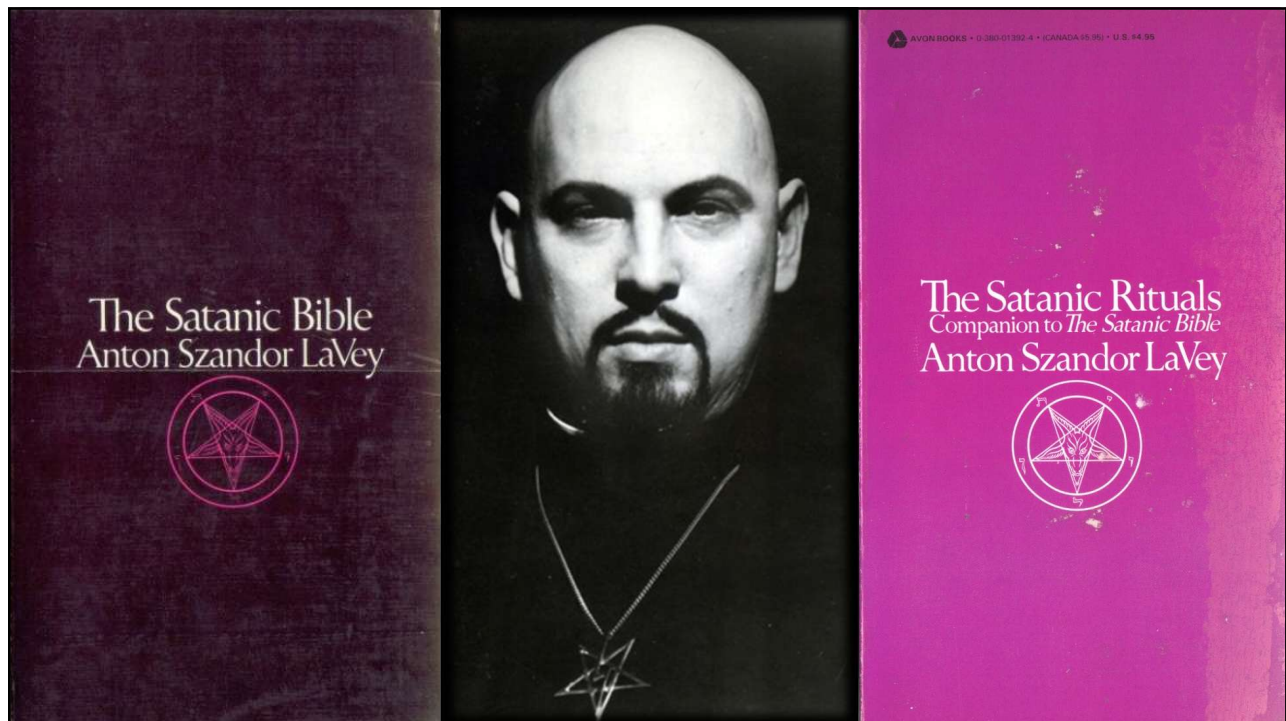
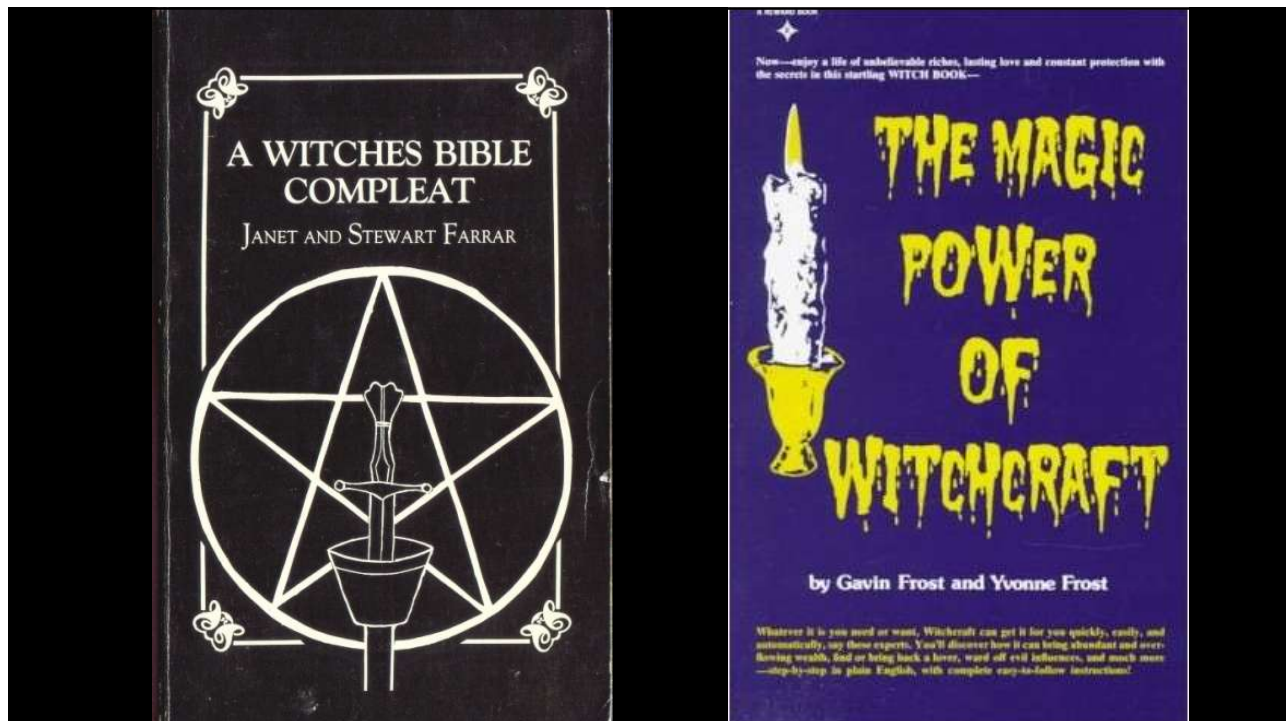


Extreme Occultism: Satanism



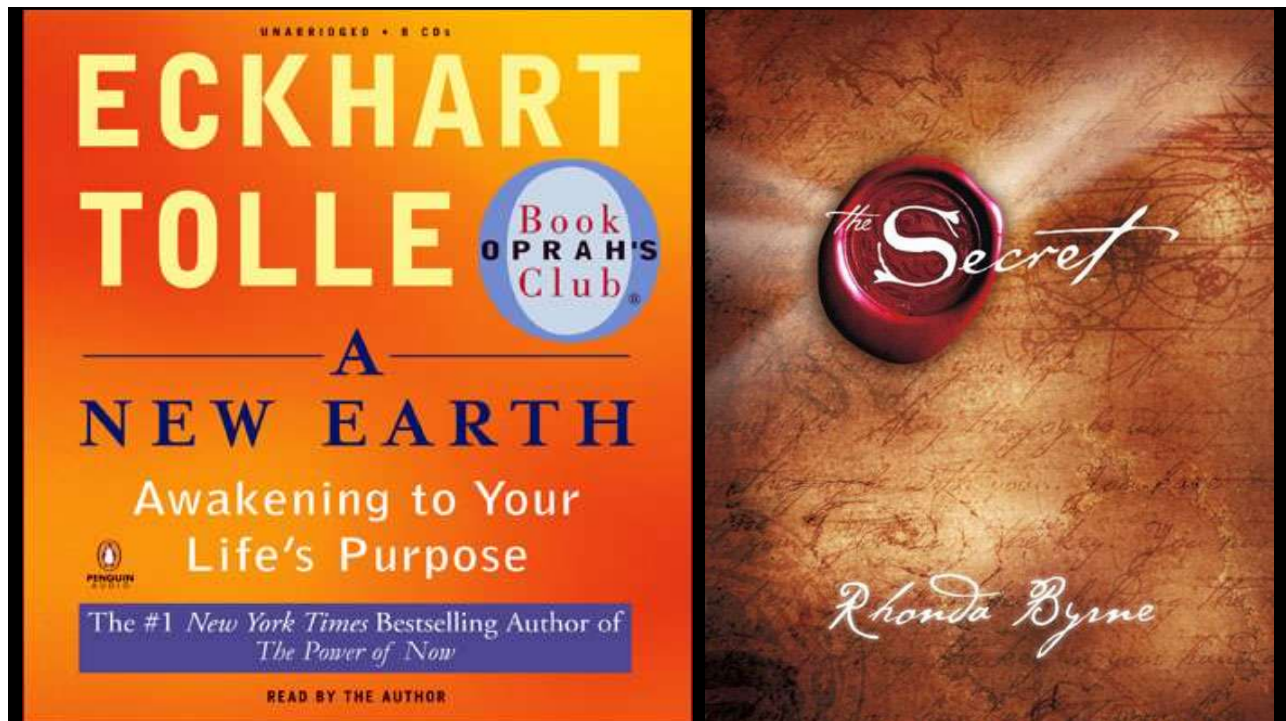


Moderate Occultism: Witchcraft



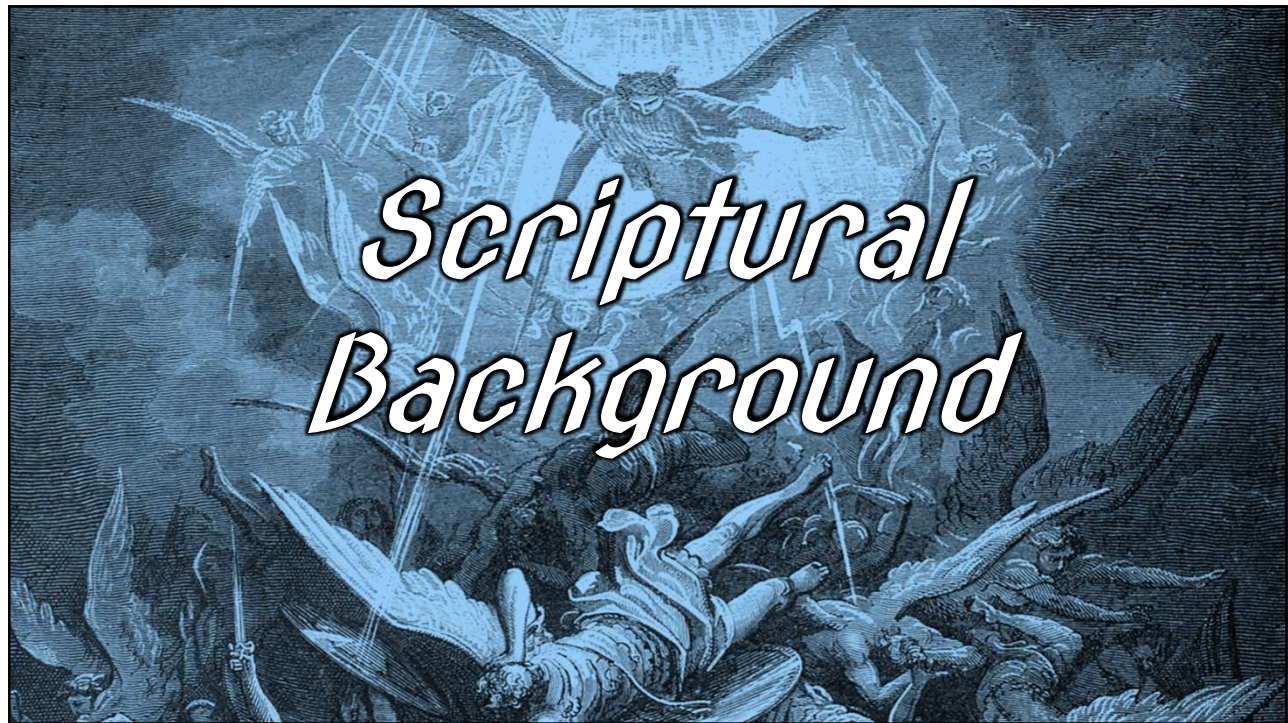
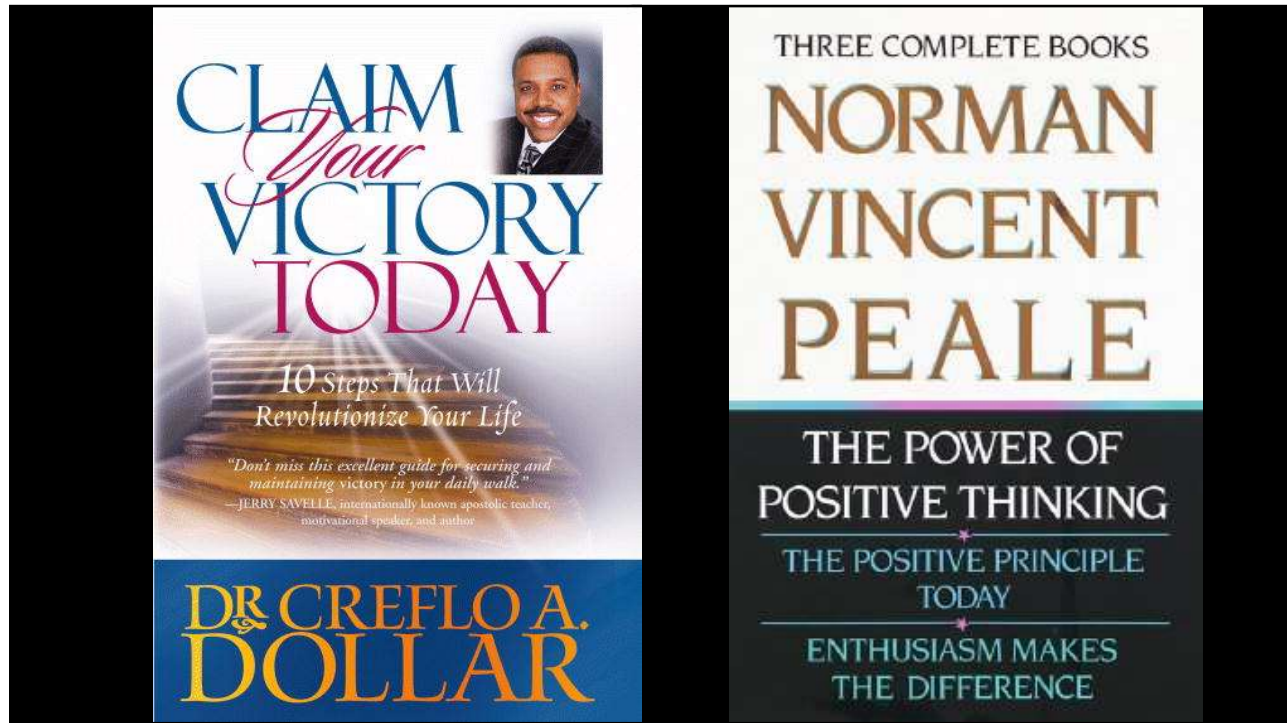


Mainstream Occultism: The New Age Movement



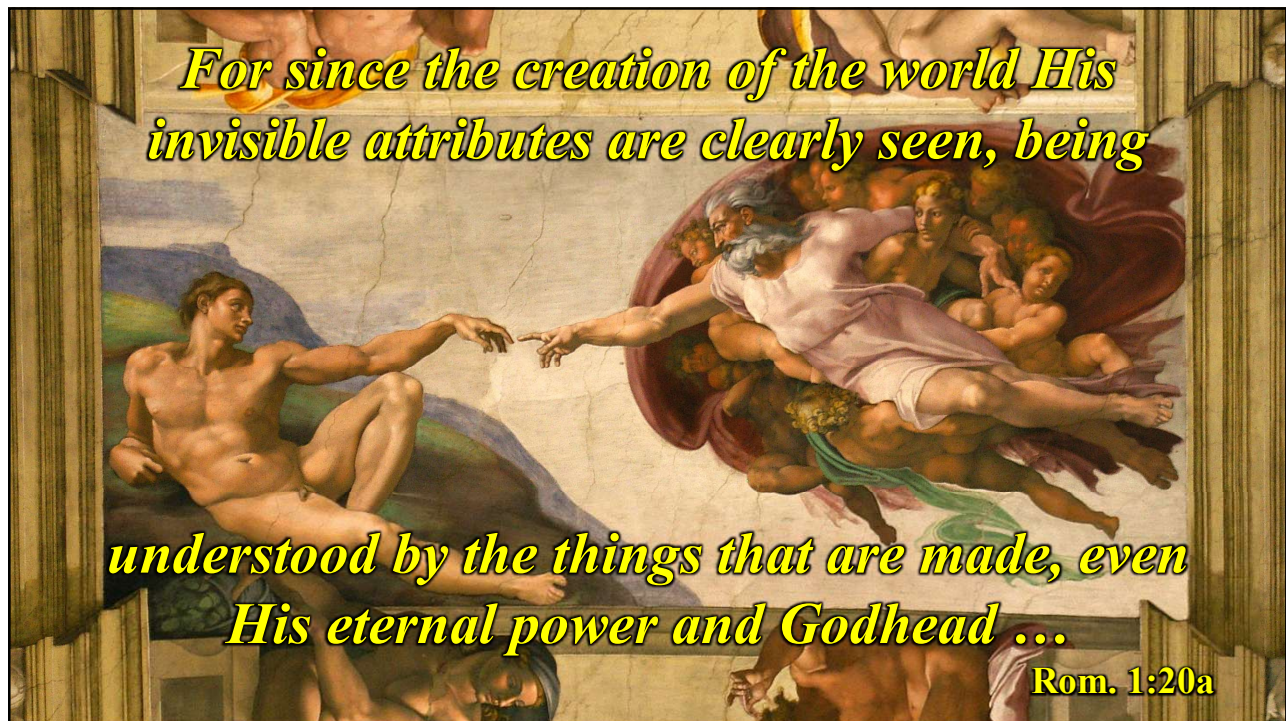
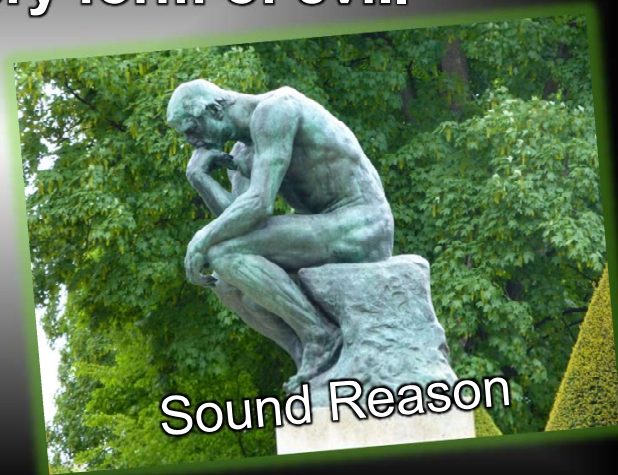
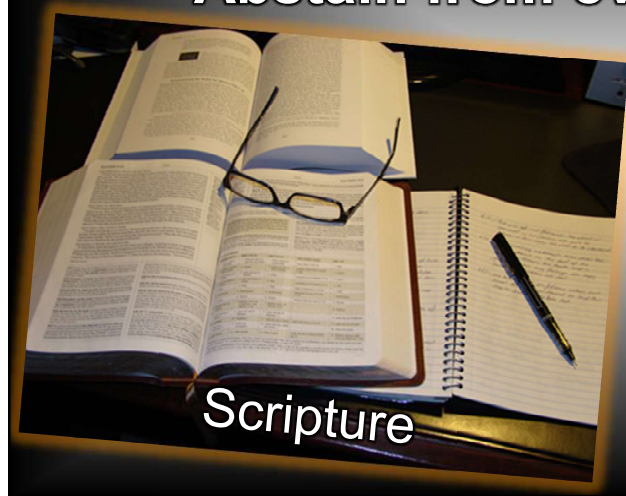
"Christian" Occultism: The Word of Faith Movement

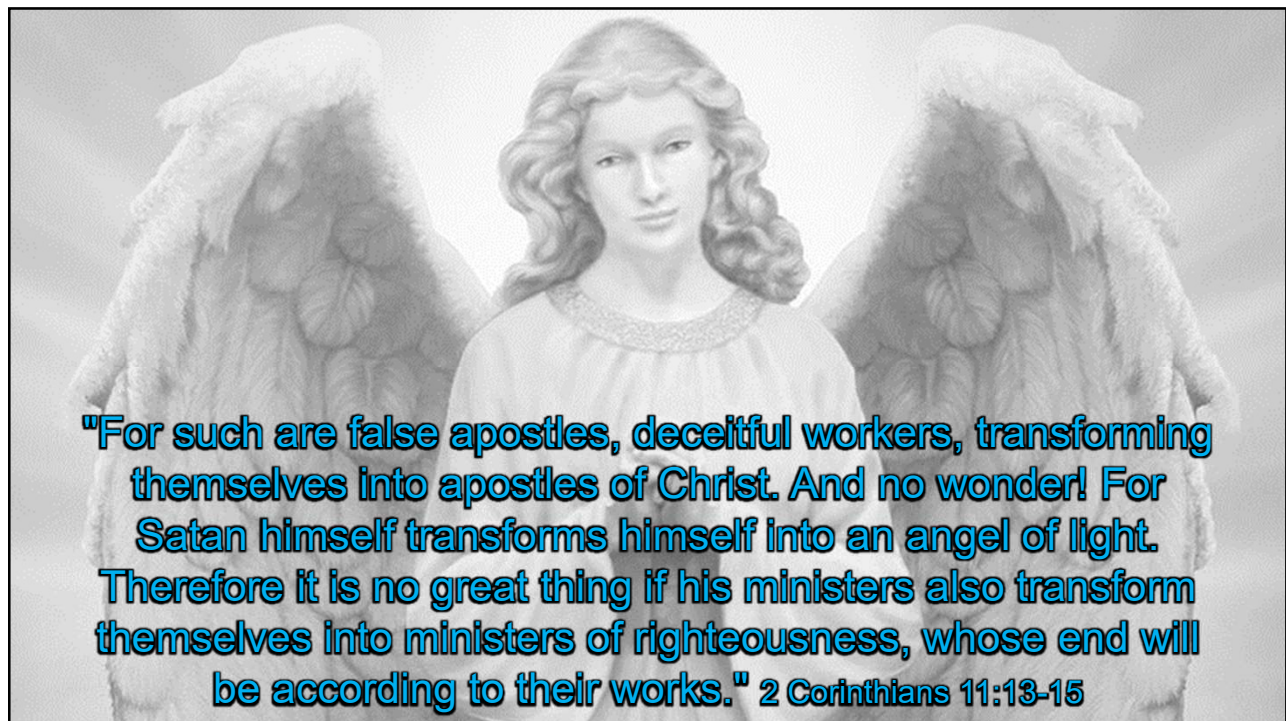
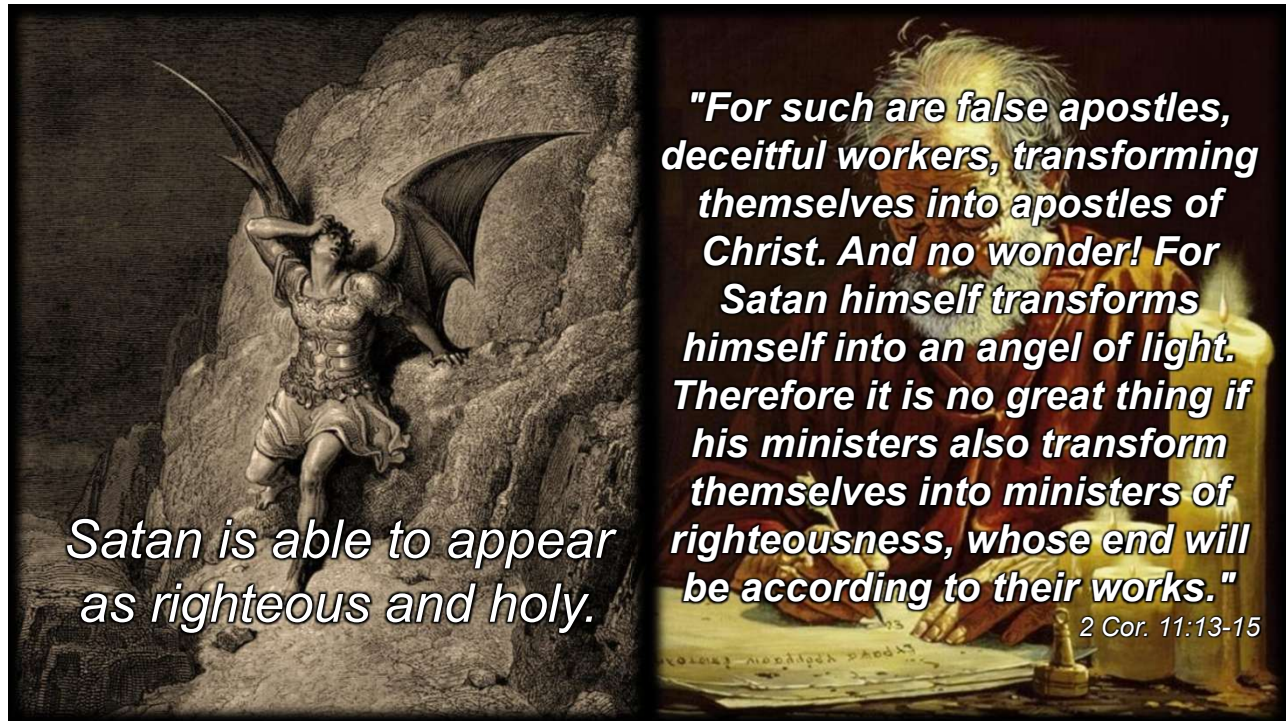




✿ 1 Thess. 5:21-22 ✿

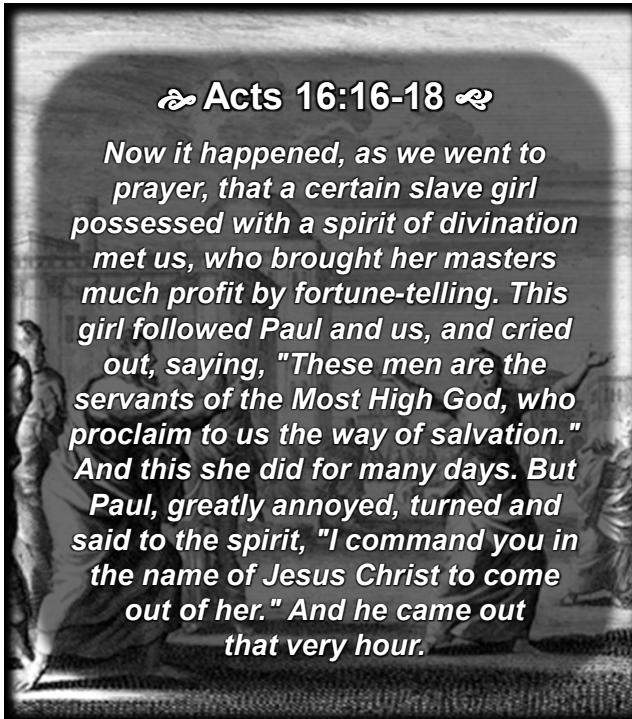
**"Test all things; hold fast what is good.
Abstain from every form of evil."**







*Evil can hitchhike
on the good.*



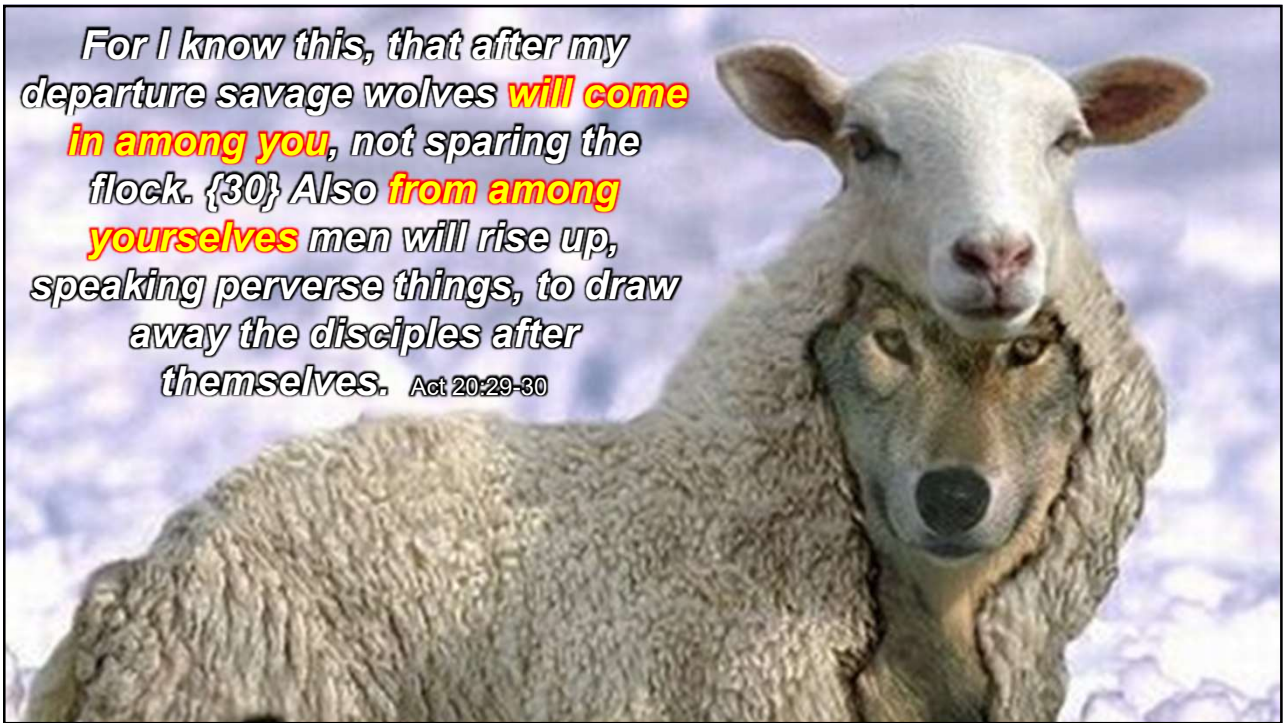
✎ Acts 16:16-18 ✎

Now it happened, as we went to prayer, that a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much profit by fortune-telling. This girl followed Paul and us, and cried out, saying, "These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation." And this she did for many days. But Paul, greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And he came out that very hour.

