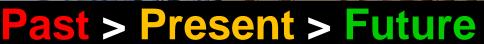
Church and State – Part 7 Attack on the Wall







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Enter The Ark of Hope

The Great Controversy between God and Satan is primarily over

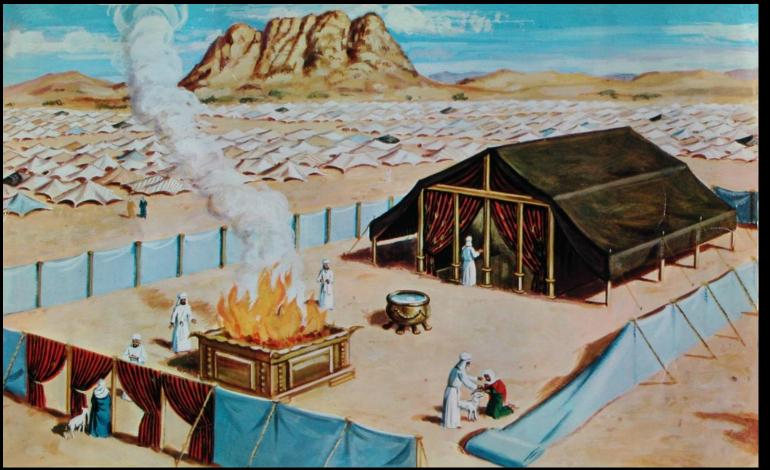
"WORSHIP"

Who will you Choose?



Get into the Ark Sanctuary





And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.

Exodus 25:8

Psalms 77:13



Health Snippet - Eggplant

Health Benefits of Eggplant (Seek Medical Advise)

Eggplants, also known as aubergines considered a vegetable, they're technically a fruit, as they grow from a flowering plant and contain seeds. While deep purple skin are most common, they can be red, green or even black.

7 health benefits of eggplants:

- 1. Rich in Nutrients: One cup (82 grams) contains Calories:
- 20, Carbs: 5g, Fiber: 3g, Protein: 1g, Manganese: 10%,

Folate: 5%, Potassium: 5%, Vitamin K: 4%, Vitamin C: 3%

- 2. High in Antioxidants: prevent many chronic diseases.
- 3. May Reduce the Risk of Heart Disease.
- 4. May Promote Blood Sugar Control.
- 5. Could Help With Weight Loss.
- 6. May Have Cancer-Fighting Benefits.
- 7. Very Easy to Add to Your Diet.

The Bottom Line

Eggplant is a high-fiber, low-calorie food that is rich in nutrients and comes with many potential health benefits. Eggplants are a simple and delicious addition to any healthy diet. They're also incredibly versatile and fit well into many dishes.

NEALTH BENEFITS OF PLANT

AID IN DIGESTION

It bulks up your bowel movements so they pass more easily through the digestive system.

PREVENT CANCER

Protect from harmful infections and diseases, including cancer and heart diseases.

IMPROVE BONE HEALTH

Very good for people at higher risk of bone degradation and osteoporosis.

PREVENT BIRTH DEFECT

Delicious and useful snack or dietary addition for pregnant women.

MANAGE DIABETES

Regulator of glucose and insulin activity within the body.

WEIGHT LOSS

Very healthy food for people trying to lose weight or battle obesity problems.

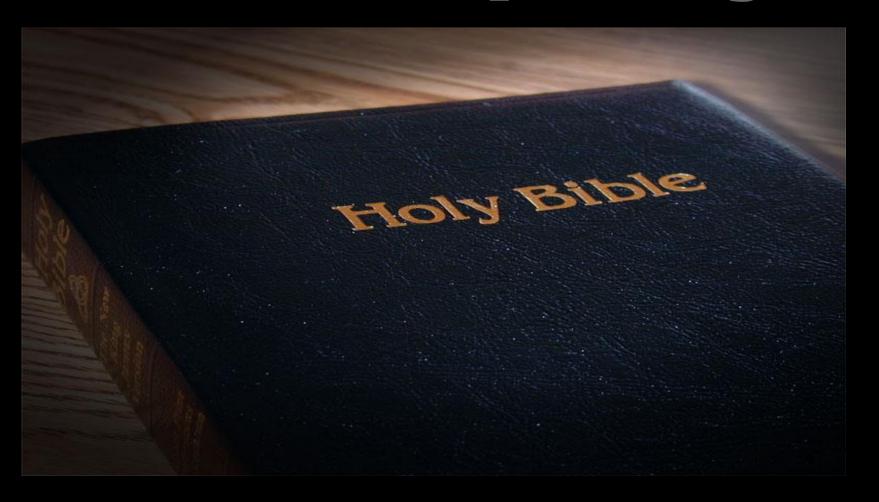


DID YOU KNOW THAT?

Eggplants aren't really vegetables, they're berries. Which isn't that strange, considering other fruits are commonly mistaken for vegetables like tomatoes.



Can We Trust Bible Prophecy?





Yes we Can!

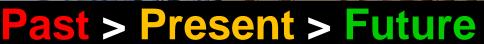
HE THAT IS OF GOD
HEARETH GOD'S WORDS:
YE THEREFORE HEAR
THEM NOT, BECAUSE YE
ARE NOT OF GOD.

JOHN 8:47 KJV



Church and State – Part 7 Attack on the Wall





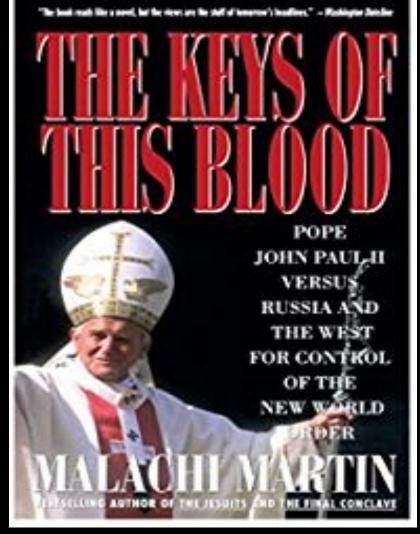


Introduction

The Founding Fathers built a tall wall of separation between church and state. In order to the Papacy to gain the ascendancy again, this wall must come tumbling down. The wall was built in 1787 when the Constitution was ratified and in 1791 when the first Ten Amendments to the Constitution were adopted. As we have already studied, the two horns like a lamb are ingrained in the first amendment:

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

"As long as the First Amendment is upheld by the government of the United States the papacy cannot ascend to power once again. Jesuit priest, Malachi Martin stated as much when he stated that "two hundred years of inactivity have been imposed upon the papacy by the major secular powers of the world." The Keys of this Blood, p. 22

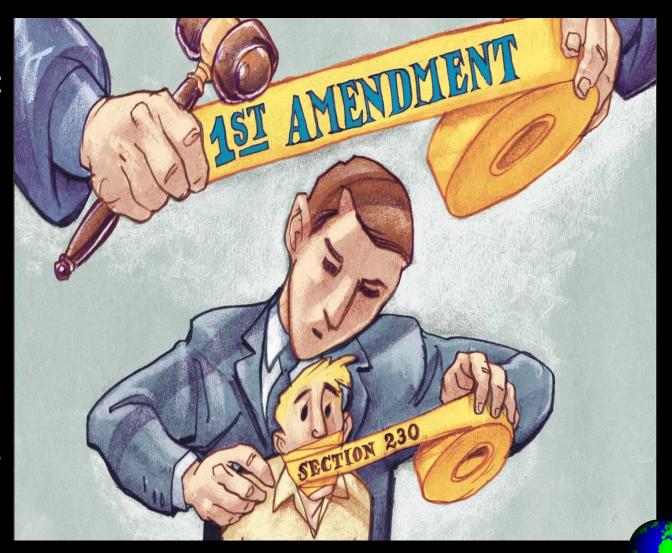




Introduction (cont'd)

"Let the restraints now imposed by secular governments [the First Amendment prevents the government from legislating in matters of religion] be removed and Rome be reinstated in her former power, and there would speedily be a revival of her tyranny and persecution." The Great Controversy, p. 564

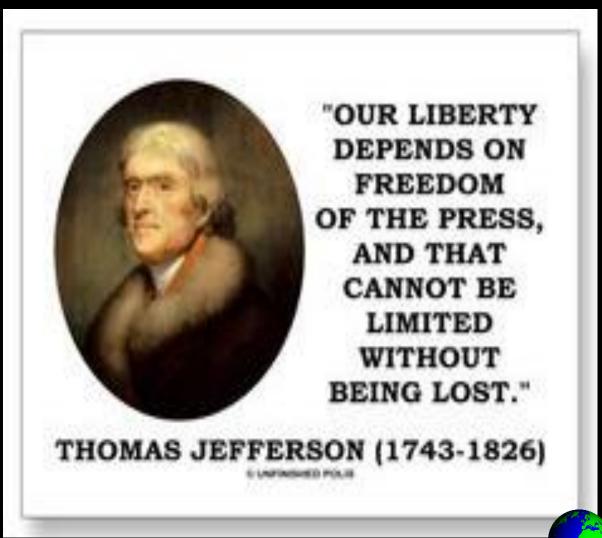
Nine years after the First Amendment was adopted, Thomas Jefferson wrote a letter to the Danbury Baptist Association in 1802 where he explained his understanding of the first two clauses of the First Amendment by using the metaphor of the wall which he most likely borrowed from Roger Williams:



Introduction (cont'd)

"Believing with you [the Danbury Baptists] that religion is a matter which lies solely between Man and his God, that he owes account to none other for his faith or his worship, that the legitimate powers of government reach actions only, and not opinions, I contemplate with sovereign reverence that act of the whole American people which declared that their legislature should "make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof," thus building a wall of separation between Church and State."

