

***How to Not Be Deceived,
Bamboozled or Snookered by
Religious Hucksters, Snake Oil
Conmen or Your Own
Idolatrous Notions***

It's not polite to...

Test everything I'm
about to tell you.

“The brothers immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea, and when they arrived they went into the Jewish synagogue. Now these Jews **were more noble** than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, **examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so.**”

(Acts 17:10–11)

Question: Why do Bad Things
Happen to Good People?

Answer: Bad things NEVER
happen to good people. They
only happen to bad people.

The Religious Marketplace
is filled with deceivers who
make a lot of money selling
bad theology to BAD
people, giving them what
their wicked hearts
desire & believe.

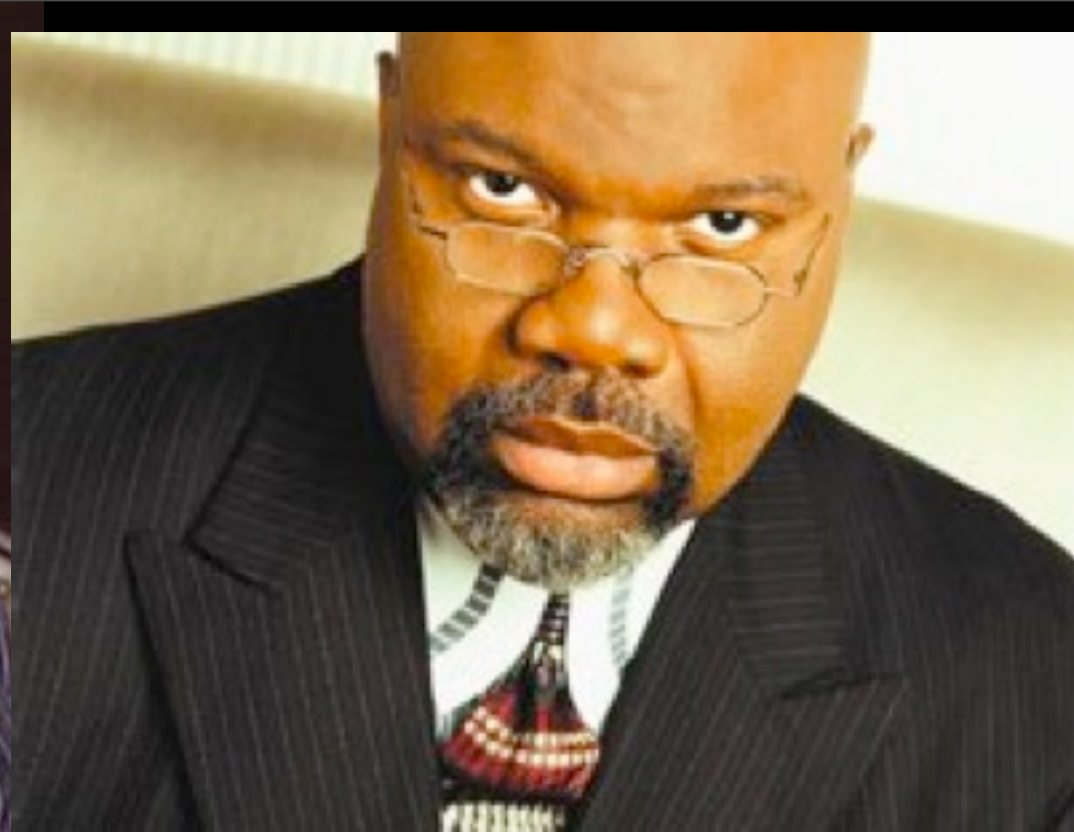
“For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will ***accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions***, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.”

