

55. The NASB translates this term, “false wonders.” The word “wonders” is the noun **τέρας (téras)** which in the New Testament is never used without being accompanied by **σημεῖον (sēmeíon)**: “miracles.”

It is no accident that Paul, when he refers to [signs and wonders] (Romans 5:19; 2 Corinthians 12:12), has **δύναμις [dúnamis: “power”]** in the vicinity even when speaking of the manifestation of antichrist (2 Thessalonians 2:9), the point being at least to make it clear that what matters is the power deployed by him.¹

56. The Antichrist is empowered by the indwelling Satan to perform what appear to be miracles and wonders.
57. To perform these efficiently, the Beast-Dictator has mastered all the propaganda Satan has taught in the Cosmic Academy.
58. It is by inculcation of the lie that captures the souls of the benighted who are easily maneuvered by the allurements of the Beast-Dictator.
59. We are warned by Paul regarding the strategies and tactics of the Dark Side in:

2 Corinthians 2:11 - So that no advantage would be taken of us by Satan, we are not ignorant of his devices.

60. Ignorance of doctrine places a believer in danger of suffering:

Menticide: A prolonged and systematic attempt to replace one’s ideas and attitudes with distinctly different ones. Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, in *The Gulag Archipelago*, graphically describes the mental and physical tortures used to effect menticide.² Communists begin this process with:

¹ Harald Rengstorf, “τέρας,” in *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament*, ed. Gerhard Friedrich, trans. and ed. Geoffrey W. Bromiley (Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1972), 8:125.

² J. N. Hook, *The Grand Panjandrum*, rev. and expanded (New York: Macmillan Publishing Co., 1980, 1991), 49.

Propaganda: The spreading of ideas, information, or rumor for the purpose of helping or injuring an institution, a cause, or a person. Ideas, facts, or allegations spread deliberately to further one's cause or to damage an opposing cause.³

Ignorant people, i.e., anyone without the power of resident doctrinal thought in their souls are easy to propagandize. Regardless, they are subject to deception only because they choose to remain ignorant of truth. Because of this, they fall victim to the lie and choose to brainwash themselves.

Brainwashing: This term was developed by the Chinese Communists for a strategy that had no name but later took on the term of "brainwashing":

The word came out of the sufferings of the Chinese people. Put under a terrifying combination of subtle and crude mental and physical pressures and tortures, they detected a pattern and called it *brainwashing*. (p. 5)

The communist hierarchy preferred people to believe that there was no such thing as brainwashing. So long as they could keep it concealed, without a name, opposition to it could be kept scattered and ineffective. As explained by Dr. Joost A. M. Meerloo in his book *Conversation and Communication*, it is practically impossible to fight something until it has been given a name. "To name an object is to bring it within the sphere of human control," he wrote. "Without a name it arouses fear, because it is unknown.... Whoever knows the name has power." Dr. Meerloo coined the fine laboratory word *menticide*—murder of the mind—for this atrocious quack science devised by the Reds to bring about the voluntary submission of people to an unthinking discipline and a robotlike enslavement. The popular word remained *brainwashing*.⁴ (p. 6)

Brainwashing occurs in two stages: (1) Conditioning for control followed by (2) persuasion for conversion. When Satan brings a person under his control he has been brainwashed by the conditioning of propaganda.

³ Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, 11th ed., s.v. "propaganda."

⁴ Edward Hunter, *Brainwashing: The Story of the Men Who Defied It* (New York: Farrar, Straus and Cudahy, 1956), 5–6.

In the second stage, when he has been converted to believing the lie in place of the truth, he has been brainwashed by the persuasion of propaganda.

The long-range objective is to produce a follower who, no matter what the circumstances, can be depended upon to make decisions based on the lie.

PRINCIPLE: Propaganda is what they do to you. Brainwashing is what you do to yourself.

Disinformation: Another “wonder miracle of the lie” which is designed to manipulate people into supporting an idea, a cause, a solution, or a benefit and then winning their support, participation, or their investment. We have used the term “rhetorical veil” as a synonym.

All religions and much of Christendom use disinformation, or rhetorical veils, to conceal while advancing a hidden agenda. The rhetorical veil may promote works, rituals, programs, missionary trips, or a combination of these to acquire salvation, spirituality, or blessings. The hidden agenda is to keep people busy, involved, and regularly sitting in the chairs.

The visible “miracles” are well-known and include speaking in tongues, faith healing, performing miracles, exorcising demons, channeling the dead, and visions of the virgin Mary all of which are hoaxes pawned off on the benighted.

2 Thessalonians 2:9 - whose presence [**the Beast-Dictator’s**] in history shall be according to the modus operandi of Satan with all power and by means of extra natural phenomena and pseudo wonders through propaganda. (EXT)