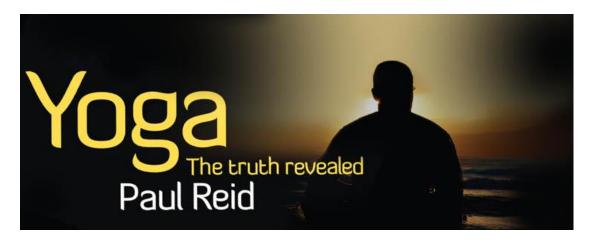
19. The Power of our Craft

The gift of teaching is powerful, and counterfeit teachers arise and use the craft. Paul Reid was an accomplished architect, who sat at the feet of a skilled teacher who adroitly used the inspirational techniques of an accomplished teacher. This teacher was able to direct students into destructive choices. He was building bomb shelters for the end times, in northern NSW, Australia, and teaching his pupils the discipline of yoga and its Hindu underpinnings- in many cases with destructive outcomes. The teacher inspired absolute loyalty and maintained rigid discipline. There is great potency in your craft, and you are in a position to influence the destiny of your students for eternity, and not just this age. Your influence can be for good or ill. If students graduate from your class, having experienced more sanctions and criticisms than affirmations, these experiences, perhaps more than the content of your lessons, will have been transferred and with negative impact. You set the temperature in your classroom spiritually and colour the atmosphere. If you have spent time in prayer as part of your preparation, and have a walk in the Spirit, then spirit to spirit education will occur in your classroom- for the ingredients of the supernatural are in place. The converse is when a person has a malign spirit or the teacher's spiritual tank is empty, then the stage is set for less constructive dynamics to express themselves. The good teacher lays down his life for his students, the classroom is not about him holding the limelight and setting up structures to make his way through the day as easy as possible, (Jn 10:11 and Jn 13: 13-17). The pretence of being a "Christian" teacher is far from you though, for you are filled with the spirit of the greatest teacher of all time.

<u>James 3:1</u> Not many of you should presume to be teachers, my brothers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly.

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