***Edgar Cayce

Things Befitting the Gospel, No. 4 - PH28-02

Advanced Bible Doctrine - Philippians 1:27***

We're continuing in our study of the things that are befitting the gospel. For us to do things that are befitting the gospel, it is necessary that we understand the doctrines of the Word of God which give us guidance in order to perform the things that are fitting. This series on Edgar Cayce is an attempt to lead you into a personal appreciation for the strategy of Satan in the angelic warfare. In other words, we are trying to take you into the very council of war that Satan has, at various times, with his demonic angels as he seeks to establish how he is going to go about destroying your testimony and neutralizing the believers.

**The Doctrine of Demons**

We come to this point now which is rather a frightening one because we are now going to teach you the doctrines of demons. What you are going to hear is going to literally be doctrines of demons. It is going to be the information that Satan gives out under the guise that this is coming from God. We have found you will remember that, from ancient times, there has been a belief in the existence of religious knowledge which has been possessed by certain insiders--not by everybody, but by certain insiders. There was a depth of particular knowledge that they possessed. The Bible is viewed by these as a form of divine revelation, but it is not the final authority in itself.

This is an old liberal idea, and it is promoted by the devil because Satan is interested in having us think that, the Book of Mormons, for example, is a sacred book, and that the book of the Koran is a sacred book, and that it has certain revelations to give us. As a matter of fact, in the case of Edgar Cayce, it was important to establish this idea that there were insiders who had particular knowledge and insights concerning spiritual things which they could give above and beyond the Word of God. So, the Bible is viewed as just one source of information and, as a matter of fact, the Bible is viewed as containing deeper meanings ("gnosis") which is not apparent to people who have not been instructed by the insiders. The Lord Jesus Christ Himself is viewed as simply an historical figure, and He is rejected as the focal point of divine revelation. This is entirely rejected. Instead, He is viewed as one of the Mahatmas. The Lord Jesus is viewed as one of the Mahatmas; one of the sages; and, one of the insiders who has gone the path; who has moved up the line; and, is seeking to bring us into a line of instruction.

So, the literal meaning of the Bible has to be rejected. This is very important to the other religions and to the other religious systems. The literal meaning of the Bible has to be rejected in order that they can dispose of Bible doctrine and the truth of Scripture. This is because if you took the Bible literally, it would be opposed to what Satan thinks. So, Satan is in favor of a non-literal interpretation of Scripture, and he constantly promotes it. This is characteristic among the cults.

In other words, these people say that we're dealing with lost truths and with inner meanings, and this is called the Ancient Wisdom. It is found in the pagan religions, but it originated with Satan. This Ancient Wisdom was revealed in one place to Edgar Cayce, as a matter of fact. The Word of God calls this Ancient Wisdom the doctrines of demons. In 1 Timothy 4:1-2, Paul says, "Now the spirit speaks expressly that in the latter times, some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of demons, speaking lies and hypocrisy, having their conscience seared with a hot iron."

So, this mystery information is, in reality, nothing more than doctrines of demons. The ancient hidden truths were referred to by the ancient religions as their mysteries or their secrets. These doctrines of demons are summed up in the cult of theosophy. Once more, theosophy, in its modern expression, was founded by Madame Helena Petrovna Blavatsky. She was born in 1831, and she died in 1891. It was founded in the United States, but theosophy itself, as a philosophy, goes back to ancient times. The reason I'm calling your attention to it is because, as we read the expression of the doctrine of demons that was revealed to Edgar Cayce, you will recognize that it's a rehash of this ancient heretical cult.

