chapter seven

THE TWISTED FAITH, HOPE AND CHARITY OF 'INNOCENT' III.

INNOCENT: guiltless, to do no wrong to.[1] *TWIST: to pervert or distort the meaning of.*[2] *VIRTUE: the habit of doing good and avoiding evil.*[3]

Q.121: What are the three theological virtues? The three theological virtues are faith, hope and charity.[4]

CHARITY: love, the theological virtue which enables us to love God above all things, and to love our neighbor for the love of God.^[5]

Eo quod <u>charitatem</u> veritatia non receperunt ut salvi fierent:[6] Because they received not the love of the truth that they might have been saved.[7]

"In order altogether to remove from the patrimony of St. Peter [i.e., Catholic Christendom] the defilement of heretics, we decree, as a perpetual law, that whatsoever heretic, especially if he be a PATARENE [i.e., 'SUFFERER', derived from Latin *pati: to suffer*], shall be found therein [i.e., by inquisitional search, discovery and examination], shall immediately be taken [i.e., into captivity - Rev. 13:10], and delivered to the secular court to be punished according to law [i.e., burned alive]. All his goods also shall be sold, so that he who took him shall receive one part, another (part) shall go to the court that convicted him, and the third shall be applied to the building of prisons in the country wherein he was taken (from). The house, however, in which a heretic had been *received* shall be altogether destroyed; nor shall anyone presume to rebuild it; but let that which was a den of iniquity become a receptacle of filth. Moreover, their *believers, defenders,* and *favorers* shall be fined one fourth part of their goods which shall be applied to the service of the public."

Bull of Innocent III., A. D. 1207 [8]

According to biblical admonition charity is the greatest charismatic gift one can possess.^[9] Certainly, if the Catholic faithful possess this gift, their lord, the Pope, also possesses this gift. For the servant is not greater than his lord.^[10] However, upon closer inspection, we find the charity of Innocent III. horribly twisted. To the point of no longer resembling charity. Rather, it resembles hatred on an unprecedented scale. It also manifests an antisocial persona with strong psychotic tendencies. As did another Roman Catholic, Adolph Hitler. Let us add one more postulate to our earlier list of propositions, i.e., the murderer is not a Christian:

MURDER IS NOT CHARITY

To the man-on-the-street this may not seem to be a deep theological point needing clarification. Yet to the professing Christian Church there seems to be a deficiency in understanding elementary Christian morality and ethics. Surely, the Church knows that charity is kind, long suffering, not puffed up, not easily provoked, bears all things, endures all things. But somewhere along the line the visible Church has lost sight of the unspoken verse in 1 Corinthians 13: CHARITY COMMITETH NO MURDER. To commit murder is an uncharitable gesture. The victim is slighted, the victim's family and friends are offended, and the victim's Creator is blasphemed.

Innocent III., his papal predecessors, and the countless faithful who participated in the extermination of God's people had absolutely no charity. We have already documented 26 generations of uncharitable Roman Catholics using A.D. 1184 as a starting point. However, if we were to go back to A.D. 970, the year Vilgard of Ravenna was exterminated with the others of Sardinia, we would increase our generational count to 33. Think of it, the generations from Abraham to Christ were 42 generations,[11] all representing the Seed of the Woman. The generations of murdering Roman Catholics we can document as 33. Of course, by the grace of God, not all Catholics committed murder or acquiesced to it through silence. Many were the heretics favorers, receivers, etc. Some became the believers. Christ promises not one who so much as gives one of his elect children a glass of water will lose his or her reward.[12] To feed, shelter and protect a heretic Protestant in the days of the Inquisition was a brave and charitable action, to say the least. As we can see by the above-cited bull, those who gave shelter to the traveling, evangelical missionaries were to be punished by the burning down of their houses, while others were fined 25% of their net worth. That is assuming such favorers are not found guilty of heresy themselves and burned with the others.

TO KILL A CHRISTIAN IS TO KILL CHRIST

In the same Matthew 25 parable, Christ reveals *inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it to me.*^[13] To do good to a Christian is to do good to Christ. To do evil to a Christian is to do evil to Christ. To betray a Christian is to betray Christ. To kill a Christian is to kill Christ. To kill Christians for centuries, in the name of Christ, is the work of Antichrist. This explains why the two witness prophets, i.e., true churches who testified against the papal Beast and Mystery Babylon, were killed *and their bodies shall lie in the streets of the great city* [Rome, representing Roman Catholic Christendom], *which spiritually* [not literally] *is called Sodom and Egypt, where our Lord was crucified.*^[14] The two everpresent true witnesses of Christ testifying against Roman Catholicism were killed by the same spirit which killed Christ: the spirit of Antichrist. In that sense, Rome is spiritual Jerusalem.

The reader need take notice of the proscription of the PATARINI in Innocent's bull. This is the

same group mentioned by Lucius III. in his *Ad abolendam* (¶B), 23 years earlier. The Catholic Church had not been able to exterminate them despite unparalleled efforts to do so. The PATARINI, or 'Suffering Ones'[15] have been prophesied in the book of Revelation:

"Hic est patientia, et fides sanctorum"; Here is the patience and faith of the saints.[16]

"Hic patientia sanctorum est, qui custodiunt mandata Dei, et fidem Iesu; Here is the patience of the saints; here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.[17]

The root meaning of both the Latin and Greek words meaning *patience* is that of enduring a state of *suffering*. The PATARINI had patience because of their hope grounded in Christ and His Word. Theirs was the faith of Jesus, not the twisted faith of the persecuting popes. As the innocent victims of guilty Innocent's decrees, they proved their faith, hope and charity genuine, while testifying against the true nature and ungodliness of the Beast.

THE KILLING FIELDS OF SOUTHERN FRANCE: THE ALBIGENSIAN-CATHAR CRUSADES, A. D. 1209-1229

"Kill them! The Lord knows those who are His own!" [18]

MASSACRE: the indiscriminate, merciless killing of a number of human beings.[19]

Let us begin our discussion of the crusades against the Christian Albigensian-Cathari by prefacing it with a perspective of recent United States history. Possibly the most reprehensible action to have occurred in recent history is the Massacre at Song My in March, 1968.[20] Lt. William L. Calley is a name which will live in infamy for his role in the brutal slaughter. One of the soldiers testified at trial that their orders were to "destroy Pinkville (i.e., Song My) and everything in it." Murdering defenseless civilians, women and children, was viewed by the American public as repugnant. The guilt, shame and horror felt by all strata of American society for such an atrocity, coupled with the fact of its being committed by its own soldiers did, indeed, mark a low point in our history. Now imagine if that slaughter was not limited to one village, nor to one day of one year. Imagine that slaughter multiplied by thousands of villages, millions of defenseless men, women and children, and for centuries upon centuries, That, dear reader, will give one a sense of the great tribulation perpetrated by the Roman Catholic Church and her faithful against the saints of God.

The citation, *Kill them! The Lord knows those who are His own,* is perhaps the most infamous quote to come out of the Crusades. That it is attributable to a Roman Catholic Abbot, the head of a monastery, a person of learning, Bible training and a confessed Christian of faith, hope and charity is quite chilling, giving one a sense of the inherent danger in receiving the mark of the

Beast. Apparently, in attacking the city of Beziers (population: 100,000), the Roman Catholic crusaders were unable to readily distinguish between Catholics and heretics. Seeking counsel of the crusade's leader, Abbot Arnold of Citeaux, the crusaders told him of their plight. His response is the above-cited quote.[21] Nowhere does the <u>New Catholic Encyclopedia</u> contain that precious bit of information. However, it does admit *Beziers was taken and its population massacred in July, 1209*.[22] The following are other authorities' versions of the same incident:

"At last (1209) the pope [Innocent III.] ordered the Cistercians to preach the crusade against the Albigenses. This implacable war....did not extinguish the heresy, in spite of the wholesale massacres of heretics during the war. [23]

"The town was destroyed with a great massacre in 1209 by de Montfort in the crusade against the Albigenses."^[24]

"The crusaders pillaged and slaughtered at will. Even discounting the lurid exaggerations of our sources - for example, that 7,000 were cremated in burning the church of La Madeleine - the loss of life must have been great, among orthodox [i.e., Roman Catholics] as well as heretics.[25]

"In their report to the pope, the legates stated that the crusading troops spared no order, sex, or age, putting to sword nearly 20,000."[26]

"Not a child was spared. One historian wrote: 'even the dead were not safe from dishonor, and the worst humiliations were heaped upon women.' The total slain at Beziers as reported by papal legates was 20,000, by other chroniclers the numbers killed were between 60,000 and 100,000. The Albigensian crusade killed an estimated one million people....."[27]

The same author quoted above described the ensuing Roman Catholic worldwide Inquisition as a 500 year period *of brutal repression, the length and scope of which has no parallel in the Western world*.^[28] Yet Futurists will tell us the great tribulation has not happened. They would have us believe a $3\frac{1}{2}$ year period after the secret Rapture will wear down the saints on an even grander scale.

