

SATAN'S SEAT

Shaun Willcock



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by

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INTRODUCTION

The nations of the world are being deliberately dragged down a predetermined path. Those in high positions who have an idea of what is going on are not talking. And those responsible are giving nothing away, for too much is at stake.

Bible-believing Christians, although they believe that they understand what is happening in the world, have in fact often been subtly led in the wrong direction. They think that they understand, but they do not.

True Christians are aware that the world is fast approaching a confrontation with the Son of God, Jesus Christ, Who is soon going to return to earth in power and great glory, to destroy His enemies and take His saved people to be with Him forever (see Revelation 19). But the devil knows this too, and he is concealing his plans as best as he can.

Pastors and teachers and evangelists love to preach about the things mentioned in Matthew 24:6,7: “And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.” Yet they overlook the greatest sign of all: “For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many” (Matt.24:5).

Many have realised that, according to Bible prophecy, there is a definite plan in Satan’s kingdom to put the world under the control of one organisation. But, having realised this, they have proceeded to go off in many different directions, and have not turned their attention to where the Lord, in His Word, has clearly directed. They have hacked at the branches, without paying attention to the stem. Or, to use biblical language, they have exposed the daughters, without seeing the *Mother* who not only gave birth to them, but continues to nourish them.

There is indeed a satanic conspiracy to place the world under the control of one organisation. The Bible contains prophecies about this. But, while Communism is being used to bring this to pass, Communism is not the fulfillment of the prophecies. And, while the Illuminati is indeed a part of the system, the Illuminati is not the apex of the pyramid. Nor is Freemasonry the very top of Satan’s hierarchy, although it is under the control of the system as much as the many other organisations and movements which are all part of the conspiracy.

Many Christians have seen that all these groups are aiming for world domination. And each one seems to have a favourite “theory” as to which group fulfills the prophecies of the Bible.

But what they do *not* know is that all these groups and more, are in reality being manipulated by an even greater power. They all tie together at the top. People who suspect that something is going on, when they are confronted with “evidence” on one of the many groups, proceed no further, believing that they have discovered all there is to discover. This is *precisely* what Satan wants; for his *masterpiece* has been successfully camouflaged behind all the others.

There is, behind all these groups, a far more powerful and sinister organisation, one which is all the more deadly because it appears so beautiful and holy. According to the written Word of God, as well as the historical evidence which perfectly fits the prophetic picture, this is the *Roman Catholic institution*.

This biblical truth has been believed by countless numbers of God's people through the centuries. But to multitudes of modern-day “Protestants”, caught up in the pursuit of “unity” with the Roman Catholic “Church”, and to the Roman Catholic people, this will appear to be an outrageous lie. Yet anger will not make the facts go away. It will not alter the truth: neither the truth of past and contemporary history, nor the infallible truth of the written Word of God, the Bible. It is the purpose of this book to bring that truth to light.

This book has been written so that the person who reads it will have, in his hands, a book which ties the whole picture together. There are other materials which concentrate on one main aspect of Roman Catholicism (although these are often difficult to obtain today): its history, or its doctrines, or its origin, or something which it is doing now. All these are most important. But the purpose of this book is to tie the threads together. Naturally, this means that many issues can only be examined briefly; but the intention is to give a sweeping, panoramic view of the whole picture.

It is necessary to expose the impostor which calls itself the Roman Catholic “Church”, for the following reasons. True Christians are given, by the Lord, a very specific revelation of this institution in the Bible. In other words, it is abundantly obvious that the Saviour wants His people to *know* about the Roman Catholic institution, so that they will not be deceived; so that they will understand the prophetic events which have taken place, are taking place, and will take place as the climax of world history approaches; and so that they can proclaim the pure Gospel of Jesus Christ to the Roman Catholic people. These people need to see that they are in bondage to a false “church”, and are not Christians; that those whom God, in His sovereignty, has ordained to eternal life may turn in repentance and faith to the *true* Christ revealed in the Scriptures.

CHAPTER ONE

BABYLON: THE BEGINNING

In Genesis 6, 7 and 8, we read of the destruction of all living flesh, when God destroyed all life on earth by a flood. Only Noah and his family were saved, for “Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord” (Gen.6:8).

“And Noah begat three sons, Shem, Ham and Japheth” (vs.10). Noah, his wife, his sons and their wives, were the only human beings to survive the flood. When it was all over, the Bible says, “And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth” (Gen.9:1).

But, while the flood had “washed” the earth, making it new in a sense, physical waters could not cleanse the heart of man; “for the imagination of man’s heart is evil from his youth” (Gen.8:21). Although Noah was righteous, *sin* was still present in humanity, and it was not long before evil again reared its head, in Noah’s son Ham (see Gen.9).

Ham, being an unrighteous man, obviously did not bring his sons up to fear the Lord, or to obey Him. One of his sons was Cush (Gen.10:6). And Cush came to be referred to as “Hermes” (“son of Ham”).¹ Hermes, pagans believed, was the founder of their religious rites. Thus, Cush was the first great *idolater* after the flood, leading men away from the worship of the true God.

Cush, according to ancient history, was the instigator of the building of the tower of Babel (see Gen.11). He was thus responsible for the confusion of tongues which the Lord brought to pass there. In fact, Cush came to be known as “Chaos”, the god of confusion, the Confounder!² He was also known as Bel and Merodach (both names appear in Jeremiah 50:2, a prophecy of Babylon’s judgment).

Now, although Cush founded Babylon, he was not the one to develop it into a great empire. The Bible says, “And Cush begat *Nimrod*: he began to be a mighty one in the earth. He was a mighty hunter before the Lord: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the Lord. And the beginning of his kingdom was *Babel*” (Gen.10:8-10). Nimrod, Cush’s son, was the first king of Babylon. His mother’s name was Semiramis.³

1 *The Two Babylons*, by Alexander Hislop, pg.25. Second American Edition, 1959. Loizeaux Brothers.

2 *The Two Babylons*, pgs. 26,27.

3 *The Two Babylons*, Chapter II.

These three people, Cush, Semiramis and Nimrod, were the instruments Satan used to set up a religion which was in *direct opposition* to the Word of God. This religion, begun in Babylon not long after the flood, is the *very religion* which today exists under the name of Roman Catholicism, and which masquerades as a Christian Church, as shall be seen.

When Nimrod attained manhood, this wicked man actually *married* Semiramis his mother. In fact, he came to be known as “the Husband of the Mother”.⁴

Nimrod was an extraordinary man. Ancient history proves he was indeed a great hunter, as Scripture says. As Gen. 10:9 says, a *proverb* even came into being: “wherefore *it is said*, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the Lord”.

In addition to being a great hunter, he established a kingdom, he was a skilled warrior, etc. It is no wonder ungodly men greatly admired him.

He also taught men to turn their backs on the true God, just as his father Cush had done. As a result, he came to be known as the “Deliverer”, the one who “delivered” his followers from the fear of the true God, Whom most of the earth, at that early period in earth’s history, still worshipped.

Nimrod introduced the doctrine that a spiritual change of heart was unnecessary: all that was needed was an *external* “regeneration”. They could continue to live ungodly lives, as they pleased. To the corrupt and sinful heart of man, such a doctrine would be most popular.

The Bible does not tell us how he died. However, he came to be known around the world by various names. And, wherever his worship spread, the account of his death was essentially the same: that he met with a violent death, an event which was commemorated every year by idolatrous peoples of many lands, e.g. Egypt, Phoenicia, Assyria, Greece and Rome. In these places, the women annually *wept* for him. In Ezekiel 8:14, we see that even the Jewish women fell into the sin of “weeping for Tammuz”. Tammuz was one of the names given to him.

According to ancient history, Nimrod was killed, his body was divided into pieces, and the parts were sent to different places, as a warning that whoever would commit the sins that he committed, would have the same done to him. This cutting of the body into pieces, etc., was practiced in later periods (see Judges 19:29 and 1 Samuel 11:7), and it was a custom which had come down from patriarchal times.⁵

4 *The Two Babylons*, pg.22.

5 *The Two Babylons*, pgs. 58-66.

While Nimrod was alive, the Babylonian religion which he, in conjunction with Semiramis, had established, was practiced openly. However, his violent death made Semiramis realise that it was far safer to carry on *secretly*. And so began, under her direction, the Babylonian “Mysteries”, which later spread all over the earth. And it was through this woman that Satan created his masterpiece – a religious system which today operates from the *Vatican*, and is known as Roman Catholicism.

Semiramis was at first deeply concerned about her husband’s death. But Satan inspired her to set up her dead husband as a *god*. She went further: she claimed that he was the very “seed of the woman”, the fulfilment of the prophecy of Genesis 3:15!⁶ At this early period, all men were well-acquainted with the prophecy made in the garden of Eden, that the bruising of the heel of the woman’s seed meant the death of the *Messiah*, for the curse of sin to be removed. This was a prophecy of the coming Messiah, Jesus Christ – but Semiramis applied it to Nimrod, thus making *him* out to be the Messiah!

God’s promise in Gen.3:15 was known to all ancient peoples. At that early period, Semiramis knew only too well that by calling Nimrod “the seed of the woman”, she was making him the Messiah. What a brilliant plan of Satan!

Already, his counterfeit religion was taking shape. Semiramis began to teach that Nimrod’s death had been voluntary; that he had offered himself for the sins of mankind. This doctrine, promoted by the devil through Semiramis, was a deliberate perversion of the truth. Centuries before Christ, the true Messiah, was born, Satan was creating his own religion. Nimrod was worshipped as God.

Semiramis took her religion underground, and it prospered. The initiates into the “Mysteries” had to take oaths. And she instituted confessionals. The priests of this religious system heard the confessions of the initiates.⁷ In this way, the priests had complete control over the people. It was a devilishly clever form of blackmail, to keep the people under the total control of the priests.

The black arts flourished. Astrology, witchcraft, and in fact ALL satanic occult practices were developed in Babylon.

The “Mysteries” glorified the dead Nimrod, and later on, others as well. This was the origin of necromancy (see Psalm 106:28).

In this religious system of Babylon, not even babies were safe. The sacrifice of babies became a part of the rites, and this is why the Lord commanded, “And

6 *The Two Babylons*, pg.59.

7 *Babylon Mystery Religion*, by Ralph Woodrow, pg.120. Ralph Woodrow Evangelistic Association. 1981.

thou shalt not let any of thy seed pass through the fire to Molech [another name for Nimrod]" (Leviticus 18:21). He was also known as Baal, the sun-god.

In time, Semiramis came to be worshipped as well, along with Nimrod. They were worshipped under the names of "Goddess-mother and Son". Semiramis fell pregnant (she lived an immoral life), and claimed that the child was conceived supernaturally, and that this child was Nimrod re-born!⁸ In the process of time, the worship of the child exceeded that of the man.

This child was called by many of the names of the TRUE Messiah – centuries before Christ was born. For even the pagan peoples knew that the Messiah had been promised; but they worshipped Baal as the Messiah. Satan used his counterfeit religion to distort the truths of God's revelation.

Images of Semiramis and her infant son were set up all over, and worshipped. The religion of the "Mother and Child" had begun, and there was no stopping it.

For inevitably, Semiramis herself was worshipped; and it was also inevitable that the worship of the woman would exceed that of the child. After all, her son was simply depicted as a baby in her arms; but she was depicted in all the statues as a beautiful woman. Wicked men would naturally prefer to adore her. The Babylonians perverted the biblical truth of the Godhead, and their religion revolved around the father, the mother and the son. And all the various gods and goddesses which came to be worshipped around the world, were really manifestations of the two main ones, the mother and son.

Although she had lived a very immoral life, the pagans came to believe that the birth of her son had been miraculous – that she was the "Virgin Mother!"⁹ What many are not aware of, is that belief in the virgin birth of the Messiah was common to pagan people centuries before Christ was born. This is why, all over the world, various nations worshipped a "Virgin Mother" and her son, centuries before they had contact with either biblical Christianity, or Roman Catholicism. This was all part of Satan's plan to create a counterfeit religion, and finally, a counterfeit "Christian" religion, to deceive multitudes into putting their faith in a false "christ", and being eternally lost.

Once she came to be regarded as the Virgin Mother, she was given astounding titles. One of these was "Queen of Heaven", and under this title she is referred to in

8 *The Two Babylons*, pg.69.

9 *The Two Babylons*, pg.76.

Jeremiah 7:18 and 44:17-25. Other titles, given to her in different lands, were “the habitation of God”, “the Tabernacle”, etc. Names of blasphemy! For it is in Christ that the fulness of the Godhead dwells bodily (see Colossians 2:9), and not in any so-called “Queen of Heaven”!

In addition, as if this were not enough, she even came to be regarded as the very incarnation of the Holy Spirit!¹⁰

From Babylon, the religion of the Mother and Child spread right around the world. In Egypt, Semiramis was called Isis, and her son was called Osiris, although as the child he was more frequently called Horus. Statues of the Mother and Son were everywhere. In India, they were called Isi and Iswara, and represented in the same fashion. In pagan Rome, they were known as Fortuna and Jupiter-peor; in Greece, as Ceres and her baby; in China, as Shing Moo and her child.¹¹ In ancient Germany, they were Hertha and child; in Scandinavia, Disa and child; etc.¹²

In the Bible, frequent mention is made of the Mother-and-Child worship of the pagans. They were also known as Ashtaroth (Semiramis) and Baal (the sun-god), and these are the names they are most often called in Scripture. The children of Israel turned from the Lord, and worshipped Baal and Ashtaroth on many occasions (e.g. Judges 2:13; 1 Samuel 7:3,4; etc.).

Semiramis and her son were known by other names as well. One of her names was Diana, and in Acts 19, we are told that the “whole world” worshipped her.

Semiramis was also known as Aphrodite, Venus, and Juno; and her son as Eros, Cupid, Hercules, Apollo, and more. In fact, all the tales of pagan mythology had their origin in Babylon.

