

Scientology

Scientology – What they believe.

- 1) **Summary Information**
 - a) 4mil. members Worldwide, 250k in US
 - b) Created by L. Ron Hubbard in 1954.
 - c) Has roots in Hinduism and Buddhism.
 - d) Basic Theology – All human beings are immortal spirits, called Thetans, who have forgotten their identity and become deceived by the very universe they mentally created millions of years ago in order to amuse themselves. Past experiences over multiple lives (reincarnation), called engrams, have created this deception, making thetans believe they are part of a material universe. Through a process of dianetics, Scientologists believe they can re-establish the thetan to his immortal position.
 - e) Celebrity members include – Tom Cruise, John Travolta, Kirstie Alley and the former Sonny Bono and Isaac Hayes.
 - f) Church claims its beliefs are not incompatible with Christian faith.
- 2) **Authority** – mostly the writing of Hubbard however the Hindu Veda is also a reference.
- 3) **God**– The Scientologist is open to see God however he wants to.
 - a) Somewhat pantheistic. As Thetans, we are all immortal gods.
- 4) **Jesus Christ** – just a man who may have believed in reincarnation.
- 5) **Man** – A thetan whose fundamental nature is basically good and divine. Man is part God and can attain a “godlike” nature.
- 6) **Physical Universe** – A mental creation of the thetan’s and not real.

Scientology– Why what they believe is wrong.

- 1) **Summary Information**
 - a) Scientology has the reputation of being the most litigious (frequent law suits) religion (false teaching) in US History.
 - i) Vendettas against ex-members and enemies of the church.
 - b) Hubbard has had a very checked past including charges of bigamy, breaking and entering (US Gov. offices), and affiliation with high ranking officials in Satanic organizations along with a working knowledge of their theology and rituals.
 - c) The church is totally incompatible with Biblical-Christianity.
- 2) **Authority** – “We believe the Bible, as originally written is the inspired, infallible, authoritative and inerrant Word of God and the supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.” GPBC Doctrine St.
- 3) **God** – “We believe that there is one living and true God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit” GPBC Doctrine Statement.
- 4) **Jesus Christ** – “ We believe that Jesus Christ, the eternally pre-existent Son, is fully God and was fully man, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of a virgin and lived a sinless life. He now sits at the right hand of the Father and intercedes for us.” GPBC Doctrine St.
- 5) **Man** – Made by God in his image but not a god. Man is physically real and mortal. Man is sinful and in need of a savior.
- 6) **Physical Universe** – “We believe that God created the heavens and the earth, including all life, by a direct and immediate act...” GPBC Doctrine Statement.

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- 7) **Sin** – does not exist any more than the physical world exists.

- 8) **Salvation** – Through dianetic auditing, using an E-Meter, engrams are removed and the thetan will slowly become aware of his true immortal self and the fact the physical universe is a creation of his own mind. We will then be free from the endless cycle of birth and rebirth.
 - a) Future happiness will depend on how one conducts his behavior in this life.

- 9) **After Physical Death** - resurrection into another body for the Thetan.
 - a) A type of reincarnation.
 - b) There is no true belief in Heaven or Hell.
 - c) “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.” – from their web site on the question of Heaven and Hell.

- 10) **Occult** – As the thetan becomes more enlightened he realizes physical limitations are only imagined. Powers beyond the physical world are seen as evidence that the thetan is progressing toward full realization of his true nature. This includes out-of-body experiences and black magic.

Scientology– Why what they believe is wrong.

- 7) **Sin** – “We believe that everyone sins and as such, no one has the ability to save themselves by doing good deeds or by being a ‘good person’. GPBC Doctrine Statement.

- 8) **Salvation** – “It is only through accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior that one can receive eternal life in Heaven. Salvation and eternal life in Heaven is available to anyone who acknowledges in their heart that Jesus Christ died on the cross for their sins, rose bodily from the grave and then asks Him to forgive them of their sins and save their soul. Once a person has been saved they cannot lose their salvation. GPBC Doctrine Statement.
 - a) An E-Meter is nothing more than a device that measures galvanic skin responses (the varying resistance of the skin to electrical conduction).

- 9) **After Physical Death** – “We believe that everyone will be resurrected from the grave: the saved resurrected to eternal life in Heaven and the lost to eternal damnation in a real and literal Hell.” GPBC Doctrine Statement.

- 10) **Occult** – Satan is involved in this world directly and through his demons in a very real, literal and continuing way. Even though evil is present everywhere (including in our hearts as sinners) there are places or situations in this world where it is more concentrated. The occult is one of those areas.

Witnessing to a Scientologist

- i) There is a God shaped vacuum in everyone’s heart that only God can fill. Look for that vacuum and talk about how the Lord has filled it for you.