THE DANGERS OF ALTERNATIVE THERAPIES. AND SO-CALLED 'FAITH' HEALING

WHAT DOES GOD HAVE TO SAY ON THESE SUBJECTS

?

The Bible 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.

Colossians 2 v 8

There shall not be found among you anyone that
useth divination......or a charmer......

For all that do these things are an abomination unto
The Lord......Deuteronomy 18 v 10-13.

The following are just a few Alternative Therapies not only gaining increasing popularity but leading thousands of precious souls into the realms of the occult. Two words describe ALL Alternative Therapies and Practices. Dangerous & Destructive. Dangerous physically and mentally. Destructive spiritually.

Aromatherapy Feng Shui Meditation.

Acupuncture Tai chi, Alexander Technique Acupressure Shiatsu Bach Flower Remedies

Reflexology Reiki Crystals

Homeopathy Kinesiology Colours & Lights

Hypnosis Iridology Yoga

Charming Pendulum swinging. Transcendental Meditation

(To mention but a few.)

(Individual leaflets on all these practices, are available from us free of charge.)

'Holistic Healing' is the 'buzz term' for those seeking 'so-called' healing of the whole person – body, soul and spirit. To despairing and suffering people we would proclaim, there is *only One* who can heal the *whole* person and His Name is The Lord Jesus Christ, who paid the price for us all, by His own Precious Blood shed on the cross of Calvary.

He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities. the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and The Lord hath laid on Him (Jesus) the iniquity of us all.

Isaiah 53 v 5-6

Jesus paid it all – on the cross of Calvary He suffered and paid the penalty for our sin. He shed His own precious blood, died and rose again. He is now seated at the right hand of The Father ever interceding on our behalf. All we have to do is turn to Him – repent of our sin – and accept Him not only as our Saviour but also as our Healer and Deliverer. Everything else will then fall into place.

The world today is full of sickness, disease and pestilence. So much so that Doctors and Hospital Staff are stretched to the limit. Waiting rooms in Hospitals and Health Centres are packed. Waiting Lists for operations get longer by the day.

Needless to say, in all the clamour and confusion, suffering people are clutching at straws - succumbing to all sorts of Alternative Therapies, Treatments and Practices.

Just as sickness and disease is on the increase, so too, is the abundance of 'Healers,' all peddling their wares. From 'Charming' to 'Pendulum swinging' – 'Yoga' to 'Transendental Meditation' there is no end to the variety of 'healing vehicles' available – at a price!

We are not condemning anyone who is an Alternative Practitioner because they themselves may be unaware of the dangers, but with The Lord's help and guidance, we trust many will see and understand that *any* association with *any* of the 'alternatives' is opening 'occultic doorways' which are best kept tightly shut.

Alternative Therapies and Medicines are instruments of the devil, specially designed to take people away from God. All of these therapies and practices have their roots firmly planted in Eastern Philosophy and the occult, yet 'well-meaning' promoters and practitioners, believe they are performing an essential service to mankind. In actual fact, unknown to them, they are furthering the work and evil deception of the devil – even though it may be done in ignorance.

The power that heals through Alternative Therapies and Practices is not from God – it comes from the devil - and there are no exceptions.

We cannot emphasise the dangers strongly enough!

Doctors and nurses have to train in their profession for years, - yet Alternative Therapists are springing up all over the place - almost overnight. People from all walks of life are jumping on the band wagon as Alternative Practitioners, obviously blinded to the occultic nature of all these healing processes. It would appear that very often *money* is the big attraction. As The Bible says:

The love of money is the root of all evil. 1 Timothy 6v 10.

Unsuspecting people will pay hundreds of pounds to Alternative Therapists, who are making an absolute fortune from a vulnerable public who never question the 'power source.' To quote one Reflexologist & Aromatherapist, known to the writer, 'The more I charge - the more customers I get. The more expensive the product, the more customers will buy.' It is obvious that people believe the more they pay the better will be the results. This is not the case. So be warned!!

Every day thousands of people visit Charmers, Reflexologists, Aromatherapists, Accupuncturists, Hynotists, Homeopathetic Doctors, so-called 'Faith Healers' etc. without ever questioning - how does this therapy or this practice work - or more importantly - who or what is 'the source of the healing power'? Everyone assumes, of course that it comes from Almighty God.

How deceived they are!!

Reflexology - massaging the feet. Aromatherapy - massage using oils. Acupuncture - using needles etc. etc. All the different practices have different methods and outworkings but each and every one is a 'form of divination' which is strictly forbidden by God. What does The Bible have to say:-

There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or THAT USETH DIVINATION etc.or a charmer,...For all that do these things are an abomination unto The Lord..... Deuteronomy 18 v 10-13.

Different types of Massage.