The inquisitive reader can research for himself the extent of the unspeakable crimes committed by Roman Catholics bearing the cross, in the name of Christ, in Southern France. One chronicle this author recommends is that by Sismonde de Sismondi (Transl. London, 1826). The translator, Jean Charles Leonard, gives an insightful introductory essay, an extract of which we quote:

"The attention of the public has been, of late (1826), much directed to the character and sufferings (note the word 'sufferings') of the Albigensian Christians (note the term 'Christians', not 'heretics'), and to the principles and conduct of the church of Rome, (i.e., her faith, hope and charity), through whose instigation, and by whose authority, they were persecuted and destroyed.....(The book) commences with the thirteenth century, and comprises a period of about forty years, detailing the progress in civilization, liberty, and religion, of the fine countries in the south of France, and the destruction of that liberty and civilization, the devastation and ruin of those countries, and the extinction of those early efforts for religious reformation, through the power and policy of the church of Rome. It relates the establishment of the Inquisition, and the provisions by which this merciless tribunal was adapted to become, for ages, the grand engine of domination to that ambitious and persecuting power (i.e., little horn, the Beast). And it marks the complete establishment of civil and ecclesiastical despotism, by the surrender of all those states, with their rights and liberties, to the dominion and control of the French monarch, under direction of the Roman pontiff (i.e., they gave their power to one of the Beast's ten horns, who in turn gave his power and strength to the Beast - Rev. 17:13.)

GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY, THE CHURCH OF ROME WILL GIVE A DECEPTIVE SPIN AS TO ITS TRUE NATURE, DESPITE IRREFUTABLE FACTS OF HISTORY TO THE CONTRARY

"The attentive reader cannot fail to remark, that these events give a very different representation of the principles of the church of Rome, from that which is offered to us by its modem advocates, (1826) and especially by that respectable body of English Catholics. It becomes, therefore, a proper, and even necessary subject of inquiry whether these are the true interpreters of the principles of the church to which they belong, or whether we are to seek for their interpretation in the recorded acts and authentic documents of the church itself. The (English Catholics) represent the authority of the church of Rome as merely spiritual, and extending only to its voluntary subjects, and assert that the natural rights of men, and the authority of civil governments are equally beyond its control: yet it must be remarked, on the one hand, that the church of Rome allows of no private interpretation of its dogmas, where the church has decided; and on the other, that the history of its proceedings by no means justifies their representations (i.e., the facts do not corroborate Rome's alleged claims of not interfering in secular affairs of state.)

The church may not, indeed, in the future, ever be able to resume that authority by which it has heretofore trampled on the rights both of the subjects and their rulers; but should it ever again be in a situation to act as its own interpreter of its own claims, it is scarcely to be supposed that it would then recognize the limits which either individuals or bodies in its communion had attempted to place to the exercise of its sovereign will (i.e., given the chance Rome will not limit herself to the spiritual sphere).....(The Church of Rome) has ever maintained certain rights towards those whom she is pleased to designate as heretics, and has often exercised those rights with a severity, for which no authority is to be found, except in her traditions (certainly not in the doctrine of Jesus). We have, therefore, on our part, a right to demand a renunciation of those claims, as public and authoritative as the exercise of them has ever been, or to guard ourselves against their repetition, by such prudential and cautionary measures, as the circumstances of the times require. (i.e., to be forewarned is to be forearmed).

RATHER THAN BE VIEWED AS AN EXCEPTION TO THE RULE, THE CRUSADES OCCURRED DURING THE ZENITH OF THE PAPACY'S POWER, A TIME TO WHICH THE CHURCH ALWAYS ASPIRES AND WORKS TOWARD TODAY

"The crusades against the Albigenses seem to present one of those occasions by which the rights claimed by the Roman church towards heretics, may be most fully and accurately ascertained. They were her exclusive and deliberate act. The church of Rome had been then, according to its own principles, established for nearly 1200 years. It professed to have been endowed with miraculous powers (i.e., signs and lying wonders), and to be guided by the teachings of the infallible spirit of God (committing blasphemy of the Holy Spirit). All the temporal authorities had submitted to its domination and were ready to execute its orders. If therefore there is any period in which we should seek for its genuine and

authentic principles, it must be under the unclouded dominion of Innocent III. Nor can the opponents of all reformation possibly desire anything more, than to restore that golden age of the church.

THE ARGUMENT THAT CRUELTIES COMMITTED BY THE CHURCH IN THE MIDDLE AGES WERE A RESULT OF THE TIMES THEMSELVES DOES NOT WASH WITH THE CHURCH'S CLAIM TO INFALLIBILITY: AN INFALLIBLE CHURCH CANNOT ERR IN MATTERS OF FAITH AND MORALS - EVER

"Should they say, that civilization and philosophy having then made but small progress, we are to charge the cruelties which were committed against the heretics to the ignorance and barbarism of the times, we would reply, that all these cruelties were prompted, encouraged, and sanctioned, by Rome itself, and that an infallible church cannot require the lights of philosophy to instruct her in her duties towards heretics. To an impartial inquirer it would seem rather strange, that under the spiritual illumination afforded by this church to the nations, heresies should have arisen which required such severe measures for their extirpation, and that with all the powers of heaven and earth on its side, the church could not trust itself in the field of reason and arguments against them. But certain it is, that heresies did arise, and that the church of Rome felt itself called upon to shew to that age, and to all succeeding ones, the full extent of the power, with which it was invested by heaven, for their suppression and extirpation.

THE CHURCH OF ROME HAS, BY ITS OWN AUTHORITY, CLAIMED THE RIGHT TO EXTERMINATE HERETICS

"The dogma on which all these transactions were founded is - that the church possesses the right to extirpate heresy, and to use all the means which she may judge necessary for that purpose - and to those who are not acquainted with the subtle distinctions of the Roman causists, this dogma seems to possess all the claims to authority which the church ever makes necessary for an article of faith. It was on this dogma that Innocent III. and his legates preached the crusade against the heretics, and promised to those who engaged in it, the full remission of all sins; it was on this dogma that they excommunicated the civil powers by whom they were supposed to be protected, and disposed of their dominions to those who assisted in this spiritual warfare. This dogma was repeatedly avowed by provincial counsels (as we have seen), and finally ratified by an ecumenical council, the Fourth Lateran. It was received by the cordial and triumphant assent of the universal church, and had also the sanction of the civil authorities, (who had a vested interest because they) received from the church the spoils of the deposed and persecuted princes. We can therefore conceive of nothing which should be still necessary to constitute this dogma an article of faith, and hold ourselves justified in considering the church of Rome to claim, as of divine authority, the right to extirpate heresy, and for that purpose, if she judge it necessary, to exterminate heretics (i.e., there is no other legislation the Church of Rome need pass to authorize another Holocaust of true believers.)

THE CHURCH OF ROME HAS NEVER REPUDIATED ITS ANTI-CHRISTIAN POLICY OF EXTERMINATION

"Nor has this principle (the principle of the right and duty to exterminate heretics) which was evidently avowed and acted upon at the period of these Crusades, been ever renounced by any authentic or official act of that church; on the contrary, the church has, during the 600 years which followed these events, invariably avowed, as occasion has allowed, the same principles and perpetrated the same deeds. As soon as the wars against the Albigenses were terminated, the inquisition was brought into full and constant action, and has always been encouraged and supported by the Romish Church, to the utmost of its power, in every place where it could obtain an establishment.....And, notwithstanding the professions made by modern Catholics on this subject, history does not furnish an instance of any body of that profession interposing its protest against the persecution of heretics by the church of Rome.....(Leonard summarizes the 'heresies' the Albigenses were accused of).....These are the characters with which the persecutors seek to brand the victims of their cruelty, and on account of which they would represent themselves as the champions of truth, purity, and social order. But there is one other character with which the God of truth has branded every liar, and that is self-contradiction. It is impossible to escape it; no tale of falsehood can be so artfully framed, as not to contain within itself its own confutation. This is manifestly the case with the stories fabricated respecting the Albigenses.

