

False Prophets Part 5, Scientology

A sermon by Pastor Byron Chesney 07-11-2018

† 2 Timothy 4:1-4

- 1 I charge *thee* therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;
- 2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.
- 3 For 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;
- 4 And they shall turn away *their* ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

As we continue with our studies of false prophets and false religions, our focus tonight will be upon the religion of Scientology. I must confess that out of all of the false religions that are out there, Scientology is the easiest one to recognize as being false as they do not try to hide that fact at all.

The word Scientology means “Knowing how to Know.” Although it called a “religion” it is not a faith-based religion, therefore, they never claim to be “Christian” in belief. They spell everything right out on their own website, www.scientology.org They have a section called:

What is Scientology?

Developed by L. Ron Hubbard, Scientology is a religion that offers a precise path leading to a complete and certain understanding of one’s true spiritual nature and one’s relationship to self, family, groups, Mankind, all life forms, the material universe, the spiritual universe and the Supreme Being.

Scientology addresses the spirit—not the body or mind—and believes that Man is far more than a product of his environment, or his genes.

Scientology comprises a body of knowledge which extends from certain fundamental truths. Prime among these are:

- *Man is an immortal spiritual being.*
- *His experience extends well beyond a single lifetime.*
- *His capabilities are unlimited, even if not presently realized.*

Scientology further holds Man to be basically good, and that his spiritual salvation depends upon himself, his fellows and his attainment of brotherhood with the universe.

Scientology is not a dogmatic religion in which one is asked to accept anything on faith alone. On the contrary, one discovers for oneself that the principles of Scientology are true by applying its principles and observing or experiencing the results.

The ultimate goal of Scientology is true spiritual enlightenment and freedom for all.

An interesting thing to note – all throughout their website whenever man or mankind is used, they always capitalize it the same as we would Lord, God, or Jesus.

You may have noticed that they referred to “***the Supreme Being***.” Naturally we would assume they are speaking of the God that we worship, the LORD God of Heaven, but that is not who they mean.

Listen to what they say about “the Supreme Being”

Unlike religions with Judeo-Christian origins, the Church of Scientology has no set dogma concerning God that it imposes on its members. As with all its tenets, Scientology does not ask individuals to accept anything on faith alone. Rather, as one’s level of spiritual awareness increases through participation in Scientology auditing and training, one attains his own certainty of every dynamic. Accordingly, only when the Seventh Dynamic (spiritual) is reached in its entirety will one discover and come to a full understanding of the Eighth Dynamic (infinity) and one’s relationship to the Supreme Being.

Scientologists take the maxim quite to heart that God helps those who help themselves. They believe that each person has the answers to the mysteries of life. All one requires is awareness of these answers, and this is what Scientology helps one achieve. Man is accustomed to asking for pat answers. Scientology requires that the person think for himself and thus help himself become more understanding, able, happy and healthy.

Okay, lets pause right here and point out a few things that we’ve already learned:

1. Their emphasis is upon Man and not Jesus Christ
 - a. The entire emphasis of the Christian faith is Jesus Christ.
2. They claim *man is “basically good,”*
 - a. But Jesus says in **Mark 10:18b** there is none good, but one, that is God.
 - b. God says in **Jeremiah 17:9** The heart *is* deceitful above all *things*, and *desperately wicked: who can know it?*
3. They claim *Spiritual Salvation depends upon man himself.*
 - a. But the Bible says in **Psalms 3:8a** *Salvation belongeth unto the LORD*
 - b. The Bible says in **Acts 4:12** *Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.*
4. They state *Scientology does not ask anyone to accept anything on faith alone.*
 - a. The Bible says in **2 Corinthians 5:7** *For we walk by faith, not by sight.*
 - b. The Bible says in **Galatians 3:11** *But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith.*
5. They state: “God helps those who help themselves.”
 - a. The Bible says: Hebrews 13:6 *So that we may boldly say that the Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.*
 - b. So, God helps those who CANNOT help themselves.
6. hey state: “The ultimate goal of Scientology is true spiritual enlightenment and freedom for all.”
 - a. The Bible says: **Ecclesiastes 12:13** *Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.*
 - b. The Bible says: **Ephesians 2:10** *For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them*
7. They claim understanding, happiness, and health all come through Scientology.
 - a. But the Bible says: **Proverbs 9:10** *The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.*

So, right away it doesn't take us very long to realize that Scientology is in no form or fashion the Christian faith – it is not faith at all – therefore we can dogmatically state that Scientology is a false religion.

Where did Scientology originate?

Everything in Scientology is based upon the writings of a man named L. Ron Hubbard. He was born in 1911 and got his start as a Science Fiction and Fantasy writer.

