

Study for the Month of September 2013

## ***The Papacy Series-Part VIII***

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### **How the Papacy Was Formed**

**Inspiration refers to the papacy as “the antichrist,” “the son of perdition,” “the man of sin,” “the antichrist,” and its work as “the mystery of iniquity.” -**  
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#### **First, Late-breaking News on Holy Water:**

MailOnline updated 13 September 2013 by Emma Innes (and many other official news sources) reported 9-15-2013 news headlined as:

**“Not so pure after all: Most Holy Water is contaminated with fecal matter and could be harmful for health.”**

“86% of holy water contains fecal matter and in every millilitre of holy water there are up to 62 million bacteria. Holy springs contain nitrates from agriculture which makes them unsafe. They got their healing reputation at a time when water in cities was dangerously contaminated meaning people were frequently unwell. If they drank from a rural spring for a few days they would recover. Now that water in cities is much safer [?], this no longer applies.

“Many people believe that holy water has healing properties but new research suggests it may actually do more harm than good. Scientists have discovered that 86 percent of water samples from *holy sources* [?] contain fecal matter. Austrian researchers also found that church fonts contain high levels of bacteria that none of the holy springs they studied could be considered safe for drinking from. The researchers, from the Institute of Hygiene and Applied immunology at the Medical University of Vienna, analyzed the water in 21 holy springs in Austria, and in 18 fonts in Vienna, at various times during the year. They found that every milliliter of holy water there were up to 62 million bacteria. *They also found that the busier the church, the more bacteria it tended to have in its font.*

“The study also revealed that holy springs contain not only fecal contamination with E. Coli bacteria and enterococci, but also Campylobacter, which cause inflammatory diarrhea. Many of the springs were also contaminated with nitrates from agriculture making the water unsafe for drinking. ‘We need to warn people [the church authorities should have been doing this from the beginning!] against drinking from these sources,’ said Dr. Alexander Kirschner, a microbiologist from the Medical University of Vienna. He recommends that the responsible authorities and priests [the Pope himself, shouldn’t it be?] put up warning signs by the holy springs.

“Dr. Kirschner said that the springs got their healing reputation in the Middle Ages [more accurately, the Dark Ages when the Roman Catholic Church doctrines and institutions ruled the then civilized world through the civil powers] and that things have changed since then. [What specific RC doctrines have changed since then?]. He explained: ‘In those days, the quality of water

in towns and cities was generally so poor that people were constantly developing diarrhea or diseases as a result. 'If they then came across a protected spring in the forest that was not as polluted and drank from it for several days, their symptoms would disappear. 'So although in those days they were drinking healthier water, given the excellent quality of our drinking water today, the situation is now completely reversed.' Based on the study's findings, Dr. Kirschner recommends that salt could be added to holy water in fonts to reduce the chance of bacteria thriving, he also suggests that holy water in churches should be changed regularly." (end of quote)

**NOTE:** Webster's Unified Dictionary and Encyclopedia, 1960 ed., art. "Holy Water," defines it as "Water which has been blessed by priests in the Roman Catholic Church, and is used for various liturgical purposes. A quantity of holy water is usually placed in a vessel at the church door, into which worshippers dip their fingers on entry, subsequently making the sign of the Cross."

In Yahoo!Answers (UK & Ireland) on Resolved Question on the questions: **"What is the origin of holy water? What is its history? Are there any Biblical references to it? How does it become holy? How is it used? What documented results have been attained through its use? Do other religions besides Christianity [really, the Roman Catholic Church, have/use holy water or anything similar?"** The Best Answer chosen by the Asker is as follows:

"The Bible is silent about holy water the way it is used today. For baptisms, Matthew 3: 11 speaks of 'baptizing with water for repentance,' with nothing in the context suggesting that the water itself is holy. So if it didn't come from the teachings of Jesus, where did it come from? 'Holy water' as we know it today, was introduced into the Roman Catholic Church. Gregory the Great (540-604) was the first to prescribe the use of holy water (and Christian relics) to purify pagan temples for Christian use. He probably got the idea from Pagan customs and religions because the Catholic Mass that emerged in the sixth century was fundamentally pagan. The Roman church incorporated the vestments of the papal priests, the use of incense and holy water in purification rites, the burning of candles in worship, the architecture of the Roman basilica for their church buildings, the law of Rome as the basis of 'canon law,' the title Pontifex Maximus for the head bishop, and pagan rituals and symbols used in the Catholic Mass.

