

THIS IS LOR

A WARNING TO THE SDA CHURCH

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INTRODUCTION

Representatives of this new off-shoot, the "Lord Our Righteousness Church" (formerly called "Life Supports") are traveling all over North America. They have already sent missionaries overseas. Their sole targets are Seventh-day Adventist believers. Wherever they go, the agents of LOR amass the wealth of captured Adventists and train new converts to be additional Lorite group leaders.

You will learn in this study how they are devastating Seventh-day Adventist homes, as they take away with them wives, husbands, and children. Read these brief Information sheets carefully. Any day now, they may come to your local community, and you or several of your loved ones may be next. This is the closest thing to Adventist Moonyism to enter among us. Although it is the sheerest fanaticism, faithful Advent believers are routinely caught in the net during the very first meeting they attend. Captivated, brainwashed, they then submit to orders by men who brazenly call themselves god.

Originally entitled "Life Supports," this organization recently officially adopted the name, "The Church, the Lord Our Righteousness." Therefore, throughout this study, we will refer to their organization as LOR, and to them as Lorites, since, as you will learn later in this study, they have very little to do with our precious Lord.

"After preaching the Word of God to warn the people of the errors of Rome, fanatics began passing through the land, destroying souls as they went. Learning of what was happening, Melanchthon said, "There are indeed extraordinary spirits in these men; but what spirits?" But when Martin Luther heard of it, he said, "I always expected that Satan would send us this plague." (Great Controversy, 187).

Over the decades, many plagues from Satan have come to the commandment-keeping people of God. He well recognizes the vital importance of overthrowing their faith, for they have the final messages to the world before the Second Advent of Christ.

Each faithful Seventh-day Adventist, who loves God and keeps His commandments, is deeply beloved of God. He has a special work for you in these last days to obey, defend, and proclaim the special truths in the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. Never forget this: you are very special, very important to Him! Do not

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become discouraged, but stay by your post of duty and warn and plead with others to obey the special truths found in the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy.

But, as I write this, another plague has come to the people of God. Let me explain it to you, and in doing so we will learn many invaluable lessons that can help us not only to resist this one, but also many others that will come later.

Here is a letter we received recently from the West Coast:

Do you have current information regarding Wayne Bent's group who have separated from the church? It is called "Life Supports" or "The Lord Our Righteousness." Some of our grown children became involved. Recently the daughter and her family came out (left LOR! because of the bizarre things they are saying and doing. We had been trying to warn them for more than a year but were unable to get through to them. They quote the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy a little, but confine it to a narrow track and much to their own interpretations.

We are thankful to have our daughter's family out of the group and now studying to see where the error is. But our son chose instead to leave his family, his business, everything, and just run off. Totally out of character for him. In fact, we have known for many months that they are using mind control on him, as well as on others, and that the weird things he was saying and demanding were because of this. He is mentally sick; just not himself. He doesn't want to talk with us anymore, or for us to phone him "unless we are ready to listen to his message," which we will never be able to hear and accept. We have already read and studied their books and literature. It is a very clever deception; so smooth. We can see more plainly than ever why we have been told that "those only who have fortified their minds with the truth" will be able to withstand the deceptions. We saw one leader trying to use hypnotism at one meeting we attended. Those coming out of "the group" can tell you a whole lot more of what is happening as far as force, control, hypnotism, receiving of messages, etc.

For us, this has been the hardest year of our lives. While we are extremely happy that our daughter and all of her family were able to leave LOR, it has been very difficult to stand aside and see the devastation and heartache in our son's family and know that there is nothing we can do, except pray. We are dealing with superhuman power and it will take God's superhuman power to reach him. So we try to support his wife and children and pray constantly for all of them. Although our son says he is through with us, we are by no means through with him. We will love him and pray for him as long as we live. We will continue to pray for those in the group who are sincerely deceived, and we know some of them personally.

I don't know how many are in this group back on the East Coast, but over 200 of them met near where our son lives (or did live before he walked off) at Hat Creek, CA, this summer for their camp-meeting. That is another whole story. But it is a sad story of using religion to take advantage of men, women and children and get them to forsake their families. There is much said in Adventist Home, Testimonies to Ministers, and the Testimonies about the roll of the father and the mother and the treatment they are to give to unbelieving spouses. But they do not read any of this. They pick a few short quotes and carry them to the extreme. They take what could otherwise be part of the truth—and then take it to such extremes that it becomes a lie. We've never seen anything quite like it before, although we have seen and known other groups and people in them and people who have left them. But Mrs. White obviously met all this before, for her writings describe just such fanatical movements and their 'beliefs.'

When they read "true church" in the Spirit of Prophecy, they apply it to themselves alone, saying that everything else in the books is only about them. When they read "the church" in the books to the people, they say it is "Babylon" and the SDA church, and a lot of other strange interpretations.

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I fear God's people are not nearly as in earnest about finishing the work, as the devil and his people are in doing theirs' "-Letter from the West Coast.

Enclosed with this letter was a xerox of a page from 2 Selected Messages (68-69). One of the underlined sentences said this: "The Lord has not spoken by any messenger who calls the church that keeps the commandments of God, Babylon." That is a clear statement and it is applicable to every era of human history. All those whose lives can be described by the words of Revelation 14:12 are His people, and we are thankful for this. —But such a statement should be no cause for presumption: Each of us should beware of imagining that we are on the Lord's side, when we are knowingly disobeying His laws! May our heavenly Father help each of His Advent people to remain true to Him to the very end.

This new splinter group focuses its attention on Seventh-day Adventists, both those who are members of the denomination, and those who, for one reason or another, have separated from it. Every Adventist needs an understanding of (1) how the Lorites capture men and women in one brief study session, (2) what happens to the captured ones thereafter—and to the broken homes they leave behind, (3) the basic errors of LOR, and (4) Bible-Spirit of Prophecy replies to those errors. You will find all of this information in this complete study, Part One of which you are now reading.

As mentioned earlier, the official name they have now given to their group is "The Church, the Lord Our Righteousness. .. As we mentioned in a box on page one of this study, since their beliefs and practices have nothing to do with the hallowed concept of Christ our Righteousness mentioned in Jeremiah 23:6 and 33:16, we will in this study refer to their blasphemous organization simply as LOR, and to the people in it as Lorites. You will quickly learn that they take people away from the shelter of Christ's righteousness, rather than bringing them to it.

At the heart of this present fanaticism is a claim of instantaneous stoppage of sin and temptation. And this is done by the pronouncement of an earthly priest and god who proclaims it of the captivated individual in the very first meeting. It is not the result of personal renunciation of sin, choosing of obedience, or living an obedient life on the part of that individual.

The truth is that never in this life are we to think that we have reached a certain point at which we need no longer cry to God for help and be on guard against Satan. Yes, we are well aware of the Spirit of Prophecy statements about overcoming sin. You will find many of them in two special Bible-Spirit of Prophecy compilations of ours: You Can Overcome Sin (1C-1) and The Center of the Crisis (1C-2). It is true that we are now to resist and overcome temptation and sin in our lives, —but this is an overcoming on our part that is done only by a moment-by-moment connection with Christ and humble reliance upon His empowering grace. It is not an instantaneous act done for us by a human mediator! More on this later.

GENERALLY CAPTURED AT THE FIRST MEETING

First, we will see how men and women are captured by the traveling agents of LOR at that first meeting, later we will learn what happens to those poor creatures after they have become bound mind and soul to their new masters.

In order to explain to you what that first meeting is like, we will now go through a lengthy conversation this writer recently had with a family in eastern U.S.A. that narrowly escaped a great tragedy.

We will intersperse it with our own comments and analyses. The result should be a fairly good picture of the type of dangers involved, as well as the keys to recognizing them. We have changed names and locations, because the LOR leaders have issued death threats against those that speak or write against them. (However, elsewhere in this study we will give the actual names of several LOR leaders, and their

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speakers the Lorite agents that travel around holding house meetings and capturing Adventists. For those are the names you need to know.) In this next conversation, we will call the husband, Howard, and his wife, we will name Jill. Howard does the speaking:

A neighbor, Jan, went to Arkansas to visit friends. While there, she met these folk. They were holding meetings, and they claimed to be members of the 144,000, and no one else was. They use Bible and Spirit of Prophecy Quotes, and the Quotations sound very good. When Jan came back from Arkansas, she had a changed personality. It wasn't hers! Her ways, her inflections of speech, and all the rest; it was just not her anymore.

When a person becomes an earnest Christian, he puts away his sins, but he does not change personality! When she came back, she said that she now had the baptism of the Holy Spirit, that she was one of the 144,000, and that she had no more sin or temptation to sin in her life. When she first arrived back, my wife, Jill, wasn't interested in the group. But she became intrigued with the change in personality that Jan had undergone. So she wanted to learn more about it for herself. Just about that time, I had to go to Atlanta on business. While there, she began studying with them. When I spoke to her on the phone, the sound of her voice was different! I asked her if everything was all right, and she said that everything was okay.

But then I began receiving word from friends back home—that I had better return quick or I would have no family to go back to! So I cut short the business trip and went home right away.

There I found that my wife was different. Everything was so smooth and calm, but it just wasn't her anymore. They had told her that they wanted to meet with me as soon as I arrived home. But I did not want to see them that evening, so I told my wife to tell them that I had arrived home after being gone for some time and wanted to be with my family that night, but that I would meet with them another night. I remained in another room when they arrived and she went out and told them what I said. I was listening at the door and heard the leader reply in a half-disgusted tone, "Well, if he doesn't want to listen to us, we might as well leave." That comment, given in reply to my simple request, didn't seem very Christlike to me.

Talking with my wife later that same night, I learned that she thought she had no more sin in her life. Before the evening was over, I pointed out to her something that showed that that was not true, and she was quite impressed with the discovery.

You will note that Jill thought that she no longer had to resist sin; there was no more sin or temptation to resist! She was perfectly insulated from both. That is a significant departure from Bible-Spirit of Prophecy truth. We must resist temptation; it is not automatically taken from us. More on this later.

Later in this conversation, Howard mentioned a significant point: During the time he was away, his wife had become locked into this cult (through a conversational pattern in the initial meeting, which we will describe shortly). The cult leader and his associates then urged her to leave her husband and get out of town before he returned from his business trip to Atlanta! You, the reader, should be able to see the importance of this point. This is a typical Moony-cult device to deepen the brainwash: remove the controlled ones from their friends and loved ones as soon as possible. In this particular case, the only thing that saved Jill was the fact that she kept quoting to them the Scripture that we should not leave our unconverted spouses,— especially since he had not so far had an opportunity to learn these "new truths" that she had learned. Because of her firm stand on that ONE point alone, she was still there when her husband returned, and she was open-minded enough to consider his words. Fortunately, he knew the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy well. If he had not been 50 fortified, he might not have been able to save his wife.

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She later told her husband that, at a certain point in her conversations with him, it seemed as if something happened in her mind— and she came out of it. Thereafter she was herself again. The next night Howard and Jill met with the Lorites. It just so happens that this family does not yet have electricity to their country home, So they normally use oil lamps in the evening. But, arriving for the meeting, the cult speaker demanded that the gas generator be turned on. Asking why, he said that he had to have eye contact with them during the meeting. "It is very important that we have eye-to-eye contact during this meeting, " he said. Hypnotists generally cannot do their work effectively without such close eye contact. They are very anxious that you look at them as they speak, as this spokesman demanded throughout the meeting that night. .

At this point, let us go back to those studies they had with Jill, while her husband, Howard, was away on that business trip. You will now learn how they lock you or your loved ones into this trancelike state, prior to removing the locked-in one temporarily or permanently from relatives and friends:

First, they talk about the need to get rid of sin, and they read Bible and Spirit of Prophecy Quotations; short quotes from here and there. The Quotes are Good ones. It all sounds good.

Stage One: there is nice introductory sermonical material, interspersed with many Bible and Spirit of Prophecy quotations. This material will be as good as you would find in any worthwhile Bible-Spirit of Prophecy presentation. This is because it is about our condition and our need, and the ideals God holds before us in His Written Word. Then comes Stage Two, which is really a complete switch!

Since the hearers have found the initial quotations and concepts to be compatible with historic Adventism, they listen with deepening confidence, to now learn from the speaker the solutions he offers to the problem. But his solution is NOT a Bible-Spirit of Prophecy solution! Many of the hearers do not recognize the changeover, because of the emotional turmoil that quickly develops, —which catches them off guard and helps them say things and make decisions that lock them into servitude to the LOR speaker. They get you to admit that you haven't overcome sin yet, all the while telling you that they have. They ask you, "Would you like to be part of the perfect church?" He boldly claims that he has overcome all sin, both hereditary and environmental, and that he is now living without sin, —and that he will never again sin! He uses questions to catch you. He gets you all emotionally involved so that you cannot think straight, and then hooks you.

The speaker asks you questions directly and gets you personally to admit before the small assembled group that you still struggle with temptations. These personal admissions begin the emotional turmoil— for in public meetings we are not generally addressed personally— and then emotionally besieged by the one in charge of the meeting! Keep in mind that the Lorites pack the meeting with their own traveling companions, which are Adventists captured in other localities. So when the Lorite leader bears down on you in the meeting, he has many approving people on his side.

He gets you to admit that you still struggle with sin; then he quotes the text about, 'If ye love Me, keep My commandments.'

The speaker then urges upon you, personally, the importance of confessing your sins. Bible and Spirit of Prophecy texts are used. Again, we have here the mingling of truth with error, as Satan did at the tree with Eve. There is no doubt as to the importance of confessing our sins. They are to be confessed directly to God, and we are told in Scripture that this is generally to be done in the privacy of our own closets. But the speaker now comes to a key point in the lock-in procedure:

He explains that Christ is in heaven and we are on the earth, and that everything that Christ does in heaven, His true followers here on earth are to do also. Just as he forgives sin, so we are to forgive sin; just

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as He mediates for sinners, so we are to mediate for them. Therefore, he says —You must now confess your sins to me! And you must do it right now!

Have you every wondered exactly what is that strange power that the church of the dark ages held over the minds of its converts? A reading in history reveals two interesting qualities about them: (1) the strange grip that the local priest has had on the minds of his parishioners, and (2) the peculiar mindset of the rabid loyalist to the cause, who was willing even to kill in order to obtain the objectives of the organization.

Could human-to-human confessional be part of the answer to this riddle? What pattern of worship can more fully separate a man from God than having him make a human being his confessional and his forgiving atonement? If I confess my sins to you, —you have indeed become my confessional. And when you pronounce over me the words "I forgive you ,"—you have become my atonement! The sanctuary in heaven has been again cast down to earth. You have become my christ and my sanctuary! It is at this point that the enchanted lock-in begins—as a person confesses his sins to the sinner standing before him, who in this case is a representative of LOR.

At this, my wife, Jill, answered and said, "Do I have to confess my sins to you?" She did not bow down before him, then, and begin confessing her sins. Instead he got them out by repeated Questions!

It is important that you understand this point clearly: Do not go where error is being taught. If everything has seemed right so far, and then you learn that error is beginning to be taught, DO NOT REMAIN one minute after you learn that it is being taught! Jill should have FLED from the room at that point! But she did not do so. She lingered at the tree and the serpent continued to speak to her through his medium. "Hath not God said. . ?" Questions and answers continued onward, until another soul was caught in a network of error.

God does not require that you learn everything in the world, read everything there is to be read, go to all the meetings that are held in your area or anywhere else for that matter. Just because someone hands you a cassette tape, does not mean you should listen to it. Far better it is that you take time alone with your heavenly Father and with His Written Word, and that you obey everything you read.

He asked her, "Do you have sins you are struggling with?" "Well, somewhat," "What about lust?" . . "What about. . ?" "Is that all? Tell me more!" "What about lying?" Let's dwell on that for awhile. . " "Have you had guilt feelings about. . " "What about this? . . What about that? . . " "Tell me more about your sins. . "

Howard told me that, later after coming out of the bewitchment; his wife told him that she had noticed that the Lorite speaker seemed to enjoy listening to these recitals of sinful conduct by those he was querying about their temptations. She should know, for she went through the experience of such a confession herself, and later heard it repeated on others at later meetings.

After this business of confessing personal sins to a sinful man has continued on for a time, the Lorite speaker goes to the next step in the mind-takeover process. By devious reasoning, he gets Jill to voice his own sentiments— and say that she hates God! This is a concept she did not before have; he serpentineally places it in her mind and then makes her vocalize it. Having done so, the enchantment is nearly complete! In publicly confessing her sins to a sinful mortal, and declaring her hatred of her loved ones and God, she has repudiated Christ. Before she can return to him, a devil takes control of her as great pride of accomplishment is now placed within her for what she has just done. She is told that she has just entered a new, higher sphere of attainment.

As he does all this, he keeps going back to the text, "If ye love Me, keep My commandments." Then he gets you to admit that you really have hatred for everyone. He does this step by step. First, he told Jill

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that since she wronged her children occasionally, therefore she really hated them. He got her to say that this must be true. "Yes, it must be that I hate them then." Then, he carefully went through the same step of Questioning and admission with her regarding her husband, and then her loved ones, and then her friends;-everyone. Then he went to the final step and got her to say that she hated God. At that point in the meeting, he proclaims the solemn pronouncement regarding her: "Now you have overcome self; now you have the seal of God in your forehead. You have now become one of the 144,000 and you cannot sin."