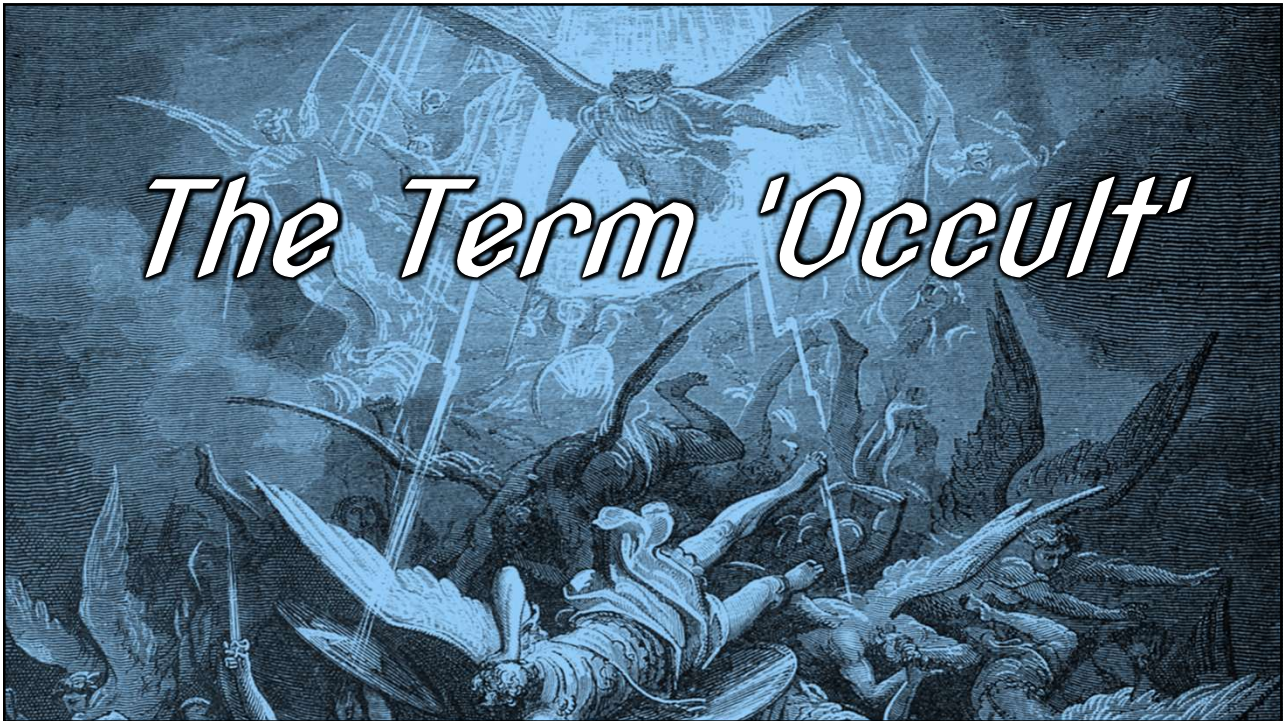


*Evil can hitchhike
on the good.*

*For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves **will come in among you**, not sparing the flock. {30} Also **from among yourselves** men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. Act 20:29-30*



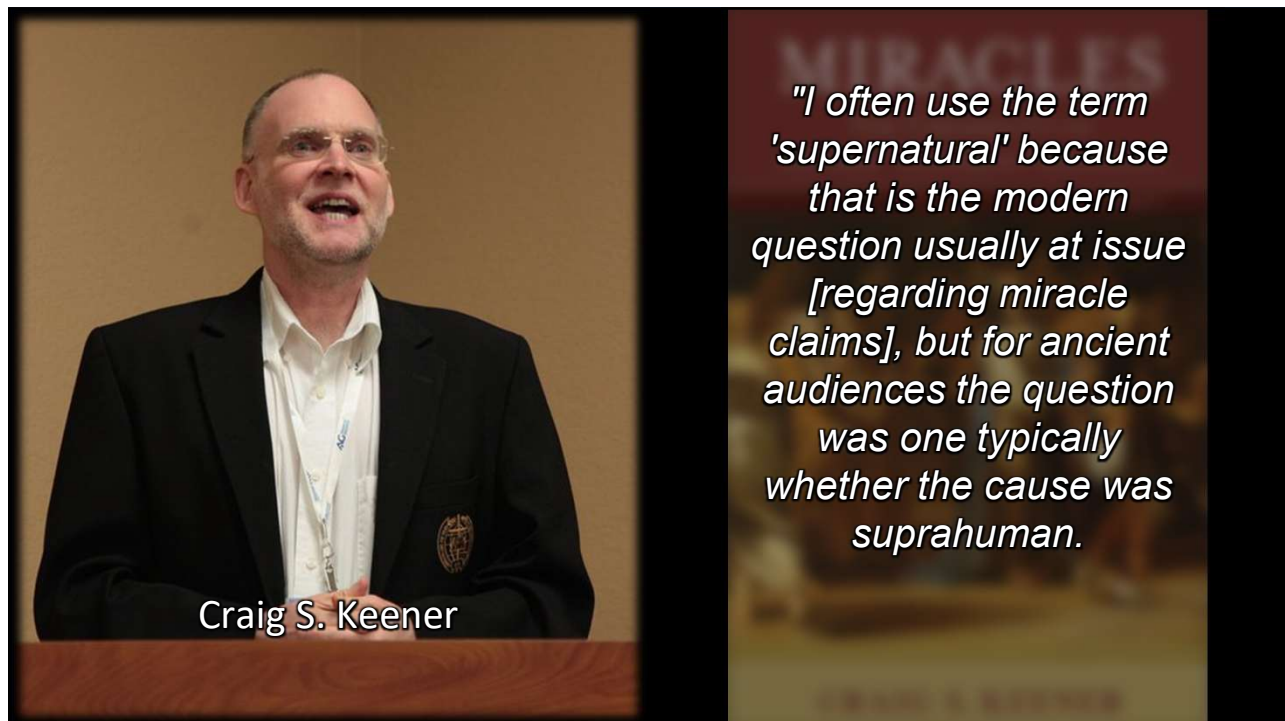
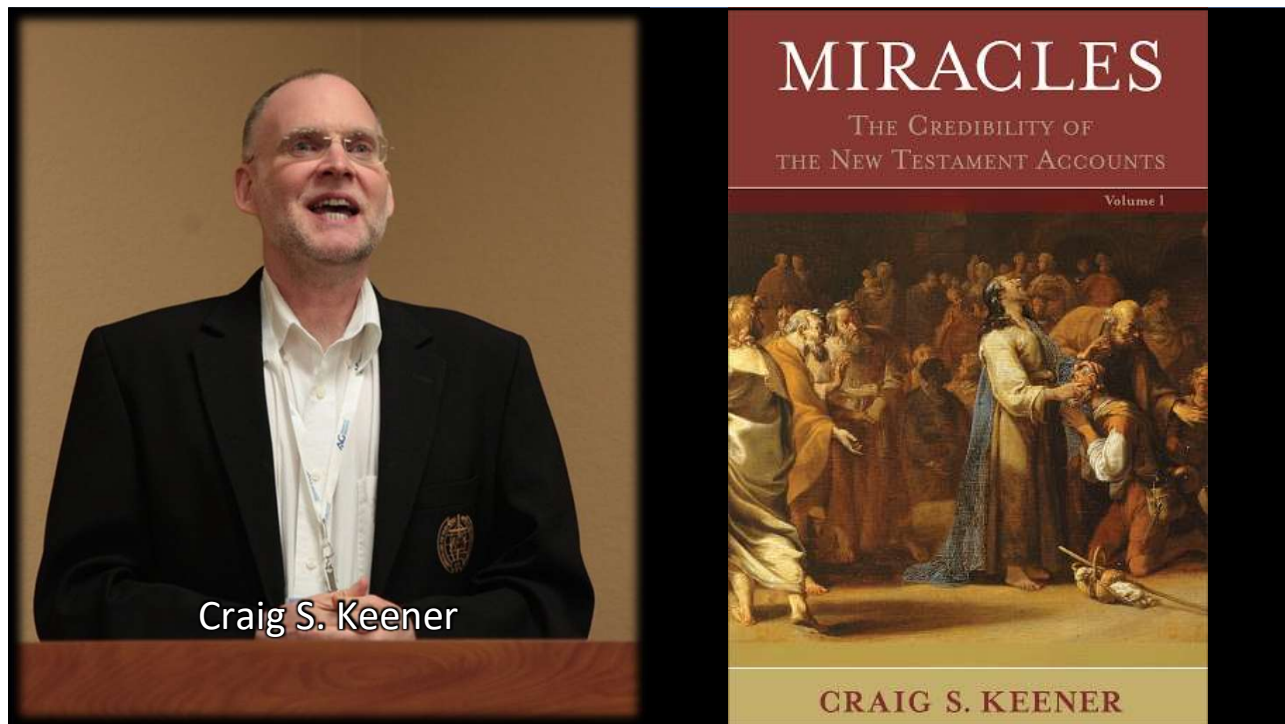
The Term 'Occult'




Supernatural or Paranormal?

Some use the term 'supernatural' to include both acts of God and paranormal activity.


I maintain that is it essential to preserve the term 'supernatural' to acts of God alone inasmuch as only God is truly super (i.e., beyond) the natural (i.e., the created).



A man with glasses, wearing a dark suit jacket over a light-colored shirt, is speaking at a wooden podium. He is looking slightly to his right.

Craig S. Keener


"For Israelites, for example, only God was supernatural; hence, for them the primary issue was divine causation. Yet most ancient audience, including Jews, Christians, and, later, Muslims, recognized other suprahuman beings in addition to God."

A man with glasses, wearing a dark suit jacket over a light-colored shirt, is speaking at a wooden podium. He is looking slightly to his right.

Craig S. Keener

"Likewise, many cultures today do not accept the Western dichotomy between natural and supernatural."

[Craig S. Keener, *Miracles: The Credibility of the New Testament Accounts* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2011), vol. 1, 7]

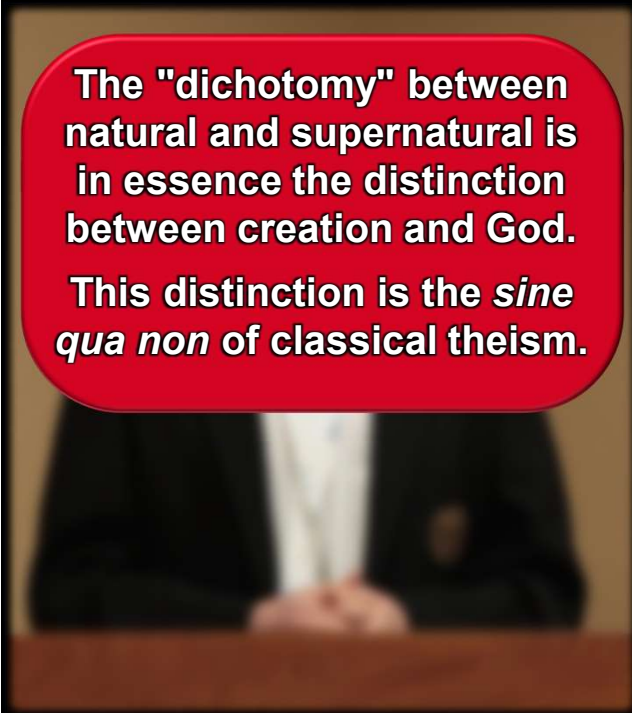


Craig S. Keener

MIRACLES

*"Likewise, many cultures today do not accept the **Western** dichotomy between natural and supernatural."*

[Craig S. Keener, *Miracles: The Credibility of the New Testament Accounts* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2011), vol. 1, 7]



The "dichotomy" between natural and supernatural is in essence the distinction between creation and God. This distinction is the *sine qua non* of classical theism.

MIRACLES

*"Likewise, many cultures today do not accept the **Western** dichotomy between natural and supernatural."*

[Craig S. Keener, *Miracles: The Credibility of the New Testament Accounts* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2011), vol. 1, 7]

But it can be misleading to characterize it as "Western" as if it grew out of Western thought as such.

Instead, it is the dominance of Christian theism that gave Western thought this distinction.

*"Likewise, many cultures today do not accept the **Western** dichotomy between natural and supernatural."*

[Craig S. Keener, *Miracles: The Credibility of the New Testament Accounts* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2011), vol. 1, 7]

It is precisely because most Eastern religions deny classical theism and opt for either an atheism (e.g., Theravada Buddhism), pantheism (e.g., Bhakti Hinduism), or pantheism (e.g., Upanishadic Hinduism) that these cultures "do not accept the Western dichotomy."

*"Likewise, many cultures today do not accept the **Western** dichotomy between natural and supernatural."*

[Craig S. Keener, *Miracles: The Credibility of the New Testament Accounts* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2011), vol. 1, 7]

*The term '**occult**' should not to be confused with the similar sounding word '**cult**'.*

'Occult' comes for the Latin 'occultus' meaning "hidden or secret."

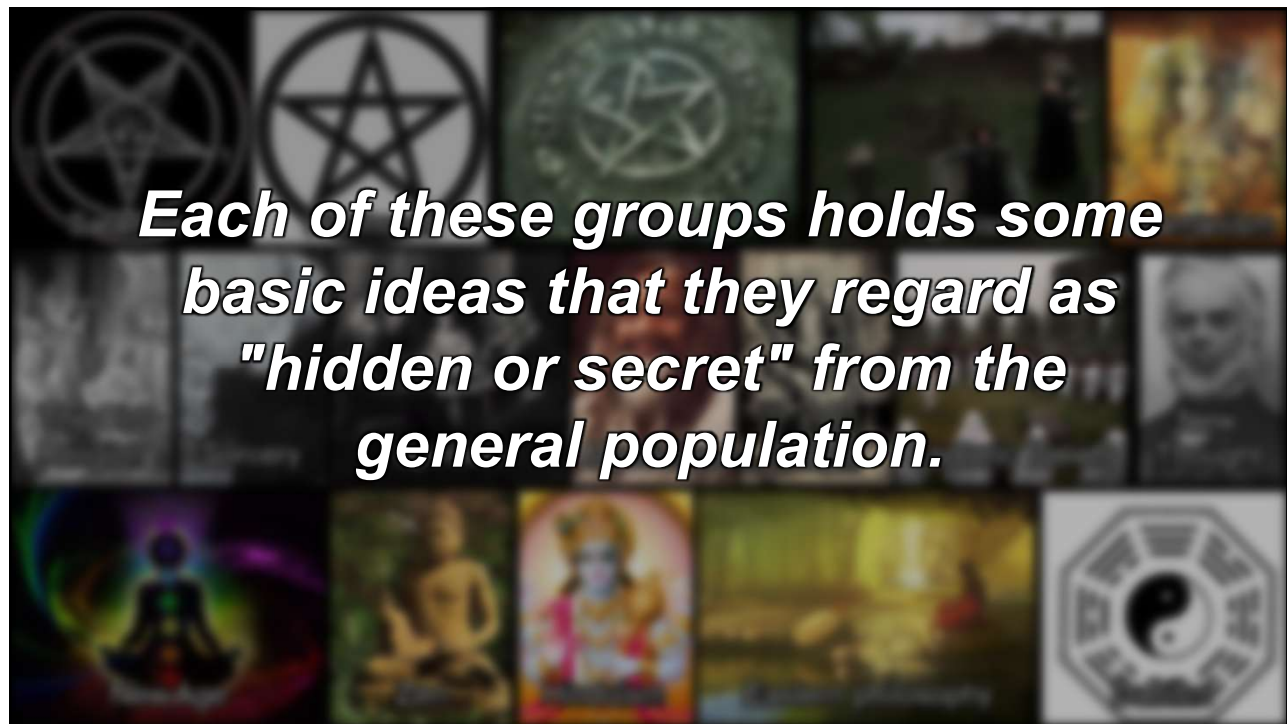
Other belief systems one might encounter related to the occult include:



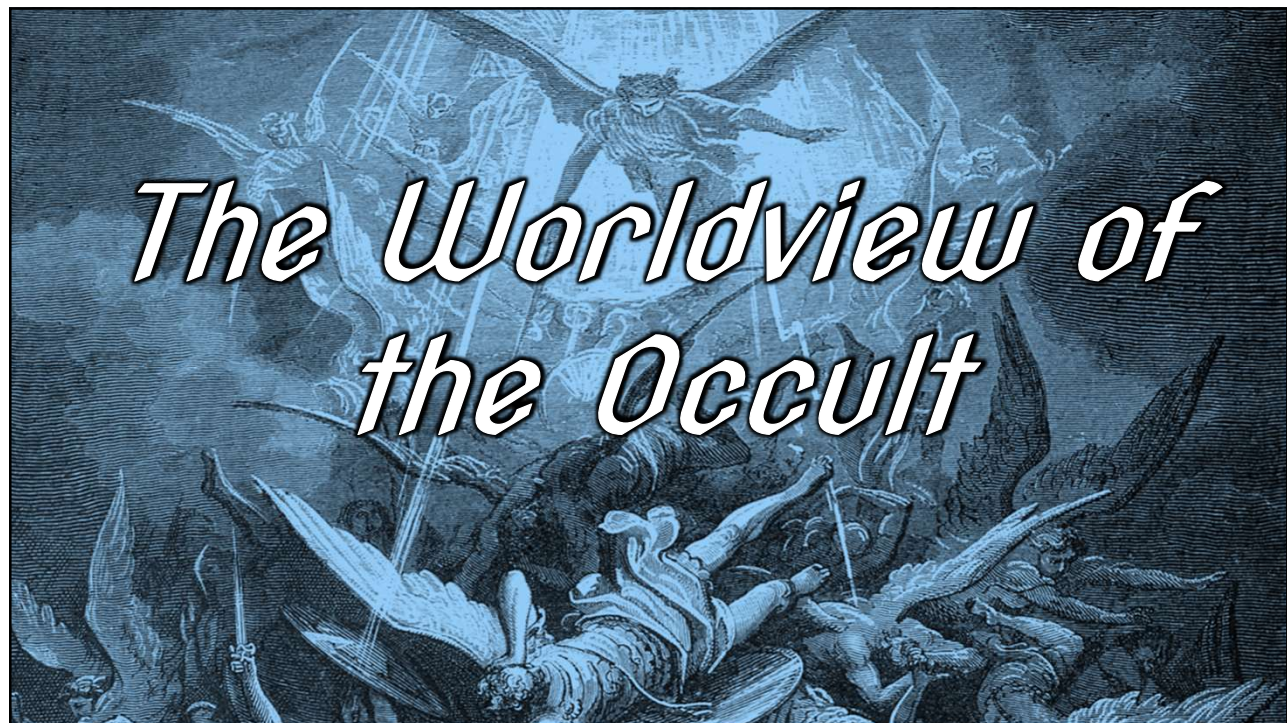
Mysticism



Though there are very important differences among these belief systems, there is a very important common ground which makes them all properly called 'occult'.

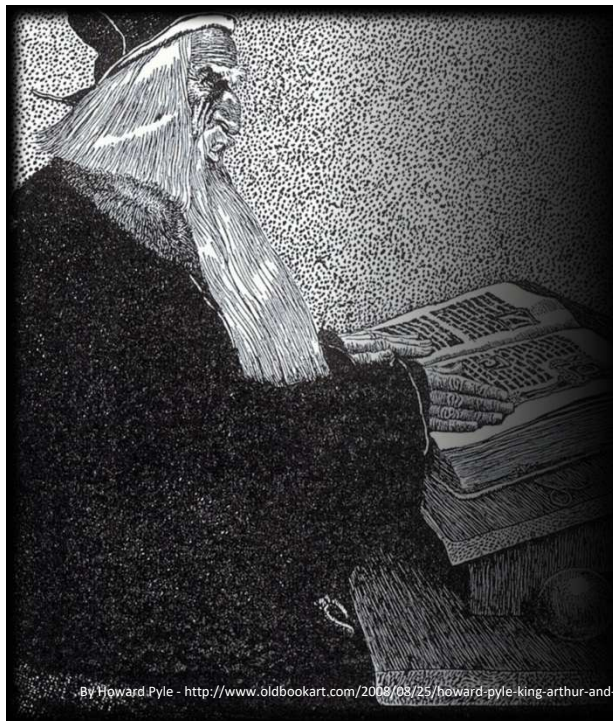


Each of these groups holds some basic ideas that they regard as "hidden or secret" from the general population.



The Worldview of the Occult

Spiritual "Law"



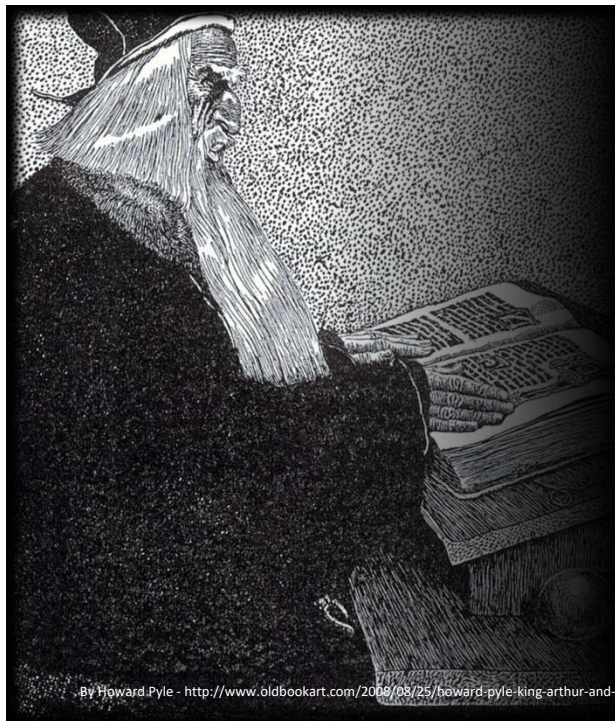
Spiritual "Law" is the notion that the spiritual or non-physical realm operates according to laws or regularities like the physical realm does.

By Howard Pyle - <http://www.oldbookart.com/2008/05/25/howard-pyle-king-arthur-and-his-knights/>, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=18494745>



***Much of occult practice
is mastering these
"laws" in order to
manipulate the spiritual
realm to get physical
results.***

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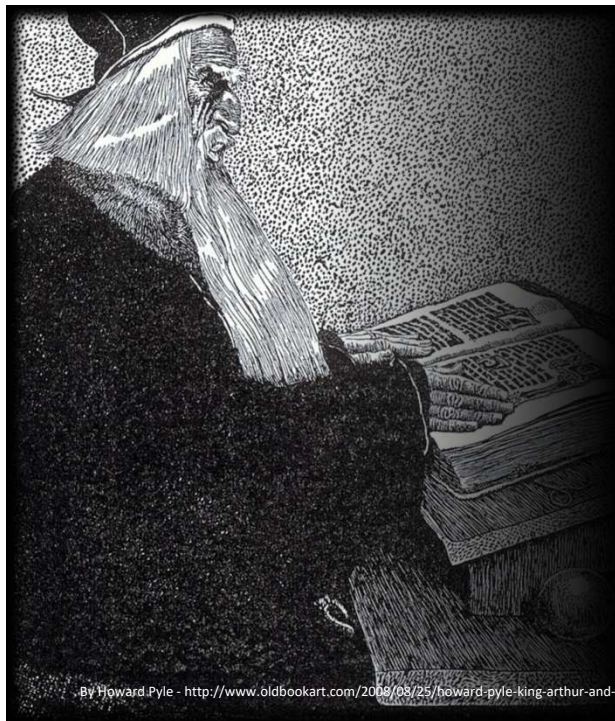
***This is often referred to
as "magic."***

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Whereas the cause and effect (action and reaction) aspect of the physical world is the philosophical foundation of all modern science ...

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... applying the same paradigm to the non-physical realm is the essential element of occult philosophy.

