Cults and Other "Gospels"

Recognizing and Understanding the Differences



Cults and Other "Gospels"

Remember our definition of a "cult"

- I've recommended six questions to ask yourself about any religious groups that seem at least potentially suspicious to you...
 - 1. Does the group have a prophet/founder who is revered by followers and claims to have *special* revelation from God or from angels?
 - 2. Are there authoritative writings or scriptures in addition to or instead of the Bible?
 - 3. Does the group view itself as the one *true* church, founded because the *true* gospel was lost in the early centuries of the church?
 - 4. What does the group believe regarding the Trinity? Is Jesus fully God, the second person of the Trinity? Is the Holy Spirit fully God, the third person of the Trinity?
 - 5. How does the group believe we are saved? By grace alone, through faith in Jesus Christ, or by faith plus good works?
 - 6. What belief does the group hold regarding life after death? What is its concept of Heaven and Hell?





Cults and Other "Gospels"

- Introduction to Cults
- Peoples Temple
- Latter-Day Saints ("Mormons")
- Jehovah's Witnesses
- Christian Science
- Scientology / Dianetics





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Funky little teaching moment...

"Auditing" is an expensive process supposed to "clear" clients of destructive "engrams" through the application of the Dianetics program—which is part of Scientology

Scientology founder—and mediocre science fiction author—L. Ron Hubbard explained that

"Engrams are a complete recording, down to the last accurate detail, of every perception present in a moment of partial or full "unconsciousness..." An engram can be permanently fused into any and all body circuits and behaves like an entity. In all laboratory tests on these engrams, they were found

to possess "inexhaustible" sources of power to command the body..." —from *Dianetics*

(and that's why we have pain, sickness, and suffering in our lives—because of negative engrams fused to parts of our bodies, minds, and relationships)





Funky little teaching moment...

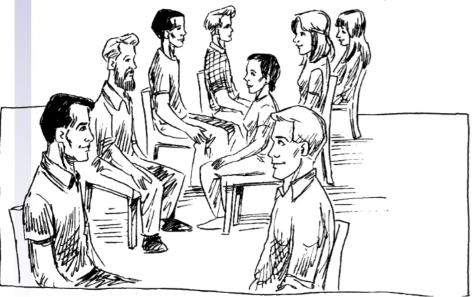
- "Auditing" is an expensive process supposed to "clear" clients of destructive "engrams"
- As part of this "auditing" process, clients take part in a series of TRs ("Training Routines") that cost the client \$500 per hour
 - TR0 Confronting/Bullbaiting
 - TR1 Dear Alice
 - TR2 Acknowledgements
 - TR3 Duplicative Question
 - TR4 Pre-Clear Originations
 - TR6 Body Control
 - TR7 High School Indoctrination
 - TR8 Tone 40 on objects
 - TR9 Tone 40 with bullbait
 - This is all designed to eliminate your critical thinking
 - This is just the *first* round of Scientology courses





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- After the TRs, the courses get more intense
 Postlude to TR9 (which you still pay for at \$500 per hour) lets you share your "Big Win" with an encounter group, explaining why the TRs have been helpful, constructive, and—most importantly—worth the time and money







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 - Postlude to TR9
 - New Era Dianetics (still costing \$500 per hour) audits your whole life and helps you locate, isolate, and clear away any destructive engrams that have been created by traumatic experiences in your life (or previous life) —at which point, you attain the state of "Clear"

(i.e.; "clear" of all those nasty engrams)





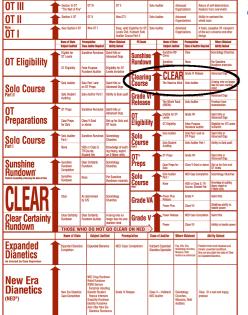


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 - Clear Certainty Rundown ascertains if you really are Clear (at a cost of \$2,800), and if so, then you're walked

around town to acquaint yourself with your new perception of reality







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After the TRs, the courses get more intense

- Postlude to TR9
- New Era Dianetics
- Clear Certainty Rundown
- Then you begin the OTs ("Operating Thetan") courses



(NOTE: Scientology.org defines "OT" this way— "OT (Operating Thetan) is a state of spiritual awareness in which an individual is able to control themselves and their environment... They have been fully refamiliarized with their capabilities as a thetan and can willingly and knowingly be at cause over life, thought, matter, energy, space and time.")

(i.e.; they have literally been mentally conditioned to believe that they now have superpowers)



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After the TRs, the courses get more intense

- Postlude to TR9
- New Era Dianetics
- Clear Certainty Rundown
- Then you begin the OTs ("Operating Thetan") courses
 - OT1-2 (at a cost of \$7,978) teach clients about the true origins of the Thetans more than 75 million years ago

(Spoilers: They're aliens)







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 - ♦ OŤ1-2
 - OT3-4 (at a cost of \$17,010) teach clients about the intergalactic emperor Xenu, who imprisoned the Thetans in volcanoes
 - (there's a reason why *Dianetics* had a volcano on the cover...)





Funky little teaching moment...