**Theosophy**

Theosophy holds three fundamental concepts. Let's get those straight. Then you watch for these as we read Edgar Cayce's revelations:

1. One is that God is an impersonal, omnipresent, eternal, boundless, immutable principle which cannot be known. It is important to Satan to remove the awareness of a personal God. So, that's point number one. There is no personal God. He is unknowable, and therefore, Satan moves into the picture and says, "Worship me as a supreme being."
2. A second fundamental principle of this ancient heretical philosophy is the eternity of the universe as a boundless plane. The universe always existed. It always was there. This is a concept you find in communism today. Satan wants no sovereign creator God to account to above himself.
3. The third principle is the identity of all souls with the universal over-soul which itself sprang from an unknown root. In other words, everybody whoever lives (every soul) is a part of God. There you have the old idea that there is a spark of deity within every one of us, and it just has to be fanned into a flame of activity. We are viewed as sparks which are flying upward to reunite with the universal soul. We do this through reincarnation and through the laws of karma (the laws of cause and effect that we talked about in the previous session).

So, the idea is that every thought that you have and every act you perform in this life is either a good or a bad act that blesses you or disciplines you when you leave this life, and you put on a new body, and you enter a new life. You keep going through a series of reincarnation of lives--each of them in an attempt to bring you closer to perfection. You go through seven levels until you finally return to God.

**Gnosticism**

In the ancient church, theosophy was expressed in a heresy that was known as Gnosticism. I'm going to read you several paragraphs out of the Dictionary of Theology by Baker to give you a very authoritative analysis of this cult of Gnosticism. The reason I do this is that you are going to discover that the gnostics were a very frightful heresy in the New Testament church. Yet, when Edgar Cayce put himself under self-hypnosis, and then began asking the spirits concerning religious matters, one of the first things these spirits told him was that the gnostics were the true source of information about God. Yet, you can open the book of 1 John, and immediately, from the very beginning, that book is attacking Gnosticism as a heresy. This is one of the first indications that, concerning Edgar Cayce, we are dealing with a good man who was producing human good; who was giving glory to God; and, who was attributing all the credit to God, and yet who was working under the power of Satan. This is exactly what is taking place in the white magic of many groups today who are praising God for what Satan is doing.

So, reading concerning the analysis of Gnosticism:

"It was a very dangerous heresy which came into the church like a flood in the second century. By the beginning of the third century, nearly all the more intellectual Christian congregations in the Roman Empire were markedly affected by it. Its errors are clearly referred to in the New Testament. For example, 1 John 2:22 and 1 John 4:2-3 were references made to those who denied that Christ had come in the flesh. The system was eclectic, and its materials were drawn from many quarters such as the mythology of Greece, Egypt, Persia, and India, and from the philosophies and theosophies of these lands. Many of its leading ideas had existed before the Christian era, but its votaries felt that in the Christian religion were valuable elements which could be worked into their scheme of things. Their aim was to reduce Christianity to a philosophy, and relate it to various pagan teachings, as well as to the Old Testament which they distorted."

This is exactly what you will discover is what these spirits told Edgar Cayce--that Christianity was simply the capstone of all the truth that had been hidden in these pagan religions and philosophies. Continuing:

The term "gnostic" comes from the Greek word "gnosis" which means "knowledge." The Gnostics claimed special esoteric or secret knowledge. It could be possessed only by that section of humanity which was pneumatic or spiritual. They alone were inevitably led back to the realm of life of the supreme god. "There was a second class of men--those who were only psychic, and could not get beyond faith. The prophets and other good Hebrews belonged to this class, but they must be eternally in the sphere much inferior to that occupied by those who had "gnosis." A third class represented the overwhelming mass of humankind. They were merely hylic; that is, subject to matter, and their case was utterly hopeless for they were in endless bondage to Satan and their own lusts, and their end was to be completely destroyed. Here was one of the worst features of Gnosticism--the elevating of a limited number into a specially privileged class, and the consigning of the vast majority of mankind to unredeemable destruction. This was totally contrary to the teachings of Christianity. In general, all the varied schools taught that matter was utterly and irretrievably evil. They agreed that the God of the Jews, the Creator of the world, was not the Supreme Being, but a very inferior being whom they called the Demiurge. The Supreme Being, the absolute, is the unknown and ineffable--one of whom nothing can be predicated."

All of this is exactly what you've been hearing concerning theosophy today. It's an old heresy.