"It is impossible to conceive of a greater contrast than that which is presented between the plain and simple rites of primitive apostolic Christian worship in the first century [the Ephesus church of the seven churches of Revelation 2, 3], and that of the Catholic Church from the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Century and onwards with its pompous and imposing spectacles performed in stately cathedrals, adorned with altars, pictures [paintings], images, and burning wax-lights, with all the array of holy water, smoking incense, tinkling bells, and priests and boys arrayed in gaudy-colored vestments.

"Cardinal Newman in his 1878 Essay on the Development of the Christian Doctrine wrote: "The use of temples, and the dedicated to particular saints, and ornamented on occasions with branches of trees; incense, lamps, and candles; votive offerings on recovery from illness; holy water; asylums; holy days and seasons, use of calendars, processions, blessings on the fields, sacerdotal vestments, the tonsure, *the ring in the marriage*, turning to the East, images at a later date, perhaps the ecclesiastical chant, and the *Kyrie Eleison*\*, are all of pagan origin, and sanctified by their adoption to the church." (end of quote)

\*The Kyrie Eleison, according to Oxford Grove Music Encyclopedia is: "The first acclamation in the Ordinary of the Latin Mass, sung directly at the introit. The basic text, which is Greek, consists of . . . The phrase 'kyrie eleison' was used in Eastern and Western litanies from at least the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> centuries, and St. Gregory the Great (Pope 590-604) is credited with establishing its use together with 'Christe eleison' in Roman Mass. By the 10<sup>th</sup> century the ninefold shape was established. In Renaissance and later polyphonic settings of the Masses Kyrie eleison may be in three movements. The Lutheran Mass consists of the Kyrie and Gloria only. The term 'Kyriale' is

used for a collection or a book of chants not only for the Kyrie of the Mass but for the entire Ordinary.” (end quote).

In the *Great Controversy*, 1911 ed., p. 49, 50, Ellen G. White wrote how the earliest beginning of the formation of the papacy began in Paul’s time:

“The apostle Paul, in his second letter to the Thessalonians, *foretold the great apostasy which would result in the formation of the papal power*. He declared that the day of Christ should not come, ‘except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.’ And furthermore, the apostle warns his brethren that, ‘the mystery of iniquity doth already work.’ 2 Thessalonians 2: 3, 4, 7. Even at that early date (c. A.D. 170?) he saw, creeping into the church, errors that would prepare the way for the development of the papacy.”

### The Falling Away Through Compromise Results in the Great Apostasy

“Little by little, at first in stealth and silence, and then more openly as it increased in strength and gained control of the minds of men, ‘the mystery of iniquity’ carried forward its *deceptive and blasphemous work*. Almost imperceptibly the customs of heathenism found their way into the Christian church. *The spirit of compromise and conformity was restrained for a time by the fierce persecution which the church endured under paganism* [pagan Rome]. But as persecution ceased, and Christianity entered the courts and palaces of the kings [and emperors], she [the Christian church] laid aside the humble simplicity of Christ and His apostles for the pomp and pride of pagan priests and rulers; and in place of the requirements of God, she substituted human theories and traditions.

“The nominal conversion of Constantine, in the early part of the fourth century, caused great rejoicing; and the world, cloaked with the form of righteousness, walked into the church. Now the work of corruption rapidly progressed. *Paganism, while appearing to be vanquished, became the conqueror*. Her spirit controlled the church. Her doctrines, ceremonies, and superstitions were incorporated into the faith and worship of the professed followers of Christ.