This is fantastic, but true! He brings the novitiate to the point of declaring a hatred for God, and then WITHOUT having reversed that position (without having helped that person confess and receive forgiveness of God for that hatred), —he immediately proclaims the God-hater to be a perfected saint! What condition is more sinful than having decided and declared everyone and God to be an object of a deep, personal, and lasting hatred? Hatred is far more deep and abiding than is anger. At the point of having forced this admission of an attitude not before held,— the medium stops the process of confession with the announcement that full perfection of character has been achieved by the wretched sinner!

NOW YOU KNOW how the bewitchment process by the Lorites takes place! Warn your loved ones at home and in other locations immediately! Talk to them, write, send copies of this tract! These agents of LOR are traveling all over North America. Soon they will be in Australia, New Zealand, and Europe. The Lorites have the money to do all this traveling because they operate like the Moonies; —they work to get not only you but your money as well. We will later discover that this is why they are so anxious to push divided Adventist families into divorce.

He says he has power to forgive sins; he says he is equal to God. He Quotes the passage, "As we are one with the Father, so we are one in Christ," and says that therefore he is equal to God. We are "priests after the order of Melchizedek," he says, therefore he says we are to do the same work on earth that Christ does in the heavenly Sanctuary. We on earth are to have all power that Christ has in heaven; power to hear confessions, forgive sins, and give blessings and special gifts. After he forgives you, he says that he will bless you with whatever you would like. Would you like to play the piano; would you like to sing? He asks you what you would like to do, and then he blesses you with that gift.

We are here confronted with a powerful Satanic force. Yet in Christ we are secure. But we must know what we are dealing with and avoid it! And we must do all we can to warn our loved ones and acquaintances. Advent believers are the ones especially being preyed upon by these people. Be on your guard! Alert fellow believers and church members! We are told in the Spirit of Prophecy that, under God, one good angel is more powerful than all the hosts of darkness. But we also know that we are not to toy with Satanic devices or listen to his messengers. Beware; beware!

Here is more that this writer was told by Howard:

This whole thing is mesmerism. Once a person comes under their control, he is locked in, and it is hard to get him out. They teach that if you don't accept their doctrines—and them as well, —you are eternally lost. And their converts are not permitted to talk to you afterward. They are not allowed to talk to you because you are lost.

This makes it much more difficult to help those who have been taken over. As we noted in the letter, quoted at the beginning of this study, the bewitched ones are told to separate from family and friends and henceforth stay away from them.

Women are an especial object of their interests. They say they have a "special 5-day school" for the women they catch. A woman operates it. One of their workers told me, "She is the wisest and most

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powerful woman that I know." If I hadn't gotten home when I did, my wife wouldn't have been there. They wanted her to leave before t got back-and attend the 5-day school. Then she never would have come back, for they would have trained her into the idea that I was not safe to be around. If I had refused to submit when they had tried a brain-changing session of confession on me, then she would have been told to never return at all.

Does that sound like Christianity? It is New Age heathenism, for it is known that the two founders of LOR have taken New Age course training, so they could profit by its "mind expanding powers," as well as learn how to better control the minds of Adventists. And each stopover across the country to hold another set of meetings yields additional names and places to visit, where more spells can be cast over unwary Adventists.

Afterward, Jill told me that she had snapped out of it; sort of like a trance she had been in. Then she studied the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy for hours, and totally gave up the LOR church.

Later, they came to our home one night and we went out to meet them. I told their leader this: "We have decided that all we need is Jesus Christ, and we don't need you." (An outstanding reply!) In high anger he said loudly, "You are LOST!" I replied, "That's your opinion!" He shot back, "You do not have Jesus Christ! -YOU ARE LOST, eternally LOST!" Just then Jan, who was in their bus listening to our conversation, started laughing derisively as he said that we were eternally lost.

You may recall that Jan was the girl that had visited friends in Arkansas and who, upon her return home, seemed so different in personality that Howard's wife, Jill, become more interested in learning what had happened. Well, Jan stayed with the Lorite group. She continues to be locked into it, and is now living and traveling with them, since they frequently take the locked-in ones with them to insure that they will not be reconverted to Christianity!

If you had a close walk with Christ, such as Enoch had, would you laugh at the thought that someone had just become eternally lost? Jan could do it because she now has a devil controlling her life. She is no longer a Christian. Is this an experience that you desire for your son, your daughter, or another of your loved ones? If you would avoid such a terrible tragedy, you had better warn your loved ones— and every Seventh-day Adventist you know— while there is still time! You have no way of knowing when these Adventist "moonies" will hold house meetings in your area—or where your relatives and close friends are living.

While I was away on that business trip, both my wife and son succumbed to him. But, after initially meeting him, my teenage daughter refused to have anything to do with it. Jill couldn't get her to attend any meetings. When they arrived for a meeting, she would go to the neighbors. Because she did that, the leader told Jill and my son, "She is an outcast."

Notice that the daughter had a solid way to resist it all: She refused to speak with them, listen to them, or have anything to do with them. That is a lesson for many of us. Fortunately, to date, the Lorites always come in their own name. They never pretend to be from— or associated with— any other denominational or independent Adventist group. This greatly helps in identifying them from the very beginning.

At the meeting we had with them after I returned from Atlanta, he insisted that we have good lighting so he could look into our eyes as he spoke. He insisted on eye contact during the studies. While in this area, he visited a nearby san. A man there told me afterward, "I could feel the strange draw" in him. The man warned me against staring into his eyes. And he had only seen him for a short time. The evening I returned from the trip, I noticed that my wife was not doing something that we had mutually agreed

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earlier that we would do in our home as a matter of religious principle. When I asked her why she was not doing it, she replied, "Oh, I don't need to anymore; I'm in Christ now. I'm sanctified."

Again, we come across something that is highly significant. Throughout this life, I must resist temptation, guard my health, get my proper rest, eat correctly, avoid junk food, do the work that needs to be done even when I may not feel like doing it. Life is full of such requirements. All of this would be impossible without the help of Christ and a determination to maintain high standards. It is easy to lower one's standards; hard to bring them back up. You know this as well as I do.

But then along comes a man who tells me that the battle of obedience and maintained standards and resisting sin is over! All that is past. I am perfected now, he informs me; all I need do is just float along wherever the current of life and my chance impulses may carry me. Henceforth, whatever I do will be right, for I can never again sin. Such a concept is destructive DYNAMITE to the Christian experience of one who once was a humble child of God! It means the demolition of right living in his thoughts and conduct within a very short time! For he has been taught that whatever he does naturally will be right. But those are the very concepts taught by Satan! Carefully read Great Controversy, page 555-556, and 557:1.

He says we don't have to follow any kind of dress reform. I asked him specifically about this, since many of the women with him had dresses above their knees when seated. He said that was only a test for the early Adventist Church— but it isn't for us today.

He also said, "Christ is my righteousness now; conduct doesn't matter as much." I asked him about the health message. His reply was, "It's all in the mind, so it's not important. "

He likes to quote a Spirit of Prophecy statement that in the last days the true people of God will be called "the Lord our Righteousness," and therefore this is why they call their church by this name. They also quote the Jeremiah passages on the same phrase.

Since they left here, they have already broken up several families. They most often get the wives and leave the husbands behind. Then Howard told me the experience of another individual who also came to the meetings. We will call him Fred:

While they were here, a young man, Fred, and his fiancé went to the meetings. She became hooked, and nothing he could do could get her out of it. He studied his way out with the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy, but his fiancé was caught.

So Fred decided to pretend that he was caught and go along with them for awhile, still in the hope of rescuing her. So he went to their bus (this particular Lorite group travels around in a reconverted bus, and the men and women live in it together), and told him, "I want to be a part of your perfect church."

Now, if these men have any doubt as to whether their followers are all under their hypnotic influence and fully loyal, they spring a little test on them every so often. So, in front of all the women standing there in the bus and out of it, the man suddenly told Fred to take all his clothes off. Fred decided to brave it through, so he started to do it, and before he had taken off his shorts, the man told him he could stop; that he had been sufficiently tested. Then he was allowed to join the group.

That is an unusual way to determine who is eligible for church membership, is it not? And to do it in front of the women standing there! If you were a Christian man or woman and the pastor of your church did this, would you not immediately quit the church? OF COURSE YOU WOULD! The LOR is not a Christian organization, and these people, once captured, are no longer Christians or they would not submit to such indecent suggestions. They have become enslaved to their LOR leader, and his bidding

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they will do. Fred later gave up trying to get her back, and she is still captured along with the other women in the Lorite group.

A couple years ago, in one of their church services, one of their 'elders' got up and as a test "to see if all were obedient to the Holy Spirit and to the church," told them all to strip. You have to understand that in the LOR church, everyone MUST be obedient to the will to the church! So they all began to do it with the exception of one man who refused. And when the women were down to their slips, he said. "Okay, you can put your clothes back on." That one man who refused to rake off his clothes in front of the women; what happened to him? He was kicked out of the church!

Keep in mind that—in the LOR church—to obey is to be instantly perfected; to disobey is to be lost forever. This, plus the power of the enchantment and the pleasures to be gained by remaining with the Lorites, keep many from wandering away.

In contrast, what are the experiences of deep and earnest Christians? Only in the Word of God can we be certain as to what these experiences should be. At the entrance to the cave, Elijah fell on his face before God; on the mount, Moses did the same. The closer that men come to God, the more they feel the sinfulness of their own nature. They may, as in the time after probation closes, live without sin. BUT THEY ARE NOT AWARE OF IT! They are not bragging about it or even suggesting the possibility that they might be so living. Instead, they are pleading with God for help from their enemies. Deeply involved in a Gethsemene experience, they are not parading their own virtues. They have none, except as they have them in and through Christ. The closer men come to God, the more they recognize the sinfulness of sin, the weakness of their own natures, and the urgent importance of guarding their thoughts and feelings. Trusting fully in the merits of Jesus alone, they are steadfastly obedient to His Written Word. Would you read about the personal lives of holy men? Read Isaiah 6 and Daniel 9. They, who live so near to God, — do they boast of their sinlessness?

In the life of the real man of God, the Inspired Scriptures are the standard, not the sayings of men; Jesus is the way, the means, and the life, —not those around them; godliness in every aspect of life is the standard and the goal, —not what others tell them to do.

An Adventist lady in the east central part of America telephoned this writer recently and told him a little of her experience.

A Lorite group had descended on her local Adventist community, and, as you will note below, her concern was their message more than the attendant incidents. We were given the name of this Lorite speaker, and it was different than the one in the preceding narrow escape. Here is what the present writer was told: They say they have the only true righteousness by faith message, and that they are the only ones giving the three angels' messages. They say they are giving the Jones and Waggoner message. And they quote from Jones and Waggoner, and at first it all sounds okay. "Jesus will keep you from falling," they say, and then quote Scripture texts that say just that.

I went to their meetings, and for a short time was caught by it. They barrage you with Bible and Spirit of Prophecy texts —usually just short excerpts, —and then come after you.

They say that since Jesus will keep you from falling, you are never to sin beginning right now. In the meeting they start after you and begin asking you Questions in front of everybody else. They put the pressure on: "Do you sin?" If you don't give a reply they want, they shake their heads, and ask some more questions. Soon you are so emotionally involved, you can't think straight, what with all those people there looking at you, doubting you, listening to your words. That night [at the meeting] they only give you a little time to accept their message, and if you don't you are eternally lost!

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They say you only have to accept Jesus once for forgiveness of sins. From then on, you never have to ask for forgiveness again for the rest of your life. Once you have asked for forgiveness, you are kept from sin thereafter. The one in charge said that he had not sinned for a certain number of years; others there said they had not sinned for a certain number of weeks since their conversion.

They quote a lot from 1 John. One passage in that book says to watch out for those who claim to be without sin. But they answer this one by saying they have been sinners in the past, and therefore "they are sinners," but that they are now without sin and will never sin again, so they use double-talk to answer plain Scripture.

They quoted 1 John 3:4 and said that now they are no longer sinning because they automatically keep the law. I told them that that only meant sins of commission, and then asked them about the verse in James that speaks about sins of omission (knowing to do right but doing it not). -There are a lot of things they are omitting to do!

They keep hitting you with questions. "Are you living without sin?" "Is there anybody in your church that is having victory over sin?" And if you don't accept what they have to say, then they cry out, "You are LOST!"

Wayne Bent is the head of this whole thing. I have heard one of his taped sermons. In it he quoted from a lot of Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. He is especially successful with those separated from the church, because he says that it is time to drop your membership and get out, since the SDA church is Babylon. He says the three angels' messages is a call to the SDA church, and a call to get out of it. But he gets the regular church members too. The trouble with those people is that they get Adventists into their group with the message that they are safe and cannot sin. Then, once in, those people let their guard down and they get into trouble. Later those same people leave the LOR church, —and leave all religion and God as well.

I looked up all the Spirit of Prophecy quotations that Bent Quoted, and found that the context was often different than what he had said. One said that to be redeemed was to cease from sin. I looked that up, and in the middle of the paragraph it said that no one should claim sinlessness. I found more discrepancies like that.

Another thing is what he says about "propitiation," and the sanctuary, and our priesthood. He makes himself our saviour from sin. A friend reporting from the Northwest has collected several incidents that happened to innocent Adventists in various parts of America. Here is what he relates:

In southern Oregon, a group gathered at a house to study together. During the study those present are asked to give their testimonies. One stands up and says: "I am the resurrection and the life." Another stands and exclaims, "I am the bread of life." Still another says, "No man cometh to the Father but by me." Then the leader of the group stands and says, "I AM THAT I AM!"

At a small independent campmeeting in Ohio, Brother L listens to the speaker as he smoothly, melodiously tells the people that if they receive "the gift" of Christ that they will never have to sin again, and that he himself had not sinned for several years. After the sermon, Brother L asked the speaker about the doctrines being taught—Brother L is asked to leave the grounds because he disagrees with the speaker. He is told that he was not to come as a teacher but as one of the disciples to sit at the master's feet.

When Brother L would not leave, he was commanded to leave. Then the speaker finally stated that God had called him, and the other speakers, to stand between the mount and the congregation this he was making a direct reference between himself and Moses. He also stated that if the glory of God should pass through the camp, Brother L would be instantly consumed!

LOR

In Western Montana two men came to share their faith with a small group of Adventist believers. They told the people if they would accept "the gift," leave the church, and join this new movement, they too would never have to sin again. They stated that they were sinless and ready for translation! When those present asked Questions, they were made to sound as if they were making excuses for sin. When they would not accept these messengers and their message, the people were told, "This is the day of your visitation."

Similar experiences have happened in California, Washington, Oklahoma, New York, New Hampshire, Vermont. This was not fanaticism of yesteryear, but of 1988, by a group called "Life Supports" or also known as the "Lord Our Righteousness Church." Claims are being made by this group that we are now in the time of the latter rain, the judgment of the living is now going on, that people at this present moment are either receiving the mark of the beast or the seal of God, that we can receive the "gift" and never sin again, that they are called to separate the tares from the wheat, and the seven last plagues are now falling, and that the whole world's probation will close before the coming of the national Sunday Law.

This group is headed by Wayne Bent with his northern Idaho based headquarters. Another leader in this "gift" movement is David Mead of California. As we examine Life Support Ministries, we will see a striking fulfillment of the words of the Spirit of Prophecy, in which we are told that this fanaticism would be repeated. It convinces me all the more that we are on the very edge of the "eternal world." Time is shorter than any of us realize and a world is to be warned. We have seen that this fanaticism consisted of an extreme view of sanctification, saying one was sealed, claiming to be sent as teachers and not learners, and using mesmerism over the people. The warnings are found in many places such as this one:

"After the passing of the time in 1844, we had fanaticism of every kind to meet. Testimonies of reproof were given me to bear to some holding spiritualistic theories. . Among other views they held that those who were once sanctified could not sin. Their false teaching was working great harm to themselves and to others. They were gaining a spiritualistic power over those who could not see the evil of these beautifully clothed theories. . The experience of the past will be repeated. In the future, Satan's superstitions will assume new forms. Errors will be presented in a pleasing and flattering manner. False theories, clothed with garments of light, will be presented to God's people. Thus Satan will try to deceive, if possible, the very elect. Most seducing influences will be exerted; minds will be hypnotized. "- 8 Testimonies, 292-293.

A Brother M, in the last part of 1988, sent us a letter relating his experience while connected with life Supports. This man had over a year of involvement with the men leading out in this group, staying at their homes and traveling abroad teaching their doctrines, He reveals the following:

"Because of the fact that I was a person who hungered and thirsted for righteousness from the start, and because I was deeply determined that I would allow God to transform me into the perfect image of His blessed Son-Jesus, I was attracted to everyone who claimed to have a message that would facilitate this end in my life. But one after the other of these men and groups I found, after examining them carefully for a time, that they were frauds. They were false teachers who were calling disciples after themselves.'

They were men, in each case, who would think to usurp the place of Jesus Christ Himself over His heritage and dictate what men should believe and do. As this became apparent to me, I would begin to Question why they were doing or teaching such and such when the Word of God plainly stated another Position. As I would present my Questions, I would then find that neither myself nor my Questions were welcome in their camp anymore.