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Natural Science

Mastering the laws that describe the behavior of the physical realm to enable us to control physical things and forces for the purpose of manipulating the physical world



Occultism

Mastering the "laws" that describe the behavior of the non-physical realm to enable us to control non-physical things and forces for the purpose of manipulating the physical world

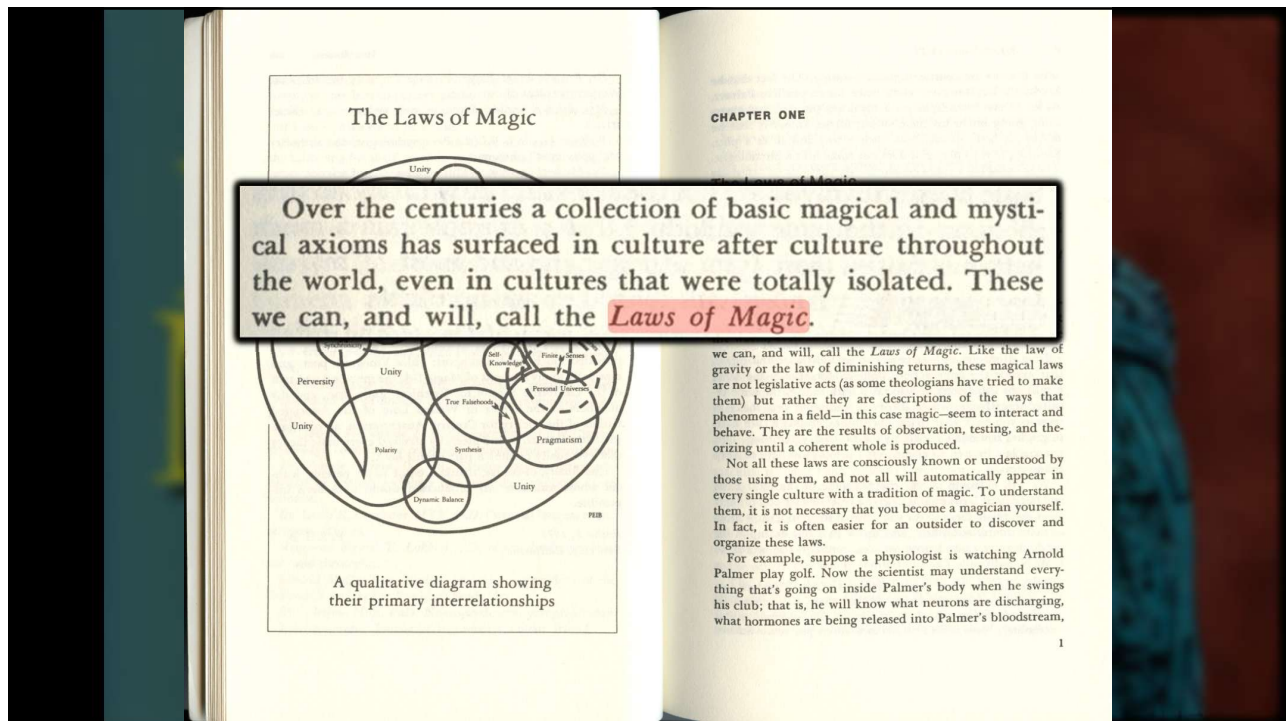
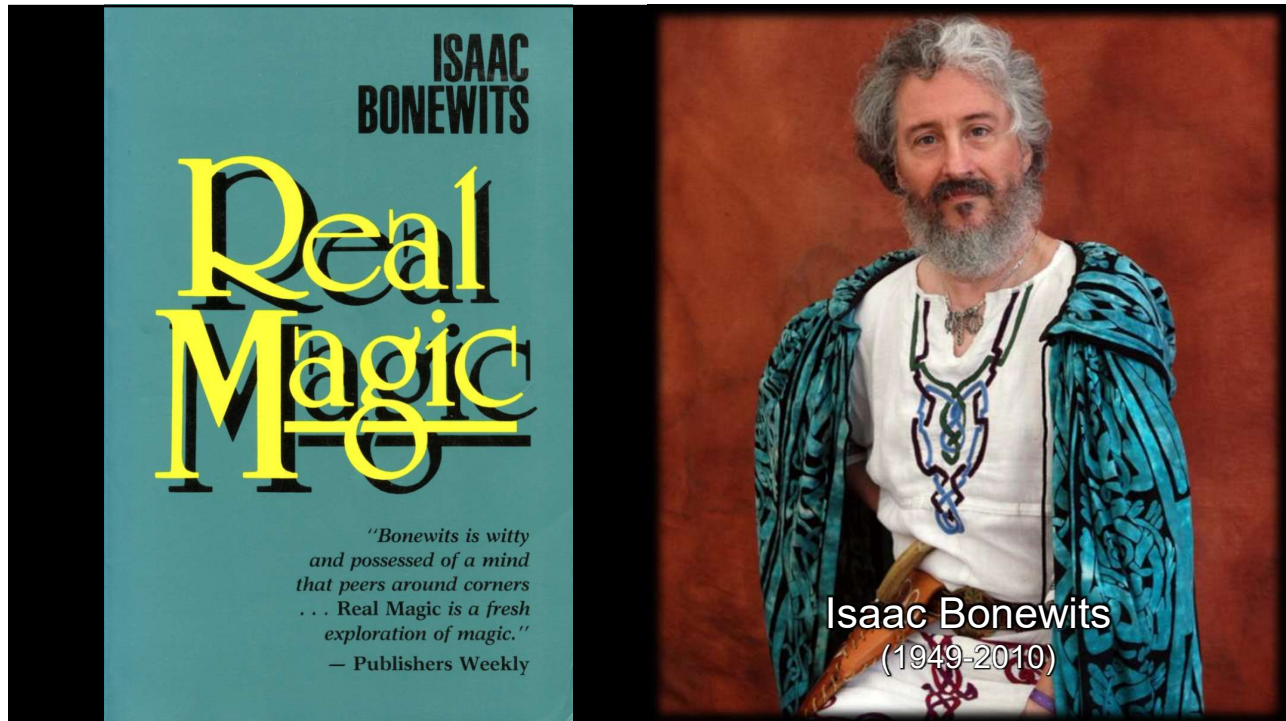
Natural Science ✓

Mastering the laws that describe the behavior of the physical realm to enable us to control physical things and forces for the purpose of manipulating the physical world



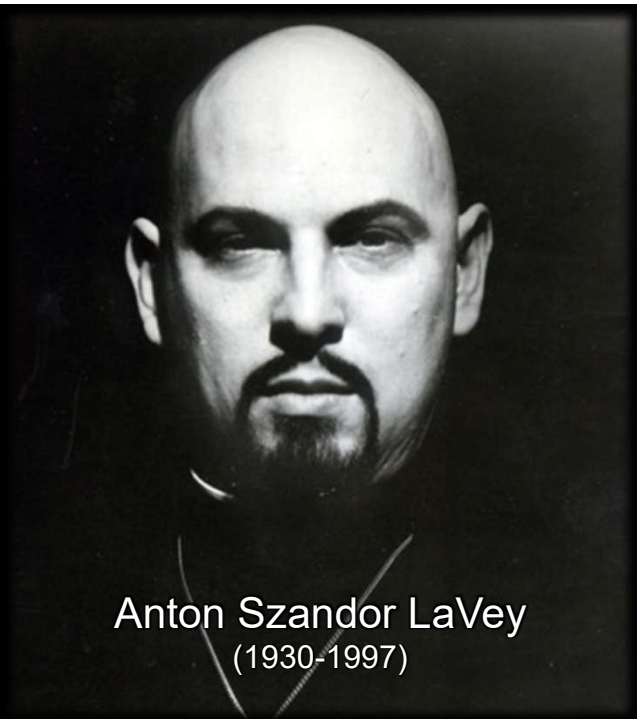
Occultism

Mastering the "laws" that describe the behavior of the non-physical realm to enable us to control non-physical things and forces for the purpose of manipulating the physical world



"Magic... is... the change in situations or events in accordance with one's will, which would, **using normally accepted methods**, be unchangeable."

[Anton Szandor LaVey, *The Satanic Bible* (New York: Avon Books, 1969), 110]



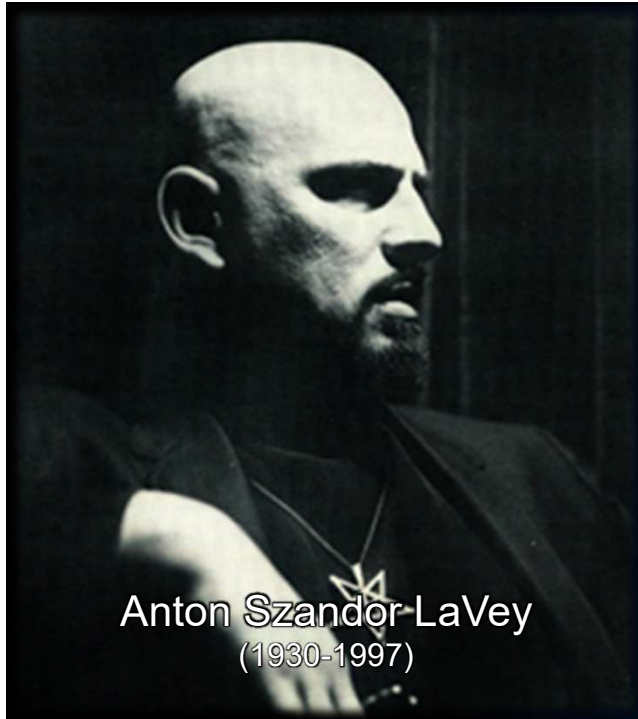
Anton Szandor LaVey
(1930-1997)

"Magic is never totally scientifically explainable."

[LaVey, *Satanic Bible*, 110]




Anton Szandor LaVey
(1930-1997)



Anton Szandor-LaVey
(1930-1997)

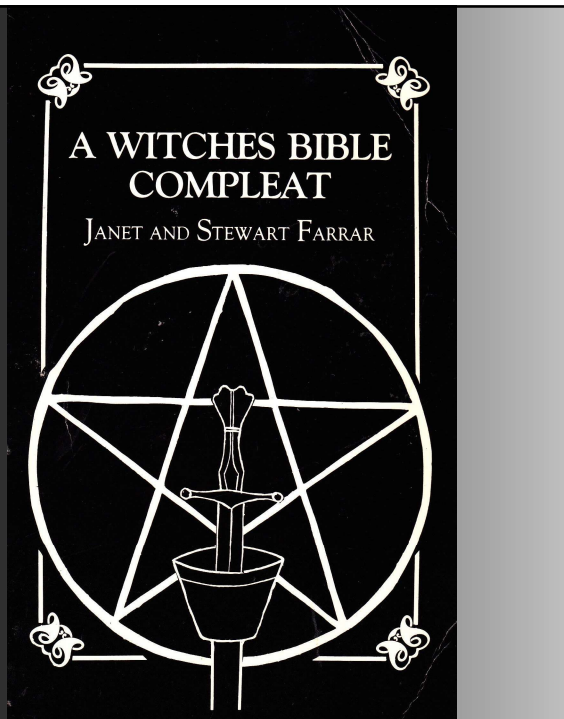
*There is "balance in nature, a natural order. That's God. And that's Satan. Satan is God. He is the representation of the state of flux; he is **the action-reaction**; he is the cause and the effect; he is all the elements interwoven in what we call evolution."*

[LaVey, in Lawrence Wright, "Sympathy for the Devil," Rolling Stone no. 612 (September 5, 1991): 105]



Stewart Farrar
(1916-2000)

Janet Farrar



A WITCHES BIBLE COMPLEAT
JANET AND STEWART FARRAR

But Consciousness is human, too. The individual conscious mind is a comparative newcomer to the evolutionary scene on this planet, and – at least as far as land animals are concerned! – it is the unique gift of *homo sapiens*. No other physically manifested land animal has it, though one or two of the higher mammals seem to possess its first embryonic stirrings. Sentimentalists credit their favourite animals with it to a quasi-human degree, but this is pure projection (and a misunderstanding of the nature of consciousness) given colour by the fact that some of the animals' instinctual patterns conditioned reflexes

The Theory of Levels maintains that reality exists and operates on many planes (physical, etheric, astral, mental, spiritual, to give a simplified but generally accepted list²); that each of these levels has its own laws; and that these sets of laws, while special to their own levels, are compatible with each other, their mutual resonance governing the interaction between the levels.

The Theory of Polarity maintains that all activity, all manifestation, arises from (and is inconceivable without) the interaction of pairs and complementary opposites – positive and negative, light and dark,

The Theory of Levels maintains that reality exists and operates on many planes (physical, etheric, astral, mental, spiritual, to give a simplified but generally accepted list²); that **each of these levels has its own laws**; and that these sets of laws, while special to their own levels, are compatible with each other, their mutual resonance governing the interaction between the levels.

their conflict will paralyse or even destroy him, and possibly the Earth too; he will have betrayed the trust of his 'dominion'.

So it is incumbent upon witches, whose religion and Craft stem from the inner depths, to be truly the Wise People and show that Wicca satisfies the intellect as well. They have to demonstrate to themselves and to the world that their faith accords with reality and therefore does not (however beautiful it appears on the surface) contain the seeds of self-destruction.

The rationale of Wicca is a philosophical framework into which every phenomenon, from chemistry to clairvoyance, from logarithms to love, can be reasonably fitted. And since Wicca is a fast-growing movement, active in a real world, it must (without ever losing or weakening its preoccupation with the psychic depths) constantly explain, examine, develop and improve that philosophy.

The rationale of Wicca, as we see it, rests upon two fundamental principles: the Theory of Levels, and the Theory of Polarity.

The trouble was that he did it so brilliantly, with such awe-inspiring and heady success, that he deluded himself into thinking that matter was the only level of reality. He came to believe that mind was merely an epiphenomenon, an electro-chemical activity of the physical brain; and that 'spirit' was a fantasy, a symbolic projection of man's mental or even glandular conflicts and uncertainties, or at best of his urge to perfection, the true key to which (it was believed) lay in material progress.

One would have thought that organized religion would have put forward a meaningful corrective to all this; but in fact its voice was barely heard crying in the wilderness of triumphant materialism. In all the active arenas of human ideas, religion was relegated to the ethical or charity-doing sidelines, or to moral rationalizations of the social consequences of industrialization. As far as philosophy, the interpretation of cosmic reality, was concerned, it could fight only rear-guard actions. Materialism was the actual dynamic force of the epoch.

(They no longer use the term, because increased knowledge has shown it to be an over-simplification; but it is still a useful bit of shorthand to help the layman to understand what is going on.)

This event in the 'ether', as it stands, is undetectable by the human senses. We cannot see or hear it, in the sky or passing through our walls; but it is there, real and coherent.

In our living-room, another suitably designed equipment takes this 'etheric' event and transforms it, as if by magic, back into a

physical science is governed?

One could go on at length about recent research into such subjects as telepathy, telekinesis, the influence of thought on growing plants, the statistical analysis of Zodiacal birth-sign types and so on; but this is not the place to do it. For an overall review of the field, we recommend Lyall Watson's *Supernature*; and on telepathy in particular, Targ and Puthoff's *Mind Reach* (both in Bibliography).

We shall have more to say on the Theory of Levels in later Section.

The discovery of those connections is the aim of the scientist (on the physical plane) and of the witch (on all the planes). The use of those discoveries is 'magic'. Magic does not break the laws of Nature; when it appears to do so, that is because it is **obeying laws that the observer has not yet understood**.

never in continuity with what he goes on to say, however these things are connected.' (*Magick in Theory and Practice*, Introduction pp. XII and XV.)

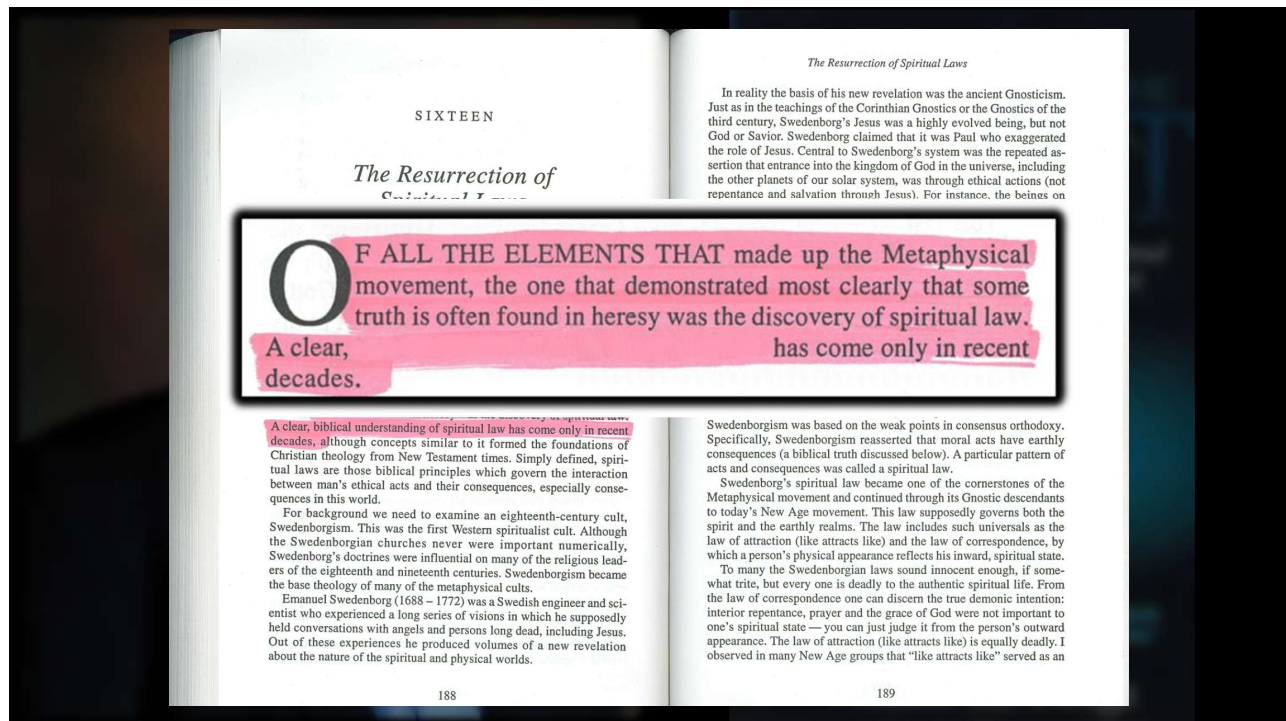
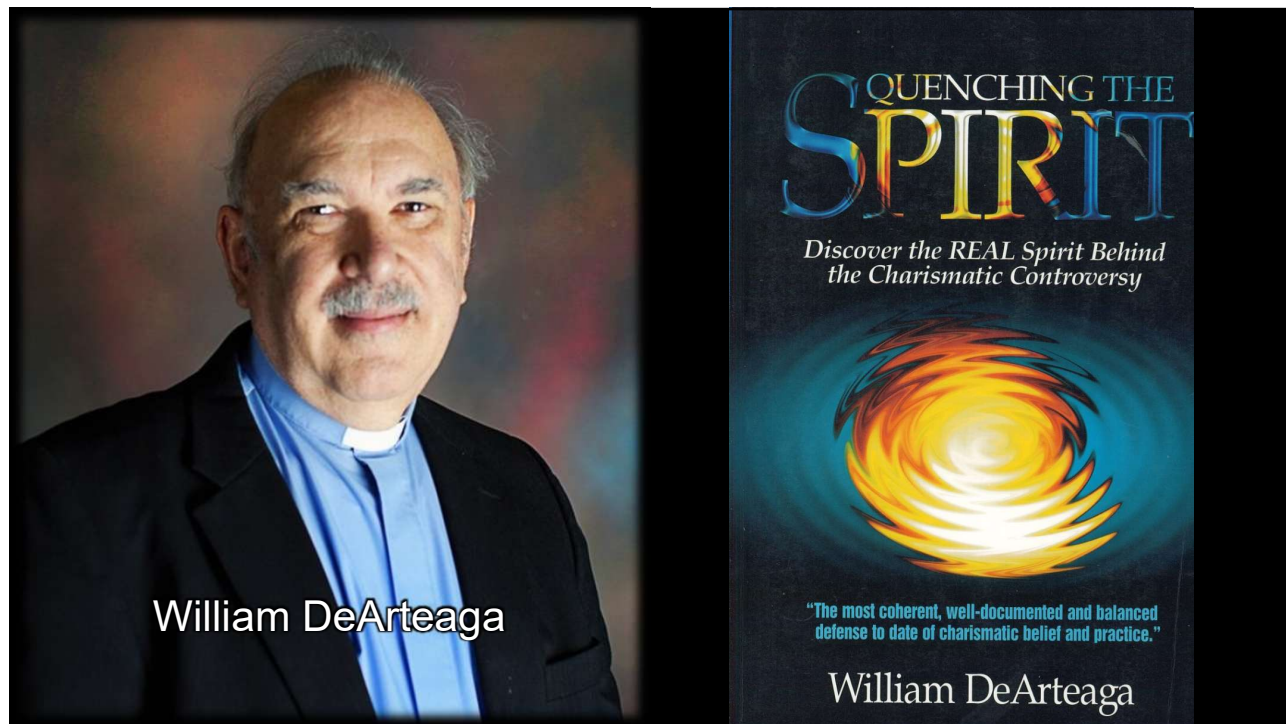
The discovery of those connections is the aim of the scientist (on the physical plane) and of the witch (on all the planes). The use of those discoveries is 'magic'. Magic does not break the laws of Nature; when it appears to do so, that is because it is obeying laws that the observer has not yet understood. A sixteenth-century scientist, for example, however intelligent and well-informed, if he could have seen television might well have branded it as supernatural.

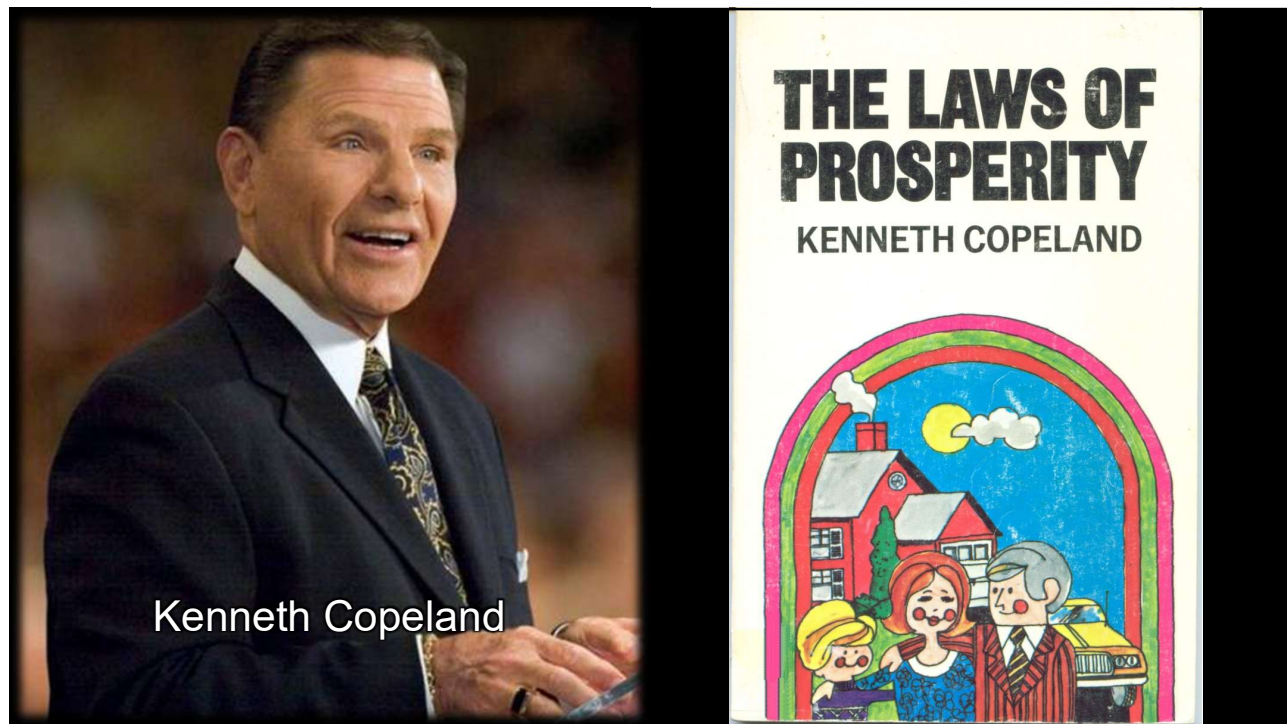
As we have said, many modern scientists are becoming aware of (and some of them are investigating) phenomena which can only be explained on the basis that there are levels of reality other than the physical. Attempts to explain these phenomena in terms of still-undiscovered physical laws keep stumbling over fresh paradoxes. For example, if telepathy exists (and only wilful ignorers of evidence can still deny that it does) and is due to some kind of brain-generated radiation – why does all the evidence show that it is not subject to the inverse square law⁴ by which every other form of radiation known to

But this is not the gates might say, unless coming with the wind. But the positive description is purely static: nearly 1,500 miles wide, long and high (!) with walls 216 feet high, and foundations and gates of precious stones. The only mentions of any kind of activity or movement are of the righteous walking in it (xxi:24), the river of life 'proceeding' (xxii:1), the tree of life yielding fruit every month (with no Moon!) (xxii:2), and God's servants serving Him (xxii:3). Verse after verse about excluded evils and about (to be fair, doubtless symbolic) dimensions and materials, but effectively nothing about what happens there.

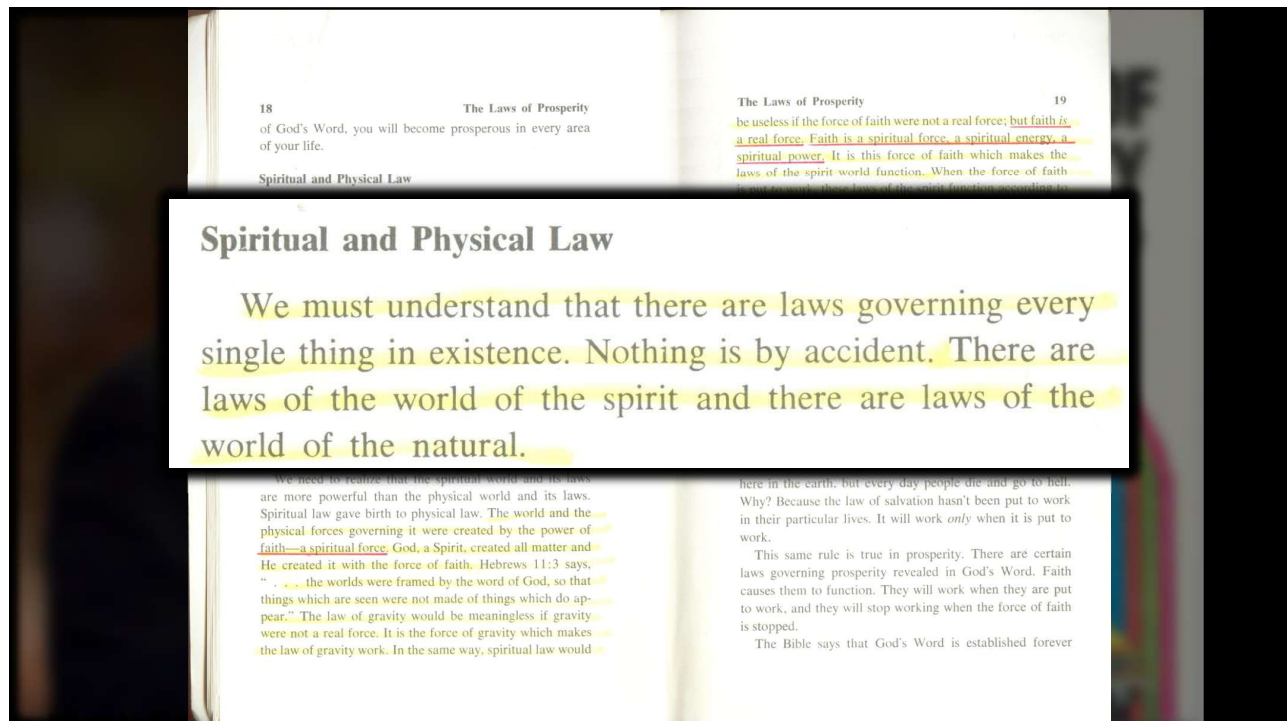
Our point is not to mock at St John's high-rise architecture, nor even to complain at his abolition of Sun, Moon, sea, night and candles, but to suggest that his negative, static description is not just his personal style but intrinsic to the monotheistic, non-polarized viewpoint. Under the unchallenged rule of a non-polarized Creator, nothing can happen.