Yet right wing religious leaders today wish to tear down the wall of separation between church and state. They think they have a better understanding of the First Amendment than Thomas Jefferson.



What leading Men of America said....

Keith Fournier, who was President of the American Centre for Law and Justice, the legal arm of Pat Robertson's organization once said: "Yet there is a wall which has been mistakenly erected in our own beloved country. Its impact on religious freedom has perhaps had an even more devastating effect [than the Berlin Wall], it is the so called wall of separation of church and state."

Pat Robertson himself wrote:

"They [liberals and secular humanists] have kept us in submission because they have talked about separation of church and state. There is no such thing in the Constitution. It's a lie of the left, and we're not going to take it anymore." -Anti-Defamation League, The Religious Right: The Assault on Tolerance and Pluralism in America, p. 4.





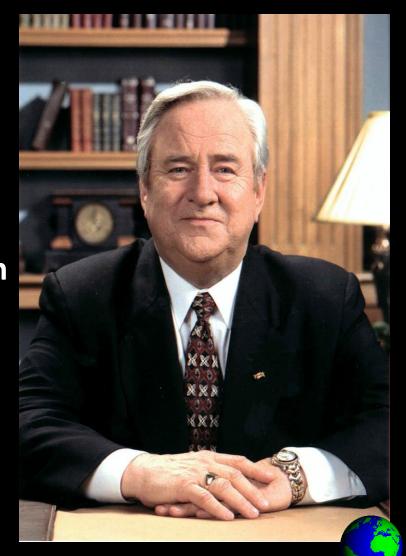
What leading Men of America said.... (cont'd)

Jerry Falwell, long time senior pastor of the Thomas Road Baptist Church in Lynchburg, Virginia once stated:

"Separation of Church and State has long been the battle cry of civil libertarians wishing to purge our glorious Christian heritage from our nation's history. Of course, the term never once appears in our Constitution and is a modern fabrication of discrimination." Quoted in Church and State, June 2006, p. 14

The late D. James Kennedy creator of Evangelism Explosion and long time senior pastor of Coral Ridge Presbyterian church spoke of the wall of separation as diabolical:

"If we are committed and involved in taking back the nation for Christian values . . . there is no doubt we can witness the dismantling of not just the Berlin wall but the even more diabolical 'wall of separation' that has led to secularization, immorality, and corruption in our country." (Quoted in They Said It! Religious Right Leaders in Their Own Words)



What leading Men of America said.... (cont'd)

W. A. Criswell, who for years was the senior pastor of the First Baptist Church in Dallas and is also the former president of the National Baptist Convention once boldly affirmed:

"I believe that this notion of the separation of church and state was the figment of some infidel's imagination." The Saving of America p. 59

Former Arizona state senator John B. Conlan several years ago argued as do many Protestants and Catholics:

"The separation of church and state is a false issue. It is a slogan created by the secular humanists which sounds legal but in fact is a sham. It does not appear anywhere in the constitution, and it is not a concept that our Founding Fathers believed. [there is a strong tendency today to rewrite what the founding fathers believed] . . . 'Separation of church and state' . . . is simply a line of propaganda created by modern humanists to intimidate Christians and make us believe that we are second-class citizens." The Saving of America, p. 59

The Saving of America:
Spiritually

I. M. Christian



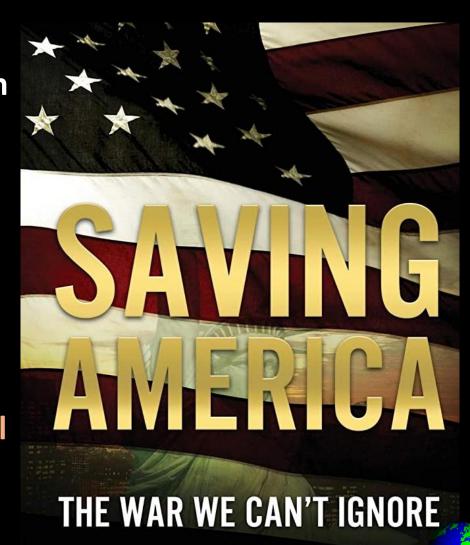
What leading Men of America said (cont'd)

Keith Fournier, on September 10-12, 1992 in Washington, D. C. at the Second Annual Road to Victory Briefing Conference of the Christian Coalition stated:

"The wall of separation between church and state that was erected by secular humanists and other enemies of religious freedom has to come down. That wall is more of a threat to society than the Berlin Wall ever was. Those opposing our views are the new Fascists."

David S. Nelson who was the director of Pat Robertson's Christian Coalition in Colorado stated:

"The separation of church and state is (1) not a teaching of the founding fathers; (2) not an historical teaching; (3) not a teaching of law (except in recent years); (4) not a Biblical teaching. In summary, there should be absolutely no 'separation of church and state in America." Undated flyer in 1992

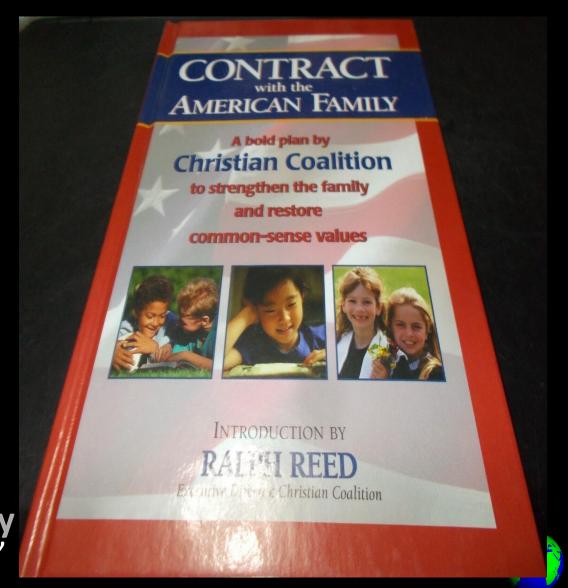


Reinterpreting the Intent of the First Amendment

The 1994 agenda of the Republican Party in Congress is expressed in the book, Contract with the American Family, pp. 4, 5:

"The founding Fathers intended the establishment clause to insure that America's political institutions would never be used to benefit one religion at the expense of another."

"They [Europeans] believed that the European system of officially sanctioned 'state religions' benefited neither the state nor the religion involved. Indeed, it was from such systems that the Pilgrims and Puritans fled. This is what is rightly meant by the phrase, 'separation of church and state."



Reinterpreting the Intent of the First Amendment (cont'd)

The Contract with the American Family, p. 1, refers to this when it stated:

"We have witnessed the steady erosion of the time honoured rights of religious Americans. The time has now come to amend the Constitution to restore freedom of speech for America's people of faith."

"Tim LaHaye, is quoted in Time September 2, 1985 as saying that 25% of federal jobs should go to Christian conservatives. He also said: "No humanist is qualified to hold any governmental office."

This flies in the face of the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution where we are clearly told that there can be no religious test to occupy any office of trust in these United States.





Reinterpreting the Intent of the First Amendment (cont'd)

Notice what Ralph Reed says in his book, Politically Incorrect, p. 16

"The future of American politics lies in the growing strength of Evangelicals and their Roman Catholic allies. If these two core constituencies—evangelicals comprising the swing vote in the south, Catholics holding sway in the north—can cooperate on issues and support like minded candidates they can determine the outcome of almost any election in the nation. Nasty nativism and dark distrust about Popery and foreign influence have been swept into the ash heap of history. John F. Kennedy's election in 1960 buried the Catholic bogeyman forever. No longer burdened by the past, Roman Catholics, Evangelicals, **Greek Orthodox and many religious conservatives** from the mainline denominations are forging a new alliance that promises to be among the most powerful and important in the modern political era."