LOR

'So closely will the counterfeit resemble the true that it will be impossible to distinguish between them except by the Holy Scriptures. By their testimony every statement and every miracle must be tested.'" - Great Controversy, 593.

In a letter that was sent to us in November of 1888, a Sister L tells of her experience in Oregon with Life Supports;

"Since moving here, we heard about some people near here who we heard were claiming to be sinless. We decided eventually, to go visit them. We met, October 1. They told us they did not claim sinlessness but rather victory in Christ. . We went to meet with these people every Sabbath in the month of October. Apparently, we were in perfect harmony and had very precious fellowship. The last Sabbath, (the fifth one on the fifteenth of the month) is when the bomb was dropped, so to speak.

"These folks are members of a group called Life Supports. They also call their church 'The Lord Our Righteousness.' . . I came in at the end of the first presentation; They were using a bag, with a sad face drawn on it to illustrate something. . I found out that it represented sinful flesh that they believe must be removed in order for God to dwell in us. This, I know, is what is termed as an element of 'holy flesh' . When one of the evangelists was discussing the transformation of our NATURE, I said, 'That's Holy Flesh.' He answered, 'That's right. What's wrong with that?'

Sister L- touched on another interesting point in her letter. She goes on to say "During the second presentation, the second evangelist was pointing out the fact that we are to be ONE with God, Fine. Now, if we are ONE with God, and we are DEAD, who are we? Absolutely nothing, right?

'Then using human reasoning, WHO ARE WE? Can you guess what conclusions they wanted us to come to? (that we are god.)

"At this point they asked for testimonies to see if the people in the room were catching on. Through some convincing and correcting of the testimonies, they started hearing what they were after. The testimonies started sounding like this: 'I am the Lord.' 'I am Christ.' 'I am God.' 'I am the resurrection and the life' "When I was gone, (my husband) told me he pointed out the scripture in Genesis that talks about Satan telling Eve. 'Ye shall be as gods. '-Genesis 3:5. The evangelist said that Satan lied. Satan said 'AS god.' They ALREADY WERE God! They could not get my husband or me to give this sort of testimony . . This is an element of Pantheism.

. "When they are talking with someone, it is pressed on them to accept what they tell them NOW and if they don't, they are told, it's too late, their probation is closed, no hope, and so forth. If this is not manipulation and mind control, I do not know what is! They term it 'Finishing the work.' These are not Christ's methods. It is very cruel to use these tactics on people. .

"Now we've got holy flesh, pantheism, and pressure tactics. This is not the end of the error we saw last Sabbath. New Age techniques were also introduced. New Age is also mixed in with the Pantheism. They use the power of positive thinking. As I mentioned earlier, they believe they can create by simply imagining a thing, and it is so . . I believe there may be hypnotism involved."

We have reports similar to the ones already described come to us from many parts of the country, One Sister called and told us that a family in California was selling their home to give the money to Life Supports. A report came to us just a few weeks ago that a farmer in Canada was selling his farm to give the money to this group. How can people be so blind! It has to be mesmerism, along with the desire to want to overcome sin that we are all having to deal with. The message sounds so good— too good. It has an appearance to a "quick fix" answer to the sin problem that we are daily dealing with. While at the same time these men are defrauding many.

BACKGROUND OF THE LOR CHURCH

We have already learned how the Lorites take Adventists through the doorway to their brand of fanaticism. Before showing you what happens on the other side of the door (the teachings of LOR, and what happens to its followers and their former families), let us for a few moments learn more about how this apostate offshoot began. Here is some information on the origins of the LOR Church.

Wayne Bent was an Adventist minister for 12 years. All or most of his pastorates were in the Southeastern California Conference. At some point in his work, he obtained a master's degree in religion from Loma Linda University. While pastoring in Colton, California, he developed a seminar which he called "Life Supports." After his wife left him, Bent left the Adventist ministry and began working full time on his seminars. Eventually, church leaders in Southeastern California Conference asked him to stop holding seminars in their churches. Something about what he was doing bothered them. Later recalling the incident, Bent comments, "The rejection of Bent's message is the rejection of God. Therefore God has rejected the denomination. "

Those who know him well, say that Wayne Bent has been strongly influenced by certain associates to carry his original messages to their present most terrible extremes. The first influential one was David Mead, and he has worked closely with him for the past several years. At first, Bent conducted all of the seminars, and then David Mead joined him and began holding them also. At some point in their work, we now know that Bent and Mead took special New Age courses with a focus on EST. Then, John Whitcomb joined them. Even down to the present time, it is recognized that Wayne Bent is at the top of LOR, with David Mead second in command, and John Whitcomb in third place. Ranking close behind them is Richard Roos. Roos, with his wife Bonny, were formerly Adventist missionaries in Africa. Among the top leaders only Bent and Roos, to our knowledge, were ever in denominational ministerial work.

Bent first met Mead and Whitcomb while at the Colton Church. Later, when refused permission by the Southeastern California Conference to continue to hold Life Supports Seminars under their auspices (and therefore in their church buildings), the group started holding separate meetings at High Grove. This was a United Methodist Church that they rented in that area.

From the beginning, David Mead had the concept of "Follow me or get out," and gradually this pressure-tactic took control of the entire group. Still later, after John Whitcomb and Richard Roos joined their teaching staff, they moved their headquarters to Sand point, Idaho, where they are today.

One of the first concepts taught was that of "the gift. " ("Would you like to have victory? You can have it right now. Christ offers you total sinlessness forever more through me, beginning at this moment, if you will but accept it and acknowledge me, and my group as your spiritual master. You will never again sin, and never again need Christ, or the Inspired Word for any guidance or help. ") "The gift of instantaneous sinlessness" continues to remain the most fundamental of points in their first-night presentation, during which they entrap innocent Adventists.

Hand-in-hand with this early concept of Wayne's, is a parallel one that works closely with it. This is the concept of "self-created environments. Books on New Age concepts and EST regularly teach this heathen principle. Bent's theory of it is like this: "We each create our own environment If we want to get rich, we will do it; if we become fearful of something, it will happen; if we become sick it is our own fault and we can easily eliminate it by force of will."

And with that goes a second parallel point that LOR obtained from the New Age: "Absolute cause and effect. " As Wayne interprets this one, it goes like this: "Whatever happens to you - was caused by you. If you are driving down the road and a drunk comes over the line and hits you, injuring someone in the car with you, it was your fault. And this negative effect was entirely your fault!

LOR

Well, you say, how can those people live with themselves if they think such things as that? They do it by continual denial. Wayne Bent has been known to come to the podium of a study session so sick he is feverish and should be in bed, but he denies the fact that he is sick. Later he leaves so he can "study", but really to go to bed secretly and get well. Sickness is always sin in their thinking, so they deny its presence in themselves and treat any loved ones who becomes sick as though they were lepers to be shunned, derided, and cursed. Their official teaching that anyone who becomes sick or diseased is back in their sins.

Is that the kind of church of perfect people you would like to be united with? Yet people are initially entrapped while thinking that these people are so very loving, that surely they must be right and to live with such people would be such a wonderful thing.

Regarding their idea of "healing and death," they quote the text, "My God shall supply all your need," therefore there's always enough supply. "So you will always be healthy and never sick, you will always have life and never death. Sick people get sick because they want to, and they are not instantly healed-only because they don't want to be. And good Christians never die." This is what the leaders at Sandpoint teach.

With the passing of time, more doctrinal concepts emerged. It was not long before they developed their idea of "leavening." The Adventist Church is leavening you; you will lose the gift if you stay with them, for they have sinners in their ranks. The only way you can retain the gift is to stay with us." This concept led to their "Adventist church is Babylon" concept. "The Seventh-day Adventist denomination is Babylon because it has sinners in it, and you must immediately leave it or be lost forever. We are the only truly Christian organization in the entire world. Only by submitting to us, worshiping with us [worshiping us], and obeying us, can you be saved."

Those who have met with the group at that time tell us of the peculiar "peace and joy" that the their captured adherents claim to have. Yet, at the same time, they manifest extreme fearfulness, intolerance, and hate toward those who refused to unite with them. They appear to have overcome some of their more minor sins, such as losing their temper, but it was later discovered that, after feeling certain that he had them locked in, Satan would then bring into their lives deeper, more terrible sins, which they may have earlier conquered. These will help to effectively hold them to their new masters.

These followers appear to have a strange tranquility and calmness, and a different personality. The best way to describe it is that they seem to be possessed by another power. But at the same time, they are extremely fearful even terrorized-at the thought of being out of harmony with their leaders, or be rejected by them. Along with this, whatever the leaders expressed convictions or concern about, the followers must mirror it. Those that the leaders say are dangerous or bad people, they instantly accepted it and shunned them in fear. They could no longer be themselves. They had come into the most abject servitude.

Repeatedly the present writer, while interviewing former members of the LOR, discovered that when individuals held to the fact that the words of the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy were superior to that of men-any men,— these people would be delivered from being taken over by their enchantments. Cases were also noted of wavering individuals who began with that correct attitude, but who ultimately made their decision that it was more important to them emotionally to submit to the judgment of LOR than to continue to read Scripture and plead with God for help. Of course, what they should have done was to flee from LOR immediately, and not dally with it. Because they did not flee, its leaders wore them down with continual pressure until, exhausted, they gave up the battle and mindlessly submitted.

Here is a lesson for all of us. Read again chapter 37 in Great Controversy. Only in total obedience to and reliance upon the Inspired Word will we find our safety in the delusions that Satan will bring to each of

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us. Just now I warn you, whoever you may be that is reading this paper: read the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy - every day-as though your life depended on it- or you shall be overcome by Satan in the end!

Another intriguing concept is Wayne's idea of "dominion." As soon as mankind sinned, the dominion was lost; so as soon as Wayne gives a person "the gift" of eternal sinlessness, he is sealed and again has the dominion. In proof of this, Wayne has been seen to proudly walk around the edge of his garden with a stick marking a line on the ground; Once the magic circuit is completed, he announces in an authoritarian tone to the gophers (I don't know about other languages, but at least gophers must know English), "I command you to get out of my garden, and never again enter it!" And that settles it; Wayne has the dominion over the gophers and he says none will ever again enter his garden. Don't laugh; it is very possible that they never again do!

The only happiness of these leaders of LOR is the obvious hypnotic power that Satan has given them over those who desire to brush aside the clear statements of Scripture, and pluck the strange fruit they offer them.

One young man returned home from a meeting, and told his mother: "You can feel the power there!" And, as his mother told this writer personally, "Yes, there is a feeling of power at those meetings; a sense of euphoria, confidence, and exhilaration. And it brings with it an arrogance. I know; I've seen it over and over."

An urgent need for a strengthened teaching on "unity" soon became another major concern of Bent, Mead, and their associates. By this they meant unity in submission to the Sandpoint leaders, their strange beliefs, as well as their slightest commands. In contrast, the true doctrine of church unity down through the ages has been unity on the basis of closeness to Christ and obedience to the words of Scripture. Only in unity on those two points can there be genuine unity in any church organization.

Soon another concept began to be urged by the Lorite leaders. It was becoming obvious that one segment of Adventism was especially able to protect Adventists and bring them back to historic Adventism. This group is what Wayne termed "the conservatives." This included such groups as Amazing Facts, Hartland Institute, Weimar, Wildwood, Hope, Pilgrims Rest, etc. LOR followers were warned that all Adventist conservatives "were of the devil." Such groups were recognized as dangerous, for they perceived Scripture, rather than men, to be the basis of the church and its only validity. Indeed, prayer and Scripture are powerful, and only in the strength of God could the proselytes of LOR be wrenched from the mind control their leaders exercised over them.

Interestingly enough, the specific reason why the Sandpoint leaders feared the conservatives was clearly stated; in fact, it was used as a means of identifying the "conservatives." They were the ones who relied on Scriptural quotations as the guide to belief and conduct! Such people were declared by the Lorite leaders to be dangerous. "Watch out for the Adventists who quote Bible and Spirit of Prophecy," they told their followers. "People who quote the Spirit of Prophecy are the conservatives. Once you have sinlessness, you don't need those quotations anymore. We don't need them, God doesn't need them,-and we are god!"

Now all this may appear as somewhat farfetched, but the information in this paper has come from personal interviews with a wide range of individuals who, presently or within the past two years, have been connected willingly or unwillingly with LOR for a time and had attended many of the meetings which follow the initial one.

Another concept concerns the nature of "the tares." Jesus said that the wheat and tares would grow together in the church until the harvest. Christ's Object Lessons clearly explains the details of this-and describes when the harvest takes place. But, in contrast, LOR teaches that the true church has no tares

in it now, and that all must flee from the Adventists because they have tares among them. "Tares" they define as those who are not sinless.

Rapid movements toward deeper fanaticism have occurred within the past two years (January 1987 to January 1989). As a result of many interviews, the present writer notes that a majority of their newly-arrived at extreme views have been an outgrowth of a frenzied concern by the LOR leaders to devise improved ways (1) to capture people at that first meeting, and (2) to securely lock them in afterward so that they will not and cannot later leave.

Individuals have, on occasion, caught certain LOR leaders in untruths. This generally occurs when they have let slip one of their advanced heathen concepts (such as "I am god") to an outsider, and then later deny that they said it. Yet such conduct should settle the matter of their "sinlessness" in many minds.

You might wonder why anyone would place any confidence in such men at any time, especially in view of their determination to destroy happy homes. But please understand that, at the beginning, most Adventists do not know all that you are now reading, and, meeting these men, they find that they speak with soft, slow, low monotonous, and give the impression of being very wise and godly. (For a moment, imagine a person speaking to you in a honeyed, slow, ongoing monotone, and you will know what I mean. It tends to have a hypnotic effect on the listener. One woman, attending their meeting, heard their slow, soft-toned, monotonous voices, and thought to herself: "They are trying to bend my mind!" Indeed, they were. Because she managed to get out of that first meeting without accepting what they had to offer, they condemned her to hellfire before she left the building that evening.)

In that meeting they offer you "the gift." It all sounds so good. But to accept that gift means a denial of basic truths of Scripture. The result is a transaction. You have traded away your God-given Scriptural heritage for a present from Satan. But in the emotional confusion of trying to figure out whether these apparently godly people are really right—when their words are so at variance with Scripture,—precious souls become enmeshed, and many never later disentangle themselves.

And remember that we have discovered in these interviews that ONLY THOSE ESCAPE who return to their former loyalty to Scripture as the first and final authority above that of man. They return to their earnest reading of God's Word, pleading with Him for help, and obedience to what He tells them in those precious pages of Inspiration. The others remain in a black darkness.

One of the later teachings of LOR was that all wives must be in total submission to the mind and will-and conscience-of their husbands. The reason for this requirement is obvious: It is easier to control one mind in a family rather than two. And the husband, becoming satanically proud of his unnatural and absolute mastery over his wife's mind and body, will be easier for LOR to control. (Keep in mind that it is always relatively easy for Satan to take over minds that are proud. Remember that the next time you are tempted to be proud) LOR instructs both husband and wife that she is not to think for herself. She is not to decide doctrine for herself. She is not to decide matters of conscience or morality for herself. All this is to be done by the husband. She is not even to speak to others, but is to confer with her husband who may then decide to speak on her behalf. -Here we have a species of Muslem purdah in action!

It is a very real battle, this matter of wrenching souls away from Christ. And Bent, Mead, Whitcomb, and the others work earnestly at it. They have now arrived at the point where they quickly separate spouses as soon as the first meeting is over. They did do this two years ago, but would patiently keep working for the other one, —and in the process would sometimes lose the one they had captured! Now, as soon as one is enchanted, they urge that person to leave with them as soon as possible. They care not about happy Christian families, which God has joined together. They work to capture and take fathers, mothers, children far away-as quickly as possible.

LOR

Another "doctrinal development" is the concept that the captured and separated ones must write a "disconnect letter" to their loved ones. This is a device common to the brainwash cults.

They are instructed to totally repudiate all connections with their loved ones. From that time onward, they are not to visit, write, or phone them,—and if contacted, they are to tell their loved ones never to do it again.

But working against this is another oddity. Bent and his associate leaders want money, lots of it. If spouses still have possessions (land and homes), letters may suddenly be sent by all the captured ones to their spouses, voicing sweet sentiments of love, and urging them to come to Sandpoint and join them. If any favorably respond to this, they are told to sell the property and bring the money with them.

If there is joint ownership of homes, the present pattern is to quickly separate the captured one from their spouse, then telephone or write and tell them to sell the property and give half of it to them. The cash return on their half is then turned over to Bent and the group. Do not think that the captured one left because it was an unhappy home! This point has been analyzed by those left behind as they later compared notes. In the majority of cases it had been a very happy, solid family of many years. The disaffected one leaves only because he or she is ordered to do so by LOR, and for no other reason. But within a few days in absentia his or her mind is totally twisted. (One came back several days later and parroted the words he had been told to say: "Do you want to be my wife? Do you want to be married to me?" "What do you mean?" she replied in astonishment. "You are not my wife; you are not married to me," he replied, "-For you are working against my [LOR] church. I have Christ and you are to give up your convictions and obey me, or I will leave you forever." And he did.)

Keep in mind that the captured ones no longer have control of their own minds! They do whatever they are told to do. And they are frequently "tested, " by being asked to remove their clothes "and testify of their experience," etc. More on this later when we discuss their advanced seminars. But these tests only intensify the mind control, for the men and women, again violating their consciences, are brought more deeply under the control of their leaders.