Islam's Heaven is much more interesting, if only because Mohammed was sexually healthy and bequeathed to his followers none of the inhibitions and neuroses which woman-baiting Paul of Tarsus imposed on Christianity. So polarity, in its most humanly enjoyable form, brings the Moslem Paradise to life. To the Moslem, woman is





Kenneth Copeland



Mechanical vs. Personal





∞ Psalm 19:7-11 ∞

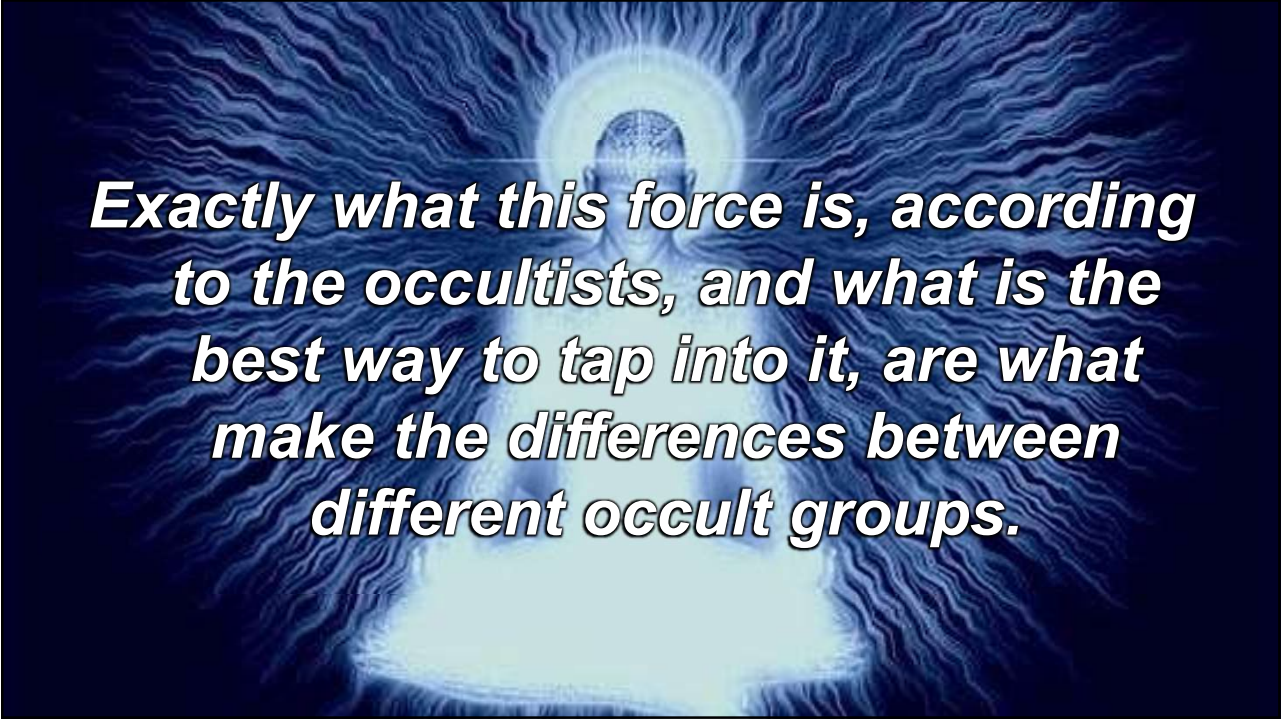
"The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes; The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; The judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, Yea, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. Moreover by them Your servant is warned, And in keeping them there is great reward."



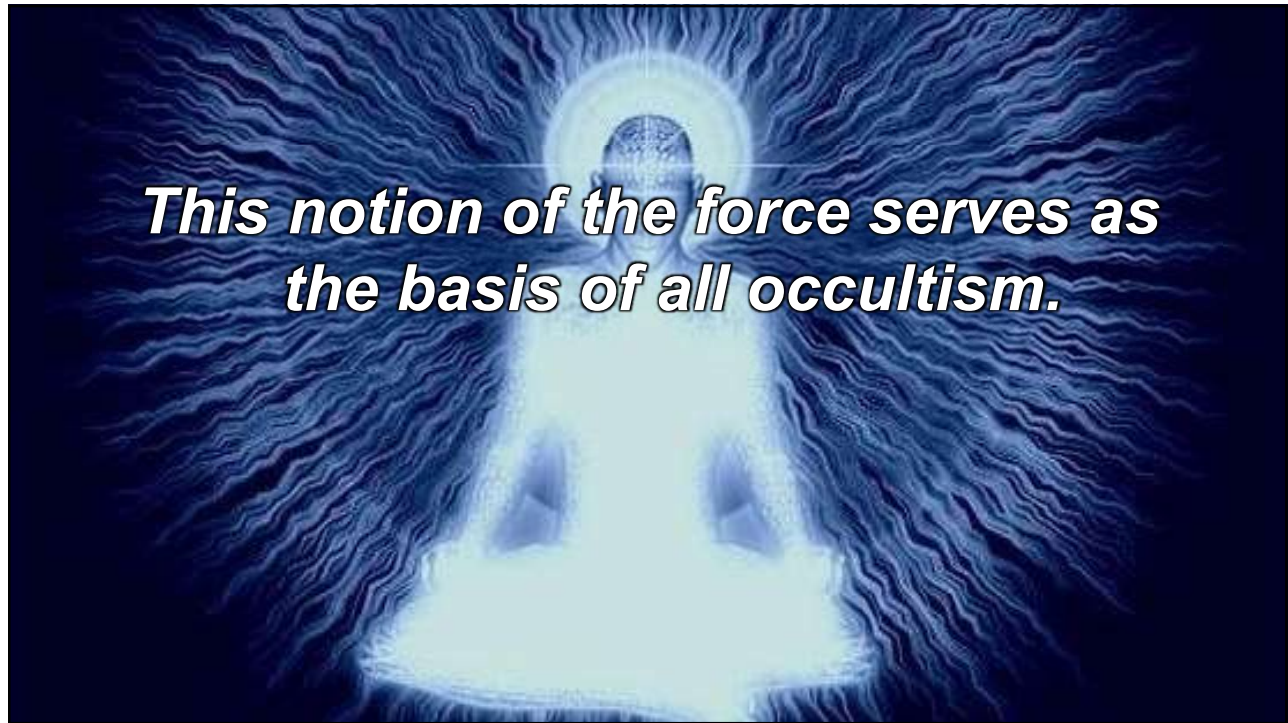
The "Force"



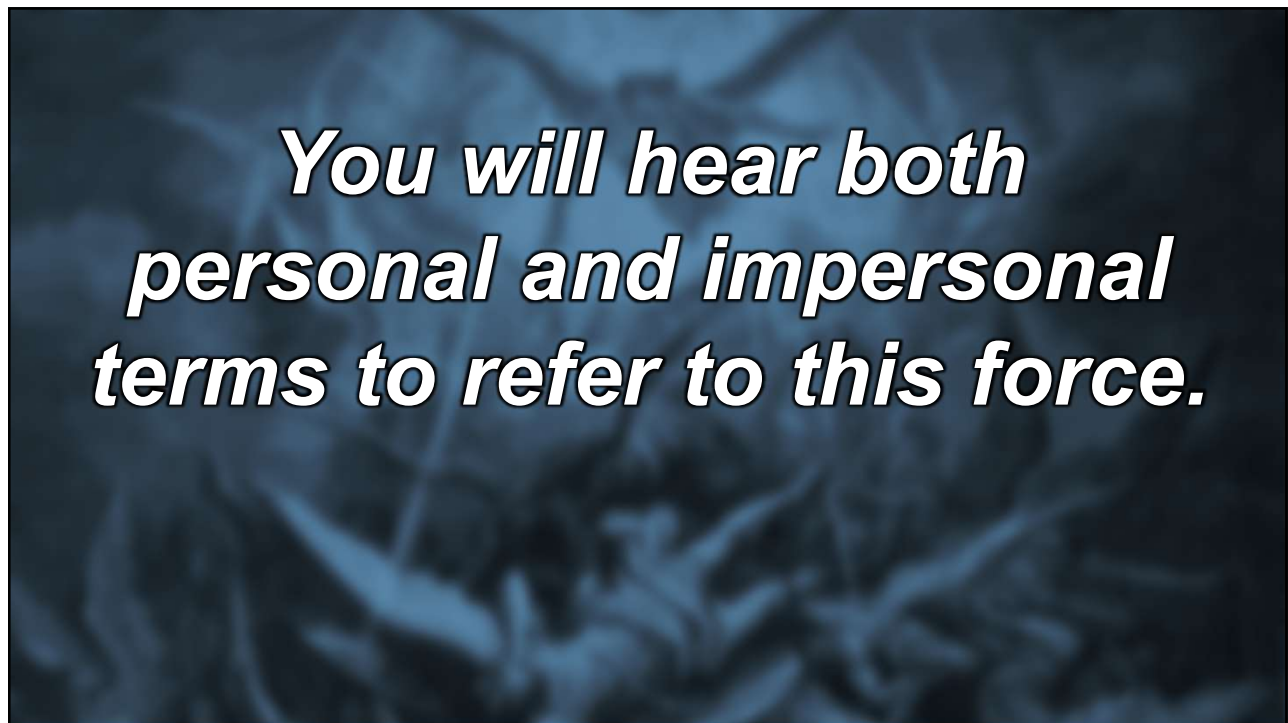
***There is a hidden force or energy
which one can tap into to use for
healing or harm.***



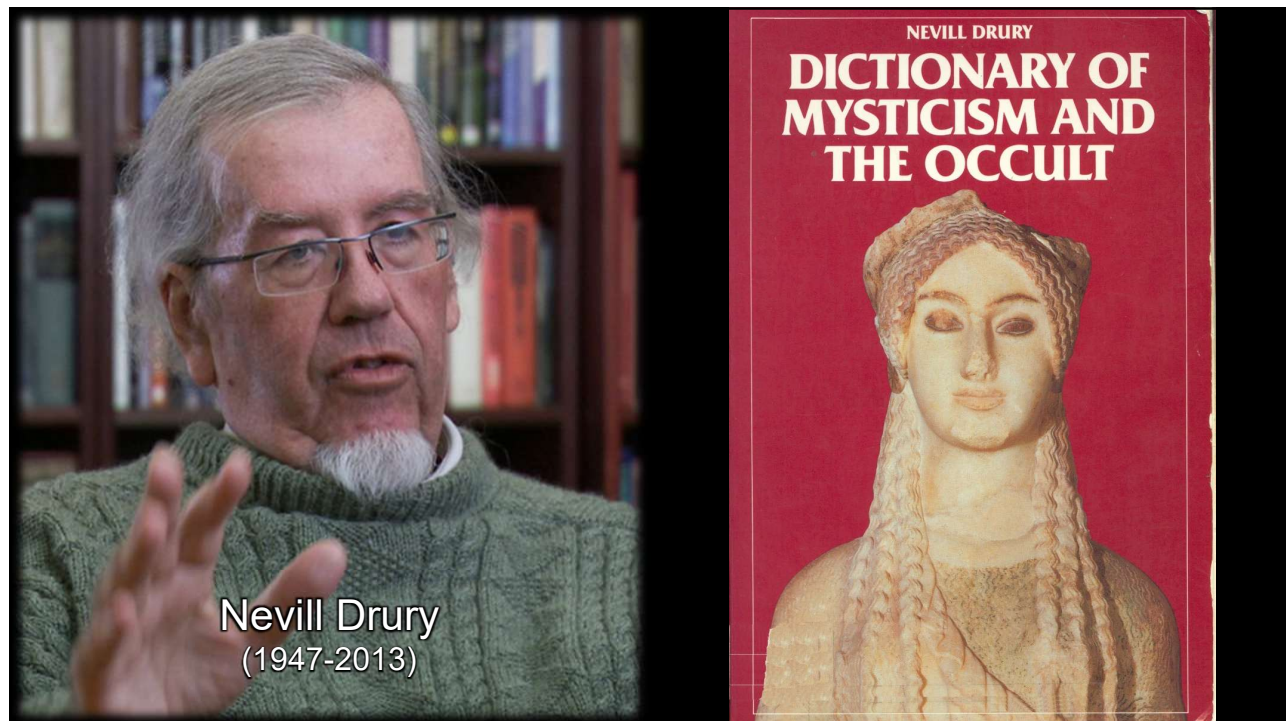
***Exactly what this force is, according
to the occultists, and what is the
best way to tap into it, are what
make the differences between
different occult groups.***

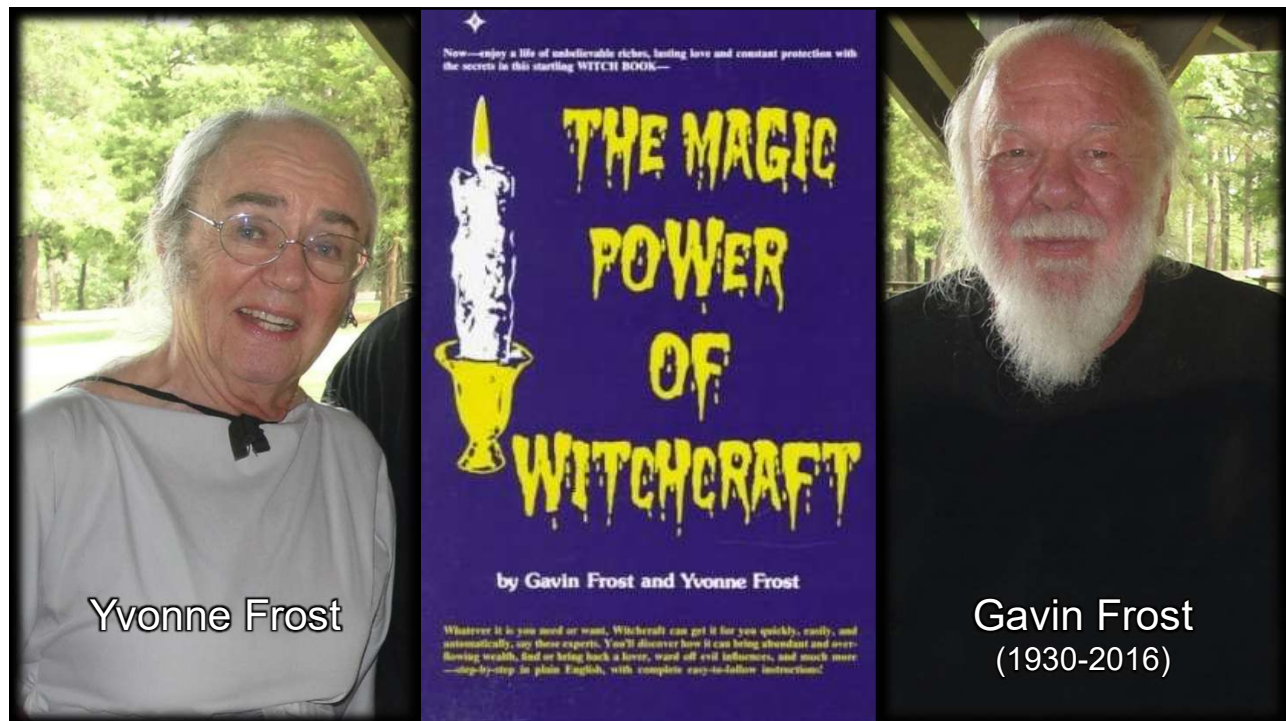
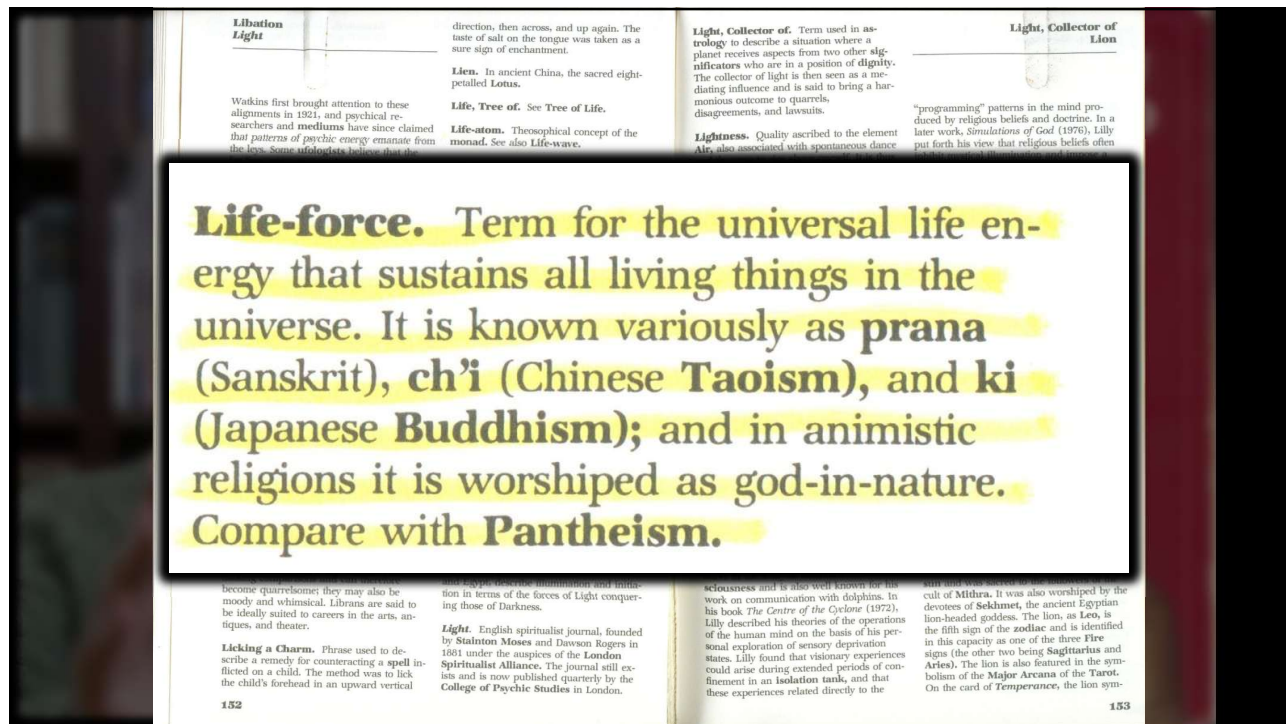


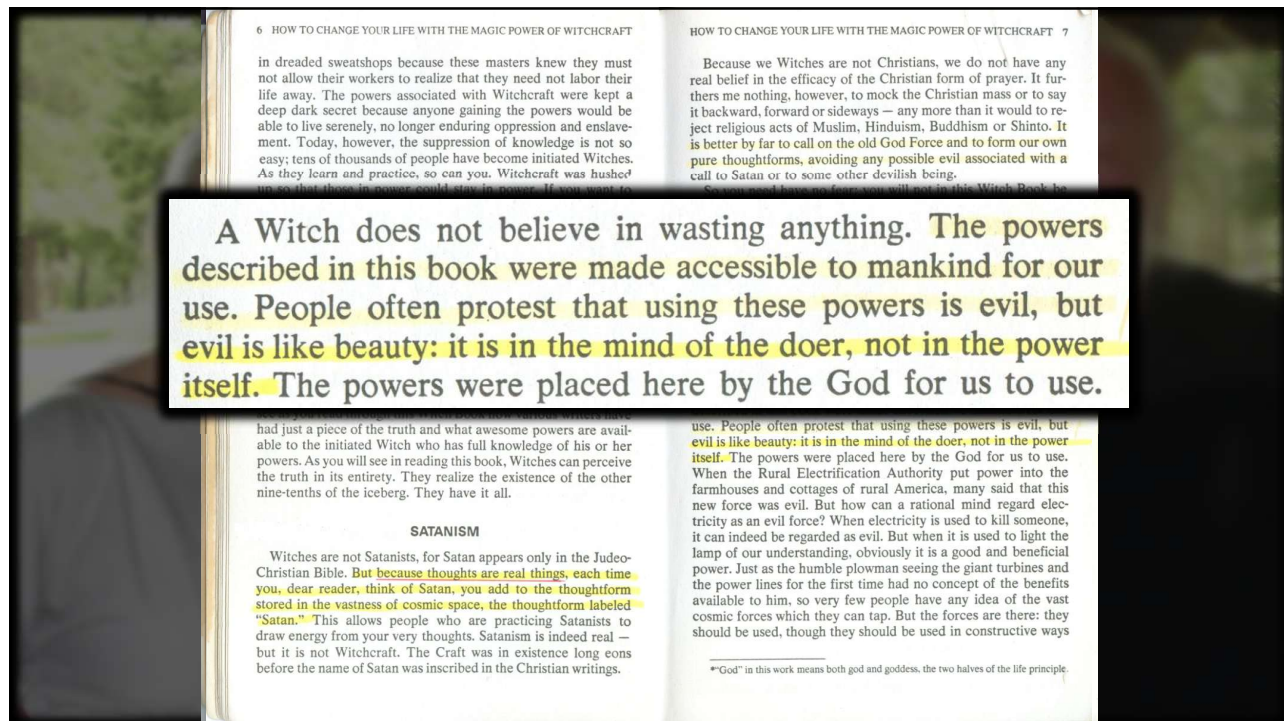
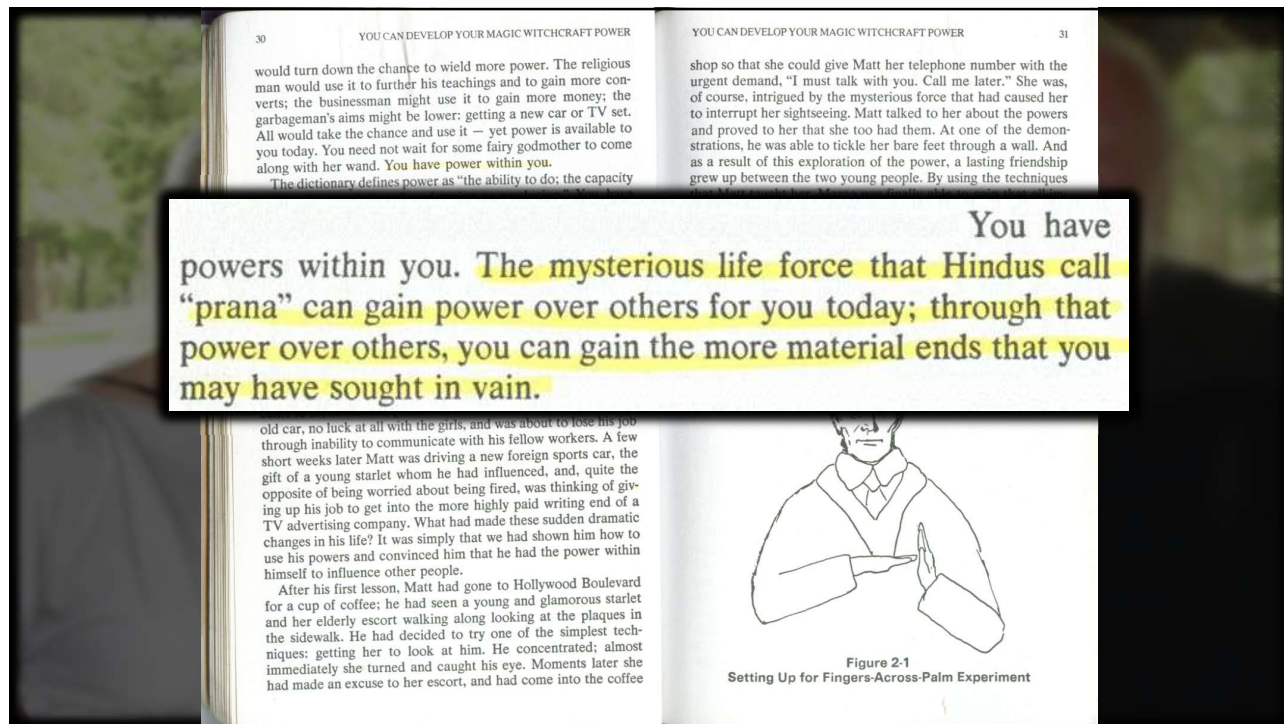
***This notion of the force serves as
the basis of all occultism.***

