

601 Victor Dr.
Port Neches, TX 77651
August 5, 2011

Dear Christian Believer,

As a pastor of thirty years and one who holds fast to the inspiration, inerrancy, and sufficiency of God's Word, I send this letter to you with a deep burden for truth in practice in the body of Christ. I also write on behalf of a number of others who share like-minded concerns.

Our concerns have to do with today's commonly accepted practice among Christians who use psychological theories and therapies masquerading under the guise of "Christian Psychology," "Christian Counseling," and/or "Biblical Counseling." We maintain that such practices undermine the Word of God with human philosophies (Col 2:8), and are aberrant and injurious. We contend that they are abhorrent to the Lord and warn true believers to separate themselves from them in order to rid the church of this deceptively detrimental malady. Such practices, whether intentional or not, violate the truths of God's Word. They also threaten to displace a believer's surrendered life to Christ with the exact opposite—a misaligned focus upon one's SELF. We boldly attest that there is but ONE REMEDY for resolving the SELF problem: namely, the CROSS OF CHRIST and the resurrection power of the WORD OF GOD!

We acknowledge that this cancer has so infiltrated the house of the Lord and caused such grave and debilitating harm upon our churches, ministries and institutions, it may already be too late to remedy much of the damage. Nonetheless, we pray that the Lord's remnant will stand up in the face of such an overwhelming tide and begin to reverse this harmful and damaging trend. We realize that taking such a stand is likely to come at great cost—more so for some than for others. However, please keep in mind that a time may soon come when the Holy Spirit will call upon us to take even greater stands for truth, perhaps requiring many to sacrifice much more than their prominence, popularity, prestige, and possessions.

The command to "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints" (Jud 1:3) is to be taken seriously. This is exactly our intent as we hereby endeavor to: stem the tide of this horribly detrimental malady from among the Lord's people, purge this abominable scourge from those remaining salvageable institutions which claim to be in the service of our Lord, and direct His church back unto a full reliance on the sufficiency of Scripture.

We would very much appreciate hearing from you. We invite all true believers, especially those in leadership, to take a ***stand for truth*** with us in this crucial effort to influence change. The more unified we are, the more beneficial our testimony will be. Tell us how you agree on this issue, and include your name and ministry, if applicable. Respond by mailing your letter of affirmation to the above address, or by emailing it to: standfortruth.acoj@att.net. Also, feel free to forward this document to others. We appreciate your stand for God's truth and glory!

In His Service,
Kerry Trahan, Pastor
A Church of Jesus

Thirteen Practical Problems with Today's Psychological Theories and Therapies

1. The History/ Origin of Counseling Psychology [see page 5 for details]
2. The Recency of Counseling Psychology
 - Only on the scene (i.e., widely accepted) for the past 50 yrs or so
3. The Employment of almost 500 Psychotherapeutic Approaches
 - With thousands of different techniques (often contradictory)
4. Counseling Psychology Doesn't Help People any more than they might Otherwise be Helped by Nonprofessionals
 - This is readily admitted by many psychologists
 - "There is no positive evidence supporting the efficacy of professional psychology."*
 - Regular lay people often produce just as good or better, and certainly less complicated, results
 - In some cases Counseling Psychology even proves to be harmful
5. The Placebo Factor
 - Sometimes settled on (even relied upon) as an end which justifies the means
6. Is Problem-Centered (as opposed to Christ-centered Scriptural Ministering)
7. Unnatural Relationships form between Counselor and Counselee
8. Misguided Goals and Objectives
 - Self-ism/ Me-ism/ etc.
9. Misguided Tools and Methods
 - Delving into the Memory, etc.
10. Misaligned Premises
 - Self-justification: judging, blaming; criticizing others: talebearing, hearsay, gossip, evil speaking; victim mentality
11. Gross Misunderstanding of and Failure to Adequately Assess the Fallen State of Man
 - The deceitful and desperate condition of the human heart (cf. Jer 17:9)
 - The mind's fiendish capabilities (its ability to play games on itself, employ unrealistic optimism, etc.)
12. Usurps/Undermines God's Established Order/Authority in the Family and Local Church
13. God has Already Prescribed and **IS** the Solution for ALL the Ills and Woes of Man that the Bible addresses (Spiritual, Mental, Emotional)
 - Man's *rhetorical devices* undermine the power of GOD'S LIVING WORD (2Pe 1:3), the *only* power that can change man (2Co 3:18)

* Robyn Dawes. *House of Cards: Psychotherapy Built on Myth*. New York: The Free Press/Macmillan, Inc., 1994, p. 58.