From Babylon, the religious system of the Mother and Child literally spread worldwide. This explains why the “Mysteries” can be found in the religions of so many peoples around the world. The form the system took changed slightly from country to country, but the heart of the system was the same in every land. This fact has long been noted by historians. Babylon was the source of world idolatry. And this is confirmed by the Holy Spirit Himself, in Jeremiah 51:7: “Babylon hath been a golden cup in the Lord’s hand, that made all the earth drunken: the nations have drunken of her wine; therefore the nations are mad.” What a perfect description of this city, which has corrupted the whole earth! Truly, the nations have been made

10 *The Two Babylons*, pgs.77-80.

11 *The Two Babylons*, pgs.20,21.

12 *Babylon Mystery Religion*, pgs.13,14.

drunk through Babylon's religious system. And, as shall be seen, Babylon's wine is still causing the earth to reel with drunkenness today. Babylon's location has changed; but the wine is the same.

CHAPTER TWO

FROM BABYLON TO ROME

The Bible relates how the Lord called Abram (later named Abraham) out of Ur of the Chaldees, and promised to make of him a great nation (Genesis 12:1-3). His grandson, Jacob, had twelve sons, and from these sons came the twelve tribes of Israel. The Lord separated the nation of Israel from other nations, to be His people.

The Lord had said to Abraham that his descendants would be afflicted in a land that was not theirs (Gen.15:13). And this prophecy was fulfilled, when the Israelites became slaves in the land of Egypt (Exodus 1:6-14).

The religious system of Babylon, Mother-and-Child worship, had spread to Egypt,¹³ and the Egyptians were completely under Satan's control. The Lord raised up Moses to lead his people out of Egypt. Then, God gave Moses commandments for the children of Israel. And in many places in the Law which God gave, He referred to Baal worship. For by this time, the religion of Babylon was to be found in almost every nation.

He said to Moses, "I am the Lord thy God... Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image ... Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them" (Exod.20:1-5). God specifically forbade the Israelites to worship any other so-called gods. In Exodus 22:20, God commanded that any Israelite who sacrificed to other gods was to be destroyed. The Law is full of God's hatred of idolatry, and of the punishment for those who go after other gods (Deuteronomy 7:16-26; 12:1-3; 13; etc.).

Nevertheless, the children of Israel went time and again after other gods. Even while Moses was receiving the Law, in his absence they made a golden calf and worshipped it (Exod.32). Now, the golden calf was a symbol of Tammuz, the "son"¹⁴ The Israelites were tempted to follow the satanic religion of Egypt, derived from Babylon.

God told the Israelites that, when He brought them into the land of Canaan, they were not to serve the gods of the people of the land. They were to utterly destroy the inhabitants of Canaan, as well as their idols (Exod.34:11-17). Led by Joshua, the Israelites invaded Canaan, and began to systematically defeat the nations that lived there – all of whom were involved in some form of Baal worship, just as Egypt was. But, although the Lord specifically forbade them to intermarry with the heathen

13 *The Two Babylons*, pg.40.

14 *Babylon Mystery Religion*, pg.10.

people, or to make covenants with them, it was not long before they began to do just that (see Judges 1 and 2). They “did evil in the sight of the Lord, and served Baalim” (Judges 2:11). “And they forsook the Lord, and served Baal and Ashtoreth” (vs.13). This was nothing less than devil-worship; for whenever the Lord does not receive the worship, this is the worship of Satan.

As time went on, and the Israelites came to be ruled by various kings, things did not improve. Time and again they rebelled against God, turning to the worship of idols, the religion of Baal. One king after another served Baal, as Scripture clearly reveals. The Lord raised up prophets, who prophesied to the Israelites; a notable example is the great prophet of God, Elijah, who gained a wonderful victory, by God's grace, against Baal's prophets, in 1 Kings 18. At that particularly dark period in the nation's history, the Lord said, “Yet I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him” (1 Kings 19:18). A remnant faithful to the true God! Only a remnant. The majority rejected the prophets and their message, and the prophets were killed. Such was the control Satan exercised over them. Through the prophet Jeremiah, the Lord spoke to the people and said, “the Lord hath sent unto you all his servants the prophets ... but ye have not hearkened ... Therefore thus saith the Lord of hosts: Because ye have not heard my words, Behold, I will send and take all the families of the north, saith the Lord, and Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon ... and will bring them against this land ...” (Jer.25:4-9). Exactly as prophesied, the powerful Babylonian king, Nebuchadrezzar, came up against Jerusalem and took the Jews captive. They spent seventy years in captivity in Babylon (Jer.25:11). At this time, Babylon was a mighty empire, and Baal worship thrived there. In fact, Babylon was the headquarters of this idolatry.

The great empire was not to last, however. And with its collapse, the series of events which culminated in the city of *Rome* becoming the headquarters of the religious system of Babylon, were set in motion.

Jeremiah the prophet described, by inspiration of God's Spirit, the total destruction of Babylon in Jer.51. “Babylon is suddenly fallen and destroyed” (vs.8). The Medo-Persians were the ones who brought this to pass. Unknown to them, they were being used by the Almighty God to bring judgment upon Babylon (vss.11, 25, 26, 28, 29). The city itself was destroyed (vss.37,43).

But, while the city was destroyed, the idolatrous religion lived on, energised by the devil himself. When Babylon was taken, the priests of Babylon, the priests of

Baal, fled. They went to Pergamos, in Asia Minor.¹⁵ The kings of Pergamos became the representatives of the god of Babylon. Thus Pergamos became the headquarters of Baal worship, and it is no wonder that in Revelation 2:12,13, the Lord refers to Pergamos as “Satan’s seat”, the place “where Satan dwelleth”!

Now, how does Rome come into the picture?

A colony of Etruscans, who were involved in the Mother-and-Child worship, migrated to the immediate neighbourhood of Rome.¹⁶ Eventually they became part of the Roman state; but for a long time before this political union occurred, they had influenced Rome’s religion.¹⁷ Rome thus followed the religion of Baal.

Nevertheless, the pagan Roman pontiff was not yet the legitimate representative of the god of Babylon: the king of Pergamos was. True, the Romans followed a form of Baal worship, as did all nations; but the *seat* of that idolatry was in Pergamos, having been transferred there from Babylon itself.

Eventually, however, Pergamos became part of the Roman Empire. This occurred when the last king of Pergamos, Attalus III, bequeathed all his priestly offices (for the king was also the high priest), dominions and wealth, to Rome, in 133 BC. Later, Julius Caesar, who had been elected as Pontifex Maximus, became also the head of the Roman state. He thus became both the political AND religious head, vested with all the powers of the Babylonian priest-king.

In this way, Rome became the *headquarters* of the Babylonian religion. The line can be traced through the centuries from Babylon, to Pergamos, to Rome, to Caesar himself. Rome, incorporating Pergamos, became the very seat, or throne, of Satan’s earthly power. True, the worship of the Goddess-mother and her son was to be found, in various forms, in all the nations of the earth, for all had drunk of Babylon’s wine (Jer.51:7). But the Mystery Religion was *truly* represented in Rome, and the pagan Caesars were the Supreme Pontiffs.

15 *The Two Babylons*, pgs.240,241.

16 *The Two Babylons*, pg.239.

17 *The Two Babylons*, pgs.239,240.

CHAPTER THREE

CHRIST, HIS CHURCH, AND SATAN'S RELIGION

It was during the period of Rome's domination of the world, during the reign of Caesar Augustus, that the Son of God, Jesus Christ, was born miraculously of a virgin named Mary in Bethlehem, a small town of Judea, which was under Roman occupation (see Luke 2).

It was an event unnoticed by the world at large – but the world would never be the same again.

The Bible says in 1 John 3:8, “For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.”

The Jewish religious leaders at the time of Christ were, for the most part, *not* men of God, but of Satan. The common people were under their total control, and consequently were led *away* from God, not towards Him. The religious system was also extremely wealthy.

The Lord Jesus Christ came up against these wicked men as soon as He began His ministry. He knew very well what they were: servants of Satan, nothing less!

Many, many times, Jesus confronted the religious leaders. He knew that their doctrine was *false*, consisting of human traditions (Matthew 15:1-11). He rebuked them sharply: “*Woe* unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in” (Matt.23:13). “Ye *serpents*, ye generation of *vipers*, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?”(vs.33). They were on their way to hell, and He knew it, and told them so. And how they hated Him! He was telling the truth, and it enraged them. The people were turning their backs on the priests, and following Jesus.

In John 8, Jesus had a tremendous confrontation with these men. He said to them, “Ye are from beneath; I am from above: ye are of this world; I am not of this world” (vs.23). Then He went even further: He said, “If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God... Ye are of your father the *devil*, and the lusts of your father ye will do” (vss.42-44). Children of Satan! Pretending to honour God, but so very far from Him (Matt.15:7-9).

The teachings and rites of this corrupt religious system which Jesus came up against, were later to be used by the devil when developing the *Roman Catholic* system. In fact, there is a marvelous parallel between the occult religion which embraced the land of the Jews at the time of Christ, and the occult religion which is known as Roman Catholicism. Not surprisingly, for the system is the same.

Finally, the religious leaders were able to have Jesus crucified (unaware that this was in the plan of God – Acts 2:23). But He rose from the dead, and ascended up to the Father in heaven; and then He sent the Holy Spirit to take His place on earth – and the Christian Church was born (see Acts 2).

The young Church came into existence in a world over which Satan had total control. Not only did the early Christians have to face the opposition of the same religious leaders their Lord had faced, but also, the might of the Roman Empire. It was not long before they came up against both.

In Acts 4, Peter and John were put in prison by the religious leaders for preaching the Gospel. In Acts 5, all the apostles were arrested and imprisoned – but the Lord intervened miraculously and they were released, and continued to preach. They said to the high priest, “We ought to obey God rather than men” (5:29). They were beaten (5:40), but continued to preach. Later, a Christian named Stephen was stoned to death (Acts 7:54-60), and a great persecution broke out against the Church (8:1-4). And still the Gospel continued to spread like wildfire. Satan was doing his best to stamp out Christianity through the instrumentality of the followers of the Mystery Religion, but he was not succeeding.

After Saul (also called Paul) was converted to Christ, his life was in constant danger from the Jews (Acts 9:23-30). As Paul and his companions travelled from place to place, preaching the Gospel, time and again the Jews tried to kill him. The book of Acts tells the whole story. Yet the Gospel continued to spread.

As if the opposition from the Jews was not enough, Paul had to face another form of the Mystery Religion of Baal, in the city of Ephesus. In that famous city, the people worshipped the goddess Diana (Acts 19:23-41), another name for Semiramis. Paul had preached the Gospel with great power there, and many had turned from the worship of Diana to the true and living God. As a result, the silversmiths of the city, who made a living making silver shrines for Diana, began to lose their business – too many pagans were being converted to Christ!

Satan hated Paul and the Gospel he preached so much, that he attempted everything he could to get Paul killed. But the Lord preserved him, for the Lord had given him the task, as His instrument, of turning men “from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God” (Acts 26:18). *That* was why Satan hated him! He was being used by the risen Christ to lead men out of Satan’s power, unto eternal life! And not only Paul, but all of Christ’s followers were doing the same, and persecution could not stop them (Acts 11:19-21).

Finally, Paul was delivered into the hands of the Romans, and the book of Acts closes with him in Rome, the very throne of Satan on earth. Even there, he boldly preached the Gospel of God’s grace.

Yet, despite all the terrible persecutions which the early Christians had to endure, Satan had planned something worse, in his hatred for the faith of Christ; but the Lord, through the mouths and pens of His apostles, began to *warn* His Church of the danger on the horizon, a danger far greater than any persecution. In Acts 20:29, there is a prophecy given through Paul: "For I know this, that after my departure shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock." This echoed the prophecy of Jesus in Matthew 7:15: "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves."

Satan could see that persecution was not destroying the Church; but there was another way, a quiet, deceptive, deadly way: infiltration. *His* men entering into the Christian gatherings, and wreaking havoc. It was a brilliant plan, and is still being used today. It was right here, during the infancy of the Church, that the seeds were being sown that would ultimately develop into the greatest masterpiece Satan has ever concocted: a counterfeit "Christianity".

Other writers, inspired by the Holy Spirit, prophesied of the same danger. Peter wrote, "But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you" (2 Peter 2:1). Jude wrote, "it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints" (Jude vs.3). By the time Jude wrote his epistle, the Christian faith was already under attack. "For there are certain men *crept in unawares* ... ungodly men" (vs.4). The infiltration had begun. Satan's agents were *in* the Christian assemblies.

Paul wrote, in 2 Corinthians 11:13-15, of the presence of *false* apostles, whose master was the devil; and that, just as Satan can transform himself into an angel of light, so his ministers can transform themselves into ministers of righteousness.

In 2 Thessalonians 2:3,4, Paul, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, wrote of the coming of the Man of Sin, the Son of Perdition; a man who would exalt himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped, claiming to be God.

This prophecy is very specific. The Lord was preparing His people for the coming of this agent of Satan; a long line of them, in fact, according to Jesus' words in Matthew 24:5. And then, in vs.7, Paul wrote, "the mystery of iniquity doth *already* work". The Mystery of Iniquity! An evil system of "Mystery" was at work, even as Paul wrote. This was the Mystery Religion of ancient Babylon. Although it would be fully revealed under the coming Man of Sin, it was nevertheless subtly at work even during Paul's day: antichrists were arising and laying the foundation for the tremendous organization that was to come into existence later.

This is what the Holy Spirit led the apostle John to write: "Little children, it is the

last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there *many* antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time” (1 John 2:18). These infiltrators were NOT Christians, they were imitators (vs.19). They had never been born again, but were children of the kingdom of darkness.