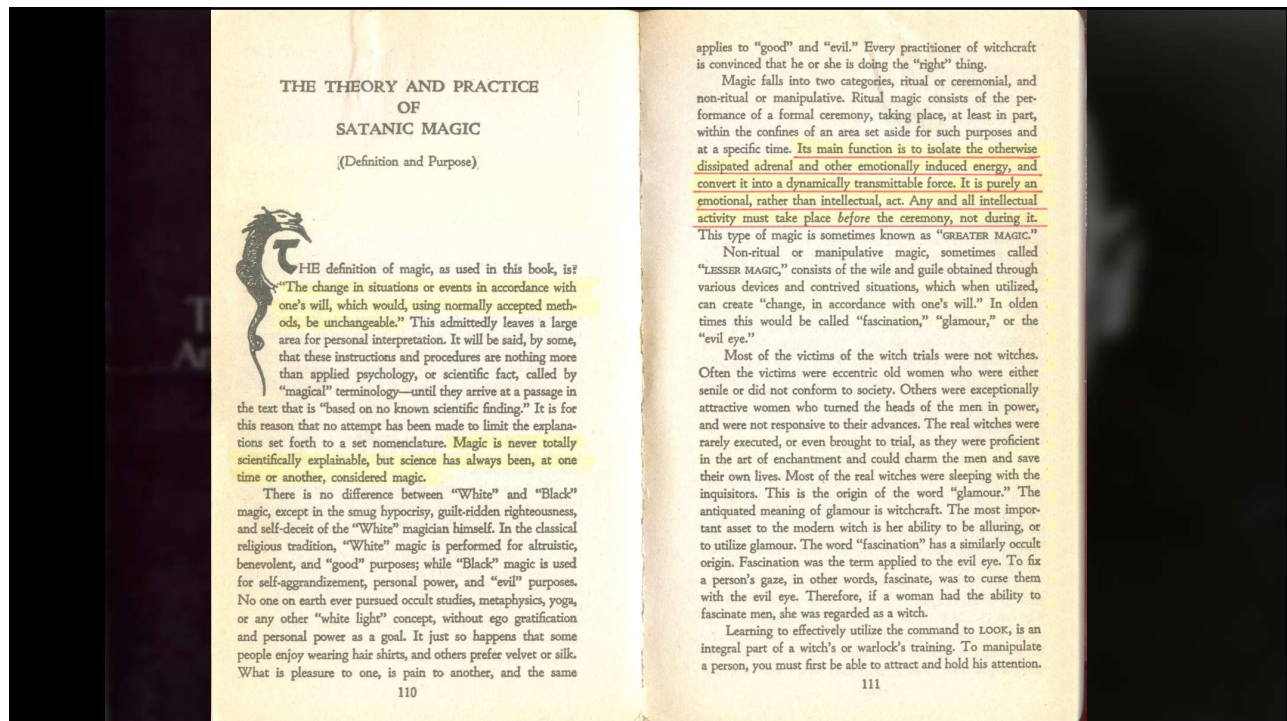
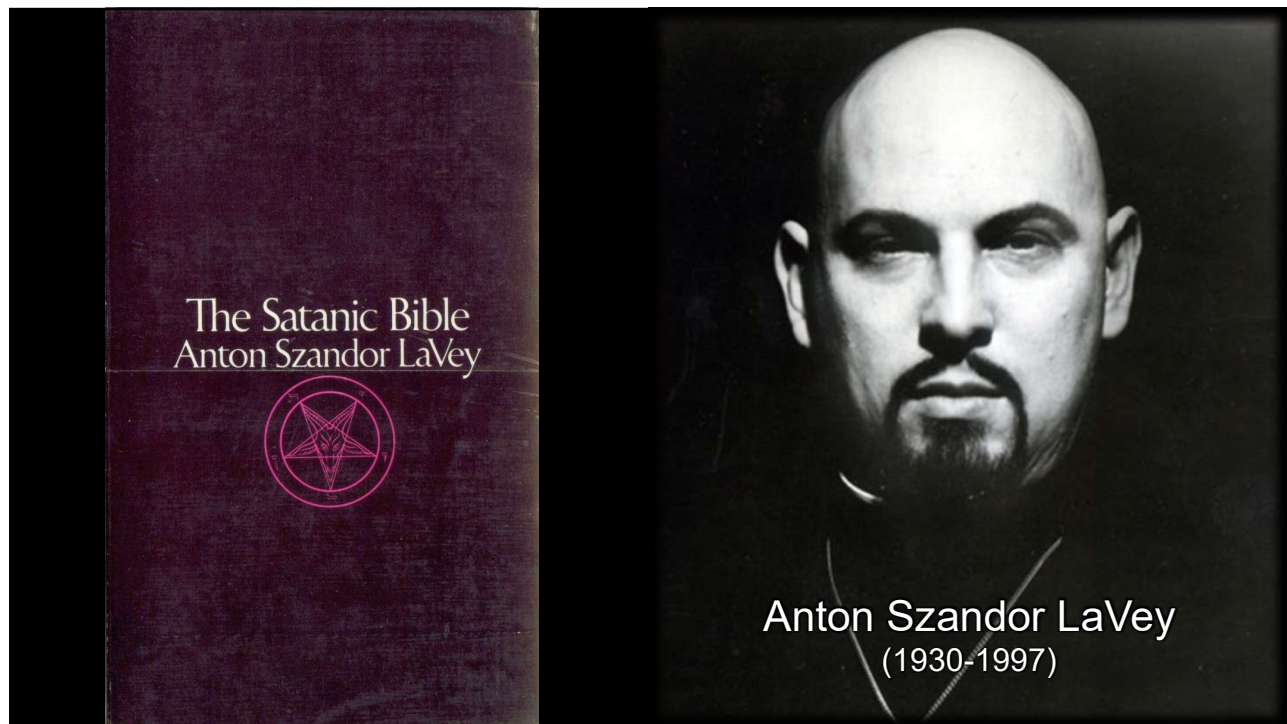


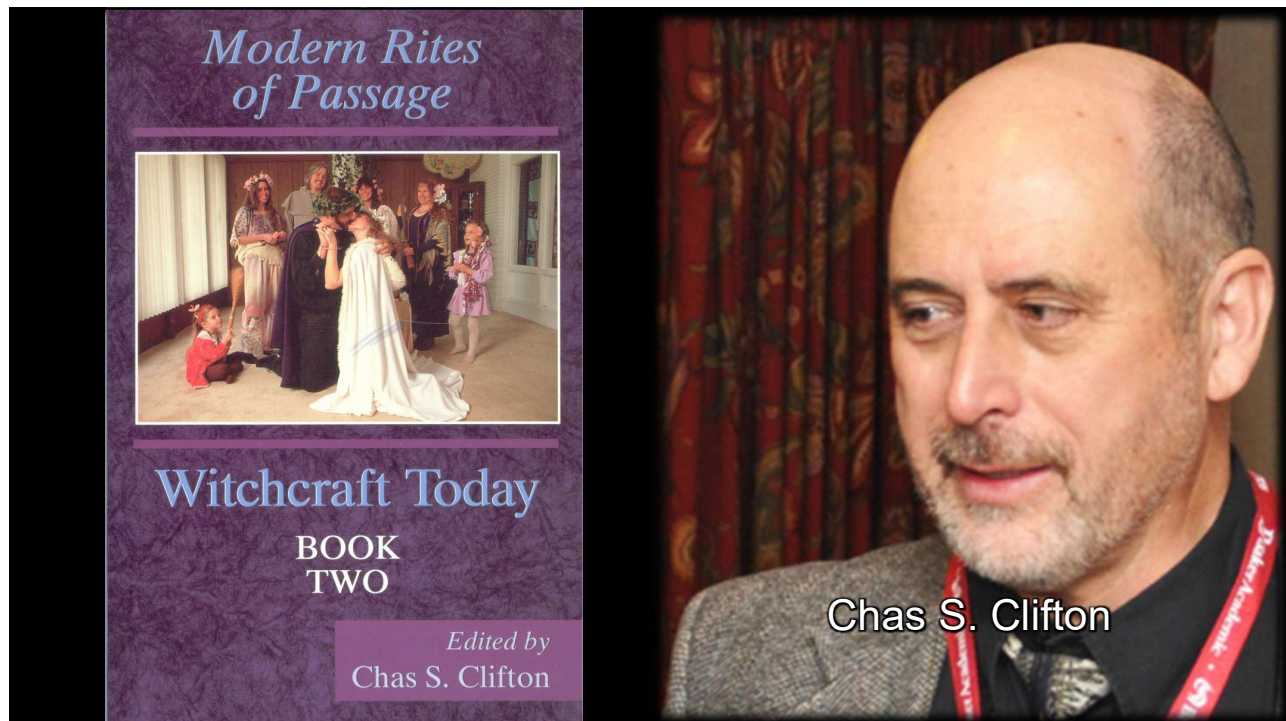
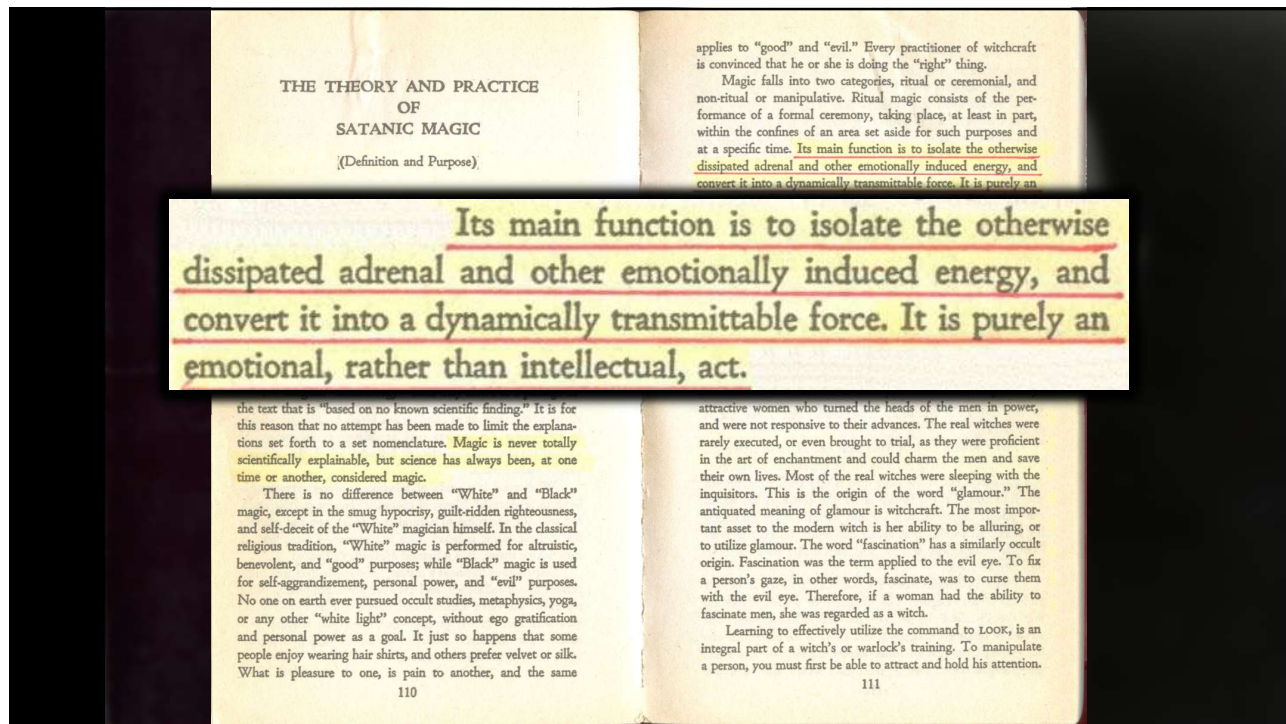
***You will hear both
personal and impersonal
terms to refer to this force.***







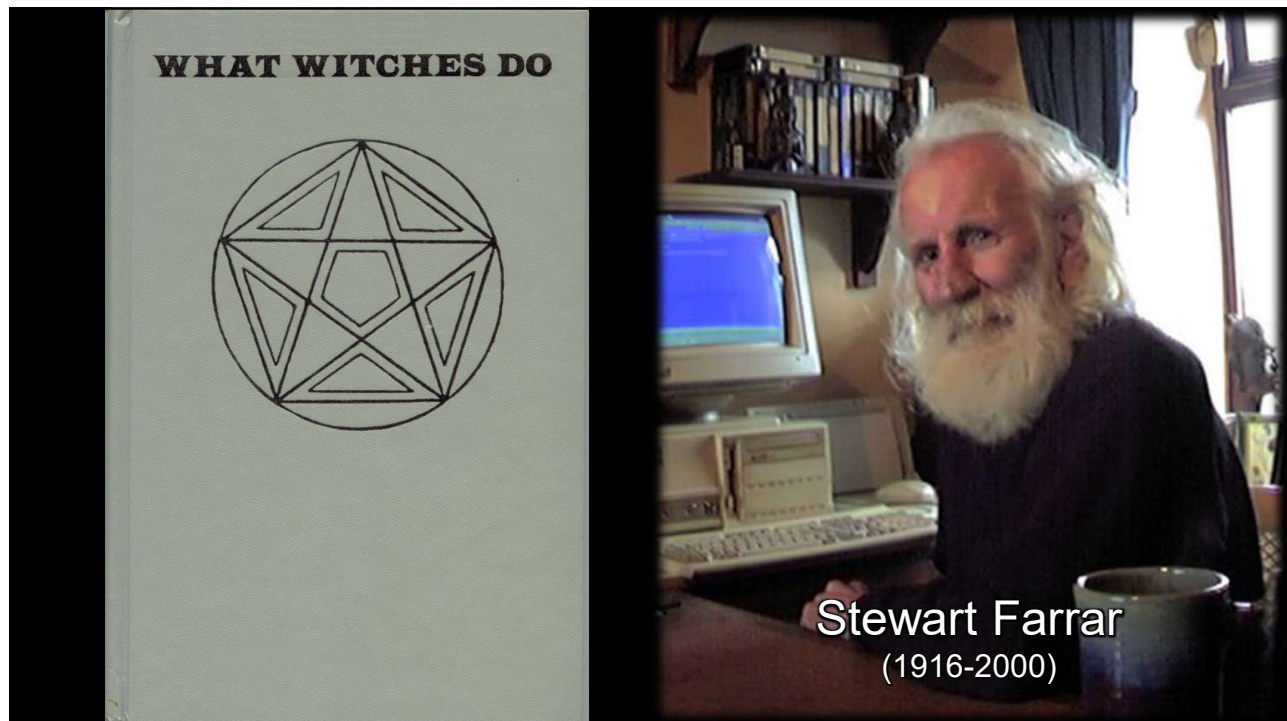


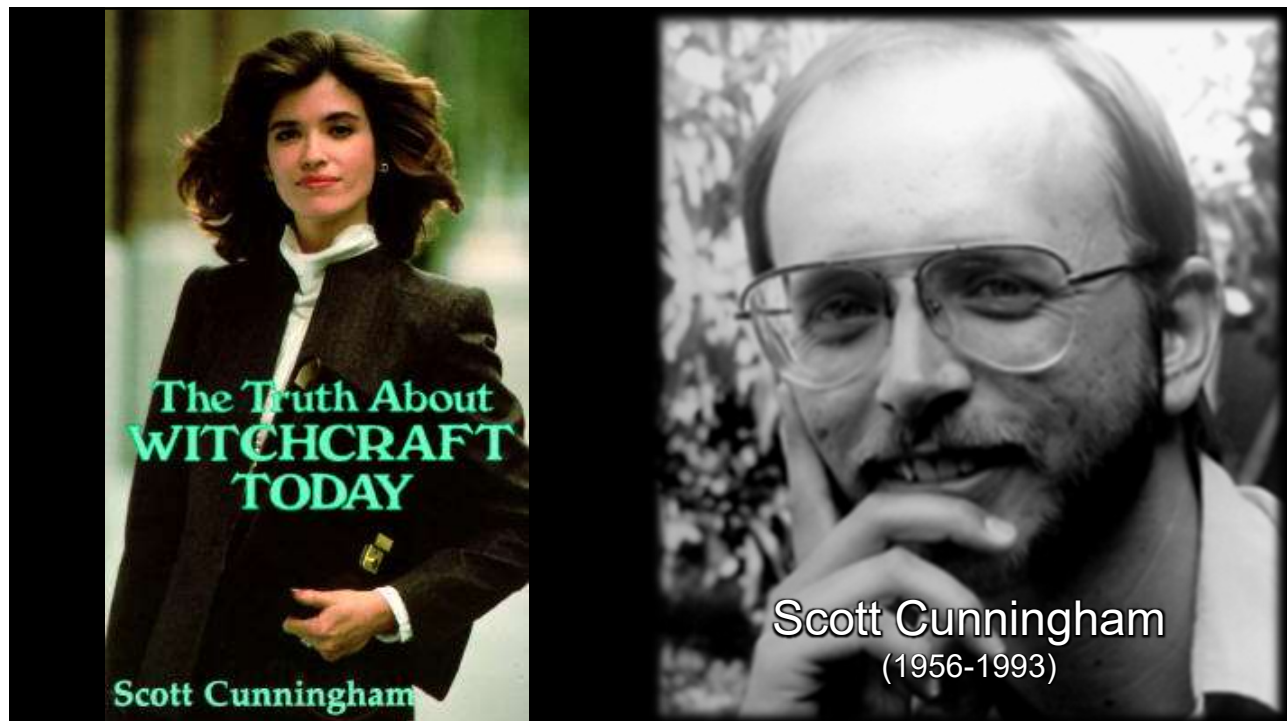
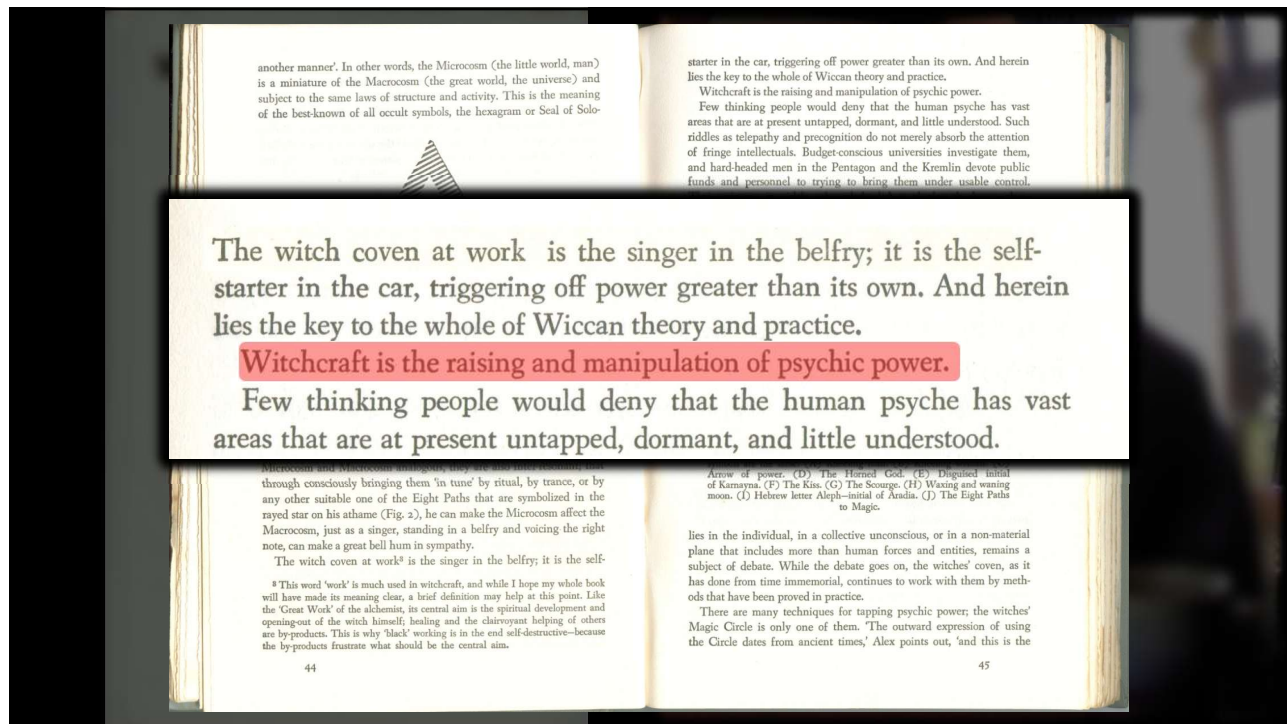


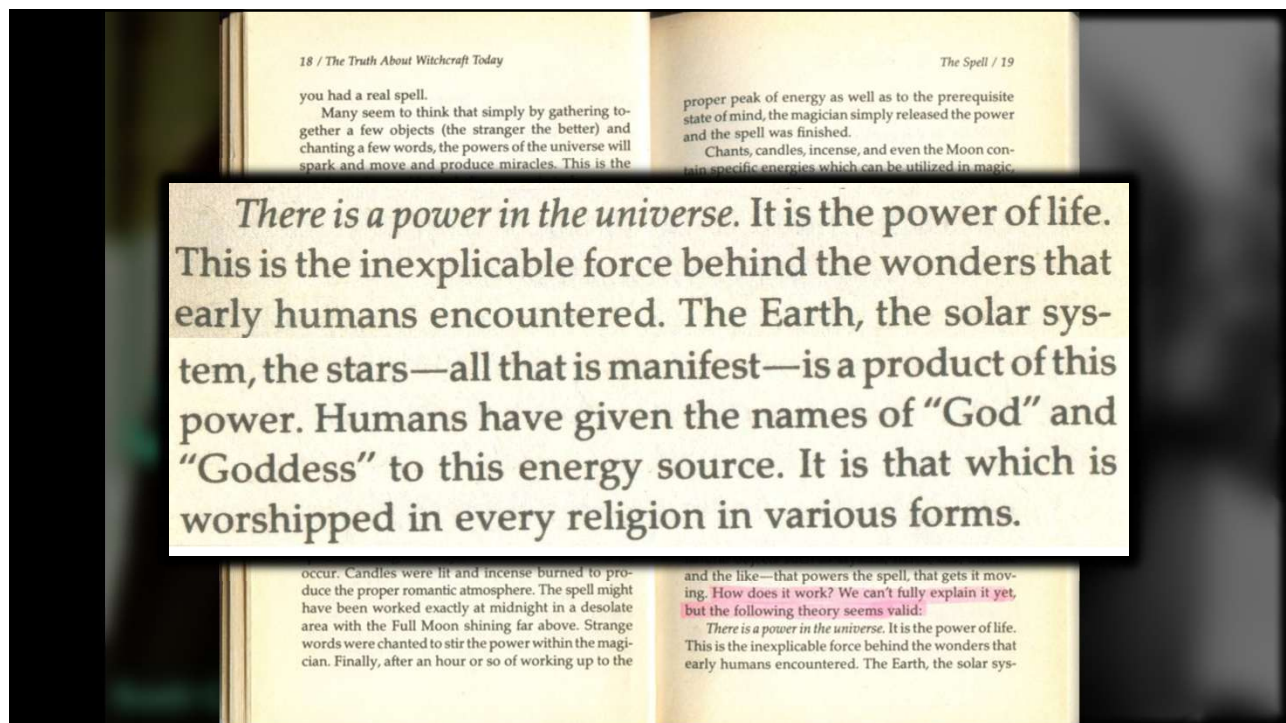
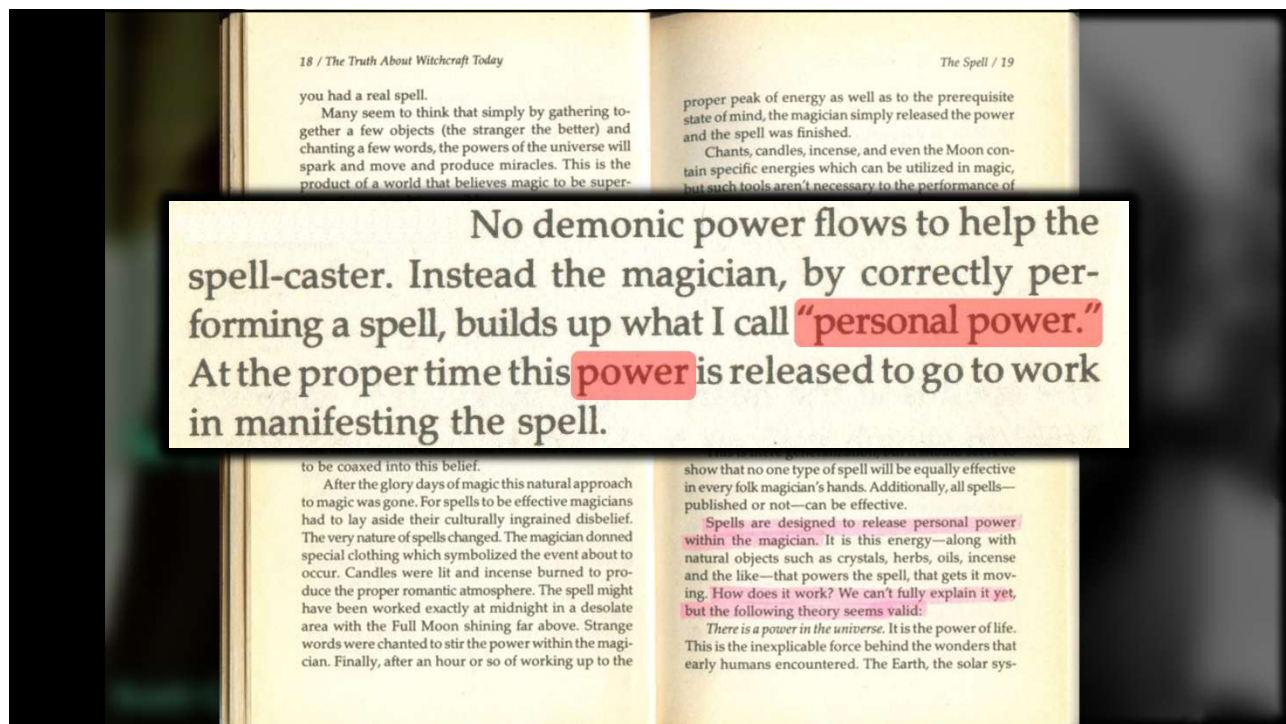
1. We practice rites to attune ourselves with the **natural rhythm of life forces** marked by the full of the Moon and seasonal quarters and cross-quarters.

3. We acknowledge **a depth of power** far greater than that apparent to the average person. Because it is far greater than ordinary, it is sometimes called “supernatural,” but we see it as lying within that which is naturally potential to all.

4. We conceive of the **Creative Power in the Universe** as manifesting through polarity—as masculine and feminine—and that this same **Creative Power** lives in all people, and functions through the masculine and feminine. We value neither above the other.



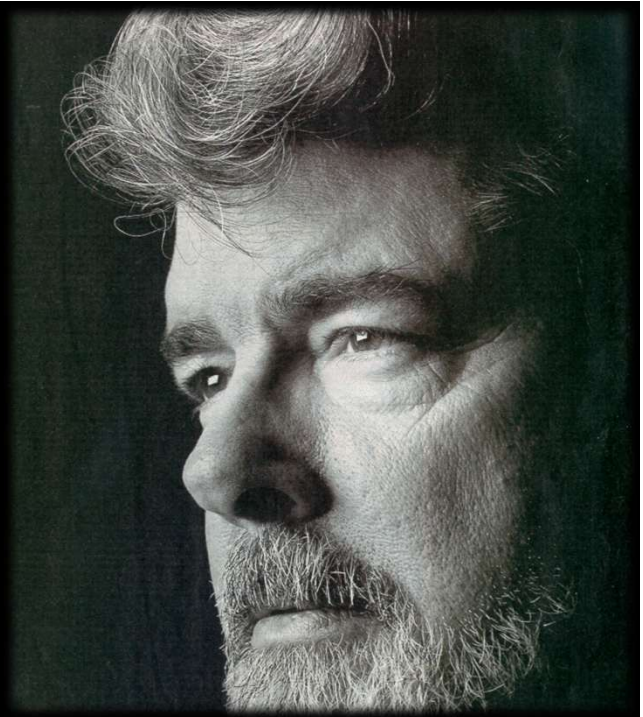




***You even see this notion
of the force making its way
into the entertainment
media.***


George Lucas on *Star Wars*

***"When I did Star Wars I
consciously set about to
re-create myths and the
classic mythological
motifs and I wanted to
use those motifs to deal
with issues that
existed today."***

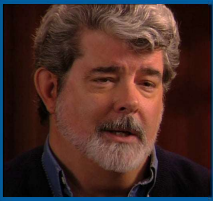


Moyers & company TOPICS | VIDEO | TAKE ACTION | GUESTS | SHOWS

SPOTLIGHT | The Fight to Vote | Trans-Pacific Partnership | Money & Politics | Climate Change | Economic Inequality | Bill's Essays | Morning Reads

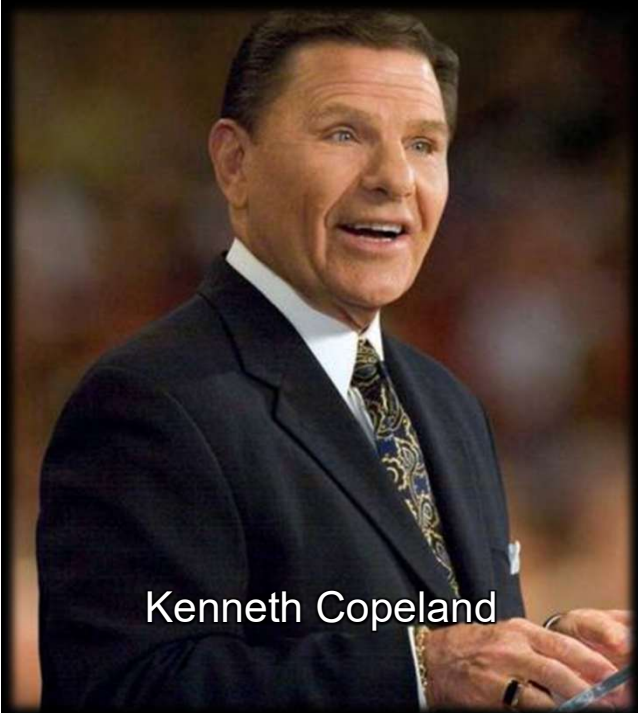


"Ultimately, doesn't it take, particularly in religion, a leap of faith? Kierkegaard's leap of faith?"

