

The Pope's Visit to UK

September 2010

Pope's Visit to UK 2010

- Origins of the Roman Catholic Church
- Christ and Apostle's Expected a Departure from fundamentals they taught
- The Cruel Persecutions
- Doctrines of the RC Church at variance with Bible teaching, including a review of whether Peter ever believed that a church was to be built upon his name
- A brief review of what the Bible says will happen to the Catholic system

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Origins of the Roman Catholic Church

Daniel Ch 2 v 31-35 & Daniel Ch 7 v 2-12

Daniel Chapter 2 speaks of a great metallic image

Daniel chapter 7 speaks of four beasts

Both chapters speak of the same events but present them in different ways

Metal of Gold and Lion Beast

Daniel 2

³² This image's head was of fine gold...

Head of GOLD = BABYLON
600BC

Daniel 7

⁴ The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it.

Metal of Silver and Bear Beast

Daniel 2

³²...his breast and his arms of silver

Arms of SILVER = MEDO-PERSIAN
542BC

Daniel 7

⁵And behold another beast, a second, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and it had three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh.

Metal of Brass and Leopard Beast

³²...his belly and his thighs of brass

Belly & Thighs of BRASS = GRECIAN
334BC

⁶After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it.

Metal of Iron and Un-Named Beast

³³...his legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay

Legs of IRON = ROMAN
67BC

Feet part of Iron & Clay = Dismantled
ROMAN Empire
To the Return of Christ

⁷After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns. ⁸I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn **were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.**

THE FIRST BEAST – Daniel 7 v 4. The first beast in Daniel's vision was like a lion which represented the Chaldean empires of Assyria and Babylon. It had eagle's wings showing the great extent of its territory which incorporated most of the then known world. The prophecy dictates that the wings be plucked up and lifted from off the face of the earth which indicated that the rulership of the empire was to be transported somewhere else. History testifies to the fulfillment of this prophecy when it moved to Babylon. The lion answers to the gold or Babylonian empire.

THE SECOND BEAST – Daniel 7 v 5. The bear represented the Medo-Persian empire which overthrew Babylon in approximately 526BC. Strong, cruel, cunning and greedy, the bear is not as powerful or courageous as the lion, but is nevertheless to be avoided. The bear had three ribs in its mouth – between its teeth, an illustration of the bear's great appetite and this is precisely what the Medo-Persian empire had. When Cyrus rose to power there were three powerful rivals contesting for dominion, and all three, Babylon, Lydia and Egypt were all brought into subjection to the rule of the Medes devouring much flesh.

THE THIRD BEAST – Daniel 7 v 6. The leopard was a symbol of Greece and is versatile and tremendously strong. The animal is agile and swift. The leopard represents Alexander the Great's dominion and his four principal successors who divided it amongst themselves. The body of the beast represents the power before it was divided, and each head represented one of the subsequent divisions. History testifies that Alexander, at the age of 33 died in a drunken stupor, and his empire which extended from Macedonia to India as far south as Egypt was divided into four parts by his successors, the four generals of his army.

THE FOURTH BEAST – Daniel 7 v 7. The next beast was described as an 'unnamed beast', 'dreadful, terrible and strong **exceedingly**'. It is described as having **great iron teeth, and it devoured and brake in pieces**. This equates to the iron legs and represents Rome. Daniel saw this fearful beast on a rampage extending its territory by fierce conquest. The beast had ten horns which symbolized the divided state of the empire. He is then introduced to an eleventh horn, fitted with eyes and mouth, and identifies it as an ecclesiastical or horn pertaining to religion.

The Roman Catholic Church is here depicted in this 7th chapter of Daniel

THE FOURTH BEAST – Daniel 7 v 7. The next beast was described as an ‘unnamed beast’, ‘dreadful, terrible and strong **exceedingly**’.

The visions which Daniel had related to military conquests. The Medes and Persians were to overthrow Babylon. The Grecian empire was to overthrow the Medo-Persian empire etc. But in the 7th chapter of Daniel, we are introduced to a little horn rising up which had the features of eyes and a mouth.

Little horn – depicts slow growth of a power out of Rome. i.e. at first, it would be “little” in comparison to the ten, but the power would grow and grow until it would become dominant

Eyes represent in symbol that which can see, or in this case, oversee.

