

# The Cults Exposed

## Miscellaneous Cults:

### Introduction: **America & the Proliferation of False Messiahs**

*“The people that joined were really good people. They were innocent. They were looking for something larger than themselves to be involved in. Nobody joined thinking their lives would be taken.”*

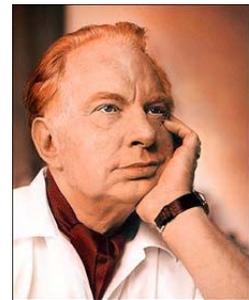
Deborah Layton, Jonestown survivor (*SE Missourian*, 11-15-98)

## I. **Scientology**

### **Scientology’s Founder: L. Ron Hubbard (1911-1986)**

#### Official Biography:

- Child prodigy
- Visits Asia during HS years to study Eastern religions
- Earned doctorates in philosophy and religion
- War hero
- Renaissance man



L. Ron Hubbard

#### Actual Biography:

Note: Gerry Armstrong was commissioned to write an authorized biography and discovered numerous discrepancies with the “official biography.”

- Asian trip was a sham
- Mediocre HS student
- Flunked out of engineering school at George Washington University after 2 years.
- Never in combat (disability = arthritis and bursitis)
- Writer of science fiction stories with themes of magic and demonology

### **Scientology’s History: From Self Help Book to Worldwide “Sci Fi-Religion”**

1948 *Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health* released (expanded in 1950) A how to book ahead of the “Me Generation” wave.

#### Techniques: Dianetics

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| Auditors -  | listen and aid the patient in finding and releasing “engrams.” The goal is reach a “clear” state.      |
| Engrams -   | records of unconscious past perceptions that are harmful.  |
| Reverie -   | hypnotic state of patient while being audited  |
| Canceller - | a legal agreement to “hold harmless” the auditor   |
| E-meter -   | a device (patented by L. Ron Hubbard) to measure the emotional stress as he or she describes the past. |

Note: The basic problem of man is not sin, rather it is harmful perceptions. These perceptions are “released.” Atonement is unnecessary. The auditors are rigidly trained by Hubbard’s organization and receive compensation. The “E-meter” gives the process an air of technical legitimacy.

1954 The Church of Scientology was organized providing legal and financial advantage. “Franchises” give 10% to the organization  
Extensive training required.  
Headquarters are in Clearwater, FL (aka “Land Flag Base”)  
Outreach through free IQ tests and cheap copies of Dianetics and other “felt need” publications.  
Converts often are young, middle class people with some education.  
Celebrity emphasis encouraged through awards and Celebrity Centers. John Travolta, Kirstie Allen, Lisa Marie Presley, Isaac Hayes, Edgar Winter, Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes are high profile Scientologists.

Tenets: Scientology:

- Every human is a “Thetan” = possessors of an immortal spirit with unlimited potential.
- All have a Reactive Mind Bank which retains engrams
- Auditing can release engrams with positive results
- Once restored to the original “clear” state one becomes an “Operating Thetan” [OT] Note: Jesus never reached OT status says Scientology.
- Reincarnation is taught and soul travel to investigate past lives is practiced. L. Ron Hubbard claims to have gone back 74 trillion years to explore.
- The ultimate goal is self actualization [OT].
- Anti psychology and psychiatry
- Silent births with little anesthesia

Abuses:

- 1- Hubbard: drugs, perversion, venereal disease, mental illness, occultism
- 2- Church: shunning enemies (aka SP - Suppressive Persons), suspicion of associates who waiver (aka PTS - Potential Trouble Sources), “disconnection” from family who are antagonistic, physical abuse and blackmail of SP’s, attempt to censor You Tube, Google and other search engines.

1969 - Scientology declared a bona fide religion after six years of litigation (Germany and several other European nations do not recognize it as a religion)

1971 - Washington DC court rules: “The E-meter has no proven usefulness in the diagnosis or prevention of disease...”

1977 - Scientology headquarters raided again.

1980 - L. Ron Hubbard goes into seclusion.

1986 - L. Ron Hubbard dies at age 74.