"He is ... dwelling infinitely remote from the world in the spiritual light of the Pleroma which is the fullness of God. The problem was to explain how this ineffably pure being could have originated a material world, seeing that matter is essentially evil. The difficulty was surmounted by postulating a series of 30 emanations or eons, each of these originating the next in order. The eons were attributes thought of as personal, and took the place of the abstract ideas of Greek philosophy. When one of these eons was sufficiently remote from the Supreme God, and was on the border land of light and darkness, he created the world and did it badly. This was the Demiurge, or the God of the Old Testament. Sometimes he was regarded as actively hostile to the Supreme God, and in every case was regarded as the producer of a very evil material world. It continued, however, certain germs of a higher light--rays of immortal life from the glorious light of the Pleroma above. These were ever struggling to be free. Thus, there was a constant struggle between good and evil; life and death; matter and spirit. Here we have Eastern dualism. Some had infinitely more of this divine life than others. They were those who had gnosis.

"The historical Christ was a mere man, but he was taken possession of by the heavenly Christ who was the brightest of all eons. This heavenly Christ acted in the man Jesus, but was never incarnate. He could not be because matter was so evil. The heavenly Christ returned to heaven before the crucifixion. So, it was only a man who died on the cross. Another version was that the heavenly Christ had only the semblance of a body."

**Edgar Cayce**

And yet, when we come to this good man, Edgar Cayce, doing good things through supernatural power, the information that we receive is that Gnosticism was the source of true knowledge. Therefore, let me read for you from the book, There is a River, of the time when Edgar Cayce came in his life to the point where he was trying to decide what he should do with this fantastic gift that he had of being able to communicate with the other side:

"One day, a man named Arthur Lammers walked into the studio. He was a wealthy printer from Dayton, Ohio--a short powerful man with broad shoulders, brown hair, and blue searching eyes. Edgar had met him casually while on a trip to Dayton. He (Lammers) had received one of the announcements, and had come to get some readings. They were not to be for sick people. He was quite well himself, and so were the members of his family. He had other interests--philosophy, metaphysics, esoteric astrology, and psychic phenomena. He asked questions Edgar did not understand. What were the mechanics of the subconscious? What was the difference between spirit and soul? What were the reasons for personality and talent? He mentioned such things as the Kabbalah; the mystery religions of Egypt and Greece; the medieval alchemists; the mystics of Tibet; yoga; Madame Blavatsky; theosophy; the Great White Brotherhood; and, the etheric world. Edgar was dazed.

"'You have to find out about these things,' Lammers said. 'If there is any way of finding out, it's through you. The world is full of notions about its own beginning, its meaning, and its end. There are hundreds of philosophic and thousands of theological systems. Which are right, and which are wrong? Which is the closest to the truth? What is the real nature of the soul? And what is the purpose of this experience on earth? Where do we go from here? What for? Where did we come from? What were we doing before we came here? Haven't you asked any of these questions?'

"'No,' Edgar said. He couldn't think of another word to say. He didn't dare tell the truth that he had always considered such an idea sacrilegious because God was revealed in the Bible, and to suppose that He could answer the mysteries of the universe would be an open invitation for Satan to speak through him."

That is fantastic. This man was concerned about the very thing he ought to be concerned about. Yet, he ignored doctrine and overrode it with his readings.

"That was what he felt. Now, as he heard Lammers speak, he knew the feeling had passed. He had not been aware of its passing, but it was gone. As Lammers tossed questions, he felt something spring up within himself--something which said, 'This is the way to get the answer.'

"'I can only stay here a few days,' Lammers went on. 'However, if you will come to Dayton as my guest, I'll take a series of readings on these subjects and see what we get. Philosophy and metaphysics have been my hobbies, but they only lead me to confusion because there is no definite authority on the details. They all agree on one God; the need of morality; the efficacy of prayer; and, the brotherhood of the spirit, but beyond that it is a sea of guesses. If these readings of yours are accurate, it means your subconscious mind can be reached, and if these occult and mystic theories are correct, that subconscious mind ought to be aware of its own identity, and ought to be able to tell us much of ourselves and the world as we want to know, or at least as much as we can understand.'