Mouth speaking great things – the power was to be dominant through the power of the spoken or written word as opposed to military power and conquest

'Unlike the other powers, it took centuries for the power to develop'

Christ and his apostles foretold of a departure from the one faith they had preached.

Matthew 7 v 15 “Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.”

Acts 20 v 28-30 “Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. ²⁹For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. ³⁰Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.”

‘Unlike the other powers, it took centuries for the power to develop’

1 Timothy 4:1-7 “Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; **Forbidding to marry**, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer. If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained. But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and exercise thyself rather unto godliness.”

2 Timothy 2:16 “But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness.”

‘Unlike the other powers, it took centuries for the power to develop’

2 Timothy 3 v 1-5, 12-13 “This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. ²For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, ³Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, ⁴Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; ⁵Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. ¹²Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. ¹³But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.”

2 Timothy 4:3-4 ”³For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; ⁴And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.”

It didn't take long for the truth as taught by Christ and the Apostles to be lost by the majority

Immortality of the Soul – AD124

Sprinkling – AD150

The Trinity – AD180

Infant Sprinkling – AD250

Purgatory – AD430

2 Thessalonians 2 v 1-10

“¹Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, ²That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. ³Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a **falling away first**, and that **man of sin** be revealed, the son of perdition; ⁴Who 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, shewing himself that he is God. ⁵Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things? ⁶And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. ⁷For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. ⁸And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: ⁹Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, ¹⁰And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

2 Thessalonians 2 v 3 “³Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; ⁴Who 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, shewing himself that he is God.

“⁷For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.

[The word ‘letteth’ means to prevent. What was preventing the full development of the little horn? Answer = Paganism. The apostle was saying that when the time came that paganism would be taken out of the way, then the horn power could come to its full conception.] The last of the pagan emperors was removed by Constantine 300 from the time of Christ.

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⁹Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders

Brief History Surrounding Constantine

The Edict of Diocletian “Persecution of Christians” AD303

His wife and daughter yielded, but most of his officers and slaves held out, and died in cruel torments. One slave was scourged till the flesh parted from his bones, and then the wounds were rubbed with salt and vinegar; others were racked till their bones were out of joint, and others hung up by their hands to hooks, with weights fastened to their feet. [source: Roman Colosseum Information Website]

Consider Development of Holy Roman Empire

Brief History Surrounding Constantine

Development of Holy Roman Empire – Key dates

1. Diocletian – supporter of paganism (AD308)
2. Constantius, Emperor of the West, marries a Christian and is therefore more sympathetic to their cause, resulting in him ignoring many of the Edicts of Diocletian. This influences his son Constantine
3. Constantine – skillful and built for war
4. Constantine's confidence grows and desires to take control over the Roman empire. Asserts that he 'has received a vision from God' – In this sign, I am the conquerer' – subjects see this as an endorsement of the God of the Christians. Maxentius is over-thrown
5. By AD324, Constantine defeats the only remaining emperor, Licinius
6. End of Paganism – A new paganised Christianity is made way for

Brief History Surrounding Constantine

Development of Holy Roman Empire – Key dates

7. AD330 – empire was divided into two – East and West
8. AD383 – Emperor Theodoric issues several decrees against heretics, trying to prevent the spread of any other religion
9. AD476 – empire changes somewhat when the Barbarians of Northern Europe invaded and broke up the empire (reign of the Goths, Ostrogoths etc)
10. AD538 – Justinian proclaims the Bishop of Rome as the UNIVERSAL BISHOP
11. AD608 – Phocas proclaimed the Pope as the HEAD OF ALL CHURCHES (Daniel's 7th chapter speaks of three being plucked up – Vandals, Lombards and Huns)
12. This power was to gather pace in the 800's under Charlamagne who became emperor of "Holy Roman Empire".

Revelation 13 – Further Passages of Scripture Referring to Roman Catholicism

“¹And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and TEN HORNS, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the NAME OF BLASPHEMY. ²And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him **his power, and his seat, and great authority**. ³And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.

⁴And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? ⁵And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months [or 1,260 years]. ⁶And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. ⁷And 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 “seven heads” are seven hills identifying the power with Rome. Note the crowns were on the horns not on the heads denoting a different form of rule, no longer a single imperial ruler in Rome, but kings in Europe (e.g. ‘Oadacer’ King of the Goths, ‘Theodoric’ King of the Ostrogoths etc).