In 1 John 4:3, he wrote that the spirit of antichrist was already in the world during *his* day.

Already in the first century of the Christian Church, the foundation was being laid for the false “church” system that was to come fully into existence in later centuries. It had been prophesied by the writers of the New Testament. But what exactly began to take place, in fulfilment of these prophecies?

Many people today are under the impression that the Christian Church of Rome, to which Paul wrote one of his epistles, later became the Roman Catholic institution. This is entirely false. Roman Catholicism is NOT in any way Christian, and *never has been*. It developed gradually over a period of many, many years, the foundation having been laid in the *first* century already, by false teachers, who drew away disciples after them (Acts 20:30; 1 John 2:19; 2 Timothy 4:3,4); many of them obviously forming their own, *false* “churches” (just as happens today), as is evident from the fact that a huge, *counterfeit* “church” system was in full operation by the time of Constantine in the fourth century – as shall be seen.

There has never been anything Christian about the Roman Catholic system. Its doctrines (as will be seen) are those of the ancient Mystery Religion of Semiramis and her son. It was entirely pagan from the beginning.

The apostle John was given, by the Lord, an amazing revelation of future events. This is called the book of Revelation. The things which John saw, while in exile on the isle of Patmos for the testimony of Jesus Christ, were beyond the comprehension of the apostle himself. He was told to write down what he saw (Revelation 1:19). He wrote in chapter 1, verse 1, that the Lord, in giving this revelation, was showing His servants things which were to come to pass *shortly*. Many have believed that the book of Revelation is a book only for those living at the *very end* of time, and that it only covers a short space of time; but this is false. The prophetic events of this book began to take place not long after John saw them. The book of Revelation covers vast periods of time.

John was shown many things that were to come upon the earth. In chapter 17, John saw a woman, “the great whore”, sitting on many waters; the kings of the earth committed fornication with her, and the nations were drunk on her wine (vss.1,2). She was extremely wealthy, dressed in purple and scarlet, and on her forehead were the words, “MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH” (vss.4,5). In addition, she was drunk

on the blood of Christians (vs.6). And in vs.18, she is described as “that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.”

An amazing vision! The Lord had given, in symbolical language, a perfect description of the most powerful religious and political system the world has ever seen, *before* it came into existence: the Roman Catholic institution.

In Scripture, the TRUE Church of Jesus Christ is referred to as the bride, or wife, of Christ (see Ephesians 5:22-33; Revelation 19:7; 21:9; etc.). Thus, this “woman” *appears* to be a church; but she is not holy and pure: she is a *whore*. She is a FALSE “church” (i.e. not a church at all). Her colours are purple and scarlet – the colours of Roman Catholicism – but the TRUE Church is, as it were, arrayed in white, which symbolises righteousness (Rev.19:8). The “waters” she sits on are, according to vs.15, peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues; a description of the fact that Roman Catholicism is a *worldwide* system.

As for the rest of the prophecy, the fulfilment will be seen as the picture unfolds over the centuries. For that reason, the historical events which took place after the first century must be examined. This will reveal how exactly the prophecies given by the Holy Spirit are fulfilled in the Roman Catholic institution.

CHAPTER FOUR

THE RISE OF THE PAPACY

In the previous chapter, it was seen how, very early in the history of the Christian Church, false apostles and teachers, antichrists, began to infiltrate the churches.

Although terrible persecutions continued, the greatest danger to the true Church was the rise of a counterfeit “Christianity”, just as prophesied by the apostles. As the first century came to a close, the apostles having gone to be with the Lord, the devil stepped up the work of developing his own “church” system.

In the second and third centuries, a number of men taught various doctrines which were later incorporated into the Roman Catholic system. Many of these men are called “early church fathers” by Rome (and even by many Protestants); but they were *not* true Christians, and they played a large part in the ever-continuing development of what later came to be known as Roman Catholicism.

The persecutions continued throughout the Roman Empire, but the Church continued to grow. The Holy Spirit kept it alive, despite the fury of various emperors.

Finally, under the emperor Constantine, Satan’s own “church” was properly established.

Constantine was the son of the emperor, Constantius. When his father died in 306 AD, Constantine, believing himself to be the heir to the throne, marched against Rome. The throne was also claimed by one Maxentius. In 312, Constantine came up against Maxentius at the Milvian Bridge, at the Tiber. Constantine’s army was outnumbered.

It was at this precise point that Constantine claimed to have a vision: in the sky, the sign of the cross, with the words, “In This Sign, Conquer”.¹⁸ There can be no doubt that Satan himself was deceiving Constantine, as subsequent events prove.

Constantine defeated his enemy, and took over the Empire. He professed conversion to “Christianity”. The truth is, however, that he was NOT born again; he was NOT a Christian. He continued to worship the sun god until his death in 337 AD, but he did so secretly.¹⁹ He thus remained a follower of the Roman version of Baal worship.

18 *Constantine the Great*, by John Holland Smith, pg. 102. Hamish Hamilton. 1971.

19 See *Constantine the Great*, by Smith.

In 313, he issued the “Edict of Milan”, an edict of toleration, throughout the Empire. This edict, *on the surface*, gave full toleration to the “Christian faith”. However, Constantine’s purpose was to draw the true Christians out of hiding. In reality, the only ones who were protected were the *false* “Christians”: those within the so-called “Catholic Church”. *They* were protected, but true Christians, seeing the deception, went into hiding. They saw what was happening.

Well, just what *was* happening? The so-called “Catholic Church” was nothing less than an ungodly mixture of certain aspects of Christianity, and certain aspects of ancient Baal worship.

When Constantine came to power, he began to take control of the “Catholic (universal) Church”. And the “Catholic Church”, using the muscle of the Roman army, *persecuted* all other groups – including true Christians.²⁰ Constantine made the “Catholic Church” (which consisted of all the false “churches” which were in agreement doctrinally, etc.) the State Church, with civil powers given to the bishops.

The Council of Nicaea was called in 325, and Constantine presided over it. This Council helped to put all the Roman world under the leadership of the bishop of Rome, and the emperor. Immediately after this Council, Constantine began to force all “Christian” groups to submit to his “Catholic” bishops. True Christians, of course, would have nothing to do with it. They well knew what the State “Church” was: it was a sinful blend of the doctrines and rites of the ancient Mystery Religion of Babylon, with a certain amount of corrupted “Christianity”. They knew it was the fulfilment of the prophecies of the Scriptures; that it was the religion of Antichrist!

In 337, near death, after having refused to be baptized before, Constantine was baptized. The bishops of the “Catholic Church” were gaining power rapidly in the Empire.

After Constantine died, the empire was ruled firstly by his sons, and thereafter by a succession of various men, most of whom were “Catholics”: believers in the Babylonian religion disguised as “Christianity”. The bishops of this system continued to wield ever-increasing power. True Christians remained in hiding and continued to suffer persecution. In 376, the emperor Gratian refused the title of “Pontifex Maximus”. This was a momentous event. Ever since Julius Caesar had taken the title of “Pontifex Maximus”, thus becoming the successor of the priest-kings of ancient Babylon,²¹ every Roman emperor, including Constantine, had borne

20 *Constantine the Great*, pg.157.

21 See chapter 2.

that title. This meant that the emperors, in addition to being the political heads, were also the high priests of the Mystery Religion, centred in Rome. They were thus the priest-kings. However, Gratian was the first emperor to refuse to act as pagan high priest. The result was that in 378, the bishop of Rome, Damasus, took the title – thus becoming the high priest of Baal worship! In this way, the bishop of Rome became the legitimate successor of Nimrod!²²

The line can be traced from Babylon, to the kings of Pergamos, to the emperors of Rome, and finally, to the bishop of the counterfeit “church” system in Rome. And the Papacy has retained the title of Pontifex Maximus, Supreme Pontiff, to this day!

As time went on, the Roman bishops were granted greater and greater powers, not only over all the other Babylonian “churches” of the Western Roman Empire, but also political powers.

Ultimately, in the fifth century, the Western Roman Empire came to an end, falling to barbarian invaders. But this was not the end of the Papacy; rather, the collapse of the empire was beneficial to the Papacy. Its power increased throughout the territory of the old empire, until it was the greatest power in Europe, even kings and emperors being subject to it.

22 *Babylon Mystery Religion*, pg. 80.

CHAPTER FIVE

ROMAN CATHOLIC DOCTRINES AND THE TRUTH OF SCRIPTURE

The apostle Paul wrote in 1 Timothy 4:1 that in the latter times, some would give heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils. This already had begun to occur in the first century, as was seen, for this was in fact when the “latter times” began (see Hebrews 1:1,2; Acts 2:16,17). Those who heeded the spirit of the Antichrist were themselves called “antichrists” by John; men who *pretended* to be Christians, but were not (1 John 2:18,19). These men began to teach doctrines which were nothing less than Babylonian, but dressed up in “Christian” terminology, etc. And their teachings came to be incorporated into the “Catholic” religion.²³

The truth is, that as Roman Catholicism has developed through the centuries, it has assimilated more and more of the ancient Mystery Religion. As the centuries rolled on, it constantly added to its list of blasphemous and pagan doctrines. The list is long indeed, but here are just some of the abominable doctrines of Rome.

There is the doctrine of “baptismal regeneration”: that by baptism, one is born again; that baptism can wash away one’s sins. This belief was derived from Babylon.²⁴ There they believed that “new birth” occurred at, and by means of, baptism. And this is *exactly* the doctrine of Romanism: that baptism is *essential* to salvation; that by it, men are freed from sins.²⁵ But the Bible declares that the new birth is a sovereign act of God (Jn. 1:12,13). There is ONLY ONE thing that can wash away sin, and that is the blood of Jesus Christ (Revelation 1:5). Baptism does not save; only Christ can. “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved” (Acts 4:12). According to the Bible, baptism in water is to *follow* the new birth; but it is not the new birth itself (see, for example, Acts 8:36-38).

Another pagan practice incorporated into the Roman Catholic system was the veneration of images. According to the Roman Catholic Council of Trent, Session XXV, the images of Christ, Mary, and “saints”, are to be honoured and venerated. This “veneration” involves bowing down to them, kissing them, etc. In short, nothing

23 See chapter 3.

24 *The Two Babylons*, pg.129.

25 *The Code of Canon Law*, Canon 849. Collins Liturgical Publications. 1983.

less than *idolatry* in the sight of God. “Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image... Thou shalt not *bow down* thyself to them, nor serve them” (Exodus 20:4,5).

The images of pagan gods and goddesses were simply transferred into the Roman Catholic religion, and given Christian names. Just as, in the worship of Baal, the people had worshipped images of Semiramis and her son, so now this worship continued, but the names were the “Virgin and Christ-child”. And the names of various “saints” were given to pagan statues of Roman gods, etc. Psalm 115:4-8 aptly describes them: “Their idols are silver and gold, the work of men’s hands. They have mouths, but they speak not: eyes have they, but they see not: they have ears, but they hear not: noses have they, but they smell not...”

Central to Roman Catholic worship is the sacrifice of the Mass. According to Roman Catholic doctrine, the Mass is the *same* sacrifice as that which Christ made on the cross, and Jesus Christ literally, physically becomes present in the Mass. This occurs when the priest consecrates the bread (wafer) and wine. Rome claims that these are then no longer bread and wine, but have become the actual flesh and blood of Christ!

This entire blasphemy originated in the ancient Mystery Religion.²⁶ The round wafers are the same as those offered by the ancient Egyptians on their altars.²⁷ The roundness symbolised the sun-god, Osiris. In Babylon, the golden sun-image was worshipped as well, and also in other places. The Roman Catholic religion simply adopted all this.

The Bible declares of Christ: “Nor yet that he should offer himself often ... For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now *once* in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself” (Hebrews 9:25,26). Jesus died once, He offered Himself up once! “So Christ was *once offered* to bear the sins of many” (Heb.9:28). His sacrifice for sin was perfect! It never needs to be repeated. Jesus was sacrificed once; then He rose to life, and now lives forever at the right hand of the Father. The wafer and wine do NOT become His actual flesh and blood. 1 Corinthians 11:17-34 tells us that Christians partake of the bread and cup simply in *remembrance* of the Lord’s death. They do not eat His actual flesh; the bread simply represents His body.

Untold numbers of true Christians have been murdered by the forces of the Roman Catholic institution through the centuries, for refusing to acknowledge the doctrine of the Mass, and for calling it idolatry. For Roman Catholics worship

26 *The Two Babylons*, pg. 156.

27 *The Two Babylons*, pg.160.

the wafer as God! The Council of Trent declared that Christ is to be *adored* in the sacrament of the Eucharist; and that, if anyone declared that the adoration of the wafer was idolatry, he was to be accursed.

Another central part of this satanic system is the blasphemy of exalting and worshipping the virgin Mary. Since the worship of the Goddess-mother and Son was a central part of the ancient Mysteries,²⁸ it was *continued* in the Roman Catholic institution. All that changed were the names of the deities worshipped. They became “Mary” and “Christ”. In all this, Satan was perfecting the greatest religious fraud in the history of mankind.

The blasphemies surrounding Mary in the Roman Catholic religion are numerous and varied. Here are a few of them.

Romanism calls Mary “the Queen of Heaven” (exactly what the pagans called Semiramis – Jeremiah 7 and 44).²⁹ There is NO “Queen of Heaven”: there is only the King of all, the Lord Himself.

Rome teaches the doctrine of Mary’s “Immaculate Conception”: that she was conceived without original sin.³⁰ But what does the Scripture say?

It says that Jesus was the only sinless Person who ever lived (Hebrews 4:15). Mary was a sinful human being like everyone else. Look at what she said! “My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in *God my Saviour*” (Luke 1:46,47). Only sinners need a Saviour. Mary had to be saved from sin in the same way as anyone else.