"Edgar could feel his own thoughts being expressed in Lammers' words. He had returned to Selma, convinced of his mission. It had taken him 46 years to reach the decision. Now he wanted to know why he had a mission and how it was to be fulfilled.

"'Why not finish up your work here in the next few days,' Lammers said, 'and come up to Dayton with me for a few weeks? You'll be a wiser and richer man when you return. I'm sure.'

"'I'll go,' Edgar said. 'I'll finish up the appointments for readings I have tomorrow and the next day. They're all local people.'

"'Good,' Lammers said. 'I want to start at the bottom with this thing--the most enduring and popular belief about the universe of which we are skeptical is astrology. First, we'll ask the readings for a horoscope and see what happens.'

"Edgar said, 'They're fakes, aren't they?' He was sure now that he wanted to find out about everything by way of the readings. It was just the assurance he needed. It would join together, at least in his mind, the two great conflicting forces of his life--the Bible and the readings."

And you notice that he recognized that they were in conflict.

"Out of the truth of one had come the power of the other. He was certain of that. It would be a comfort to have it proved. Gertrude was dubious as she saw him pack his bags, but she liked Lammers, and the subject of the readings to be taken interested her. 'Write me all about what they say,' she said, when Edgar kissed her goodbye.

"In Dayton, he registered at the Phillips Hotel, an old homely place with big rooms and lots of red plush on the furnishings. In the morning, Lammers brought his secretary, Linden Shroyer, and a stenographer to the readings. Shroyer, a small thin man with black hair and mustache, seemed ill-at-ease. He kept asking Lammers, 'What's he going to do?'

"Edgar laughed. 'What I'm going to do shouldn't bother you,' he said. It's what I'm going to say that has me worried.'

"'I'm going to ask him for my horoscope,' Lammers explained. Lammers conducted the reading. When Edgar woke up, he spoke to him gravely.

"'There's something wrong with our notion of astrology apparently,' he said. 'It doesn't affect us as we think it does.' Edgar smiled. He was relieved. 'We leave out a factor that is very important,' Lammers went on.

"Edgar said, 'What's that?'

"'Reincarnation.'

"Edgar stared. Shroyer smiled at him. Lammers began to laugh. 'You thought astrology was a fake,' he said, 'but now you hand out a story that's a dozen times more fantastic than the rule of the stars. You say I've lived before on this earth. You say this is my third appearance in this sphere, and that I still have some of the inclinations from my last life when I was a monk.'

"Mechanically, Edgar put on his tie, fastened his cuff links, and the tied his shoe laces. He asked, 'Is that the stuff they believe in India? Is that reincarnation?'

Lammers nodded.

"'You say, he went on, that the solar system is a cycle of experience for the soul. It has eight dimensions corresponding to the planets. They represent focal points for the dimensions or environments in which the dimensions can express and materialize themselves, although materialization of each dimension is different. This is the third dimension. It is sort of a laboratory for the whole system because only here is free will completely dominant. On the other planes or dimensions, some measure of control is kept over the soul to see that it learns the proper lessons.'"

This is identical to theosophy which says that the way a man returns to God is by going through these several planes of self-improvement--seven of them.

"'The control is usually by the soul itself if it has evolved sufficiently, because once the body of this dimension has been left, and the consciousness of this life has been absorbed into the subconscious, the veil between the two is lifted. The subconscious is the record of all the lives of the soul in this system and in other systems out among the stars. It's the record we think of as being kept by the recording angel. It's the story of what we do with our spirit--the portion of God that is given to us for life with the gift of individuality, or separate existence from God. Our problem is to perfect our individuality, and then we return to God. Our soul and spirit, or individuality, are joined to Him.'"

"Edgar shook his head. 'He asked in a low tone, 'I said all that?' Lammers nodded.

