

- power....cultic groups that concentrate on dynamism and mastery of others..
- personality...those who find life in the supposed revelations and disclosure of a supreme master of various pretensions. My wording is a bit strong in this area but pretty accurate.
- occultic...cults that concentrate on demon worship, satanic images, necromantic practices..the black arts, so called.
- developmental...my own term (!) but descriptive of cults that claim to have a fuller picture of some biblical truth and promote it to an extreme or sometimes anti-biblical level.

We do not give a course in all of these although there are a number of "cult" courses given. The wise student gets a cultic dictionary and enjoys knowing what the groups are and what can be said for or about them.

c. By degrees....

While we are not happy with any of the cultic bodies, we recognize differences between them. Some are nearer, some further from the truth and the distinctions are important in handling general church matters. For example:

<u>Adventists</u>	<u>Watchtowers</u>
A greater acceptance of Scripture	A lesser acceptance
<u>Unificationists</u>	<u>Scientologists</u>
A professed biblical basis	A denial of anything

As may be assumed, those who pretend a biblical basis are often more devastating than those who do not...harder to handle and more easily deceiving the unwary. They are all a big part of our current setting.

3. Non Christian Faiths

Of these we offer some general notes inasmuch as they are part of the world religious picture.

- a. Islam: The largest of the lot with a number of divisions and claimants for the authoritative voice. The monotheistic stance is very pronounced and a faith that serves the people by indulgence seems to be a waking point to me...although most Islamics would certainly disagree with that.
- b. The Eastern religions: Hinduism, Buddhism, Taoism, etc., and we will offer a general word.
- c. The primitive religions: Animism, spiritism, totemism, etc.
- d. Judaism: No big analysis but a few notes. Jewish thinkers are sharply divided on the concepts of their own faith and its extension to others.