

NEW AGE SPEAKERS AND AUTHORS

Christian authors with New Age beliefs

Fr. Teilhard de Chardin – French Jesuit priest and paleontologist who believed in internal energy or psychic energy. He spoke of salvation as the evolution of consciousness, which is typical New Age language. He also believed in a one-world government. The Vatican condemned his books.

Fr. Anthony de Mello – spoke of God as a void. Taught that Jesus was just a mere man who discovered that he was god just as we all can discover that we are god. His books were condemned by the Vatican.

Thomas Merton - In his **later** years, Merton went on a journey to Asia after much study of the Eastern religions. In the final years of his life, he was committed to Hindu and Buddhist spirituality. In the Vatican document, *Jesus Christ the Bearer of the Water of Life; A Christian Reflection on the New Age*, it names Merton as one of those writers who have had the most influence on New Agers. (See #9.2)

Meister Eckhart - a German mystic. Pope John XXII condemned 28 of his sentences as heretical or dangerous. He once said “We are totally transformed into God and changed into Him” and “A good man is the only begotten Son of God.” A later investigation proved that he was personally orthodox but used indiscretion in his language. New Agers use his quotes to their advantage.

Fr. Matthew Fox - Former Dominican priest who taught Creation Spirituality. Taught the Cosmic Christ, or the “I AM in every creature” the concept that we are all Christ. Rejects the theology that we are sinful and need redemption. His writings have been condemned by the Vatican.

Fr. Thomas Keating – A Monk and priest who is the Founder of the popular Centering Prayer Movement. Held dialogues with Hindus and Buddhists. Had Zen Master give week long retreat to Monks. A Monk, who was a Transcendental Meditation teacher also gave session to Monks. CP uses TM or occult techniques to discover the True Self which Keating believes to be the soul, which he believes is god. TM is from Hinduism and is identified by the Vatican as New Age. CP is neither prayer nor is it Christian. His books contain some other New Age beliefs. (See “A Closer Look at Centering Prayer” by Anne Feaster on swordflightandtruth.org)

Fr. Basil Pennington – This deceased Monk wrote books on Centering Prayer which are very similar to those of Fr. Thomas Keating. His books also reflect New Age teachings.

The influence of Carl Jung on Christians – Carl Jung, the Swiss psychologist and psychiatrist was responsible for spreading many New Age errors to Christian readers.

He rejected the Christian faith and the Scriptures and believed in the heresy of Pantheism, that everything is god, as New Agers believe. He believed that all religious truths lie within us, and believed dreams to be private revelation, more authoritative than the Bible. He was taught about the occult as a child from his family, and he performed occult techniques on his patients.

Those who promote New Age in the secular world

Miguel Ruiz – Relies on Ancient Toltec Wisdom of the native people of Southern Mexico. The Toltec viewed that all energy is derived and governed by the universe, just as the New Agers do. They believe that what we all consider reality is created out of our beliefs and thoughts, and that we need to dismantle our belief systems. He taught The Four Agreements. His teachings also focus on dreams and visions. Referred to as an indigenous shaman (magician or medicine man)

Wayne Dyer - Very popular psychotherapist and lecturer often seen on television. He teaches the “Power of Intention” or tapping into the universal source of energy. He tries to help us to awaken to the “divine within.” He has written many books, one entitled *Your Sacred Self* and another called *Change your Thoughts, Change Your Life: Living the Wisdom of the Tao*. These titles themselves are revealing. The “Sacred Self” is the same as the “True Self, realizing that you are god. (Taoism is a Oriental philosophy that adheres to the belief that there is a force that flows through every living object as well as the entire universe, and the goal is to find “enlightment.”)

Deepak Chopra - Doctor from India who teaches that we must master the mind, body, spirit connection, and that consciousness is the basic foundation of nature and the universe. He is a leader in Transcendental Meditation. He wrote a book called *The Third Jesus* which espouses that Jesus’ mission grew out his own god-consciousness. Chopra has written 40 books.

Oprah Winfrey – Popular TV Talk Show Hostess. Has had many New Agers on her show, and now has become major New Age guru. Some of her New Age guests were Wayne Dyer, Marianne Williamson, Barbara DeAngelis, LaVar Burton, Richard Carlson, Betty Eadie. She has been offering a year long course on *A Course in Miracles* on her XM Satellite radio program. This course is a spiritual danger. It teaches that there is no sin, that a slain Christ has no meaning, and that God is in everything that you see. She also promotes Eckhart Tolle’s book , *A New Earth*. This book teaches that we are in crisis and need to “spiritually evolve” to avoid disaster. Spiritually evolving means that we convert to the heretical belief that we are all “god” and that we are all “Christ.”

Shirley MacLaine – Well known actress who has written books and given conferences on New Age teachings. She also does many occult practices: séances, channeling, I Ching, Uses crystals, does sound and color healing, astrology, etc.