"'So you see,' Lammers said, 'our astrological influences from the planets, or dimensions we have inhabited, will be good or bad, weak or strong, according to the experiences we've had there, and how we handle our problems. For example, we react to the earth according to the manner in which we have handled the problems of earth in our other lives: brotherly love; material possessions; sex; food; and, drink. Sometimes we are working on an earth problem to the exclusion of any influence from the stars or planets at all. The stars represent the soul patterns--not experiences. The twelve signs of the zodiac are twelve patterns from which the soul chooses when coming to the earth plane. They are like races: patterns of temperament; personality; and, so on.'

"The analysis continued. Lammers said, 'The important thing is that the basic system which runs through all the mystery religions, whether they come from Tibet or the pyramids of Egypt, is backed up by you. It's actually the right system.'"

There's the punch line: All the mystery religions--that is the right system. That is the truth. The thing that bothered Edgar Cayce was, if all of this was true, and what he was receiving was messages from God, then why was such a doctrine as reincarnation not to be found in the Scriptures? Why was that doctrine particularly lost? Lammers went on to explain, in what he had found through the readings, that not only was the secret information to be found in all the religious systems and philosophies of the world, but that these were actually taught by the Lord and by his disciples. So, the point that Lammers was making to Edgar Cayce was that God was again revealing this information that the original leaders of the church had deliberately refused to explain to people--the doctrine of reincarnation. This was because they thought it was too deep for them to be able to grasp. When Edgar Cayce finally accepted the doctrine of reincarnation, he was faced eventually with the problem of explaining it to his son. In that explanation, there is further revelation concerning the relationship of what Cayce was saying and the old theosophy cult concepts.

"Hugh Lynn asked the blessing. They ate silently for a while, then Edgar, Gertrude, and Miss Davis began to talk guardedly about the new developments in the readings. Hugh Lynn listened, saying nothing. When they finished eating, they told him about the new type of reading (it was called 'the life reading'), and about reincarnation."

Up to now, Edgar Cayce had given only readings for people who had physical problems. Now people were coming to him and asking him. "Tell me about my past lives." He would read for them and tell them what they had done in their former lives, and what they should be doing now in order to break out of the cycle of reincarnation.

"'You never told me about that in Sunday school,' Hugh Lynn said. 'Is it true? Do you believe it? Is it in the Bible?' He asked questions quickly to cover the feeling of bitterness and shame that was sweeping over him. It was bad enough that his father was psychic. The boys continually asked him, 'What's the matter with your dad? What's that stuff he does?' But now it was worse. They weren't even to be Christians anymore. They were to be heathens, and not even rich heathens--just poor heathens living with Yankees.

"'I don't know whether I believe it or not,' Edgar said. 'The readings say it's true. A lot of people believe it. It sounds logical. We asked a lot of questions. We asked why reincarnation isn't in Christianity. The answer was that it used to be in Christianity in the early days. There was a sect of Christians called the Gnostics. The readings say they kept the line unbroken between the old religions and the new one.' Edgar was trying to convince himself, as well as Hugh Lynn. Christ was predicted by the old religion. The people who built the Great Pyramid in Egypt predicted Him.'

"'I never heard of that,' Hugh Lynn said.

"'We found some books about it,' Edgar explained. 'There's a movement in England called British Israel that's founded on the pyramid prophecies (which is another cult, and some of you have heard of Herbert W. Armstrong). Anyhow, you know that Christ didn't intend to found a new religion. He meant to reform the Jewish religion which was one of the old religions worshiping the one God. Just like the other old religions, they are called mystery religions. The Jewish faith had a secret doctrine. It was called Kabbalah. The students who learned it were called initiates, and these were the high priests. They learned the esoteric part of the religion, and the people were given the exoteric version. They were given the same fundamental philosophy and the same moral code, but with a simple explanation.'

"Hugh Lynn asked, 'Is that the way it is today? Do the heads of the church believe in reincarnation?'

