

Letter 180

"I Entered The Darkness and Found The Light"

2013-04-13

Dear Dan,

Many years ago (CB1), (CB19) and I were at Dennys having coffee. We all had attended the Jesus People Church (U1) some years before and throughout that time would often get together someplace for coffee to talk about Jesus and His Kingdom. Many times one or two of us would already be at Dennys just hanging out (being "Dennys Droids"), and one or more from (U1) would show up unannounced and join in with whatever was happening at the table.

This was in the mid 1980's and the New Age movement had reached an apex here in the Northwest. At that time many Christians were becoming enamored with things like Yoga, tofu, crystals, mystics, etc. It was at this time also when I saw J. Z. Knight on TV "channeling" Ramtha.

(CB29) was an intellectual, and may have been one of the founding members of (U1), or started fellowshiping there very early in its formation. I heard many years later that he had been miraculously healed of Multiple Sclerosis after being prayed for there.

But he and the others had moved on after 1980. In about 1982 I remember that he had a weekly Bible Study in his apartment for a while, which I attended once or twice. But I found it strange that instead of studying the Bible, he wanted everyone there to obtain and study a book called "Megatrends" (first published in 1982). That really didn't make any sense to me, which is why I quit going to the meetings.

I had arrived at Dennys to find (CB1) and (CB29) seated and engrossed in conversation. I just sat down with them and after listening for a bit began to get the context of what was being said.

(CB1) was exhorting (CB29) not to deviate from Christ, and tried to argue against (CB29)'s rationale for moving into "the New Age Pop" culture rather than staying with God's Word.

Then, I said to (CB29) that New Age was a deception and it was darkness. He replied with a phrase that I have always remembered;

"I Entered The Darkness and Found The Light"

Now, as I reflect on that event, I can imagine that it was the perception of his own knowledge and intellect that tempted him away from the simple faith of "Jesus Loves Us". Instead, he pursued the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge and was deceived thereby. Now, it occurs to me that perhaps he was trying to find a way to win the argument, rather than see the error of his way, and that maybe he really didn't mean what he said. But later, I heard that his MS had returned. And so both (CB1) and I witnessed first hand what happens to a Christian who is deceived and strays from the Narrow Way.

Blessings...

R. C. Theophilus