(2 Timothy 4:3–4)



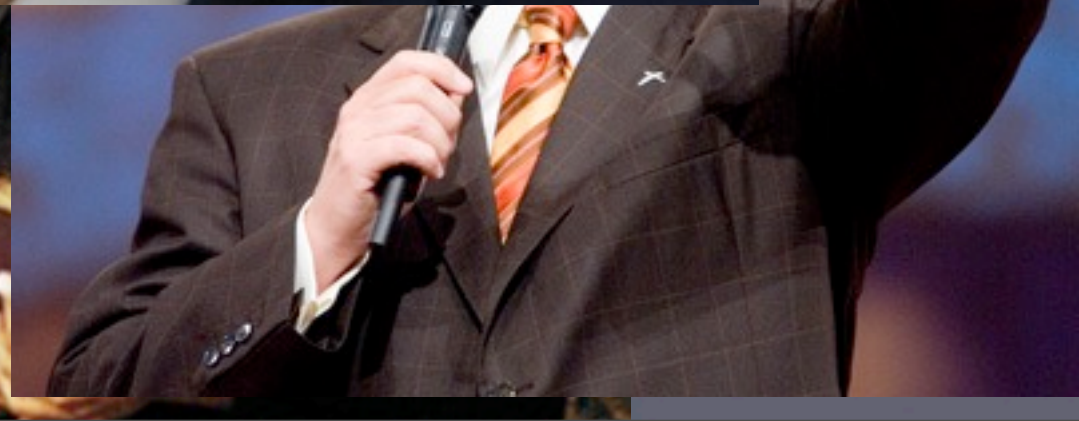
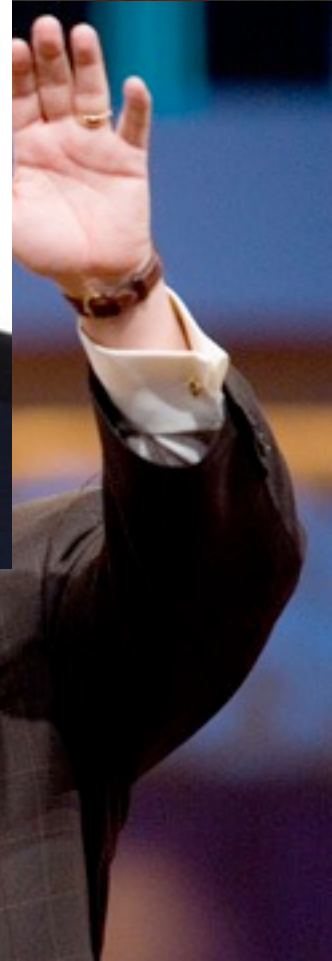
“The phenomenon of Hitler is not exhausted by his person. His success must be understood in the context of an intellectually or morally ruined society in which personalities who otherwise would be grotesque, marginal figures can come to public power because **they superbly represent the people who admire them.**” - Eric Voegelin, author of *Hitler and the Germans*















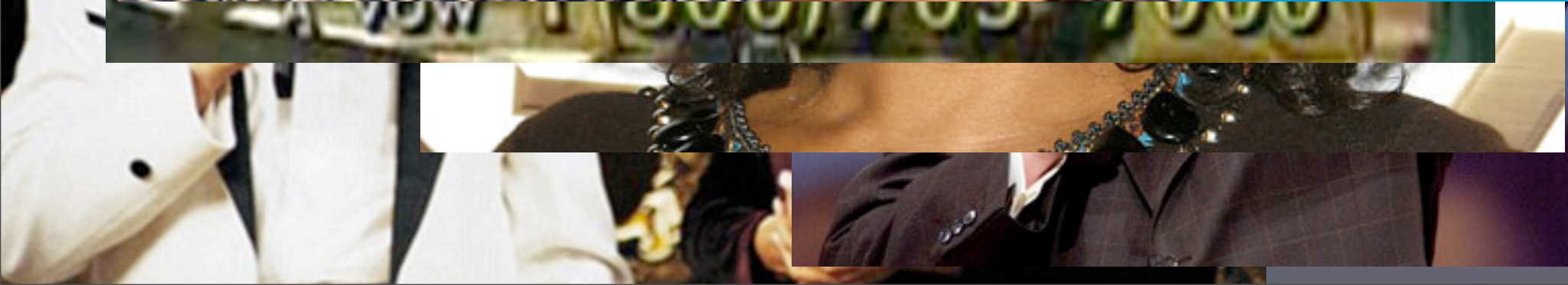


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COURTESY OF SADDLEBACK CHURCH





“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life....

