

Christianity, Cults & Religion

Scientology

New Age

Wicca



Islam

Buddhism



Christianity

Taoism



Judaism

Hinduism



Christian
Science

Jehovah's
Witnesses

Mormonism

Christianity, Cults & Religion

Purpose –

- To strengthen our foundation as Christians
 - Know what others believe
 - Know what their beliefs are founded on
 - Compare those beliefs and foundations with Christianity
- To be better prepared in evangelism

Overview

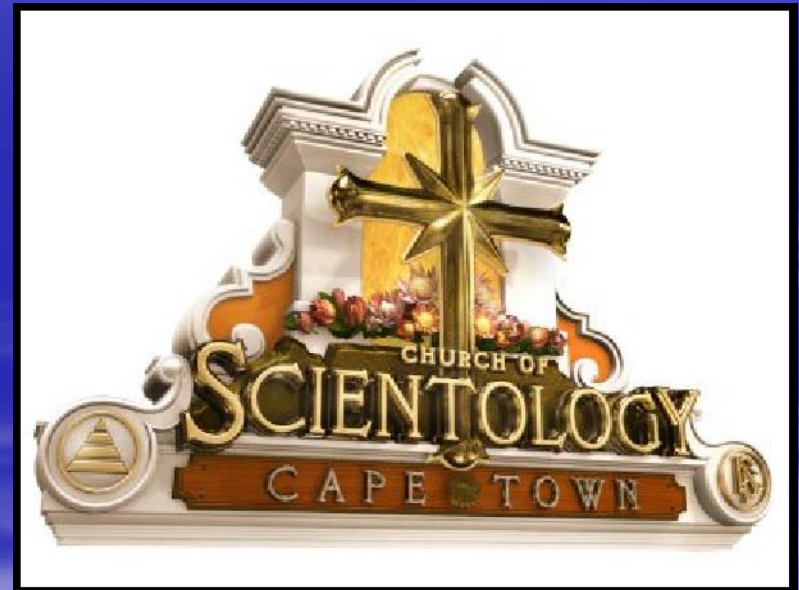
Week 1 Hinduism

Week 2 Buddhism

Week 3 New Age

Week 4 Islam

Week 5 Scientology





Ideas from...

Buddhist

Hindu

Science Fiction

Psychology

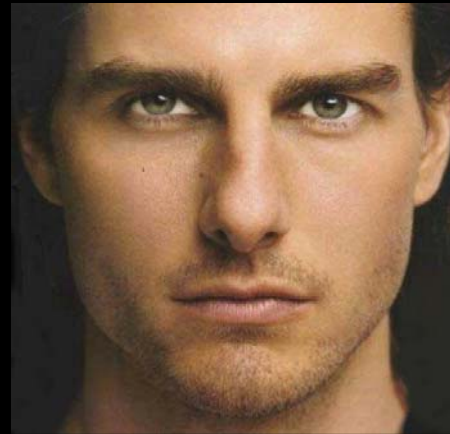
Science

Thetan = Immortal Spirit





65 Countries
700 Centers
Tom Cruise
John Travolta
Kirstie Alley

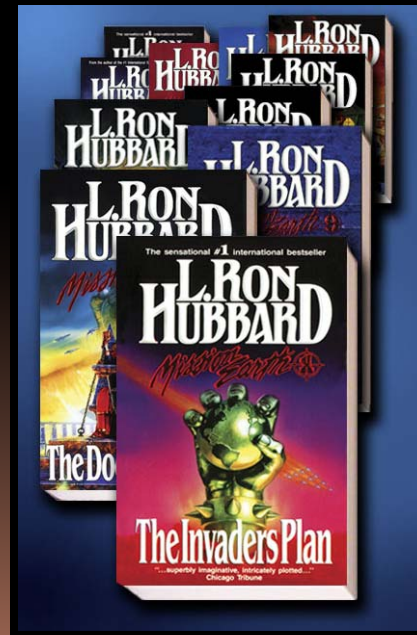




Born 1911 Nebraska

Science Fiction Writer

“Writing for a penny a word is ridiculous. If a man really wanted to make a million dollars, the best way would be to start his own religion.”