"'No,' Edgar said. 'The readings say that when the leaders of the early church decided to propagate the faith to all people indiscriminately, they decided to drop the doctrine of reincarnation. It was difficult to explain, for one thing, and it was difficult to swallow for another. It made man more complex. It made virtue even more necessary. A man had to be pretty brave to face the fact that one life of suffering was only a step toward heaven. On the other hand, people who didn't examine that theory could easily say, Oh well we have other lives to live. We won't be sent to hell after this one, so let's enjoy it. So, they fought the Gnostics and won the battle. What they did was right, I suppose, because without a simplification of the faith, it wouldn't have spread. It would have remained a small sect for intellectuals and students of metaphysics. Some people understand reincarnation. The Hindus believe in it. They understand it.' Hugh Lynn was silent. 'I believe Jesus taught it too,' Edgar said. He got up and went for his Bible. 'Listen to this,' he said. 'It's from John, the third chapter, where he's talking with Nicodemus. He tells Nicodemus that unless a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of heaven. Now in the fifth chapter of Matthew, you remember Jesus says that unless a man be perfect, he cannot enter the kingdom.'"

Do you see this sly deception--the twisting of Scripture there by Satan to get you to pursue God through works?

"'Well, what man when he dies is perfect. Once in a while, a man dies who is good enough to go to heaven, but not often.'"

That tells you something about Cayce's concept of salvation--if you're good enough to go to heaven.

"'So, isn't it logical that we have to be born again and keep trying. Then when Nicodemus asks Him how these things may be, He said, Art thou a master of Israel and know not these things? Nicodemus was a member of the Sanhedrin. He was one of the initiates of the Kabbalah. Then he should have known about reincarnation.'

"Hugh Lynn said, 'Why wasn't Christ more specific?' Why didn't he instruct the disciples to teach it?'

"'He taught the common people, Edgar said. 'He said that He came not to change the law, but to fulfill it. The world was at a point where it could and should realize that virtue is more mental than physical. Love is not a matter of receiving or bartering, but of giving. It's all in the fifth chapter of Matthew. Now if you will examine that, you will find that it fits exactly into the theory of reincarnation. The idea is that only the mind is real, and that thought builds the soul more than deeds. Deeds are only the expressions of thought anyhow. So, Jesus gave them the law which results from a belief in reincarnation. The theory itself was too complex for the people. So, he let the emphasis go to Himself as an example of the perfect life.'"

He says that Christ was the example of the perfect life. It's something we imitate.

"'There is no doubt about what he taught. Only a perfect soul may enter heaven. Only Jesus was perfect. But, Christianity gradually allowed people to think of Jesus as an unattainable ideal. Nobody nowadays thinks it's necessary to be like Jesus in order to get to heaven. But He said so Himself.'

"'What I like about the life readings is that they tell you what to do,' Miss Davis said. Most people don't know whether they are doing the right thing. They like their work, but they don't know whether it's the job they should be doing. The life readings tell what the abilities are, and what the person should be doing.'"

So, I think from that you will get a pretty good idea that the things that Edgar Cayce was revealing through these readings was the ancient theosophy heresy, and was contrary, as we showed in the previous session, to many points in the Word of God. I'm going to summarize for you, and I hope I can make this clear because the Word of God tells us that we do not understand the deep things of the Spirit unless we are born again believers. So, if, up to now, you have fallen off the toboggan, don't feel too bad about it because I'm asking you to try to understand doctrines of demons. I'm going to be as clear as I can, and this is a summary of many many readings. Here is what came out through the readings of Cayce in his explanation of man, life, and God:

The spirits told Cayce that there was a great sea of spirit possessing self-awareness that filled all of space at one time. Space itself was eternal, and this spirit that filled all of space was from some unknown root. You've already heard us refer to that in theosophy. Suddenly, this spirit withdrew into itself. It left all of space emptied, and it came into the center, and it glowed as a shining light. Then this spirit, which has concentrated itself into one place, became God. It became aware of itself, and it realized that it was God. That is God from some unknown root out there. This God expressed itself by projecting the universe into being and all the souls that ever existed because God wanted companionship. There were building blocks of life which were projected from this God, like a life ray. This life ray, when it was converted into different wavelengths and different frequencies, produced different vibrations and caused the evolving of all the different forms of life. The universe, consequently, was filled with all kinds of changes, and all of these forces were being driven under a positive and negative force in the universe. All of this was done by the mind of God, and so it as a part of Him. This is the old pacifistic idea. God thought of everything. Therefore, everything that exists is part of God.