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and **people loved the darkness rather than the light** because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things **hates the light** and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.”” (John 3:16–21)

Who do you trust?

Who should you trust?

Subjective feelings &
intuition??



We've been culturally catechized to not trust our mind,
or our eyes but "stretch out with our feelings".
Americans think they're Jedi.

“The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?”
(Jeremiah 17:9)

“For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander.” (Matthew 15:19–20)

“What then? Are we Jews any better off? No, not at all. For we have already charged that all, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin, as it is written: “None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one.” “Their throat is an open grave; they use their tongues to deceive.” “The venom of asps is under their lips.” “Their mouth is full of curses and bitterness.” “Their feet are swift to shed blood; in their paths are ruin and misery, and the way of peace they have not known.” “There is no fear of God before their eyes.”” (Romans 3:9–18)

“For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For the mind that is set on the flesh **is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God’s law; indeed, it cannot.** Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.” (Romans 8:6–8)

Personal Experiences?



Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and Harry Houdini
Friends Who Had a Bitter Falling Out

A letter written to Mrs. Houdini by Conan Doyle says,

“But you can understand that, to those of us who had personal experience, a hundred times over, in the matter, it was annoying to be placed in the position of either being a fool or a knave. So far as his [Harry’s] work was confined to really fake mediums, we were all in sympathy. But he got far past that. It was a general wild attack upon all that we hold dear.”

- Massimo Polidoro’s *Final Séance: The Strange Friendship Between Houdini and Conan Doyle* pg 210

“Then if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here is the Christ!’ or ‘There he is!’ do not believe it. For false christs and false prophets will arise **and perform great signs and wonders,** so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect. See, I have told you beforehand. So, if they say to you, ‘Look, he is in the wilderness,’ do not go out. If they say, ‘Look, he is in the inner rooms,’ do not believe it.” (Matthew 24:23–26)

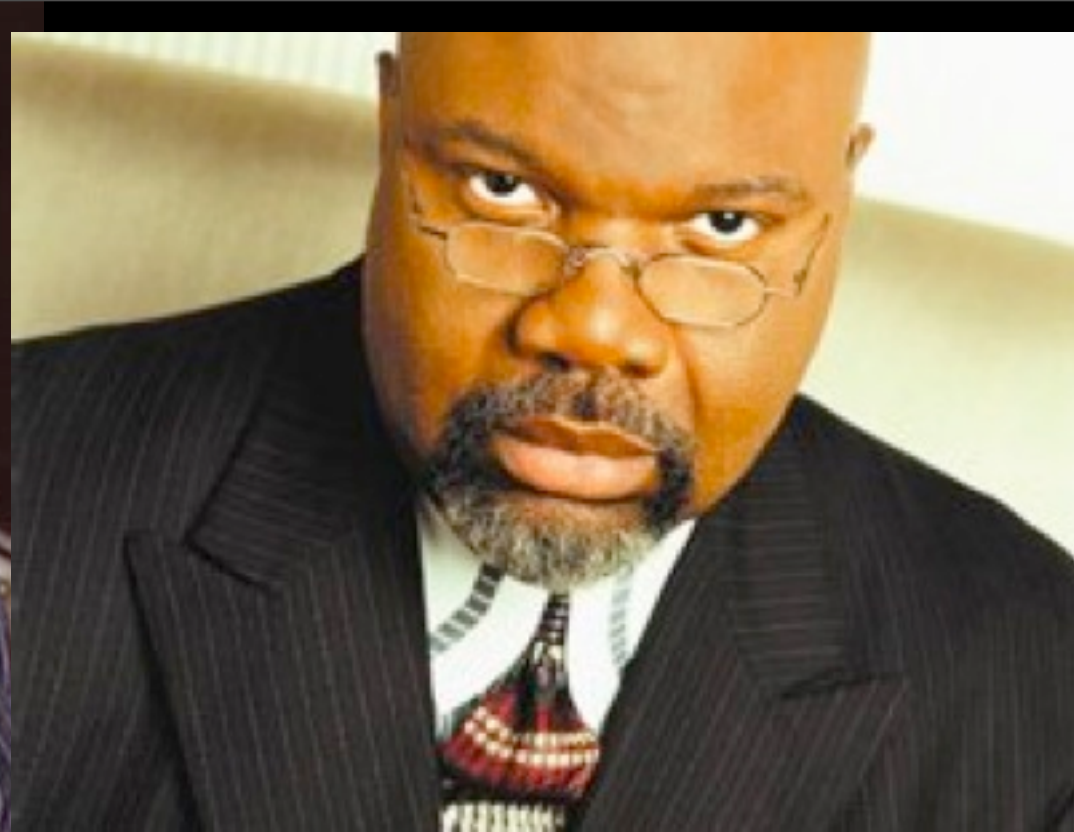
An Objective Source!