Twenty-six Life-Changing Principles That Clearly Reveal that Today's Psychological Theories and Therapies are Utterly Incompatible with the Bible

1. The “In Christ” Principle
(Isa 53:5-6; Eph 1:3, 6, 15-23; 2:2-3, 8-10; 3:14-21; Col 1:9-13, 27; 2:6-7, 9-10)
2. The “New Creature/Life & Divine Nature” Principle
(Rom 6:4, 6-8, 11; 8:29; 2Co 5:17; Gal 2:20; 5:24-25; 2Pe 1:2-4; 1Jo 3:1-3)
3. The “Faith” Principle
(1Ti 6:12; Heb 11:6)
4. The “Ministry/ Unity/ Love within the Body” Principle
(Joh 13:35; Eph 4:1-3, 11-13, 22-32; Eph 5:1-2, 15-16, 20-21; 1Jo 3:14; 1Jo 4:8, 10-11)
5. The “Love thy Neighbor” Principle
(Luk 10:27)
6. The “New Way to Think” Principle
(Psa 19:14; Rom 12:2; Eph 4:23; Phi 4:8)
7. The “Command to be Content” Principle
(Heb 13:5)
8. The “All Things Work Together for Good” Principle
(Gen 50:20; Rom 8:28)
9. The “Precious Trials of Your Faith” Principle
(Job 1:20-21; Isa 53:3; Rom 5:1-5; 9:2-3; 2Co 11:23-28; Jam 1:2-4; 1Pe 1:5-7; 2:19-24)
10. The “Fruitful Chastening from the Lord” Principle
(Heb 12:6-11)
11. The “Speak Not Evil of Others” Principle
(Pro 11:13; 20:19; 26:20, 22 [18:8]; Mat 12:34-37; 1Ti 5:13; Jam 3:6; 1Pe 2:1; 3:10)
12. The “Blame Not Others” Principle
(Gen 3:12-13; Psa 51:3-4)
13. The “Love Beareth/ Believeth/ Covereth All Things” Principle
(1Co 13:4-7; 1Pe 1:22; 4:8)
14. The “Have No Confidence in the Flesh” Principle
(Jdg 21:25; Job 42:5-6; Isa 6:5; 64:6; Jer 17:9; Luk 5:8; Joh 15:5; Rom 3:10, 23; 1Co 2:2; 2Co 2:16; 11:29-30; Gal 5:16-17; 6:3; Phi 3:3, 10)
15. The “Denial/ Surrender of Self” Principle
(Luk 9:23-24; Rom 12:1)
16. The “Count Not our Lives Dear unto Self” Principle
(Act 20:23-24; 2Co 5:8; Phi 1:20-24; Rev 12:11)
17. The “Suffer/ Sacrifice on Behalf of/ for the Sake of Others” Principle
(Col 1:24; 1Jo 3:16; 2Co 4:12; Phi 2:17; 2:25-30)

18. The “Suffering/ Bearing Reproach on Behalf of Christ” Principle
(Pro 20:22; Mat 5:39; Rom 12:17-19; 1Co 6:7; Phi 3:8-11; Col 1:24)
19. The “Promise of Being Persecuted” Principle
(Joh 15:18-21; 16:33; 2Ti 3:12)
20. The “Promise of Victory in Spite of Being Persecuted” Principle
(Joh 16:33; Rom 8:17-18, 35-39; 2Co 2:14; 4:6-11, 16-18; Eph 6:10-18)
21. The “Love/ Do Good to/ Pray for your Enemy[-ies]” Principle
(Luk 6:27-29 [Mat 5:44]; 1Th 5:15; 1Pe 3:9)
22. The “Forgive” Principle
(Mat 6:12; Luk 11:4; 23:34; Act 7:59-60; Eph 4:32)
23. The “Judge Not Others” Principle
(Mat 7:1-5)
24. The “Trust in The Lord with all Your Heart” Principle
(Psa 139:1-6, 10-11, 23-24; 143:3-5, 8, 10-11; Pro 3:5-6; Jer 17:10)
25. The “Focus on Jesus” Principle
(2Co 3:18; Tit 2:11-14; Heb 12:1-4)
26. The “Sufficiency of God’s Word” Principle
(Mat 11:28-30; 2Ti 3:16-17; 2Pe 1:2-4)