### The Evil of Compromise

Judah Ginsberg/Fairfax County Democratic Examiner in the website examiner.com wrote: “*Politics is often described as the art of compromise*. Compromise among competing parties, visions, and ideologies has been the engine by which American politics has resolved major issues throughout our history. Until now, that is. The modern Republican Party has been taken over by ideologues who believe that compromise [is] tantamount to betrayal of their core principles. Tea Party activists, social conservatives, and evangelicals in politics, frequently refuse to budge on issues they deem important. The result is gridlock.” (end of quote)

**“This compromise *between paganism and Christianity* resulted in the development of the ‘man of sin’ foretold in the prophecy as opposing and exalting himself above God. That gigantic system of false religion is a**

**masterpiece of Satan's power---a monument of his efforts to sit himself upon the throne to rule the earth according to his will." GC p. 50.**

"Satan once endeavored to form a *compromise* with Christ. He came to the Son of man in the wilderness of temptation, and showing Him all the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them, offered to give all into His hands if He would but acknowledge the supremacy of the prince of darkness. Christ rebuked the presumptuous tempter and forced him to depart. *But Satan meets with greater success in presenting the same temptations to man.* To secure worldly gains or honors, the church was led to seek the favor and support the great men of the earth; and having thus rejected Christ, she was induced to yield allegiance to the *representative of Satan—the bishop of Rome.*"

**NOTE:** Diametrically opposed to its claims as being the "vicar or vice-gerent of Christ," even "God on earth," as the title of the pope--"Vicarius Filii Dei" means---the bishop of Rome or the pope, is, in fact, according to the Spirit of Prophecy, actually the human "representative of Satan"! And if the seat of authority the "Holy See" is in Vatican of Rome, then where do you think Satan's headquarters on earth is located?

"It is one of the leading doctrines of Romanism that the pope is the *visible head* of the universal [*catholic*] church of Christ, invested with supreme authority over bishops and pastors in all parts of the world. More than this, the pope has been given the very titles of Deity. [Blasphemy indeed!]. He has been styled 'Lord God the Pope' (see Appendix), and has been declared *infallible*. He demands the homage of all men. The same claim urged by Satan in the wilderness of temptation is still urged by him *through the Church of Rome*, and vast numbers are ready to yield him homage." - *Ibid*, pp. 50, 51.

**NOTE:** God Creator in Christ alone is omniscient, omnipresent, omnipotent, immortal, and *infallible*. The Papal claim to infallibility is blasphemous; it blatantly contradicts and brazenly opposes the Word of God that clearly states: "For *all have sinned* and come short of the glory of God." Rom. 3: 23. "For *all we like sheep* have gone astray." Isa. 53: 6. Popes are not born as such; they are allegedly *elected* by a conclave of sinful, fallen, mortal men who claim to be holy and blameless. But the historical fact is during a period of 40 years, euphemistically called "the Great Western Schism," there were *three popes* who were all claiming to be the legitimate pope and were waging war at each other! What a shame! They themselves contradict their very own claims, like their other dogmas and man-made doctrines of Christianized pagan practices and superstitions, that the papacy is "one *unbroken* apostolic line from St. Peter"! Jesus stated it very plainly: 'A kingdom divided against itself cannot stand.'

Since the beginning, the head of the true church of God on earth has never been any *mortal* although He appointed and called patriarchs, prophets, judges, and kings to provide earthly rulership *under His rule*, over His people and keep alive the flame of truth regarding the origin of man, the nature of sin, and the great controversy, the plan of redemption in the everlasting gospel, and point them by precept and example to Jesus Christ as the only Creator, Savior, Redeemer, High Priest/Mediator/Advocate, Judge, and King of kings. The earthly priesthood was ordained by God to be both ceremonial and typical intercessors of Christ's office and work as priest to take place after His death, resurrection, and ascension to the heavenly sanctuary. Had not ancient Israel insolently demanded a mortal king to rule over them like the heathen nations surrounding them, they would have remained under the rule of a true theocratic government and would have fulfilled God's plan to be the keepers of the sacred oracles, the law of God, and the expositors of the plan of redemption till Christ should come in glory. But they chose fallible human leadership over the divine, and God granted them their demands---they got Saul, the first king of Israel. The rest is sad history. Saul died by committing suicide as he fled the pursuing Philistines who had slaughtered the armies of Israel. David, the shepherd boy was chosen to

replace him. The rest is Old Testament history of the reign and fall of the kings of the ten northern tribes and Judah.