THE CHURCH OF ROME FABRICATED CHARGES AGAINST THE ALBIGENSES THE ACTIONS OF THE RULERS OF SOUTHERN FRANCE NEGATE THE CHARGES

"The Catholics had persecuted and destroyed them; they had also destroyed all their documents and rendered it utterly impossible for them to speak in their own defense. The Albigenses were, they say, the most detestable of heretics, - licentious and seditious (similar charges were made against Jesus) - who propagated their execrable tenets by fire and sword, rapine and plunder; who burned the crosses, destroyed the altars and churches; desecrating them by turning them into brothels (their Catholic accusers maintained). Yet their lawful sovereigns, the counts of Toulouse, of Foix, and Cominges, and the viscount of Bearne, against whom all these deeds of sedition and violence must have been committed, are represented as not only enduring, but protecting such miscreants; and when the Roman Church in its great goodness offered to purge the land of these pollutions, they became such advocates of plunder, rapine, fire, sword, blasphemy and sedition that (the sovereigns) made common cause with their subjects (the 'heretical' Albigenses), enduring in their defense every calamity their enemies (the Northern French Roman Catholics) could inflict.

THE CHURCH OF ROME USURPS THE RIGHTS OF SOVEREIGNS GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY

"Supposing, however, the Albigenses had been all that the catholic writers represent, upon what ground could the Roman church make a war of extermination against them? The sovereigns of those countries did not seek her aid to suppress the seditions of their subjects, nor even to regulate their faith. The interference was not only without their authority, but absolutely against their consent, and was resisted by them in a war of twenty years continuance. If (the Church) refers to the authority of the king of France (as did the <u>New Catholic Encyclopedia</u> 140 years after this essay was written), as liege lord, he had not, in that capacity, the right of interference with the internal affairs of his feudalities; and, as will appear from the following history, he had no share in these transactions, other than to come in at its close and reap the fruits of the victory. We are therefore from every point brought to the same conclusion - that the church claims a divine right to extirpate heresy and exterminate heretics, with or without the consent of the sovereigns in whose dominions they may be found.

THE REAL CAUSE OF THE ALBIGENSIAN CRUSADES WAS DUE TO THE OPPOSITION OF THE ALBIGENSE-CATHARS TO THE APOSTASY OF ROMAN CATHOLICISM

"Finally, that we are, therefore, warranted in affirming (through Catholic historians' own admissions) that the Albigenses were men who had received their Christian principles from the first

planting of that religion in Gaul; and that the great cause of their sufferings was not so much their heretical principles as their opposition to the usurpations and corruptions of the Romish church.....The crusades against the Albigenses, and even the establishment of the tribunal of the Inquisition, could not hinder the ultimate spread of their principles through the old and new world."[29]

THE SO-CALLED HERESIES OF THE ALBIGENSE-CATHARS

To research the heresies of the Albigenses is to access biased Roman Catholic reports. Sifting through the lies to find the truth is not an easy task, but not impossible. Peter of Vaux-de-Cernay wrote a history of this people in 1213. Wakefield and Evans have translated this work from the Latin text.^[30] Their translation confirms Leonard's assertion that this historian had found the Albigensian faith ensconced in the south of France for generation upon generation,^[31] proving Apostolic succession. This present author maintains that the same true faith is alive and well in the south of France today. Their Christian faith has been documented in both film and book form as a result of the courageous stand they took during World War II. in hiding Jewish children from the Nazis. This will be discussed further in a later chapter. For now let us examine de Cernay's *Hystoria albigesis:*

Calling the saints of Toulouse *ancient slime* and *a brood of vipers*, de Cernay inexplicably admits the Provencal nobles had become the heretics' defenders and receivers, not only protecting them from the wrath of the Roman Catholic Church, but *cherishing* them as well. After citing a list of absurd doctrines held by the 'heretics', including their belief that John the Baptist was a great devil and that the Old Testament was written by a liar, Mr. de Cernay gives them the endearing term *limbs of Antichrist, the first born of Satan* who somehow managed to persuade *the whole province of Narbonne with the poison of their perfidy*.

THE ALBIGENSE-CATHARS REPUDIATED THE SEVEN SACRAMENTS AND IDENTIFIED THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH AS MYSTERY BABYLON

Incredibly, out of the mouth of their accusers comes the revelation that *they called the Roman Church a 'den of thieves' and that harlot of whom we read in the Apocalypse*.^[32] This discernment from a humble people, many artisans and weavers by trade. Yet today's professional Christian Apologists, living in an era of unparalleled access to information, are clueless as to the identity of the Whore. De Cernay lists the reasons the Albigenses *held as naught the sacraments of the Church:*

- blessed 'holy' baptismal water is no holier than river water.
- the consecrated Eucharist is no different from ordinary bread.
- that confirmation, confession, and extreme unction are simple and trivial.
- that holy matrimony is nothing less than harlotry.
- that the placing of images in churches is idolatry.

THE ALBIGENSES REFUSED TO WORSHIP THE BEAST THROUGH OATHS

Another major point of dispute with the Church was the Albigense belief that no one should take an oath under any circumstance. This disavowal of oath-taking was a common link between all the so-called heretical sects. One can only imagine why. Not only are oaths forbidden by Jesus, but by taking an oath of obedience to the Church one submits to and does obeisance to the Beast and his harlot. This is the root meaning of the term 'worship the Beast.' The heretics refused to do so, harkening to the many admonitions in the book of Revelation against it.

THE CREED OF PIUS IV., A. D. 1564, DEMANDS THE BEAST BE WORSHIPED

This is the definitive oath sworn by every committed Roman Catholic since the Council of Trent. It is the basis for today's Convert's Profession of Faith:

THE CREED OF PIUS IV., A. D. 1564

"I acknowledge the Roman Church for the mother and mistress of all churches [i.e., "the Mother of all harlots] and I promise true obedience to the Bishop of Rome, successor of Peter, Prince of the Apostles and Vicar of Jesus Christ [i.e., "the Beast]. I most steadfastly admit and embrace apostolical and ecclesiastical traditions, and all other observances and constitutions of the same church. I also admit the holy scripture according to that sense which our holy mother the church has held, and does hold, to which it belongs to judge of the true sense and interpretation of scriptures; neither will I ever take and interpret them otherwise than according to the unanimous consent of the fathers. I likewise undoubtedly receive and profess all things delivered, defined, and declared by the canons and general Councils [including all the decrees mandating the faithful seek out, discover and destroy all those opposed to the Holy Catholic faith], and particularly by the Council of Trent: and I condemn, reject, and anathematize all things contrary thereto, and all heresies which the church has condemned, rejected, and anathematized. I do freely profess, and sincerely hold this faith, without which no one can be saved." [33]

The current Profession of Faith for converts begins with the Apostles' Creed, and segues to the above-cited portion of the credo of Pius IV. The convert then acknowledges, with full acceptance, the seven Sacraments instituted for the salvation of mankind, including transubstantiation of the Eucharist, the belief that Purgatory exists, image worship, the institution of Indulgences, and the Canons implemented by all the General councils, including Trent. There then follows an oath to recognize the Roman Church as Mother, while swearing allegiance to and worship of the Beast until death:

"I recognize the Holy Roman, Catholic and Apostolic Church as the mother and teacher of all the Churches and I promise and <u>swear true obedience</u> to the Roman Pontiff, successor of St. Peter, Prince of the Apostles, and Vicar of Jesus Christ. Besides I accept, without hesitation.....concerning the primacy and infallibility of the Roman Pontiff. At the same time I condemn and reprove all that the Church has

condemned and reproved. This same Catholic Faith, outside of which nobody can be saved, which I now freely profess and to which I truly adhere, the same <u>I promise and swear</u> to maintain and profess, with the help of God, entire, inviolate and with firm constancy <u>until the last breath of life</u>....."^[34]

THE ALBIGENSES BELIEVED THEY WERE JUSTIFIED BY FAITH

Repulsed by the heretics refusal to confess to Catholic priests and do penance, de Cemay charges them with antinomianism. In reality the Albigenses believed they were justified by faith in Christ's fully sufficient atonement completed at the cross. They knew they did not need absolution for forgiveness, nor penance for satisfaction. Christ satisfied the Father, Who forgave them at the cross.

Finally, Peter of Vaux-de-Cernay explains how one is accepted into the heretics' fold. After renouncing all belief in the tenets held by the Roman Church, he renounces the mark of the Beast received at baptism:

"Do you renounce that cross which at baptism the priest made with oil and chrism on your breast, shoulders and (fore)head?"[35]

Upon the renunciation of belief in baptismal regeneration, the convert is kissed, hands are placed on him and he is given a black mantle.