Please understand: It is not wrong to have religious leaders. This is God's ideal plan for His people. A man is a true leader when he points the people to the study of God's Inspired Scriptures, teaches them to go directly to God, encourages them to obey the will of God as revealed in Scripture, and warns them against the wolves who come to raid the flock with their errors.

Poor leaders do not adhere to these four points. Dangerous leaders are those that demand the people to regard them to be the final authority, rather than the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. We need to pray earnestly for ourselves, our loved ones, and our leaders. We value our leaders, but no leader should ever ask a worker or church member to take his word—or that of a committee—above that of Scripture. Carefully read chapter 37 in Great Controversy. The principles in that chapter are important and are for these last days. It is only as we adhere to them that our church can weather the storms that are ahead.

Gradually, with the passing of time, Wayne Bent's life Supports Seminars gained more and more adherents. And as this happened, the money came in with which to go more rapidly across North America.

More workers were added, as he trained them in his concepts and how to captivantly present them. At this time, some of the top leaders in the LOR are David Mead, John Whitcomb, Richard Roos, Don Waterhouse, and Wayne Brandt. But do not expect that one of these will be the name of the LOR speaker that visits you or a loved one. The top men are busy coordinating the entire operation, holding advanced training sessions for new workers, studying the latest materials released by the New Age,

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investigating the methods of the Moonies, and giving direct commands in difficult situations in which properties may be lost to the cause because of stubborn spouses of newly-captured members.

Bent's original book, written for his Life Supports Seminars before he left the church, was entitled "Life and How It Supports You." We have a copy of this 239-page 8 1/2 x 11 typeset book. Many of his present errors were not held at the time that that book was written.

However, an individual who took one of those earlier seminars told the present writer that one of the oddities at that time was the emphasis on "visualization," which is another New Age emphasis. At one point in the seminar, those in attendance were told to lie down on the floor and try to visualize Jesus standing over them, washing away their sins. This concept of "visualization" (visualizing within the mind new situations and mastery), along with that of "mind power" (whatever the mind decides to do, it can do) appears to be included in the new "Breathe Free" anti-tobacco seminars in our church, a program which is now taking the place of our former "5-day Plan to Stop Smoking" sessions.)

We are told that the original "Life Supports Seminar," as given by Bent, was about 15 hours in length and divided into several sessions. He led out in all of the sessions for about three years, and then David Mead, and then others, began conducting them also. At the present time, a surprising number of subsidiary speakers are out in field, funded by Bent's Idaho-based organization, holding meetings to bring in more converts.

One individual who wrote us claims that Bent's original sessions were not too far off, until Mead and others joined him in the work. Then began the claims to sinlessness, godhood, intense pressurizing, and assigning to hellfire those that resisted.

Bent eventually wrote a 186-page book, "His Only Gift: A Testimony," a copy of which we have here. In addition, he issues a monthly publication, usually with four 8 1/2 x 11 pages, entitled "Letter to the Church, which he sends to all of his church members.

At the end of his current seminars, he and his associates baptize all those newly captured.

A primary organizational meeting that helped get his church started was held at the Pine Springs Ranch in the Southeastern California Conference about the year 1986. In the summer of 1988 they had a major camp-meeting at Hat Creek in the Lassen National Forest in Northern California. Over 250 members and workers attended that gathering. In October of the same year, they had one of their first major Advanced Training Seminars. Because of the intense hypnotic one-to-one sessions at those advanced seminars, attendance is limited to 50. More on the Hat Creek Camp-meeting and these Advanced Seminars later in this study.

Wayne Bent previously owned some land near Sandpoint, Idaho, so when he left Southern California a couple years ago he moved his headquarters up there. It is now located about 20 miles north-northeast of Sandpoint, Idaho on Rapid Lightning Road. (An interesting name for the road, since they use lightning to help reinforce some of their meetings. More on this.) In addition, since David Mead owned property in Northern California near Grass Valley, that has become something of a California-based colony for some of their members. In order to hold on to the captured ones, they urge them to move to one of these centers,-but especially the northern one in Sandpoint.

One legal battle involving LOR appeared for several days in a Redding, California, newspaper. Before LOR goes down, many more column inches of news reports may appear in the American press. More on this later in this study.

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One man located a captured LOR girl in Ohio State. Working carefully with her, he was able to "deprogram" her. He afterward told former LOR followers, and spouses left behind by LOR converts, that she had been deeply hypnotized. Certain key words would instantly put her into a deep trance.

Another individual went from Virginia to Sacramento, California, in an effort to locate and save a young girl that was about to be captured. He was confronted by several LOR leaders who, standing in front of him, said, "We will kill you if you do not stop what you are doing!" Startled, he turned around and immediately behind him he saw one of the top leaders in LOR. "Did you hear what they just said to me?" he said to him in shocked amazement. The reply came back in that soft, even, monotone, "I spoke those words to you."

Such talk is but a faint reflection of what regularly goes on up at Sandpoint. The people are spoken to in such a manner as to think that they are but automatons speaking the words that the top leaders feed by remote control into their brains. And perhaps that is the way Satan does it. Who knows?

One ex-Lorite decided to start traveling across the country warning Adventists about this new organization that is determined to destroy Adventist families and remove their fathers, mothers, or children. This was a blessing, for few Adventists have, to date, really tried to stop this gargantua. But after a few weeks of that, he received a telephone call from Sandpoint. It was another of those deep, smooth, monotone voices: "If you don't stop what you are doing, we will behead you!" He relates that that shook him enough that he stopped.

By the way, for your information and theirs, before we got onto the case, certain parties had already notified the FBI of this closet-full of zombies, known as the LOR headquarters. An investigation has been underway, so when LOR decides to move up to more vigorous action against those opposing their operations, there should be some law enforcement authorities waiting in the wings.

Another individual told us that the sheriff's office in Sandpoint has been quietly doing some research into what LOR is doing in and around that small northwest Idaho town. The Adventists may not know what is going on, but there are others that do. We are told that it was not Adventists that got him started on the case.

They have already sent a number of missionaries to foreign fields. As I write this, John Whitcomb is in Ireland, seeking to convert Adventists there to the LOR apostasy. The objective is the same as here in North America: go to the Adventists and capture them. Wherever they go they proclaim themselves the only ones that will be saved at the end of time, for they alone have perfection of character.

Here is a story to send shivers up and down your spine: Some of the ex-Lorites learned of an Adventist lady in Ireland who had, in some way, been contacted by John Whitcomb with the request that he might visit with her and the local Adventist church there. In some way, former Lorites learned of this and quickly wrote this lady and her local church, and told them to beware of Whitcomb and LOR. Along with the letter they sent papers for them to read, revealing and exposing the doctrinal errors of LOR from the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy.

The woman read them to the entire church and they immediately voted to withdraw their offer for Whitcomb to come and speak to them. She went home and penned the letter, then arose to mail it. As she did so, there was a knock on the front door— and there was Whitcomb! At this point, what should she have done? She should have refused to let him in the house! ! ! Instead, charmed by his pleasing voice and manners, she invited him in. Within two hours he had captured her and baptized her into LOR! He also captured her sister, but fortunately none of that local Irish church would have anything to do with him. Remember that poor captive woman in Ireland when the LOR come knocking at your door.

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To hesitate may be to be lost, when you are working with emissaries of Satan. Invite them not in; listen to them not. Send them on their way. Do not feed them or let them sleep overnight on your property. Why? They may start a conversation with you or with your husband, wife, or children! Please understand: This is no ordinary situation; it is like having a spirit medium come and knock on your door! Your fealty to Christ requires that you send them away immediately.

At this very time, a group is being trained at the Sandpoint headquarters to be sent soon to Zaire, Africa, as missionaries. They will be under the leadership of Richard Roos (a former Adventist missionary to Africa for 8 years). They will initially go to the same area he used to labor in, and it is expected that they will capture many, many unsuspecting Adventists.

Fortunately, in this one instance advance warning has already been sent by the General Conference to the African field regarding this anticipated missionary journey. Interestingly enough, two of the workers that will be going to Africa as LOR "Christian missionaries" are a man and a woman, each of whom left their spouses and children behind. These two are completing totally unscriptural divorces against the devoted and faithful Adventists they have left behind. After the divorces are final, they plan, with the blessing of the LOR church, to marry one another before journeying to Africa. "Sinless Christian missionaries," LOR calls them.

When your mind is under the control of another man, you must obey his foolish ideas. The individuals who are in training for the Africa project have been told that, in order to be properly qualified for their work down there, they must do several unusual things, one of which is not to have conjugal relations with their spouses there at Sandpoint. Absolute power over minds can result in ridiculous situations. A leader may on impulse order something, and then not be later able to reverse his decision when he sees the foolishness of it, lest he show a lack of wisdom in his earlier decision. You see, the leaders in LOR claim before their followers to be infallible, and infallible people cannot publicly admit mistakes and errors as the rest of us can.

TWO SPECIAL MEETINGS

Before concluding this section, let us turn our attention to two interesting events. First, the Hat Creek Camp-meeting that occurred in August 1988. Second, the first of their Advance Training Institutes, which they began holding two months later.

Hat Creek is located in the Lassen National Forest, and east of Redding in Northern California. Leadership requires a special showmanship, and the devils really know how to add the pyrotechnics to a top-notch performance. One evening, Wayne Bent announced to the 250 LOR members and workers in attendance that the next morning (the first Sunday of the 10-day camp-meeting) they were to gather early for "Sinai," and that none were to arrive late. "You MUST be there early; if you are late, you will DIE!" he told them. As you might expect, all arose early the next morning and none were late. It had been beautiful weather, and that morning was no different. Bent arose and spoke to the assembled multitude. "You are to be silent and God is going to come down and speak with you."

Almost immediately, the fire fell from heaven, as thunder and lightning began. The "Sinai" experience was slated to continue for that day, all the next, and the third day too. And the thunder and lightning continued on for three days, whenever "Sinai" was in progress until it finally ended. Then everything became quiet, and perfect weather returned. Four days passed, and then at the close of the meetings, on the next Sunday there was a baptism of nearly 250 people.

Many of these were being rebaptized, having been baptized at earlier sessions by Bent or his subsidiary leaders. (Why another baptism of people into sinlessness, when most of them had already had been earlier baptized in their sinlessness into a sinless church?) Another perfect day, and all went down to the

place of baptism. Arriving there, only three small clouds were in the sky. Immediately everything clouded over, and thunder and lightning ruled the skies till the last baptism was concluded. Then as suddenly as it had begun, it stopped and perfect weather returned. The people were deeply impressed with this, another of Bent's special abilities.

Some of you may recall in an earlier study on Murl Vance's research, we spoke of his experience in the theosophical library in Southern California, when he suddenly recognized from what he was reading that the priests of Baal on Mount Carmel normally had the ability, through the power of Satan, to bring down fire from heaven. Startled by the realization, he mentioned it to a man sitting across from him reading in another book of "ancient wisdom." Quietly, calmly, the man looked at him and said, "Oh, yes, we can do that now," and turned back to his book.

Going deeper into Murl's two decades of studies, we learn that Satan prides himself on calling himself "the god of the lightning bolt," since it is so powerful, and always destructive. More on this in another set of studies we are now preparing. If you are on our regular mailing list, you will read an announcement of it shortly.

During the camp-meeting, Wayne stood up and said, "Truth is truth, and we don't need all these quotations, do we?" (referring to the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy books). Then David, beside him, replied, "That's right; we don't." Then Wayne would say, "And that's right, isn't it?" And the people in the audience would agree.

Then they would back-and-forth go through another point: "Have you ever sinned?" David said, "No, I never have." "See, see," said Wayne, "that's right; he knows what's right"

This went on and on, as the two pounded into the thinking of the audience key points they wanted them to be sure and catch. Notice that David said he had never sinned-ever! There is a dark depth to their thinking that seemingly never ends. The top leaders in LOR have inner beliefs that, from time to time, they only hint to their followers. One of these is their belief that they are fully god and are only reincarnated in this life as human beings, —but have for eternal ages in the past, as in the future, been god. You see, "the gift" which they offer you comes from their master, the prince of this world. It does not come from the God of heaven, your only Creator and Redeemer. When you accept their "gift," you accept all that goes with it.

On occasion, they have been known to tell their people, "I AM that I AM!" During this camp-meeting, there were also "exercises in eye contact. . . Each one was to pair off with someone else, sit opposite him and then stare into each other's eyes. "You are to look into their eyes and try to read their minds, their hearts," they were told. This went on for hours, until people would begin to weep from the sheer tension of it. All this, of course, makes all of the followers better subjects for hypnosis than they had been before. Those that study into EST and New Age will find these same techniques described!

Another personality-groveling device was the "self-knowledge" sessions: Singly, the people were told to place their heads in their laps and listen to the words spoken to them by their leader, seated before them. With their heads down low, they were then told to review the distant past in their lives. Farther and farther they were to go, back to their youngest years. "Go back, go back; tell me what you see, what you think of. Whatever comes to mind, tell me of it and take full responsibility for it."

All this was keyed to Bent's teaching that every event of a person's life is something he caused and is responsible for. Whether or not it was not good in action or reaction, he is to take responsibility for it and what happened as a result. This would so condition their mental outlook that they would become hardened to responsibility for anything they might later be told to do by their leaders. Being responsible for everything that happens about us—quickly degenerates into denying real responsibility for anything

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we might do. It piles such a weight of sin on a person that he gives up on morality and searches after God.

One person describing that week told this writer: "It was wild, like nothing you have ever seen; little children, 5 or 6 years old, going out together into the woods holding staring sessions; then preaching to one another about becoming sinless.

But it is in the Advanced Training/n8f/tut.. that we really see the inner workings of this hideous thing called LOR.

In October 1988, there was an Advanced Training Institute. Every leader and prospective leader in LOR was ordered by Wayne to come to this training session - or be kicked out. Intense one-to-one work with those people was done there.

You will recall that we earlier said that LOR really does not want their people running around loose. They would prefer that they sell their property, give the proceeds to the cause, and then move to Sandpoint where they can be safely watched. But speakers are still needed to travel about and bring back more hapless souls and their money. But who can the leaders trust to care for this task? It must be those people who have been specially trained - to submit to the deepest levels of control by the leaders. This is why these special control sessions are held.

Here are a few incidents that took place at the October session, given to us by those who were there:

The emphasis here was on deep-level EST end hypnotic procedures, interspersed by occasional "tests," as they call them.

They are taught how to speak in that soft, slow, monotone, and control conversations; how to demean and control those they speak to. The words and phrases of the special first session are practiced on one another. They must become subsidiary "masters of the universe" in winning souls, and it will require dark arts and hypnotic procedures to carry it through successfully. The emphasis is on mind control and what it takes to achieve it, but in order to successfully subvert the souls of others, the speaker must successfully have totally subverted his own. And this requires "cleansing unions."

One of the top leaders takes his seat in front of you. And he stays there for 2-3 hours. During that time he is staring at you. At first he tries to penetrate your mind soundlessly, and then he speaks and begins digging to ascertain your habits, sins, etc. (All this to people who supposedly "received the gift" of sinlessness months before at an initial meeting when they first came into LOR.

Now they have to attend more "cleansing sessions" to eradicate still more sins!

Wayne does not have to worry about his followers getting rid of sin, for outside of Christ (and all of these people have distinctly chosen to live outside of Christ and study, submission, and obedience to God's Written Word) there will continually be a flood of new sins and old entering the life. The objective is deeper hypnotic control over the subsidiary leaders. And to intensify the man-control, "tests" are applied every so often:

At the October meeting, all in attendance were told by a top leader to come to the front of the room and take off their clothes. There was one person there who would not do this, and he was immediately removed from the room, and kicked off the property and told never to come back. Both men and women were in that room. When some were down to their underwear, they were told that they could stop.

Do not underestimate that simple test.

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There is more to it than appears on the surface. It is not just a test of loyalty vs. common taste and courtesy. We all sense deeply that to do such a thing is very wrong, very bad, very immoral. Any honest-hearted soul would rebel at this, and would be expelled. Who would be left? Only those who were immoral people, or amoral robots. But there is more to this: If someone asks you to publicly remove your clothes and you do it, by doing this very obviously wrong thing, you deepen the evil of your nature. You are taking yourself even farther from Christ; you are moving yourself more under the control of the one who commanded you to do it. You are deepening the enslavement. And that is the real purpose of the "test."

These tests are applied randomly in various meetings with the faithful. It has, to our knowledge, been done in California, Idaho, and Ohio. Probably elsewhere also. A variation of the above test is to call one individual out of the audience after another. At the sound of their name, they are to come up front and undress before the men and women seated there and watching them. To our knowledge, this test has always stopped short of total nudity. But that is wise, for it could cause trouble with the law if publicly carried too far.

Here is another interesting "test" given at this October Advanced Training Institute: Several contrasting statements were made, and all in the audience were to agree with them.

Those in the audience are told something that they should be willing to do. They agree that they would be willing to do it. Then the words: "Now God [in Scripture] told you not to do this, but we told to do it; that's right, isn't it?" They are to speak up in the audience and agree with that statement.