300 years after Constantine, in AD608, Phocas proclaimed the Pope head of all the churches. Shortly afterwards, in the uprise of Mohammedanism the Dragon power of Constantinople was weakened, and so the Pope looked elsewhere for military support.



Revelation 13

³And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. “

Charlamagne in early AD800's proclaimed that the king should be the ruler over both the State and the Church. The Holy Roman empire is born.

Revelation 13:18

¹⁸Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six [666]

The official name or 'title' of the Pope is "VICAR of the SON OF GOD"

In Latin: **V I C A R I V S F I L I I D E I**
5 1 100 0 0 1 5 0 0 1 50 1 1 500 0 1 = 666

This name appears on the Crown of the Pope

Revelation 13:18

¹⁸Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six [666]

The Hebrew word for the power is ROMHTHI which also comes to the value of 666

R	O	M	I	I	TH
200	6	40	10	10	400 = 666

The official signature of the Pope is “DUX CLERI” which means “High or Chief Priest” which in Latin also comes to the value of 666.

Revelation 17:5 “And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.”

Revelation 18:4 “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.”

2 Thessalonians 2:4 “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, shewing himself that he is God.”

The Roman Catholic Church claims to be above law. Pious X of Venice said in his days “When the Pope speaks we have no business to examine”. We have only to obey. We have no right to criticize his decisions or to discuss his commands”.

The teaching of the Bible is: “Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.” (**1 Thessalonians 5:21**)

Papal infallibility was claimed in the 19th century in spite of the wickedness and cruel persecutions that have left their blood stained marks upon their history. They have been immoral beyond belief, issued edicts to destroy others whose only crime was to have a desire to read the Bible and exercise freedom. Ask yourselves the question, why in the days of William Tyndale did the Catholics do so much to suppress the printing of the English Bible to the point that men and women were burnt at the stake for teaching their children the ten commandments and the Lord’s prayer?

The papers reported this week that approximately \$5 Billion are to be paid in compensation to victims of abuse in America alone.

The Independent Newspaper this week: Will The Pope Apologise for Abuse? "There are very strict parameters that govern how these meetings take place. The first is that the talks are private with no mediators. The second is that these meetings are never announced beforehand."

Inquisitions "A Heretic's Final Journey"

During the Spanish Inquisition, accused heretics were imprisoned without hearing the charges against them, and kept in stinking dungeons, dark and vermin infested, alone with their excrement. Moldy bread and stale water helped to supplement cockroaches and spiders. Or again, a prisoner who refused to confess his heresies would be left in solitude and darkness for weeks, months or even years, for time was no object with the Inquisition and it could well afford to wait, if by so waiting it obtained another confession and conversion to Catholicism.

If convicted, the prisoner faced real terrors. Both the inquisitor and the bishop were to be present. The prisoner was to be shown the instruments of torture and urged to confess.

History testifies to the unspeakable persecutions:

The prisoner would stand bound and naked in the presence of grim, implacable friars and watch the irons heated, the pulleys of the rack tested, the bearings of the wheel greased in preparation.

In the 1400's a torture known as "Strappado" was used:

Strappado is a form of torture in which the victim's hands are first tied behind his back, and then he is suspended in the air by means of a rope attached to wrists, which most likely dislocates both arms. Weights may be added to the body to intensify the effect and increase the pain.

In France, in later inquisitions, two forms were used, ordinary and extraordinary. Ordinary consisted of lashing the victim's wrists to an iron ring in the wall and securing his feet to a second ring in the floor. Then, by hauling on the ropes, the unfortunate victim could be effectively racked until his joints were dislocated. Extraordinary torture consisted of the 'water cure', thirty pints being forcibly administered to the victim. The mode of execution was to lash the victim to a wooden cross where the bones of his arms and legs were broken with an iron bar. Death was expedited by burning the victim if the death was "too slow".

History testifies to the unspeakable persecutions:

In the late 1500's, the 'Turtle' was introduced. This involved pressing or crushing the victims to death through the use of boards with weights on top of them.

At times, those condemned to death by the inquisition were slowly roasted in a huge metal oven made in the form of a bull. At other times they were lashed to revolving rods or spits and grilled alive over fires, their sizzling bodies being basted with the drippings from their own flesh. Think about the Extreme Oath of the Jesuits.