The souls were patterned after God in that they were spirit; they had mind; they had individuality; and, they had freedom to express themselves apart from God. These souls were in balance with negative and positive forces. They knew about God, and they knew about their own experiences.

The souls got interested in God's creation. They got interested in watching the leaves wave on the trees. They got interested in watching the animals. So, they came down into the earth plane of the universe which had many different planes, and they began identifying themselves and interrelating themselves with material things. They could retain their identity if they could act in freedom, and yet, in full harmony with God.

The souls, as they began to mingle with creation, began to weaken their ties between themselves and God. These souls, because they had a mind like God, could also create things. So, they began fooling around creating things on their own. They would create things like centaurs--half-horse and half-men; mermaids; and, cyclops as characters with big eyes--one big eye in the forehead. These were monstrous grotesque things that they were creating. As they continued with their contact with creation, they lost touch with God, which was the loss of their conscious mind. That became their unconscious mind. When they lost their sense of their identity in their subconscious, they also lost their contact with God. More and more, they were drawn to the stars and the planets, and they became deeply entangled in matter and in these weird creatures which they had invented.

So, now here were these souls who had lost contact with God. They forgot the God that had made them. What they once knew of Him was now deep in their subconscious, and all their conscious mind knew was this weird-creature world they had created. So, it was necessary to prepare a means for the souls to go back up to God. The souls did this themselves by looking around God's creation until they found an anthropoid ape. They prepared this ape by changing his glandular functioning until all the hair fell off of him and certain changes were made in his hands. Suddenly, one day he stood up, and there, just as big as life, was a new being. He was a hairless beautiful looking being made out of this ape. Meanwhile, the souls were hovering around them now, in five places on the earth. When these creatures were ready, then at one time, the souls entered these animal creatures, and now the animal had a consciousness, and it became a new creature called man.

Now you laugh at that, and it's amusing, but don't forget that that's a basic concept of evolution. I'm trying to scare the wits out of you here by alerting you to how much you know, and how much you've heard in our society, that is the direct influence and teaching of Satan himself, and to cause you to wonder how much of Satan's doctrines of demons you yourself do function on as a believer. This is exactly what motivates our society. Cayce was able to talk to the spirit world; get it directly; and, crystallize it. The spirit world, which had told the truth about many things, now was lying through its teeth unashamedly to him. Yet, it was slipping in enough truth that it seemed very plausible.

Well, these souls found themselves now in these bodies. Consequently, this was the first step of a series of reincarnations which was going to lead them back up the steps to perfection in God. Sex became an object of exaltation because it was the means of securing a new body. These were the bodies that they needed for these reincarnations. Adam and Eve represented a perfect sphere of happiness in these new bodies. Then they, because they ate of the fruit of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, ruined man's progress back to God. So, it was necessary for them to go through these series of reincarnations. They would have gone, the Spirit said, from these first bodies. Because of what Adam and Eve did, it was necessary now to go through a series of purification until they came back to perfection. Who's going to show them how to do that? They needed a guide. Now, who do you think the guide proved to be? The Mahatma, the Hindus call them. It was a soul called Jesus Christ. He had completed His movement back toward perfection in God, and periodically, he came back to help other souls.

Cayce said that the story of the crucifixion is a symbolic story for the giving up of your own ego. That's the point: to come back to the place where you are willing to yield your ego, and to be entirely under God's ego. Christ became the pattern, and the souls, having lost their own individuality, and having lost the subconscious mind, began building all kinds of imaginations and recollections, trying to recall what they once knew. It was in this realm that Cayce said that dreams are important. A dream is your soul trying to recollect itself way back when it first started, trying to recall who you are; where you came from; and, what you once did. He laid a great stress on dreams talking to you. You can see how Satan comes in, and he gives you the dreams he wants you to have in order to lead you again.