In 1950 he wrote a book called "*Dianetics*." He said it was supposed to be a self-help book that was based on a mix of "Western Technology and Oriental Philosophy." In the first few months after the book was released, it sold over 55,000 copies and went straight to the top of the New York Times Best Sellers list. To this date it has sold 22 million copies and has been translated into 50 different languages.

According to Hubbard, followers of Dianetics would increase intelligence, eliminate unwanted emotions and alleviate a wide range of illnesses. Among the conditions purportedly treated were arthritis, allergies, asthma, coronary difficulties, eye trouble, ulcers, migraine headaches, "sexual deviation" and even death.

According to the official "**Dianetics Book**" website: www.dianetics.org

As 1950 drew to a close, and in spite of growing demands on his time by tens of thousands of *Dianetics* readers, he intensified research into the true identity of "life energy," which in *Dianetics* she called the "center of awareness," or the "I."

"The basic discovery of Dianetics was the exact anatomy of the human mind," he wrote. "The aberrative power of engrams was discovered. Procedures were developed for erasing them. The amount of benefit to be gained from running half a dozen engrams exceeded anything that Man had ever been able to do for anybody in the history of the human race.

"The discovery of what it was that the mind was coating was the discovery of Scientology.

"It was coating a thetan. A thetan is the person himself—not his body or his name, the physical universe, his mind, or anything else; that which is aware of being aware; the identity which IS the individual. The thetan is most familiar to one and all as you."

These discoveries formed the basis of the applied religious philosophy of Scientology, the study of the spirit in relationship to itself, universes and other life. Through the application of Scientology technology, desirable changes in the conditions of life can be brought about. It incorporates Dianetics, a vital and basic branch of Scientology, and encompasses techniques which raise personal ability and awareness to heights not previously thought attainable.

Why does Scientology appeal to people?

First of all, there is an inherent nature within man to believe that he is self-sufficient or self-reliant. We believe that we should be able to do everything ourselves. In fact, on the Scientology website, they state "Scientology is a NEW religion. It's not just something you believe in, but something you DO.

Well, as human being we are trained from babies that to perform some work leads to a reward. We dote over our babies and say "come on now, say dada, or mama," and when they do we gush and giggle and give them their paci or their bottle. They

get rewarded for their performance. This continues throughout our lives. Performing an action leads to a reward.

As we begin to question our eternal destiny or salvation, we carry this same mind-set with us. It is the same thing that the rich young ruler did when he came to Jesus **Matthew 19:16** And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?

So, we are always looking for that "one good thing" we must do.

Of course, this is contrary to the teaching of the Bible which plainly tells us in numerous places such as:

Ephesians 2:8-9: For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is the gift of God:* 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Romans 3:20 Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law *is* the knowledge of sin.

Romans 3:28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.

Galatians 2:16 Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.

Scientology appeals to man's inner desire to do things on his own instead of placing faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. That's why everything about Scientology involves works.

Over the past couple of months, I have received things in the mail from the Church of Scientology. I don't know how they got my name on their mailing list, I guess they found out I was going to be preaching on false religions and they wanted to help me out! But in all of their mailings everything is centered upon some kind of work that is going on. How I can be involved in this work or that work and what kind of work the Church of Scientology is performing. They send stories about members of the Church helping people in the community; rebuilding porches, roofing houses, mowing yards, and the list of social works is endless.

They sent me a packet of information about how I could become a "Volunteer Minister." The purpose was to provide "Global Social Betterment & Humanitarian Programs." You know, helping out in disasters relief, rebuilding homes after earthquakes or flooding, things like that. In other words, the spreading of the Social gospel.

I want to say something and I don't want to make anybody upset but you need to hear this. Nowhere in the Bible will you find the mission of the Church being a social gospel. Somewhere over the past 2,000 years the world has lost sight of the true purpose of the Church. While helping people in need is a noble thing to do, and as a Christian we are to show the love of Christ by loving our neighbor as our self, there is nothing wrong with helping people with their physical needs, however; that is far from the mission and purpose of the Church.

The Church was established with Jesus and his disciples and then it was empowered on the Day of Pentecost when Peter preached and over 3,000 were saved. At that point the Church became a living breathing movement of believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, who's purpose was to propagate the Gospel.

The definition of a New Testament church is a local assembly of baptized believers who have voluntarily joined themselves together to carry out the Great Commission.

Our purpose is NOT to rebuild porches, repair roofs, fix sidewalks, mow lawns, trim trees, plant flowers, shoot fireworks, or any other social endeavor. Our purpose as a Church is to share the Gospel with a lost and dying world. Everything else comes second to that. Ours is a spiritual Gospel, not a social gospel.

