Uniting New Age and Old Church Erwin Lutzer

I. Introduction.

- A. The church needs to be in the world but not of it.
- B. The church has fallen prey to the false thinking of the world before in history.
- C. The church today is leaning towards the occult but in subtle American ways.
- D. Satan comes to us subtly today.
 - 1. He misuses Scripture.
 - 2. He uses pride.
- II. Four bridges Satan uses to help people become embroiled in New Age teaching.
 - A. Secular psychology.
 - 1. They say that a person should love himself taking the words of Christ that say a person should love his neighbor as himself.
 - 2. We are not to have a high concept of ourselves—e.g., Isaiah, Job, Peter, Paul.
 - 3. God is not our therapist. Unconditional acceptance is not found in the Scriptures.
 - B. The science of mind.
 - 1. People say that whatever a person believes he can achieve.
 - 2. People often use this with regard to money—if you believe it, you will receive it.
 - C. Inner healing.
 - 1. Inner healing through is not found in the Bible.
 - 2. Jesus is the one who brings inner healing.
 - D. Existential experience.
 - 1. People exalt experience over the Word of God.
 - 2. They claim wisdom through channeling even though the Bible says it is a demon.
 - 3. They claim it cannot be a demon because it gave good advice as if demons do not give good advice from time to time.

- III. The church goes in these directions because the church today is filled with unbelief.
 - A. The problem with the church at Laodicea is that they were lukewarm and thought that they were hot.
 - B. If they saw their indifference, they could have repented. However, they could not see.
 - C. We must not turn to secular theories when there is a God in America who can give us significance, security, inner healing and revival. (II Kings, Psalm 73)

Application questions:

1. Which of the four bridges Satan uses today do you feel is the biggest threat? Why?
2. Is all psychology unbiblical? Explain.
3. What is existential experience? How does God provide an adequate experience in contrast to this?