The rack was one of the most common forms of punishment, well known and well documented in history. Skinning alive and starvation are amongst the punishments used.

INFALLIBILITY

Roman Catholic theology asserts that the entire church is infallible and therefore cannot err in matters of faith. The apostles warned that truth-holders would encounter 'a falling away' from the one gospel taught by them and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Roman Catholic Doctrines at Variance with the Bible

The Trinity

Isaiah 45 v 5-6 “I am the LORD, and there is none else, there is no God beside me: I girded thee, though thou hast not known me: ⁶That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that there is none beside me. I am the LORD, and there is none else. “

Ephesians 4 v 6 “One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.”

Roman Catholic Doctrines at Variance with the Bible

The Trinity

John 17 v 1-8 “These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:

²As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. ³And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. ⁴I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. ⁵And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was. ⁶I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word. ⁷Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee. ⁸For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me.

Roman Catholic Doctrines at Variance with the Bible

Immortality of the Soul

Ezekiel 18:4 “Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die.”

The Scriptures never speak of an immortal soul. Instead they speak of resurrection:

1 Corinthians 15 v 13-23 “³But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: ¹⁴And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. ¹⁵Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. ¹⁶For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: ¹⁷And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. ¹⁸Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished. ¹⁹If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable. ²⁰But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. ²¹For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. ²²For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. ²³But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

Roman Catholic Doctrines at Variance with the Bible

Infant Sprinkling

The Scriptures speak positively that a baptism is predicated upon

1. A belief in the gospel
2. A repentance from serving sin and a vow to serving Jesus Christ
3. Followed by baptism

Matthew 3:6

“And were **baptized** of him in Jordan, confessing their sins.”

Matthew 3:16

“And Jesus, when he was **baptized**, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:”

Mark 1:5

“And there went out unto him all the land of Judaea, and they of Jerusalem, and were all **baptized** of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins.”

John 3:23

“And John also was baptizing in Aenon near to Salim, because there was much water there: and they came, and were **baptized**..”

Roman Catholic Doctrines at Variance with the Bible

The Cross

Encyclopedia Britannica “From its simplicity of form, the cross has been used both as a religious symbol and as an ornament, *from the dawn of man's civilization*. Various objects, dating from periods *long anterior to the Christian era*, have been found, marked with crosses of different designs, in almost every part of the old world. India, Syria, Persia and Egypt have all yielded numberless examples, while numerous instances, dating from the later Stone Age to Christian times, have been found in nearly every part of Europe. The use of the cross as a religious symbol in pre-Christian times, and among non-Christian peoples, may probably be regarded as *almost universal*, and in very many cases it was connected with some form of nature worship.”

Roman Catholic Doctrines at Variance with the Bible

The Cross

Strong's Bible Concordance Definition of the Word

- a)** a well known instrument of most cruel and ignominious punishment, borrowed by the Greeks and Romans from the Phoenicians; to it were affixed among the Romans, down to the time of Constantine the Great, the guiltiest criminals, particularly the basest slaves, robbers, the authors and abettors of insurrections, and occasionally in the provinces, at the arbitrary pleasure of the governors, upright and peaceable men also, and even Roman citizens themselves
- b)** the crucifixion which Christ underwent
- 2)** an upright "stake", esp. a pointed one, used as such in fences or palisades

Roman Catholic Doctrines at Variance with the Bible

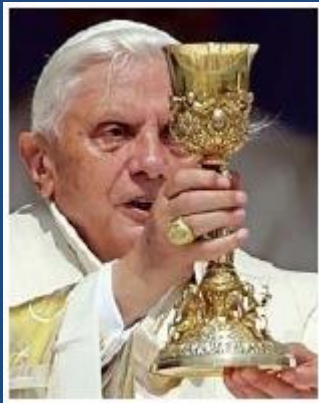
The Cross



And the woman was arrayed in purple and **scarlet colour**, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication (Revelation 17 v 4)

Roman Catholic Doctrines at Variance with the Bible

The Golden Cup – Scarlet is their main colour



And the woman was arrayed in purple and **scarlet colour**, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication (Revelation 17 v 4)

The Downfall of Rome

Isaiah 11 v 1 “And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: ²And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; ³And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: ⁴But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth: with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked [the wicked one].”