Well, the soul has to do penance in the body for the karma (for its demerits) until they have been wiped out. They are to imitate Christ, the pure soul. The soul keeps selecting bodies according to the surroundings of this body: the parents; the home it's going to be reared in; and, according to what each soul needs. When a person dies, he is again aware of himself, and he says, "Now what I need is this kind of a body in this kind of a home in order to purify myself to make this progression up higher." So, in time, this soul finally comes to the point where it has removed all of its condemnation, and it has returned once more to God. Then it is lost in the universal mind called God.

This is the structure of religion that does not give any credit to Satan. It keeps giving credit to somebody called God who suddenly became aware that He was God, when He squeezed himself all together when He was spirit, and He was a Supreme Being. Satan wants you to believe in a Supreme Being, and Jesus Christ is treated not as our substitute Savior without whom we are hopelessly lost, but He is simply treated as our example. The powers that Edgar Cayce had were powers that came from Satan. What was revealed through these powers violates Bible doctrine far more extensively than we could take the time to analyze. His good was the human good produced by Satan. His religious views were doctrines of demons advanced by a rebellious Satan in order to deceive people and to neutralize believers. The saddest part of this story is that the sincerity of Edgar Cayce did not protect him from any of this delusion.

Did you notice that we read that he was 46 years old before he finally said, "Alright, I'll go to the spirit world, whoever that is that's talking to me out there, and I will accept what they're saying as coming from God." He was 46 years old before he could get himself to say, "I'll go to that world, and I'll listen to it." When he did that, he was Satan's fantastic channel of communication which has caused such devastation in intellectual circles among college students and among people who have gotten into the study of the writings of Edgar Cayce. It has brought them into touch with that which is evil, and with that which is condemned by the Word of God.

Let me close with a statement that he makes concerning philosophy:

"The system of metaphysical thought which emerges from the readings of Edgar Cayce is a Christianized version of the mystery religions of ancient Egypt, Chaldea, Persia, India, and Greece. It fits the figure of Christ into the tradition of one God for all people, and places Him in its proper place, at the apex of the philosophical structure. He is the capstone of the pyramid. The mystery religions were, then, a preparation for the coming of Jesus. He was the fruit of their efforts, and His message was a fuller revelation to the people at large of the mysteries themselves."

Keep noticing how Satan ties back his lies from ancient times to the revealed truth of the Word of God.

"In the scramble which Christianity makes to establish itself as the dominant religion of the decaying Roman Empire, the mysteries were denied their proper place since to grant that they had truth in them would justify their further existence. The early Christians used every means possible to conceal the pagan origin of their symbols, doctrines, and rituals. Manly Hall says they either destroyed the sacred books of other peoples, among whom they settled, or made them inaccessible to students of comparative philosophy, apparently believing that in this way they could stamp out all record of the pre-Christian origin of their doctrines. It is interesting to speculate on the fact that Edgar Cayce was raised in strict 19th century Bible tradition, and suffered the greatest mental and emotional shock of his life when he discovered that, in his psychic readings, he declared the truth of the mysteries and the acclaimed Jesus as their crowning glory. "

That's the philosophy revealed to Edgar Cayce. I hope that you have been sobered by the life of this good man who committed himself to information that he thought was coming from God, but which was coming from Satan, so that he, in effect, practice white magic, and yet gave God to glory. He presented a system of philosophy going back to the ancient religions that believers since the time of Christ have condemned as deceits of Satan and doctrines of demons. This system of philosophy that Edgar Cayce was given combined these ancient concepts with Christianity.

I leave you with these words concerning this philosophy in Colossians 2:8. The apostle Paul says, "Beware, lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world and not after Christ." Edgar Cayce destroyed himself because he followed a vain philosophy which was after the system of this world. It was after, indeed, the traditions of men, and after the basic things that constitute this world, but which were not after Christ. Don't kid yourself. You can do a world of good, and Satan can be the agent that's performing it for you. You can perform miracles. You can perform all kinds of works of mercy, only to discover this is not from God, but from his majesty, the devil. God forbid that we should follow suit.

Dr. John E. Danish, 1973

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