WHERE DID I GO WRONG

The Makeup of the Supreme Court

In recent years the Supreme Court of the United States has become increasingly conservative and some of its members have reinterpreted the meaning of the separation of church and state and the First Amendment.

William Rehnquist, the late Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court once said:

"The wall of separation between church and state is a metaphor based on bad history; a metaphor which has proved useless as a guide to judging; it should be frankly and explicitly abandoned." The Saving of America.

Just as disturbing is the prospect that the Supreme Court will refuse even to hear a case based on the idea that the litigant has no standing with the court.

Notice the following article:



Illegal Immigration from Latin America

As is well known, immigration from Latin America, both legal and illegal, has exploded in the last few decades. It is estimated that some 13 million illegal immigrants presently live in the United States. Most of these people came into the United States from the southern border.

Irrespective of what one think about the issue of immigration, this influx of people has given the Seventh-day Adventist Church great opportunities for evangelism. Scores of Latin Americans in the United States have told that they would probably never have known the 3 Angels message if they had not come to the United States.



Illegal Immigration from Latin America (cont'd)

But Latin American immigration into the United States also presents grave dangers. Most of the immigrants are Roman Catholics who bring with them a Roman Catholic political and religious philosophy. That is, they are unacquainted with the vision of the Founding Fathers of the United States. They come from countries where Roman Catholicism is linked with the state and receives special favours from it. Separation of church and state is an alien concept to them. In the future, when Catholicism implants its principles into the political system of the United States these immigrants, as good Roman Catholics, will most likely support religious legislation on the part of the government.

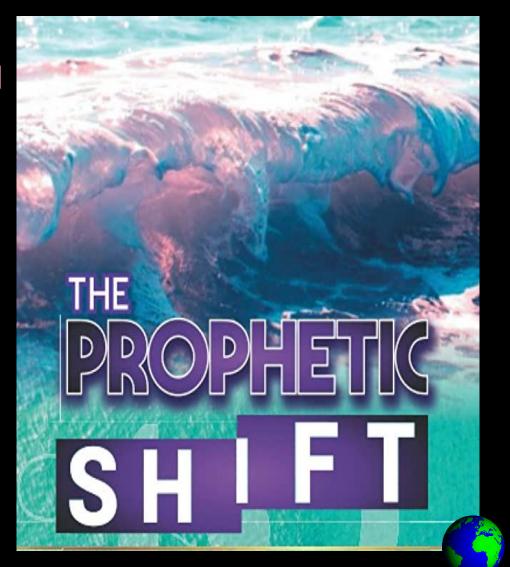




Shift in Prophetic Understanding

For some three hundred years after Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the cathedral door, Protestants unanimously identified the papacy as the predicted antichrist of Bible prophecy. But in the early 19th century there was a shift in Protestant prophetic understanding (for the full story read the book, Futurism's Incredible Journey). Protestants forsook historicism as the governing method for the study of Bible prophecy and embraced preterism and futurism straight from the bosom of the Roman Catholic counter-reformation.

The fulfilment of the antichrist prophecies has been transposed back into the inter-testamental period or forward to the future after the rapture of the church. As a result, Protestants fail to perceive any danger in uniting with the papacy. After all, if the papacy is not the predicted antichrist of prophecy, then there is no reason to fear!



Rise of the Charismatic Movement and Neo-Mysticism:

Same worship styles based on subjective experience rather than the Word of God.

Time magazine for March 21, 2005 carried an interesting article titled: "Hail, Mary: Catholics have long revered her, but Protestants are finding their own reasons to celebrate the mother of Jesus."

In the article the writer states that Protestants are taking another look at Mary through the prism of Roman Catholic eyes.

The ideas and practices of two Roman Catholic mystics are now being incorporated into prayer habits and devotional life of some Protestant churches. These methods include practices that were established by middle ages mystic, St. Francis Assisi and by the founder of the Inquisition and the Jesuit Order, St. Ignatius Loyola. These practices are referred to by different names including 'Contemplative Prayer.' The end result of this type of devotional life is to cast aside doctrine. After all, why should we fight about arid, dry, intellectual doctrines when the Spirit is giving us all the same experience.





Prestige of John Paul II

John Paul II gave great visibility and likeability to the Roman Catholic Church. His travels the four corners of the earth raised the esteem of the Roman Catholic Church in the eyes of the world. John Paul was considered a role model because he took a strong moral stand on issues such as the right to life, traditional marriage, and against unrestrained materialism. He was a favourite among the youth and he was instrumental in bringing down the iron curtain.

The high esteem in which he was held by the world can be seen as much in his death as in his life. At John Paul's funeral there were 80 heads of state, political representatives from over 200 countries, and representatives of all the world's major religions including Muslims, Jews, Hindus and Buddhists. Three United States presidents attended (Bill Clinton, George Herbert Walker Bush, and George W. Bush).

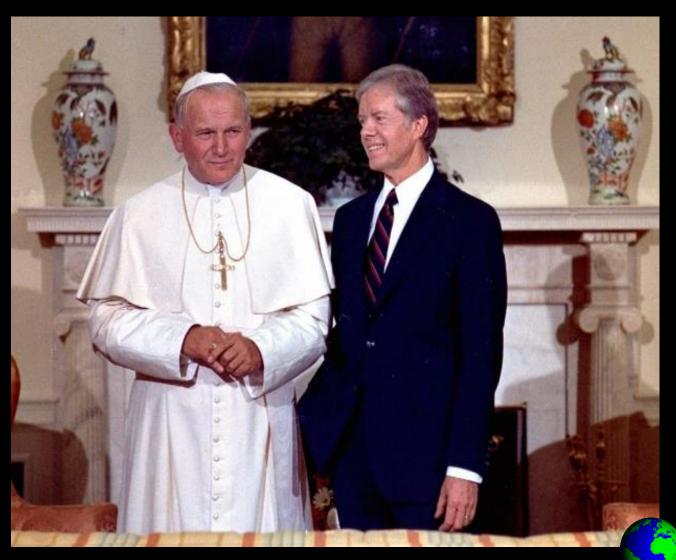


Carter wanted to attend but was slighted

It was reported that Jimmy Carter wanted to attend but was slighted.

One of the impressive pictures etched in memory's hall was that of three presidents, Laura Bush and Condaleeza Rice kneeling before the pope's dead body. Over 5 million people from all over the world went to Rome to pay their respects to the pope's body and some 300,000 gathered in St. Peter's Square for the funeral. Some stood in line for 24 hours just to view his body. For two weeks, practically the only news on television was on the pope's life and death life and death.

The pomp and ceremonies that accompanied the services were simple spectacular and awe inspiring.



Renewed Emphasis on Sunday

John Paul II wrote a Pastoral Letter titled Dies Domini (the Lord's Day) where he sought to encourage the leaders of his church to put a renewed emphasis upon the importance of Sunday as the 'Christian Sabbath.' In it he underlines that materialism and consumerism have shut out God and people need a common day of worship for family life and personal rest.

Notably, Protestants feel very comfortable with much of this pastoral letter because they believe that Sunday is the true day of worship. Traditionally, the Roman Catholic Church has argued that the change of the Sabbath to Sunday was due to Tradition without any foundation in Scripture. But John Paul II in Dies Domini uses the same skewed arguments from Scripture that Protestants have used since time immemorial. I am sure that he has done this to please Protestants who do not accept the authority of Tradition as the basis for Sunday observance.

It is also well known that the Roman Catholic Church is pushing hard for a Sunday law to be enforced in the entire European Union. Hundreds of organizations including Protestant Churches and labour unions have lobbied the European parliament for a European Union Sunday law for the common good of family and social harmony.