“But those who fear and reverence of God meet this heaven-daring assumption as Christ met the solicitations of the wily foe: ‘Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve.’ Luke 4: 8. God has *never* given a hint in His word that He has appointed *any man* to be the head of the church. The doctrine of papal supremacy is directly opposed to the teachings of the Scriptures. The pope can have no power over Christ’s church except by *usurpation*.

“Romanists have persisted in bringing against Protestants *the charge of heresy and willful separation* from the true church. But these accusations apply rather to themselves. They are the ones who laid down the banner of Christ and departed from ‘the faith which was once delivered to the saints.’ Jude 3.” – *Great Controversy*, p. 51.

In the book “Mark of the Beast” by Vance Ferrell, Harvestime Books, Altamont, TN 37301 U.S.A., Research Institute for Better Reading, Inc., chapter One, Tearing Down Foundations, ***Daniel Seven*** pp. 6-10:

**“The Seventh Chapter of Daniel especially goes into detail on the prediction of the antichrist power that for long ages was to seek to crush God’s people and do away with His Moral Law.** Daniel 7 gives a careful description of the rise of this power. Daniel calls it the ‘Little Horn.’ After seeing in vision a series of four symbolic animals arise out of the sea; an angel explained: ‘*The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse [different] from all [previous] kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it into pieces.*’ Daniel 7: 23.

“This fourth beast is further described as having ten horns arising out of its head, and we are told what they represent: ‘*The ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise.*’ Daniel 7: 24. Then in a dream, Daniel as he slept, was to watch as a little horn grew in the midst of the ten horns. As it arose, it uprooted three of those horns. The angel explained this to Daniel: ‘*Another [king] shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings.*’ Daniel 7: 24. And then, continuing, he gives us **the most important verse** that explains the three basic things **the man of sin, or the little horn power, would do, and how long he would have this power:** ‘*And he shall [1] speak great words against the Most High, and [2] shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and [3] think to change times and laws. And they shall be given unto his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.* Daniel 7: 25.

“Elsewhere in this chapter we are told more about this little horn power: ‘*And behold in this [little] horn were eyes like the eyes of a man, and mouth speaking great things.*’ Daniel 7: 8. ‘*That [little] horn . . . had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows.*’ Daniel 7: 20. ‘I beheld, and the same [little] horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them.’ Daniel 7:21. ‘*I beheld, and the same [little] horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them.*’ Daniel 7:21.

“This vision of Daniel 7 is described in verses 2-14, and mentions the little horn power in only one verse (7: 8). But the *work* of this little horn in trying to destroy both God’s Law and His people was so terrible that, in the explanation that followed (verses 17-28),

most of it is about this fourth beast and its little horn. Clearly, the little horn was to be a deadly power reigning among the kings of the earth that would assume the right to control the faith and consciences of men.

**“Just what is this fourth beast---with its ten horns---out of which this little horn power was to arise? Students of history recognize that the fourth world kingdom after Daniel’s time was the kingdom of Rome. The Roman Empire controlled civilization in the days of Jesus Christ, and indeed was a power to “devour the whole earth . . . tread it down, and break it into pieces.” Daniel 7: 23 (compare verse 7).**

“But the prophecy foretold that this fourth beast, pagan Rome, was to be divided. Ten horns were to grow out of its head, representing ten kings, or kingdoms, that would arise out of the Roman Empire. Students of history will again recognize that Rome was indeed divided—and it was divided into ten divisions: the Franks, Ostrogoths, Visigoths, Heruli, Burgundians, Suevi, Saxons, Lombards, Alamanni, and Vandals.

**“The prophecy said that still another horn was to rise after Rome had been divided into ten parts. Let us now consider the Little Horn:**

