

The Attackers: Analysis of Disinformation: the Carter Study Bible Illustrates Disinformation; Demon Influence & Active Measures: Foreign Propaganda, Jer 12:10; 23:1; Diplomatic Relations, Rom 16:17–18; & Cultural Diplomacy, 2 Cor 6:14–16a; Covert Active Measures: Propaganda, 2 Tim 4:3–4; 1 John 4:1; Oral or Written: 2 Cor 11:3–6, 12–15; Gal 1:6–9

III. Analysis of Active Measures & Disinformation:

1. The Soviet's referred to their system of propaganda as "active measures": a vast array of overt and covert techniques for influencing events and behavior in foreign countries.
2. In Lucifer's assault on Christianity, this would include the obvious antagonisms directed toward the truth in its three categories: (1) the laws of divine establishment, (2) the gospel of Jesus Christ, and (3) Bible doctrine.

Former President Jimmy Carter has just released a new study Bible. In his recent interview with Huffington Post religion editor Paul Raushenbush ... Carter offers this inspiring and biblical observation on Christina behavior: "The example that I set in my private is to emulate what Christ did as he faced people who were despised like the lepers or the Samaritans. He reached out to them, he reached out to poor people, he reached out to people that were not Jews and treated them equally. The more despised and the more in need they were, the more he emphasized that we should go to and share with them our talent, our ability, our wealth, our influence."

Carter seems to cast doubt on the absolute truth of Scripture when he tells Raushenbush: "When we go to the Bible we should keep in mind that the basic principles of the Bible are taught by God, but written down by human beings deprived of modern day knowledge. So there is some fallibility in the writings of the Bible."

Asked if Christ's claim to be "the way the truth and the life (John 14:16) disqualifies other faith traditions as paths to God, Carter takes it as an opportunity to denigrate conservative evangelicals. "There are many verses in the Bible that you could interpret very rigidly and that makes you ultimately into a fundamentalist," Carter responded. "When you think you are better than anybody else—that you are closer to God than other people, and therefore they are inferior to you and subhuman—that leads to conflict and hatred and dissonance among people when we should be working for peace."¹

¹ Dave Bohon, "Jimmy Carter Authors Study Bible," *The New American*, <http://thenewamerican.com/culture/faith-and-morals/11299-jimmy-carter-authors-study-bible-endorses-gay-marriage> (Accessed March 27, 2012.)

3. Covert active measures are undertaken by those within the church under the pretext of Christianity, e.g.,
 - (1) Replacement Theology, (2) Liberation Theology, or (3) Reformed Theology.
4. Soviet active measures may include:
 - (1) influencing politics, (2) undermining confidence in leaders and institutions, (3) disrupting relations between nations, (4) discrediting opponents, or (5) distortion of the target's perception of reality.
5. Demon influence is also a part of active measures undertaken by the Dark Side in local churches:
 - (1) Undermining confidence in leaders and institutions by attacks on pastors from within and without the church as well as Christian institutions from within and without the church.
 - (2) Disrupting relations between nations is reflected by the ongoing battle of the Angelic Conflict. It is accomplished in the local church by sowing discord among the brethren.
 - (3) Discrediting opponents is accomplished by gossip, maligning, and judging others, spreading rumors, and self-righteous arrogance. Relative righteousness is a legalistic assumption which regards one's own righteousness as superior to that of others'.
 - (4) Distortion of the target's perception of reality by presenting false interpretations of Scripture as true and at the same time denouncing accurate interpretations as radical and extreme.
6. The Soviet Union activated its active measures in two ways: (1) overtly and (2) covertly.

7. Overtly, they approached it from three areas: **(1)** Foreign propaganda channels, **(2)** diplomatic relations, and **(3)** cultural diplomacy.
8. Here are some examples of how these techniques are used to attack the church:

- (1) Under “foreign propaganda” channels, a pastor teaches his congregation false doctrines. The best example for today is Liberation Theology.

