In some cases driving up to eight hours one way for an appointment. In desperation I consulted a homeopathic doctor (Ed) and started taking a homeopathic remedy. Ed warned me that I might go through a detox reaction. I was sick with a migraine for the next four days but on the fifth day I awoke with new found energy, muscle control and clarity of thought. I was back! I told Ed that I wanted to practice this type of medicine and asked where I should go for training. He confidently responded Naturopathic Medicine. I attended Naturopathic College in Toronto absorbing everything about my future profession but not with much discernment. I was just happy to be alive and on this exciting adventure. It was not until years later that I started to question some of the teachings I had been exposed to through my professional training. Some of my patients were Christians who objected to stress

management being done on them and their family. I respected this but always gave them the scientific reasons why this would be of benefit. However in time I began to ponder these things myself leaving me with unanswered questions as to why they would object. At this point in my life I had not dedicated myself to God and had not yet acknowledged that Jesus Christ was Lord and Saviour.

The information I had been exposed to, referred to Christ as being one of the greatest teachers sitting along side of Buddha, Muhammad, and the Gurus of the East. I did not believe in Satan and demonic forces until I experienced them on a personal level. One day my wife, children and I stopped in at a psychic workshop and I had received a reading. We had known Jack Moses before his conversion in Christ and this sort of thing was acceptable within both our circles. My wife and children walked around checking out booths while I visited with a psychic. That day our lives changed dramatically. That very night one of our children had a night terror for the very first time. We had never seen this before and it was scary. It was the beginning of what would be night terrors peaking to almost every night, some times up to two a night lasting for an hour each time. Night terrors occur when the person is seemingly awake, moving around, their eyes are open but they do not recognize you and they are terrified, crying and even screaming. I reviewed everything I could get my hands about night terrors and possible treatments. We tried many things all to no avail. At this point we were becoming more active in the church (in attendance anyway) but had not yet made our profession of faith. Our pastor then told us about possible

demonic torment and oppression. Needless to say I was skeptical but I also acknowledged that my wife and I had exhausted everything else at our disposal. So at my wife's request we started praying Psalm 91 over our child during the night terrors. This shortened the duration and as we said it with more passion and faith it totally resolved the night terrors. It was then that we as a family went through our admission of faith.

It became clear that my education was not complete and that I had much more to learn. I had patients coming to me with situations and symptoms that indicated that spiritual warfare may be a causative and/or contributory factor . their complaints. (I pursue all other possible causal factors before I suggest or address spiritual warfare). If this needs to be addressed, I suggest reading material first, then refer if necessary.

There are many reasons why I believe Jesus Christ is the son of God, not just because of all the prophesy he fulfilled, but also because even demons acknowledged his authority and rightful place in the Universe. James 2:19 "You believe that there is one God. That's fine! Even the demons believe that and tremble with fear. "

Luke 4:33-5 (Mark 1:23-25) "In the synagogue was a man who had a spirit of an unclean demon. He screamed with a loud voice, "Oh, no! What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are-the Holy One of God!" But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be quiet, and come out of him!" At this, the demon threw the man down in the middle of the synagogue and came out of him without hurting him."

Mark 3:11-12 "Whenever the unclean spirits saw him, they would fall down in front of him and scream, "You are the Son of God!" But he sternly ordered them again and again not to tell people who he was."

Luke 4:41 "Even demons came out of many people, screaming, "You are the Son of God!" But Jesus rebuked them and ordered them not to speak, because they knew he was the Christ."

Mathew 8:28-29 "When Jesus arrived on the other side in the region of the Gerasenes, two demon-possessed men met him as they were coming out of the tombs. They were so violent that no one could travel on that road. Suddenly they screamed, "What do you want with us, Son of God? Did you come here to torture us before the proper time?"

Luke 8:28 (Mark 5:7) "When he saw Jesus, he screamed, fell down in front of him, and said in a loud voice, "What do you want from me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you not to torture me!"

Luke 8:29-33 "For Jesus was in the process of ordering the unclean spirit to come out of the man. On many occasions the unclean spirit had seized the man, and though he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, he would break the chains and be driven by the demon into deserted places. Jesus asked him, "What's your name?" He answered, "Legion," because many demons had gone into him. Then the demons began begging Jesus not to order them to go into the bottomless pit. Now a large herd of pigs was grazing there on the hillside. So the demons begged Jesus to let them go into those pigs, and he let them do this. Then the demons came out of the man and went into the pigs, and the herd rushed down the cliff into the lake and drowned."

As a Christian, we are granted authority over demons. Luke 10:17 “The seventy came back and joyously reported, "Lord, even the demons are submitting to us in your name!"”

New Agers and some deceived Christians believe that surrounding oneself in white light protects them. Biblical scripture warns us of this: 2Co 11:14-15 “And no wonder, since Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. So it is not surprising if his servants also masquerade as servants of righteousness. Their doom will match their deeds!”