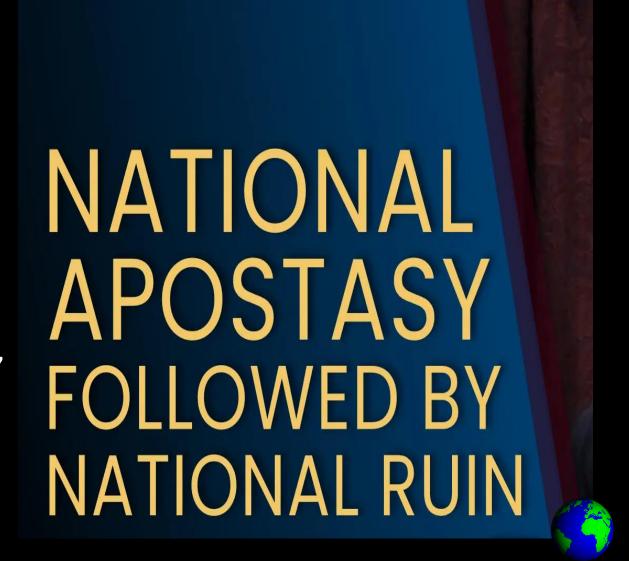


Prophecy's view: The sword will be restored

Dr. Ralph Reed who was the president of the Christian Coalition in its heyday once stated:

"The truth my friends is this. Catholicism never has been, is not today, and never will be a threat to American democracy. It was and remains the most colourful and the most vibrant thread running through the tapestry of American democracy." (Quoted in G. Edward Reid, Sunday's Coming, p. 72)

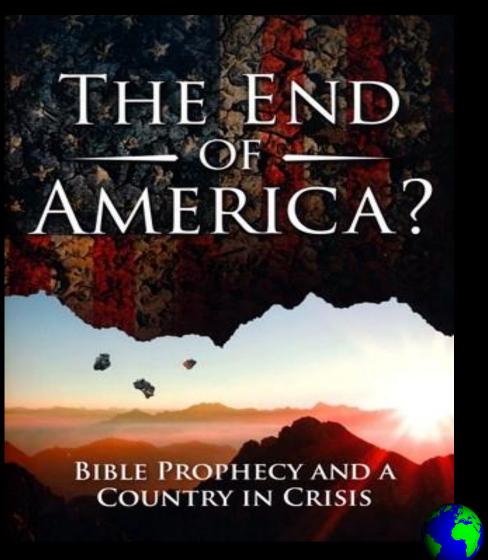
"When Protestant churches shall unite with the secular power to sustain a false religion, for opposing which their ancestors endured the fiercest persecution, then will the papal sabbath be enforced by the combined authority of church and state. There will be a national apostasy, which will end only in national ruin." Evangelism, p. 235 (1899)



Prophecy's view: The sword will be restored (cont'd)

"Protestants will throw their whole influence and strength on the side of the papacy. By a national act enforcing the false sabbath they will give life and vigor to the corrupt faith of Rome, reviving [Revelation 13:3] her tyranny and oppression of conscience." Maranatha, p. 179

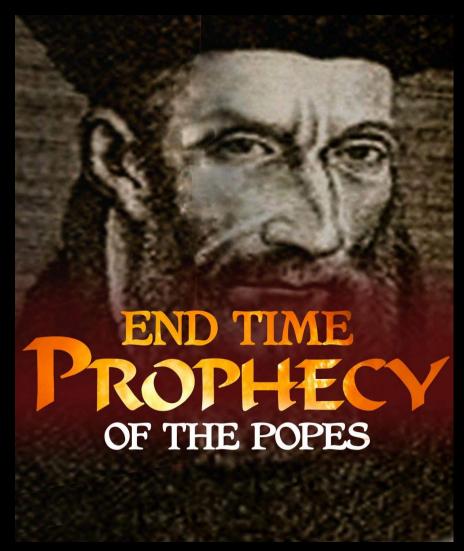
"When the leading churches of the United States, uniting upon such points of doctrine as are held by them in common, shall influence the state to enforce their decrees and to sustain their institutions, then Protestant America will have formed an image of the Roman hierarchy, and the infliction of civil penalties upon dissenters will inevitably result." The Great Controversy, p. 445



Prophecy's view: The sword will be restored (cont'd)

"... there is an increasing indifference concerning the doctrines that separate the reformed churches from the papal hierarchy; the opinion is gaining ground that, after all, we do not differ so widely upon vital points as has been supposed, and that a little concession on our part will bring us into a better understanding with Rome." The Great Controversy, p. 563

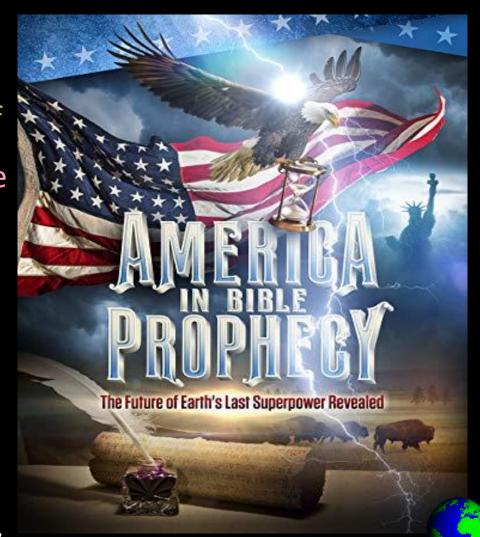
"Protestants have tampered with and patronized popery; they have made compromises and concessions which papists themselves are surprised to see and fail to understand. Men are closing their eyes to the real character of Romanism and the dangers to be apprehended from her supremacy. The people need to be aroused to resist the advances of this most dangerous foe to civil and religious liberty." The Great Controversy, p. 566





The secret of the power and prosperity of the USA:

"Among the Christian exiles who first fled to America and sought an asylum from royal oppression and priestly intolerance were many who determined to establish a government upon the broad foundation of civil and religious liberty. Their views found place in the Declaration of Independence, which sets forth the great truth that "all men are created equal" and endowed with the inalienable right to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." And the Constitution guarantees to the people the right of selfgovernment, providing that representatives elected by the popular vote shall enact and administer the laws. Freedom of religious faith was also granted, every man being permitted to worship God according to the dictates of his conscience. Republicanism and Protestantism became the fundamental principles of the nation. These principles are the secret of its power and prosperity." The Great Controversy, p. 411.

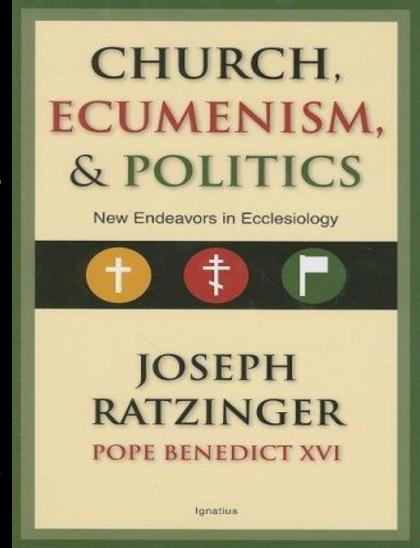


Political Ecumenism

In 1867 the United States had broken relations and forbade any diplomatic relations with the Vatican.

A subtle change in mood on the part of the United States government was seen when in 1951, President Harry Truman suggested that it would be a good idea to formalize diplomatic relations with the Vatican. But Truman was not prepared for the uproar and backlash from the American people who were still well aware of the antagonism between the principles of Protestantism and Romanism.

When Truman nominated General Mark W. Clark to be our ambassador to the Vatican, the public opposition was so strong that General Clark withdrew his name and the nomination was killed before it reached confirmation in the Senate. In 1970 President Richard Nixon asked Henry Cabot Lodge to make periodic visits to the Vatican for the purpose of exchanging views on international and humanitarian projects but he did so without diplomatic status.

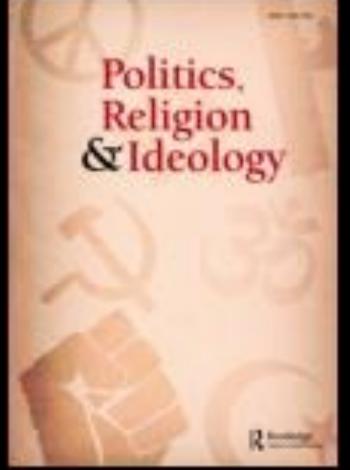




Political Ecumenism (cont'd)

But on September 22, 1983 the ban on diplomatic relations came to an end when Ronald Reagan (with barely a whimper from an inclusive and pluralistic American people) appointed William A Wilson the first United States ambassador, not to the State of Vatican City, but to the Holy See itself. The announcement was made on January 10, 1984. On March 7, 1984, the Senate confirmed William A. Wilson as the first U.S. ambassador to the Holy See. Now, for the first time, one of the two world superpowers had contributed to the healing of the deadly wound. Just six years later, the other superpower would cave when in 1989 the Soviet Union also established full diplomatic relations with the Holy See.