Many ask the question 'What about Massage?' The answer is simple. Caution should always be exercised. There is nothing wrong with ordinary straightforward massage, which can be very beneficial in relieving stress, pain, or discomfort - but - *Avoid at all costs* - massage which is based on the techniques of some Alternative Therapy, for example, Reflexology, Indian Head Massage etc. This is where the danger lies. By using techniques associated with these alternative practices, you are acknowledging 'the power source' behind the practice, which is definitely not of God.

Always be careful to check the validity of the establishments you may frequent for massage. Most are fine commendable places but sadly in this age of moral decline, there are many 'sexually orientated' establishments where 'massage' is used as a decoy for other more sinister practices.

A note to Practitioners. Even though you may not be aware of it, if you say you are an Alternative Therapist eg. a Reflexologist, Aromatherapist, Hypnotist, Homeopathist etc. you are in fact, acknowledging the devil as your employer. All of these practices should be avoided at all costs as sadly they are drawing countless thousands into the devil's parlour. This surely is a disturbing reality.

Exercise. Yoga, is one of the most popular forms of exercise around today, yet Yoga is nothing more than the promotion of the Hindu religion. As one famous Guru explained, There is no Hinduism without Yoga, and no Yoga without Hinduism. The exercises may be good and appear to be very beneficial but when it comes to the 'meditation,' then it takes on a more sinister role as it makes way for evil forces to infiltrate the participant's mind.

So again, the warning is strong but very sincere. If you join a 'Yoga class' for your exercise, you are entering the dangerous realm of the occult, where you will hear much talk and reference made to meditation, altered state of consiousness,

kundaline etc. This is not of God. *This is a very dangerous practice. So beware – you have been warned.*

Everyone seems to be *fanatical* about fitness and exercise. Nothing wrong with exercise within reason, but when it becomes an obsession then it becomes 'idolatry' which God hates.

For bodily exercise profiteth little, but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come. 1 Timothy 4v 8.

The devil – the prince of the power of the air.

In the world of Alternative Medicine & Alternative Therapies etc. you will also hear much mention of Energy channels - Zone Therapy - Meridians - Cosmic Energy - Ying and Yang - Life Force - Ch'i etc. The Ch'i according to Alternative Therapists is a universal energy utilized within the body to bring about a spiritual awareness. The Ch'i of the body is supposedly received from the Ch'i of the air.

However, The Bible tells us that the devil is the prince of the power of the air!! Ephesians 2 v 2

Alternative Practitioners say that each one of us have our own 'Energy Field' - or 'Aura' surrounding us. Through sickness or some malfunction, the energy of the body becomes 'out of balance' with our Aura or Energy Field. Practitioners will tell you that by choosing the appropriate Therapy your body can be brought into line again. By entering into this kind of activity you are automatically moving into the realms of supernatural darkness which could have dire consequences for you.

Counterfeit Healing.

With any Alternative Therapy, Medicine, Charm or Occult Healing, there may be good results to start - sometimes it may appear that healing *has* taken place but sadly help received from any occult source will bring a snare and a bondage into the life of the recipient. They may enjoy good health for a period of time but eventually their old problem will return far worse than ever.

We have spoken to several 'Christian' people, who unaware of the dangers, have received some form of Alternative Therapy. Everything was fine for a while, but each one, without exception, noticed that, as time went by, they became less and less interested in Prayer and Bible reading. Attending Gospel Meetings or Church was a toil rather than something they always enjoyed. *Some became very depressed.* In fact, it has to be acknowledged that *severe depression* is what you might call, a major 'side effect' of <u>all</u> Alternative Treatments.

Yes, there is a high price to pay for involvement in *any* devilish practice. As the saying goes, 'the devil is not a clean fighter. Nothing good comes from him, and anything which does come from him, goes back to him. He will *always* claim his pound of flesh.'

Our Only Hope - Turning to The Lord Jesus Christ.

So often we let God down through our ignorance or disobedience. Along life's way we allow ourselves to be entangled in so many things which are wrong and totally foreign to God's Word and His Commandments but Praise His Name when we earnestly repent, He forgives. If you have, (unwittingly -through ignorance to the dangers) allowed the devil access into your life through any of these practices and are now concerned for your well-being - don't panic, *Pray sincerely and repent* before God. *Renounce* all involvement in the practice/s and turn away from them. Ask God to break the power of that accursed thing in your life - Ask Him *to forgive* you and He will.

Even though God hates all occult practices, He is ever merciful to those who REPENT and turn away from them. Ultimately, The Lord's desire is, that all of us should repent of our sin and commit our lives completely to Him by Salvation. The salvation of the soul is the most important thing.

It is not God's will that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

When you pass from this scene of time, the condition of your body will be of no importance, but the condition of your soul will mean the difference between Heaven or hell. Unless you are 'born again' of the Spirit of God and have His true salvation – you will never enter the Kingdom of God.

