

New Age Christianity ~ Michelle Tonkin 10/21/19

Preface -

I love everyone, not here to judge condemn, just here to share what Holy Spirit revealed to me, and through the truth in God's word etc... This is not me trying to prove a point, this is me in love sharing what the Lord has been speaking to me about the last couple of months. The Holy Spirit would answer these questions that I would have after watching some videos that people posted about certain new age beliefs and the Holy Spirit would remind me of scripture and other questions to think about...

You see people are believing in their own version of truth or what they have heard or learned from other people. But I don't want truth from some man or even religion. What I'm searching for and looking for is TRUTH that God our Creator says is TRUTH. And in order to know TRUE TRUTH we have to know what TRUTH is.

SO....What is new age Christianity?

New Age Christianity is basically mixing new age beliefs like (astrology, reincarnation, astral projection, universalism, we are all gods etc. with Christianity. They are mixing these new world (which are actually old world) beliefs with Christianity, to make a new form of Christianity or Universalism type of belief.

Universalism is basically that we all end up going to heaven, everyone is saved in the end, as God redeems every person and we are all just constantly evolving and changing and getting higher spiritually. There is no wrong or right road, we all end up on the right road in the end or something to that effect.

Also, many believe that we all have lived many lives and will continue to live many lives (reincarnation) until we achieve the total state of perfection within our spiritual self. We are basically here on earth in the body that we are in to learn a certain lesson or lessons and then onto the next body.

What does the Bible say about these new age practices?

“When you enter the land the LORD your God is giving you, do not learn to imitate the

detestable ways of the nations there. Let no one be found among you who sacrifices their son or daughter in the fire, who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft, or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead. Anyone who does these things is detestable to the LORD; because of these same detestable practices the LORD your God will drive out those nations before you. ¹³ You must be blameless before the LORD your God.” Deuteronomy 18:9-12

“Some Jews who went around driving out evil spirits tried to invoke the name of the Lord Jesus over those who were demon-possessed. They would say, “In the name of the Jesus whom Paul preaches, I command you to come out.” Seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, were doing this. One day the evil spirit answered them, “Jesus I know, and Paul I know about, but who are you?” Then the man who had the evil spirit jumped on them and overpowered them all. He gave them such a beating that they ran out of the house naked and bleeding. When this became known to the Jews and Greeks living in Ephesus, they were all seized with fear, and the name of the Lord Jesus was held in high honor. Many of those who believed now came and openly confessed what they had done. A number who had practiced sorcery brought their scrolls together and burned them publicly. When they calculated the value of the scrolls, the total came to fifty thousand drachmas. In this way the word of the Lord spread widely and grew in power.” Acts 19:13-20

These are just a few of the references in the Bible, you can check out a good article here:

<https://www.bible-knowledge.com/bible-divination-witches-seances-sorcery-soothsaying/>

Also, some people believe that there is no right or wrong as God learns through us (His creation)- that the universe becomes aware.

However, the truth is that God does not need to experience life through us - He is the life giver and Creator and knows our every day and moment before we were born.

"For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be." Psalm 139:13-16 NIV

There is nothing hidden from God's sight. He sees everything and knows everything, yet He loves us and wants us to come to Him.

"For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account. Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven,[f] Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." Hebrews 4:12-16 NIV

We are not gods but Gods children -He is the Creator and we His creation, created in love and in His image or likeness.

"Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom." Isaiah 40:28 NKJV

"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 being." Genesis 2:7 NKJV

"And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. Then the rib which the Lord God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. And Adam said: "This is now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man." Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh." Genesis 2:21-24 NKJV

"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 [g]all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 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 [h]moves on the earth." Genesis 1:26-28 NKJV

So....Why doesn't New Age Christianity work??

First let's get to the source. Where are they getting these beliefs? Obviously they didn't fall

out of the sky...lol... this is what I believe is coming from an old belief called Christian Mysticism. It isn't rooted in the Bible but through a mixture of these man man beliefs and mixing God in. BUT.....

1-) We can't make the Jesus of the Bible into a new age Jesus.

The Jesus that we know and that we get His characteristics, story, parables and His life from is from the Bible.