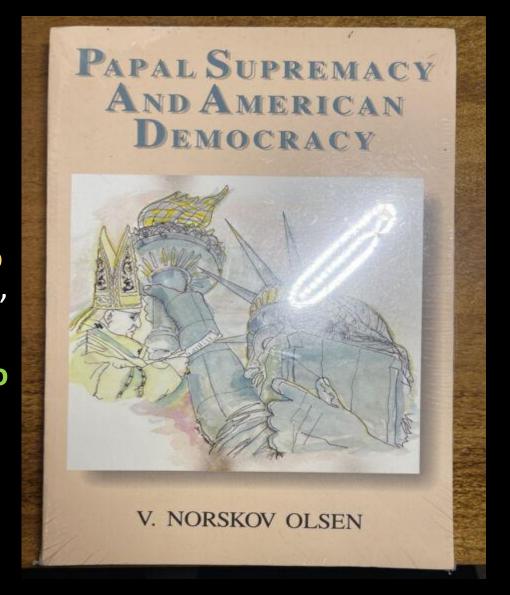
Though the appointment of William A. Wilson did not awaken the furore which the nomination of General Mark W. Clark had, there was still much discussion in the Senate before his confirmation. The discussion revolved around the issue of how the United States could send an ambassador to a church and yet not violate the constitutional separation of church and state. Some senators tried to obviate this problem by insisting that the ambassador was being sent to Vatican State rather than to the Holy See. Concerning this crafty argument, Norskov Olsen remarks:





Political Ecumenism (cont'd)

"While Vatican City is subordinated to the Holy See and ambassadors are accredited not to the former but to the latter, it is acknowledged that the pope could not claim the prerogatives of a temporal ruler without the Vatican City State. Referring to the international juristic personality of the Catholic Church and the Lateral Treaty, Cardinal Hyginus Eugene, apostolic nuncio to Belgium and the European Economic Council, writes that the latter 'merely once more provided the Pope, who is the spiritual sovereign of the Church, with another title to sovereignty, that of temporal sovereignty, which would immediately cease to exist if the Vatican State became extinct." (V Norskov Olsen, Papal Supremacy and American Democracy (Riverside, California: Loma Linda University Press, 1987), p. 52.

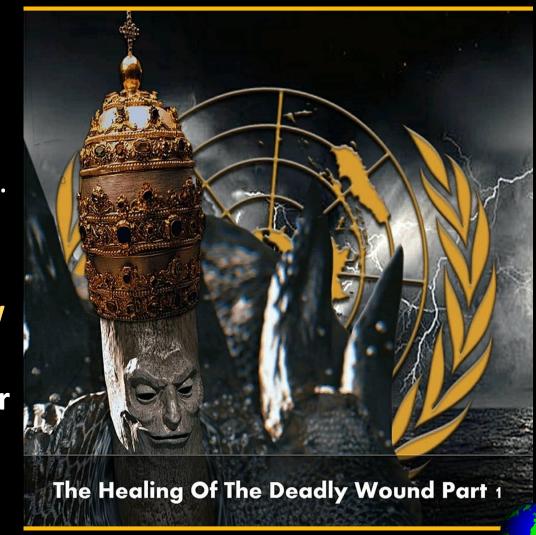




Political Ecumenism (cont'd)

What Olsen is saying is simply this: It is impossible to say that the ambassador is being sent to Vatican State without at the same time saying that the ambassador is being sent to the Holy See. The reason is simple: Vatican State gives the Pope, as the religious leader of Holy See, a legitimate right to claim temporal power. You cannot any more separate the pope's secular power from his religious power than you can separate the body from the spirit!

Another controversial issue had to do with how the United States could show preferential treatment to one church above all the others. This problem was simply ignored and was never resolved. Yet in spite of these two problems, the nomination went through with few objections. The United States had prepared the way for the full healing of the deadly wound!



The Demise of the Communist Block

The first bricks of this wall were laid in the French Revolution. The wall was further bolstered in 1917 and by the agreement between Truman, Churchill and Stalin after World War II. It was further bolstered in the 1960's when nation after nation was embracing communism.

It is symbolized by the Berlin Wall.

In order for the Papacy to regain her power, this wall had to come down.

Daniel 11:40: The time of the end is 1798 and the king of the south is France.



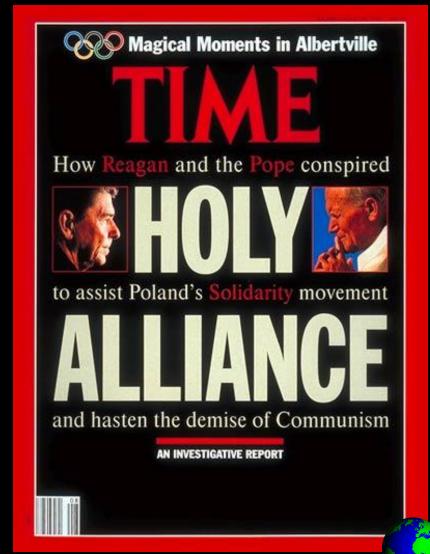
The Holy Alliance

"On June 7, 1982, Reagan and John Paul met for fifty minutes at the Vatican. During that conversation the plot was hatched to eliminate communism. In that meeting, Reagan and the Pope agreed to undertake a clandestine campaign to hasten the dissolution of the communist empire. Declares Richard Allen, Reagan's first National Security Adviser: 'This was one of the great secret alliances of all time." Time, February 24, 1992, The Holy Alliance, p. 28.

The fascinating book by Carl Bernstein, His Holiness, documents with luxury of detail what happened behind the scenes.

The economic and military might of the United States combined with the on-the-ground intelligence of the Roman Catholic Church brought down the Iron Curtain. Reagan and the pope wounded just a few months apart and their wounds were healed. They both had a destiny to fulfill.

Malachi Martin wrote the book, The Keys of this Blood where he stated that there are three systems vying for global control and only one can win. Catholicism will win.



The Holy Alliance (cont'd)

Ellen White was bold when she said these three walls would come down and they did though historical circumstances seemed to indicate otherwise.

And on a state level, the United States government has shown a growing infatuation with the papacy. From Ronald Reagan and John Paul II teaming up to overthrow the former Soviet Union, to establishing diplomatic relations with the Holy See, to congress giving John Paul II the Congressional Medal of Freedom, to three presidents a president's wife and a secretary of State bowing before the casket of John Paul II in Rome, to the pope visiting the White House, there has been a incredible miasma of historical amnesia about the dangers presented by the papacy.

On May 24, 2000, Congressman Chris Smith introduced legislation to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Pope John Paul II. By July, the House and the Senate had passed the bill. Bill Clinton signed the bill on July 27.

Executing the order giving the government permission to give money to religious charities is known as faith-based initiative. Also the use of vouchers to educate our children in sectarian schools.

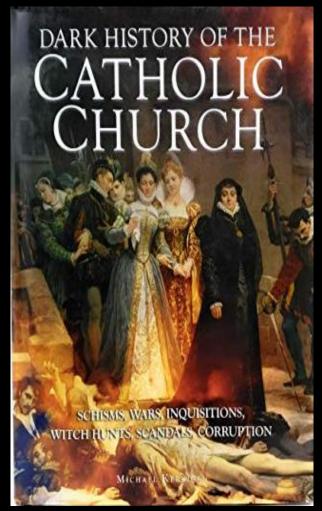




Historical Amnesia in Churches

"But those days are over. The world has changed. The United States has changed. And even the Roman Catholic Church has changed, in the second half of our century, having reconciled itself with progress, liberalism and modern civilization. It is no longer the Bible-suppressing, science resisting, liberty-opposing, Protestant-hating, culture-ignoring, Latin-mumbling, obscurantism loving ecclesiastical organization of former years, intent on ruling the world from Rome. Vatican Council II transformed all that.

"To ignore these new realities and to refuse to come to terms with the contemporary Roman Church is to choose to remain stuck in a religious no-man's-land, condemning a church that no longer exits, using old labels and propaganda that only offend and alienate deeply. Instead, Seventh-day Adventists ought to involve themselves in building bridges of understanding to reach out to Roman Catholics and developing bonds of love to enable them with us to arrive at a fuller appreciation and application of the gospel of Jesus Christ." Paul J. Landa, history professor of La Sierra University, in Adventist Today, July/August, 1993

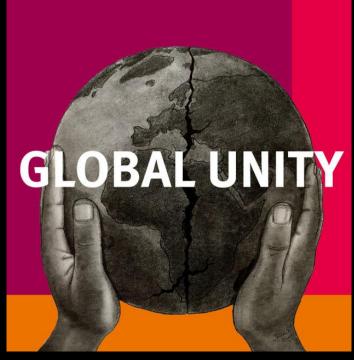




Global Unity

"The line of distinction between professed Christians and the ungodly is now hardly distinguishable. Church members love what the world loves and are ready to join with them, and Satan determines to unite them in one body and thus strengthen his cause by sweeping all into the ranks of spiritualism. Papists, who boast of miracles as a certain sign of the true church, will be readily deceived by this wonder-working power; and Protestants, having cast away the shield of truth, will also be deluded. Papists, Protestants, and worldlings will alike accept the form of godliness without the power, and they will see in this union a grand movement for the conversion of the world and the ushering in of the long-expected millennium." The Great Controversy, pp. 588, 589

"And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." In the near future we shall see these words fulfilled as the Protestant churches unite with the world and with the papal power against Commandment keepers. The same spirit which actuated papists in ages past will lead Protestants to pursue a similar course toward those who will maintain their loyalty to God." Testimonies for the Church, Volume 5, p. 449