One point after another was brought up. Because of the way each item is worded, the people must either agree and admit wrongdoing in following their leaders. or they must protest and object on a moral basis (because of the way the statement is worded),-and be kicked out. So again the lock-in is deepened, end, as always, on the basis of deepening sin - not purifying sinlessness!

At that meeting, a dozen young, strong men were asked by one of the top leaders, "Would you kill In order to protect the cause, if we asked you to do so?" All but one said they would; that one was ejected from the property fast! Why were only certain men asked that particular question, and not everyone? Perhaps too many might have left if it were asked of everyone. Or perhaps they were getting some of their special agents ready for later action. Why ask people to kill, if you do not later expect to use some of them to do it?

At this special October training session, all were initially instructed that they were to come to each meeting with no note paper, pencils or pens, tape recorders, or watches. They were not to discuss anything told them afterward with anyone, including their spouses in attendance (and, of course, they are never to discuss anything with an unbeliever off the property!) No one was to say a single word at any meeting unless in answer to a direct question. If anyone wanted to go to the rest room, they must raise their hand silently and obtain permission.

Why all these restrictions? The stated reason was that it was to help them concentrate (on being hypnotized), but it would also help eliminate memories of what went on afterward. Keep In mind that much of this training program, as with all the meetings - is designed to be a mind-changing experience, not an information / learning process for those in attendance. Remember that when someone tries to tempt you to attend one of their gatherings.

At other sessions of this Advanced Training Institute, the people were to tell about their sordid past, and it was written on a blackboard for all to see. Hating children, adultery, masturbation, contemplated murder, etc.; the kind of thing that devils enjoy thinking and talking about.

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As 1988 was nearing its end, there was an increased concern to see the saints sell their homes and move to Sandpoint. Since LOR began in Southern California, a lot of them were still there. So an announcement went out to a number of them that they must leave right away, for if they remained there after December 31, 1988, they would die. That announcement from LOR brought most of them out of Southern California!

One of the LOR concepts is that they are the "destroying angels" of Ezekiel 9, that will slay the wicked. And they believe they will also use the elements to help them do it. Wayne Bent has pronounced a curse on Southern California (because they didn't want him to preach down there), and so they have now issued a prediction to their own faithful: A terrible drought was to take place in that locality, and it would be quickly followed by a devastating earthquake that would level-level-all of Southern California!

This event was first predicted to take place in January 1989. Then the date was moved up to April. Now it is set for June-July 1989. The problem here is that the devils lie to their own agents. Satan enjoys doing this - even to his own. He is the father of lies, and those who choose him have a master that will at first destroy others through them but will later work to destroy them!

LOR has already penetrated Switzerland, and a top leader has recently returned from a tour of Germany. Missionary units to other foreign nations are in the planning stage.

Yet, in all these interviews, we have been unable to learn of any particular effort by our North American Adventist leaders (General Conference, union, or local conference) to warn the church members about this terrible apostasy that is moving like an octopus across the land, each week wrapping its tentacles about more and more faithful Advent believers.

One person, inquiring, was told that when problems such as this arise, if the denomination speaks against it too early, they might embroil themselves in a lawsuit. But in view of the fact that there are literally hundreds of Adventists in the United States alone that would take the witness stand in defense of one sued by the LOR, there does not seem to be sufficient justification for such a fear. But, whether sued or not, it would seem best that the shepherds guard the sheep entrusted to them; only hirelings remain quiet when the wolves jump into the flock. We do hope that we are wrong in our estimate of this matter, but only the sounding of urgent warnings against LOR by our leaders can prove us wrong.

It is our prayer-and it should be yours - that our leaders will now publish magazine articles and books unveiling this terrible apostasy that threatens our people. We would also urge local pastors to warn their congregations about this Satanic new cult that preys exclusively on Adventist families.

Wayne and his associates claim to be god, the son of god, and Jesus Christ. With authority such as that comes a sense of power and grandeur to the deluded minds that imagine they are divinity. They say they are the three angels of Revelation 14, and the destroying angels of Ezekiel 9, which slay the sinful Christians. They not only claim deity, but also infallibility, eternity, and immortality as well. Wayne says that because he is sinless, he cannot become sick and can never die. He maintains that it is impossible for sinless people to die. We consider these individuals to be deceived, but they base their ideas on the theory that sinless people automatically become god, and god cannot die. This, in turn, is derived from New Age, which in turn comes from ancient Hinduism: the soul cannot die, and everyone is god.

Interestingly enough, although the leaders are divine and infinite and infallible in wisdom, -for some strange reason their followers are not. This is an obvious flaw in their theory that we would think their followers would recognize, but once locked into hypnotic submission to their superiors, they do not do much independent thinking. They are told that they share in the sinlessness of the leaders, so it would seem that they should also share in that immense god-wisdom that they claim to have. But, instead, they are considered by the leaders to be ignorant dupes that cannot think for themselves. They are

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treated as indentured servants. Everything must be decided for them. They are kept in a country location and are refused permission to leave it unaccompanied by a leader or subsidiary speaker. And this condition does not change until they have had enough "advance training" to be considered safe.

THE TEACHINGS OF LOR

The following is not an exhaustive list of LOR errors, for since it has moved directly into New Age Hinduism, it really has no relationship to Christianity now, except for some outward forms and expressions. BUT the situation is entirely different in the initial presentations they make to Adventists! Because its leaders apostatized from Adventism they know the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy well, therefore they initially present a basic set of doctrinal errors that may, on the surface, appear to have some Scriptural support.. We will mention and refute each of these with referenced replies.

There is also a second level of teaching, which is not revealed at first. Some of these will also be mentioned in the following listing, but more will be discussed elsewhere in this study. In certain instances, part of the second or third level of teaching will be affixed to the end of the "Lor error" statements below, but you should be able to tell them apart. (Example: "LOR ERROR: The closer we come to God and Christ, the more perfect and sinless we will appear in our own eyes. (initial claim to the inquirer) For we have become god! (later disclosure to the captured). ")The inner teachings of heathenism that form the heart of LOR, we discuss elsewhere.

1-LOR ERROR: Christ offers you the gift of absolute, perfect, and eternal sinlessness right now, if you will accept it from a LOR representative.

TRUTH: Christ offers you the gift of a full conquest of sin, but it is only the result of daily surrender and faithful resistance to sin and obedience to His Written Word. 8T 31 5-316; GC 632, 621 ; 15M 91; AA 560; TM 454; GC 469470.

2- LOR ERROR: I have never sinned and never again can sin. You can have this gift right now. Receiving it, you can boast to others of your sinlessness, just as I now do.

TRUTH: No one is to claim to be sinless. "The claim to be sinless is in itself, evidence that he who makes this claim is far from holy." GO 473, 471; ST March 23. 1888; AA 561-582; St. 7.

3-LOR ERROR: It is not necessary to strive against sin or resist temptation . All this will henceforth be done automatically in you. Good intentions on your part right now are all that is needed to save you eternally. Just reach out and accept the gift that I offer you.

TRUTH: The people of God must daily resist sin and temptation, and this can only be done through the strength of Jesus Christ. Apart from a moment-by-moment walk with Him, they are powerless to resist Satan's devices. And human resolutions, by themselves, are powerless to save anyone. AA 560-561; 4T 12; Heb 12:4. 8T Feb 26, 1885. "There needs to be a continual reaching out Of the heart after God, a constant, earnest confession of sin and humbling of the heart before Him." 8T 316.

4-LOR ERROR: The closer we come to God and Christ, the more perfect and sinLESS we will appear in our own eyes. For we have become god!

TRUTH: The closer we come to Christ, the more sinFUL we will appear in our own eyes. SC 64-65.

5-LOR ERROR: The person who claims to be without sin, vindicates God.

TRUTH: The person who claims to be without sin, makes God a liar. 1 John 1:8,10; UL 59.

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6-LOR ERROR: I have been instantaneously sanctified, and - right now you can be instantaneously sanctified. Without any effort or work on your part now-or ever again in the future,-you can have full sanctification of the Spirit.

TRUTH: No one has ever been instantly sanctified, and no one ever will be instantly sanctified. GC 4571; 2SM 27,32,34.

7-LOR ERROR: The work of sanctification is an immediate, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

TRUTH: The work of sanctification is progressive. It is a lifelong work of obeying God through the enabling grace of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. M 560-561, 565; 4T 367.

8-LOR ERROR: We need only reach out for the gift once, and thereafter will forevermore have it.

TRUTH: "There needs to be a continual reaching of the heart after God, a constant, earnest confession of sin and humbling of the heart before Him." 4T 316.

9-LOR ERROR: All who are sanctified will be free from sin.

TRUTH: The sanctified in Christ never claim to be free from sin. GC 474,469; 1SM 314; ST March 23, 1888.

10-LOR ERROR: Sanctification is a single act of God outside and apart from you. All you need do is accept it, and you will be free from temptation and sin through all eternity to come.

TRUTH: Sanctification is a progressive work (GC 470). It is the work of a lifetime (AA 532, 560). It is a lifelong work (OHC 163; 4T 367).

11-LOR ERROR: Sanctification is possible only when a sinless human being offers it to you.

TRUTH: Sanctification is possible only through the Holy Spirit. GC 467. 469.

12-LOR ERROR: The true Christian never feels the promptings of the old, sinful nature. If he does, he is not really a Christian.

TRUTH: The true Christian will ever feel the promptings of the old, sinful nature, but will, in the strength of Christ, maintain a constant warfare against it. Phil 2:12-13; AA 560; TM 454; GC 469470.

13-LOR ERROR: The work of the Christian is to sit back and enjoy life, for once he is converted, whatever he does thereafter will be perfect, holy, and right. He does not thereafter need to study God's Word, meditate, or pray.

TRUTH: The work of the Christian is to persevere in the fight of faith, and to agonize, wrestle, and strive against temptation to sin. He is to study God's Word, meditate, search his soul, and pray. 8T 315-316; GC 632, 621; 1 SM 91.

14-LOR ERROR: Good works are not necessary. The converted Christian need not strive to do right; he automatically does it. All of his whims and impulses are now sanctified.

TRUTH: The Christian must ever be careful to maintain good works. Titus 2:11-14; 3:8; 2:7; Eph 2:10. We are to work and God works with us. 1SM 240241;453,455,468.

15-LOR ERROR: We can have a complete victory over sin-but it is obtained apart from any action on our part other than an initial acceptance.

TRUTH: We can have a complete victory over sin, but we must work with Christ patiently in obtaining it. Rev 14:12; 12:17. In the same way that he obtained it, we can have the victory that Enoch had (3BC 1151; SO 296; 1BC 1187; 6T393). This victory is to be as complete as was that of Adam before the fall (SD

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242; DA 311-312). (For many, more quotations on this-quoted out, write for a copy of our two tracts, You can Overcome [IC-1] and The Center of the Crisis [IC-2].)

16-LOR ERROR: Justification and sanctification are the same thing, for both are started and completed at the time of initial conversion.

TRUTH: Justification occurs each time we come to Christ, and every time we later come to Him in genuine faith, repenting of our sins. Sanctification is growth in grace and is actually our ongoing, daily obedience to His Written Word. TM 97.

17-LOR ERROR: Once you receive "the gift" we offer you, you never again will be bothered by sin, for it will be totally removed from your life.

TRUTH: We must persevere in the fight against sin, and strive, agonize, will, deny self, and advance to perfection (2 Cor 7:1; 2 Peter 1:5-10; COL 331; SO 198; OHC 149; 313; CT20). We are to exert every energy of the soul in the work of overcoming (5T 472, 215). There will be need of constant warfare against the promptings of sin (GC 469). We are called upon to cleanse ourselves, perfecting holiness in the strength of Christ (2 Cor 7:1). God will give faith and grace to overcome our defects (GC 489). After conversion, there will be an arduous struggle, a lifelong battle against temptation and sin (OHG 163; 4T 367). Christ continually resisted sin and we are to do the same (AA 531 ; 3T 365). The propensities that control the natural heart must be subdued (AA 237). We are to work earnestly to reach perfection of character (SO 154).

18-LOR ERROR: Probation closes for you right now, in accordance with whether or not you receive my message. If you receive it, you will receive the seal of God. You cannot sin later, and if you were to, -you would be forever lost.

TRUTH: It is the highest of conceit to think that if others do not receive my "new light," their probation immediately closes. Only God has the saving truth that you need, and it is found alone in His Written Word, the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. The seal is applied by the sealing angel (not by LOR agents) prior to the general close of probation, at the time when the latter rain falls (1SM 111), at the time of the National Sunday Law (7BC 976, 978, 989, 990; 5T 475-476). Jesus makes the decision, not man (GOL 74). Satan will appear as Christ just before the close of probation (IBG 911; TM 62; 2SM 51; 7BC 985).

19-LOR ERROR: There are no sinners in the true church. Any church with sinners in it must be a false church and part of Babylon.

TRUTH: There will be tares (sinners) and wheat in the church till the final harvest. It is not for us to decide which is which. Christ decides this, and angels will remove them at the close of time (TM 47; COL 73, 75; 2SM 114).

20-LOR ERROR: All suffering comes from our own actions and from nothing else. We are the cause of all the suffering we experience, even though it may appear to be an accident or caused by others.

TRUTH: Suffering is caused by Satan, but is over-ruled by God for purposes of mercy OA 471. We do not need Hindu Karma to explain life and our future to us. The Word of God is much better.

BIBLE AND SPIRIT OF PROPHECY QUOTATIONS

There are many passages of Scripture which directly oppose the teachings of LOR. Not having space in this six-part study to include them all, we will quote only some of the most significant, and will include a much larger collection of quotations in a tractbook which we will make available for those who would like to obtain additional information on LOR. Information on that tractbook and how to obtain your own copy will be given on the last page of the sixth tract in this set.

The following Inspired statements will be found to be INVALUABLE in clarifying the error in certain key teachings of LOR, which will include: (1) God will only accept those who are now sinless; (2) Sanctification is instantaneous; (3) Feelings and miracle working are extremely important in the life of the true Christian; (4) The Scriptures are not important in making the important decisions of life. A much larger range of quotations will be found in the tractbook, mentioned above.

1-THE CLAIM TO SINLESSNESS

"We are never to rest in a satisfied condition, and cease to make advancement, saying 'I am saved.' When this idea is entertained, the motives for watchfulness, for prayer, and for earnest endeavor to press onward to higher attainments, cease to exist. No sanctified tongue will be found uttering these words till Christ shall come, and we enter in through the gates into the city of God." -1 Selected Messages, 314.

"Let this phase of doctrine be carried a little further, and it will lead to the claim that its advocate cannot sin." -General Conference Bulletin, 1901; 419.

"So long as Satan reigns, we shall have self to subdue, besetting sin to overcome; so long as life shall last, there will be no stopping place, . . . there will be a continual reaching out of the soul after God, a continual earnest, heartbreaking confession of sin and humbling of the heart before Him." -Acts of the Apostles, 561.

"There is no one, however earnestly he may be striving to do his best, who can say, 'I have no sin.' He who would say this would be under dangerous deception. 'If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.' 1 John 1:8." -Upward Look, 53.

"We are to represent to the world the beauty of holiness, and we shall never enter the gates of the city of God until we perfect a Christ like character. If we with trust in God, strive for sanctification, we shall receive it." -Upward Look, 99.

"The claim to be without sin is in itself, evidence that he who makes this claim is far from holy. It is because he has no true conception of the infinite purity and holiness of God, or of what they must become who shall be in harmony with His character; because he has no true conception of the purity and exalted holiness of Jesus, and the malignity and evil of sin, that man can regard himself as holy. The greater the distance between himself and Christ, and the more inadequate his conceptions of the divine character and requirements, the more righteous he appears in his own eyes." -Great Controversy, 473.

"Those who are really seeking to perfect Christian character will never indulge the thought that they are sinless." -Sanctified Life, 7.

"When we are clothed with the righteousness of Christ, we shall have no relish for sin; for Christ will be working with us. We may make mistakes, but we will hate the sin that caused the sufferings of the Son of God." -1 Selected Messages, 360.

"Those who are really seeking to perfect Christian character will never indulge the thought that they are sinless. Their lives may be irreproachable, they may be living representatives of the truth which they have accepted; but the more they discipline their minds to dwell upon the character of Christ, and the nearer they approach to His divine image, the more clearly will they discern its spotless perfection, and the more deeply will they feel their own defects." -Sanctified Life, 7.

"We feel sad to see professed Christians led astray by the false and bewitching theory that they are perfect, because it is so difficult to undeceive them and lead them into the right path. They have sought

to make the exterior fair and pleasing, while the inward adorning, the meekness and lowliness of Christ, is wanting . . . -Sanctified Life, 10.

2- THE CLAIM OF INSTANTANEOUS SANCTIFICATION

"There is no such thing as instantaneous sanctification. It is an every-day work. Says Paul, I die daily.' (1 Corinthians 15:31). He received a conversion daily to God. As the truth and Spirit of God revealed to him the defects of his character, he put away his wrong, died to self, and 'cleansed himself' from an filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.' (2 Corinthians 7:1). Satan is most successful when he can cover up minds in kind of pious sanctified consecration which has no part in the sanctification brought to view in the Word of God." Upward Look, 231.

"When persons claim that they are sanctified; they give sufficient evidence that they are far from being holy. They fail to see their own weakness and destitution. They look upon themselves as reflecting the image of Christ, because they have no true knowledge of Him. The greater the distance between them and their Saviour, the more righteous they appear in their own eyes. "-Sanctified Life, 7.