But the New Age version of Christianity only likes certain sections of the Bible and also does not look at the Bible as a whole. They take things out of context and are not looking at the complete picture. This is known as "salad bar" Christianity, where only certain scripture that meets what they want is used while the rest is discarded because it doesn't fit. They like the New Age Jesus that shows love to everyone and kind to the poor and downtrodden, but the Jesus who is Holy and Righteous and who died to cover our sins- that they don't pay attention to.

2.) Since the Bible is where we get our understanding of who God is, His Son Jesus, and the very basics of Christian faith. We have to show its authenticity and reliability. Following is taken from my book- "I am the Way, Discovering Who Jesus Really is." (available on amazon.com and lulu.com)

Using the Bible as Proof of Jesus' existence:

First, we start by the Bible's own consistency within itself. Although having been written by different authors, from different cultural backgrounds, and time periods-its message pointing humanity towards redemption through Christ remains the same. This is remarkable as Charlie Campbell has concluded that: 47

- The Bible is comprised of 66 different documents
- The Bible was written by approximately 40 different authors from a variety of educational and cultural backgrounds
- Was written over a period of 1500+ years so many of the authors didn't know each other
- Many of the authors were located hundreds of miles apart
- Was written in three different languages: Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek
- The Bible never deviates from its consistent message that God is seeking to reconcile sinful

humanity to Himself through His Son, Jesus Christ.

Secondly, Bible skeptics, atheists etc. alike have debated that non-biblical sources are the only sources that can be used to prove Jesus' existence. The fallacy with this statement is the way that historical documents are measured to prove their reliability:

- The enormous number of available copies of ancient manuscripts
- The time span between the original version and the date of the copies which are still in existence today.
- When considering this standard, the Bible proves to be an invaluable resource for examining the life of Jesus.

The John Rylands Fragment, Chester Beatty Papyrus, and the Bodmer Papyrus which are some of the earliest manuscript fragments of the New Testament were written between 50-100AD. Copies of these were reproduced in 125-200AD, putting the time span between the originals and the copies still in existence today at 29-130 years, which means that all these manuscripts were written from around 50-100 years after the death of Jesus Christ. Some may object to the reliability of these documents as they were written after Jesus' death, however any expert in ancient documents would disagree. We can compare some of the more famous and universally accepted historical documents and compare them with the Bible.

Plato — Plato wrote his works from 427-347 BC. His earliest manuscript in existence today was written in 900 AD. This is 1,200 years after Plato's death. There are also only 2 copies of these manuscripts in existence today.

Julius Caesar — Julius is one of the most well-known and trusted historical figures. He lived from 100-44BC. The earliest manuscript copy of his writings dates to 900 AD. This means that it was written 1,000 years after his death. There are 10 copies of ancient manuscripts of Caesar's Gallic Wars.

Homer — Historians are not positive of Homer's existence but have still credited him with writing the Iliad in ca 900 BC. The earliest copy of this writing dates back to 400 BC; which means that it was written from 500 years after the death of Homer. There are 643 copies of ancient manuscripts of the Iliad written over the centuries that when compared with each other have a 95.3% consistency and accuracy which means it is one of the most reliable and proven documents of antiquity.

New Testament----The New Testament manuscripts have been shown to date less than 100 years after the death of Christ. There are also over 5,600 ancient manuscript copies of the New Testament and these copies are 99% accurate when compared with each other- thus making

the record of the life, ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ with more evidence and proof of its reliability than any other person from antiquity.

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Next Jesus Himself used scripture to 1.) defeat the enemy 2.) Challenge the Pharisees etc, 3.) that He was fulfilling prophecy. (some scripture to look up- Matthew 4:1-11, Mathew 19:3-9, Matthew 22:34-40, Matthew 22:41-46, Matthew 8:17, Matthew 21:5, Matthew 21:42

Archaeology has also shown to only prove scripture, as each finding only proves that the Bible is accurate. For info check out these sites: <https://answersingenesis.org/archaeology/>

<https://www.biblicalarchaeology.org/>

For questions concerning supposed contradictions in scripture check out the book **"The Case for Christ" by Lee Strobel**. Lee interviewed the top Theologians in the world on the existence of Jesus, contradictions in scripture, authenticity of the Bible etc..