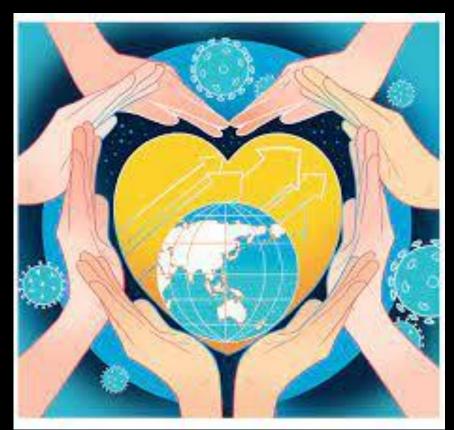




Global Unity (cont'd)

"Kings and rulers and governors have placed upon themselves the brand of antichrist, and are represented as the dragon who goes to make war with the saints--with those who keep the commandments of God and who have the faith of Jesus. In their enmity against the people of God, they show themselves guilty also of the choice of Barabbas instead of Christ." Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, p. 39

Revelation 12, 17 and 19 corroborate this view. In Revelation 12 it is the dragon who attempts to slay the male child but Satan is the shadow ruler because he uses a king of the Roman Empire to accomplish his purposes. In Revelation 17 we once again have three powers—the harlot, the daughters and the kings with whom the harlot fornicates. In Revelation 19 we have the beast, the false prophet and the kings of the earth arrayed against Jesus. Only in Revelation 20 do you see the real ruler behind the kings and that is Satan.



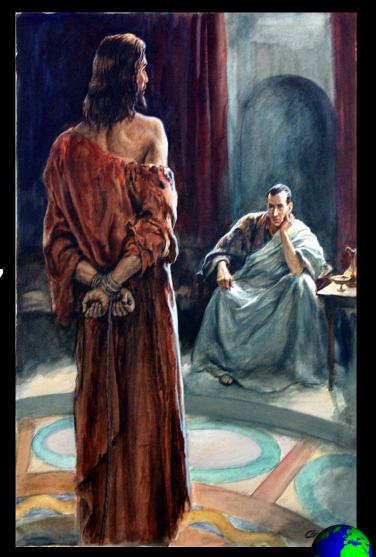
Pilate's lesson

We have been warned that unscrupulous and self-serving legislators, like Pilate, in order to retain their political influence, will give in to the popular demand for a national Sunday law and will condemn God's faithful children to death.

"To secure popularity and patronage [votes], legislators will yield to the demand for a Sunday law." Testimonies for the Church, Volume 4, p. 451

As in the days of Christ the religious leaders of the day influenced the people to clamour for the crucifixion of Jesus, so will it be again:

"Plans of serious import to the people of God are advancing in an underhand manner among the clergymen of various denominations, and the object of this secret manoeuvring is to win popular favour for the enforcement of Sunday sacredness. If the people can be led to favour a Sunday law, then the clergy intend to exert their united influence to obtain a religious amendment to the Constitution, and compel the nation to keep Sunday." Review and Herald, December 24, 1889



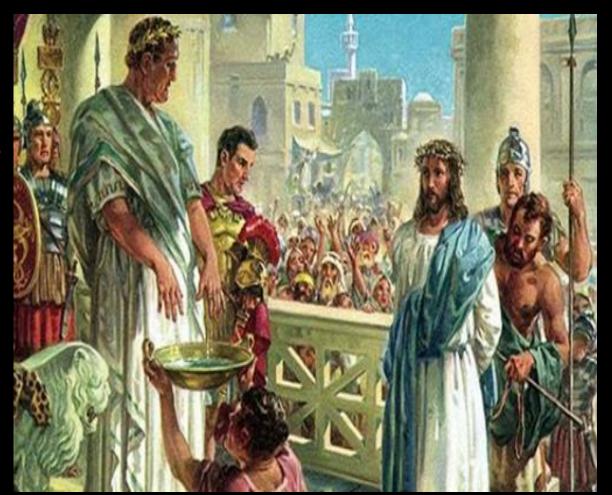
Pilate's lesson (cont'd)

"When Pilate offered to release Jesus in place of Barabbas the populace clamoured for Pilate rather to release Barabbas."

And who instigated the multitudes to clamour for the release of Barabbas? Notice the answer in Mark 15:11:

"But the chief priests stirred up the crowd, so that he should rather release Barabbas to them."

It was the ministers of that day and age who instigated the multitudes to cry out for the blood of Jesus. The initiative came from the religious leaders, not from the state or from the populace. Are we to expect anything less in the end time? Notice how God's people will repeat the story of Jesus:





Pilate's lesson (cont'd)

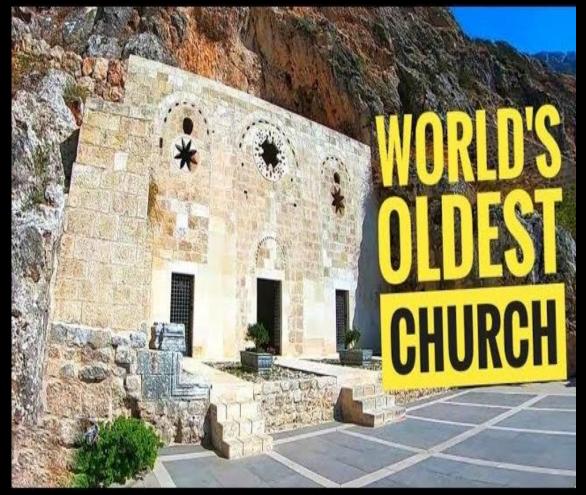
"Those who honor the Bible Sabbath will be denounced as enemies of law and order, as breaking down the moral restraints of society, causing anarchy and corruption, and calling down the judgments of God upon the earth. Their conscientious scruples will be pronounced obstinacy, stubbornness, and contempt of authority. They will be accused of disaffection toward the government. Ministers who deny the obligation of the divine law will present from the pulpit the duty of yielding obedience to the civil authorities as ordained of God. In legislative balls and ordained of God. In legislative halls and courts of justice, commandment keepers will be misrepresented and condemned. A false colouring will be given to their words; the worst construction will be put upon their motives." The Great Controversy, p. 592



Lessons from the Earliest Church

When the early church lost the Spirit and power of the true gospel, the moral condition of the empire quickly deteriorated. The church leaders seeing that morality was at such a low point linked up with the state to force people to be moral and the result was the papacy which used the sword of the civil power to punish those who dissented.

The prophecy of Revelation 13:11-18 indicates that Protestantism in the United States will make an image of this. Protestantism has lost the Spirit and power of the true gospel; it has preached for so long that we not under law but under grace that people have come to believe that Christians are not required to keep the law. And the result has been the moral disintegration of society!





Protestantism's Power Failure

The Protestants of the United States have seen morality has been going from bad to worse in their country. Abortion has become commonplace, pornography, divorce and marriage between homosexuals has become a fact of life. The proliferation of illegal drugs runs rampant. Mass shootings seem to be the order of the day. Many religious leaders have appealed to the arm of civil power to fix what they themselves have created. They blame what they call a secular humanist government for the steady decline in morality when they themselves, by the doctrine of 'cheap grace' have to a great degree caused the problem.

Protestants today have come to believe that by having "In God we Trust" on our currency, or by reciting "one nation under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance, or by mandating prayer in public schools, or by posting the Ten Commandments in our courtrooms or by putting Christmas displays on public property, or by enacting a constitutional amendment against gay marriage, the nation will be brought back to God.



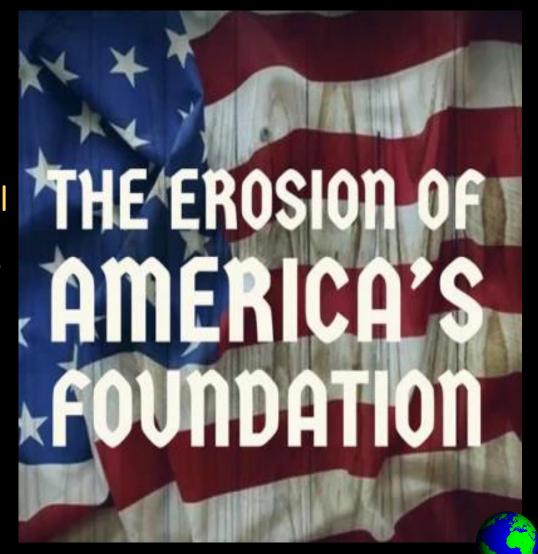
AMERICA'S MORAL DECLINE



Protestantism's Power Failure (cont'd)

But Protestantism has forgotten that its real source of power is found in preaching the unadulterated Word of God through the ministration of the Holy Spirit. Instead, Protestantism has emphasized a prosperity gospel, a gospel of signs and wonders, a gospel of psychological self-help and a gospel of political involvement. It has thus lost its power and sees government as the way to solve the problem they themselves have created.