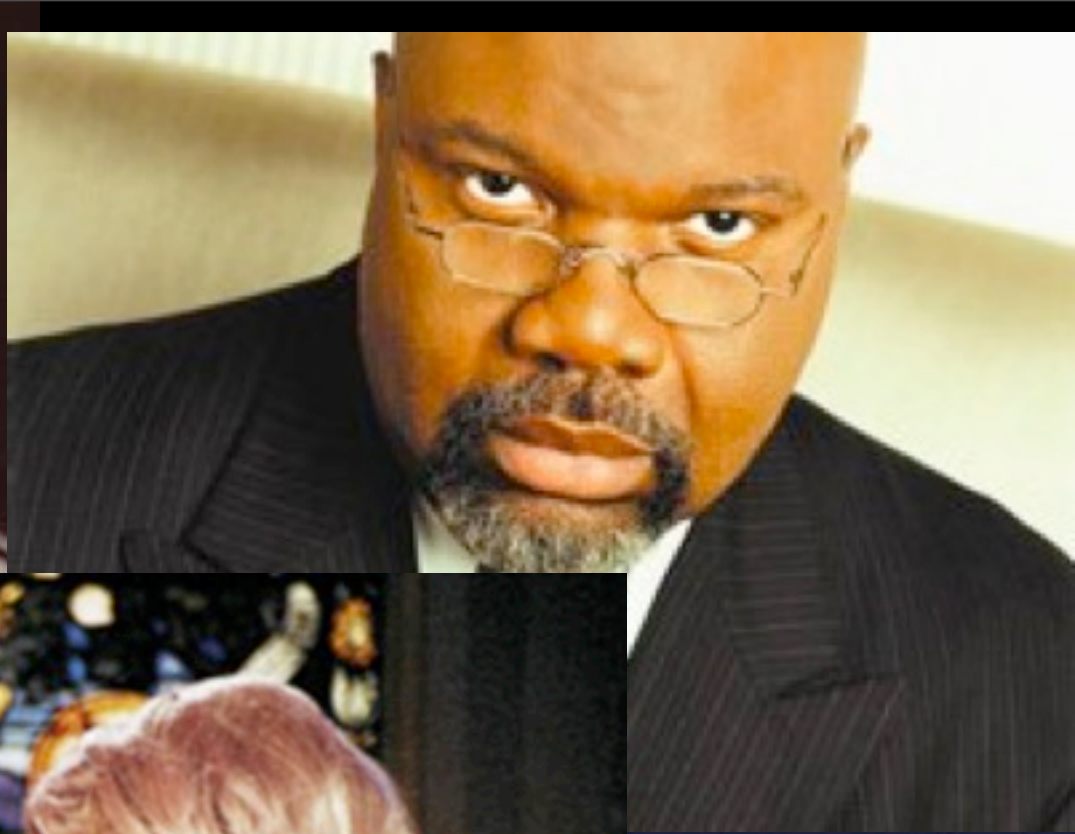
“For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,” we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone’s own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.”