WHAT WAS INNOCENT III.'S RESPONSE TO THE MASSACRES?

"[Pope Innocent III.] can without exaggeration be called one of the greatest popes in the Middle Ages.....responsibility for the massacres and bestialities, especially at Beziers, was that of the military leaders."[36]

"(Pilate) washed his hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just person..."[37]

Roman Catholic authorities posit guilt for the massacres with the crusading faithful. But what does the historical record say? G. G. Coulton looked into this very question. Is Innocent innocent? Reminding his readership of Innocent's response to the infamous 4th Crusade which resulted in the annihilation of 'Christian' Constantinople,[38] Coulton enumerates the massacres of Beziers, Carcassonne, Castres, the castle of Brom, Minerve, Lavaur and Casses, citing only Catholic authorities. The following is his extract and translation of the massacre of Minerve:

"Hearing that a multitude of the heretics were gathered together in a certain building, the (papal) Legate went to them bearing words of peace and warnings of salvation, desiring to convert them to better things; but they broke in upon his words, saying all with one voice: Wherefore do ye preach? We will have none of your faith; we abjure the Roman Church; ye labor in vain; neither life nor death shall separate us from the sect whereunto we hold.'

"Hearing this, he quitted that building and went to preach to the women who were assembled in another

house. But if he found the heretics hard and obstinate, still more obstinate did he find these heretickesses, and hardened through and through. Finding that he produced no effect whatever, he caused them to be taken out of the town; for there were 140 or more of these *perfect* [i.e., Cathar] heretics. So he prepared a plentiful fire, whereinto all were cast; yet there was no need for our men to cast them in; nay, all were so obstinate in their wickedness as to cast themselves in of their own accord."[39]

Coulton further adds, the author of the Chanson de la Croisade probably exaggerates no more than the orthodox have done on their side, when he makes the Count of Foix thus sum up the work of the Bishop of Toulouse in this war; 'He hath destroyed more than 500,000 folk, great and small, in life and soul and body he is more like Antichrist than a papal Legate.' Rev. Coulton then enters into the heart of his inquiry:

"What, then, was Innocent's attitude towards these and other horrors which might be quoted?.....How far was he aware of the atrocities of this war, and how far he approved the principle of religious massacre in the last, if not the first resort?.....From the first, Innocent had received authentic tidings straight from the wars. We have seen how exultantly Arnold sent him official details of the massacre at Beziers, and of the sending forth of those multitudes from Carcassonne, naked but for the clothes they stood up in, and with only one day's safe conduct. Simon de Montfort wrote about the same time; and Innocent's 123rd epistle, in direct response to this, began with:

'Praise and thanks to God for that which He hath mercifully and marvelously wrought through thee, and through others whom zeal for the orthodox faith hath kindled to this work, against his most pestilent enemies.'[40]

"He is glad to hear the land is being purged of heresy; he will do all he can to help Simon in 'extirpating the remnants of heretical iniquity' and only regrets that the simultaneous crusade against the East prevents him from doing more. There is not a word to hint that the crusaders have exceeded their strict duty.....At the same time he wrote urgent letters to the Emperor Otto, to the Kings of Aragon and Castile, and to many abbots and other prelates, pressing them to help Montfort in this holy war (Epp. 124-128). These are noticeable for the appearance of that (Latin) word *exterminare* [exterminate. i.e., destroy and annihilate completely] which, as we shall see, plays so important a part in papal policy.....His letters to the Kings of Aragon and Castile runs almost in the same form, except that the word *exterminare* now at last comes in; the kings are not to be diverted by their wars against the Moors from 'exterminating those aforesaid pestilent [heretics].' To the prelates he writes that the crusaders 'have proceeded to [the heretics'] extermination and the confiscation of their goods.'.....In all these places, though expulsion seems to be the primary meaning attached to the word, yet there is no attempt to dissociate it from the massacre which, as Innocent knew very well, had not only attended but overshadowed that expulsion......[Innocent III.] begins [Ep. 136]:

"The hand of God. beginning at last to <u>destroy</u> the mighty who gloried In their malice and iniquity, hath now made them migrate from their tabernacles in wondrous wise. For God hath mercifully purged His people's land; and the pest of heretical wickedness. which had grown like a cancer and infected almost the whole of Provence, is being deadened and driven away. His mighty hand hath taken many towns and cities wherein the devil dwelt In the person of those whom he possessed, and a holy habitation is being prepared for the Holy Ghost, in the persons of those whom He hath filled, in place of the expelled heretics. Wherefore we give praise and thanks to God Almighty, because in one and the same cause of His mercy, He hath deigned to work two works of justice, by bringing upon those faithless folk their merited <u>destruction</u> in such a fashion that as many as possible of the faithful should gain their well-earned reward by the <u>extermination</u> of these folk.....the army of crusaders hath

lately triumphed marvelously over them under the command of our legates; and our beloved son the noble Simon de Montfort, a strenuous and Catholic man....."[41]

"This letter brings us one step farther forward with the word *exterminare*. Innocent knows the story of Beziers and Carcassonne, and believes that the enemy has been driven out of *nearly* 500 *cities and castles'....*. The net result in all this, in his mind, is an *extermination*, which seems now to have become his favorite word, associated with mere expulsions on the one hand, but with fire and sword and wholesale destruction on the other. And this is the natural connotation of the word in his age." [42]

Citing Tertullian (who wrote extensively in Latin), Rev. Coulton builds a case for the Latin word *exterminare* to mean *exterminate* [i.e., to kill without any survivors] rather than *expel* or *drive out:*

"[Tertullian] writes of 'the times of the extermination of Jerusalem, that is of its devastation; for Daniel [9:26] saith that both the holy city and the sanctuary shall be exterminated.....that city [Jerusalem] had to be exterminated after Christ's passion'.....Four times in this short chapter he applies this same word to the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans.....The word exterminare occurs 36 times in the Vulgate Bible.....In not one of these cases can it he asserted that it is used in the simple sense of 'banish'.....Exterminare, in short, is a word chosen by the earliest translators, and again by Jerome, to represent Hebrew or Greek words of which the predominant sense is 'destruction.'"[43]

THE FOURTH LATERAN COUNCIL MANDATES EXTERMINATION OF HERETICS: JUST ANOTHER BRICK IN THE WALL OF GUILT, A. D. 1215

"CANON 3. We excommunicate [i.e., no buying, selling or burial] and anathematize every heresy that raises itself up against the holy, orthodox and Catholic faith which we have above explained; condemning all heretics under whatever names they may be known.....Those condemned, being handed over to the secular rulers [as was Jesus handed over by the Jews to the Roman authorities to be crucified] or their bailiffs, let them be abandoned, to be punished with due justice, clerics first being degraded from their orders. As to the property of the condemned, if they are laymen, let it be confiscated; if clerics, let it be applied to the churches from which they received revenues.

SUSPECTED HERETICS GUILTY UNTIL PROVEN INNOCENT

But those who are only suspected...unless they prove their innocence by a proper defense, let them be anathematized and avoided by all [i.e., no buying, selling, or burial] until they have made suitable satisfaction; but if they have been under excommunication for one year, then let them be condemned as heretics.

MAGISTRATES MUST SWEAR OATH TO COMPLY WITH HOLY SEE IN EXTERMINATING HERETICS UNDER PENALTY OF EXCOMMUNICATION AND FORFEITURE OF LAND

Secular authorities, whatever office they may hold, shall be admonished and induced and if necessary compelled by ecclesiastical censure, that as they wish to be esteemed and numbered among the faithful [i.e., the faithful who worship the Beast], so for the defense of the faith they ought publicly to <u>take an oath</u>

that they will strive in good faith and to the best of their ability to <u>exterminate</u> in the territories subject to their jurisdiction <u>all heretics</u> pointed out by the Church [i.e., those refusing to take the mark of the Beast are pointed out by their accuser, the Bishop, the 2nd beast].....But if a temporal ruler...should neglect to cleanse his territory of this heretical foulness, let him be excommunicated [i.e., no buying, selling, or burial] by the metropolitan and other bishops of the province [i.e., beasts from the earth]. If he refuses to make satisfaction in a year, let the matter be made known to the Supreme Pontiff [i.e., the 1st Beast, Antichrist], that he may declare the ruler's vassals absolved from their allegiance and may offer the territory to be ruled by (obedient) Catholics, [i.e., the Man of Lawlessness may break lawful oaths of fealty, steal land and give to whosoever he wills], who on the <u>extermination of the heretics</u> may possess it without hindrance and preserve it in the purity of the faith.....