When church and state are fully joined together in unholy matrimony, and I believe this is transpiring before our very eyes, then the only and final court of appeal for the saints will be God.



The Perspective of Revelation 17

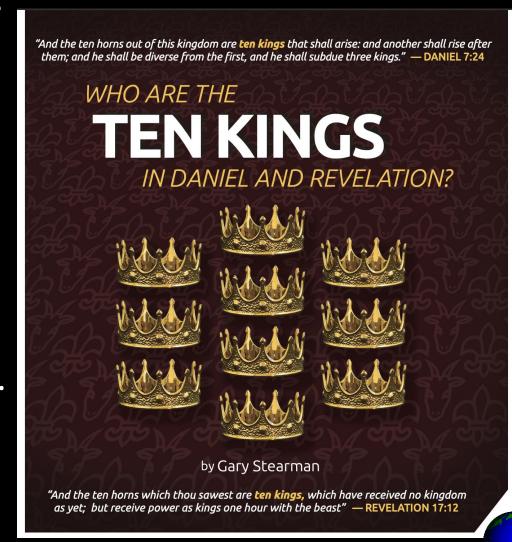
Revelation 17 presents a vivid portrayal of the time when the prophecy of Revelation 13:11-18 will be fulfilled. The chapter portrays a harlot woman who sits on many waters, that is, she rules over nations, multitudes, tongues and people (17:1, 15). She fornicates with the kings of the earth (17:2). She is garbed in purple and scarlet and is decked with gold, precious stones and pearls (17:4). The kings of the world gladly drink her fermented wine of false doctrine (17:2). She has daughters that were born from her at some point because she is called the 'mother of harlots' (17:5). Along with her daughters she sheds the blood of the saints and the martyrs of Jesus (17:6). Even the merchants of the earth become rich by the relations that they keep with her. Thus the church, the state, the merchants and the people will unite to persecute those who do not agree with this New World Order.



The Perspective of Revelation 17 (cont'd)

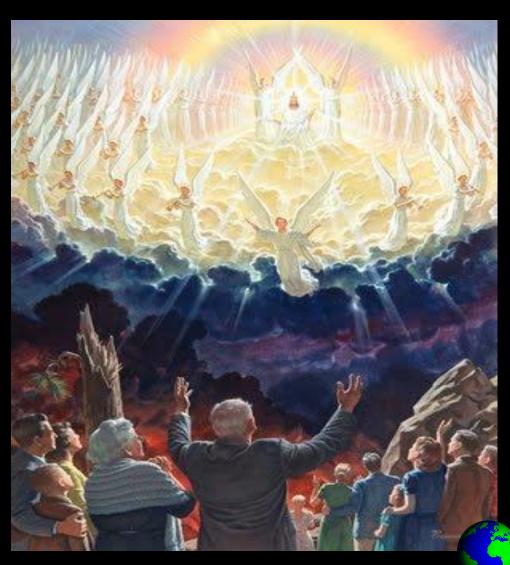
Prophecy tells us that for a while the kings of the earth will do the bidding of the mother and her daughters. But at the climactic moment when God's faithful people are about to be slain, the kings of the earth will turn on her for we are told that they "will hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire." (17:16, 17). Thus, the sword of the political leaders that she used to slay the saints will be used by those very political leaders to slay her.

Ellen White describes this climactic moment when the political rulers and the multitudes will withdraw their support from their religious leaders:



The Perspective of Revelation 17 (cont'd)

"The people see that they have been deluded. They accuse one another of having led them to destruction; but all unite in heaping their bitterest condemnation upon the ministers. Unfaithful pastors have prophesied smooth things; they have led their hearers to make void the law of God and to persecute those who would keep it holy. Now, in their despair, these teachers confess before the world their work of deception. The multitudes are filled with fury. "We are lost!" they cry, "and you are the cause of our ruin;" and they turn upon the false shepherds. The very ones that once admired them most will pronounce the most dreadful curses upon them. The very hands that once crowned them with laurels will be raised for their destruction. The swords which were to slay God's people are now employed to destroy their enemies. Everywhere there is strife and bloodshed." The Great Controversy, p. 655

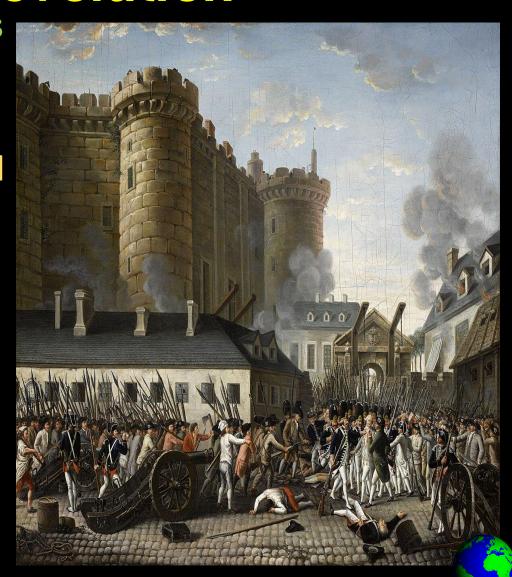


Another French Revolution

It will be remembered that when the pope was taken captive in 1798 the handcuffs that had fallen off the papacy in 508 were slapped on again and the sword was removed from her hand; thus she could no longer use the political powers and the masses to accomplish her purposes.

But the United States will be the power to unlock the cuffs and give the papacy her freedom again. And the United States will put the sword of civil power in her hand once more.

For a while the papacy allied with Protestants will seem to have the upper hand. But in the end Jesus will deliver His faithful people as he did the three young Hebrews and Daniel.



Another French Revolution (cont'd)

Daniel 12:1-3 describes this period of jeopardy for God's people and their final deliverance by God:

"At that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the firmament and those who turn many to righteousness like the stars forever and ever."

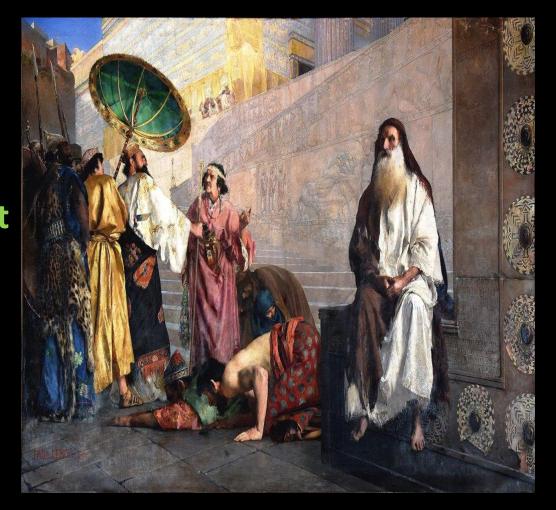
Impressive will be the moment when the kings of the earth and their subjects will turn on the Mother of harlots. A French Revolution of global proportions will ensue and this time the deadly wound will never heal again!



The Story of Esther

The ancient story of Esther is a vivid illustration of what will soon transpire with God's faithful and obedient remnant on a global scale.

In the story of Esther we are told that the civil ruler, king Ahasuerus, gave a decree that all should bow and pay homage to Haman (Esther 3:2). When Mordeccai refused to do so (3:2) Haman was filled with wrath to such a degree that he was able to persuade the king to write a death decree against Mordeccai and all the Jews (3:8). Haman's wife even suggested that he build a gallows for Mordeccai to hang in (5:14). The reasons Haman gave for the decree are fascinating:





The Story of Esther (cont'd)

"Then Haman said to King Ahasuerus: "There is a certain people scattered and dispersed among the people in all the provinces of your kingdom; their laws are different from all other peoples and they do not keep the king's laws. Therefore it is not fitting for the king to let them remain."

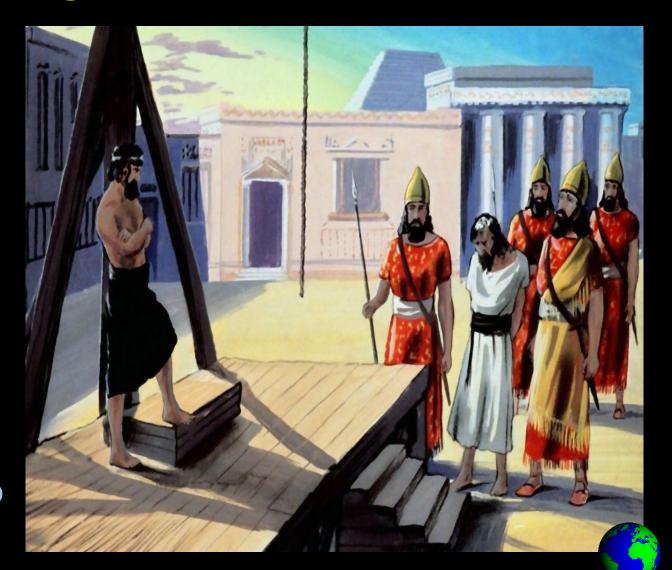
Haman argued before the king that for the survival of the nation Mordeccai and the Jews had to be eradicated. After all, disobedience to the laws of a nation would lead only to anarchy and dissolution of the empire. A death decree was written by Haman and enforced by the authority of the king.