(2 Peter 1:16–21)

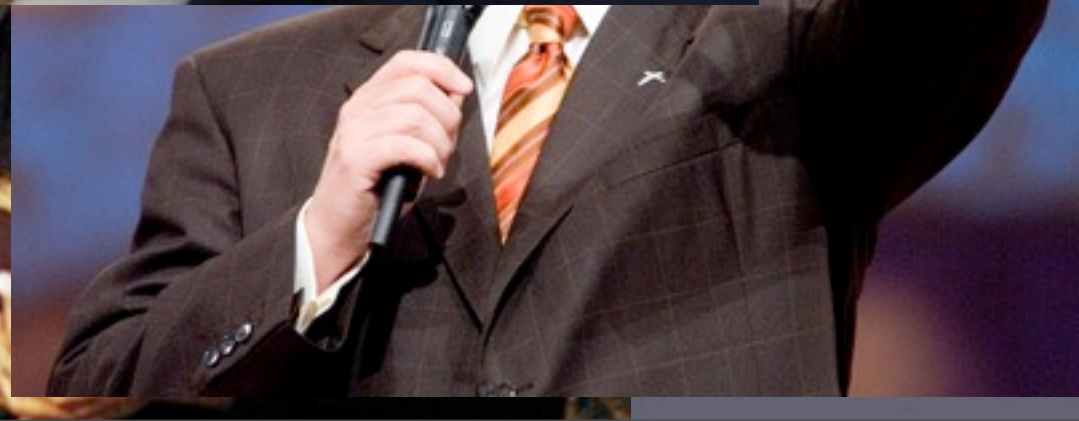
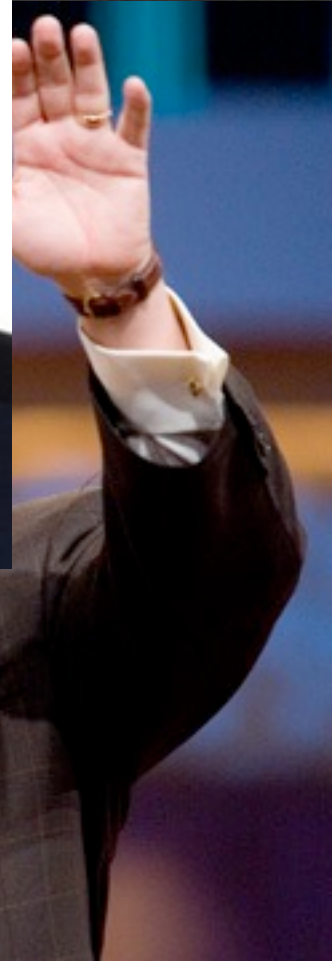
Your feelings, intuition,
or experiences
cannot, and more
importantly **SHOULD**
NOT be trusted.