CATHOLICS WHO KILL GIVEN PARDON BY POPE

<u>"Catholics who have girded themselves with the cross for the extermination of heretics</u> shall enjoy the indulgences and privileges granted to those who go in defense of the Holy Land....." [The canon then continues to excommunicate believers, defenders, receivers and favorers of heretics: i.e., no buying, selling, or burial. Also he has no right to hold public office, or right to inheritance.]

CHRISTIAN BURIAL DENIED THOSE WHO REFUSE TO WORSHIP THE BEAST

Clerics shall not give the sacraments of the Church to such pestilential people, <u>nor shall they presume to</u> give them Christian burial.....

PREACHING WITHOUT AUTHORITY OF THE BISHOPS OR POPE ILLEGAL

But since some....arrogate to themselves the authority to preach...all those prohibited or not sent, who, without the authority of the Apostolic See [the 1st Beast] or of the Catholic bishop [the 2nd beast] of the locality, shall presume to usurp the office of preaching either publicly or privately, shall be excommunicated [i.e., no buying, selling, or burial].....[The canon then repeats the admonition of *Ad abolendam* to the effect that the bishops seek out, discover, and destroy heretics. The faithful in their dioceses must aid them in the discovery process.]

ALL WHO REFUSE TO SWEAR OATH OF FEALTY TO THE BEAST CONSIDERED HERETICS

"But if any of them by damnable obstinacy should disapprove of the oath and should perchance be unwilling to swear, from this very fact let them be regarded as heretics."

BISHOPS WHO SHOW COMPASSION ARE TO BE DEPOSED

"If from sufficient evidence it is apparent that a bishop is negligent or remiss in cleansing his diocese of the ferment of heretical wickedness, let him be deposed from the Episcopal office and let another, who will and can confound heretical depravity, be substituted." [44]

RECENT ROMAN CATHOLIC TRANSLATION OF 3RD CANON COVERS-UP THE TRUE MEANING OF *EXTERMINARE*

Unless the casual researcher who delves into the contents of the Ecumenical Councils has prior

knowledge of the Latin text and the word *exterminare* contained therein, it would be impossible to discover a valuable clue as to the identity of the Beast, Antichrist, by reading the 1990 Edition, <u>Decrees of the Ecumenical Councils.</u>

"Let secular authorities.....take publicly an oath for the defense of the faith to the effect that they will seek to <u>expel</u> [*exterminare*] from the lands subject to their jurisdiction all heretics designated by the church....."[45]

"If the (temporal lord) refuses to give satisfaction within a year.....(the supreme pontiff may) make the land available for occupation by Catholics so that these may, after they have <u>expelled</u> [*exterminatis*] the heretics....."[46]

"Catholics who take the cross and gird themselves up for the <u>expulsion</u> [*exterminium*] of heretics shall enjoy the same indulgence...as is granted to those who go to the aid of the holy land."[47]

THE PHRASE 'CATHOLICS WHO TAKE THE CROSS FOR THE EXTERMINATION OF THE HERETICS' DOES NOT REVEAL THE ENTIRE ORIGINAL LATIN TEXT - IT SHOULD READ: 'CATHOLICS WHO TAKE <u>THE MARK</u> OF THE CROSS.....'

The original Latin text as given in Schroeder, reads:

"Catholici vero, qui crucis assumpto <u>charactere</u> ad haereticorum exterminium..."[48]

Thus, the true translation should read: "Catholics who take the mark of the cross for the extermination of the heretics..." The Latin word *characterem* is the same word used in the Latin Vulgate Bible in verse 16 of Rev. 13 signifying the *mark of the beast* in the right hand or forehead. We have discussed the fact that the Catholic Church admits to giving an indelible mark, *characterem*, in three of its sacraments: Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders. We have shown that the signing of the cross on the forehead of the one receiving Baptism is an integral part of the rite. We have also proved the signing of the cross on the forehead to prove that Confirmation also involves the signing of the cross on the forehead of the one receiving Holy Orders. There remains, then, the need to prove that Confirmation also involves the signing of the cross on the forehead of the one confirmed.

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION MANDATES SIGNING THE FOREHEAD WITH THE MARK OF THE CROSS

"APOSTOLIC CONSTITUTION ON THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION PAUL, BISHOP

Servant of the Servants of God For an Everlasting Memorial [49]

".....Our predecessor Innocent III. wrote: "By the anointing of the forehead the laying on of the hand is designated, which is otherwise called confirmation, since through it the Holy Spirit is

given for growth and strength.....Benedict XIV. made this declaration: 'Therefore let this be said, which is beyond dispute: in the Latin Church [i.e., the Church of 'Latin Man', the Beast] the sacrament of confirmation is conferred by using sacred chrism or olive oil, mixed with balsam and blessed by the bishop, and by tracing the sign of the cross by the minister of the sacrament on the forehead of the recipient, while the same minister pronounces the words of the form'.....But in <u>the twelfth century</u> [i.e., the days of the Albigense-Cathars, Waldenses, and Patarini: heretics who refused to take the mark of the Beast] Roman Pontifical the formula which later became the common one <u>first occurs:</u> 'I sign you [i.e., 'I mark you'] with the sign of the cross [i.e., 'with the mark of the Beast'] and confirm you with the chrism of salvation. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.' [i.e., in the name of the Dragon, and of the Beast, and of the spirit of Antichrist.]

".....by our supreme apostolic authority we decree and lay down that in the Latin Church the following should be observed for the future:

"The Sacrament of confirmation is conferred through the anointing with chrism on the forehead, which is done by the laying on of the [right] hand, and through the words: 'Accipe Signaculum Doni Spiritus Sancti'.[50]

The selfsame authority describes the ritual of anointing with chrism and translates the Latin formula cited above:

"The bishop dips his right thumb in the chrism and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of the one to be confirmed, as he says:

'N., be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.' The newly confirmed responds: 'Amen.'

The bishop says:

'Peace be with you.' The newly confirmed responds: 'And also with you.'" [51]

There is a wealth of prophetic fulfillment in this sacrament. Notice that it is the *bishop* who administers the sacrament of Confirmation. The authority we have been citing informs us that *the original minister of confirmation is the bishop*.[52] The bishop is symbolized by the 2nd beast who comes up out of the earth, having two horns like a lamb.[53] The bishop's miter has two horns (see PLATE 6). It is this beast, also known as the false prophet,[54] who causes all who will submit, under penalty of death, to receive the mark (*characterem*) of the 1st Beast, the pope, Antichrist, on their forehead or right hand.[55] We have seen how it was the bishop who was empowered by the pope to search out, discover, judge and destroy all heretics; heretics being the ones who refused the Sacraments of the Church, also refusing to swear an oath of obedience to the Church and her head, the pope; the Sacraments being a means of imprinting the indelible mark (*characterem*) of the receiver, by the right hand of the bishop or priest, the giver.

Let us look at the supposed English translation of 'Accipe Signaculum Doni Spiritus Sancti.' The correct translation of the Latin formula is: 'Receive the mark with the gift of the Holy Spirit.' Accipe is derived from accipere: to take what is offered or given; to receive willingly.[56] The root to the word signaculum is signo: to mark with any distinguishable sign.[57] Signo, in turn, is derived from signum: a mark impressed for establishing ownership.[58] Thus, in the sacrament of Confirmation we have a mark (characterem) received on the forehead, in the sign of the cross, through the agency, power and authority of the right hand of the bishop, who has himself received the indelible marks of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy orders, on his forehead, in the sign of a cross.

THE MARK OF THE BEAST, THE SIGN OF THE CROSS ON THE RECEIVER'S FOREHEAD, SIGNIFIES OWNERSHIP BY THE DRAGON

Is the reader shocked by this statement? How easily the Body of Christ has been duped into believing the sign of the cross is one of benevolence and grace. Rather, it is the mark of the Beast, who comes in the name of Christ, professing orthodoxy. The cross is no more a symbol of grace and salvation than an electric chair would be if Christ were electrocuted. How many Christians would delight in wearing a miniature electric chair around their necks? How many Christian churches would place a life-sized replica of Jesus strapped into this chair of death for all the congregation to worship? None, of course. Yet the Roman Catholic Church displays a crucified man they call 'Christ' above their altar of sacrifice for the faithful to do obeisance.

