

Another contemporary expression of this desire for a God who is real and tangible is found in the occult explosion. The tremendous upsurge of interest during the past twenty-five years in spiritualism, psychic exploration, witchcraft, the Tarot, spells and charms, the worship of Satan, judicial astrology, and now the New Age Movement has been phenomenal! These forms of the occult seek hidden, arcane, secret knowledge; and some of them represent a great yearning to experience and thereby demonstrate the reality of the supernatural, or the supernormal.

Christians ought to beware of this desire to pry into secret, forbidden things, because Christians are not immune to this form of curiosity.

Another contemporary expression of this desire for a tangible, real God may be seen in the practice of idolizing well-known Bible teachers, pastors, evangelists, radio and television personalities, and missionaries. The great temptation is to substitute the authority of these Christian leaders for the authority of God, or to see God's authority as incarnated in them! The temptation is to sit at their feet instead of at the feet of Jesus. The temptation is to follow their teaching as though inspired and infallible, instead of the teaching of the Holy Spirit speaking in Scripture, which teaching is available to every single believer.