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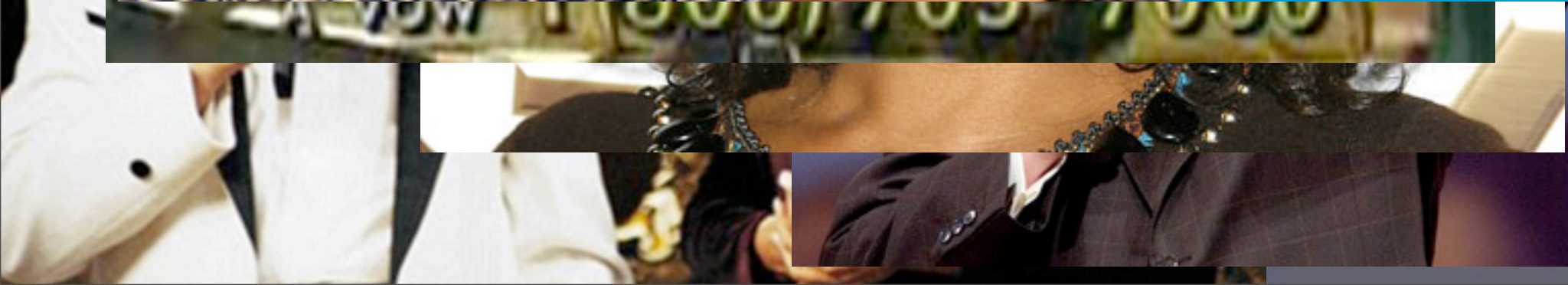


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COURTESY OF SADDLEBACK CHURCH