The saints of Rev. 7:4-8 are all sealed on their foreheads by the Holy Spirit. They are God's elect, chosen out of the professing Church *(many are called, few chosen)*. The Dragon, on the other hand, has his vicar, the 1st Beast and his false prophet, the 2nd beast, give the earth dwellers who worship the 1st Beast an indelible spiritual mark that imprints their soul: the sign of the cross made on their foreheads. The Dragon imitates the work of God. The mark of the Beast is a counterfeit of the sealing by the Holy Spirit. The Dragon, His vicar, the Beast, and the false prophet are counterfeiting Christianity - they are professing Christians. But they are not Christians, they are the enemy of God and His true Church. The false Christian Church can be identified by its claim to give the seal of God in its sacraments. The book of Revelation tells us God sovereignly seals His elect, i.e., gives them the gift of the Holy Spirit (Rev. 7). No sacraments are involved. Not even baptism, disproving the false doctrines of baptismal regeneration, confirmation 'strengthening', and a special anointing of the Spirit at ordination.

In calling the Fourth Lateran Council 'just another brick in the wall', a double-entendre was intended. One of the titles given the false Christian Church by the Holy Spirit is Mystery *Babylon*. One of the unique features of Babylon is *making brick and building*.^[59] Taking place in St. John of Lateran papal cathedral, the Fourth Lateran Council *marks the zenith attained by the papacy*, one authority tells US.^[60] Convened by Innocent III., whose pontificate another

authority declares to be *the culmination of the papacy's influence, authority, and standing*,^[61] we, on the other hand, have revealed it to be steeped in the blood of the saints through his policy of extermination. The Lateran Church occupies the same site as the Roman Lateran family palace. The term *laterite* is derived from the name *later*, meaning brick, which is, coincidentally, the root of the name *Lateran*.

To further enhance our case that the pontificate of Innocent III. was the culmination and zenith of evil thus far, note that Paul VI. cites Innocent III. as the earliest papal authority mandating the marking of the forehead of the confirmed by the right hand of the bishop in the sacrament of Confirmation (see above). By obeying the decree one worships the Beast, not the Lord Jesus, for one cannot serve, obey and worship two Masters.

'EXTERMINARE' IS USED IN THE LATIN VULGATE TO MEAN 'KILL AND DESTROY'

"...et advenit ira tua et tempus mortuorum iudicari, et reddere mercedem servis tuis prophetis, et sanctis, et timentibus nomen tuuni pusillis et magnis, et <u>exterminandi</u> eos qui corruperunt terram."^[62] : "...and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear they name, small and great; and shouldst <u>destroy them</u> which destroy the earth."^[63]

Does the reader see the irony in the fact that the Lord will *exterminate* them which did the *exterminating* on earth?

(1) THE ONE WHO EXTERMINATES IS THE EXTERMINATOR; (2) THE ONE WHO DESTROYS IS THE DESTROYER; (3) IF ANTICHRIST IS THE DESTROYER, AND (4) TO DESTROY IS TO EXTERMINATE (5) THEN ANTICHRIST IS THE EXTERMINATOR

Postulates 1, 2, and 4 may be corroborated in any dictionary. Let us examine postulate 3: Antichrist is the Destroyer.

PROOF THAT ANTICHRIST IS THE DESTROYER

1 - THE 1st BEAST MAKES WAR WITH THE SAINTS AND KILLS THEM: REV. 13;7, 10.

2 - THE 1st BEAST IS A DESTROYER.

3 - LITTLE HORN MAKES WAR WITH THE SAINTS AND KILLS THEM: DAN. 7:21, 25.

- 4 LITTLE HORN IS A DESTROYER.
- 5 LITTLE HORN IS KILLED BY CHRIST AT 2nd ADVENT: DAN. 7:9-11, 21-22, 25-26; DAN. 2:34.
- 6 THE 1st BEAST IS KILLED BY CHRIST AT 2nd ADVENT: REV. 19:20.
- 7 THE MAN OF SIN IS KILLED BY CHRIST AT 2nd ADVENT: 2THESS. 2:6.
- 8 THEREFORE: THE MAN OF SIN IS BOTH LITTLE HORN AND THE 1st BEAST.

9 - THEREFORE: THE MAN OF SIN KILLS THE SAINTS.

10 - THEREFORE: THE MAN OF SIN IS A DESTROYER.

11 - THE MAN OF SIN IS THE SON OF PERDITION: 2THESS. 2:3.

12 - THE BEAST FROM THE ABYSS GOES INTO PERDITION: Rev. 17:8.

13 - THEREFORE: THE BEAST FROM THE ABYSS AND THE MAN OF SIN ARE BOTH SONS OF PERDITION.

14 - THE BEAST FROM THE ABYSS KILLS THE SAINTS: REV. 11:7.

15 - THE BEAST FROM THE ABYSS IS A DESTROYER.

16 - THEREFORE: THE BEAST THAT ASCENDS OUT OF THE ABYSS IS THE MAN OF SIN.

17 - THE MAN OF SIN IS ANTICHRIST. (NO DISAGREEMENT AMONG ALL AUTHORITIES).

18 - THEREFORE: THE 1st BEAST IS ANTICHRIST; LITTLE HORN IS ANTICHRIST; THE BEAST FROM THE ABYSS IS ANTICHRIST.

19 - THE 1st BEAST, LITTLE HORN, BEAST FROM THE ABYSS, AND MAN OF SIN ARE ALL DESTROYERS.

20 - THEREFORE: ANTICHRIST IS THE DESTROYER.

SINCE ANTICHRIST IS THE DESTROYER, ANTICHRIST IS THE EXTERMINATOR

THE LATIN VULGATE ADMITS THE DESTROYER IS THE EXTERMINATOR

"Neque murmuraveritas, sicut quldam eorum murmuraverunt, et perierunt ab <u>exterminatore.</u>"[64]

"Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer."[65]

THE LATIN VULGATE ADDS AN INCREDIBLE SENTENCE TO REV. 9:11, ADMITTING THE KING OF THE LOCUSTS IS THE EXTERMINATOR

"et habebant super se regem angelum abyssi cui nomen hebraice Abaddon, graece autem Apollyon, <u>latine habens nomen Exterminans</u>."[66]

"And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon ['Destruction'], but in the Greek tongue is Apollyon ['Destroyer'], and in the Latin tongue he is called <u>Exterminator.</u>"[67]

THE KING OF THE LOCUSTS IS THE EXTERMINATOR ANTICHRIST IS THE EXTERMINATOR THEREFORE; THE KING OF THE LOCUSTS IS ANTICHRIST

The invasion of ravaging, destroying locusts which make the sound of many horses running to battle and who torment men symbolize the crusaders and inquisitors who persecuted, tortured and killed the Albigensian-Cathars and Waldensians, to name but two witnesses of Christ. Although they killed the bodies of the so-called heretics, they did not kill their souls (Rev. 9:5; Matt. 10:28).

INNOCENT III.: KING OF THE LOCUST CRUSADERS INNOCENT III. GUILTY OF EXTERMINATING THE SAINTS CONCLUSION: INNOCENT III. IS ANTICHRIST

SINCE INNOCENT III. IS ANTICHRIST, AND ANTICHRIST IS THE MAN OF SIN, AND THE MAN OF SIN IS DESTROYED ONLY AT THE 2nd COMING OF CHRIST, THERE CAN ONLY BE ONE CONCLUSION: ANTICHRIST IS STILL IN OUR MIDST BECAUSE CHRIST HAS NOT COME -SO EVERY SUCCEEDING PONTIFF MUST BE ANTICHRIST

We are now faced with a dilemma. If Antichrist is here, right now, at this very moment, how is it that so few Christians know it? But there is a more difficult problem which must be dealt with. How is it, since the Pope is Antichrist, that he is viewed by many of our evangelical leadership as a Man of God, not the Man of Sin? But let us answer the first question. Over a period of two years this author sent inquiries to ministries that specialize in defending the faith. They are ministries who watch and warn. The question posed to them, 'Who is Antichrist?', received the following replies:

- "Don't believe he has been revealed."

- "...not within the scope of our ministry."

- "...tough question to answer...Can't say I have a good answer on who he is."

- "...very difficult question...I am sorry but I cannot give you an answer. I do not believe anyone knows who the Anti-Christ is..."

The next question, 'Who is Mystery Babylon?' received the following responses:

- "Don't know."

- "...not within the scope of our ministry."

- "Many believe that Mystery Babylon is in the process of being set up. Some say it is the Vatican. I don't think it is the U.S."

- "...I do not believe anyone knows for sure. Some have speculated on New York City, others Hollywood, etc."

A third question posed to these various ministries was, 'Is Pope John Paul II. our brother in Christ?":

- "Don't know and can't know."