- (1) This little horn is to be a kingdom as the other horns are kingdoms.** *“The ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise. And another shall arise after them, and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings [kingdoms].” Daniel 7: 24.*
- (2) This little horn is to come from the same source that the other ten horns, or kingdoms, came from.** *“I considered the horns, and behold, there came up among them another little horn.” Daniel 7: 8.* Therefore, it was to come out of Rome.
- (3) We can get the approximate date when this little horn was to arise.** It would gain its *regal* power *after* the other horns had arisen. *“And another shall rise after them.” Daniel 7: 24.* This could not take place until the last of the ten divisions of Rome was formed.
- (4) It was to uproot three horns, or three of Rome’s divisions.** Seven of these divisions have existed down to our time. Anglo-Saxon—modern England. Franks—France. Lombards—Italy. Alamanni—modern Germany. Burgundians—modern Switzerland. Suevi—modern Portugal. Visigoths—modern Spain. But the *Heruli*, *Vandals*, and *Ostrogoths* have no modern counterparts. They were uprooted by the little horn power at the time it was arising.
- (5) “He shall be diverse from the first.” Daniel 7: 24.** Although a kingdom, it would be a radically different kind of kingdom. The others were [strictly] civil—this one would be religious.
- (6) This religion, exercising the power and force of a worldly [civil] kingdom, was to have a leader as its head,** for it speaks through the *‘mouth of a man.’ And behold in this [little] horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.” Daniel 7: 8.* A man was to be the head of this power, a man with human eyes and a human mouth.
- (7) This mouth would speak great things.** Revelation 13 is a parallel prophecy of this apostate power and its blasphemies. And elsewhere we are told: *“He opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, and His tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven.” (Revelation 13: 6), which agrees with the statement of Daniel 7: 25: “He shall speak great words against the most high.”*

This man is to be guilty of blasphemy. He is to speak great words against the God of heaven.

- (8) This power will try to destroy God's people for not submitting to its teachings.** *"I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them."* It was predicted that he would *'wear out the saints of the most high.'* Daniel 7: 21, 25.
- (9) We are told the length of time that this power would have supremacy.** *'And they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.'* Daniel 7: 25. In Revelation 13, speaking of the same power, we are told, *'And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue [margin: make war] forty and two months.'* Revelation 13: 5. (Compare Revelation 11: 2). And, again, in Revelation 12: 6, the length of time (a time span parallel to 11:3) is spoken of as *'a thousand two hundred and threescore days.'* Read each of the above passages carefully. A *'day'* in prophecy stands for a year (Numbers 14: 34; Ezekiel 4:6). A *'time'* in prophecy is the same as a year (Daniel 11: 13, margin, and Revised Version). Three and a half times would be three and half years. This is the same as 42 months. And both are equal to 1260 days or years. (A prophetic year was composed of 360 days or 12 months of 30 days each).

**"This is the symbolic time of Bible prophecy. And so as it was predicted, for over a thousand years the Little Horn power ruled man's lives.** The decree of the emperor, Justinian, issued in A.D. 533, recognized the pope as 'the head of all the holy churches. (Code of Justinian, book 1, title 1, section 4). The overwhelming defeat of the Ostrogoths in the siege of Rome, five years later (A.D. 538), was a defeat to the third of the three horns that were uprooted [by the Little Horn]. With the year 538, then, begins the 1260 years of this prophecy of papal control, which would extend to the year 1798. In that year the Reign of Terror [1793-1797] and the Roman Catholic religion was set aside in France, and the French Army, under Berthier, entered Rome and took the pope prisoner. He died in exile in Valence, France, the following year. The long prophetic time span of papal rule was ended. The *'deadly wound'* of Revelation 13: 3 was inflicted—a wound which prophecy says is to be healed.

**"Only papal Rome answers to the description of Daniel Seven. This chapter unveils before us the Great Babylon of Revelation 12; 17, and reveals the work it was to do in tearing out part of God's holy Law and in hunting to the death His people.** *'And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws. And they shall be given unto his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time'* Daniel 7: 25.

"Consider the following:

- (1) The papal power occupies a unique place in the world—for it not only is a religion but a kingdom as well.** At the present time representatives and ambassadors from more than forty nations of the world come to counsel with its head of state, the pope. Among these are representatives from the United States.
- (2) The papacy came out of the Roman Empire, just as the little horn came out of the fourth beast** (Dan. 7: 7, 8, 19-20, 23-25). It still has its headquarters at the same capital of the ancient Roman Empire—Rome by the banks of the Tiber, in what is today called Italy.