1990s - Begin crack down on internet critics

2007 - Scientology claims 3.5 million US members

## II The Unification Church

### Unification Church's Founder:

#### Sun Myung Moon (1920-Present)



Father & Mother of the Universe

- 1920 - born in N. Korea, given name Yong Myung Moon means "Shining Dragon Moon." Parents become Presbyterian when he is ten.
- 1936 - vision of Jesus on Easter morning who asked him repeatedly to either "restore God's perfect kingdom" or "complete man's salvation by being the second coming of Christ" [the wording varies in differing accounts.
- 1944 - associate with extreme Pentecostal group, marries
- 1945 - Vision of victory over spirit world. Satan surrenders to him. Moon becomes God's true son. Changes name to "Shining Sun and Moon."
- 1946 - studies under Paik Moon Kim, a Korean messiah figure, and during six months in a monastery he develops his beliefs.
- 1950 - after 4 year imprisonment for his anti-communist affiliation, begins teaching.
- 1954 - Founder the Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity, his church is named the Unification Church.
- 1955 - arrested on a charge of "causing social disorder." Wife divorces him. Note: Likely the practice of blood purification [pikarume] was the issue: "Moon purportedly performed intercourse with each female initiate to purify her of the pollution she had inherited from Eve." The UC denies this yet it fits with their theology.
- 1957 - publishes the *Divine Principle*, dictated by God.
- 1960 - marries Hak Ja Han, who was less than half his age. He bills this as the "Marriage of the Lamb" [Rev. 19] and the new couple as "the Father and Mother of the Universe," the "True Parents" who reverse the sin of Adam and Eve. "Since Adam fell by being dominated by Eve, he (Moon) had to reverse the precedent by achieving complete domination over his wife... after three years, he says, she would sacrifice her life if he so ordered." (Cited in Tucker, AG, p. 250.)
- 1965 - Moon has a seance with medium Arthur Ford. Ford's spirit guide identifies Moon as the Christ, the coming world teacher of the New Age.
- 1967 - Moon weds 777 couples in a ceremony near Seoul.
- 1972 - Begins American crusades and moves to US. Shifts tactics from a theological focused message to an individual focus with exaggerated friendliness and weekend retreats designed to "brainwash" their participants. De-programming becomes an issue of national focus.
- 1973 - Headquarters established in Tarrytown, NY an additional estate was purchased for \$620,000 for Moon's residence. Nixon poses for pictures with Moon prior to Watergate resignation. Moon takes out full page ads supporting the President.
- 1975 - Moon weds 5,837 couples in a ceremony near Seoul. Moon begins a "world peace blitz."
- 1981 - the Year of the Kingdom of Heaven with Moon as "Lord of the Second Advent." [The date originally had been 1960-67, then 1968-74, then 1975-81; now it has been shifted to 2001.]
- 1982 - Two more mass weddings in Madison Square Gardens. Couples are arranged with little or no prior relationship.
- 1982 - Moon and associate convicted of tax evasion for failure to pay tax on \$1,700,000 of interest income. The Supreme Court rejects the case in 1984 and Moon serves 13 months in jail and a \$25,000 fine. Lawrence Tribe was Moon's attorney, Bob Dole initiated the investigation.
- 1988 - Moon weds 6,516 couples from 83 countries in ceremony near Seoul. Moon's son, killed in auto accident in 1984, is claimed to have come back to life in the body of

one of Moon's disciples from Zimbabwe. This is explained as channeling not reincarnation.

- 1995 - Nansook Moon, wife of Moon's son Hyo Jin, leaves with her five children and reports her husband's abuse, drug use and financial extravagance with church funds. Court battles expose the seamy side of the "perfect family." Several key leaders left the movement in the light of the revelations. [Hyo Jin in 1992 had learned the truth about the early purification rituals of his father from a family member.]
- 1996 - holds "Inaugural World Convention" to restore family values and achieve world peace. Large honoraria attract celebrities like Bill Cosby & Gerald Ford.  
Note: Many of these events are organized by Moon front organizations. Organizations which the UC states are "financially independent yet fully or partially funded, inspired or staffed by UC members." Platform guests have included Robert Schuller, Maureen Reagan, Jack Kemp, Coretta Scott King, Marilyn Quayle, Ralph Reed, Barabara Walters and Pat Boone.
- 2000- Unification Church co-sponsors the Million Family March on Washington.
- 2002 - Federal police in Brazil raid Moon organizations in relation to tax evasion charges
- 2005 - Church draws criticism for it's anti-gay stance. Moon had referred to homosexuals as "dirty dung-eating dogs."

Moon Organizations& Publications:

Washington Times, New Yorker Hotel, American Freedom Coalition, American Constitution Committee, Insight Magazine, Professors World Peace Academy of the University of Bridgeport (CT), Unification News, New World Communications.

Moon's net worth is over \$15,000,000.

### **Unification Church's Theology: "The Moon is not the Son"**

- Bible - is a textbook teaching the truth, it is not truth. It sheds light on the truth until a brighter light appears, *Divine Principle*.
- God- Moon teaches that God has both masculine and feminine qualities (this polarity was previously taught by Mother Ann Lee of the Shakers and Mary Baker Eddy).
- Jesus - Jesus is the image of God, but not God himself. Jesus, according to UC theology, was the son of Mary and Zacharias, the aged priest (Lk. 1:39). Jesus was sent to establish a perfect kingdom by marrying a perfect woman and having perfect children. Due to a mistake, the betrayal of John the Baptist, he was crucified enabling him to only provide partial salvation. The Lord of the Second Advent will remove the effects of original sin and restore the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth.
- H.S. - God's redemptive activity, not a separate entity.
- Fall - Two falls: [1] spiritual (vertical) fall due to Eve's sexual adultery with Lucifer; and [2] physical (horizontal) in her deception of Adam. Eve bore Cain by Lucifer and Abel by Adam. Thus the origin of the opposing camps of communism and democracy.
- Future - After the "Marriage of the Lamb" the "True Parents" began establishing a perfect family through mass marriages. Thus a perfect society will be formed throughout the entire world. Note: The Korean people are said to be the "third Israel."