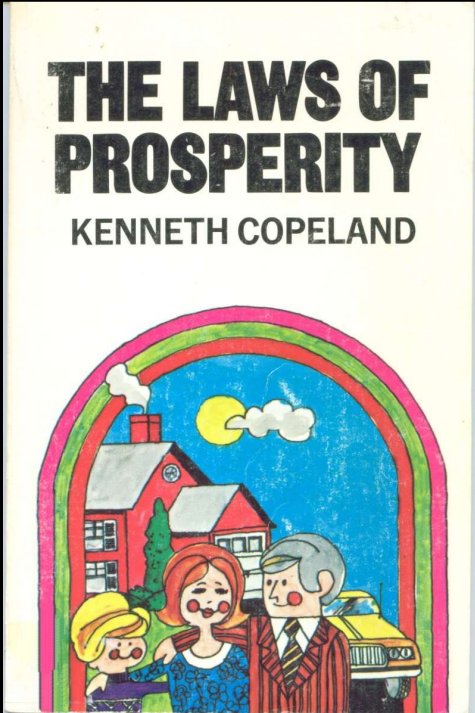


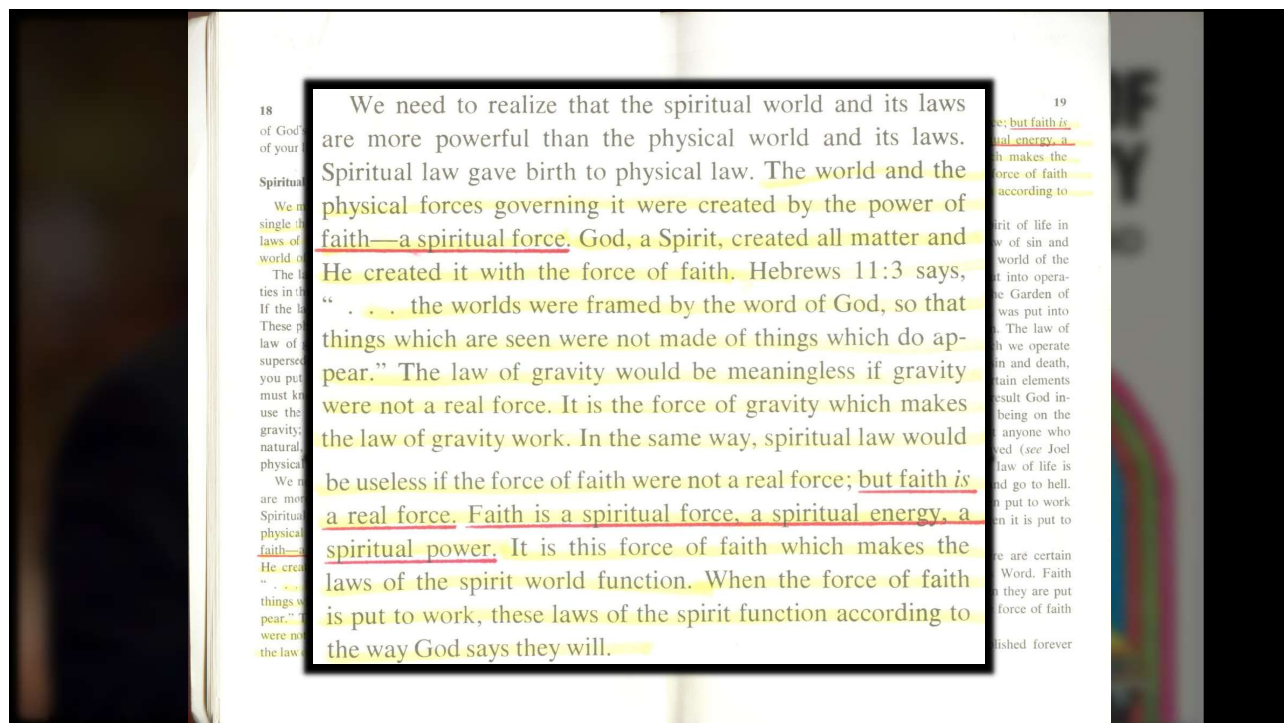
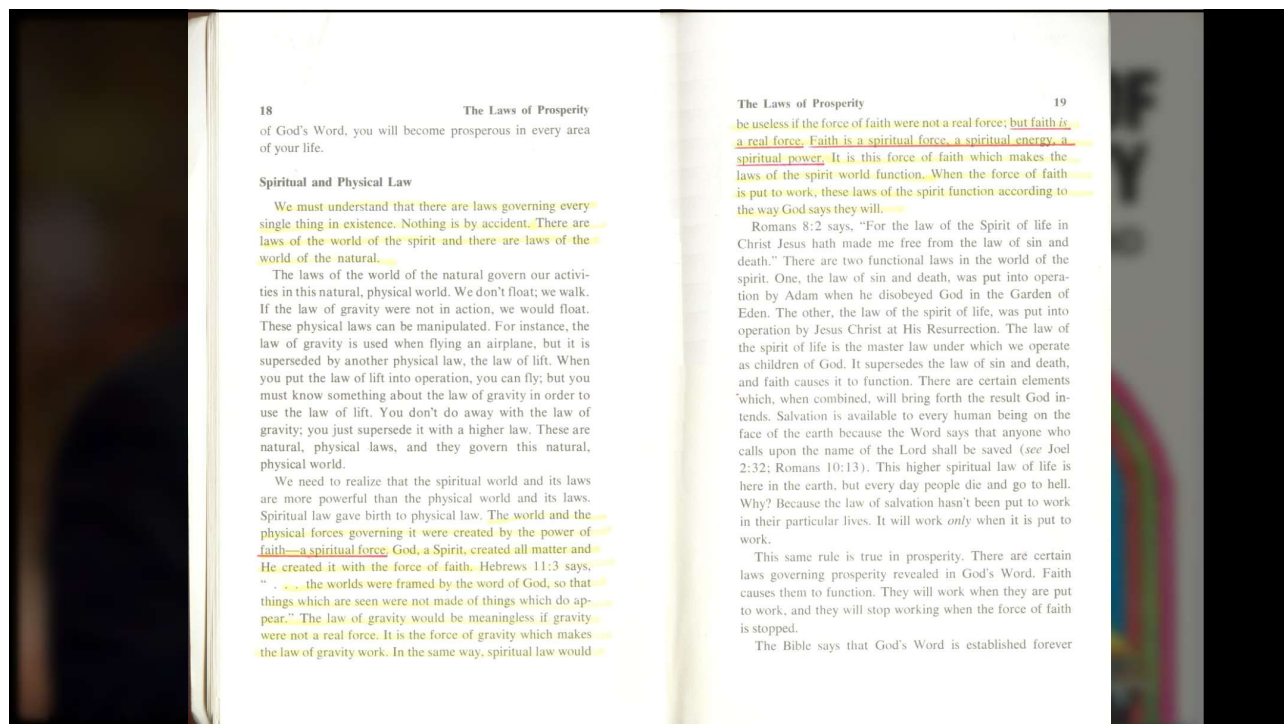
George Lucas

"Yes. Yes. Definitely. And that's, that's ... you'll notice Luke uses that quite a bit through the films. Not to rely on his senses, not to rely on the computers, not to ... but to rely on faith. That is what 'Use the Force' is, is a leap of faith, that there are mysteries and powers larger than we are and you have to trust your feelings in order to access these things."



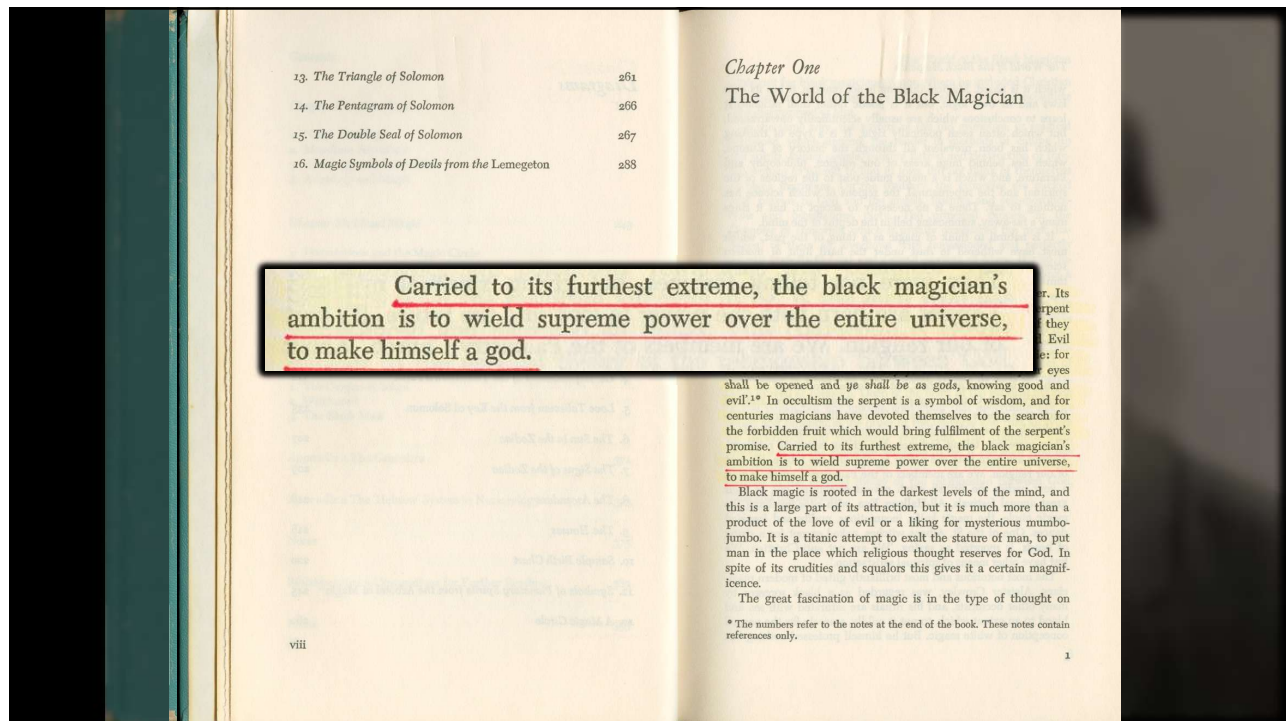
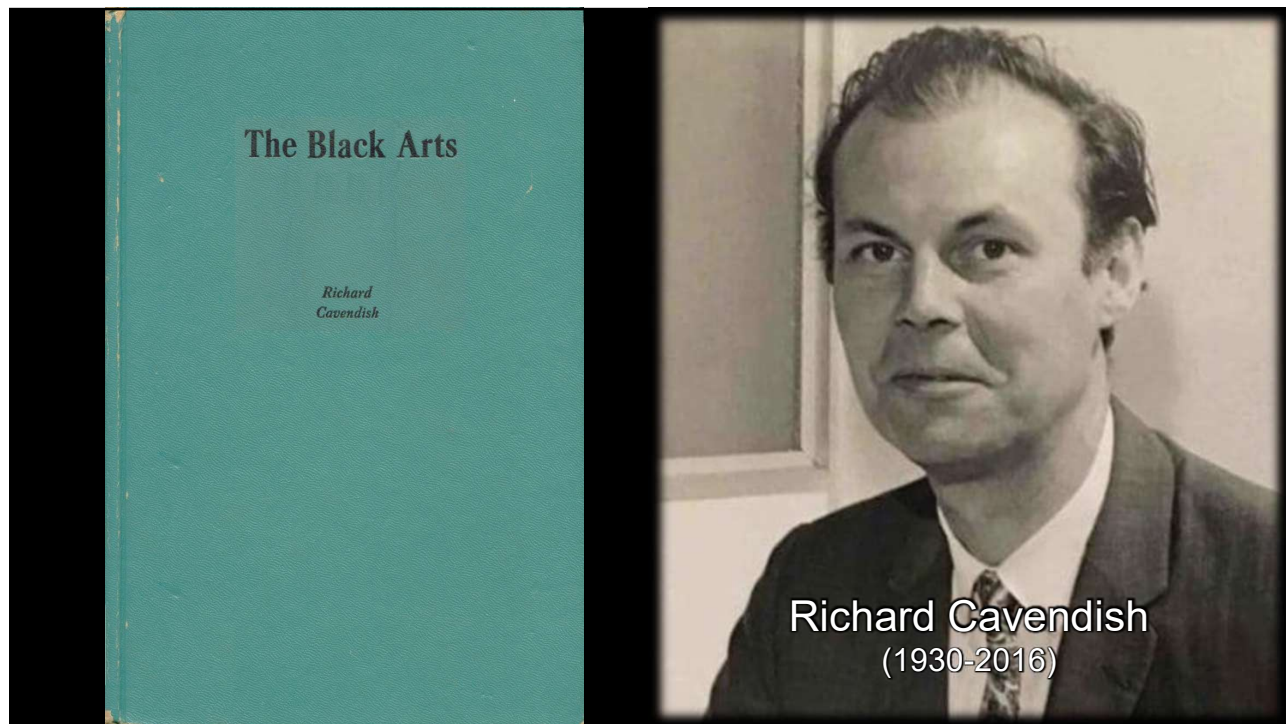
Kenneth Copeland

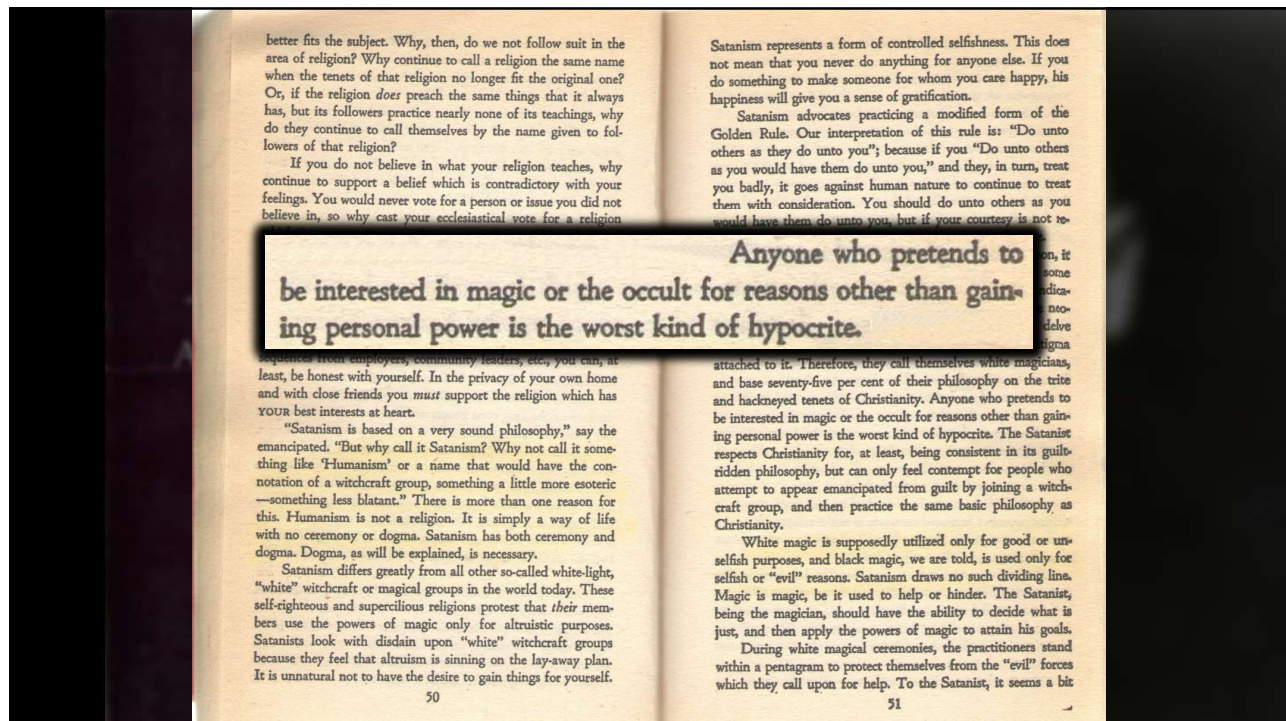
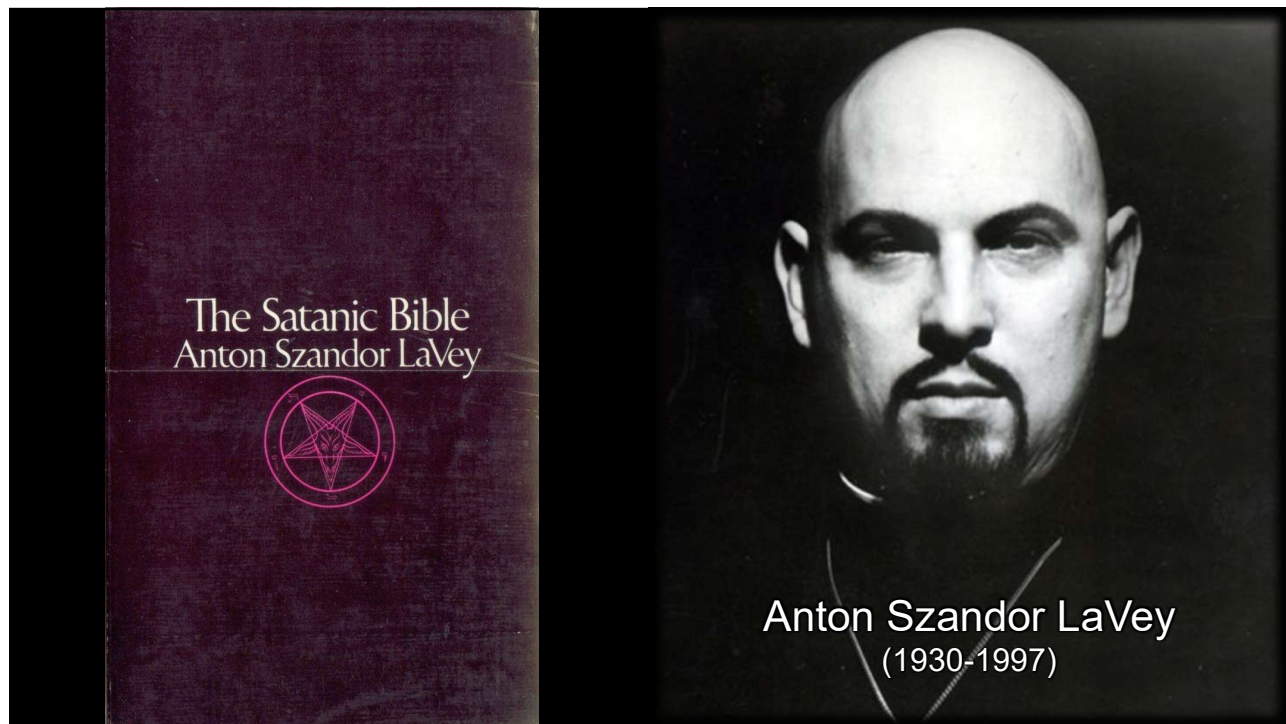