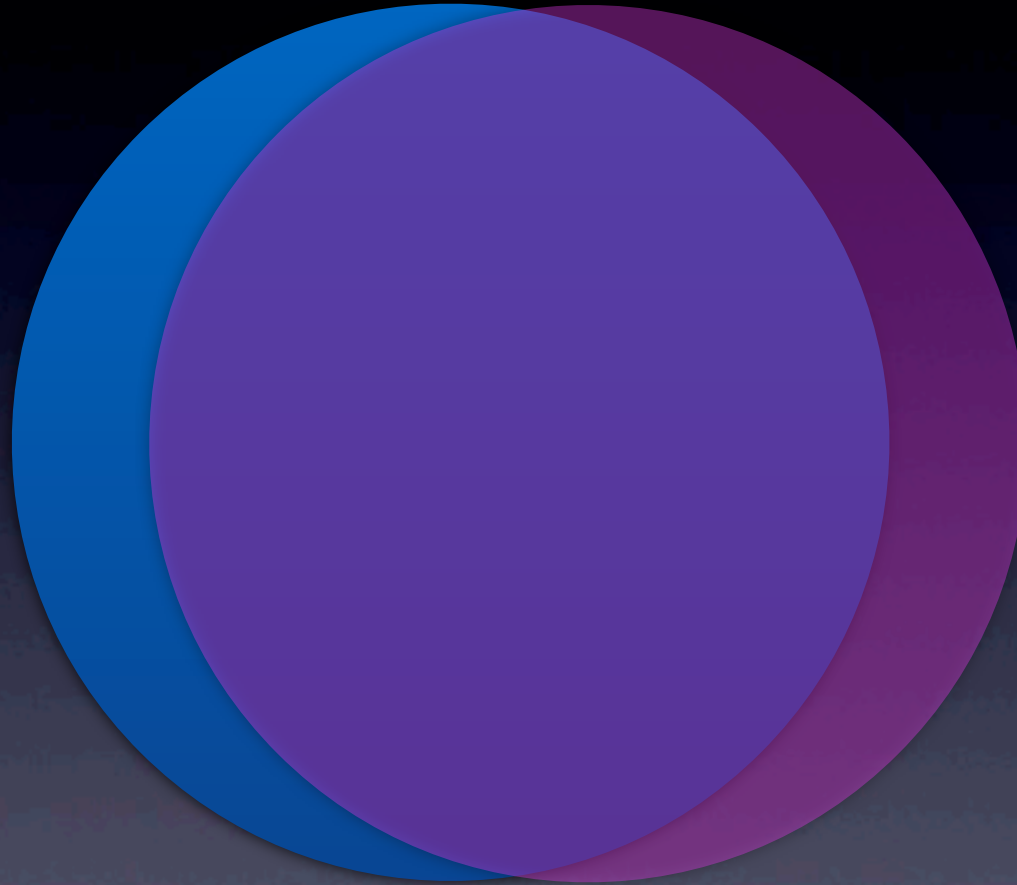


Pure/True Biblical Doctrine

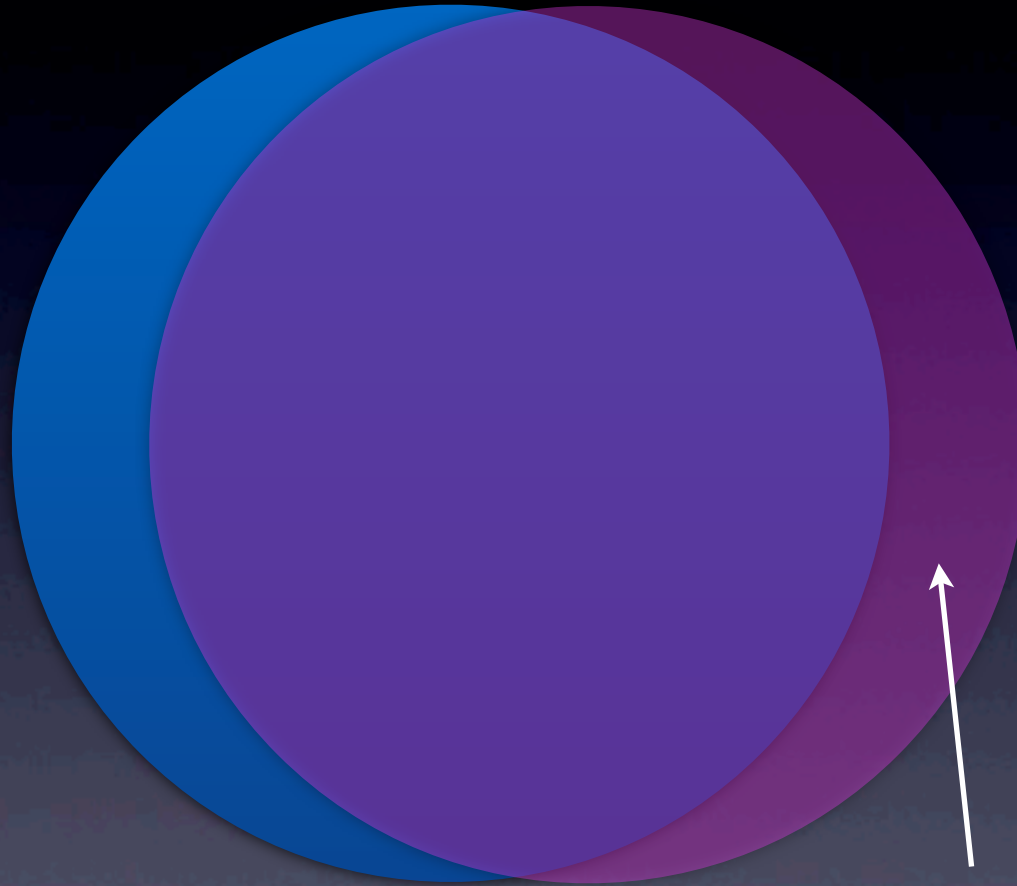


Your Idolatrous False Doctrines
based on feelings, intuition &
personal experiences

An individualized spirituality that has been syncretized
with bits & pieces of Christian Doctrine