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Other Related Passages to Contemplate

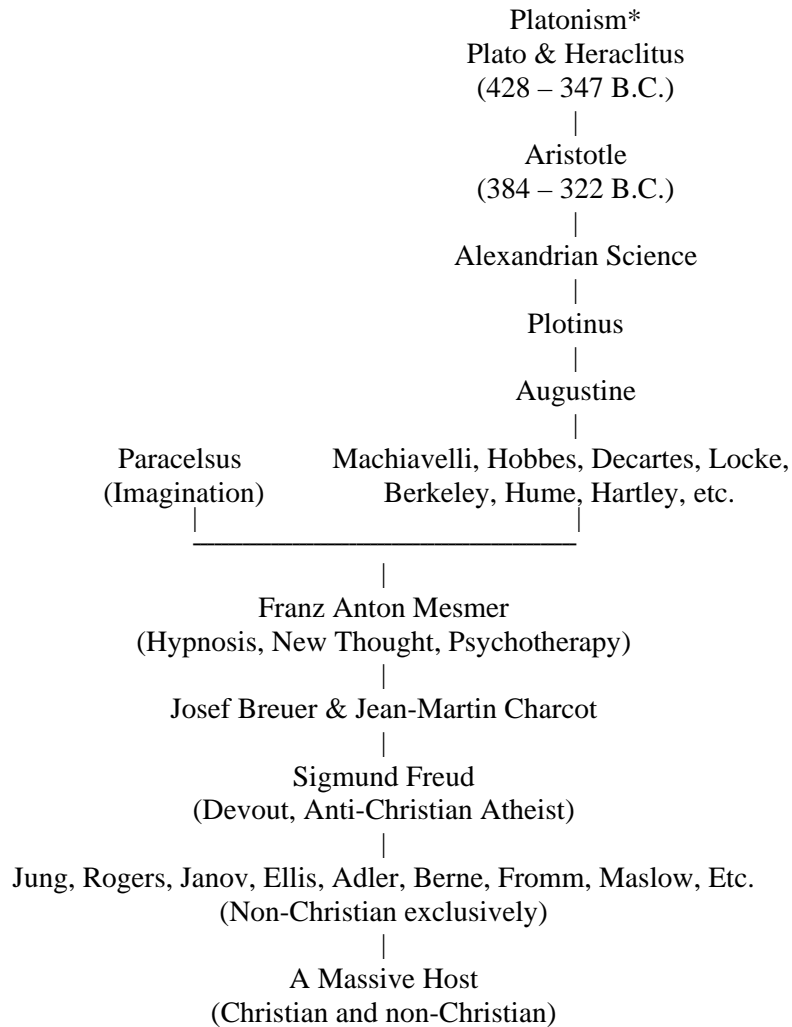
(Pro 3:1,24; 20:6; Psa 18:2; 51:3; 62:6; 138:8; Isa 43:18-19; 61:1; Jer 29:11; Mic 3:11; Mat 18:22; Mar 8:34; 11:25; Joh 15:11; Act 20:35; Rom 1:21; 6:5-14; 8:7; 12:15; 14:19; 3:19; 6:11; 8:1,7; 1Co 1:19-21; 2:4-6; 10:13; 15:54-55; 2Co 1:12; 10:4-5; Gal 5:16; 6:1-2; Eph 1:3-6; 4:11-13; Phi 1:6; 3:13-14; 4:6-7; Col 2:6-15; 3:1-10, 14-17; 1Th 5:23-24; 1Ti 6:20; 2Ti 2:21, 24-26; Heb 4:12, 15-16; 10:25; 13:5; Jam 4:10; 2Pe 3:1; 1Jo 1:9)

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✳ 2Ti 1:7 For **God hath** not **given us** the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of **a sound mind**.

✳ Luk 8:33, 35 Then went the devils out of the man, and entered into the swine:...
³⁵Then [the city] went out to see what was done; and came to Jesus, and **found the man, out of whom the devils were departed, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed, and in his right mind:** and they were afraid.

A Brief Overview of the History of Counseling Psychology



* “Neo-Platonism [3rd Century; same as Platonists/ Renaissance philosophy] was developed in conscious opposition to Christianity.

...Platonists’ were among the allies and counselors of the Emperor Julian in his attempts to invent a Hellenic counterpart to Christianity.” (*Encyclopedia Britannica*, 985, Vol. 9, p. 509)

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