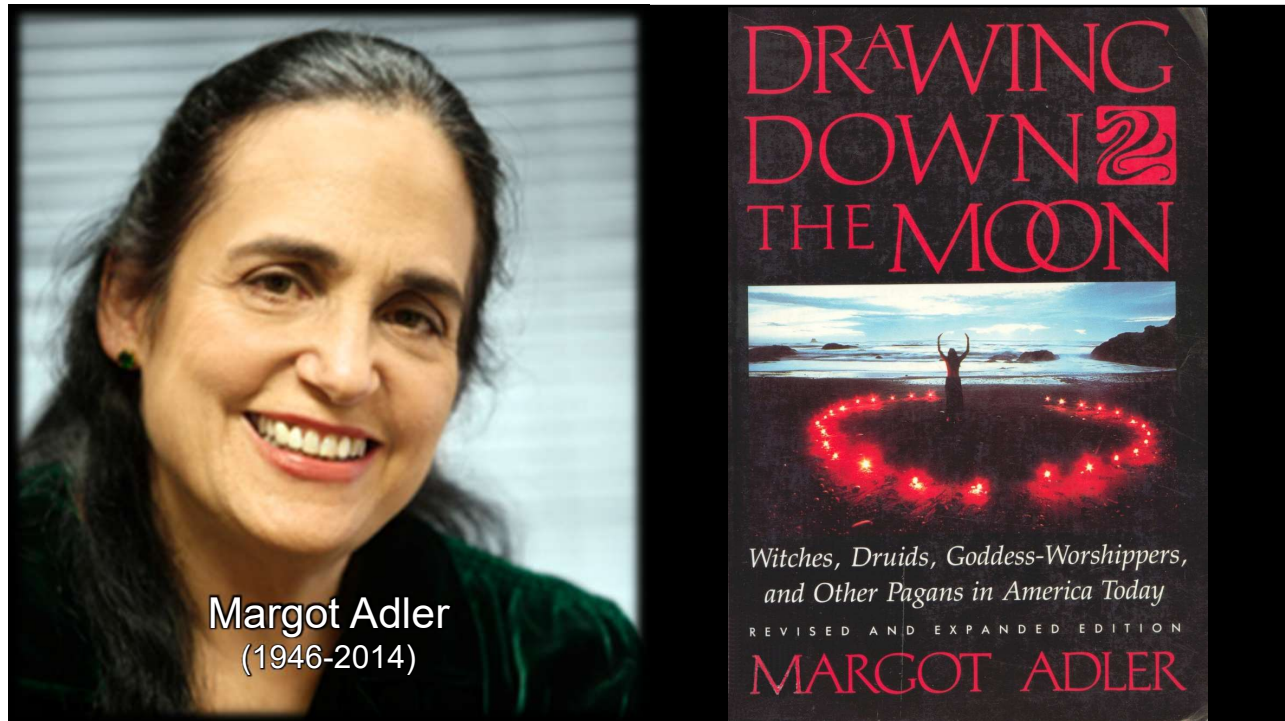


Human Divinity

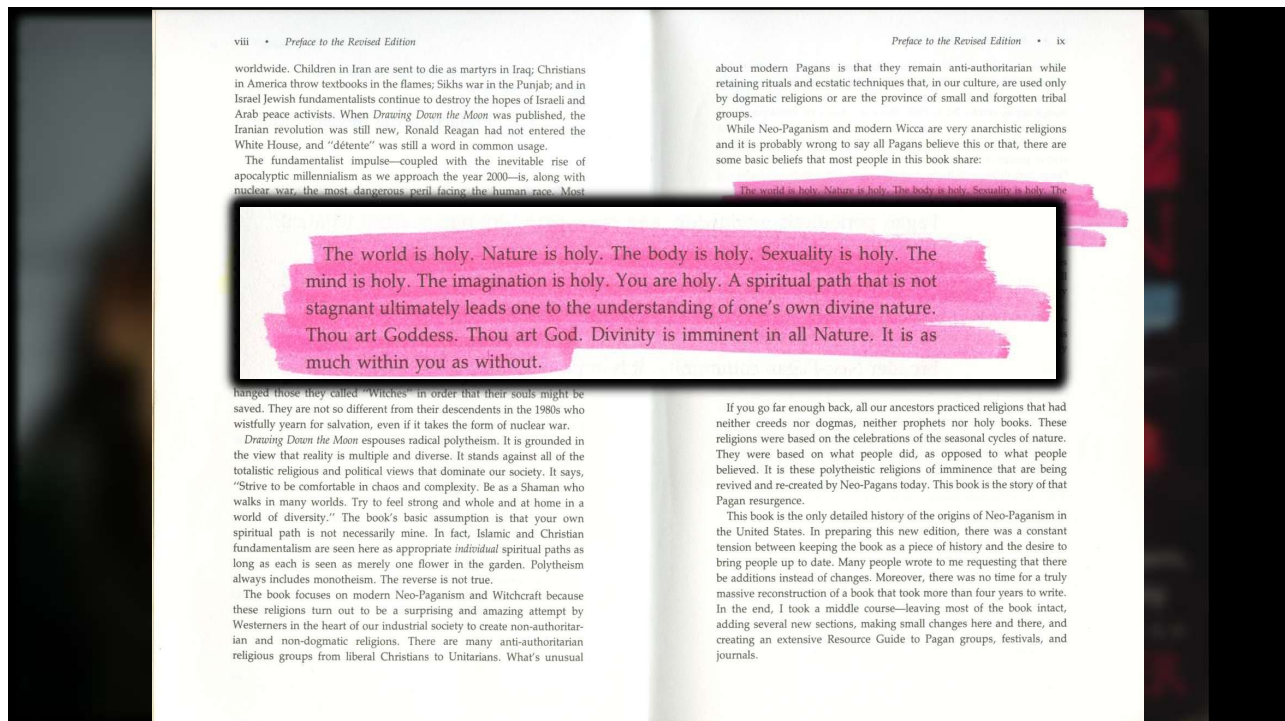


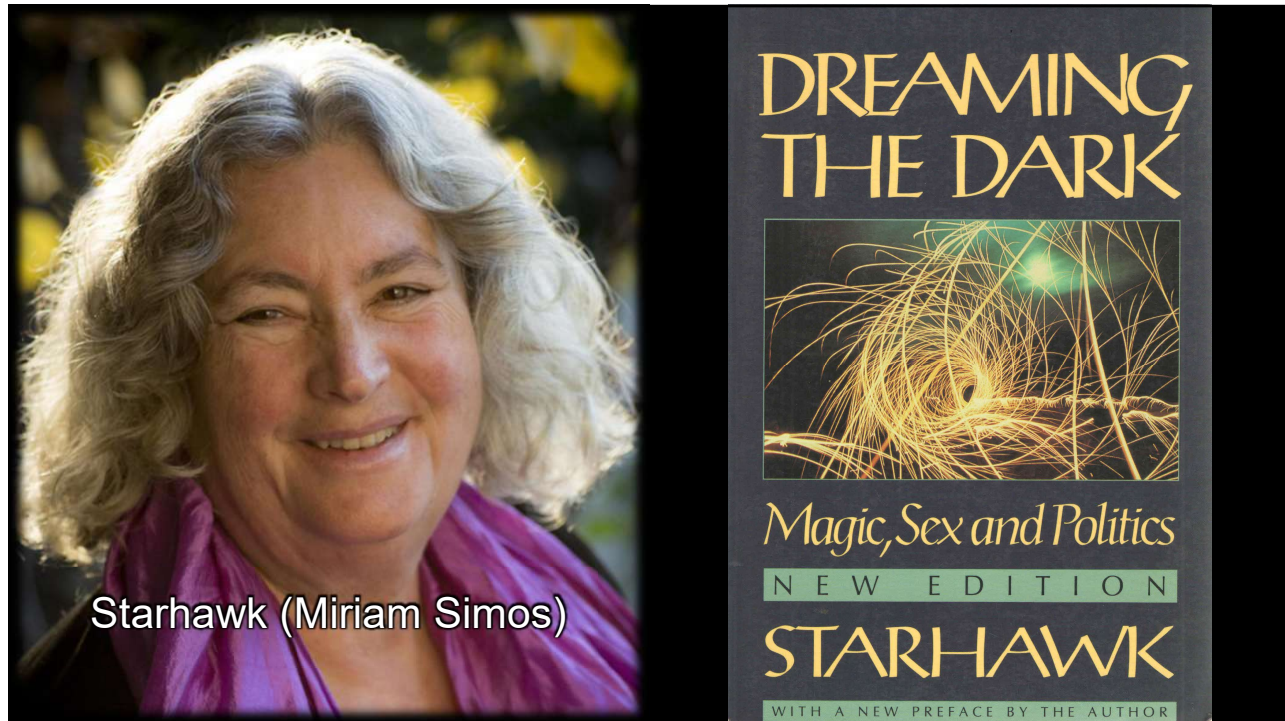




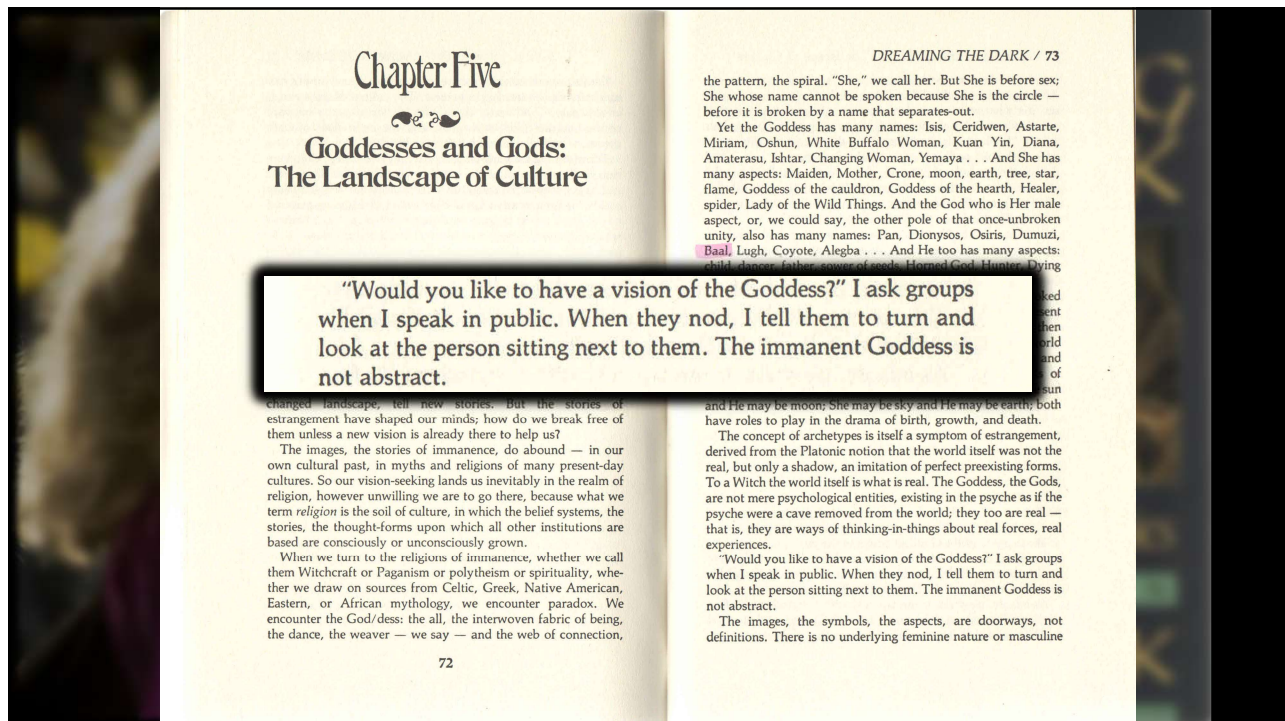


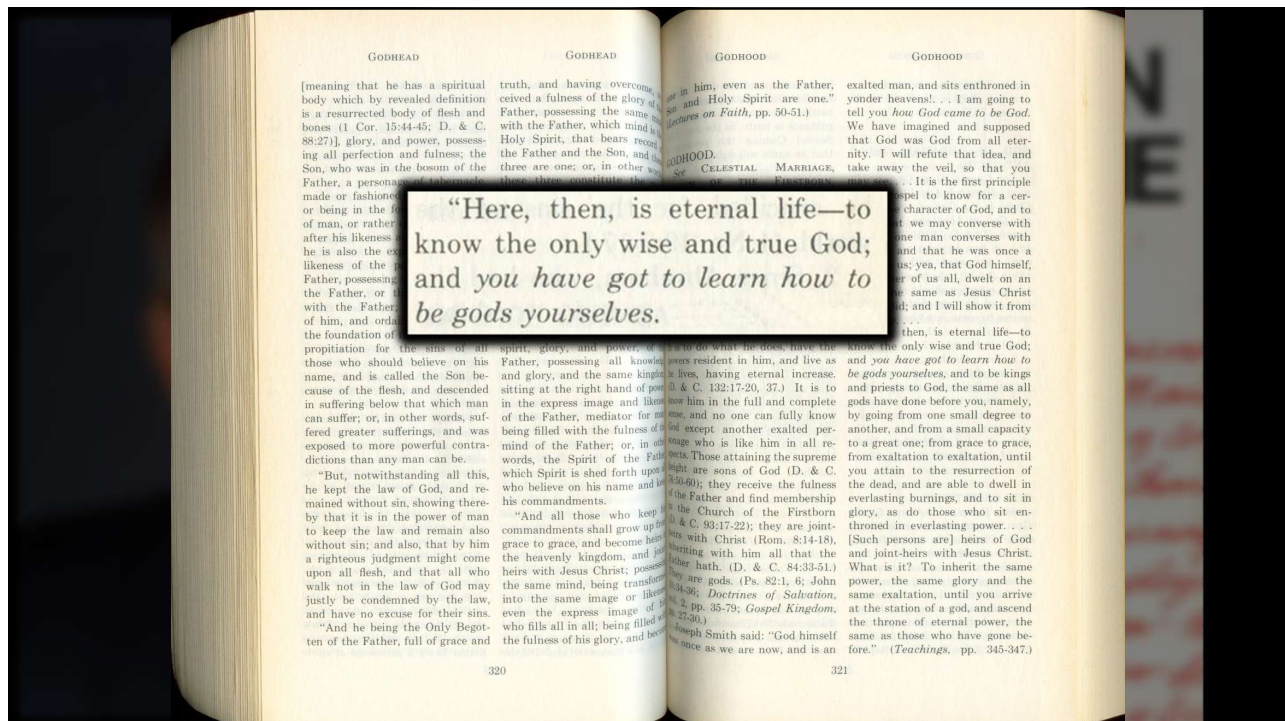
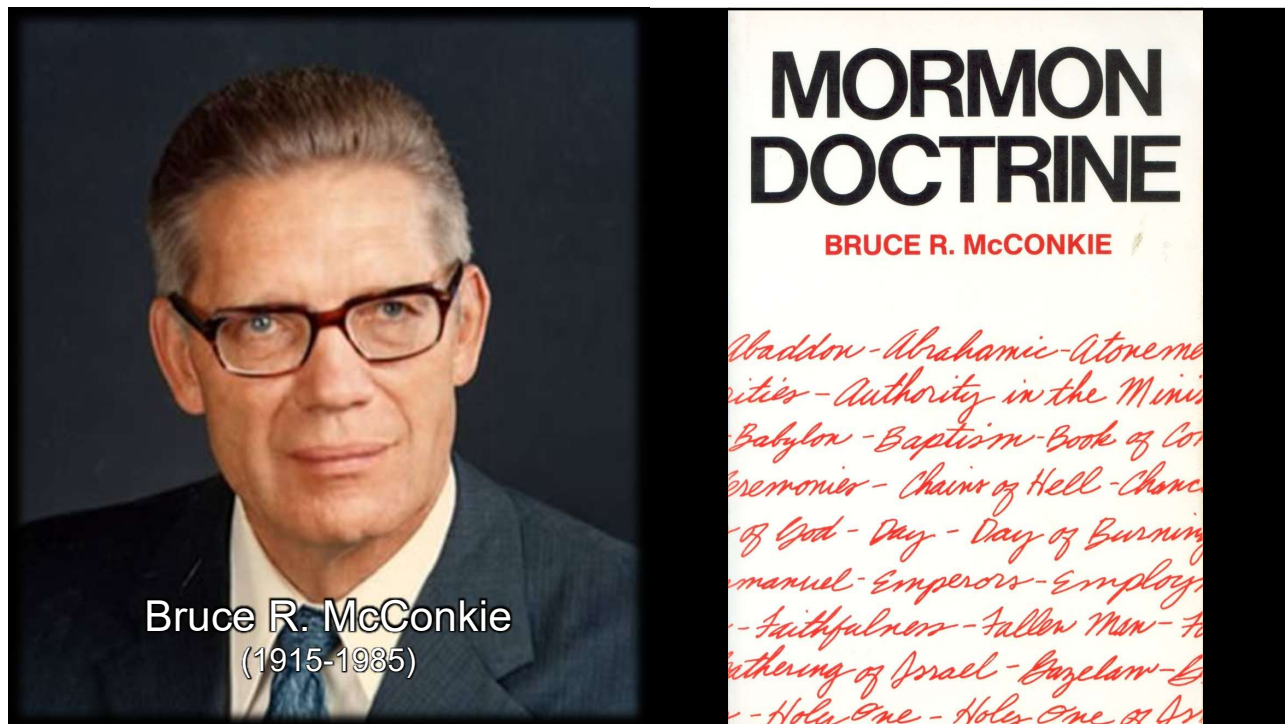
Margot Adler
(1946-2014)

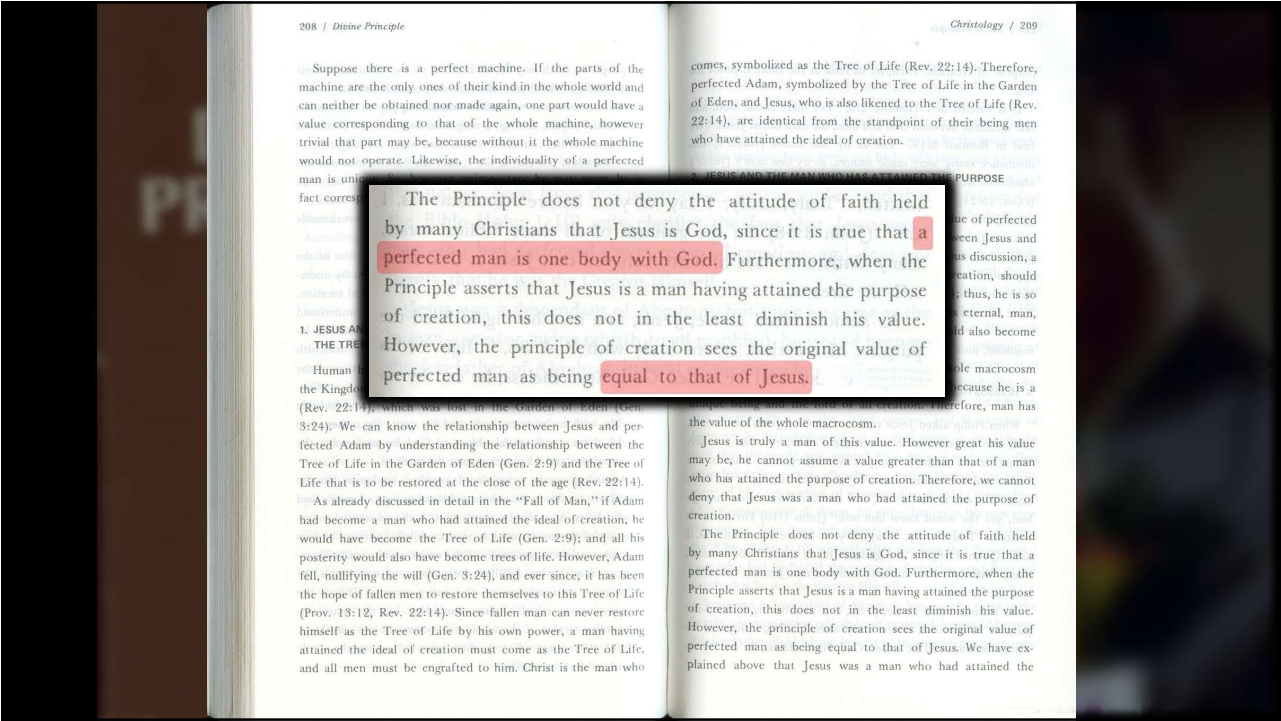


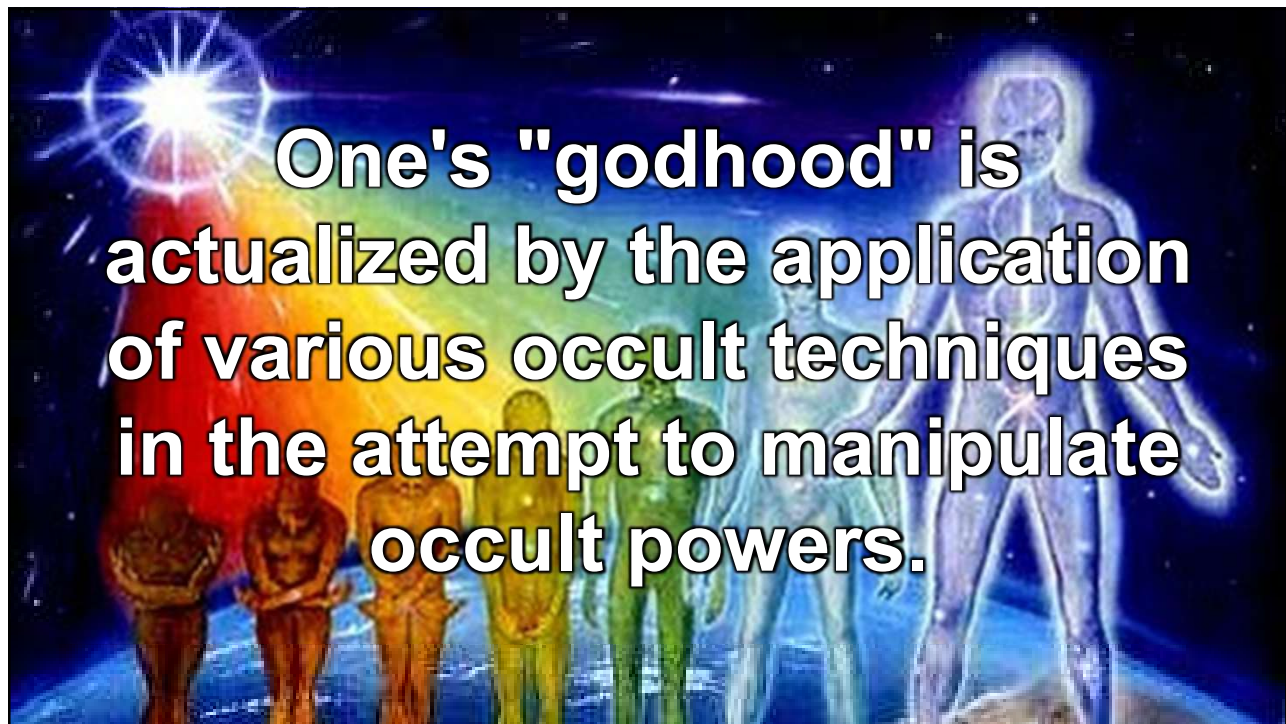


Starhawk (Miriam Simos)

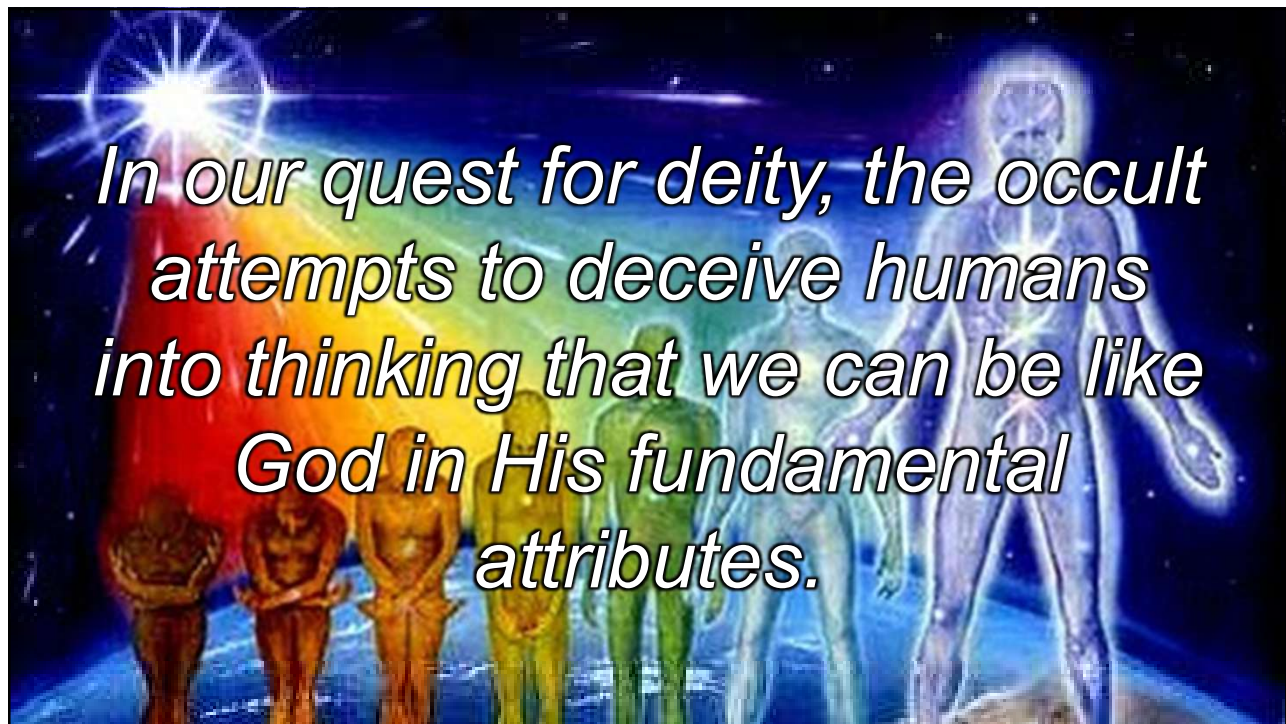












❧ Counterfeiting God's Omniscience ❧

Illicitly Seeking to Overcome Our Created Limits of Knowledge

clairvoyance, fortune-telling, mind reading, ESP, Ouija Board, Tarot Cards, crystal balls, dowsing rods, palm reading, spiritism, necromancy, channeling, etc.



☞Counterfeiting God's Omnipresence☞

Illicitly Seeking to Overcome Our Created Limits of Space

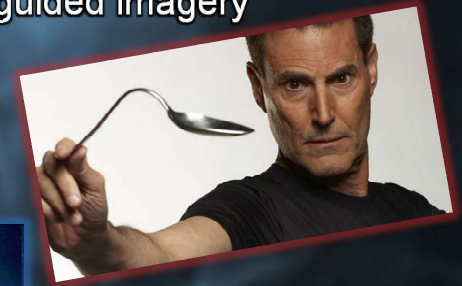
**astral travel, out-of-the-body experience,
time travel, remote viewing**

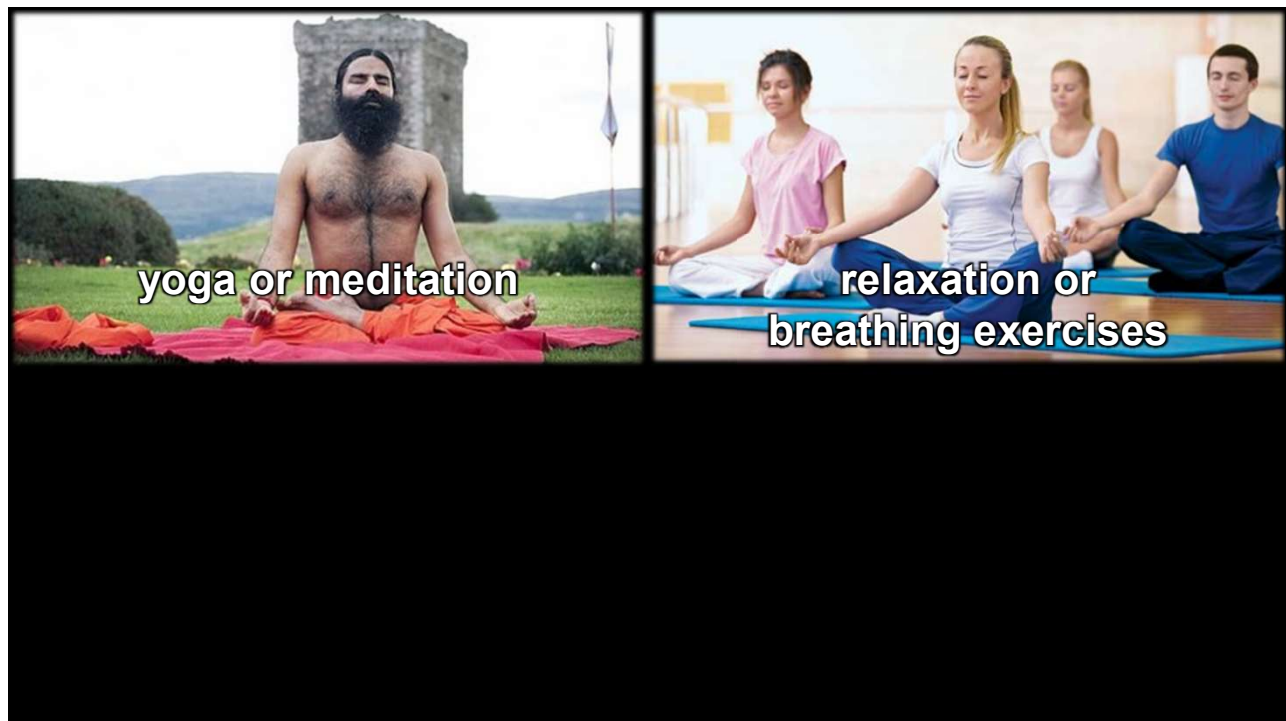
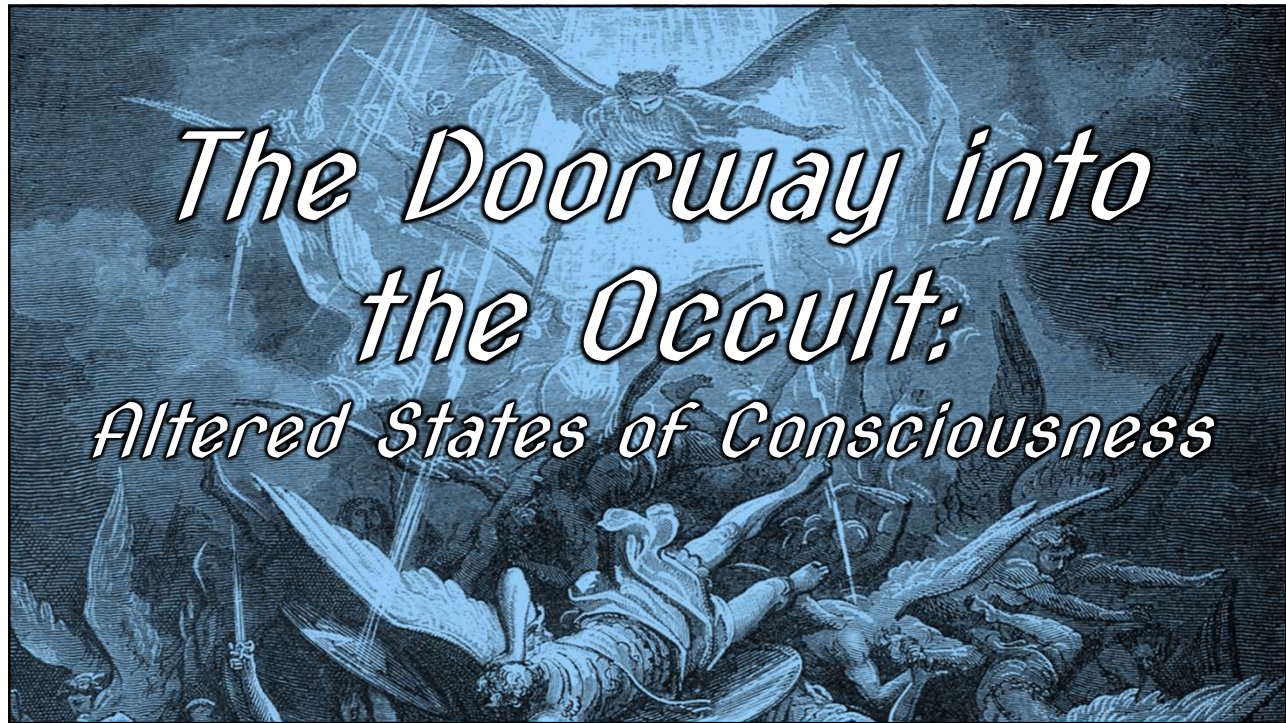


☞Counterfeiting God's Omnipotence☞

Illicitly Seeking to Overcome Our Created Limits of Power

**psychokinesis, mind power, mind control, spells, incantations,
visualization, creative imagination, guided imagery**





LET'S IMAGINE:**I Can Say "No" When I Need To**

To Be Read Aloud Slowly:

Let's take a moment to use our imaginations. Relax and get comfortable with both feet on the floor. Let your shoulders relax, and let your arms and hands rest in a comfortable way. Let your head relax. You can let it fall forward a little if that helps you relax. Let your whole body work as if it were in slow motion. Close your eyes, but not tight. Take slow, deep breaths. When you let your breath out, you might feel as if you could sink into your chair.

When you feel relaxed, begin to feel "strength" coming to you. It may come from someplace inside you, or it may come from somewhere else. Wherever it comes from, enjoy the feeling of strength filling you up and being all around you.

The strength that you are feeling is the same strength that will help you when you have to choose whether you will do what you think is right or what you think is wrong. It is the strength that helps you to do hard things, like to say "No" when you need to.

Take a moment to enjoy the strong feeling that will help you. How does it feel to your body...? Does it make certain parts of your body, like your shoulders, feel strong and powerful...? Imagine the sound of your voice when you might need to say "No." Imagine yourself strong and sure that you can do what you need to do.

METHOD

Sit comfortably, relaxing the body as much as possible without slumping or allowing the spine to curve. Help loosen tight muscles by doing the following exercises:

- 1: Allow the head to fall forward on the chest. Breathe deeply in and out three times. Return to the upright position.

Now, with your body relaxing and breathing normally but deeply, concentrate your thoughts until you can imagine your whole body encased in a globe of white light. Feel the luminous energy charging your whole body.