Is Scientology a Religion?

Something interesting that I have learned while doing research on the Church of Scientology, is the fact that it hasn't always been considered a religion. For nearly the first 40-years of its existence, it was known as a commercial business even though they used the name Church in their title. The IRS stripped them of tax exempt status in 1967 and for 26 years they waged a war and filed numerous lawsuits against the IRS to re-obtain the religious tax-exempt status and was finally granted it in 1993.

Many other countries still do not recognize it as a religion. Germany is strongly opposed to Scientology and so is France. Both of them state that Scientology is a dangerous cult. According to the latest financial records, the Church of Scientology has a net worth of over 1.2 Billion dollars. No wonder they can send me stuff in the mail all the time...

I suppose the first time I was aware of the Church of Scientology was about 10-years ago when I was on a business trip in New York City. I was staying at the Marriott Marquis right on Times Square and as I walked out the front door of the hotel, I looked across the street and there was a large long building and on the front of it, it said: "Church of Scientology of New York." I discovered that it was one of the very first Scientology Churches and was established there in 1955.

There are around 11,000 Scientology Churches throughout the world.

An interesting thing about Scientology Churches, they themselves do not refer to themselves as a Church very often. Instead they prefer the term, "Ideal Orgs." They say Mr. Hubbard's vision (was) that all Scientology Churches become what he termed *Ideal Organizations* (Orgs). Ideal Orgs not only provide the ideal facilities for Scientologists on their ascent to higher states of spiritual freedom, but they also serve as a home for the entire community and a meeting ground of cooperative effort to uplift people of all denominations.

How Many Scientologist Are There?

It is hard to get a good number of how many members the Church of Scientology actually has. They claim to add 4.4 million new members each year. But they have made many false claims over the years. Back in 1969 the head of the New York Scientologist claimed that there were 15 million members. Others since then have said 6 million and 12 million. Actress Kirstie Alley claimed there were 20 million members not too long ago.

I saw a religious survey by a group called American Religious Identification Survey (ARIS) and their survey found that there were around 25,000 Scientologist in the USA. That's probably closer to the real number.

Use of Symbols

Another oddity is the symbol that the Church of Scientology uses – an 8-pointed cross. It appears very much like a Latin Cross as we use in Christianity, only with a star in the middle of it. However; their cross does not represent the cross of Christ. Instead, they say the horizontal bar represents the material universe and the vertical bar represents the spirit (not the Spirit of God mind you, but man's inner spirit). The 8-points symbolizes the ability to live happily across all Eight Dynamics that are given in L. Ron Hubbard's book, Dianetics.

All of Scientology is based upon these 8-dynamics or 8-urges of survival as they also state.

1. Self dynamic – effort to survive as an individual in one's own body and mind.
2. Sex dynamic – urge of survival through sexual acts and through the family unit.
3. Group dynamic – urge of survival as a group.
4. Mankind dynamic – urge toward survival through all mankind
5. Life forms dynamic – urge to survive through life forms in general
6. M.E.S.T. = Matter, Energy, Space & Time (urge to survive in the physical universe)
7. Spiritual dynamic – urge to survive as a spirit being
8. Infinity dynamic – urge to survive as God or Supreme being, also called Infinity.

The goal of every Scientologist is to go through all of these dynamics until you can achieve the 8th dynamic of being a Supreme being. They become what is known as an "auditor" and they do these in steps that can take up to 40-years to complete.

Each level of trying to reach the top also cost a considerable amount of money. On the average, each Scientologist who reaches the 8th dynamic has paid at least \$500,000 to the Church for the "courses." If you are in the Church and you reveal any of the secrets that you have learned as you have went through the levels, you can be fined \$100,000.

Supposedly Scientologists are on a bridge that leads to infinity or total freedom. As they go through each step they are considered to be "Thetans." According to the Scientology website: The thetan (spirit) uses its mind as a control system between itself and the physical universe. The mind is not the brain. The brain is part of the body and does not determine intelligence.

Thetans are trying to achieve the state of "Clear." To be "Clear" means that you have achieved the level of a God and your mind can operate outside of your own body. Also known as an Operating Thetan or an OT.

The OT is able to "control or operate thought, life, matter, energy, space, and time" whether he or she has a body and mind or not. Supposedly, the actor, Tom Cruise is an OT 8. He achieved OT 7 back in 2004. Also, actress Kirstie Alley has achieved OT 8 just this year.

Of course, Tom Cruise is the golden child of Scientology. It is said that he is the second highest ranking Scientologist in the world, just behind Chairman of the Board, David Miscavige.