The Bible tells us: Except a man be born again, he cannot enter the Kingdom of God. John 3 v 3.

If you have a sickness, an incurable disease, or some lingering illness, which is causing you great despair - maybe Doctors have done all they can for you, you don't know where to turn or what to do. Why not turn to God in Prayer. The Hymnwriter, Joseph Scriven, put it well when he wrote:-

What a friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear, What a privilege to carry, Everything to God in Prayer.

Instead of relying upon repeated prescribed drugs, or turning to Alternative Practitioners, Sooth-sayers or Charmers, with their costly Therapies and Medicines, why not turn - whole-heartedly to the Lord Jesus Christ. Ask Him to come into your life - not only as your Saviour but also as your Healer and Deliverer. Then no matter what happens, should your life be long or short, you will be prepared to meet Him - to spend eternity with Him in glory.

Behold now is the accepted time; behold now is the day of salvation. 2 Corinthians 6 v 2.

JESUS CHRIST paid the full price FOR US on the cross, not only to save us from our sins and wickedness, but also to deliver us from every bondage, every curse. He paid the full price in order that we might be totally free in Him. Now of course, we must keep everything in perspective and remember that we

cannot live on this earth for ever. We all have our alloted span, there is an appointed time when we will die, that is unless The Lord returns first. 1 Thessalonians 4v 16-18. *but* in the meantime - *don't limit The Lord*.

Trust in The Lord with all thine heart, and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths.

Proverbs 3 v 5.

If you are sick or suffering and need Prayer – why not ask a true servant of The Lord to come and pray with you and anoint you with oil In The Name of The Lord in accordance with the Biblical instructions of James 5 v 13-16.

Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in The Name of The Lord; and the Prayer of Faith shall save the sick, and The Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. James 5v 14-16.

With God nothing is impossible if we trust Him completely. He is our Saviour, He is our great Healer and Deliverer. He is the same yesterday, today and forever. Listen and really take on board the following Scripture Verses:-

Bless The Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His Holy Name. Bless The Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits. Who forgiveth all thine iniquities, who healeth all thy diseases. Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with loving kindness and tender mercies. Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's. Psalm 103v 1-3

Behold, I am The Lord, the God of all flesh, Is there anything too hard for Me? Jeremiah 32 v 27.

Call unto Me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not. Jeremiah 33 v 3.

Without faith, it is impossible to please GOD, for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek HIM. Hebrews 11 v 6.

True believing PRAYER is 'The KEY.' ASK GOD. HE CAN and HE WILL help you in every area of your life.

In closing there is one important point which demands attention - do not make the mistake of confusing 'Divine Healers' with 'Faith Healers.' Most Faith Healers are *not* born again believers - so obviously that would put a question mark over the power source of their so - called 'healing powers.' Most of them put a price tag on their 'healing' - so that makes it even more questionable.

When Jesus walked the shores of Galilee ministering to all who were sick – never did he ask for money. As The Bible says, He had *compassion* on the multitudes and healed them.

So before anyone prays with you for healing, make sure he or she is a 'born again' Believer in Jesus Christ - that they have a Testimony of Salvation.

Divine Healers are genuine blood-washed, blood-bought servants of God – genuinely 'born again' believers in The Lord Jesus Christ. They will sincerely pray for you and anoint you with oil in The Name of The Lord, in accordance with The Bible Teaching of James 5 v 13-16. If you are 'standing in' for a sick person – a hankie may be anointed with oil and sent to that person, in accordance with Acts 19 v 12. Divine Healers will *always*, *always* acknowledge The Lord as The Healer. They will *never ever* take 'God's glory' unto themselves.

It is The Lord who is The Healer - <u>not</u> the person praying. The person praying - is only the vessel through whom The Lord works.

Another thing true Divine Healers will *never* do and that is put a price tag on their Healing Ministry. They will *never* take money. They pray freely and willingly as unto The Lord, for His Glory and the extension of His Kingdom - not for their own glory.

Some individuals are so delighted to be prayed for, that they will *insist* on giving a donation *to further* The Lord's work - and that is fine - but 'The Servant of God' will *never* say - you owe me so much - an hour - for a sitting, or anything like that.

The Divine Healer, God's Servant, who prays for the sick will *never* ask you to bring soil from a relative's grave – or some of the other weird things you hear so much about these days.

Be extremely careful who 'lays hands on your head to pray over you.' Make sure very sure, he or she is a true servant of God and not a servant of the devil, for they a 'two a penny' these days.

Come out from amongst them and be ye separate saith The Lord Touch not the unclean thing and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith The Lord Almighty. 2 Corinthians 6 v 17-18.

> Do you really want to have 'an Alternative or Counterfeit healing' when you could experience not only genuine Salvation but The Healing Power of The Lord Jesus Christ?

If we can be of any further help to you please do not hesitate to get in touch.