“Long ages ago, when Rome through the neglect of the Western emperors was left to the mercy of the barbarous hordes, the Romans turned to one figure for aid and protection, and asked him to rule them; and thus . . . commenced the temporal sovereignty of the popes. And meekly stepping to the throne of Caesar [Roman emperors], the vicar of Christ took up the scepter to which the emperors and kings of Europe were to bow in reverence through so many ages.’ –*American Catholic Quarterly Review*, April 1911.

“Out of ruins of political Rome, arose the great moral Empire in the ‘giant form’ of the Roman Church.’ – A.C. Flick, *The Rise of The Medieval Church*, 1909, p. 150.

“Under the Roman Empire the popes had no temporal powers. But when the Roman Empire had disintegrated, and its place had been taken by a number of rude, barbarous kingdoms, the Roman Catholic church not only became independent of the states in religious affairs, but dominate secular affairs as well. At times, under such rulers Charlemagne (768-814), Otto the Great (936-973), and Henry III (1039-1056), the civil power controlled the church to some extent; but in general, under the weak political system of *feudalism*, the well-organized, unified, and centralized church, with the pope as its head, was not only independent in ecclesiastical affairs but also controlled civil affairs.’ – Carl Conrad Eckhardt, *The Papacy and World-Affairs*, The University of Chicago Press, 1937, p. 1.

**(3) “It was given its religious power over the nations at exactly the time predicted.** The last of the ten divisions was formed in A.D. 476, and three of them, the Heruli, in 493, the Vandals, in 534, and the Ostrogoths in 538, were destroyed at the instigation of the papacy because they held divergent religious views. The last of these was wiped out just five years after the emperor, Justinian, by decree proclaimed the pope to be the *visible head* over all churches everywhere.

“The recognition of the Roman See as the highest ecclesiastical authority remained the cornerstone of his [Justinian’s] policy in relation to the west.’ – G. Kruger, ‘Justinian I,’ *Emperor of the East*,’ in the *The New Schaff-Herzog Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge*, Vol. 6, p. 286.

“Down to the sixth century all popes are declared saints in the martyrologies. Vigilius (537-555) is the first of a series of popes which no longer bear this title, which is henceforth sparing conferred. From this time on the popes, more and more involved in worldly affairs, no longer belong solely to the Church,--they are men of the state, and then rulers of the state.’ – Charles Bémont and G. Monod, *Medieval Europe from 395 to 1270*, pp. 120-121 [*It is widely recognized that Vigilius’ reign began in 538, the year that so much power was given to the papacy by Justinian. His predecessor, Pope Silverius, did not die till June, 538.*].

“The Constitution of Justinian (chapters 1 and 2 in his Civil Law) decreed that the pope of Rome was henceforth to be legally recognized as the first pontiff of all world churches.

**(4) The 1260 year rule of the papacy continued exactly in accordance with time prophecy.**

From A.D. 528, when the sword of Belisarius elevated Pope Vigilius as universal pontiff, to the time that the sword of Berthier [Napoleon's general of the French Republican army] thrust Pope Pius VI from office, in 1798, was exactly 1260 years. "When in 197, Pope Pius VI fell grievously ill, Napoleon gave orders that in the event of his death no successor should be elected to his office, and the Papacy should be discontinued. But the Pope recovered. The peace was soon broken: Berthier entered Rome on the tenth of February, 1798, and proclaimed [Rome to be] a republic. The aged pontiff refused to violate his oath by recognizing it, and was hurried from prison to prison in France. Broken with fatigue and sorrows, he died on the seventeenth of August, 1799, in the French fortress of Valence, aged 82 years. No wonder half of Europe thought Napoleon's veto would be obeyed, and that with the Pope, the Papacy was dead.' – *Joseph Rickaby, The Modern Papacy, p. 1.*

**(5) The papacy is a religious power, and the man at its head that is both the center and the key to the whole organization [and system]—is the pope.** Without him there would be no papacy. It is a religion of a 'man.'