Rome teaches, in addition, the doctrine of Mary’s “Assumption” – that she was taken, body and soul, into heaven.³¹ This teaching is without any biblical support whatsoever. There is NOT ONE verse in the entire Bible to support it.

Rome’s blasphemies regarding Mary are seemingly endless. This system has elevated her to the position of a *goddess*, exactly as in Babylon. Some of her titles are: Gate of Heaven (but the only way, the only door, to heaven is Jesus Christ – John 10:7,9; 14:6); the Advocate of the human race (but Jesus is the only Advocate – 1 John 2:1,2); Mediatrix (but Jesus is the only Mediator – 1 Timothy 2:5); the Mansion

28 See chapter 1.

29 See chapter 1.

30 *The Documents of Vatican II*, by Walter M. Abbott, S.J. Imprimatur: Lawrence Cardinal Shehan. American Press. 1966. “Dogmatic Constitution on the Church”, para.56,59.

31 *The Documents of Vatican II*, para.59.

of God; Tabernacle of the Holy Ghost; Temple of the Trinity; etc.³²

Roman Catholics are taught to pray to Mary, to ask for her help, etc. For Mary to be able to hear and answer the prayers of hundreds of millions of people worldwide, she must have the power of a goddess! Certainly, she is treated as one: she is prayed to, adored, praised, given titles of great majesty, etc. This is nothing short of *worship*. Rome may claim that the honour given to her is less than that given to God, but that is simply not true in practice. Her worship equals, and usually excels the worship of God.

The Roman Catholic *priesthood* is another pagan corruption. The Bible declares that, in the Christian Church, there is no need of a priesthood, for Christ is the High Priest eternally (Hebrews 3:1; 4:14-16; etc.). A priest stands between God and men, as a mediator, but in 1 Timothy 2:5 we read that there is “one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.” But in Roman Catholicism there are men who claim to be priests. Again, this is because Romanism is the religion of Baal. These priests are called “other Christs” by Rome, but Matthew 24:24 gives the warning of Jesus: “For there shall arise *false Christs* ...”.

Roman Catholic priests are not permitted to marry, but have to remain celibate. Paul warned in 1 Tim.4:1-3 that the doctrine of “forbidding to marry” is a *satanic* doctrine. Instead of producing holiness, it has resulted in some of the most unholy behaviour recorded in the pages of history.³³ The Bible says that Christian ministers may marry (1 Tim.3:2; 1 Cor.9:5). But the simple truth is that Roman Catholic priests are not Christian ministers. They are the successors of the priests of the ancient Mysteries.

One of the “powers” given to the priests of Rome is the power to hear confessions.³⁴ The Roman Catholic confesses his sins to a priest, who has the power (so they claim) to *forgive* him. But the Bible says, in Psalm 32:5, “I acknowledged my sin unto *thee* [God] ... I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou *forgavest* the iniquity of my sin.” And Jesus taught His disciples to ask God to forgive their sins (Luke 11:1-4). No sinful man has the power to forgive sins. Only God can.

The confessional has been, throughout its history, a most powerful means of

32 See chapter 1.

33 *The Priest, the Woman, and the Confessional*, by Charles Chiniquy. Chick Publications.

34 See chapter 1.

blackmail.³⁵ It is one of Satan's greatest tools for holding millions of people in bondage.

The Roman Catholic priesthood produces the Roman Catholic *pope*. It has already been seen how the Caesars of Rome had inherited the powers of the high priests of Babylon, and how in the process of time these powers were transferred to the bishops of the counterfeit "church" of Rome. In this way, these impostors became the high priests of the Mystery Religion of Babylon. The bishops of Rome, or "popes", are still today the priest-kings of this system.

In order to give "biblical" justification to the claim that the pope is the "universal head of the Church", the Papacy twisted the words of Jesus in Matthew 16:18. Jesus said to Simon, "thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church". Rome says that Jesus made Peter the first pope with these words! It says that "Peter" means "rock", that the Church was built on Peter, and that the popes are the successors of Peter. But what is the truth?

The Greek word for "Peter" is "Petros", and means a small stone (see John 1:42). The Greek word translated as "rock" in Matt. 16:18, however, is "petra", and means a large boulder, or bedrock. Now, throughout Scripture, the LORD is called the Rock (Deuteronomy 32:4; Psalm 18:31; Romans 9:33; 1 Corinthians 10:4; etc.). It is thus on *Christ* that the Church is built (1 Cor.3:11). And Peter was just a stone in the true Church.

The popes are not the successors of Peter. They are the successors of the high priests of pagan Babylon!

One of the blasphemous titles of the pope is the "Vicar of Christ". This means "the one who takes Christ's place on earth, the 'vice-Christ'". In ancient Egypt (where Baal worship took root and flourished), the king was regarded as "the representative of the divinity on earth"³⁶ (the Bible reveals that it was the Holy Spirit Who took Christ's place, in John 14:16,26; 15:26; and 16:7).

Rome claims that the pope is infallible (unable to err) when proclaiming a doctrine of faith and morals; and this was exactly what the ancient Chaldeans believed about the "Sovereign Pontiff".³⁷ The very title, "Supreme Pontiff", used by the popes, was of course the title of the priest-kings of ancient times.

Then there is the doctrine of Purgatory. Purgatory, to Rome, is a place of intense suffering where the souls of Roman Catholics go after death, to be "purified" before

35 *The Priest, the Woman, and the Confessional.*

36 *The Two Babylons*, pg.211.

37 *The Two Babylons*, pg.211.

they are fit to enter heaven. The length of time one will spend there is unknown. However, the “Church” has ways by which a person can be released from Purgatory sooner than he would otherwise be: for example, if the departed soul’s relatives pay money to the priest for masses to be said for the dead one! This is a wicked money-making trick, with absolutely no support in Scripture. The Bible declares that, if a man confesses his sins to the Lord, the Lord forgives and cleanses him from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9). Thus, if a man is washed in the blood of Christ (1 John 1:7), *no sin remains* to be purged in Purgatory. Jesus Christ paid the FULL penalty for the sins of those He came to save, on the cross. Christ Himself “purged our sins” (Hebrews 1:3). When a true Christian dies, his soul goes *immediately* to be with the Lord (Philippians 1:23; 2 Corinthians 5:8), in heaven. The unsaved go to hell, the saved to heaven. But nowhere does the Bible mention a Purgatory. The Roman Catholic institution adopted this doctrine, as with so many others, from paganism.³⁸

The way to be saved from sin and eternity in hell, as taught by the Lord in His Word, is rejected by Rome. Men cannot do *anything* to earn their salvation; it is only by God’s grace, through faith in Christ, apart from any human works, that one is saved (Acts 16:30,31; Ephesians 2:8,9). But Rome teaches a form of salvation by *works*: the Roman Catholic must do all that his “Church” requires; must be obedient to the doctrines of his “Church”; etc. However, even then, he can only *hope* to be saved; he cannot be certain.

The Bible condemns all of Rome’s false teachings; but the truths of the Bible are kept away from the people, for that very reason. Throughout history, Rome has destroyed copies of the Bible, or hidden it away; and even today, a Roman Catholic may only read the Bible as it is “interpreted” by his “Church”. This is done to prevent the people from discovering its truth.

Besides, Rome claims that the “Word of God” is not only the Bible, but also Roman Catholic “Tradition”.³⁹ Jesus condemned the heresy of making the traditions of men equal with Scripture in Matthew 15:1-11. The result of such heresy is nothing but *confusion*. And that is exactly what Satan wants!

In the vision which John saw, the great whore of Revelation 17 had a name on her forehead: “MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT” (vs.5). The reason is that the Roman Catholic institution is the modern Babylon! Almost all of the false doctrines of ancient Babylon are found in her. And her description as a whore identifies her as

38 *The Two Babylons*, pg.167.

39 *The Documents of Vatican II*, “Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation,” Art.9,10.

well: the true Church of Christ (which consists of all born-again believers) is called the *wife* of Christ (e.g. Ephesians 5:22-32; Revelation 19:7); but Rome is a *harlot* – a FALSE “church”. She is not a true church, and Roman Catholics are not Christians. The only hope for any Roman Catholic is to forsake this false religion, and to be converted to Jesus Christ.

CHAPTER SIX

THE DARK AGES

As the centuries passed, the Papacy's power and influence over the nations of Europe steadily increased.

The "Donation of Constantine", in the eighth century, was a clever forgery which established papal control over the territories of the empire. This "Donation", it was claimed, had been written by Constantine; and it gave the popes control over the territories of the entire Roman Empire! It made the popes higher than any government in Europe; and in fact, the entire world, according to this "document", belonged to the popes! They were to be the spiritual and political rulers of the world.⁴⁰

Of course, Constantine had written no such document; it was a deliberate forgery, designed to place the Papacy over the whole of Europe. It succeeded. The Roman Catholic institution was all-powerful. It was a time of gross spiritual darkness throughout the continent. Evils of all kinds abounded. Immorality, murder, witchcraft – all these things were rife.

Where were the true Christians? They were in hiding; but though their numbers were small compared with the vast multitudes of Roman Catholics, they were spiritually strong. They were terribly persecuted by the forces of the Roman Catholic institution. Groups of believers, called Waldenses and other names by their enemies, lived, sometimes in dens and caves, in places such as the Alps. These people possessed copies of the true Word of God. They believed in the doctrine of justification by God's grace through faith alone, and they resisted the lies and blasphemies of the Roman Catholic institution. Refusing to submit to the pope, they were hunted down and brutally killed when caught. The history of their sufferings at the hands of the antichrist system of the Papacy is horrifying indeed. Men, women and children were burned, cut to pieces, branded, massacred in a thousand diabolical ways – all in the name of God, and of Mary! The Lord Jesus Christ had said, that "the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service" (John 16:2). This was true of the subjects of the pope. Jesus went on to say, "And these things will they do unto you, because they have *not known* the Father, nor me" (vs.3). Calling themselves "Christians", these servants of the devil barbarically put to death all who refused to bow down to the pope.

40 *The Vatican Billions*, by Avro Manhattan, pg.33. Chick Publications. 1983.

The Roman Catholic institution established the *Inquisition*, or “Holy Office”. The purpose of the Inquisition was to destroy all “heretics”, that is, all non-Roman Catholics. This included true Christians, as well as Jews and others who were not Papists.

It was established in various parts of Europe. It was in the hands of the Dominican and Franciscan friars. They were given almost unlimited power by the Papacy, to put to death anyone they chose on the slightest excuse. The main charge was heresy. Anyone who was not Roman Catholic was a heretic! And upon pain of death, all Roman Catholics had to inform the Inquisitors of “heretics”.

People were accused of *all sorts* of crimes, from witchcraft to owning a Bible (which was forbidden). The charges were very often entirely false, but almost all who were charged were found guilty. The Papacy worked hand in hand with the monarchs of Europe, who of course acknowledged the pope as the substitute for Jesus Christ on earth.

The person being tried was usually tortured terribly, before being killed – usually by burning.⁴¹

The persecutions went on throughout the centuries before the Reformation (and even afterwards). Countless numbers died, by means of hideous tortures: they were whipped to death, or hacked up, or burned alive, or crucified, or drawn and quartered. Many froze to death on the Alps. And leading the frenzied mobs of Roman Catholics were their priests.⁴²

Wherever the Inquisition spread, the blood of Christians and others continued to flow. Europe was under the massive weight of papal power.

The prophecy given to the apostle John by the Lord was indeed being fulfilled: “And I saw the woman [the Roman Catholic system] *drunken* with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus” (Revelation 17:6). That “woman” is called the “Great Whore” in vs. 1, and in vs. 18 it says, “And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.” That great city is *Rome*, the city on seven hills: the woman sits on a beast with seven heads (vs.3); and, “The seven heads are *seven mountains*, on which the woman sitteth” (vs.9). The papal Whore, ruling from the city of Rome, was *drunk* on the blood of Christians throughout the Dark Ages; but much more blood was to flow in the centuries to come.

41 The above information can be found in such works as *The History of Protestantism*, Vol.I, by J.A. Wylie, pgs.44-46. Republished 1985 by Mourne Missionary Trust. See also *Foxe's Book of Martyrs*, by John Foxe, as well as other historical works.

42 *History of the Waldenses*, by J.A. Wylie. Cassell and Company, Limited. Fourth Edition. Reprinted 1985 by Church History Research and Archives.

CHAPTER SEVEN

THE REFORMATION AND THE RISE OF THE JESUITS

In the year 1517, a man named Martin Luther nailed a list of 95 “theses” to the castle door in Wittenburg, Germany. Luther protested in this way against certain Roman Catholic teachings which he had come to see were false, although he was a Roman Catholic Augustinian monk and unconverted. This set in motion a series of events which led to massive religious, political and social upheavals throughout Europe, with multitudes of people rejecting papal control.

For too many centuries, the people of Europe had been oppressed by Rome. As the “Protestant” movement gained momentum (so called because of the great *protest* against Rome), vast numbers of people threw off Rome’s oppressive yoke, refusing to bow down to the pope any longer. This was the “Reformation”. Many Protestants were genuinely converted to Christ, saved by God’s grace through faith in Christ alone (Ephesians 2:8,9), and not by any works done to try to “earn” salvation (Romans 6:23). Of course, large numbers joined the Protestant cause simply because they wanted to be free from the pope, and not because they had been converted. But there were men of God who began to preach the truth of Scripture, and the Papacy suffered the greatest setback in its history.

These men saw clearly from Scripture that the Roman Catholic institution was the fulfilment of the prophecies of the book of Revelation and elsewhere. They saw that it was the Great Whore of Rev.17; that the pope was the Antichrist (1 John 2:18) and the Man of Sin (2 Thessalonians 2:3,4); etc. They were not afraid to *call* him by his biblical names, and this they did publicly and with power.