- "Don't know his heart - Catholic doctrine is contrary to Bible (Mary, saints, sacrament)."

- " not within the scope of our ministry."

- "Pope John Paul II. is our saved brother if he is trusting, by faith, in the merits of Christ alone for his salvation. Now that he is hooked into evolution in addition to all of his extras, I cannot see how he can possibly be 'born again."

- "This is also hard to determine. Having never met the Pope or read his testimony confessing Jesus Christ as his Lord and Saviour I can not say."

THESE RESPONSES PROVE THE 'MYSTERY' OF THE MYSTERY OF INIQUITY

If this author had received replies positively identifying the papal Antichrist and his Church, Mystery Babylon, the Bible would have been in error calling the *mystery of iniquity* a 'mystery.' The Word would also have been guilty of misjudging the 'mystery' of *Mystery Babylon*. The element of mystery presupposes an enigmatic, secret, unknown, even unknowable quality. Several of the responses cited above infer the 'unknowability' of these three questions. If the mystery is unknowable, then the Christian who does not know it is not at fault, not responsible, and therefore can't be judged as ignorant, or lazy, or not doing his job of 'watching'. However, if the mystery is knowable, involving an entire book of the Bible, and Christians still remain ignorant, it proves several things:

- 1. God is not at fault, Christians are.
- 2. Satan is deceiving Christians by the truckload.
- 3. Christians can be deceived, even Christian leaders.
- 4. Unity with the Church of Rome by the deceived and unbelieving is not impossible.
- 5. The signs of the times are ominous.

The reader is asked: How is it, since the Pope is Antichrist, that he is viewed by many of our evangelical leaders as a Man of God, not the Man of Sin?

THEY RECEIVED NOT THE LOVE OF THE TRUTH, BUT INSTEAD RECEIVED THE DECEPTION , POSING AS RIGHTEOUSNESS, THAT THE MAN OF SIN WORKS BY THE POWER OF SATAN. FOR THIS CAUSE GOD SHALL SEND THEM STRONG DELUSION, THAT THEY SHOULD BELIEVE THE LIE: THE LIE THAT THE MAN OF SIN IS A MAN OF GOD, A CHRISTIAN LOVED OF GOD, AND HIS CHURCH IS ORTHODOX CHRISTIANITY.

These verses from 2Thess. 2:10-11 are quite profound. God, who cannot lie, who cannot do evil, sends a vast proportion of mankind a delusion reinforcing their error in believing the Christian nature of the Man of Sin. Those whom God deludes are damned, i.e., reprobated, for not believing the truth of the matter. These verses are one explanation as to why many of the visible church leaders promote union with Antichrist and his Whore, considering them brothers and sisters in Christ.

DON'T KNOW -CAN'T KNOW DON'T KNOW HIS HEART

Two prominent ministries responded with the above-mentioned quotes when asked if John Paul II. was our brother in the Lord. These answers reflect a gross misunderstanding of Scripture.

Jesus Christ tells us we can know and should know who is a true Christian and who is not:

YE SHALL KNOW THEM BY THEIR FRUITS EVERY GOOD TREE BRINGS FORTH GOOD FRUIT, A CORRUPT TREE BRINGS FORTH EVIL FRUIT A GOOD TREE CANNOT BRING FORTH EVIL FRUIT, NOR CAN A CORRUPT TREE BRING FORTH GOOD FRUIT EITHER MAKE THE TREE GOOD AND HIS FRUIT GOOD, OR THE TREE CORRUPT AND HIS FRUIT CORRUPT: FOR THE TREE IS KNOWN BY HIS FRUIT

OR THE TREE CORRUPT AND HIS FRUIT CORRUPT: FOR THE TREE IS KNOWN BY HIS FRUIT HE THAT DOETH THE WILL OF MY FATHER SHALL ENTER INTO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN HE THAT LOVETH ME NOT KEEPETH NOT MY SAYINGS

These several verses are all from Matt. 7, 12:33, and John 14:24. The Lord Jesus Christ, in His sermon on the Mount, admonishes us to judge who the saved and unsaved are. He explains that logic and common sense playa large part in determining who are the false prophets and who are the true prophets. It's a black or white issue. Evil cannot produce good and good cannot produce evil. The problem lies in determining what is good and what is evil. It is a similar question to the one which asks, 'Who is my neighbor?' That question is anticipated by Christ. He tells us that good fruit is doing the will of God the Father and keeping His sayings. The professing Christians who do so are saved and going to Heaven. The good tree is planted by God the Father in the first place (Matthew 15:13, again proving the sovereignty of God in election). The way in which the Lord has given us to determine the will of God is through His Word. We must compare the fruit of the professing Christian with what the Bible says is genuine Christianity (Acts 17:11).

THE FRUIT OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC TREE IS CORRUPT AND EVIL

The entire thrust of this book has been to prove this very point. We have reviewed thoroughly their several doctrinal positions and mode of worship which countermand the will of God: image worship, the sacrifice of the Mass, transubstantiation, baptismal regeneration, penance, the Godhood of Mary and the 'saints', etc., etc. We have then proved the practical out-working of their faith which steals from, kills and exterminates the true saints, given the opportunity. Thirdly, we have proved that Jesus Christ and the prophets have forewarned us of the Roman Catholic Church and her head, Antichrist, describing the Beast and the Whore in minute detail. And lastly, we have given the testimony of the true saints over the centuries past. Testimony which discerns, unquestionably, the true nature of Catholicism. Yet, despite all the proof given thus far, we offer still more proof to the skeptic.

THE TESTIMONY OF THE 14th CENTURY ALBIGENSE-CATHARS IN TOULOUSE AGAINST THE WICKED FRUIT OF THE CHURCH OF ROME

Roman Catholic theologian, Bernard Gui, had been sent to teach at the Dominican convent in Albi, becoming the new Inquisitor at Toulouse in 1306.[68] Fortunately for us, his *Practica*

Inquisitionis Heretice Pravitatis has been translated and distributed worldwide. Thus we have a record extant, admittedly biased, of inquisitional proceedings, examinations and judgments. The following is Bernard Gui's understanding of the beliefs held by the Albigense-Cathar 'heretics' one hundred years after the first exterminating crusades sent by Innocent III. The alert reader will comprehend the enormous fact that despite the efforts of the Gates of Hell to exterminate the 'heretical filth' from southern France in the 13th century (and earlier), they were unsuccessful.

"In the first place they usually say of themselves that they are good Christians, who do not swear, or lie, or speak evil of others; that they do not kill any man [i.e., they are not exterminators like the Church of Rome] or animal nor anything having breath of life, and that they hold the faith of the Lord Jesus Christ [Cf. Rev. 12:17] and His Gospel, as Christ and His Apostles taught [i.e., sola Scriptura, sola fide]. They assert they occupy the place of the apostles [i.e., apostolic succession is through them, not the popes], and that on account of the above mentioned things those of the Roman Church, namely, the prelates, clerks and monks, persecute them, especially the Inquisitors of Heresy, and call them heretics, although they are good men and good Christians, and that they are persecuted just as Christ and his apostles were by the Pharisees.

"They moreover talk to the laity of the evil lives [i.e., the Albigenses discerned the evil fruit of Romanism] of clerks and prelates of the Roman Church, pointing out, and setting forth their pride, cupidity, avarice, and uncleanness of life and such other evils as they know. They invoke with their own interpretation [i.e., not as the Church of Rome interprets], and according to their abilities, the authority of the Gospels and the Epistles against the condition of the prelates, churchmen and monks, whom they call Pharisees and false prophets, who say, but do not.

"Then they attack [i.e., defend the true faith] and vituperate, one after the other, all the sacraments of the church, especially the sacrament of the Eucharist, saying that it cannot contain the body of Christ for had this been as great as the largest mountain, Christians would have consumed it entirely before this. They assert that the host comes from straw, that it passes through the tails of horses when the flour is cleaned by a sieve [of horse hair]. That moreover it passes through the body and comes to a vile end which, they say, could not happen if God were in it. Of baptism, they assert that water is material and corruptible, and is therefore of the Evil Power and cannot sanctify the soul, but that the churchmen sell this water out of avarice, just as they sell earth for the burial of the dead, and oil to the sick when they anoint them, and as they sell the confession of sins as made to the priests [Cf. Matt. 21:12-13]. Hence they claim that confession made to the priests of the Roman Church is useless, and that since the priests may be sinners, they can not loose nor bind, and being unclean themselves, cannot make another clean. They assert, moreover, that the Cross of Christ should not be adored or venerated, because, as they urge, no one would adore or venerate the gallows upon which a father, relative or friend had been hung. They urge further that they who adore the cross ought for similar reasons to worship all thorns and lances because, as Christ's body was on the cross during the passion, so was the crown of thorns on his head, and the soldier's lance in his side.