3.) A big issue with universalism - they believe that every person will be redeemed or is already redeemed and that heaven and hell do not exist. A loving God would not send people to Hell. But God did NOT intend Hell for us, it was created for the Devil and demons. And God desires that not one person be lost, that's why He sent His Son Jesus.

"Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels." Matthew 25:41

"Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?" She said to Him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world." John 11:25-27

"Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus answered and said to Him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and do not know these things? Most assuredly, I say to you, We speak what We know and testify what We have seen, and you do not receive Our witness. If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things? No

one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God." John 3:5-18

Jesus had to come in human form so that He could take on the penalty of our sin. God in flesh.

"He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.' " And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. John 1:10-16

Sin came through disobedience and through the devil but Life and salvation came through Jesus Christ.

"Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned— (For until the law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law. Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come. But the free gift is not like the offense. For if by the one man's offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many. And the gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned. For the judgment which came from one offense resulted in condemnation, but the free gift which came from many offenses resulted in justification. For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of

grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.) Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous. Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more, so that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Matthew 5:12-21

Now, let's look at what Jesus says about Hell in these scriptures.

"You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell. Matthew 5:28-30

Strong's definition: "The term hell that Jesus used is actually gheh'-en-nah; of Hebrew origin (H1516 and H2011); valley of (the son of) Hinnom; ge-henna (or Ge-Hinnom), a valley of Jerusalem, used (figuratively) as a name for the place (or state) of everlasting punishment:—hell."

Gehenna was originally known as the valley of Hinnom, south of Jerusalem, where garbage, refuse, dead animals etc. were burned. The fires never went out. This was a great symbol for Jesus to use to show the ppl what Hell would be like. Jesus used illustrations and parables to speak to the people in a way they could understand.

Some other verses that Jesus speaks about Hell:

Matthew 10:28, Matthew 7:13, Matthew 25:31-46, Matthew 9:47-48, Matthew 13:47-50, Revelation 20:13-15.

What Jesus says about Heaven:

"In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. And where I go you know, and the way you know." John 14:2-4

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where

thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matthew 6:19-21

(Matthew 25:14-29, Luke 16:19-30)

Some Questions to think about???

Christ's mission on earth was to come to save us from our sin. (Hebrews 2:14-18) As He is the mediatory between us and God, why would God send His Son to save us if we didnt need to be saved? Why would we be called to repent to trust in Him for salvation if we were already redeemed and nothing more needed to be done?

Why would Christ need to conquer Hell, death, and the grave, if it did not exist?

Why would Prophecy, which only Christ could fulfill show that He would come as a sacrifice for us to redeem us, heal us, save us, sanctify us?

Speaking of Prophecies....

There are over 300 prophecies in the Old Testament which point to Jesus as the Messiah, only He fulfilled them all.

To give an example of the probability of this from mathematical standpoint we will go to Professor Stoner's illustration: for someone to fulfill only 48 of these prophecies (which Jesus fulfilled) by sheer chance would be 1 in 10157. To aid in our understanding of just how large this number is. Professor Stoner suggests taking the 10157 electrons and pressing those into a ball. This ball then made up entirely of electrons would fill up pretty much not just our galaxy, but the entire known universe. Then we would mark one electron, blindfold someone and send them to find that one electron.

Peter Stoner remarks,

"To the extent, then, that we know this blindfolded man cannot pick out the marked electron, we know that the Bible is inspired. This is not merely evidence. It is proof of the Bible's inspiration by God--proof so definite that the universe is not large enough to hold the evidence." 45 Professor Stoner also comments: "Any man who rejects Christ as the Son of God is rejecting a fact proved perhaps more absolutely than any other fact in the world." 46

What about ppl in remote countries? Do ppl get one shot and if they get it wrong they go to hell?

Again, God is a fair judge - He doesn't want anyone to go to Hell

"The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."