The Reformation, however, had a terrible weakness: as its name implies, it was an attempt at “reforming” the Roman Catholic institution. And all of the various Protestant groups which came into existence at the time of the Reformation retained certain corruptions of the Great Whore. And *this* is what the secret agents of the Papacy used to their advantage in the years after the Reformation, and thus brought about the situation as it exists today. As shall be seen.

Thus, this movement, which shook Europe to its foundations, did not go far enough. In fact, much of it was little more than a “reformed” version of Roman Catholicism, retaining many of its serious doctrinal errors and corruptions. While various European lands rejected the pope’s domination (a blessing from God for these lands, and for true believers within them), certain Protestant institutions were merely “daughters” of the Great Whore, very similar to her in doctrine and practice.

The Reformation became particularly strong in England. At first, under King Henry VIII, the Christians suffered terribly for their faith in the Lord and in His

written Word as the sole, supreme authority. Many, refusing to return to Roman Catholicism, were burned at the stake. Then under Edward VI, Protestantism made advances as one Roman doctrine after another was abolished.

When Mary, a Roman Catholic, came to the throne, the Protestants were in constant danger. Large numbers were burned at the stake for refusing to convert to Roman Catholicism. The testimonies of these men of God were truly remarkable. Many prayed and sang hymns as they were being burned, praying for the Lord to forgive their enemies.⁴³

When Elizabeth became queen, Protestantism again made advances in England.

The Protestants rejected the false Roman Catholic doctrines of the Mass, prayers to Mary and the saints, Purgatory, prayers for the dead, the power of the pope, and a host of other things. The Bible, which had been translated into various European languages, was the supreme authority. And at the heart of the rejection of the Roman Catholic doctrine of justification by works, was the Bible doctrine of justification by faith; that glorious Gospel truth which the early Church had preached, and which true Christians throughout the ages had preached and believed.

The Bible makes it emphatically clear that salvation is a free gift of God (Romans 6:23), and that one can only possess eternal life by *faith* in God's Son, Jesus Christ.

The Papacy was watching its empire collapsing as the truth of the Scriptures became known to the people. Something had to be done to pull the nations back under papal control.

And something was.

A Spaniard named Ignatius of Loyola was the man Satan used. Loyola, a nobleman and soldier, had a plan. A new Order of priests had to be formed. In 1540, the "Society of Jesus" was given papal approval. It was also known as the *Jesuit* Order. Ignatius was the first Jesuit General. The Order was confident that it could *reverse* the effects of the Reformation, destroy Protestantism, and eventually place the entire world under the Papacy's control.

The evidence also points to the fact that, at a very early stage, the "Alumbrados" (the "Illuminati"), in Spain, came under the control of the Jesuits. Loyola was tried for alleged sympathy with it as early as 1527;⁴⁴ later, we are informed, its members

43 See *Foxe's Book of Martyrs*, as well as *Memorials of the English Martyrs*, by C.B. Tayler. Wittenburg Publications. Second Reprinting, 1986.

44 *Occult Theocracy*, by Lady Queenborough, pg.307. The Christian Book Club of America. 1980.

came especially from the Jesuit Order;⁴⁵ and two centuries later, as shall be seen in the next chapter, it is clear that they were firmly in control of the Illuminati. The Illuminati was a secret society, the purpose of which was (and still is) to control the world, putting it under the pope.

The Jesuits soon involved themselves in *everything*: teaching, confession, preaching, foreign missions, politics, science, commerce, banking. They became the Intelligencia of the Roman Catholic institution, blindly serving the interests of the Papacy.

Then, as now, the Jesuits are brought to the point of *total obedience* to their superiors. Obedience is essential to the Order. In fact, the “Constitutions” of the Order repeat some 500 times that the Jesuit must see in the Jesuit General, not a fallible man, but Christ Himself.⁴⁶ Ignatius wrote, “We must see black as white, if the Church says so.”⁴⁷ This absolute devotion to ruthlessly serving the interests of the Papacy was seen as a danger to civil authority by many rulers, even Roman Catholic ones, and at one time or another the Jesuits were expelled from every country in Europe! But they always returned.

They infiltrated the governments of Europe and other nations, working ceaselessly towards the goal of world domination by the Papacy. And, in addition, they infiltrated the Protestant denominations.

The goal of the Roman Catholic institution has never changed. Throughout many centuries, it has sought to establish itself as the ruler of the world. The Protestant Reformation disrupted that plan – but not for long. And ever since then it has fought not only to win back the ground it lost, but to conquer *new* ground. The question is, has it been successful?

It has indeed – in a way that fully demonstrates that there are powerful satanic forces at work behind the scenes.

Broadly speaking, the Papacy has worked on two main fronts: political and religious. These two *overlap* to a great extent; and it is necessary to examine its activities in these two fields, which will reveal *why* the world is as it is today. The goal is world domination, by any means at its disposal.

But behind all this, there is the *primary* goal of Satan: to destroy biblical Christianity. The following pages will reveal how he has continued to attempt to

45 *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, Vol.1, pg.692. Art. Alumbrados.

46 *The Secret History of the Jesuits*, by Edmond Paris, pg. 26. Chick Publications.

47 *The Secret History of the Jesuits*, pg.26.

do so since the Reformation. They will show that the Roman Catholic institution is *indeed* the “Mother of harlots and abominations of the earth” (Revelation 17:5).

CHAPTER EIGHT

INFILTRATION

As was seen, the “Alumbrados”, or “Illuminati” of Spain, which came into being about 1520, later drew its members especially from Loyola’s Jesuits; and they evidently lost no time in gaining control over it. The Illuminati was NOT founded in 1776 by Adam Weishaupt, contrary to what many believe; Weishaupt was a trained *Jesuit*⁴⁸ and professor of canon law⁴⁹ at Ingolstadt University, a Jesuit university.⁵⁰ He has been made out to be a *former* Jesuit; but the fact remains that he held a professorship in a Jesuit university! He was clearly not a “former” Jesuit, but a *Jesuit* in good standing, who *pretended* to leave, and to found the Illuminati in order to hide its true origins. In reality, it had existed for well over 200 years already!

While the Jesuits moved on the political front, they also moved on the religious front. Almost immediately after the Order was created, the Jesuits, as part of their long-term plan to destroy the Protestant movement, began to secretly infiltrate the Protestant denominations. The plan was to gradually draw these institutions *away* from the Bible, AND away from their stand against Rome. The leaders of these institutions were well aware that the Roman Catholic system was the Great Whore, the religion of the Antichrist. For example, John Calvin declared, “I deny him to be the Vicar of Christ who ... demonstrates by his conduct that he is Antichrist”. And John Knox wrote, “That the pope is the head of the Kirk [Church] of Antichrist”; and he also declared that the Roman Catholic institution is “the synagogue of Satan, and the head thereof, called the pope ... the man of sin of whom the apostle speaketh.”

As long as Protestants believed such things, the Papacy could *never* gain control. So the Jesuits (and those they influenced and manipulated) slowly but steadily worked from positions of influence *within* these denominations to change their direction, as it were, until finally, they would be ready to acknowledge the Roman Catholic institution as the *one true* Church, and the pope as the head of that Church.

In Germany, where the Reformation had originally begun, Protestantism was virtually all-powerful. But the Jesuits “saved” much of Germany for the pope.⁵¹ Through the confessionals, the Jesuits began to take control of the political life of

48 *Occult Theocracy*, pg. 370.

49 *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, Vol. XI, pg.1096.

50 *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, Vol. XII, pg.251.

51 *The Secret History of the Jesuits*, pg.34.

the nation. Once they controlled that, it was comparatively easy to use the political muscle against Protestantism. The Jesuit Mayrhofer, of Ingolstadt, Bavaria, taught that Roman Catholics would not be judged for killing Protestants. Protestants throughout Bavaria were drowned, burned and imprisoned, beginning about 1563.

The Jesuits took over education in Bavaria; and from Bavaria they spread throughout Germany. Terrible wars ensued, which destroyed the country politically and morally – all because the Jesuits wanted papal control to be re-established.

And, during this time, the work of infiltrating the German Protestant movement was continuing.

In France, beginning about 1551, the Jesuits began to take root. First, they worked their way into the Court; then, from that position, they infiltrated the higher classes.

Their power increased until Paris was in their hands. There is evidence that the Jesuits were involved behind the scenes in the assassination of Henry III, because he was reluctant to fight Protestantism, and the assassination, in 1610, of Henry IV as well.⁵² Under Louis XIV, the Jesuits came to dominate the royal family of France. War against French Protestants, which had been going on secretly, became *open* in 1685, when the king, who had been persuaded to persecute the Protestants, revoked the Edict of Nantes, and Roman Catholicism became the only permitted religion in France. Thousands of Protestants were killed. 400 000 Protestants fled the country, which impoverished France both spiritually and materially.

But it was *England*⁵³ which became the Jesuits' main target. Elizabeth, nominally a Protestant, ascended the English throne in 1558. This was a great blow to Rome, in its bid to regain England for the pope. But the Jesuits were hard at work. They established seminaries on the continent, for the purpose of training Roman Catholic missionaries to work in England, Ireland, and Scotland.⁵⁴ Working secretly, they spread throughout England, hearing confessions, preaching, etc. They clandestinely printed and distributed tracts against the queen and the "Church of England". While some were at times caught, others succeeded in infiltrating the government itself.

James I became king in 1603. A Protestant, he was of course the target of the Jesuits. They conspired to blow up the king, in what became known as the Gunpowder Plot; but it was exposed.⁵⁵

52 *The Secret History of the Jesuits*, pgs.45-49.

53 *The Secret History of the Jesuits*, pgs. 42-44.

54 *Footprints of the Jesuits*, by R.W. Thompson, pgs.132-141. 1894. These seminaries also described in *The Memoires of Mr. James Wadsworth, a Jesuit that Recanted*. Printed by Henry Hills for Henry Brome, London, 1679.

55 *Jesuit Plots from Elizabethan to Modern Times*, by Albert Close, pgs.143-146. The

The Scriptures, given as they were by divine inspiration (2 Timothy 3:16), have always been one of Satan's primary targets. In Paul's day, Satan was already trying to corrupt God's Word (2 Corinthians 2:17); throughout the Dark Ages, he inspired the priesthood of Rome to seek out and destroy true believers and their Scriptures; but with the outbreak of the Reformation, the Scriptures were being made available to multitudes! They were translated into various languages, and this resulted in large numbers of people reading God's Word and being converted. The powers of darkness began to move. In 1582, the Jesuits brought out their *own* version of the New Testament, and in 1609, the Old Testament as well. It was the Rheims-Douay Version – and it was in English!

The "Society of Jesus" had been as wise as serpents. They knew that to destroy Protestantism, they needed to change the tactics of the Roman Catholic institution; instead of Rome burning the Bible as it had done in the past, the Jesuits would produce a version of their own! Moreover, since they could see that England had become the Protestant centre, their version was in *English*.

But God is sovereign: barely two years after the completed Jesuit version appeared, the Authorised King James Version was completed.

Godly Protestants in England wanted King James I to authorise the translation of a new English version of the Bible. James did so, and the work was completed in 1611.

The King James Version was a masterpiece, and its publication was a giant setback for the Papacy. For almost three centuries, it was *the* English version, and it was used all over the world to bring multitudes into the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. No more faithful and accurate version has ever been produced. But the Jesuits did not give up. They continued to work underground, pushing England closer and closer to Rome. Roman Catholicism was gaining ground in England in the second half of the 19th century, particularly in the universities. Calls were increasingly being heard for a "revision" of the King James Version,⁵⁶ and in 1870, work began on a "revision" (in reality it was a new translation). The work was dominated by two men, Westcott and Hort,⁵⁷ who held to various Roman Catholic and other heresies. In 1881, the

Protestant Truth Society.

56 *The King James Version Defended*, by Edward F. Hills, pgs.225,226. The Christian Research Press. Third Edition 1979.

57 See *The Revision Revised*, by John William Burgon. A.G. Hobbs Publications. Fifth Printing 1991.

“Revised Version” appeared, based on *corrupt* manuscripts.⁵⁸ Doubt had been cast on the King James Version, and the floodgates had been opened; dozens of new versions were to appear from then on, sowing tremendous confusion in the ranks of Protestantism. The Jesuits, with the Revised Version of 1881, were succeeding in their goal: to destroy the foundation of Protestantism, the Bible. Not by burning it, as Rome had done for centuries; but by working from *within* Protestant circles to undermine its authority. By the close of the 19th century, the work of infiltration which had gone on for three centuries was paying off. The Roman Catholic institution was advancing, slowly but surely, across Europe once again; and not only Europe, but the rest of the world.

CHAPTER NINE

THE WORLD AT WAR

In the previous chapter, it was seen how the Papacy began to *reverse* the effects of the Reformation, which had done such damage to Romanism, by infiltrating the Protestant groups, so that by the late 19th century, she had made much progress. Western Europe, she was certain, would be back under her total control before long. She now began to cast her eyes towards the vast land of Russia.

The eastern half of the false “church” system established by Constantine had eventually broken away from Rome, and its headquarters became the city of Constantinople. The “Eastern Catholic” institution became known as the “Orthodox Church”. In reality, it was a close sister of the Roman Catholic institution, but it refused to recognize the authority of the pope. The two became bitter enemies. And ever since then, it has been the Papacy’s desire to destroy the Russian Orthodox institution, and to rule over the land of Russia. However, since the Orthodox institution was protected by the Czar, this could not be achieved without the elimination of the Czar.

Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels were financed through the (Jesuit-controlled) Illuminati.⁵⁹ The Illuminati, which included in its ranks some of the wealthiest men of the day (as it still does), began to finance the Communist forces which were seeking to overthrow the Czar of Russia towards the end of the 19th century. The Vatican was supporting Bolshevism, aiming to use it to destroy the Russian Orthodox institution.⁶⁰

The Czar and his family were murdered in 1918. The protector of the Orthodox institution was no more! It appeared as though the Vatican’s great religious rival was finally to be destroyed. However, the secret Vatican-Kremlin alliance ended in the 1920’s, and the Orthodox institution became, and remained, a Communist-controlled institution.⁶¹

Thus the Vatican’s plan, which had been to raise up the Communist movement to capture Russia for the Papacy, had backfired. The Orthodox “Church” still existed,

59 *Understanding the New Age*, by Roy Livesey, pgs.183,184. New Wine Press. 1986.

60 *The Vatican Billions*, pgs.124,125.

61 *Wages of Sin: the World Council of Churches Unmasked*, pgs.9-26. The Church League of America. 1979.

and Russia was still not under papal control. Moreover, the world was now faced with an awesome, evil political monster: Communism!

Meanwhile, from 1914 to 1918, the First World War had been fought. Why? The Bible says in Revelation 17:2 (referring to the Roman Catholic institution): "With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication". This verse provides the clue.

In 1870, the empire of France collapsed. The Jesuit Order grew in strength in France in the years that followed.⁶² The French government expelled the Jesuits in 1880. But they never really left.⁶³

In 1894, France allied itself with Czarist Russia – a move that outraged the Vatican!⁶⁴ In addition, the Orthodox institution was gaining ground in Bulgaria, Rumania, Greece, Turkey and Serbian Yugoslavia. These countries became the Vatican's targets. Two things had to be done: France had to be disciplined for allying itself with Orthodox Russia, and the Orthodox expansion had to be curtailed.⁶⁵

Germany and Austria-Hungary were supported by the Vatican. These countries were "committing fornication" with the Great Whore, and she knew she could use them to carry out her plans.

The Papacy wanted Roman Catholic Austria-Hungary to overthrow Serbia, where Orthodoxy was particularly strong. On 28 June 1914, Archduke Francois-Ferdinand was assassinated, giving Austria the perfect excuse to declare war on Serbia. The pope "advised" the emperor to go to war.⁶⁶ To the Vatican, the perfect opportunity had arisen to destroy the Orthodox institution, to punish France, *and*, simultaneously, to deal with Protestant England! For France had entered into an "Entente Cordiale" with England, and therefore, England would come to France's assistance. This would give Austria-Hungary and Germany the opportunity to destroy England.

For some 300 years, the agents of the Roman Catholic institution had been working to undermine English Protestantism. Now an opportunity to use *force* against England had presented itself. That nation, which had refused to acknowledge papal authority for three centuries, was about to be brought back under the iron heel of the "Vicar of Christ on earth". Or so the Vatican thought.

62 *The Secret History of the Jesuits*, pgs.88-91.

63 *The Secret History of the Jesuits*, pg.92.

64 *The Secret History of the Jesuits*, pg.108.

65 *The Secret History of the Jesuits*, pg.116.

66 *The Secret History of the Jesuits*, pgs.117,118.

The German Kaiser, a devout Roman Catholic, was fully supported in his expansionist policies by the Vatican. The war was fought; but Germany lost.

The Allies were *so aware* of the Vatican's part in the terrible war, that, when the Treaty of Versailles was signed in 1919, the Vatican was kept away from the conference table! And it was Roman Catholic Italy that in 1915 already, had obtained the Allies' promise that they would oppose any intervention of the Vatican in the peace arrangements.⁶⁷

So the Vatican's plans had failed. Russia had not been conquered for the pope, but instead, Rome's Communist "daughter" had rebelled; France was not beaten as the Vatican had hoped; and England was still not subject to her.

So, while her agents continued to secretly work to undermine Protestantism, she began to prepare a new military power for the purpose of using it to destroy all those who would not acknowledge her authority. This meant Communist Russia, the "Protestant" nations, and the Jews. Three devout Roman Catholics were supported by the Vatican: Mussolini, Hitler and Franco.

The Jesuits began to support Mussolini in Italy. In 1922, the Roman Catholic vote enabled him to win the elections.⁶⁸ Mussolini signed the Lateran Treaty in 1929 with the Vatican, and by this treaty, Roman Catholicism became the only recognised religion in Italy! True Christians were in terrible danger.

In Germany, the Jesuits were supporting Hitler. He, too, came to power through the Roman Catholic vote.⁶⁹ In 1933, Germany signed a concordat with the Vatican, just like Italy had done.

In Spain, the Vatican supported Franco, who, after he came to power, made Roman Catholicism the only religion permitted in Spain.⁷⁰ Satan now had the power he needed.

As always, Satan's main targets were the true Christians. If the Nazi and Fascist powers had been ultimately victorious, we can be certain that the devil would have used them, on a grand scale, to wage war against the true Church of Christ. The severe persecution of Protestants in Franco's Spain, including arrests and executions, provided sufficient evidence of what would have been in store for Protestants everywhere.⁷¹

67 *The Secret History of the Jesuits*, pg.122.

68 *The Secret History of the Jesuits*, pg.125.

69 *The Secret History of the Jesuits*, pg.129.

70 *The Vatican in World Politics*, by Avro Manhattan, pg.100. Horizon Press, Inc. 1949.

71 *The Vatican in World Politics*.

Certainly, large numbers of Protestants suffered persecution, were imprisoned and even died, at the hands of the Nazis and Fascists, with the approval of the Vatican.⁷² And while most who went by the name of Protestant would not have been true Christians, there were doubtless true Christians among them.

Wherever the Nazi armies spread, death and destruction followed. But Hitler, a devout Roman Catholic, was *never* condemned by the pope. Nor was he ever excommunicated by the Roman Catholic "Church".

Hitler declared that he learned much from the Jesuits.⁷³ The SS organisation, in fact, was constituted according to the principles of the Jesuit Order; and so close was the collaboration between the German Secret Service and the Jesuits, that Roman Catholic priests held top SS positions.⁷⁴

Here are just a few examples of Vatican and Jesuit support for the Nazis and their allies:

In Poland, the papal nuncio in Warsaw urged the government to give in to Hitler. Nor was the invasion of Poland condemned by the Vatican.⁷⁵

In Czechoslovakia, most of the political Slovakian chiefs were Roman Catholic *priests*. Hitler made Tiso, a Jesuit, head of state of Slovakia. This man sent multitudes of Slovakian Jews, and Protestants as well, to the death camps.⁷⁶

In Croatia, Roman Catholic priests (particularly Jesuits, but also Franciscans) commanded the "Ustashi" organisation. The Ustasish *massacred* Orthodox Serbians and Jews who refused to embrace the Roman Catholic religion. Well over three-quarters of a million people died.⁷⁷ At least 400 priests were members of the Ustashi organisation. And the Vatican helped various high-ranking Ustasish to escape when Germany lost the war.⁷⁸

72 *The Secret History of the Jesuits*, pgs.142,143,173; and *Behind the Dictators*, by L.H. Lehmann, pgs.51,55. Agora Publishing Co. Third Printing 1945.

73 *The Secret History of the Jesuits*, pg.164.

74 *The Secret History of the Jesuits*, pgs.164,168.

75 *The Secret History of the Jesuits*, pg.141.

76 *The Secret History of the Jesuits*, pgs.142,143.

77 *The Vatican's Holocaust*, by Avro Manhattan, pg.88. Ozark Books. Second Printing 1988; and *Convert...or Die!* by Edmond Paris, pgs.210,211. Chick Publications.

78 *The Secret History of the Jesuits*, pgs.144-148; *The Vatican's Holocaust*, pgs.135-152; *Convert...or Die!* pg.259ff.; *The Vatican Against Europe*, by Edmond Paris, pgs.277-286. The Wickliffe Press. Reprinted 1988; *Ratlines*, by Mark Aarons and John Loftus. William Heinemann Ltd. 1991.

Millions of Jews, as well as others, were massacred in the Nazi death camps. But the Vatican kept silent about the atrocities, because Pius XII, the pope at the time, fully supported Hitler, and Hitler was faithfully serving the interests of the Vatican. In fact, the papal support for Hitler was so well-known at the end of the war, that Jesuit and other Roman Catholic authors wrote books and articles distorting the truth, covering up the Vatican's part in supporting the Nazi dictator. This has gone on ever since, as part of the Vatican's attempt to "clean up" its image since the war.⁷⁹ Jesuit historians and authors are claiming Pius was *opposed* to Hitler, etc., etc.

When the war ended, millions had died in the death camps, plus millions of soldiers. These millions were added to the millions of deaths the Papacy was responsible for in previous centuries.

Again it must be stated, that while the Vatican's desire was to conquer Russia, destroy the Jews, and destroy Protestantism, it was primarily Satan's desire (using the forces of the Great Whore) to destroy true believers in Jesus Christ. If Hitler, Mussolini and Franco had won the war, the devil would have gone about to devour the true Church of Christ.

Roman Catholic cardinals in America taught publicly during the war years that Hitler and Mussolini were God's instruments to bring the West back to obedience to the pope. They blamed the Protestant Reformation for all the evils of the West, *including* the Second World War, saying that the Protestant revolt against the authority of Rome had destroyed authority and morality!⁸⁰

Always, the Christians were the targets. This has been so since the time of Christ. Nothing had changed. The Papacy had hoped to use Germany and Italy to accomplish its goals. But it was not to be. The Roman Catholic powers were defeated. And the Papacy realised it had to formulate a *new* policy to succeed in its relentless desire for world domination.

79 For evidence, see *Civiltà Cattolica* (Rome-based Jesuit bi-weekly), Aug.1, 1987; and also *The Southern Cross* (the southern African Roman Catholic weekly), issues dated April 5, 1987; June 14, 1987; Aug. 23, 1987; Sept. 20, 1987; February 28, 1988; August 19, 1990; April 2, 1995.

80 *Out of the Labyrinth*, by L.H. Lehmann, pgs.242,243. Chick Publications.

CHAPTER TEN

COMMUNISM, ECUMENISM, AND VATICAN II

At the end of the Second World War, the Vatican, still under Pope Pius XII, continued to fulminate against Communism. Russia had emerged from the war as one of the world's superpowers, and the Papacy, which during the war had supported Hitler against the Allies, now sided *with* the US against the common foe: the Soviet Union.

This papal move had a double motive: not only was it necessary, as far as the Vatican was concerned, to support the US against Communism, but in addition by doing so, and by making enough noise about Communism, the Vatican was able to draw the West's attention away from her involvement with Hitler during the war! This was essential if she was to be successful in winning over the non-Roman Catholic West, both politically and religiously. So the Vatican openly supported the US in the "Cold War" with the Soviet Union.

Meanwhile, the Roman Catholic institution worked on the *religious* front through the "Ecumenical Movement". This is the name given to the movement which aims to unite all so-called "Christian" groups. Seeing itself as the only true Church, the history of the Roman Catholic institution is one of continuous attempts to draw the whole world into its fold. The Reformation was a giant setback; but Roman Catholic agents infiltrated all levels of Protestantism and worked secretly but effectively to undermine the Protestant groups. By the close of the 19th century, tremendous progress had been made. The Ecumenical Movement of the 20th century was the beginning of the end for the various Protestant groups worldwide.

The first step was to get the Protestant bodies to unite among *themselves*. What was needed was a worldwide council of Protestant and other bodies. Various movements began in the 1930's to work towards such a world council.⁸¹ As far as the Vatican was concerned, it would be far easier to gain control of the Protestant groups if they were all members of one big organisation. If it controlled that organisation, it would control most of Protestantism!

Although the Roman Catholic institution was not to be a member of the new world council, it was decided as early as 1939 to keep the "Holy See" *informed* of the plans being made.⁸²

81 *Wages of Sin: the World Council of Churches Unmasked*, pg.29.

82 *Wages of Sin: the World Council of Churches Unmasked*, pg.33.

Rome very craftily did not join the world council. In a letter distributed the day before the opening of the conference, Rome's position was clearly stated: believing itself to be the one true Church founded by Christ, it could not participate in the congress; and "divisions between Christians" could only be ended by a *return* to Rome!⁸³

The Vatican had been very subtle. The aloof stance of the Roman Catholic institution meant that a true "world council of churches" could never exist (as they thought). And, since Rome would never alter its convictions, the only solution would be for the other religious bodies to "return" to the "Roman fold."

The work of the Jesuits over a period of 400 years had paid off. Rome knew that, eventually, this is precisely what would happen.

In 1948, the World Council of Churches was established. And from the very outset, everything possible was done to avoid offending Rome.⁸⁴ One even announced that the first meeting of the Council could be spoken of as a *reversal* of the trend which began at the Reformation! In other words, a "return" to Rome. It was the fruit of the labours of the Jesuits over 400 years.

The World Council of Churches was, and remains, a satanic organisation, promoting the formation of a "World Church" headed by the pope of Rome: an expanded Roman Catholicism, the union of ecclesiastical daughter harlots with the Mother of Harlots. The Papacy was reaping the results of 400 years of secret undercover work within the various religious bodies. But, as shall be seen presently, the creation of the WCC was just the beginning.

On the political front, as the years went by, it became increasingly clear to the Vatican that the Soviet Union was a stronger superpower than the USA, and that it was making such rapid advances that, inevitably, it would dominate the world. Therefore it was essential, if the Roman Catholic institution was to rule the world as it wanted to, that it throw its massive weight behind Communism.

Like the Great Whore that she is, the Roman Catholic institution is prepared to seduce *any* political power, in order to further her own objectives – even one which had formerly been her enemy! (Rev.17:1,2). Communism, originally created by her, had rebelled against her; now it was time to be reconciled.

In 1958 a new pope came to power. He was Pope John XXIII. Unlike his predecessor, John was pro-Communist. For many years under Pius' anti-Communist

83 *Wages of Sin: the World Council of Churches Unmasked*, pg.34.