All seemed to be going according to plan until the plot was unmasked by Queen Esther. By the providence of God the evil triumvirate was broken up and the king turned on Haman and his wife and the very gallows that were raised to slay Mordeccai were used to slay Haman and his wife.



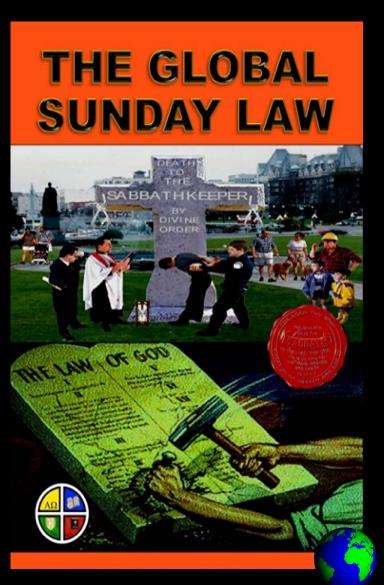
A Recurring Pattern

- King turned on the enemies of Daniel
- Haman and his wife used the king and the king turned on Haman
- Jews used the Romans to kill Jesus and the Romans turned on them
- Papacy used the power of the state and the state turned against the papacy in the French Revolution
- Kings of the earth at the end will hate the harlot who has used them to slay the saints of the most high.

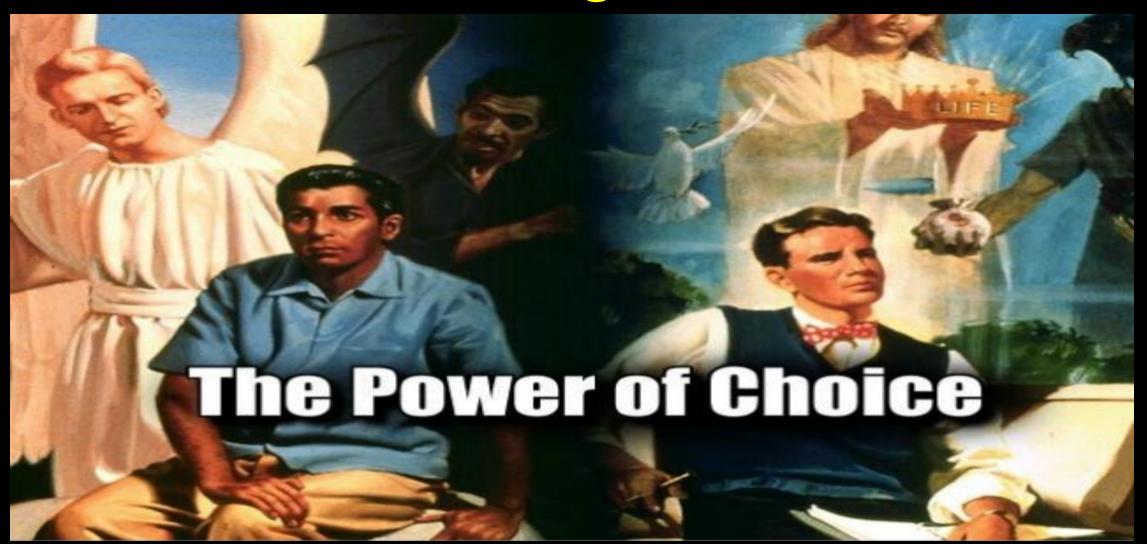


Conclusion

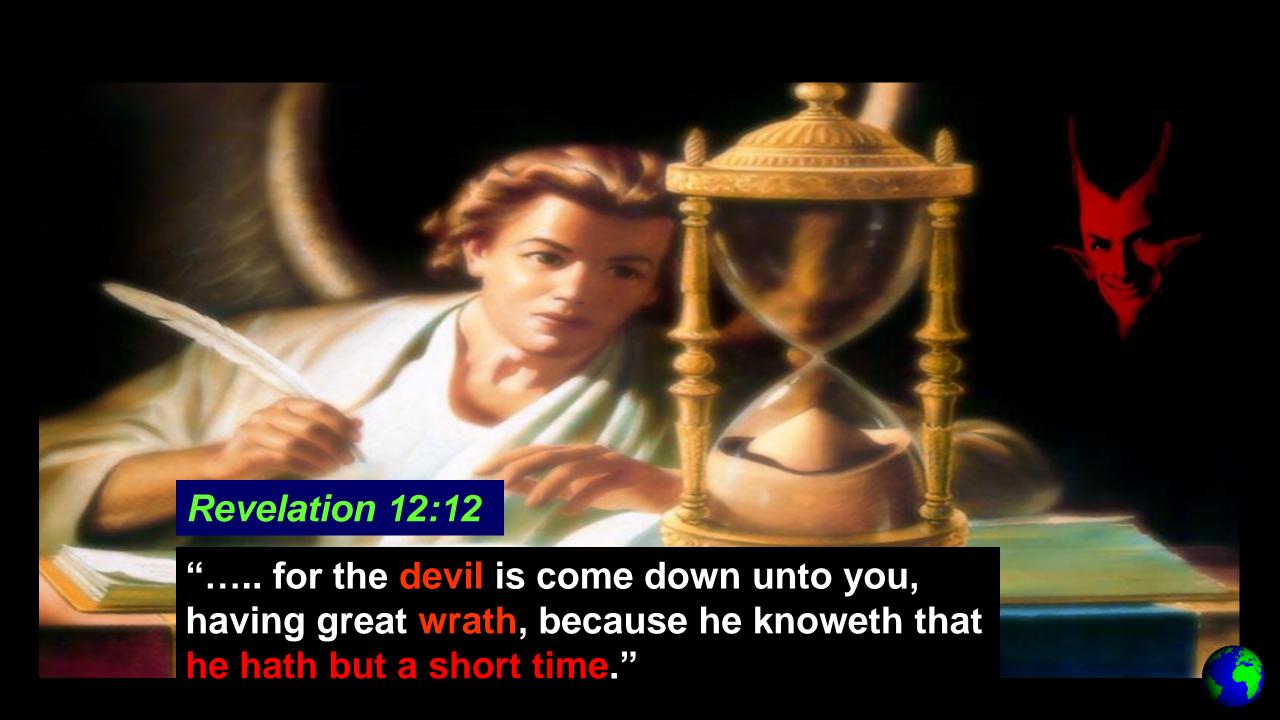
I saw the nominal church and nominal Adventists, like Judas, would betray us to the Catholics to obtain their influence to come against the truth. The saints then will be an obscure people, little known to the Catholics; but the churches and nominal Adventists who know of our faith and customs (for they hated us on account of the Sabbath, for they could not refute it) will betray the saints and report them to the Catholics as those who disregard the institutions of the people; that is, that they keep the Sabbath and disregard Sunday. Then the Catholics bid the Protestants to go forward, and issue a decree that all who will not observe the first day of the week, instead of the seventh day, shall be slain. And the Catholics, whose numbers are large, will stand by the Protestants. The Catholics will give their power to the image of the beast. And the Protestants will work as their mother worked before them to destroy the saints. But before their decree bring or bear fruit, the saints will be delivered by the Voice of God." Ellen G. White, Spaulding-Magan Collection, pp. 1, 2



God has given all:







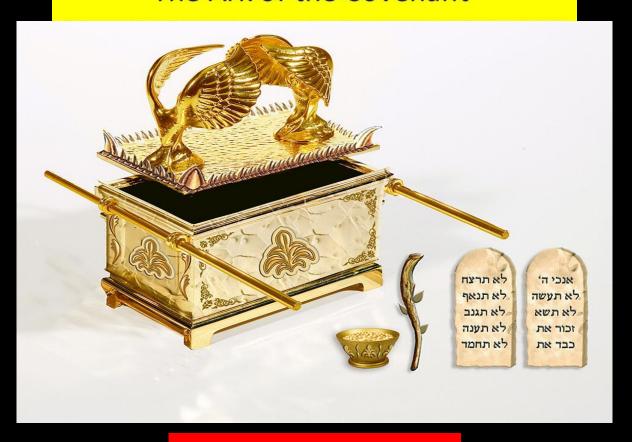
Enter The Ark of Hope

And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.

- John 10:16



The Ark of the Covenant



Psalms 77:13

Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. -Revelation 3:20