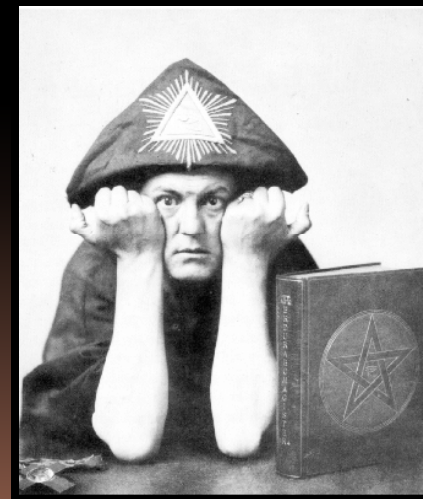


Hubbard had a
questionable past...

His second wife, Sara,
sued for divorce on the
charges of bigamy,
beatings, and Ron
counseling her to commit
suicide, "If she really loved
him."

Kingdom of the Cults pg 373.

Jack Parsons



Alister Crowley



FILED IN OPEN COURT

AUG 15 1978

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

JAMES F. DAVEY, Clerk

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Criminal Case No. 8-10-101

Grand Jury Original

v.

Violations: 18 U.S.C. §§ 2, 371,
641, 1503, 1623
2511(1)(a) (Conspiracy,
Theft of Government
Property, Aiding and
Abetting, Obstruction
of Justice, False
Declarations Before
a Grand Jury,
Interception of Oral
Communication)

MARY SUE HUBBARD
JANE KEMBER
MORRIS BUDLONG, also known as
MO BUDLONG
HENNING HELDT
DUKE SNIDER
GREGORY WILLARDSON
RICHARD WEIGAND
MITCHELL HERMANN, also known as
MIKE COOPER
CINDY RAYMOND
GERALD BENNETT WOLFE
SHARON THOMAS

22 D.C. Code §§ 105,
1801(b) (Burglary,
Aiding and Abetting)

The Grand Jury charges:





Philosophy

Hubbard has described Scientology as "the Western Anglicized continuance of many earlier forms of wisdom."

Vedas, Taoism, Buddhism, Judaism, Gnosticism

Jesus, Nietzsche, and Freud.

"Scientology has accomplished the goal of religion expressed in all Man's written history, the freeing of the soul by wisdom.



Philosophy

Scientology divides the mind into two components –

**the analytic and the reactive
Rational and the Irrational**

Pain causes Engrams

Scientology maintains that through Dianetic and/or Scientology therapy, we can be directly exposed to our engrams, "erase" them, and become "clear,"



Philosophy

According to Scientology, each person is really a thetan, an immortal spirit who has been so damaged by engrams that he has forgotten he is immortal and even forgotten he is a thetan.

MEST (matter, energy, space, time)

Scientology claims it can free the thetan through Auditing



Philosophy

Auditing: Scientology's personal counseling using dianetic techniques and utilizing an E-meter for reading engrams.

Once completely "clear" you are an "Operating Thetan," or "OT"





Philosophy

75 million years ago, an evil galactic warlord named Xenu controlled seventy-six planets in this corner of the galaxy, each of which was severely overpopulated. To solve this problem, Xenu rounded up 13.5 trillion beings and then flew them to Earth, where they were dumped into volcanoes around the globe and vaporized with bombs. This scattered their radioactive souls, or thetans, until they were caught in electronic traps set up around the atmosphere and "implanted" with a number of false ideas — including the concepts of God, Christ and organized religion.