"The work of transformation from unholiness to holiness is a continuous one. Day by day God labors for man's sanctification, and man is to cooperate with Him, putting forth persevering efforts in the cultivation of right habits. "-Acts of the Apostles, 532.

"Sanctification is not the work of a moment, an hour, a day, but of a lifetime. It is not gained by a happy flight of feeling, but is the result of constantly dying to sin, and constantly living for Christ. . It is only by long, persevering effort, sore discipline, and stern conflict, that we shall overcome. We know not one day how strong will be our conflict the next. So long as Satan reigns, we shall have self to subdue, besetting sins to overcome; so long as life shall last, there will be no stopping place, no point at which we can reach and say, 'I have fully attained.' Sanctification is the result of lifelong obedience."-Acts of the Apostles, 560-561.

"These professedly sanctified persons are not only deluding their own souls by their pretensions, but are exerting an influence to lead astray many who earnestly desire to conform to the will of God. They may be heard to reiterate again and again, 'God leads me! God teaches me! I am living without sin!' Many who come in contact with this spirit encounter a dark mysterious something which they cannot comprehend, but it is that which is altogether unlike Christ, the only true pattern. .

"There is no such thing as instantaneous sanctification. True sanctification is a daily work, continuing as long as Life shall last. Those who are battling with daily temptations, overcoming their own sinful tendencies, and seeking for holiness of heart and life, make no boastful claims of holiness. They are hungering and thirsting for righteousness. Sin appears to them exceedingly sinful.

"There are those claiming sanctification who make a profession of the truth, like their brethren, and it may be difficult to make a distinction between them; but the difference exists, nevertheless. The testimony of those claiming such an exalted experience will cause the sweet Spirit of Christ to withdraw from a meeting, and will leave a chilling influence upon those present, while if they were truly living without sin, their very presence would bring holy angels into the assembly, and their words would indeed be 'like apples of gold in pictures of silver.'(Proverbs 25:11).-Sanctified Life, 7.

3- OUR FEELINGS ARE NOT TO DECIDE OUR RELIGIOUS CONVICTIONS

'Many make a serious mistake in their religious life by keeping the attention fixed upon their feelings and thus judging of their advancement or decline. Feelings are not a safe criterion. We are not to look within for evidence of our acceptance with God.'" -5 Testimonies, 199.

"It is not your feelings, your emotions, that make you a child of God, but the doing of God's will." -5 Testimonies, 515.

"Some are not satisfied with a meeting unless they have a powerful and happy time. They work for this and get up an excitement of feeling. But the influence of such meetings is not beneficial. When the happy flight of feeling is gone, they sink lower than before the meeting because their happiness did not come from the right source. The most profitable meetings for spiritual advancement are those which are characterized with solemnity and deep searching of heart; each seeking to know himself, and earnestly, and in deep humility seeking to learn of Christ."-1 Testimonies 412.

"I saw that the Christian should not set too high a value, or depend too much upon a happy flight of feeling. These feelings are not always true guides. It should be the study of every Christian to serve God from principle, and not be ruled by feeling. By doing so, faith will be brought into exercise, and will increase. I was shown that if the Christian lives a humble, self-sacrificing life, peace and joy in the Lord will be the result. But the greatest happiness experienced will be in doing others good, in making others happy. Such happiness will be lasting:'-1 Testimonies 161.

4- THE IMPORTANCE OF SCRIPTURE

"To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them:'-Isaiah 8:20. The people of God are directed to the Scriptures as their safeguard against the influence of false teachers, and the delusive power of spirits of darkness. Satan employs every possible device to prevent men from obtaining a knowledge of the Bible; for its plain utterances reveal his deceptions. At every revival of God's work the prince of evil is aroused to more intense activity: he is now putting forth his utmost efforts for a final struggle against Christ and His followers. The last great delusion is soon to open before us. Antichrist is to perform his marvelous works in our sight. So closely will the counterfeit resemble the true that it will be impossible to distinguish between them except by the Holy Scriptures. By their testimony every statement and every miracle must be tested." -Great Controversy, 593.

"It is the first and highest duty of every rational being to learn from the Scriptures what is truth, and then walk in the light and encourage others to follow his example. We should day by day study the Bible diligently, weighing every thought and comparing scripture with scripture. With divine help we are to form our opinions for ourselves as we are to answer for ourselves before God.

"The truths most plainly revealed in the Bible have been involved in doubt and darkness by learned men, who, with a pretense of great wisdom, teach that the Scriptures have a mystical, a secret, spiritual meaning not apparent in the language employed. These men are false teachers. It was to such a class that Jesus declared: 'Ye know not the Scriptures, neither the power of God.'" -Mark 12:24. The language of the Bible should be explained according to its obvious meaning, unless a symbol or figure is employed. Christ has given the promise: "If any man will do His will, he shall know of the doctrine."-John 7:17. If men would but take the Bible as it reads, if there were no false teachers to mislead and confuse their minds, a work would be accomplished that would make angels glad and that would bring into the fold of Christ thousands upon thousands who are now wandering in error. "Great Controversy, 598-599.

"Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

"Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God.

"And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world. ."-1 John 4:1-6.

"The means by which we can overcome the wicked one is that by which Christ overcame-the power of the Word. God does not control our minds without our consent: but if we desire to know and to do His will. His promises are ours: 'Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.' 'If any man willeth to do His will, he shall know of the teaching.' through faith in these promises, every man may be delivered from the snares of error and the control of sin.

"Says the apostle, 'The time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears: and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.' On every side we see men easily led captive by the delusive imaginations of those who make void the Word of God; but when the truth is brought before them, they are filled with impatience and anger. But, the exhortation of the apostle to the servant of God is, 'Watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry. . '

"We must cherish carefully the words of our God lest we be contaminated by the deceptive workings of those who have left the faith. We are to resist their spirit and influence with the same weapon our Master used when assailed by the prince of darkness-'It is written.' We should learn to use the Word of God skillfully. The exhortation is, 'Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of truth.' "-Evangelism, 625-626.

"The doctrines must be plainly understood. The men accepted to teach the truth must be anchored; then their vessel will hold against storm and tempest, because the anchor holds them firmly. The deceptions will increase. "Letter 1, 1897; 2 Selected Messages, 58.

"Satan is now more earnestly engaged in playing the game of life for souls than at any previous time; and unless we are constantly on our guard, he will establish in our hearts, pride, love of self, love of the world, and many other evil traits. He will also use every possible device to unsettle our faith in God and in the truths of His Word. If we have not a deep experience in the things of God, if we have not a thorough knowledge of His Word, we shall be beguiled to our ruin by the errors and sophistries of the enemy. False doctrines will sap the foundations of many, because they have not learned to discern truth from error. Our only safeguard against the wiles of Satan is to study the Scriptures diligently to have an intelligent understanding of the reasons of our faith, and faithfully to perform every known duty. The indulgence of one known sin will cause weakness and darkness, and subject us to fierce temptation."-The Review and Herald, November 19, 1908; 2 Selected Messages, 58.

"Except those who are kept by the power of God through faith in His word, the whole world will be swept into the ranks of this delusion." -Great Controversy, 562.

"To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them."-Isaiah 8:20. The people of God are directed to the Scriptures as their safeguard against the influence of false teachers and the delusive power of spirits of darkness. Satan employs every possible device to prevent men from obtaining a knowledge of the Bible; for its plain utterances reveal his deceptions. At every revival of God's work, the prince of darkness is aroused to more intense activity; he is now putting forth his utmost efforts for a final struggle against Christ and His followers. The last great delusion is soon to open before us. Antichrist is to perform his marvelous works in our sight. So closely will the counterfeit resemble the true that it will be impossible to distinguish between them except by the Holy Scriptures. By their testimony every statement and every miracle must be tested."-Great Controversy, 593.

"The enemy of souls has sought to bring in the supposition that a great reformation would consist in giving up the doctrines which stand as the pillars of the faith, and engaging in a process of reorganization. Were this reformation to take place, what would result? The principles of truth that God in His wisdom has given to the remnant church, would be discarded. Our religion would be changed. The fundamental principles that have sustained the work for the last fifty years would be accounted as error. A new organization would be established. Books of a new order would be written. A system of intellectual philosophy would be introduced. The founders of this system would go in the cities, and do a wonderful work. The Sabbath, of course, would be lightly regarded, as also the God who created it. Nothing would be allowed to stand in the way of the new movement. The leaders would teach that virtue is better than vice, but God being removed, they would place their dependence on human power, which, without God, is worthless. Their foundation would be built on the sand, and storm and tempest would sweep away the structure." -1 Selected Messages, 204-205.

5- THE PLACE OF MIRACLES

"The man who makes the working of miracles the test of his faith will find that Satan can, through a species of deceptions, perform wonders that will appear to be genuine miracles. It was this he helped to make a test question with the Israelites at the time of their deliverance from Egypt." -Manuscript 43, 1907.

"Let not the days pass by and precious opportunities be lost of seeking the Lord with all the heart and mind and soul. If we accept not the truth in the love of it, we may be among the number who will see the miracles wrought by Satan in these last days, and believe them. Many strange things will appear as wonderful miracles, which should be regarded as deceptions manufactured by the father of lies." -Letter 136, 1906.

"I am instructed to say that in the future great watchfulness will be needed. There is to be among God's people no spiritual stupidity. . Evil spirits are actively engaged in seeking to control the minds of human beings. Men are binding up in bundles, ready to be consumed by the fires of the last days. Those who discard Christ and His righteousness will accept the sophistry that is flooding the world. Christians are to be sober and vigilant, steadfastly resisting their adversary the devil, who is going about as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Men under the influence of evil spirits will work miracles. They will make people sick by casting their spell upon them, and will then remove the spell, leading others to say that those who were sick have been miraculously healed, this Satan has done again and again." -Letter 259, 1903.

"We need not be deceived. Wonderful scenes, with which Satan will be closely connected, will soon take place. God's Word declares that Satan will work miracles. He will make people sick, and then will suddenly remove from them his satanic power. They will then be regarded as healed. These works of apparent healing will bring Seventh-day Adventists to the test. Many who have had great light will fail to walk in the light because they have not become one with Christ." -Letter 57, 1904.

"Some declare their unbelief in the work that the Lord has given me to do because, as they say, 'Mrs. E.G. White works no miracles.' But those who look for miracles as a sign of divine guidance are in grave danger of deception. It is stated in the Word that the enemy will work through his agents who have departed from the faith, and they will seemingly work miracles, even to the bringing down of fire out of heaven in the sight of men. By means of 'lying wonders' Satan would deceive, if possible, the very elect.

"It is impossible to give any idea of the experience of the people of God who will be alive on the earth when past woes and celestial glory will be blended. They will walk in the light proceeding from the throne of God. By the means of the angels there will be constant communication between heaven and

earth. And Satan, surrounded by evil angels, and claiming to be God, will work miracles of all kinds to deceive, if possible, the very elect. God's people will not find their safety in working miracles, for Satan would counterfeit any miracle that might be worked. God's tried and tested people will find their power in the sign spoken of in Exodus 31:12-18: 'The Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep.'-Exodus 31:12-13. They are to take their stand on the living Word-'It is written.' This is the only foundation upon which they can stand securely. Those who have broken their covenant with God will in that day be without hope and without God in the world."-2 Selected Messages, 54-55.

"Some will be tempted to receive these wonders as from God. The sick will be healed before us. Miracles will be performed in our sight. Are we prepared for the trial which awaits us when the lying wonders of Satan shall be more fully exhibited? Will not many souls be ensnared and taken? By departing from the plain precepts and commandments of God, and giving heed to fables, the minds of many are preparing to receive these lying wonders. We must all now seek to arm ourselves for the contest in which we must soon engage. Faith in God's word, prayerfully studied and practically applied, will be our shield from Satan's power and will bring us off conquerors through the blood of Christ."-1 Testimonies, 302.

6-THE DANGER OF SPIRITUALISM

"The teachers of spiritualism come in a pleasing, bewitching manner to deceive you, and if you listen to their fables you are beguiled by the enemy of righteousness and will surely lose your reward. When once the fascinating influence of the archdeceiver overcomes you, you are poisoned, and its deadly influence adulterates and destroys your faith in Christ's being the Son of God, and you cease to rely on the merits of His blood. Those deceived by this philosophy are beguiled of their reward through the deceptions of Satan. -1 Testimonies, 297-98.

"There is, however, a form of mind cure that is one of the most effective agencies for evil. Through this so-called science, one mind is brought under the control of another so that the individuality of the weaker is merged into that of the stronger mind. One person acts out the will of another. Thus it is claimed that the tenor of thoughts may be changed. . It is not God's purpose that any human being should yield his mind and will to the control of another, becoming a passive instrument in his hands. No one is to merge his individuality in that of another. He is not to look to any human being as the source of healing. His dependence must be in God. In the dignity of his God-given manhood he is to be controlled by God Himself, not by any human intelligence. "God desires to bring men into direct relation with Himself. In all His dealings with human beings He recognizes the principle of personal responsibility. He seeks to encourage a sense of personal dependence and to impress the need of personal guidance. He desires to bring the human into association with the divine, that men may be transformed into the divine likeness. Satan works to thwart this purpose. He seeks to encouraged dependence upon men. When minds are turned away from God, the tempter can bring them under his rule. He can control humanity.

"The theory of mind controlling mind was originated by Satan, to introduce himself as the chief worker, to put human philosophy where divine philosophy should be. Of all the errors that are finding acceptance among professedly Christian people, none is a more dangerous deception, none more certain to separate man from God, than is this. Innocent though it may appear, if exercised upon patients it will tend to their destruction, not to their restoration. It opens a door through which Satan will enter to take possession both of the mind that is given up to be controlled by another, and of the mind that controls." Ministry of Healing, 242.

"Spiritualism is about to take the world captive. There are many who think that Spiritualism is upheld through trickery and imposture, but this is far from the truth. Super-human power is working in a variety of ways, and few have any idea as to what will be the manifestations of Spiritualism in the future. The foundation for the success of Spiritualism has been laid in the assertions that have been made from the pulpits of our land. The ministers have proclaimed as Bible doctrines [falsehoods] that have originated with the archdeceiver." -Evangelism, 602-603.

"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils; speaking lies in hypocrisy; have their conscience seared with a hot iron." -1 Timothy 4:1-2.

"All whose faith is not firmly established upon the word of God will be deceived and overcome." -Great Controversy, 560.

"Little by little he has prepared the way for his masterpiece of deception in the development of spiritualism." -Great Controversy, 561.

7-TOTAL SUBMISSION OF THE WIFE AND MIND CONTROL

"God requires that the wife shall keep the fear and glory of God ever before her. Entire submission is to be made only to the Lord Jesus Christ, who has purchased her as His own child by the infinite price of His life. God has given her a conscience, which she cannot violate with impunity. Her individuality cannot be merged into that of her husband, for she is the purchase of Christ. It is a mistake to imagine that with blind devotion she is to do exactly as her husband says in all things, when she knows that in so doing, injury would be worked for her body and her spirit, which have been ransomed from the slavery of Satan. There is One who stands higher than the husband to the wife; it is her Redeemer, and her submission to her husband is to be rendered as God has directed -'as it is fit in the Lord.'" -Adventist Home, 116.

"To direct the child's development without hindering it by undue control should be the study of both parent and teacher. Too much management is as bad as too little. The effort to 'break the will' of a child is a terrible mistake. Minds are constituted differently: while force may secure outward submission, the result with many children is a more determined rebellion of the heart. Even should the parent or teacher succeed in gaining the control he seeks, the outcome may be no less harmful to the child. The discipline of a human being who has reached the years of intelligence should differ from the training of a dumb animal. The beast is taught only submission to its master. For the beast, the master is mind, judgment, and will. This method, sometimes employed in the training of children, makes them little more than automatons. Mind, will, and conscience, are under the control of another. It is not God's purpose that any mind should be thus dominated. Those who weaken or destroy individuality assume a responsibility that can result only in evil. While under authority, the children may appear like well-drilled soldiers; but when the control ceases, the character will be found to lack strength and steadfastness. Having never learned to govern himself, the youth recognizes no restraint except the requirement of parents or teacher. This removed, he knows not how to use his liberty, and often gives himself up to indulgence that proves his ruin." -Education, 288.

"On perceiving that she was alone, she felt an apprehension of danger, but dismissed her fears, deciding that she had sufficient wisdom and strength to discern evil and to withstand it. Unmindful of the angels' caution, she soon found herself gazing with mingled curiosity and admiration upon the forbidden tree. The fruit was very beautiful, and she questioned with herself why God had withheld it from them. Now was the tempter's opportunity. As if he were able to discern the workings of her mind, he addressed her: 'Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?' Eve was surprised

and startled as she thus seemed to hear the echo of her thoughts. But the serpent continued, in a musical voice, with subtle praise of her surpassing loveliness; and his words were not displeasing. Instead of fleeing from the spot she lingered wonderingly to hear a serpent speak. Had she been addressed by a being like the angels, her fears would have been excited; but she had no thought that the fascinating serpent could become the medium of the fallen foe." -Patriarchs and Prophets, 54.