- Okay, when you get high enough up in the Church, you find out the whole cosmic history
 - 75,000,000 years ago, a galactic confederation comprising some 76 stars was faced with a massive overpopulation problem that was solved by the evil Galactic Emperor Xenu through the expedient of killing off billions and billions of excess citizens, freezing their thetans in a compound of alcohol and glycol and shipping them off to Teegeack (as the Earth was called back then) in spacecraft that resembled DC-8 airliners.
 - Once there, Xenu chained these so-called "thetans" to active volcanos and detonated H-bombs on them. He then recaptured them using electronic beams, shipped them to Las Palmas (in the Azores) and to Hawaii, where they were exposed to negative conditioning which implanted them with commands to "go and do Bad Things."

(NOTE: This was known as "Incident II," and the worst of the implanted memories was the R6 Implant, which consisted of a 36-day-long 3-D movie with pictures of—as Hubbard described—"God, the Devil, Angels, space opera, theaters, helicopters, a constant spinning, a spinning dancer, trains and various scenes very like modern England")





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(i.e.; all existing world religions—and most particularly, any religion featuring a *cross* are the result of that 75-million-year-old brainwashing by Xenu)





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(i.e.; all existing world religions—and most particularly, any religion featuring a *cross*) (ironic, since Scientology has since begun using an 8-pointed cross as one of its symbols, symbolizing the 8 "Dynamics")





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(NOTE: This was known as "Incident II," and the worst of the implanted memories was the R6 Implant, which consisted of a 36-day-long 3-D movie) (NOTE²: Even though Scientologists will downplay —and even flat-out deny—the whole Xenu thing, we have multiple personal testimonies about it including notes written in Hubbard's own hand)

Jaka (1) The head of the galactic Confederation (76 planets arounds langer stars visible firow keve) fould for over population (250 billion or so per planet - 178 billion and average) by mass implanting. He eaused people to be brought to Peegeeack (Saith) and junk on H Bout ou the principal volcanoes (Incidents) were Talam in bras to Navaic and then the Pacific area ones were Talam in bras to Navaic and these and these packaged." His name was Xenn. He used henegades. Various ancleation data in means of circuits ale. Was placed, in the implants, When there of be the place (to the people) captured time after 6 years of battle to man they there he cleation with the state of the factor is i hey " are gone. The place has since been adesent.



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- thems face c our Re which (emoti
- These billions of thetans then clustered and attached themselves to the local life forms—which is why we now face clusters of conditioned *Body* Thetans, which feed our Reactive Mind Banks with destructive engrams, which is the immediate cause of all human suffering (emotional, psychological, and physical)



NARCZ

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This is why Scientologists are so against medical sciences that include drugs, psychology, surgery, etc.—because they don't deal with the *real* problem
 That's why Scientology founded Narconon in 1966 —not to be confused with the reputable NarcAnon





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 - Scientology also owns and operates organizations such as HealthMed, Applied Scholastics, Concerned Businessmen's Association, Sterling Management Systems, Association for Better Living and Education, and other groups that don't tell you they're Scientology



SUNUNU: Headed for a Fall?

Funky little teaching moment...

- Okay, when you get high enough up in the Church, you find out the whole cosmic history
- By the time you finally work your way all the way through OT8, it's estimated that you will have spent \$200-\$400,000 on your courses
 - That's a large part of why the only people who have made it into OT8 are celebrities and really rich executives—and why no one has ever left Scientology during or after going through OT8
 - Most terrifying is the fact that all of the dollar values that I've given you were current as of 1991
 —I'm fairly certain that prices have only gone up from there since then
 - But how does spending half a million dollars on something so utterly ridiculous actually work to make you accept the lie all the more?



Let's continue with our six questions...

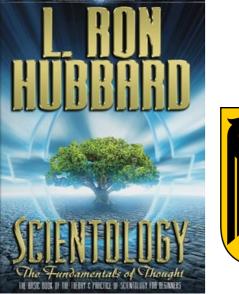
- Does the group view itself as the one true church, founded because the true gospel was lost in the early centuries of the church?
 - "[Scientology] is the only thoroughly tested system of improving human relations, intelligence and character, and is the only one which does."

—Scientology: The Fundamentals of Thought

(NOTE: This one is a little hard to address as such, since Scientology isn't a "Christian" cult so much as a "*post*-Christian" cult that uses a lot of Christian imagery to seem religion-y... while simultaneously claiming not to be a "religion" at all... while simultaneously calling themselves a "church" and claiming religious exemptions under law...)