BBC's rendition of Xenu



Philosophy

Salvation:

The complete salvation of the person, called "Total Freedom" in Scientology, is attainable through the practice of Scientology religious services

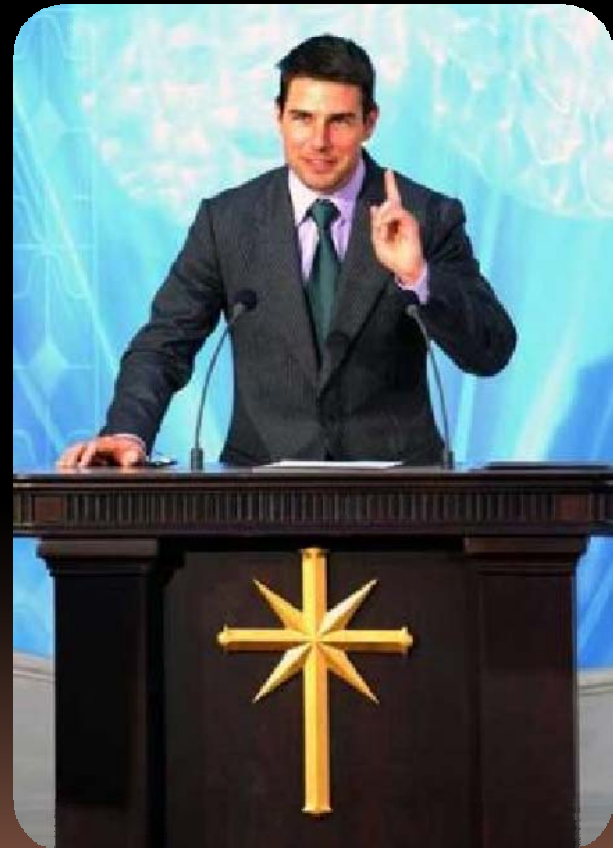




Philosophy

Attraction:

Scientology claims to help a person with the tools to “handle the upsets and aberrations from past lives that adversely affect one in present time, thus freeing one to live a much happier life.”





Inaccuracies:

In Hubbard's account of his life.
His theories directly conflict
with basic Christian teachings.



Only the Bible is the infallible
basis for faith and practice

2 Timothy 3:16

All Scripture is given by
inspiration of God, and is
profitable for doctrine, for
reproof, for correction, for
instruction in righteousness,



Immortality

People are immortal, divine beings.

They have lived past lives.



Biblical Response

People are created in the image of God. No past lives.

Genesis 2:7

And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.



God

The Supreme Being is defined in vague, pantheistic terms as embracing the "allness of all."



Biblical Response

God is the eternal, infinite, personal Creator of the universe.

Exodus 34:6-7

...the Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty...



Humankind:

Engrams are stored in one's "reactive mind" and learned from one's past lives...

These prevent individuals from realizing their innate divinity and experiencing a happy and fulfilled life using their analytical minds.



Biblical Response

Humankind's problem is sin... resulting in separation from God, both in this life and forever

Romans 3:23

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,



Solution:

Engrams are removed from the mind by Auditing... in order to achieve "Clear".



Biblical Response

Jesus Christ is God's solution to the sin problem. He lived a sinless life, died as an atoning sacrifice for sin, and rose from the dead.

1 Peter 3:18

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit,



Goal: Liberation from MEST

Eventually, the thetan can liberate itself completely from MEST and attain total spiritual awareness and become one with infinity.



Biblical Response

Jesus taught that the righteous will have eternal life, but the unsaved will suffer eternal punishment in hell

Hebrews 9:27

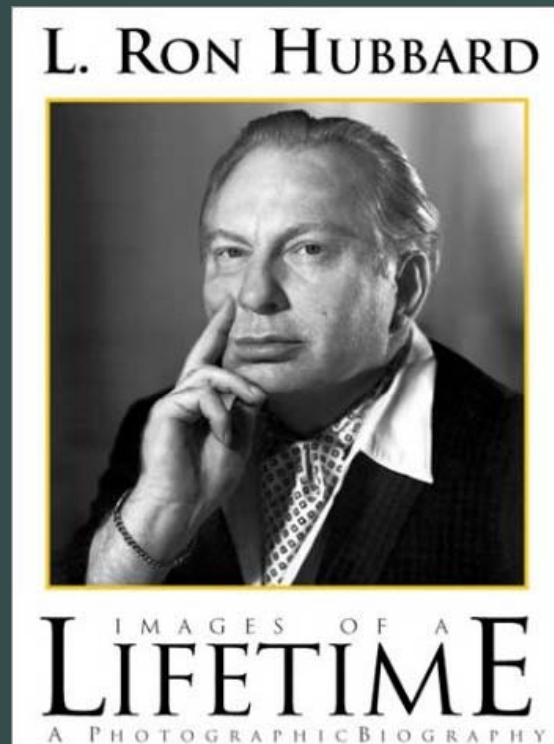
And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment

CHURCH OF SCIENTOLOGY



FOUNDER

- L. Ron Hubbard (1911-1986)



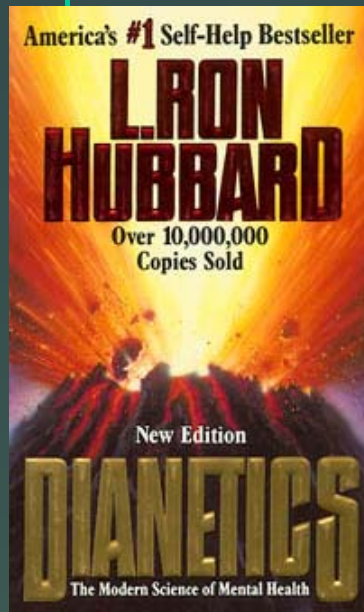
DATE

- Founded 1954 in Los Angeles, California

LOCATION

- Current headquarters in Los Angeles, California

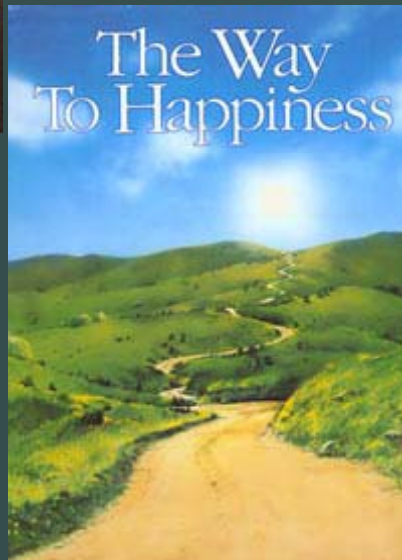
CHURCH OF SCIENTOLOGY



KEY WRITINGS

Works by L. Ron Hubbard,
including...

- *Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health*
- *The Way to Happiness*



CHURCH OF SCIENTOLOGY



WHO IS GOD?

- **Scientology does not define God or a Supreme Being.**
 - **However, it rejects the biblical description of God.**
- **Everyone is a “thetan,” an immortal spirit with unlimited powers over its own universe (but not all are aware of this).**



Bible

CHURCH OF SCIENTOLOGY



WHO IS JESUS?

- Jesus is rarely mentioned in Scientology
- He was not the Creator.
- He did not reach the level of “operating thetan” (i.e., being in control of supernatural powers and cleared from mental defects).
- He did not die for sins.



Bible

CHURCH OF SCIENTOLOGY



WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?



- The Holy Spirit is not part of this belief.



CHURCH OF SCIENTOLOGY



HOW TO BE SAVED

- There is no sin or need to repent.
- Salvation is freedom from reincarnation.
- One must work on his “engrams” (hang-ups in the form of “mental image pictures”) with an “auditor” to achieve the state of “clear,” then progress up the “bridge to total freedom.”



CHURCH OF SCIENTOLOGY

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER DEATH



- Hell is a myth.
- People who get clear of engrams become “operating thetans” (having “a state of complete spiritual freedom”).



CHURCH OF SCIENTOLOGY



OTHER BELIEFS AND PRACTICES

- Members observe the birth of Hubbard and the anniversary of the publication of *Dianetics*.
- Controversy follows the group worldwide.
 - *Time* magazine and *Reader's Digest* have published damaging exposés.
 - Organizations related to Scientology include Narconon, Criminon, Way to Happiness Foundation, WISE, Hubbard College of Administration, Applied Scholastics.

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