New Agers and Christians with New Age tendencies who call on Jesus for protection but have not yet developed a relationship with Jesus may want to be wary of this warning: Mathew 7:21-23 "Not everyone who keeps saying to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will get into the kingdom of heaven, but only the person who keeps doing the will of my Father in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, we prophesied in your name, drove out demons in your name, and performed many miracles in your name, didn't we?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Get away from me, you evildoers!'"

Scripture verses worth becoming familiar with or to keep on hand or to even memorize include: Psalm 91 (too lengthy to enter here) and Ephesians 6:10-17.

Eph 6:10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty strength.

Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armor of God so that you may be able to stand firm against the devil's strategies.

Eph 6:12 For our struggle is not against a human opponent, but against rulers, against authorities, against cosmic powers in the darkness around us,

against evil spiritual forces in the heavenly realm.

Eph 6:13 For this reason, take up the whole armor of God so that you may be able to take a stand in that evil day. And when you have done everything you could, you will be able to stand firm.

Eph 6:14 Stand firm, therefore, having fastened the belt of truth around your waist, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness,

Eph 6:15 and having put shoes on your feet so that you are ready to proclaim the gospel of peace.

Eph 6:16 In addition to all of these, having taken up the shield of faith, with which you will be able to put out all the flaming arrows of the evil one,

Eph 6:17 also take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.

“The following are indicators of whether a person's experiences are from God or from an inferior source. As a preliminary note it is best to make these observations over time.

Area	From God	From Inferior Source
Freedom	Increases	Decreases, becomes obsessive
Need for control	Gradually lessens	Increases dramatically
Quality of work	High – benefits society	Low – often socially deleterious
Personality	Integrates, peaceful	Coarse, clamant
Social	Increasingly loving	Increasingly divisive
State between visions	Healthy, disciplined	Desperate, addicted to visions
Grandiosity	No	Often
Predictions	Fulfilled	Not fulfilled

Selfishness	Lessens	Distressingly ego-centered
Nature of rebuke	Specific, brings growth & healing	General, vague, condemning
Integration	Increases	Decreases
Creativity	Often very creative	Exacts conformity
Money	Unimportant	Often demanded
Food	To be enjoyed	Lists of forbidden foods
Sexuality	Enjoyed in marriage	Seen as sinful or central
Salvation	Of all who believe	Of the leader and his chosen few
Dependency	Decreases, discouraged	Increases and encouraged
Fear	Lessens	Central to the faith
Magic & superstition	Renounced	Often included

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Mathew 7:16-18 By their fruit you will know them. Grapes aren't gathered from thorns, or figs from thistles, are they? In the same way, every good tree produces good fruit, but a rotten tree produces bad fruit. A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, and a rotten tree cannot produce good fruit.

¹⁶A Quick Primer On Spiritual Warfare, John Edmiston, <http://aibi.gospelcom.net/ebooks/spirwarfarebook.htm#17>

Christians should be encouraged to test information to see if it is from God or not. Scriptures referring how to do this include: 1John 4:1-4 Dear friends, stop believing every spirit. Instead, test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. This is how you can recognize God's Spirit: Every spirit who acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God. But every spirit who does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist. You have heard that he is coming, and now he is already in the world. Little children, you belong to God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

1Co 12:3 Therefore, I want you to know that no one who is speaking by God's Spirit can say, "Jesus is cursed," and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.

Finally we are not to become fearful and see demonic conspiracies everywhere: (Isaiah 8:11-13 NKJV)

I am very concerned for anyone making forays into this new age and eastern religion domain. I hope through this information you will use your discernment and realize that things are not as rosy as they may be portrayed. Use your logical, analytical abilities that God has granted you and trust yourself and Biblical scripture, which is the sword (the only offensive weapon for spiritual warfare, Ephesians 6:17). Remember God granted you free will. If anyone or anything is taking that away from you then that is not something you can trust.

“People who dabble in this area may start out as feeling in control of the spirits they are accessing, but will they continue to be in control or will they

become a pawn in a much bigger chess game? A chess game in which they have no concept of the rules or the end results of the game.”¹⁷

If you want to know more about this realm consider reading:

The Ishbane Conspiracy, by Randy Alcorn (A very entertaining read especially for teens),

Spiritual Warfare, by Richard Ing, Whitaker House 1996.

Larson’s Book of Spiritual Warfare, by Bob Larson,

The Bondage Breaker, by Neil Anderson,

America The Sorcerer’s New Apprentice

©Michael A. The Rise of New Age

Shamanism, Dave Hunt and T.A.

McMahon, Harvest House Publishers 1988.

Websites: www.spiritguided.net,
<http://aibi.gospelcom.net/ebooks/spirwarfarebook.htm#17>.

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¹⁷ Michael A Prytula ND, Staff Meeting May 2004.