2 Peter 3:9

"who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all people." 1 Timothy 2:4-6

I believe He presents everyone with the truth and shows Himself in creation. I believe He reveals Himself to everyone and we have to make a choice. We may not hear about Him in a typical church service, but God will reveal Himself, all people will know the truth of Jesus and must make a choice. God isn't expecting that people come to him by only through by a certain prayer etc... God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble. (James 4:6) He is looking for the person who is desperate, who realizes that He is their only way to eternal life and that they need Him. They come to the end of themselves realizing He alone is God and desire that He becomes Lord of their lives and repent of their sin. God takes us just as we are broken and hurting, wicked and full of anger. Wherever we are, whoever we are, we come to Him admitting our need for Him and He will never turn us away.

"The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse."

Romans 1:18-20 NIV

"And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come." Matthew 24:14 NIV

"If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. As Scripture says, "Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame." For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." Romans 10:9-13 NIV

4.) Gods love for us and why new age Christianity is deception.

We are a spirit contained with a body (James 2:26, 2 Corinthians 5:1-5) and we desire a

supernatural experience with a supernatural God. We were created for intimacy with our Creator. This is why people seek after the supernatural and are naturally drawn towards it, but when it goes against what the Bible says is right then it becomes wickedness. All of these New Age practices are rooted in deception, as there is some truth mixed with lies. People get taken up by the feel good message of it and the promise of power and discovering why they are here. They feel that they are achieving somehow their own salvation, and that they don't need to answer to God as they are their own god. But deep inside even the most convincing New Ager, knows that they are truly empty, that's why they continue their path to peace, because they can't find it.

There is a way that seems right us, but in the end it only leads only to our destruction. (Proverbs 14:22) That's why we can't trust our feelings because our feelings are carnal. Until we have made Jesus our Lord and Savior and His Holy Spirit is in us we cannot trust our feelings to lead us to do what is right, because our nature without God's spirit wants to do what is evil. But when we have the spirit of God in us, we will be drawn to do what God wills for us to and will want to do what is right because the spirit of God is directing us and not our own flesh.

"Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God. You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you. Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live. For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God." Romans 8:5-14

Let's review:

1.) We live in a corrupt and fallen world.

2.) Sickness, disease, poverty, hunger, war, and all evil came through man's fall. (Genesis 3:17-19; Romans 8:20-22)

3.) God sent us His Son so that we could be restored. (He took the penalty of our sin upon Himself) (John 3:16)

4.) We have a choice- we cannot be restored unto God unless 1- we repent 2-we confess Jesus is Lord of our lives. (Romans 10:9-13)

5.) God desires that all come to know Him and be saved. (1 Timothy 2:4-6)

6.) We have this life and this life only. We aren't given many lives to learn our lesson.

"Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him." Hebrews 9:27-28

Scripture makes it very clear that There is one life for us to live here. But as mentioned before God does not want one person lost who can be saved... Everyone who can be saved will be saved!! Remember God is the God of past, present and future, HE knows everything from beginning to end, including the choices we will make. He knows every decision, every thought etc from before we were born!

"Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End." Revelation 22:12

God loves you! He sent us His Son Jesus to die for you and to rise again conquering death, the grave, and Hell. He wants you in eternity with Him in Heaven. You have to make a choice, don't listen to the enemy that tells you that you have time, or you can make that decision in the next life.

This is the only life that we are given, and we are not promised tomorrow.

Satan is the one who brought the fall of man, Jesus is the One who brings us life.

Do not be deceived, Jesus is the ONLY WAY, TRUTH, and LIFE and NO ONE COMES TO THE FATHER EXCEPT THROUGH HIM!! THE ONLY WAY TO GET TO GOD IS THROUGH JESUS, AND WE MUST TRUST IN JESUS FOR OUR SALVATION. WE CANNOT COME TO GOD ANY OTHER WAY.

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6

Read the scriptures that I have given you, remembering the proof and authenticity of God's word. Let the Holy Spirit speak to you, and seek God on your own asking Him to speak to you and reveal the TRUTH.

The truth is not always easy, but it will set you FREE! **(John 8:32)**

Much Love,

Michelle<><

P.S. Be sure to check out Steven Bancarz's website: www.reasonsforjesus.com

Steve was prominently involved in the New Age movement until He came to the realization of Jesus in own His life. He gave up his very successful business etc and now runs the above website and YouTube channel. He has a lot of great articles and videos that are eye opening, also has a new book that just came out about the new age movement. I highly suggest checking him out!