"Let the woman decide that it is the husbands prerogative to have full control of her body, and to mold her mind to suit his in every respect and run in the same channel of his own, and she yields her individuality. Her identity is lost, submerged in her husband. She is a mere machine for his will to move and control, a creature of his will and pleasure. He thinks for her, decides for her, and acts for her. She dishonors God in this passive position. She has a responsibility before God which it is her duty to preserve." -E.G.W. Pamphlets In the Concordance, vol. 1, 58.

"Could the instructors of children and youth have the result of their mistaken discipline mapped out before them, they would change their plan of education. . God never designed that one human mind should be under the control of another. And those who make efforts to have the individuality of their pupils merged in themselves, to be mind, will, and conscience for them, assume fearful responsibilities." Counsels to Teachers, 76.

8-BEWARE OF FALSE TEACHERS

"Some have thought it an evidence of intellectual keenness and superiority to perplex minds in regard to what is truth. They resort to subtlety of argument, to playing upon words; they take unjust advantage in asking Questions. When their Questions have been fairly answered, they will turn the subject [and] bring up another point to avoid acknowledging the truth. We should beware of indulging the spirit which controlled the Jews." Testimonies to Ministers, 108.

"But the fact that a movement to establish error is connected with a work which is in itself good, is not an argument in favor of the error. We may disguise poison by mingling it with wholesome food, but we do not change its nature. On the contrary, it is rendered more dangerous, as it is more likely to be taken unawares. It is one of Satan's devices to combine with falsehood just enough truth to give it plausibility." -Great Controversy. 587.

"I saw that many of these shepherds had denied the past teachings of God; they had denied and rejected the glorious truths which they once zealously advocated and had covered themselves with mesmerism and all kinds of delusions. I saw that they were drunken with error and were leading on their flock to death. Many of the opposers of God's truth devise mischief in their heads upon their beds, and in the day they carry out their wicked devices to put down the truth and to get something new to interest the people and divert their minds from the precious, all-important truth." -Early Writings, 123-124.

"The sciences of phrenology, psychology, and mesmerism are the channel through which he comes more directly to this generation and works with that power which is to characterize his efforts near the close of probation.

"Read 2 Thessalonians 2:8-12. 'Then shall that wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of His mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of His coming: even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish: because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: that they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.'" -1 Testimonies, 290.

"But how do men fall into such error? By starting with false premises, and then bringing everything to bear to prove the error true. In some cases, the first principles have a measure of truth interwoven with the error, but it does not lead to any just action, and this is why men are misled. In order to reign and become a power, they employ Satan's methods to justify their own principles. They exalt themselves as men of superior judgment, and they have stood as representatives of God. These are false gods." - Testimonies to Ministers, 363-364.

"Not every one that saith unto me, lord, lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

"Many will say to me in that day, lord, lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

"And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity."-Matthew 7:21-23.

"Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?"-Romans 6:16.

"While they (false prophets) promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage. "-2 Peter 2:19.

"You take passages in the Testimonies that speak of the close of probation, of the shaking among God's people, and you will talk of a coming out of a purer, holier people that shall arise. Now all this pleases the enemy. We should not give the impression that if our particular ideas are not followed it is because the ministers are walking in darkness. "-1 Selected Messages, 179.

"Before the believer is held out the wonderful possibility of becoming like Christ. obedient to an the principles of the law. But of himself man is utterly unable to reach this condition. The holiness that God's word declares he must have before he can be saved is the result of the working of divine grace as he bows in submission to the discipline and restraining influences of the Spirit of Truth. Man's obedience can be made perfect only by the incense of Christ's righteousness, which fills with divine fragrance every act of obedience. The part of the Christian is to persevere in overcoming every fault. Constantly he is to pray to the Savior to heal the disorders of His sin-sick soul. He has not the wisdom or the strength to overcome. These belong to the Lord, and He bestows them on those who in humiliation and contrition seek Him for help."-Acts of the Apostles, 532.

9- THE SPIRIT OF GENUINE RELIGION

"In matters of conscience the soul must be left untrammled. No one is to control another's mind, to judge for another, or to prescribe his duty. God gives to every soul freedom to think, and to follow his own convictions. 'Everyone of us shall give account of himself to God: No one has a right to merge his own individuality in that of another. In all matters where principle is involved, 'let everyman be fully persuaded in his own mind.' "Desire of Ages, 550.

"Keep the eye fixed on Christ. Do not fix your attention on some favorite minister, copying his example and imitating his gestures; in short, becoming his shadow. Let no man put his mold upon you. "- Evangelism, 630.

"Cease ye from man, whose breath is in his nostrils: for wherein is he to be accounted of?" -Isaiah 2:22.

"A strange thing has come into our churches. Men who are placed in positions of responsibility that they may be wise helpers to their fellow-workers, have come to suppose that they were set as kings and rulers in the churches, to say to one brother, do this, do that; and to another, be sure to labor in such

and such a way. There have been places where the workers have been told that if they did not follow the instruction of these men of responsibility, their pay from the conference would be withheld. .

"For years there has been a growing tendency for men placed in positions of responsibility to lord it over God's heritage, thus removing from church members their keen sense of the need of divine instruction and an appreciation of the privilege to counsel with God regarding their duty. This order of things must be changed. There must be a reform."-Testimonies to Ministers, 477-478.

"Religion, like all things else, was a matter of authority. The people were expected to believe and practice as their superiors directed. The right of man as man, to think and act for himself, was wholly unrecognized.

"Christ was establishing a kingdom on a different principle. He called men, not to authority, but to service, the strong to bear the infirmities of the weak. Power, position, talent, education, placed their possessor under greater obligation to serve his fellows. To even the lowliest of Christ's disciples, it is said, 'All things are for your sakes.' -2 Corinthians 4:15.

"But Jesus called them unto Him, and said. Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. "But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister: and whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant; even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many."-Mathew 20:25-28.

"If Nathanael had trusted to the rabbis for guidance, he would never have found Jesus. It was by seeing and judging for himself that he became a disciple. So, in the case of many today whom prejudice withholds from good. How different would be the result if they would 'come and see.'!

While they trust to the guidance of human authority, none will come to a saving knowledge of the truth. Like Nathaniel, we need to study God's word for ourselves and pray for the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit."-Desire of Ages, 141.

"The tempted one needs to understand the true force of the will. This is the governing power in the nature of man-the power of decision, of choice. Everything depends on the right action of the will. Desire for goodness and purity are right, so far as they go; but if we stop here, they avail nothing. Many will go down to ruin while hoping and desiring to overcome their evil propensities. They do not yield to God. They do not choose to serve Him." Ministry of Healing, 176.

NEW AGE BACKGROUNDS OF LOR CONCEPTS

New Age heathenism is ancient Eastern mysticism (primarily Hinduism) clothed in Western secular objectives, with words from both East and West. LOR is New Age heathenism clothed in Adventist religious language and objectives.

As you will see below, the ideas and devices used by LOR to entrap and hold Adventists are nothing more than regular New Age cult methods. For a few moments, let us see what New Age gurus would tell us about various aspect of LOR teaching and capture-and-keep strategy.

1- LOR teaches that certain leaders are MASTERS which the others in the commune must have to guide them aright. In New Age, these are the YOGI.

2- Their special teachings for Adventists would be called their DHARMA, or law, truth, or teaching. These are the essential truths of LOR, and, according to the "law of dharma," must be obeyed by the followers.

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3- The lower-level instructors in LOR are the equivalent of the GURU, who instruct the disciples in the way of enlightenment. Their authority is to be implicitly obeyed, but even they are secondary to the "masters."

4- The LOR teaching that the mind is to control the body, with health as a result, is HOLISTIC (sometimes spelled "wholistic"). This is a Hindu teaching that sickness and health is a choice of the mind and has no relation to morality or healthful living.

5-Closely related to HOLISM is the New Age SYNERGY, which, through group training sessions, is the effort to produce "whole making," or the putting together of natural systems into more integrated patterns.

6- The LOR concept of innate perfection of mind and body, merely by thinking it is so, is in New Age called SYNTROPY. This concept teaches that living matter has an inherent drive to automatically perfect itself, if given an opportunity.

7- When LOR induces personality changes, it lays heavy emphasis on ALTERED STATES, such as HYPNOTIC TRANCE in order to accomplish its purpose..

8-By inducing hypnotic states in workers and members, who then carry them out in letter writing to loved ones left behind, etc., recourse is made to HYPNOSIS, which is a state resembling a deep sleep or "trance," but is more active in that the person has some will and feeling but acts according to suggestions given. A variation of this, also used, is a semi-permanent hypnotic state, called a WALKING TRANCE.

9- An important LOR concept concerns what the Hindus call KARMA, or the "law of justice." The accumulation of cause-effect actions in this life determines the level of the follower's next reincarnation.

10-When LOR tells its followers at Life Supports seminars to close their eyes and visualize something, they are using VISUALIZATION, which is the imaginative seeing of a hoped for state-which they are then to automatically have simply by mentally "seeing" it.

11-The next step up from this is (1) CLAIRVOYANCE, which is mentally "seeing" things at a distance by PSYCHIC means; (2) TELEPATHY, which involves ESP ("extra-sensory perception" of another's mental state or thoughts) and is the silent transfer of thoughts, or communication at a distance; and (3) CLAIRAUDIENCE, which receives voices from unknown sources.

12- When Wayne chases the gophers out of his yard by commanding them to leave, he is using PARANORMAL phenomena that are nonphysical in nature. This is also called PSI, which itself also includes the ESP, TELEPATHY, CLAIRVOYANCE, and several other patterns mentioned elsewhere. He is able to predict the behavior of people and animals through DIVINATION, which is composed of special Eastern methods known only to the "masters." That power which enables Wayne to manipulate and alter natural events in his garden is termed SORCERY by the Eastern Cults. It requires a knowledge and use of MAGIC and performance of MAGIC RITUAL in order to attain its objective. Another New Age term for this is WITCHCRAFT, which is used by WITCHES (women magicians) and WARLOCKS (male magicians). Wayne's gopher chase utilizes these unusual "paranormal" powers, which must be accompanied by the proper "rituals." This requires the study of BOOKS OF MAGIC.

13- When a "master" can induce cause-effects beyond that of the normal, such as inducing instant sanctification and divine sealing, he is a SHAMAN or SPIRITUAL GUIDE, and is using "paranormal" faculties, which only the "yogis" have.

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14- LOR rejects the need for Scripture as required sources of enlightenment and instruction for their work. In order to have such a mature set of Eastern teachings and mind control technics, LOR would instead use AKASHIC RECORDS, which are the various guru books of Eastern lore. The New Age considers them to be the only true source of knowledge. They call them a vast fountain of wisdom and omniscient knowledge.

15-Another primary source for New Agers is ETHER, or UNIVERSAL MIND, which they contact via hypnotic sessions

16- These hypnotic sessions are basic to the successful operation of cults, such as LOR, for through them CHANNELING occurs. This is the process of receiving, through hypnotic states, knowledge from HIGHER POWERS outside of humanity which communicates secret knowledge to it. These "higher powers" include the ASCENDED MASTERS (dead people) who now live on "the other side" of the physical world. Another source is the HIGHER SELF, which is a mysterious wisdom within oneself, which can be tapped for knowledge and power through a CHANNELER or a "yogi." This "higher self" is also called the OVERSOUL, the SUPERCONSCIOUSNESS, the ATMAN, KRISHNA, BUDDHA, and GOD WITHIN.

17- ASTRAL PROJECTIONS are brief flights into nothingness outside the body for deeper experiences. This is also called ASTRAL and OBE ("out of body experience"). This is done through event recalling, visualization, hypnotic suggestion by the master, and various body contortions such as putting one's head in his lap, or laying on the floor.

18 -A primary objective of LOR, as of all the Eastern cults, is to bring the follower to the highest state of godenlightment, or SAMADHI (also known as SATORI). This is a state of existential intuitive enlightenment. Holding the head low and recalling previous cause-effect events in one's life aids in inducing this "samadhi."

19- Each cult will specialize in certain Eastern practices, while generally using nearly all of them. Important among these are the TANTRAS, which are special YOOA positions, and would include those mentioned above. These "tantras" are designed to more swiftly bring "enlightenment."

20-"Yoga," itself is important to LOR goals, for it teaches three things: (1) a state of mental vacuity with a good feeling about it, (2) the loss of self-identity, and (3) absorption of the will into the mind of the SUPERIOR. LOR is doing a fairly good job in providing all three for its disciples.

21- The New Age sees value in using SYNCRETISM for a more rapid attainment of its supernatural goals. This is a dipping into and combining of Hinduism, Buddhism, Yogi, Tao, etc., and then using part of them all (FUSION).

22- New Age thinking is actually a blending of Eastern heathen religion with HUMANISM, which is the concept that man is the measure of all things, and whatever he wills, - he can do. LOR combines both in its teachings; its master teachers have been doing their homework well. But it would have been better if they had remained with the only pure font of truth and wisdom, the Written Word of God. All else is foolishness.

23- The resultant general theory developed out of all this research into atheistic and heathen concepts and rituals is a WORLD VIEW or COSMIC REALITY. The means of attaining it is through the TAO or UNIVERSAL WAY, which through partial or deep hypnotic procedures is transferred through "training sessions" from the masters or the spirits to the disciples. This is done through METAPHYSICS, which is the teaching of Eastern systems of TRANSCENDENT PRINCIPLES. One of the goals of this is the attainment of MONISM, which is a single, unified understanding of the universe.

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24- Masters stare at their disciples as well as others - not only to induce "hypnotic states," but also to read their AURA. The "aura" is supposed to be an envelope or field of colored radiation surrounding the body, which only certain people can see. Reading it tells the guru how far along a person is in THE WAY, or path to deepest Eastern knowledge, for it defines his spiritual and psychological condition.

25- MYSTICISM, in the special sense, is finding god by emptying the mind and submitting to the rules of a human superior. This required emptying is important, for it has the effect of eliminating personal principles, held beliefs, and standards from the frontal brain so that spirit-control and the placement of Eastern error can more easily occur. REALITY is attained through SUBJECTIVE EXPERIENCE, INTUITION, and UNIFYING VISIONS. The eventual hoped-for result is NIRVANA, the "slipping of the dewdrop of the soul into the sea of infinity." This comes, in the ultimate sense, at the end of the ceaseless cycles of reincarnation. This is the final reward of the Eastern disciples and would be about the same thing as the Second Death in Revelation 20: the soul is forever gone.

26- Closely related to the Eastern cult view of cause-effect, is SYNCHRONICITY, which is the study of meaningful coincidences earlier in one's life which may or may not have a cause-effect relationship. The SECRET MASTERS instruct their earthly gurus to provide the disciples with hours of training in CAUSE-EFFECT RECALL and synchronicity. This keeps them all preoccupied while their probationary times slips away into eternity.

27-Christians believe in THEISM, which is the Bible concept of a personal Creator God. But the New Agers, such as Wayne and David, believe that they and everyone else are gods. This could only be true under the Eastern concept known as PANTHEISM, which applies divinity to everyone and everything in the universe.

COMPARING CHRISTIANITY WITH THE NEW AGE

Now that you have had an opportunity to look at the hodge-podge of Eastern mysticism, transformed by New Age terminology into neopaganism, you might wonder why anyone would want to wander off after LOR in the exploration of such a wasteland of empty thinking.

The lesson to be learned here is that the Lorites began by desiring that which God had not revealed, and by doing that which He had forbidden. No one is to confess his sins to an earthly priest, receive his absolution, or yield the soul to his after-control. But the restless desire to explore the forbidden will always bring ultimate grief and tragedy.

But not only are the disciples of LOR doing it, but thousands of other Westerners are doing the same at similar training sessions. The only difference is in the labels, not in the concepts. That is what you are learning in this section of this multi-tract study into the teachings and methods of LOR.

There are several approaches that the New Age uses in reaching people. Here are four of them: (1) Channeling and direct contact with disembodied spirits. (2) Psychic groups that use physical healing, mind reading, and predictions of future events. (3) Old-fashioned Eastern religious groups, that use only Eastern names and labels. (4) Western-style self-help training groups for businessmen and business organizations. LOR combines mystic data from all four, and initially presents itself under an Adventist-label variation of number 4, but then moves on with its captured disciples into numbers 2 and 1.

Another problem is personality regression. It is known that one of the early stages an infant goes through is an extremely close relationship with its mother, in which she makes a large part of its decisions for it. Analysts of New Age techniques say that the New Age objective is to bring people back

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to this early level of infancy, in which they will yield almost total control, through a human master, to their spirit director.

As with the Eastern religions, New Age bring seven special experiences to people. In accepting these "gifts," the disciples accept Satanic control of their minds:

- (1) A sense of acceptance by a powerful being, either a man or a spirit.
- (2) The promise of greater peace, happiness, and power, as well as daily protection.
- (3) The concept of merger into another, more powerful personality.
- (4) Pictures, words, and directions that will come to the mind as a consequence of following special rituals.
- (5) A denial of problems, sin, or anything negative. It isn't there because we say it isn't. In other words, the demon promised a removal of problems, and gives them by requiring denial that the problems exist!
- (6) A numbing of sensations, hypnotic trances, and lowering of mental consciousness. This is done by meditation, hypnotic techniques, repetitive chanting of a word or phrase, visualization exercises, and repeating of Eastern scriptures,- especially the Mantras.
- (7) Uniting with god or becoming a separate one. This occurs simply by saying it is so, or by the use of prescribed rituals.