**(6) "And upon his heads the name of blasphemy." Revelation 13: 1.** *He will speak 'great things' (Daniel 7: 8), 'very great things' (Daniel 7: 20), 'great words against the most high (Daniel 7: 25), and 'great things and words of blasphemies' (Rev. 13: 5). 'And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name.' Revelation 13: 6. 'Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped, so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.' 2 Thessalonians 2: 4.*

"All the names which in the Scriptures are applied to Christ, by virtue of which it is established that he is over the church, all the same names are applied to the Pope.' – *Robert Bellarmine, On the Authority of the Councils, chapter 17, 1628 ed., vol. 1, p. 266.*

"We hold upon this earth the place of God Almighty.' – *Pope Leo XIII, Encyclical Letter of June 20, 1894.*

"For not man, but God separates those whom the Roman Pontiff (who exercises the functions, not of a mere man, but of the true God), having weighed the necessity or benefit of the churches, dissolves, not by human but rather by divine authority.' – *The Decretals of Gregory IX, book 1, title 7, chap. 3, in Corpus Juris Canonici, 1555 ed., vol. 2, col. 203.*

"The pope is supreme judge of the law of the land . . . He is the *vicegerent of Christ*, and is not only a priest forever, but also King of kings and Lord of lords." – *La Civiltà Cattolica, March 18, 1871.*

"Christ entrusted His office to the chief pontiff. . . . but all power in heaven and in earth have been given to Christ; . . . therefore the chief pontiff, who is *His vicar*, will have this power.' – *Corpus Juris Canonici, 1555 ed., vol. 3, Extravagantes Communes, book 1, chap. 1, col. 29.*

"Hence the pope is crowned with a *triple crown*, as king of heaven and of earth and of the lower regions [infernorum-the fiery place].' – *Lucius Ferraris, Prompta Bibliotheca, 'Papa,' (the pope), art. 2, 1772-1777 edition, vol. 6, p. 29.*

“All the faithful must believe that the Holy Apostolic See and the Roman Pontiff [the Pope] possesses the primacy over the whole world, and the Roman Pontiff is the successor of Blessed Peter, Prince of the Apostles, and is the true vicar of Christ, and head of the whole church, and father and teacher of all Christians; and that full power was given to him in blessed Peter to rule, feed, and govern the universal Church by Jesus Christ our Lord.’ – *First Dogmatic Constitution on the Church of Christ, ‘Eternal Pastor,’ published in the fourth session of the Vatican Council, 1870, chap. 3, in Philip Schaff, Creeds of Christendom, vol. 2, p. 262.*

**(6) He ‘shall wear out the saints of the most High.’ (Daniel 7: 25).** He shall tread down the host, or the people of God (Daniel 8: 13—a parallel prophecy of Daniel 7). ‘And . . . the dragon [Satan, through the apostate church] . . . persecuted the woman [the true church] which brought forth the man-child [Christ]. And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time [1260 years], from the face of the serpent. And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood.’ Revelation 12: 13-15. ‘And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them, and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.’ Revelation 13: 7.

“That the church of Rome has shed more innocent blood than any other institution that has ever existed among mankind, will be questioned by no Protestant who has a competent knowledge of history . . . It is impossible to form a complete conception of the multitude of her victims, and it is quite certain that no powers of imagination can adequately realize their sufferings.’ – *W.E.H. Lecky, History of the Rise and Influence of the Spirit of Rationalism in Europe, vol.2, p. 32, 1910 edition.*

#### Ignorance of the Scriptures adopted by the Roman Church

“Satan well knew that the Holy Scriptures would enable men to discern his deceptions and withstand his power. It was by the Word that even the Savior of the world had resisted his attacks. At every assault, Christ presented the shield of eternal truth, saying, ‘It is written.’ To every suggestion of the adversary, He opposed [the enemy with] the wisdom and power of the word. In order for Satan to maintain his sway over men, and establish the power of the papal usurper, he must keep them in *ignorance of the Scriptures*. The Bible would exalt God and place finite men in their true position; therefore *its sacred truths must be concealed and suppressed. This logic was adopted by the Roman Church*. For hundreds of years the circulation of the Bible was prohibited.\* The people were forbidden to read it to have it in their houses, and unprincipled priests and prelates interpreted its teachings to sustain their pretensions. *Thus the Pope came to be almost universally acknowledged as the viceroy of God on earth, endowed with the authority over church and state.*” – Great Controversy, p. 51.

To be Continued next Month