84 *Wages of Sin: the World Council of Churches Unmasked*, pg.73.

rule, an increasing number of Roman Catholic “clergy” had been drawn towards Communism, and many had in fact become Communists.⁸⁵ Condemning its atheism, they nevertheless saw it as identical with “Christianity” (i.e. Roman Catholicism), sociologically and economically. They believed that Christ and Lenin were both “social revolutionaries” preaching the same Gospel!⁸⁶ And John XXIII, the new pope, was one of them. He, like all the pro-Communist “clergy”, believed in a form of “Communist Catholicism”: Communism without atheism; Communism married to Roman Catholicism.

As soon as he became pope, John broke the Vatican’s ties with the US, and began to have contact with the Kremlin in Moscow.⁸⁷ Moscow began to “commit fornication” with the Whore of Revelation (Rev.18:3). High-ranking Communists visited the Vatican.⁸⁸ Large numbers of Roman Catholics began to join the various Communist parties of Europe.

Then in 1959, Pope John declared that he wanted “an Ecumenical Council for the whole Church”; that he wanted to invite the “separated Communities” (that is, Protestant and Orthodox bodies) to seek for unity. With these words, he opened the door for the Second Vatican Council, or “Vatican II” – and thus for the Papacy’s most subtle assault yet on Protestantism!

The purpose of Vatican II, Rome declared, was to revitalise the “Church”. In addition, it was to promote the restoration of “unity”.

In reality, it was simply to achieve, by another, more subtle means, what the Papacy had always desired and worked for: the complete destruction of Protestantism! Instead of murdering the “heretics”, as it had done for centuries, it would seek to *absorb* them. John XXIII invited Protestants to “return” to the “one true Church”. Craftily, certain words were used. By inviting them to “return”, it was implied that they had once been part of her, but had wandered away (of course, since the *true* Church is made up ONLY of truly saved people, it has NEVER been part of Rome). By referring to Protestants as “separated brethren” (instead of “heretics” as in the past), it was not only implied that Roman Catholics and Protestants were all “Christians”, but that the Protestants had separated themselves from the only true Church. Rome’s position, in fact, had not changed; she had simply changed tactics.

85 *The Vatican Moscow Washington Alliance*, by Avro Manhattan, pgs.77-79. Chick Publications. 1986.

86 *The Vatican Moscow Washington Alliance*, pg.83.

87 *The Vatican Moscow Washington Alliance*, pgs.136-152.

88 *The Vatican Moscow Washington Alliance*, pg.156.

Like a true harlot, she began to seduce; and the Jesuits had done their work so well over the centuries, that the Protestant bodies fell right into the trap. Like chickens being gathered under the hen's wings, they began flocking to Rome.

The Second Vatican Council began under pro-Communist Pope John XXIII in 1962. The Eastern Orthodox institution, as well as various Protestant denominations, sent observers to the Vatican.

Yet the Council declared emphatically that Christ built His Church on Peter, that all Christ's sheep were entrusted to Peter, and that it was through the preaching of the apostles "and their successors" (the Roman Catholic bishops) that Christ wished His people to increase.⁸⁹ Thus, as far as Rome was concerned, she was *still* the only true Church, and all must belong to her.

As a result of the Second Vatican Council, the World Council of Churches formed a group for discussions with the Roman Catholic institution. Thus, Rome openly entered the Ecumenical Movement (although, because of her infiltration of the Protestant bodies, we can be certain that she had been deeply involved in the movement, clandestinely, since its very beginning). But she dogmatically asserted during the Council that she was "the one and only Church", and that the unity of the one and only Church dwelt in the Roman Catholic "Church" as something she could *never* lose.⁹⁰

Multitudes were led to believe that, at Vatican II, Rome changed many of her doctrines; that she reformed. This is not true. NOTHING changed. All her false, antisciptural and blasphemous doctrines remained intact.⁹¹ She was the same harlot, with the same hatred for true Bible Christianity. Only now, she was not declaring her hatred openly.

By uniting with Communism politically, and pretending to seek for religious unity with Protestantism (although this really meant the *annihilation* of Protestantism), she was no doubt confident that complete victory would be hers in the not-too-distant future.

89 *The Documents of Vatican II*, pg.344.

90 *The Documents of Vatican II*, pg.348.

91 *The Catholic Weekly*, January 23, 1991, as reproduced in *The Rock*, Vol.46, No.3, June-July, 1991. Protestant Publications, Epping. N.S.W., Australia. See also John XXIII's declaration of faith, made at the opening of Vatican II (reproduced in *Dorea Ministries Newsletter*, Issue 1, 1991. Dorea Ministries, Sherbrooke, Quebec).

CHAPTER ELEVEN

SINCE VATICAN II

Pope John XXIII died in 1963, while Vatican II was still in progress, and Pope Paul VI succeeded him. Paul was even more blatantly pro-Marxist than John had been.⁹² Under him, the integration of Roman Catholicism and Communism continued at an accelerated pace.

The Second Vatican Council came to an end under Paul VI in 1965. Without discarding a single blasphemous doctrine, it had set in motion events which, Rome hoped, would culminate in the complete destruction of Protestantism. The Council's "Decree on Ecumenism" fooled the Protestant world (sufficiently weakened after years of Jesuit undercover work) into believing that Rome had changed, reformed, repented – which it had not. Vatican II was an outward display of affection, but the old hatred remained.

In addition, its "Declaration on the Relationship of the Church to Non-Christian Religions" had opened the door to "dialogue" with Jews, Buddhists, Hindus, Muslims and others; the objective being to ultimately draw ALL religions into its evil embrace, resulting in a truly global religion ruled by the pope.

Thus the majority of the world's Protestants, who are Protestant in name only, are rapidly moving towards submission to Rome. Even members of other religions are moving ever closer to Rome.

But ... Bible-believing Christians worldwide, who know that the Roman Catholic institution is the Great Whore of Bible prophecy, and who *know* that the pope is the Man of Sin of Bible prophecy, will NEVER bow down to the pope! And they are the target. Satan is gathering his forces for his final onslaught against the blood-washed children of God.

Nothing changed with the close of Vatican II! The Roman Catholic institution continued its relentless war. Only now, no-one was noticing!

But first, an examination of the Vatican's *political* manoeuvres since Vatican II.

Under Pope Paul VI, the Vatican and Moscow drew even closer together. "Catholic-Communism" was nowhere more evident than in Latin America.

92 *The Vatican Moscow Washington Alliance*, pg.162.

There, the image of “Christ the Worker” caught on like wildfire: to identify Roman Catholicism with Marxism, the Roman Catholic “Jesus” was represented as a man of the working-class. But in Latin America, it was not long before “Jesus” was being represented as a revolutionary *Liberator*, gun in hand,⁹³ “liberating” the masses from political oppression. This concept was part of so-called “Liberation Theology”. In Latin America, Roman Catholic priests began to *join* the Marxist guerrillas in their struggles against various governments. The reason for this is not hard to see.

The Vatican had come to accept that Communism would ultimately dominate the world, politically. Therefore, the Vatican had to support Communism if the masses, who were falling for the Communist ideology, were to remain loyal to her. Only in this way could she rule over the coming Communist world which she foresaw.

So “liberation theologians” set to work, identifying “Christ” with the Marxist revolution. It was easy enough to distort various passages of Scripture to support “Catholic-Communism”: after all, wasn’t Jesus a working-class person? Didn’t He speak out against the rich? The multitudes of poor Latin American Roman Catholics, ignorant as they were of the Bible and steeped in centuries of Roman Catholicism, accepted what their priests told them without question.

Throughout Latin America, priests joined the forces of revolution, many even taking up arms alongside the guerrillas. They stirred the masses to revolt through sermons and publications. The Jesuits were (and still are) in the forefront of this revolution.⁹⁴

In Europe as well, Catholic-Communism spread rapidly. And also in Africa, “Liberation Theology” began to take a firm hold, as in Latin America.

In Africa in the 1970’s, the Soviet Union and Cuba began to support “liberation” movements, for the purpose of converting Africa into a Marxist continent. The Roman Catholic institution *supported* them from the background.⁹⁵

John Paul I succeeded Paul VI in 1978, but he was murdered in the Vatican after only 33 days as pope,⁹⁶ and was succeeded by John Paul II.

93 *The Vatican Moscow Washington Alliance*, pgs.267,268.

94 *The Vatican Moscow Washington Alliance*, pgs.260-299.

95 *The Vatican Moscow Washington Alliance*, pgs.300-315.

96 *Murder in the Vatican: American, Russian and Papal Plots*, by Avro Manhattan. Ozark Books. 1985. And *In God’s Name: an Investigation into the Murder of Pope John Paul I*, by David Yallop. Corgi Books. 1985.

John Paul II, while pro-Marxist, was *not* pro-Moscow. He believed in a version of Communism controlled from the Vatican, not Moscow.⁹⁷ The Vatican also wanted to win over the West, particularly the USA, with this pope. He was the ideal man for the time: on the one hand, he brought the US and the Vatican together again for the first time since Pius XII; on the other hand, he continued to promote Marxism – the Vatican's own brand.

He began to travel all over the world, more so than any pope before him. And wherever he went, he promoted Liberation Theology.

In 1986, John Paul II said that Liberation Theology, when purified of elements which could water it down, was a *necessary* part of the "Church's" political thought.⁹⁸ That which could "water it down" was the "uncritical" use of Marxist concepts, contrary to Roman Catholic teachings. As is quite obvious, this meant he justified "Catholic-Communism", but opposed Moscow-controlled, atheistic Communism.

In April 1986, the Vatican issued a major document on Liberation Theology. This document declared that Roman Catholics were called to work for the "liberation of millions" subjected to various forms of oppression. Moreover, the document did *not* completely reject the use of violence!⁹⁹ Clearly, Rome was on the side of Marxism, and intended to use it to rule the world.

It is now necessary to examine events which transpired in the *religious* arena after Vatican II.

One of Rome's primary objectives has been the conquest of England. To achieve this, it was necessary to destroy the Anglican denomination, the so-called "Church of England". The Jesuits did their work well: the "Romeward Movement" within Anglicanism gained momentum through the 19th century,¹⁰⁰ and into the 20th; and then came Vatican II, which gave it a massive boost.

In 1966, Pope Paul VI and the Anglican Archbishop of Canterbury decided to begin "dialogue", the objective being to establish "unity". The first Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission (ARCIC) was established in 1969 to study the issues involved. Its final report was published in 1982. That same year, ARCIC II was established. As a result of these commissions, tremendous progress was made towards "unity" (in reality, the *absorption* of the Anglican denomination into the

97 *Murder in the Vatican*, pg.281.

98 *The Southern Cross*, April 6, 1986.

99 *The Southern Cross*, April 20, 1986.

100 *The Secret History of the Oxford Movement*, by Walter Walsh. Chas. J. Thynne, London. 1898.

Roman Catholic institution).

In 1980, the Queen of England visited the pope, and approved of the Ecumenical Movement. And in 1982, John Paul II visited Britain! He called the Anglicans his “brothers and sisters”, saying he loved and *longed* for them, and he referred to the years since the Reformation as “sad years of division”!

His visit to Britain did wonders for the Ecumenical Movement. It was the first time a pope of Rome had ever visited that country; and the “Protestants” accepted it. Today the Anglican denomination is committed to “unity” with Rome. Roman Catholics and Anglicans are looking upon one another as “fellow Christians”, and many “Protestants” are regretting that the Reformation ever took place.

In September 1986, a statement by ARCIC II gave evidence that the infiltration of the Jesuits and other Roman Catholic agents into the “Church of England” was truly paying off. The statement said that a major barrier to unity, the Protestant (and biblical) doctrine of justification by faith alone, had been *removed*.¹⁰¹ The significance of this is clear. Justification by faith alone is at the *heart* of the Gospel! Romans 3:24,25 says, “Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood”; and Romans 5:1 says, “Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ”.

In November 1986, the General Synod of the “Church of England” endorsed ARCIC documents which envisaged the pope as “Universal Primate” in a union between Romanism and Anglicanism. Thus another step forward was taken.

Then in January 1987, a report of ARCIC II declared that the major doctrinal issue of justification by faith and the relevance of works, which had divided Anglicans and Roman Catholics since the Reformation, was simply the result of *misunderstanding* on both sides, and NOT a difference in belief!¹⁰²

This statement entirely overlooks the fact that the Bible asserts it is not by works that one is justified; that justification is by faith alone (Romans 3:28, etc.).

The Anglican denomination is clearly well on the way to “unity” with the Mother of harlots and abominations.

Lutherans, also, are seeking “unity” with Rome, and well on their way towards achieving it. In 1984 the head of the Vatican’s “Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity” told the general assembly of the Lutheran World Federation that he predicted

101 *The Southern Cross*, October 5, 1986.

102 *The Southern Cross*, February 22, 1987.

a general intensification of Vatican/LWF co-operation.¹⁰³ It was not hard for the cardinal to “predict” this: he knew that it was *inevitable*, thanks to the preparatory work done over centuries.

In 1985, Pope John Paul II told a Lutheran delegation that the Holy Spirit was bringing about reconciliation.¹⁰⁴

What about Presbyterianism? It, too, is on the road to Rome. As one example, the General Assembly of the “Church of Scotland” voted *overwhelmingly* in 1986 to repudiate “anti-Catholic” statements contained in the Westminster Confession, the 1647 statement of faith!¹⁰⁵ In the Confession, the pope of Rome is called the Antichrist, the Man of Sin and Son of Perdition. Thus, no longer does the “Church of Scotland” maintain that the pope is the Antichrist!