Is it easy to get out after having gotten in? Many later try to escape from the spirit control they received from the New Age. The intense mental-control sessions at LOR camp-meetings and advanced training seminars have this in mind; overworked mind-control is done in order to lessen the possibility of a later escape from the group. Frequently the mind becomes so attuned, that it fears to leave lest it leave part of itself behind.

What has happened is that the person has, through the intense mind control sessions, regressed from normal adulthood to that of a dependent child. Some of the disciples will become directly psychotic as a result of what their minds have undergone. They are then quietly thrown out by the group. The only answer to life's problems - or to those caught in the New Age - is Christianity. It alone has the TRUTH, the only truth, regarding all the basic issues of life. Here are several basic concepts taught by Christianity that are directly opposed to the Eastern religions:

- 1- The only God is the one described in the Inspired Scriptures (the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy). Man is not God and will never be God. Man will never share in four special attributes of God, which are His sovereignty, omnipresence, omniscience, and self-existing eternity.
- 2-Man is separate from plants and animals and will never be one of them either.
- 3-As a separate being, he is responsible for his actions - and he is responsible for them directly to His Creator, the God of heaven and earth.
- 4-Man was created in the image of God, but is capable of leaving Him and choosing evil. For this reason, evil and sin are real and not imaginary.
- 5-Man can experience various feelings of happiness or anxiety, but throughout them his individuality and personality are not to be obliterated.
- 6- That which we want we are to obtain through action, in accordance with the requirements of God as given in His Written Word. Our desires are not to be provided through wishes or Eastern concentration.

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7-Man must maintain relationships with others, in spite of problems. He is not to run away and become a hermit.

8- Idealization of people or objects is idolatry. Never is man to yield his mind to another created being.

9-Conflict, pain, struggle, problems, and disappointment are a natural part of life. They are to cause us to flee to God for help, and in His strength deal with them in a way that brings the ever-deepening growth of self-control and obedience to God.

10-Man has only one probationary life. There are not endless reincarnations into this present world.

THREE LEVELS OF BELIEFS

We have noticed that there are several levels of belief in the LOA.

On the FIRST LEVEL we find the inferences that are presented at the initial meeting when their agents try to capture you. These views would run something like this: "We are faithful Seventh-day Adventist believers, holding to all the traditional, historic beliefs. The basis for our faith is the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy, and, as always, we are tonight presenting what we believe from what is found in those books. We have now discovered marvelous new light. If you will but accept it tonight, you can, apart from anything that you do, have total victory over sin. You will be sinless, and have a warmer, close fellowship with other Christians than ever before. You will have sweet joy, peace, and kindly love for all men."

On the SECOND LEVEL we find the teachings that are presented to those that have been captured. They go something like this: "We are god, and you can maintain your victory only by total submission to us. Beware of Bible-Spirit of Prophecy study, and avoid those that would quote them to you. Stay away from Christians; they are dangerous. In fact, be suspicious of everyone. You can only trust your leaders. By the way, report to us on what the other LOA followers in the commune are doing."

On the THIRD LEVEL we find the innermost teachings of the top leaders of LOR. We can know that these are their beliefs (1) because of the New Age sources they are obtaining their ideas from, and (2) because only those sources can unravel and make sense of the strange ideas and methods they use on Levels One and Two. Not even the captured followers learn this third level very quickly. Here it is:

"We are all gods. All people are gods; animals too, and all inanimate nature. We have never sinned and never shall - for there is no sin! There are no sacred scriptures either. We are constantly perfect and constantly progressing in it. We are naturally immortal and eternal. We have had countless reincarnations, and shall have more for all eternity. There is no heaven and no hell. There is no god above us and no devil beneath us.

Hinduism is the best representation of the true religion, and the New Age its best Western expression. As gods, we can crush and kill and it matters not. For there are no standards and no laws. We make our own. What we think, we are. What we do is our reincarnated destiny. We are everywhere and nowhere. We are nothing and everything. We have everything and actually nothing at all. Past, present, and future may or may not exist. There is only one thing to fear and oppose: The God and Scriptures and people of Christianity. It is our work to confuse and capture them, and desolate their families, and then we are doing the work of our secret master, for you see, the deepest concept is the truth; it is the reason we target our operations as we do. It is the truth of the Fourth Level."

On the FOURTH LEVEL we find what, in our opinion, is the real reason why LOR is doing what they are doing - whether or not they realize it: "We are guided by a master power that knows that, underneath all the lies and subterfuge, Christianity, God, the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy, and the Final Judgment against sin and sinners really are genuine! THAT is why we are urged on to ridicule, oppose, and seek to destroy them! If they were nothing we would ignore them entirely, for no one fights against nothing."

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The mystery of the FIRST LEVEL is how these men dare claim to be sinless, forgive the confessed sins of others, and offer them sinlessness for eternity by yielding to them. The mystery is answered by the insight of the second level: They believe themselves to be god. .

The mystery of the SECOND LEVEL is how these men can be so non-Christian in their conduct as they seek to capture Christians, destroy their families, and threaten to slay those who might resist them. The mystery is answered by the third level: They are not Christians, but Eastern New Agers.

The mystery of the THIRD LEVEL is why they bother to focus their attention on blotting historic Adventism from the minds of men, and desolating their families, -when their own inner teachings are such a wasteland of Hindu nothingness. The mystery is answered by the fourth level: In our opinion, they are Satanists who have been taught by their master to hate the remnant of the true church in these last days: the commandment -keeping people of Revelation 12:17 and 14:12 that are on the other side of the Great Controversy between Christ and Satan.

Without doubt, we are very close to the end of time.

AS WE GO TO PRESS

PRESENT POSITION ON DIVORCE We have just received word that the top leadership In Sandpoint Is backing off from their demand that all their members Immediately file divorce suits. The members who have left their husbands, wives, and children behind may be objecting too strenuously.

But the possibility of extensive legal action over some of these matters against LOR may have caused them to soften on this one position. It is to the best Interests of LOR that it continue to remain as much undercover and out-of-sight as possible. When LOR comes to a new community of Adventists, It Is less likely to succeed if the local Adventists have already been forewarned as to its teachings, methods of operation, and mind and body control of captured Adventists.

LOR ARRIVING INCOGNITO-We have also learned that there are at least two splinter groups which have already split off of LOR that are also beginning to tour around and capture Adventists. These groups have the same basic beliefs as does LOR (sinlessness, I am god, the Holy Spirit as the third Member of the Godhead does not exist, etc.). However, they refuse submission to the leadership of LOR. They are doing the same work and teaching the same things, but separate from LOR.

Again we say, If anyone comes to you claiming to be without sin, or who offers you Immediate sinlessness, -flee from the meeting at once! Better yet, do not attend private meetings conducted by individuals that you do not know.

We have also learned that, on two occasions recently, have been held in meetings in local communities to which Adventists were invited to attend. But In each of these instances, one Adventist had already been captured elsewhere-and then invited local Advent believers to attend a group meeting-without telling them that a LOR agent was to speak that night! This thing is getting more dangerous all the time!

What I say to one, I say to all: BEWARE!

THE DEADLY HARVEST CONTINUES - Hardly two days go by without those of us here at Pilgrims Rest headquarters learning of another Instance in which a someone has left family and children-or parents-and run off with a LOR agent. Three days ago it was another Adventist wife and mother; this morning it was the elderly mother of several faithful, married Adventists.

FOR FURTHER STUDY

A TRACT BOOK ON LOR- We have many pages of additional documentation on the LOR problem. This consists of letters, reports, personal testimonies and experiences, and more besides. Instead of making this present tract set too lengthy, we have held it to six tracts, and will be offering the additional material in a tractbook that you can obtain from us.

This tract book will include the above materials, plus additional Spirit of Prophecy quotations that we did not have space to include. There will be no essential duplication of the papers, but there will be of the Spirit of Prophecy quotations. The tractbook will include all the quotations found in this tract set, plus about twice again that many more quotations. Even then we have by no means exhausted the subject, yet the quotations will provide you with a springboard for further study on your own. And do study! Study by yourself and study with your loved ones. Write your friends and warn them and encourage them to study also. Studying God's Word is always profitable, as long as we let the Holy Spirit guide in that study, and as we determine to obey that which we find. The danger is when we let others do our studying for us, for they may draw their conclusions on the basis of unscriptural assumptions-which we do not immediately perceive until we are caught in a webwork of error. Be afraid of those who would demand that you accept their ideas merely on their authority. God's Written Word must be the highest authority, and those who refuse to let you make your own decisions privately on the basis of Scripture are untrustworthy.

The name of this special tractbook is THE TEACHINGS AND METHODS OF LOR. At this time it has 76 pages, but many more pages are being sent to us that we will include. It is available on a donation basis. We are thankful that we can make it available to you. Each tractbook will also include a complete set of these six tracts, and thus forms a complete whole that can be shared with others.

HOW TO AVOID ENTRAPMENT BY THE LOR

The agents of the LOR have generally identified themselves when they hold meetings, either as "life Supports" or as "the Lord Our Righteousness Church." But because they are becoming so obnoxious in their claims and pressure tactics, and as word gradually spreads about the disastrous results of meeting with them, they are not always now identifying their organization when they come to hold their studies. So what can YOU do to protect yourself from these agents of Satan?

As I am writing on this, a telephone call just came in from a mother on the West Coast who lost a son to the LOR. She relates that they use hypnotism to their meetings. I inquired how they do this, and was told that, having been unsuccessful in their appeal for you to accept "the gift," they will stand there and stare at you. As they do this, they may be silently communicating with their devils. I was told that the pressure is intense on those receiving this treatment. What should you do in order to avoid capture? Hopefully, if you can but learn how to avoid it, you may be able to successfully urge your friends and loved ones to avoid it also. Here are several worthwhile suggestions:

1- You are now reading part of a major expose of LOR. Study this entire tract series carefully, and then share it with others who need it. This will be those in your home, your relatives, those in your local church, other Adventists you know who live elsewhere. Send copies to pastors, conference and union leaders. Send copies overseas to missionaries. They need it too, for LOR is headed their way also.

2- These LOR meetings are always held in non-Adventist denominationally owned buildings. We recognize that many worthwhile studies are being given in private homes,-but since LOR only uses such facilities, you had better be very careful which private meetings you henceforth attend! This is no unimportant matter! A mistake here can mean the ruin of your life, your home, the life of a loved one

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dear to you. If you do not know the person who will be conducting the meeting, perhaps you had better not attend it. It is as simple as that.

3-If you arrive at a meeting-and then learn it is a LOR meeting, you should LEAVE-walk out the door as soon as you learn the fact! And, if possible, take your loved ones with you. This cannot be overemphasized. Do not think that those people deserve even the customary courtesy of your "hearing them out." Get up and go toward the door; open it and leave, taking your loved ones with you.

4- The moment you realize it is a LOR meeting, begin praying earnestly that you will safely get out of there, and that you will be able to get others out. Before leaving, speak up and give a warning to all who are there. God expects this of you. Do not leave them unwarned!

5-You may still be confronted by a LOR agent. A loved one may bring him to your home, or some other unexpected eventuality may occur. The events of life are never predictable. If this happens, order him to leave or try to leave yourself, taking your children and loved ones with you. Pray to God all through the experience.

6-You may have gone to a meeting with your spouse, and then he or she doesn't see the need to immediately depart. So you think you should perhaps remain through that meeting, praying earnestly, refusing to consider any of his suggestions, and determining you will never give the authority that belongs to God's Word into the hands of a man. (Better yet, plan ahead: make sure your loves ones read this tract series BEFORE such a meeting occurs) If, for some reason, you must talk with him; remember that he cannot take control of your will without your surrendering it. It may appear that people were captivated without desiring it, but this is not true. No one can snatch a trusting soul out of the hand of Christ; never! You have placed yourself as a little child in God's hands. You did not initiate this contact and you plan to conclude it as soon as possible. But while there, you intend to speak up and stand for the right and tell others so: He cannot overpower you unless you begin liking that which he has to offer, or unless you start becoming intrigued by it. But remember that to merely TARRY in his presence and listen to him is extremely dangerous, for you may start becoming intrigued with the sense of hidden, superhuman power that obviously accompanies him. It is a law of advertising to first catch their attention, then their interest, and then you have them. And that law works for devils as well as for Madison Avenue.

7-What did Ellen White do when confronted by Satanic agents? First, she did not try to have confrontations with them. Second, when it happened anyway, she resolutely stood her ground and denounced them in the name of the Lord. She did not try on such occasions to be gentle and meek-mannered. She prayed earnestly and asked God to send "that second angel" that was promised to her when-ever she might be in danger of mesmerists. That angel is promised to you also, for you are just as precious to your heavenly Father as was Ellen White. She was never presumptuous, and never sought to place herself in situations from which God would have to extricate her in order to save her from harm by devils. Do not go onto devil territory, but if you find yourself there, stand earnestly for the Lord, for Jesus, and for the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. Show to all your present loyalty; let everyone know which side you are on. Give your testimony and then get out of there!

8-Never, NEVER, remain in a place and talk to people who will not let you quote the Word of God! To sidestep God's Word as the authority in a religious conversation is to be liable to Satan's enchanted entrapment. He can and does take over minds!

9-As mentioned elsewhere in this study, in all of his interviews with earlier victims of the Lorites or their loved ones, the present writer has noticed that no one ever succumbed to these agents of Satan as long as they held solidly to the fact that Scripture-the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy-are the only spiritual authority, and far above any supposed authority that men might claim in matters of faith and

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conscience. As long as they looked first to Scripture, as long as they kept earnestly praying to God, pleading for help, and anxiously searching His Word for guidance-THEY WERE PRESERVED! But when they made the decision, under immense Lorite pressure-to yield their judgment to one of Wayne Bent's agents,-then they were swept away, and immediately no longer had any desire to read Scripture or to pray to God. At that point, they were no longer Christians, although they may have thought they were.

10-And why were those people caught? They kept dallying with Satan's agents and kept toying with the confusing ideas they presented. When in doubt, flee to God! Run away from those who are obviously trying to confuse you.

11a-Afterward, go to God's holy Word and read and read and read, praying as earnestly as you read. Fill your mind anew with the eternal truths of Scripture. It is always safe to do this.

What should you read? Such books as Steps to Christ, Mount of Blessing, Desire of Ages, Christ's Object Lessons, and Great Controversy are what you need. Prayerfully, open at random here and there in the Testimonies, and read wherever you open. Then turn at random to other locations and read. You will obtain the "big picture" of God's grace and His plan for your life from all this reading. The answer is not necessarily to be found on one page or two of what you read. Study and soak in the Word. Look up topics in the 3- Volume Index. Do less reading in other things for a time, and avoid the radio, etc. Be thinking about what you have read. Keep praying for help for yourself and those you love.

11b-Sometimes we wonder who in life we CAN trust! It will be those who themselves stand solidly for the Word of God, whose lives are clean, and who do not toy with error,-AND who are anxious that you go directly to God for guidance as to what you should do! But even they are not to be trusted when they come to you with totally new concepts that you have never found in all your earlier reading of Scripture. Brush aside all their logic - and ask for the statements from Inspiration. You should be able to see the correctness of each detail of any "new light" message in the quotations themselves, with no comments appended. When men have to explain the Word, then they are probably mixing it up.

12-Beware of those who would, in spiritual matters, have you do what they want - without wanting you to confirm it for yourself in God's Written Word in your own prayer room. Those who do not want you to have religious liberty to make your own decisions are either ignorant or despots. If they are ignorant, you do not need them for a spiritual guide; if a despot, then you dare not have them for your counselor. Either way, they are dangerous. As a rule, humble Christians who urge you to search God's Word for yourself, lest you be misled - are the safest.

13- Cling to God and to His Inspired Writings, the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. All men will fail you, but God never will. Therefore you dare not take yourself out of His hands. Seek for unity with others in the church; do not try to be a problem. Instead, try to be part of the solution. But you must speak up when there is sin in the camp, otherwise you are being neutral in a religious crisis. And God needs champions that will defend His standards and teachings. The cowards, men-pleasers, and time-servers are of little help to Him in such emergencies, and emergencies is what the church of God is daily encountering at this time in history. You have no idea of the weighty problems our church on all levels is dealing with every day: apostasies, scandals, swindles, immorality of every type, major losses, manifold compromises by associates. Our leaders need your prayers that they may stand true to our Bible-Spirit of Prophecy beliefs. In a later tract we will provide you with many important statements from the Spirit of Prophecy that will greatly help you help others in resisting the LOR.

THE LORD OF REBELLION

Since the beginning of history there have been two churches. One is under the command of the Creator, the God of heaven. It is characterized by careful obedience to His Scriptural truths on the part of His

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subjects who in full freedom of choice give Him their worship and loyalty. Genuine justification and sanctification are theirs through the Lord our Righteousness.

There is also a second church; it was started by Satan long ages ago, and is the church of the lord of Rebellion. That organization, the church of the LOR, is characterized by "lords many and gods many," rebellion against the authority of the true God and His Written Word, and the calling of sin righteousness and of righteousness sin. Its followers are deluded into thinking that they are the masters of the universe, when, in reality, they are but programmed slaves of the devil.