Strong's H7563 – ‘rasha`

1) wicked, criminal

a) guilty one, one guilty of crime (subst)

b) wicked (hostile to God)

c) wicked, guilty of sin (against God or man)

The Downfall of Rome

Daniel 7:11, 19-29

¹¹I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld even till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame.

¹⁹Then I would know the truth of the fourth beast, which was diverse from all the others, exceeding dreadful, whose teeth were of iron, and his nails of brass; which devoured, brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with his feet;

²⁰And of the ten horns that were in his head, and of the other which came up, and before whom three fell; even of that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows.

²¹I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them,

²²Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom.

Daniel 7:19-28

²³Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces. ²⁴And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings.

²⁵And 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 into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.

²⁶But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end.

²⁷And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.

²⁸Hitherto is the end of the matter. As for me Daniel, my cogitations much troubled me, and my countenance changed in me: but I kept the matter in my heart.

The Downfall of Rome

The system responsible for the blood of saints:

Revelation 17v5-6 “⁵And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. ⁶And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration”

Will be punished greatly:

Revelation 18

Revelation 18

¹And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory.

²And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.

The Downfall of Rome

³For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.

⁴And 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.

⁵For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.

⁶Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double.

⁷How much she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously, so much torment and sorrow give her: for she saith in her heart, I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow.

⁸Therefore 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.

⁹And 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,

¹⁰Standing 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.

The Downfall of Rome

¹¹And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more:

¹²The merchandise of gold, and silver, and precious stones, and of pearls, and fine linen, and purple, and silk, and scarlet, and all thyine wood, and all manner vessels of ivory, and all manner vessels of most precious wood, and of brass, and iron, and marble,

¹³And cinnamon, and odours, and ointments, and frankincense, and wine, and oil, and fine flour, and wheat, and beasts, and sheep, and horses, and chariots, and slaves, and souls of men.

¹⁴And the fruits that thy soul lusted after are departed from thee, and all things which were dainty and goodly are departed from thee, and thou shalt find them no more at all.

¹⁵The merchants of these things, which were made rich by her, shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing,

¹⁶And saying, Alas, alas that great city, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls!

¹⁷For in one hour so great riches is come to nought. And every shipmaster, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off,

The Downfall of Rome

¹⁸And cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, What city is like unto this great city!

¹⁹And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, Alas, alas that great city, wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness! for in one hour is she made desolate.

²⁰Rejoice over her, thou heaven, and ye holy apostles and prophets; for God hath avenged you on her.

²¹And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all.

Roman Catholicism Fallen!

The Downfall of Rome

It is a theory of the Roman Catholic Church, that Antichrist will arise to threaten the Church's future. It claims that Antichrist will establish his power in Jerusalem; seek to revive the Kingdom of Israel, proclaim his intention of re-building the temple that once existed in Jerusalem, and proclaim himself as king and messiah, ordering all nations to submit to his rule. But they say, he will be Antichrist, satan in human form.

What the theory attributes to Antichrist, the Bible teaches will be accomplished by Christ. He will return to raise from the dead and grant eternal life to those who have been faithful to his teaching; he will overthrow the nations that will gather Jerusalem for battle (Zechariah 14:1-3, Daniel 2:44); shall establish himself there as King (Zechariah 14:9) and call upon all nations to submit to his worship and rule (Psalm 2:10-12, Revelation 14:6-8).

Some will submit, but those under catholic influence will belligerently resist. Under the mistaken idea that the Lord is the personification of satan, they will combine militarily to oppose his rule. They will be overthrown, as the verse before us teaches, and the Kingdom of God will replace the antagonistic, quarrelling and warlike nations of today.

The Downfall of Rome

There will be no place for Popes, Bishops and Cardinals, Dictators or power seeking politicians in that realm. Instead, a theocracy blending beneficent power with peace and truth will replace the present-day rule of flesh. The superstition of Rome will cease, economic instability will be established and a universal government setup that will honour God and elevate the people, Christ's then immortal followers. They are depicted in singing in:

The Downfall of Rome

Revelation 5 v 8-13 ”⁸And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints.

⁹And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;

¹⁰And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

¹¹And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands;

¹²Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.

¹³And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever.”

The End