Jeremiah 12:10 - “Many teachers [**prophets & priests**] have corrupted My vineyard [**Judah**], they have trampled My portion [**client nation**] under foot [**by the Chaldeans**]. They have made My pleasant land a desolation [**fifth cycle**].”

Jeremiah 23:1 - “Woe to the teachers who are destroying the sheep of My pasture [**the people of Judah**]!” says the Lord.

- (2) Under “diplomatic relations” there is the attempt at goodwill and brotherhood between factions in Christianity:

Romans 16:17 - I urge you fellow believers to watch out for those who cause dissensions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. Keep away from them.

v. 18 - For such people are not serving or obeying our Lord Christ, but their own emotions. By their smooth talk and flattering speech [**active measures**] they deceive the *kardias* of naïve people.

- (3) Under “cultural diplomacy,” Lucifer attempts to bring believers and unbelievers together through mutual understanding, i.e., flexibility on the essentials:

2 Corinthians 6:14 - Stop your incongruous relationship with unbelievers! What relationship has the righteous [**Christian integrity**] with the lawless? What fellowship has light [**spiritual maturity**] with darkness?

v. 15 - What harmony has Christ with Belial [concepts held by the Dark Side]? What destiny has the believer with the unbeliever?

v. 16a - What agreement has the temple of God with idols? None! For you keep on being the temple of the living God.

9. Covert active measures also utilize three approaches:
(1) Covert propaganda, (2) oral or written disinformation, and (3) internal front organizations.
10. We can compare these techniques with how Lucifer uses them in his attacks on the church:
 - (1) Covert propaganda is the attempt to influence media in a foreign country which in turn influence local audiences.
 - (2) Media in a church are its communicators. If the pastors are propagandized then so are the parishioners:

2 Timothy 4:3 - For the time will come when they will not willingly listen to sound doctrine; but according to their own lusts they will accumulate to themselves false teachers because they want to have their ears tickled.

Paul had no definite time in mind, but such a time will come, in which the sound, wholesome theology will not be tolerated. The people will no longer “hold themselves back from” the desire to criticize what is preached. Once they endured in silence the sound theology of the Christian faith. No more. Paul does not say that the apostates will move to suppress the true preachers, but they will boycott them in favor of another set who will preach what the apostates wish to hear.²

2 Timothy 4:4 - In fact, they will keep on turning their ears away from doctrine, then they will swerve out of control into evil myths.

² Randolph O. Yeager, *The Renaissance New Testament: Colossians 1:1–2 Timothy 4:22* (Gretna, LA: Pelican Publishing Co., 1985), 15:569.

1 John 4:1 - Fellow believers, stop believing every eloquent speaker, but keep on analyzing them as to whether they are from God because many false teachers have gone out to evangelize for the cosmic systems.

11. Under oral or written disinformation, Lucifer has developed both with a high degree of efficiency:

2 Corinthians 11:3 - I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent's insidiousness, your minds may somehow be led astray from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ.

v. 4 - For if someone comes to you and preaches a Jesus other than the Jesus we have preached, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or a different gospel from the one you accepted, you put up with it.

v. 5 - But I do not consider myself in the least bit inferior to these alleged apostles.

v. 6 - I may not be a trained speaker, but I do have knowledge. We apostles have made this perfectly clear to you in every way.

2 Corinthians 11:12 - I will keep on doing what I am doing, in order to cut the ground from under those who want an opportunity to be considered equal with us in the things they boast about.

v. 13 - For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, masquerading as apostles of Christ.

v. 14 - And no wonder, for Lucifer himself masquerades as an angel of light.

v. 15 - It is not surprising, then, if his servants masquerade as servants of righteousness. Their end will be what their actions deserve.

Galatians 1:6 - I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the One Who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel;

v. 7 - which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ.

v. 8 - But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be anathema!

v. 9 - As we have already said, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let him be anathema!