LET'S IMAGINE:



I Can Say "No" When I Need To

To Be Read Aloud Slowly:

Let's take a moment to use our imaginations. Relax and get comfortable with both feet on the floor. Let your shoulders relax, and let your arms and hands rest in a comfortable way. Let your head relax. You can let it fall forward a little if that helps you relax. Let your whole body work as if it were in slow motion. Close your eyes, but not tight. Take slow, deep breaths. When you let your breath out, you might feel as if you could sink into your chair.

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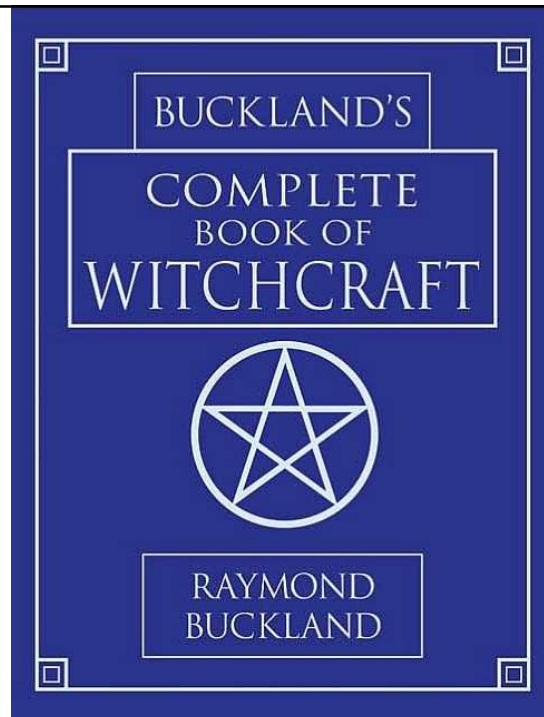
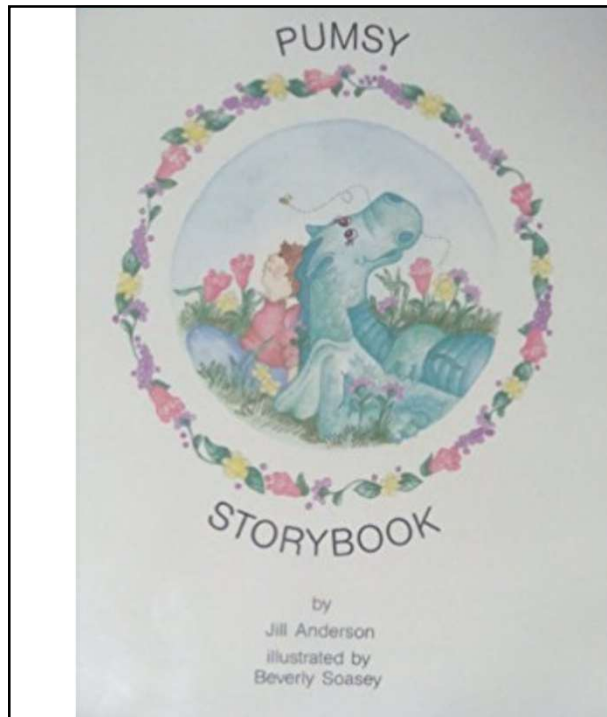
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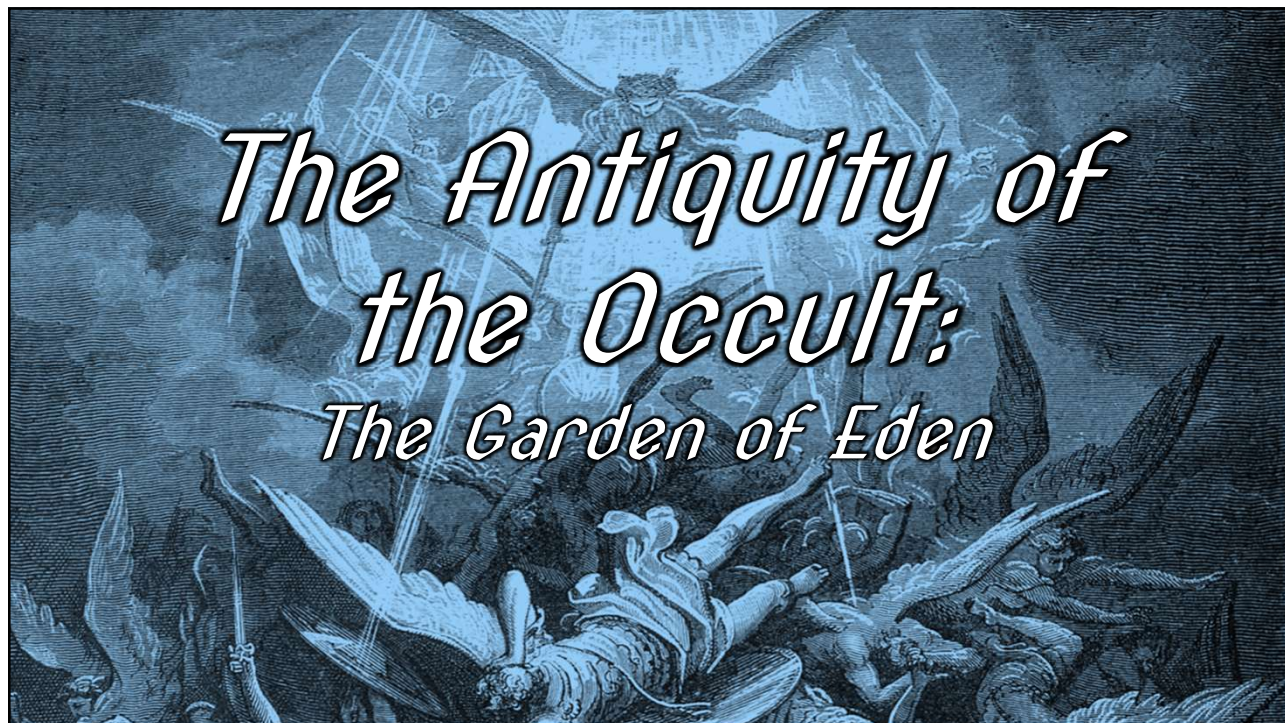
METHOD

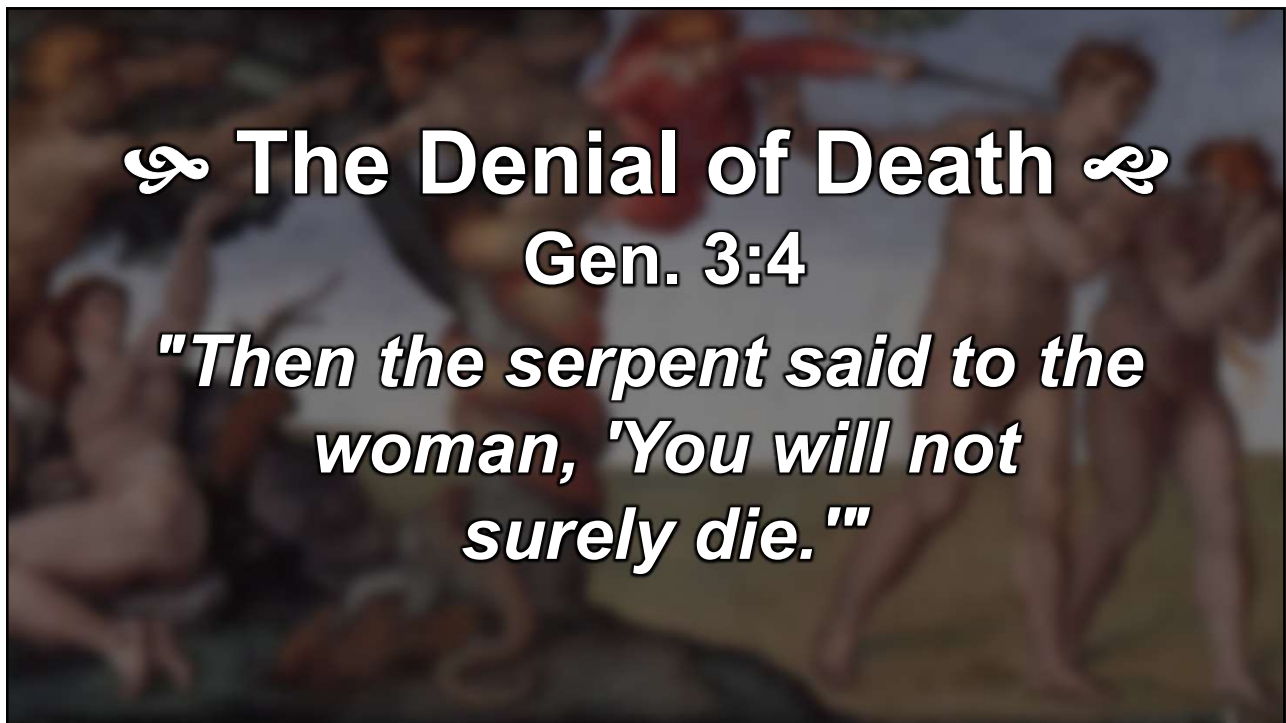
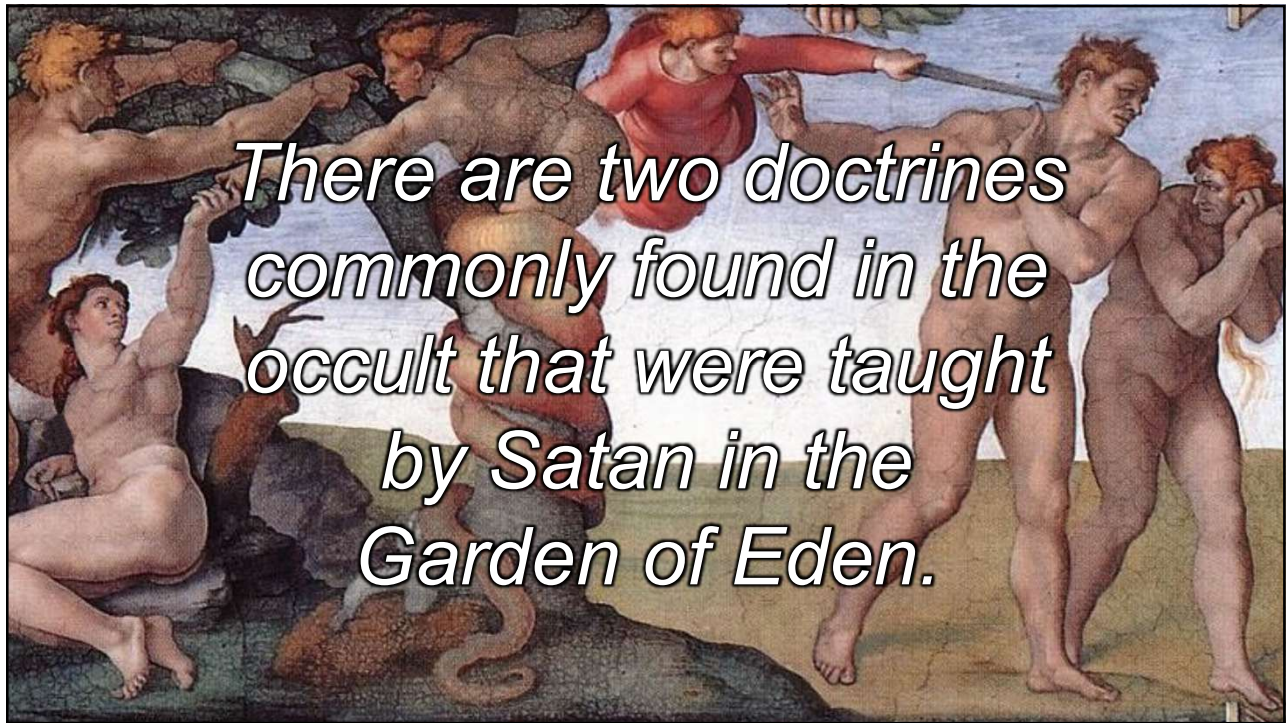
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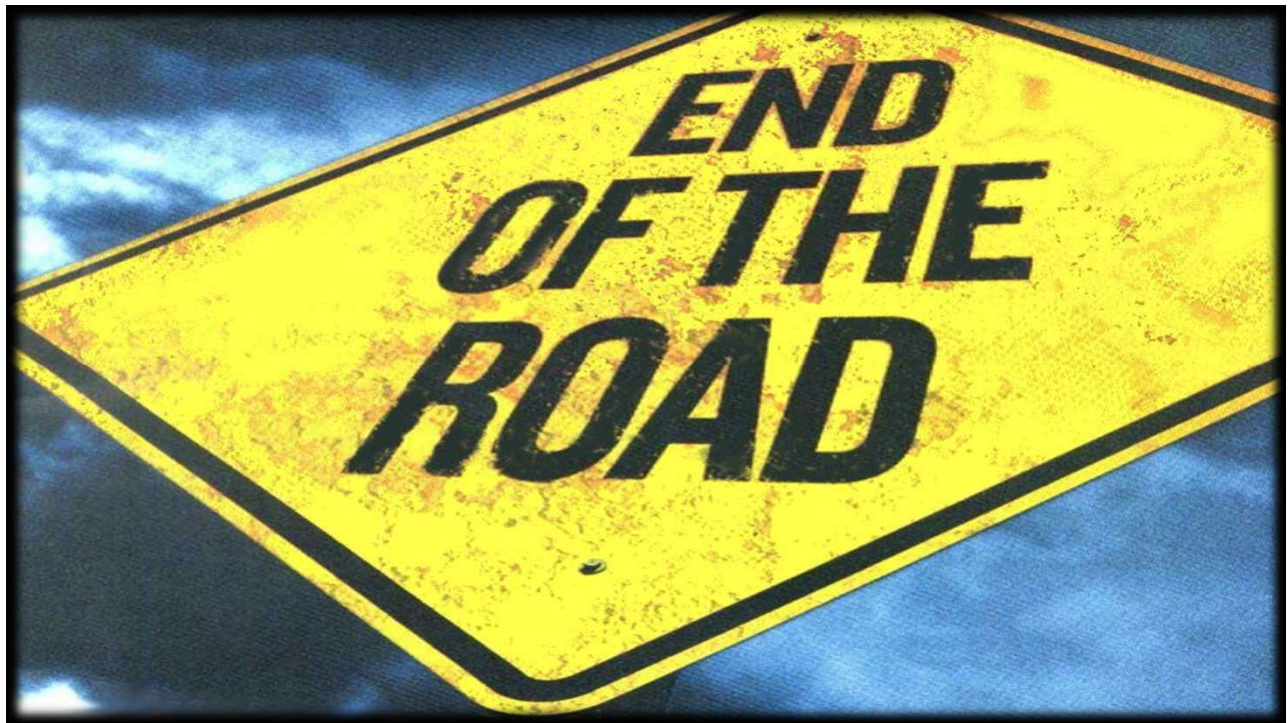
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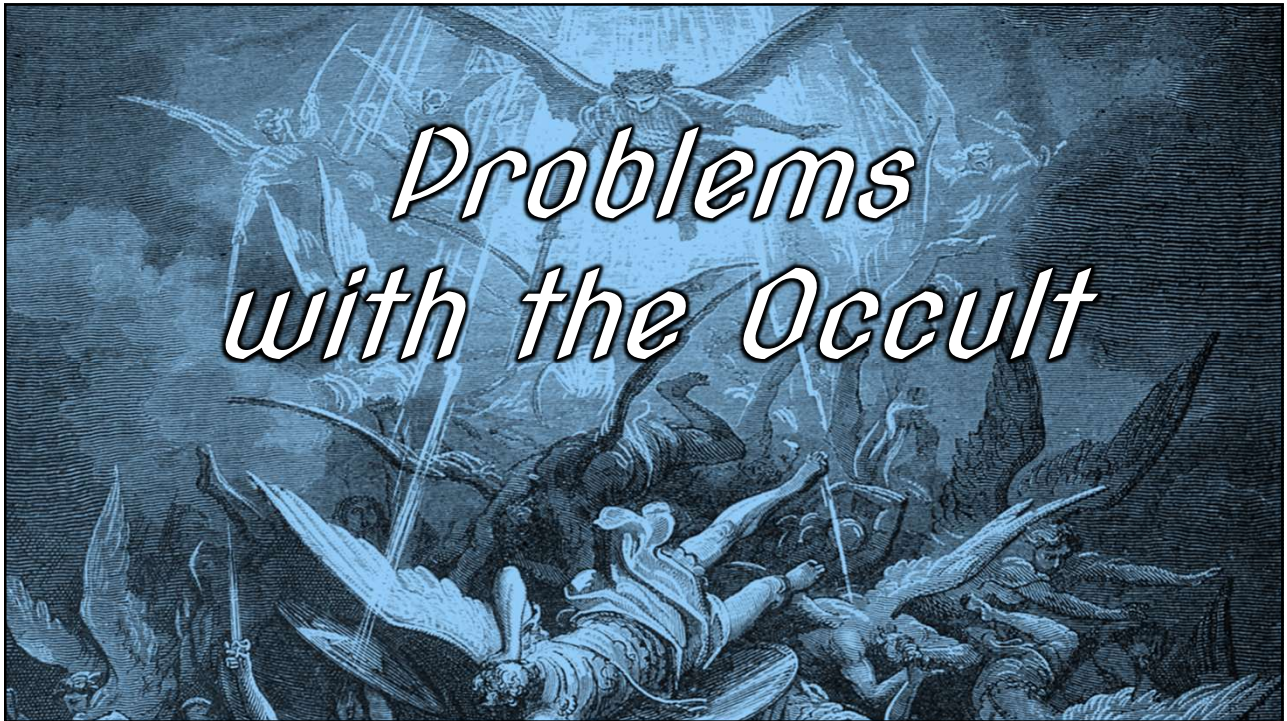


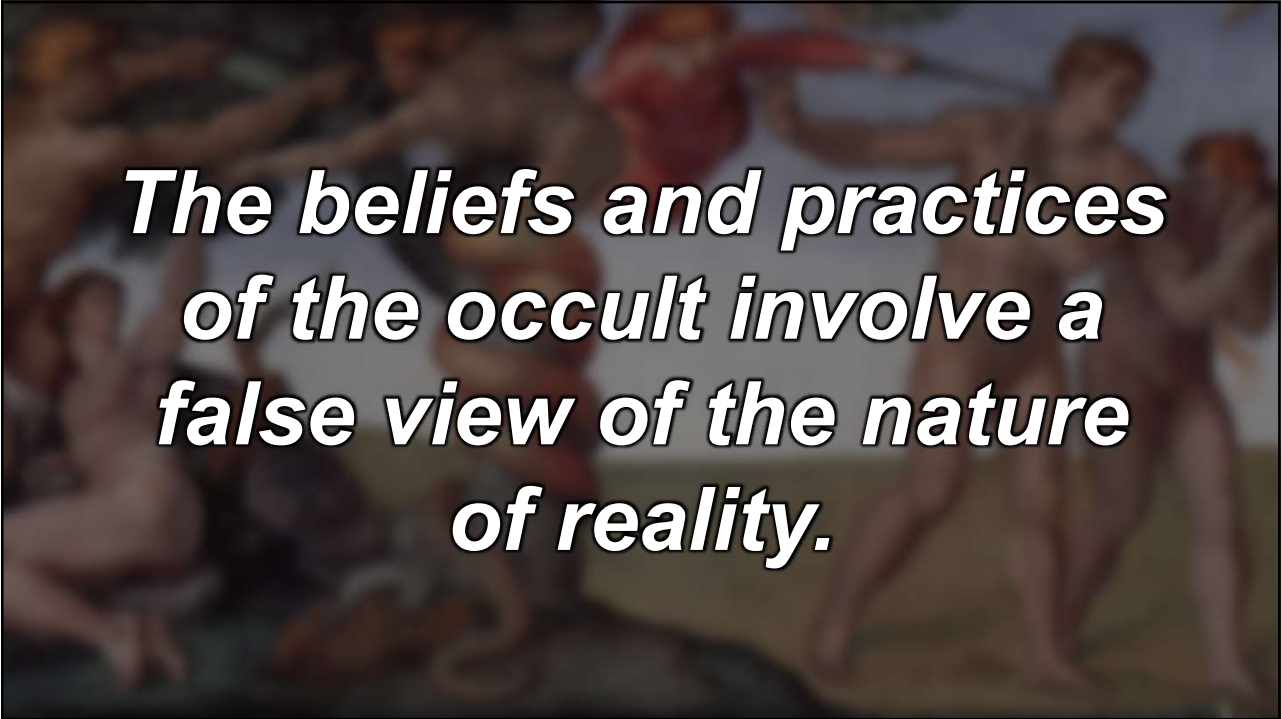
∞ Human Divinity ∞

Gen. 3:5

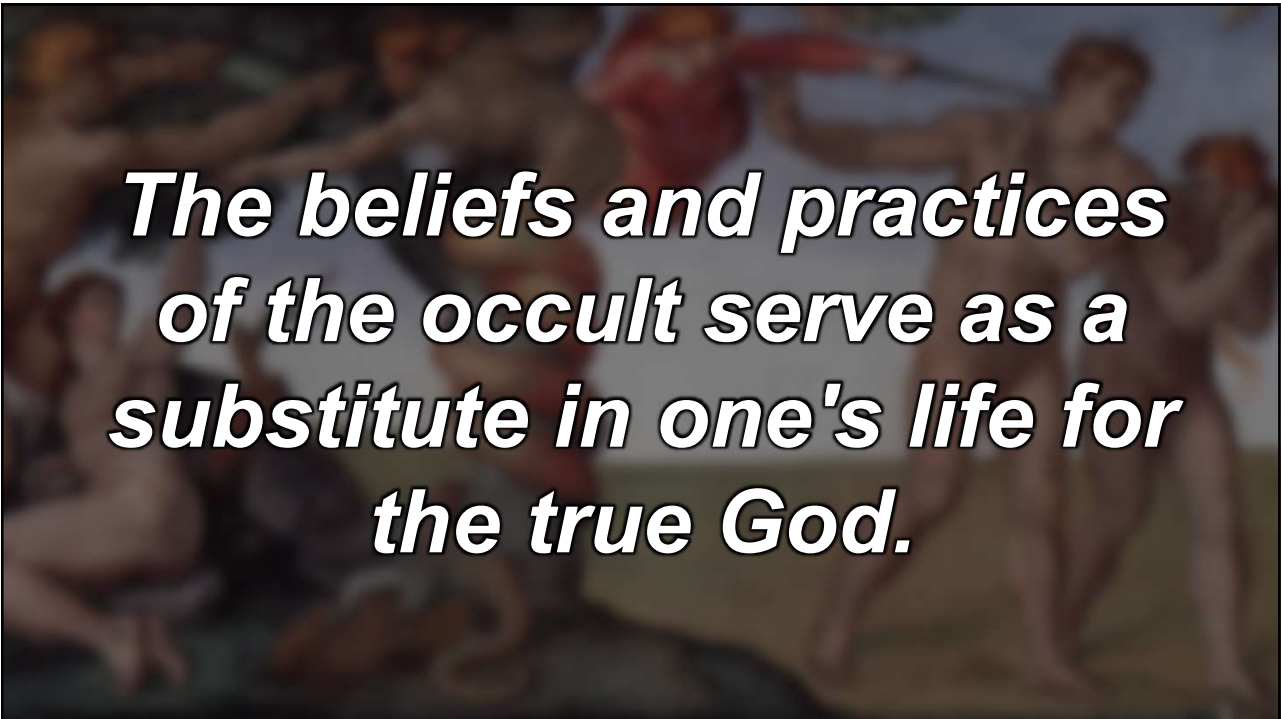
*"For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and **you will be like God**, knowing good and evil."*

*Problems
with the Occult*

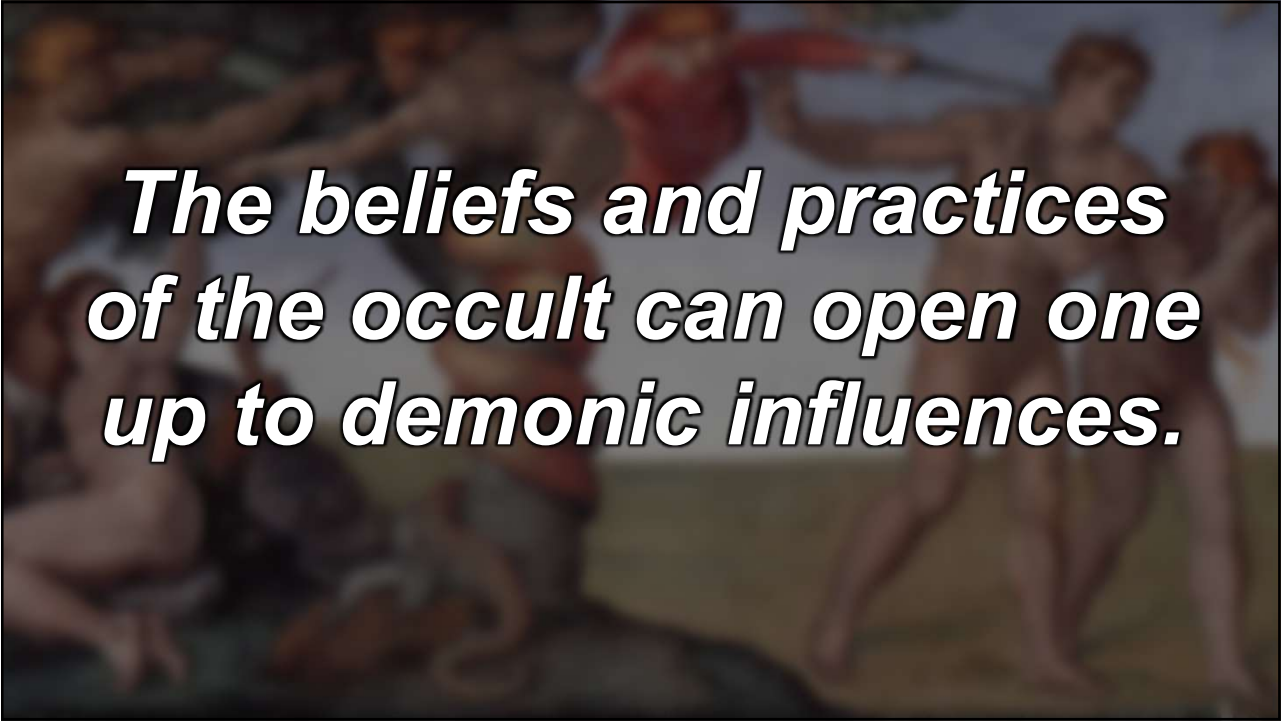




***The beliefs and practices
of the occult involve a
false view of the nature
of reality.***



***The beliefs and practices
of the occult serve as a
substitute in one's life for
the true God.***



***The beliefs and practices
of the occult can open one
up to demonic influences.***



***The Truth
about the Occult***

*The Bible teaches that the spiritual realm is real
but not in the way the occult teaches.*

(Acts 8:9, 11; 13:6-8; 16:16; Rev. 18:23)

The Bible teaches that the occult is forbidden.

(Deut. 18:10-12)

*The Bible teaches that these occult "powers"
and teachings are from Satan.*

(Gen. 3:1-6; 2 Thess. 2:9-10; 1 Tim. 4:1)

✠ 2 Thessalonians 3:16 ✠

***"Now may the Lord of peace
Himself give you peace
always in every way. The
Lord be with you all."***