"They proclaim many other scandalous [i.e., offensive] things in regard to the sacraments. They, moreover, read from the Gospels and the Epistles in the vulgar tongue [i.e., French, not Latin], applying them and expounding them in their favor and against the condition of the Roman Church [i.e., exposing the evil fruit and doctrine of the Roman Church as revealed in Scripture] in a manner which it would

THE ROSARY GIVEN TO INQUISITOR GENERAL 'SAINT' DOMINIC BY THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, A.D. 1214, AS A WEAPON TO CRUSH THE ALBIGENSIAN HERESY

"One day through the Rosary and Scapular I will save the world." (Blessed Virgin Mary to Saint Dominic)^[70]

Let us allow this most disturbing book to speak for itself:

"Our Lady appeared to him, accompanied by three angels, and she said: 'Dear Dominic, do you know which weapon the Blessed Trinity wants to use to reform the world?'

'Oh, my Lady, you know far better than I do because next to your Son Jesus Christ you have always been the chief instrument of our salvation.' Then Our Lady replied:

'I want you to know that, in this kind of warfare if you want to reach these hardened souls and win them over to God, preach my Psalter.' So he arose, comforted and burning with zeal he went on preaching. So fervently and compellingly did he explain the importance and value of the Holy Rosary that almost all the people of Toulouse embraced it and renounced their false beliefs. In a very short time a great improvement was seen in the town; people began leading Christian lives and gave up their former bad habits."[71]

'BLESSED' DOMINICAN ALAN DE LA ROCHE HEARS CHRIST SPEAK IN SACRED HOST (Cf. Rev. 13:15)

"Blessed Alan began this great work [Confraternity of the Most Holy Rosary] in 1460 after a special warning from our Lord. This is how he received His urgent message, as he tells it himself:

One day while he was saying Mass, Our Lord, Who wished to spur him on to preach the Holy Rosary, spoke to him in the Sacred Host: 'How can you crucify Me again so soon?', Jesus said. 'What did You say, Lord?', asked Blessed Alan, horrified.

'.....You are crucifying Me again now because you have all the learning and understanding that you need to preach My Mother's Rosary, and you are not doing so.....'

Our Lady spoke to him one day to inspire him to preach the Holy Rosary more and more.....

Saint Dominic appeared to Blessed Alan as well and told him of the great results of his ministry....."[72]

As the damning evidence continues to be brought forth, the reader is forced to reach the conclusion that a plea of ignorance on the part of the Roman Catholic Church cannot be justified. She knows her bloody past all too well. Thus, the only way she can alleviate the extreme problems of who she was and what she did, and still maintain her 'Christian' name, she must re-create herself. However, the reader must always keep in mind God doesn't and hasn't changed His mind. Mystery Babylon is fallen and the Beast goes into perdition. We must never

forget that crucial fact.

NOTES FOR CHAPTER SEVEN

- 1. See any dictionary.
- 2. ibid.
- 3. <u>The New Saint Joseph Baltimore Catechism</u>, op. cit., DICTIONARY AND INDEX.
- 4. ibid., p. 64.
- 5. ibid., p. 245.
- 6. BIBLIA SACRA, op. cit., 2Thessalonians 2:10b.
- 7. Tyndale: 2 Thessalonians 2:10b.
- 8. Maitland, op. cit., pp. 188-89.
- 9. 1Corinthians 13:13.
- 10. John 15:20.
- 11. Matthew 1:17.
- 12. Matthew 25:31-40.
- 13. Tyndale: Matthew 25:40.
- 14. ibid., Revelation 11:8.

15. See Martyrs Mirror, op. cit., p. 277. The Anabaptists viewed them as orthodox Christians.

- 16. BIBLIA SACRA, op. cit., KJV, Revelation 13: 10b.
- 17. ibid., Revelation 14:12.

18. Wakefield, op. cit., p. 197, quoting Arnaldus Amalrici, Abbot of Citeaux, as cited by German Cistercian monk, Caesarius of Heisterbach (ca. 1180-1240), in *DIALOGUE OF MIRACLES*.

- 19. See any dictionary.
- 20. NEWSWEEK, Dec. 8, 1969, pp. 33 ff.
- 21. Wakefield, op. cit., p. 197.
- 22. op. cit., article, LOUIS VI., KING OF FRANCE.
- 23. Encyclopedia Britannica, article, ALBIGENSES, p. 529.
- 24. ibid., article, BEZIERS.
- 25. <u>A History of the Crusades</u>, Kenneth M. Setton, Gen. Ed., (Univ. of Wisconsin Press), p. 289. 26. ibid.
- 27. The Dark Side of Christianity, Helen Ellerbe, (Morningstar Books, 1995), p. 74.
- 28. ibid., p. 75.

29. <u>History of the Crusades Against the Albigenses in the Thirteenth Century</u>, J.C.L. Sismonde de Sismondi; Jean Charles Leonard, Transl., (London, 1826; Reprint: AMS Press, NY, 1973), Introductory Essay, (paragraph headings added).

- 30. Wakefield and Evans, op. cit., pp. 236-41.
- 31. ibid., p. 237.
- 32. ibid., p. 238, 1112.

33. Callender, op. cit., p. 397; Cf. J.M. Cramp, <u>A Textbook of Popery</u>, (London,

19th century), contains full translation.

34. <u>The Convert's Catechism of Catholic Doctrine</u>, Imprimatur & Joseph E. Ritter, S.T.D., 1957, (Orig. pub. 1930; 1977(9) Tan Books and Pub., IL), pp. 101-104.

35. Wakefield and Evans, op. cit., p. 241.

36. New Catholic Encyclopedia, op. cit., article, INNOCENT III., POPE, pp. 521, 522;

37. Matthew 27:24b, KJV.

38. G .G .Coulton, op. cit., p. 6. Innocent's initial condemnation became acceptance as *'fait accompli*. 'He willingly shared in the plunder and "launched thunders against the pirates who intercepted that plunder on its voyage to the papal treasury."

39. ibid., p. 8.

- 40. ibid., p. 9.
- 41. ibid., p. 11.
- 42. ibid., p. 12.
- 43. ibid., pp. 12-13.
- 44. Schroeder, op. cit., pp. 242-44, (paragraph headings added).

45. <u>Decrees of the Ecumenical Councils</u>, Tanner, Ed., op. cit., p. 233, Fourth Lateran Council, Canon 3: On Heretics; Complete Latin Text in Schroeder, op. cit.

46. ibid., p. 234.

47. ibid.

48. Schroeder, op. cit., p. 563.

49. All official papal pronouncements utilize the title, *Servant of the Servants of God*, originated by Gregory the Great. Curiously, this same title is given Canaan: "Cursed be Canaan: a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren." (Gen. 9:25).

50. The Rites of the Catholic Church, op. cit., pp. 290, 293, 294, 295, 296.

51. ibid., pp. 309-10.

- 52. ibid., p. 279.
- 53. Revelation 13:11.
- 54. Revelation 19:20.
- 55. Revelation 13:15-17.
- 56. See any English dictionary, accept.
- 57. Oxford Latin Dictionary.
- 58. ibid.
- 59. Genesis 11:3-4.
- 60. Encyclopedia Britannica, op. cit., article, LATERAN COUNCILS, p. 740.
- 61. <u>New Catholic Encyclopedia</u>, op. cit., article, INNOCENT III., POPE.
- 62. BIBLIA SACRA, op. cit., Revelation 11:18.
- 63. Revelation 11:18, KJV.
- 64. The Polyglot Bible, (German Edition, 1890), Latin transl. of 1Corinthians 10:10.

- 65. 1Corinthians 10: 10, KJV.
- 66. Biblia Sacra, op. cit., Revelation 9: 11.
- 67. Revelation 9:11, KJV, Latin tongue, etc. added.
- 68. Characters of the Inquisition, William Thomas Walsh, (Kenedy & Sons, NY, 1940), p. 51.
- 69. Translations and Reprints, op. cit., p. 7, DESCRIPTION OF THE ALBIGENSES.
- 70. Cited in <u>The Secret of the Rosary</u>, St. Louis De Montfort, (Montfort Pub., Bayshore, NY), Imprimatur & Thomas Molloy, S.T.D., p. ii.
- 71. ibid., pp. 18-19.
- 72. ibid., p. 23.