According to former 35-year Scientologist and actor, Leah Remini, Tom Cruise IS Scientology and if he chose to leave it the entire organization would shut-down.

Leah Remini also hosts a show on the A&E Channel called "**Aftermath**" where she exposes the policies and practices of the Church of Scientology. It is now in its 3rd season. She brings other former Scientologists on the show and interviews them and they discuss all the abuses they suffered while in the Church of Scientology.

Of course, the Church denies all claims that are made on her show and they have created their own website www.leahreminiaftermath.com where they smear Leah Remini with everything they possibly can. They have managed to get links to their sight to show up as the number one hit on Google's search engine. They have put thousands of dollars into trying to shut her up.

The very first thing they state on their website is: Leah Remini continues to profit by harassing her former religion and its parishioners, spreading provable lies which generate hate, bigotry and violence.

They also state Leah Remini's slanderous fabrications about the Church of Scientology, in an effort to drum up publicity for her made-up "docuseries," are despicable. Her reality show "Aftermath" is really "Leah Remini: After Money." It is nothing more than a scripted, rehearsed, acted and dramatized work of fiction.

Well, Tom Cruise and Kirstie Alley aren't the only big-name celebrities that are Scientologists, according to CNN some other famous Scientologists are:

1. John Travolta
2. Jason Lee
3. Kelly Preston
4. Sony Bono
5. Juliette Lewis
6. Bijou Phillips
7. Isaac Hayes
8. Priscilla Presley
9. Jeff Conway
10. Greta Van Susteren
11. The singer Beck
12. Catherine Bell

The Church of Scientology craves these big-name celebrities' endorsements. It helps them generate more money and a feeling of being legitimate. If all their adoring fans hear that they are Scientologists then they may be more accepted.

Lastly, something as bazar as they come. During my research I constantly kept coming across stories of a **God named Xenu** which Scientology was supposedly based upon. According to every source I could find, when a member of the Church of Scientology achieves OT 8, they are divulged the story of Xenu. Let me read it to you and we will wrap this lesson up.

The Story of Xenu

Once upon a time, 75 million years ago, there was an alien galactic ruler named Xenu. Xenu was in charge of all the planets in this part of the galaxy, including Earth, which in those days was called Teegeeeack. Xenu had a problem. All 76 planets of the Galactic Confederation he controlled were overpopulated. Each planet had on average 178 billion people. He wanted to get rid of this overpopulation, and he had a plan.

With the help of renegades, Xenu defeated his opponents, the good people and their Loyal Officers. Then with the help of psychiatrists and the media he persuaded billions of people to come in for income tax audits. They were instead injected in the lungs with alcohol and glycol to paralyze them. Then they were put into spaceships that looked exactly like DC-8 airplanes, except they had rocket engines instead of propellers. These space planes then flew to planet Earth where the hundreds of billions of paralyzed people were stacked around the bases of volcanoes. H-bombs were lowered into the volcanoes, and Xenu detonated all the H-bombs at once, killing everyone.

The story doesn't end there though. Since everyone has a soul, Xenu had to make sure the souls would not come back and seek vengeance. So, while the hundreds of billions of souls were being blown around by the nuclear winds, he used special traps that caught them in electronic beams that were sticky like flypaper. Force fields then packaged the souls into "clusters."

This all took place in Hawaii and Las Palmas in the Canary Islands. Xenu had these soul clusters packed into boxes and taken to some huge cinemas to brainwash, or hypnotically "implant" them. They were forced to spend 36 days watching 3D motion pictures of traumatic, horrific things like torture, dissection, and crucifixion. They were subject to sexual perversion, motion sickness, auto accidents, and other horrors. They were also shown false pictures and told they were God, Christ, and Satan, all as part of Xenu's plan to render them helpless and prevent their return.

After the implanting, the soul clusters remained stuck together in groups of a few thousand, as the implanting had confused their sense of individual identity. There were only a few living bodies left on Earth, and the clusters inhabited these bodies like parasitic demons.

As for Xenu, the Loyal Officers finally overthrew him and imprisoned him in a mountain top on Earth. He is kept there by a force field powered by an eternal battery, and is still alive today. And so today everyone on Earth is possessed by clusters of souls called "body thetans." And if you are to become spiritually free, you must exorcise all the body thetans inhabiting you, and pay many thousands of dollars to do so. And the only reason people believe in God and Christ is because they were in the implant film their body thetans saw 75 million years ago.

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Listen, we can all sit here tonight and laugh at this and judge them, or we can seriously pray for these deceived people. I say we pray for them.

† All Scripture from the Authorized King James Version