Note: Moon's "misinterpretations of the scriptures persuades outsiders that his Eastern religion is complementary with and, indeed, is the fulfillment of biblical Christianity." [Martin, KC, p. 338]

Other Eastern (Hindu) religious groups have been "westernized" to enhance reception in the United States:

### III Other Eastern Transplants

#### **Hare Krishna or ISKCON (International Society for Krishna Consciousness)**

A sect of Vishnu Hinduism planted in New York City by Swami Prabhupada of Calcutta, India. Krishna is revered as the supreme personality of the Godhead. Public solicitations, pastel robes, shaved heads and spiritual chanting make them higher profile than their numbers. The *Bhagavad-Gita* is their scripture. Their magazine, *Back to the Godhead*, is distributed by followers. Jesus, according to ISKCON, is considered a son of Krishna but not in a unique sense. Salvation for devotees comes through the removal of karmic debt through personal sacrifice and chanting. The Beatles' George Harrison put Krishna theology to music in his hit song, "My Sweet Lord."

#### **Transcendental Meditation**

Initially the Maharishi Mahesh Yogi sought to introduce spiritual yoga to the west. Through yoga disciplines one is absorbed into the oneness of God (aka "Creative Intelligence"). TM's pantheism has little need for Jesus or a God distinct from His creation. Receptivity to TM greatly increased after 1970 when the practice was re-marketed as a non-religious means of exercise and relaxation yielding inner peace and centeredness.

#### **Osho (Rajneeshism)**

The preeminent eastern guru of the 1980s, Bhagwan Shree (Sir God) Rajneesh was born in India and established a ashram in Poona, near Bombay. He gained the attention of *Time* magazine in 1978. Over 50,000 Americans travelled to India to be disciplined at his Ashram. His style of tantra yoga was noted for nudity, free love and primal screaming. In 1981 the Bhagwan was issued a visa and moved to the US. His goal is to set up sacred cities in various countries. That year a commune, Rajneeshpuram, was established on the "Big Muddy Ranch" near Antelope, Oregon. Controversy including charges of arson, attempted murder, drug smuggling and vote fraud preceded his deportation in 1985. Returning to Poona his ashram grew to 15,000 while his fleet Rolls Royces grew to 70. He adopted the Buddhist name Osho prior to his death (perhaps of Aids) in 1990. Followers have established Osho Centers, nicknamed by the L.A. Times as "Club Meditation," around the world.

#### **The Baha'i Faith**

A syncretistic religion originating in Iran in the nineteenth century. Mizra Ali Muhammed proclaimed himself the "Bab" (i.e. Gate) leading into a new era for mankind. He emphasized the common origins of the world's great religions. He was martyred in 1850 at age 31. His prophecy described a "Promised One" who would come to unite all religions. The prophesy they believe was fulfilled by Mizra Husayn' Ali, better known as Baha'u'llah. Despite claims of immortality, Baha'u'llah died at age 75. His son, Abdu'l-Baha, came to the US in 1912. At

his death in 1921 he was succeeded by his grandson, Shoghi Effendi. Today there are over 5,000 communities in 200 countries. The headquarters of the Baha'i World Faith Center is located in Haifa, Israel near Mount Carmel. Noteworthy adherents include: Leo Tolstoy, Woodrow Wilson's daughter, and musicians Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young. The number nine is sacred to Baha'i since it represents the world's nine great religions brought together by Baha'u'llah. They employ no ministers, only teachers who hold discussions in Baha'i Centers.

## **The Theosophical Society**

Russian born mystic, Helena Petrovna Blavatsky, was a student of comparative religion and a world traveler. She brought her synthesis of Hindu, Egyptian, and the ancient pagan mystery religions with her to America in 1875. Her two books, *The Secret Doctrine* and *Isis Unveiled* became the foundation of the beliefs of the Theosophical Society established by her in 1875. Her successor, an English devotee named Annie Besant, in 1925 claimed that her adopted son, Krishnamurti, was the coming "World Teacher" that Blavatsky predicted would come to usher in the New Age. Unfortunately for the Society, Krishnamurti, after six years of lectures, renounced his messiahship. Blavatsky's beliefs, heavily laced with occult overtones, were later popularized by Alice Bailey. Bailey's numerous books, acknowledged by her as dictated through an ascended master, are widely circulated today among New Age adherents. Blavatsky's Theosophical Society never was large, yet her beliefs are seminal for the New Age Movement.

### **Conclusion:           *The Motivation of False Teachers (II Peter 2)***

#### **Power**

*Deny the sovereign Lord [1]*  
*Despise authority [10]*  
*Bold and arrogant [10]*  
*Slander angels [10]*  
*Blaspheme where ignorant [12]*

#### **Greed**

*Their greed exploits with made-up stories [3]*  
*Experts in greed [14]*  
*Follow Balaam ... wages of wickedness [15]*

#### **Lust**

*Their shameful ways [3]*  
*Follow corrupt desire of sinful nature [10]*  
*Carouse in daylight and during feasts [13]*  
*Eyes full of adultery and seduce unstable [14]*  
*Appeal to lustful desire of human nature [18]*  
*Slaves of depravity [19]*