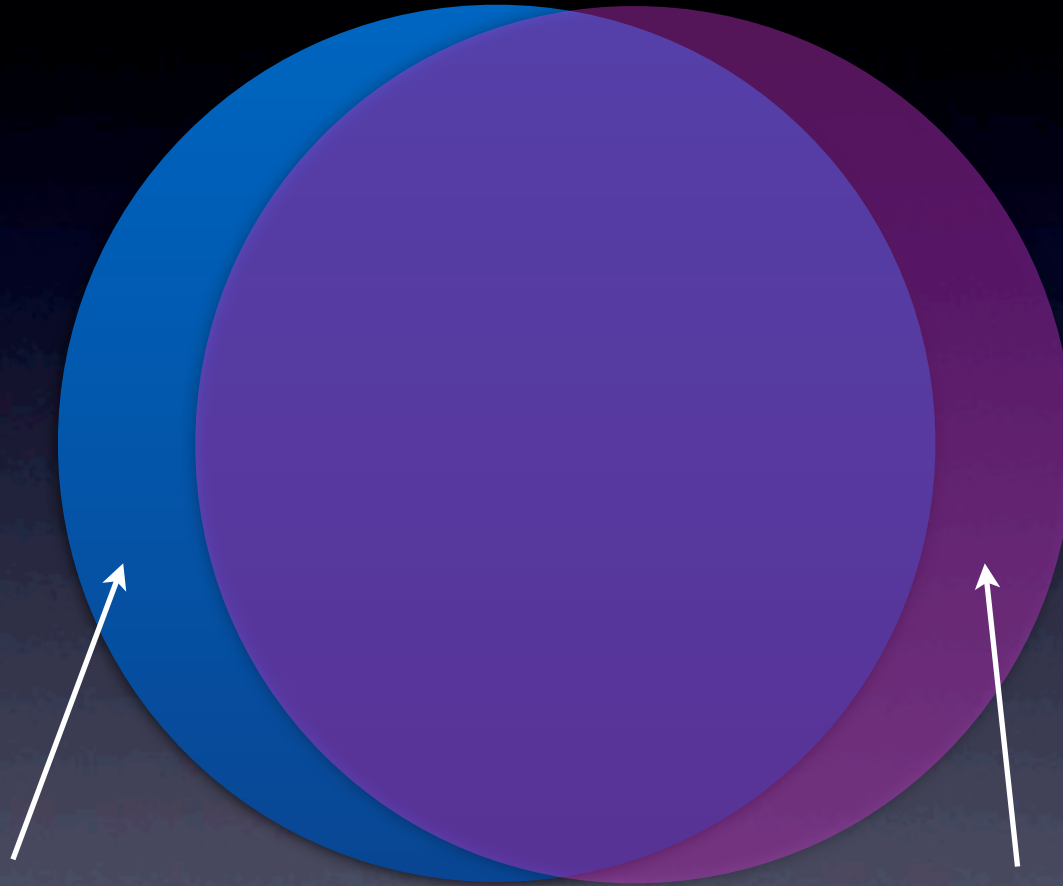


An individualized spirituality that has been syncretized
with bits & pieces of Christian Doctrine



This is the part that is idolatrous &
makes you susceptible to
bamboozlement

An individualized spirituality that has been syncretized with bits & pieces of Christian Doctrine



This part is incompatible with your idolatry.

This is the part that is idolatrous & makes you susceptible to bamboozlement

Sound Doctrine is NOT
Adiophora, It's God's Will

“And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.””

(Matthew 28:18–20)

“This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you— if anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination. For an overseer, as God’s steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.” (Titus 1:5–9)

“For there are many who are insubordinate, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision party. They must be silenced, since they are upsetting whole families by teaching for shameful gain what they ought not to teach. One of the Cretans, a prophet of their own, said, “Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons.” This testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith, not devoting themselves to Jewish myths and the commands of people who turn away from the truth. To the pure, all things are pure, but to the defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure; but both their minds and their consciences are defiled. They profess to know God, but they deny him by their works. They are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good work. But as for you, teach what accords with sound doctrine.” (Titus 1:10–2:1)

““Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves.” (Matthew 7:15)

“As he sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, “Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?” And Jesus answered them, “See that no one leads you astray. For many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and they will lead many astray.” (Matthew 24:3–5)

“And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.” (Matthew 24:11–13)

“I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ. For if someone comes and proclaims another Jesus than the one we proclaimed, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or if you accept a different gospel from the one you accepted, you put up with it readily enough.” (2 Corinthians 11:3–4)

“I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.” (Galatians 1:6–9)