Methodists are also engaged in earnest “dialogue” with the Harlot. A Roman Catholic-Methodist commission which had been in operation since 1967, declared in 1986 that the Methodist denomination may, in the future, *accept* the primacy of the pope, with Roman Catholic and Methodist bishops linked in one episcopal college.¹⁰⁶

Pentecostal denominations were brought into the Ecumenical Movement by Vatican II and the Roman Catholic Charismatic Movement. THIS was the bridge between Rome and the Pentecostals. Rome had been very cunning. All over the world, Roman Catholic priests, nuns and others began to claim the ability to “speak in tongues”, to “prophesy”, to perform miracles, and to heal the sick¹⁰⁷ (this was not the first time; many Roman Catholics through the centuries claimed to possess such gifts). The so-called “Protestant” Pentecostals and Charismatics were very impressed! It was of little or no concern to them that the Roman Catholic Charismatics remained *within* the Roman Catholic institution,¹⁰⁸ attending mass, praying to Mary and the saints, going to confession, etc. – and all with more devotion and zeal than ever

103 *The Southern Cross*, August 26, 1984.

104 *The Southern Cross*, May 26, 1985.

105 *The Southern Cross*, June 15, 1986.

106 *The Southern Cross*, August 3, 1986.

107 See, for example, *Catholic Pentecostals Today*, by Kevin and Dorothy Ranaghan, pgs.7-65. Charismatic Renewal Services. 1983.

108 *Catholic Pentecostals Today*, pg.35.

before!¹⁰⁹ This was clearly NOT the work of the Holy Spirit, but of the spirit of the Antichrist. The Holy Spirit would show them the blasphemies of Rome from God's Word; only the spirit of the Antichrist would keep them enslaved to it!

But "Protestant" Pentecostals ignored the truth of God's Word and accepted Roman Catholic Charismatics as "brothers and sisters in Christ". Throughout the 1970's (and into the 1980's), many meetings took place worldwide between Roman Catholics and Pentecostals. Various Pentecostal leaders visited the Vatican. Pentecostal authors pushed for unity with Rome in their books. "Signs and wonders" were being employed to deceive (Matthew 24:24).¹¹⁰

In 1986, representatives of the "Vatican Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity", and representatives of a number of Pentecostal denominations from the USA, South Africa, Canada, Sweden, and elsewhere, met to discuss beliefs about the Holy Spirit and the Church. This was part of a new five-year series of meetings begun in 1985. After the meeting, the Pentecostals joined the Roman Catholics in praying the "stations of the cross"¹¹¹ Is this the work of God's Holy Spirit?

Various Baptist groups, too, are engaged in serious "dialogue" with Rome. For example, in 1987 Roman Catholics and Baptists met (in Rome) to continue "international conversation" on differences and relations between the two. This was the fourth such meeting, and sponsored by the "Vatican Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity" and the Baptist World Alliance.¹¹²

But the Mother Harlot is not content with drawing "Protestant" institutions into her evil embrace: she desires to gain control over *all* men. And with the establishment of the "Secretariat for Non-Christian Religions" by Paul VI, she began to seduce the adherents of the world's various religions.

This may at first seem impossible; but not when one considers the fact that ALL false religion began in Babylon. Consequently, all pagan religions have some very noticeable similarities. And Roman Catholicism is the greatest form of Baal worship of them all.

The Hindu religion is a target of the Vatican. Hinduism is a very ancient branch

109 See, for example, *ICCRO Newsletter*, Vol.XVIII, Number 2/Special Insert. March-April 1992. International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Office.

110 See *Charismatic Catholics and the Word of God* (tract) by Shaun Willcock. Bible Based Ministries.

111 *The Southern Cross*, July 13, 1986.

112 *The Southern Cross*, August 16, 1987.

of Baal worship, and is similar to Romanism in many respects: for example, bells, lights, incense sticks, etc., are used in worship (just as in Romanism); beads (very similar to the rosary) are used in prayer; prayers are made for the dead, and are offered before images; and much more. The pope has met Hindu political and religious leaders. In 1986, he visited India at the invitation of the Indian government, saying he wanted to promote “inter-religious dialogue”.¹¹³

The Buddhist religion is another target. Another ancient version of Baal worship, Buddhism is also very similar to Romanism in many respects: it has monks, nuns, monasteries, rosaries, bells, images, holy water, incense, idols, etc. The pope has met Buddhist political and religious leaders. In Thailand, for example, in 1984, the pope met the supreme patriarch of the Buddhists of Thailand. They embraced, and spoke privately for some time. Roman Catholic priests in Thailand have even been invited to celebrate mass in Buddhist temples!¹¹⁴

The Muslim religion is another target. As in Romanism, Muslims make pilgrimages to touch and kiss sacred objects. Their “saints” are put in ornate mosques and pilgrims pray at these tombs. In addition, Muslims honour Mary with deep devotion. The pope has met Muslim political and religious leaders, and has called for Roman Catholic-Muslim “dialogue”.

The Jewish religion is also a target. The Papacy has warred against the Jews for literally hundreds of years. It has sought to exterminate them by any means. But now, it is *condemning* anti-Semitism and calling Jews “brothers”. It is all part of the plan. It is significant that, during Vatican II, in its declaration on the Jews, while saying it “deplores” the persecution of Jews, the Council dropped from the text the words, “and condemns”.¹¹⁵ The Vatican did not condemn the persecution of Jews in this document; the truth is, she has been the main instigator and perpetrator of persecutions of Jews, as the pages of history reveal.

The pope has met with Jewish political and religious leaders. In fact, in 1986 John Paul II made history when he became the first pope to visit a Jewish synagogue in modern times. It was the main synagogue in Rome. He embraced the chief rabbi, and was applauded by the Jews in the synagogue.¹¹⁶ Yet, just over 40 years before, Jews were being *massacred* by the Nazis with the approval and support of Pius XII!¹¹⁷

113 *The Southern Cross*, February 16, 1986.

114 *The Southern Cross*, May 27, 1984.

115 *The Documents of Vatican II*, pg.666, footnote 27.

116 *The Southern Cross*, April 27, 1987.

117 See *The Secret History of the Jesuits; The Vatican Against Europe*; etc.

On October 27, 1986, members of different religions came together at Assisi, the birthplace of the Roman Catholic “saint”, Francis, for a day of prayer, called by the pope! The adherents of each religion prayed according to their own religious rites. The pope himself was present, as was the Anglican Archbishop of Canterbury, and Eastern Orthodox patriarchs.

Truly, the god of this world (2 Corinthians 4:4) is at work, bringing about, step by slow step, the subjugation of all religions to the Man of Sin, the pope of Rome. The Papacy has always been at the centre of Satan’s plans, both for a world religion and a world government. This can be seen, for example, in the “Temple of Understanding”, an organisation created to promote “oneness” among the peoples of the world. Popes John XXIII and Paul VI were behind its establishment. In 1984 it held a conference of representatives from major world religions, and they appealed for the creation of a “*spiritual* United Nations”. They urged world religions to pray for the goals of the United Nations, and to display the UN flag in places of worship. They also declared that a liaison between the UN and world religions was desperately needed.¹¹⁸

All this reveals the Great Whore’s objective: to take control of all religion and politics worldwide. The Papacy is both a religious and political power, as revealed by the Holy Spirit Himself in Rev.17:3. In this prophecy, the Whore sits on a scarlet Beast. The Whore signifies *religious* power, the Beast signifies *political* power. This institution is a truly global religio-political system; and it is doing all it can to increase its vast power over the nations of the world, a power unmatched by any other institution that has ever existed.

But the Church of Christ will never bow down to Antichrist. And today, as in the past, the religion of Antichrist seeks to destroy the Church of Christ.

The true Church has always been the greatest enemy of the Roman Catholic institution. Not only have true Christians never submitted to the Great Whore, but they have actively *opposed* her, by exposing her false doctrines and her wickedness in the light of the Word of God. And by the faithful proclamation of the Gospel, they have been instrumental in leading multitudes of Roman Catholics out of her, and to the Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. The Harlot’s hatred has known no bounds: she has tortured, she has murdered, she has tried every possible means to destroy true Christians. But God’s Word says of Christ’s Church, “the gates of hell shall not prevail against it” (Matthew 16:18). And throughout almost 2000 years of history, that promise has been proved true.

But Satan’s war against Christ’s Church is not yet over. It will not be over until

Christ returns. And Rome continues to do all it can to eliminate biblical Christianity from the face of the earth.

In 1985 it was announced that the Vatican was conducting a “survey” of what it called “fundamentalist religious sects” *worldwide*¹¹⁹ (a “survey” which would naturally include Bible-believing churches). The Vatican, declaring that many such “sects” were opposed to Roman Catholicism, claimed that it began the study “in the interests of ecumenism”. In the light of both past and contemporary history, this was an ominous indication that the Great Whore was seeking to eliminate, by one means or another, all who were opposed to her.

And in May 1986, John Paul II was reported to have issued a worldwide directive to all bishops and priests to *work against* “sects” and “cults”, particularly “fundamentalist evangelicals”.¹²⁰

In various parts of the world, Christians are experiencing the persecuting power of the Papacy in many different ways. And as Rome’s power over governments and nations increases, the persecution of Christians will intensify.

119 *The Southern Cross*, February 24, 1985.

120 *Battle Cry*, July/August 1986. Chick Publications.

CHAPTER TWELVE

THE DESTRUCTION OF THE GREAT WHORE

How will it all end?

It has been seen that the Roman Catholic institution is the Great Whore of Revelation: a counterfeit “church” system. She sits on “many waters”: the nations and peoples of the earth (Rev. 17:1,15). The governments of the earth have “committed fornication” with her (vs.2). She has made the world’s inhabitants drunk (vs.2). She is both a religious and a political power (vs.3). She rules from Rome (vss.3,9). Her colours are mentioned, as is her vast wealth (vs.4). Her doctrines are those of ancient Babylon, and she is the Mother of many evils (vs.5). She is responsible for the deaths of millions of Christians (vs.6).

From the period just after the flood until today, a period of thousands of years, Satan has used the Mystery Religion of Babylon to destroy the true children of God. The blood of untold multitudes of believers has been shed. But the Almighty God has not forgotten. Of the Great Harlot, the Word of God says, “For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath *remembered* her iniquities” (Rev.18:5). And her total destruction is a certainty.

According to Bible prophecy, the day is rapidly approaching when the Lord Jesus Christ will return to the earth. In the not-too-distant future, the world will witness God’s judgment on the Great Whore. Her complete destruction is described in Rev.18.

The Whore says in her heart, “I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow” (Rev.18:7). Rome truly believes it is all-powerful, and will never be destroyed. It calls itself “the bride of Christ”. But it is not; it is a harlot. And the very next verse says, “Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her.”

According to Rev.17:16,17, her destruction is brought about, under the sovereignty of God, by means of certain European nations which “burn her with fire”. Rev.18:9,10 says, “And the kings of the earth, who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning, standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! for in one hour is thy judgment come.” In addition, “the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more” (vs.11). The businessmen of the earth “were made rich by her” (vs.15). The Roman Catholic institution is involved in

every area of international finance and business.

Rev.18:24 says, “And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth.”

There will be *rejoicing* in heaven when Babylon, the Great Whore, is destroyed. The Bible says, “And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluiah; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God: for true and righteous are his judgments: for he hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand. And again they said, Alleluiah. And her smoke rose up for ever and ever” (Rev.19:1-3).

The complete destruction of the Great Whore occurs *just prior* to the glorious, triumphant return of the King of kings and Lord of lords, Jesus Christ, to the earth. “And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God” (Rev.19:11-13). This is Jesus Christ, the Son of God. He will return, as He said He would (John 14:3). He will gather His people to Himself (Matthew 24:31; 1 Thessalonians 4:16,17). And He will destroy His enemies once and for all (Rev.19:15-21).

“He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.” (Rev.22:20).

CHAPTER THIRTEEN

CONCLUSION

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came to earth to become the perfect sacrifice for sin. He lived a sinless life, and was finally crucified, taking upon Himself the sins of God's elect. God's Word declares in Romans 3:23, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." All men are sinners, and the wages of sin is death (Rom.6:23), eternity in the lake of fire.

No man, woman or child can do anything to save themselves. All their good works are utterly useless, for no-one could ever, by his own efforts, please God, or atone for his sins. Man is a sinner, separated from God. Yet the devil has deceived man into believing that his own human efforts will earn God's favour and forgiveness, and a place in heaven. Roman Catholicism is the same as any other false religion. It is a religion of works. And it is precisely because of this that no Roman Catholic is a true Christian.

But, "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). *Christ* paid the penalty for sin: the penalty of death. He became the great substitute (Isaiah 53:4-6). His blood alone can cleanse the sinner (1 John 1:7).

Eternal life through Jesus Christ is a *free gift* of God. It cannot be earned (Rom.6:23)! Those ordained to eternal life are *given* the gifts of repentance and faith (Acts 11:18; Eph.2:8,9), enabling them to forsake their sins, and receive Jesus Christ, and thus eternal life through Him. Are you crying out in your heart, "What must I do to be saved?" Hear the Word of the Lord: Repent, and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you shall be saved from your sins! Repent of your sins, confessing them to God and turning from them. Jesus said, "Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matthew 4:17). In Acts 3:19 we read, "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out". Receive Jesus Christ by faith, as your Lord and Saviour. "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God" (John 1:12,13). The Scripture says, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16:31).

Roman Catholicism cannot save. It is a false religious system which has deceived millions. To those Roman Catholics who repent and receive Christ by faith, His command is clear: "And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, *Come out of her*, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues" (Rev.18:4). Once converted to Christ, a man or woman who was, up until

that moment, a Roman Catholic, *cannot*, and in fact *will not*, remain within the Roman Catholic institution; for he or she is no longer a Roman Catholic, but a Christian.

It is not just Roman Catholics who are lost, however. ALL men, apart from true Christians, are “dead in sins” (Ephesians 2:1-6). And this includes even countless *Protestants* who have never trusted in Christ for their eternal salvation. They are on their way to the same hell. They must repent.

Jesus said, “*Come unto me*, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11:28). “Come out” of the Babylonian religious system, and “come unto” Christ.

In John 14:6, Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”

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