(NOTE: In the later 20th century, Germany —citing the Nazis—decried the cult as a dangerous, totalitarian group) (NOTE²: Scientology responded by —citing the Nazis—decrying Germany as a dangerous, totalitarian regime)





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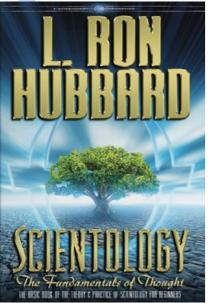
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(NOTE²: As Hubbard has said several times,

"If attacked on some vulnerable point by anyone or anything or any organization, always find or manufacture enough threat against them to cause them to sue for peace. Don't ever defend. Always attack." —i.e.; the "Fair Game" policy)



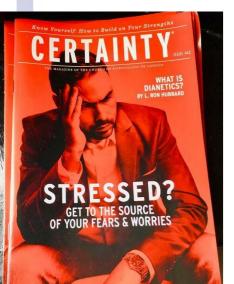


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- What does the group believe regarding the Trinity? Is Jesus fully God, the second person of the Trinity? Is the Holy Spirit fully God, the third person of the Trinity?
 - "There are gods above all other gods, and gods beyond the gods of the universes."
 - —Scientology 8-8008
 - "Neither Lord Buddha nor Jesus Christ were OTs according to evidence. They were just a shade above Clear."
 - -Certainty Magazine

(i.e.; they had both *just* gotten to the point where they had cleared out their destructive engrams from past lives, but hadn't become truly *Operating* Thetans who could have the mental powers over MEST that could *really* change the world like L. Ron Hubbard could)





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"You will find the cross as a symbol all over the universe, and the CHRIST LEGEND as an implant in preclears a million years ago." —Professional Auditor's Bulletin #31

(i.e.; the cross is a negative trigger that pushes people into "religious" thought, first implanted into imprisoned thetans back in Xenu's 3-D, "R6 Implant" movie first used back in "Incident II")



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"The eighth dynamic [arbitrary compartment of life] is the urge toward existence as infinity. This is also identified as the Supreme Being... This can be called the infinity or God dynamic."

—Scientology: The Fundamentals of Thought

(i.e.; the closest thing to a "god" in Scientology would be those who reach the highest level of Scientology)

Let's continue with our six questions...

- How does the group believe we are saved? By grace alone, through faith in Jesus Christ, or by faith plus good works?
 - "It is despicable and utterly beneath contempt to tell a man he must repent, that he is evil." —Professional Auditor's Bulletin #31
 - "It is only generally true that an individual is responsible for everything that happens to him. When an individual, wishing to cause many interesting effects, chooses to go into many universes or traps, he can become confused about what he is doing, where he is or what it is all about."

—Scientology: The Fundamentals of Thought

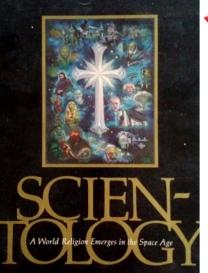
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"Personal salvation in one lifetime [is] freedom from the cycle of birth and death."

—Scientology: A World Religion Emerges in the Space Age





Funky little teaching moment...

For example, Hubbard himself never actually died—
"Approximately two weeks ago, he completed all of his researches he set out to do. He has now moved on to the next level of OT research. It's a level beyond anything any of us ever imagined. This level is in fact done in an exterior state. Meaning that it is done completely exterior from the body. At this level of OT, the body is nothing more than an impediment and encumbrance to any further gain as an OT. Thus at 2000 hours, the 24th of January, AD36 [After Dianetics], L. Ron Hubbard discarded the body he had used in this life time for 74 years, 10 months, and 11 days."

—from the official Scientology eulogy in 1986





Let's continue with our six questions...

- What belief does the group hold regarding life after death? What is its concept of Heaven and Hell?
 - "Hell is a total myth, an invention just to make people very unhappy and is a vicious lie." —Professional Auditor's Bulletin #31
 - "There is much discussion about between-lives areas and other phenomena which might have passed at one time or another for heaven or hell, but it is established completely that a thetan is immortal and that he himself cannot actually experience death and counterfeits it by forgetting. It is adequately manifest that a thetan lives again and that he is very anxious to put something on the time track (something for the future) in order to have something to come back to, thus we have the anxieties of sex. There must be additional bodies for the next life."

—Scientology: The Fundamentals of Thought



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- What belief does the group hold regarding life after death? What is its concept of Heaven and Hell?
 - * "At death, the theta being leaves the body and goes to a particular location where he 'reports in,' is made to forget everything, and is then sent back to Earth to a new body just before it is born."

—Scientology: The Fundamentals of Thought (NOTE: This is part of why it is so important to Scientologists that, when a new baby is born, they practice a "silent birth," where

"everyone attending the birth should refrain from spoken words as much as possible" and "chatty doctors and nurses, shouts to 'PUSH, PUSH' and loud or laughing remarks to 'encourage' are avoided..."

-Scientology.org)

(See, according to Hubbard,

"Everyone must learn to say nothing within the expectant mother's hearing using labor and delivery. Particularly during birth, absolute silence must be maintained" to avoid fusing traumatic negative engrams onto the child)





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"Scientology shares the goal of spiritual salvation that exists in many faiths such as Judaism, Islam, Christianity, Buddhism and Hinduism. While the *terms* in which salvation is to be accomplished differ in Scientology, the spiritual *goal* of saving the soul is a commonality shared with many faiths... It is a fact that unless one begins to handle aberration built up in past lives, he doesn't progress. In Scientology, one is given the tools to handle upsets and aberrations from past lives that adversely affect the individual in the present, thus freeing one to live a much happier life."

—Scientology.org

So how can we minister to Scientologists?

