

# The Split between Roman Catholicism and CHRIST

CONCORDIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
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SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

593 Purgatory

754 Temporal Power

847 Decretals of Isidore

858 Donation of Constantine

1075 Greatest mass divorce in history  
forced upon clergy by Gregory VII

1100 Money for Masses

1184 The Inquisition

1190 Sale of Indulgences

1215 Transubstantiation

1226 Adoration of the Host

1229 The Bible put on Index by Council of Toledo

1303 Papal Bull *Unam Sanctam*

1415 Cup denied to laymen by the Council  
of Constance

1545 Council of Trent—Rome turns finally  
from authority of God's Word to author-  
ity of tradition. Tradition made equal in  
authority to the Bible. Justification by  
faith condemned.

1600 The Invention of Scapulars

1854 Immaculate Conception of Mary

1864 Separation of Church  
and State Condemned

1870 Papal Infallibility

1908 Papal decree invalidating  
mixed marriages not performed  
by a Roman priest

1950 The Assumption of the Virgin Mary

MAN'S INVENTION

1517  
THE REFORMATION

GOD'S REVELATION

WENTIETH CENTURY

## *Which Will You Choose?*

MAN'S WORD

OR

GOD'S WORD

### WHY THIS PAMPHLET?

The appeal of the Roman Catholic Church to Protestants, asking them to acknowledge the Pope at Rome as the head of Christendom, is becoming more blatant and more insistent.

The argument of history is being employed by the Roman Church in an attempt to disturb the faith of Protestants and to convince them that the Roman Church alone is the true Church representing Jesus Christ. This pamphlet explodes the fiction of that argument.

### THE SPLIT

The split between the simplicity of the Gospel and the grandeur of Rome early became evident. That split has widened with the centuries. With man-made doctrine upon man-made doctrine, requirement upon requirement, church regulation upon church regulation (all given the force of divine law by its peculiarly dictatorial system), the Roman Church has proceeded upon a steadfast course to induce, persuade, cajole, betray and, when all else fails, to bend men forcibly in submission to the dictum of Boniface VIII: "It is necessary to salvation that every man should submit to the Pope". (Bull *Unam Sanctam*, 1303, quoted by Pope Pius IX in his encyclical of December 8, 1864).

### ONLY FACTS

The facts of history show, one by one, how the gap widened between the Church of Christ and the machinery of Rome. The facts of history demonstrate, too, that the average Christian confronted by the vigorous appeal of the Roman Church today must make a clear choice between the man-made dogmas of Rome and the God-given doctrines of the Bible.

This pamphlet presents only *historical facts* — facts presented in as favorable a light as Roman Catholic books themselves can present them. Side by side with the word of the Roman Church has been printed the Word of God.

Some dates, of necessity, are approximate. Roman Catholic authority has been accepted for those dates which are in doubt.

*Which will you choose* — MAN'S WORD or GOD'S WORD?

## THE WORD of ROME

## THE WORD of GOD

### 593 A.D. PURGATORY

#### ROME INVENTED PURGATORY

"It is of faith that there is a place we call purgatory, where petty faults, or the temporal punishment due to sin, are expiated." (Cardinal O'Connell of Boston, *The Catholic Church, the True Church of the Bible*, p. 178)

#### TEMPORAL PUNISHMENT NOT REMITTED

"If anyone saith, that God always remits the whole punishment together with the guilt, and that the satisfaction of penitents is no other than the faith whereby they apprehend that Christ has satisfied for them, let him be anathema." (Council of Trent, Session XIV, Canon 12)

#### THE BIBLE NOWHERE SPEAKS OF PURGATORY

"Jesus said unto him (the thief on the cross), Verily I say unto thee, *Today thou shalt be with Me in Paradise.*" (Luke 23, 43)

[Even for the thief—  
No PURGATORY]

#### CHRIST SAYS A GREAT GULF IS FIXED

"Between us and you (heaven and hell) there is a great gulf fixed; so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us that would come from thence." (Luke 16, 26)

[Christ knew nothing about the fiction of passing from purgatory to heaven]

#### ONE CHANCE!

"It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." (Hebrews 9, 27)

[Note: Death, "after this the judgment"—NOT Death, after this purgatory]

#### WHEN GOD FORGIVES, HE FORGIVES EVERYTHING

"There is now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus." (Romans 8, 1)

[No need of purgatory for those who die in Christ Jesus]

#### RECONCILIATION THROUGH CHRIST WITHOUT PURGATORY

"God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them."

(II Corinthians 5, 19)

MAN'S WORD                      OR                      GOD'S WORD  
*Which Will You Choose?*

## THE WORD of ROME

### INDULGENCES FOR TEMPORAL PUNISHMENT

"What easier than to have the holy name of Jesus on our lips as we go from hallowed mound to mound and from row to row? Indulgenced ejaculations are hardly valued enough. 'My Jesus mercy!' 100 days [indulgence] each time; 'Heart of Jesus, in Thee I trust!' 300 days [indulgence] each time; 'Sweet heart of Jesus, be Thou my love!' 300 days [indulgence] each time; in less than a minute's time, if you have the proper dispositions of contrition and love, you have a thousand days' *indulgence, remission of temporal punishment* that could have been acquired in olden centuries only by ten hundred days of penitential sackcloth and ashes."

(Messenger of the Sacred Heart)

## THE WORD of GOD

### CHRIST'S PERFECT OFFERING

"For by one offering He hath perfected forever them that are sanctified." (Hebrews 10, 14)

[*The doctrine of purgatory (with its indulgences) implies that Christ's offering is not enough*]

### JUSTIFIED FREELY

"All have sinned and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus."

(Romans 3, 23.24)

[*Rome insists that justification is not free*]

### ALL FORGIVEN!

"You being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath He quickened together with Him, having forgiven you *all* trespasses, blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us."

(Col. 2, 13.14)

[*No indulgences needed!*]

### PUNISHMENT TAKEN AWAY

"He was wounded for our transgressions. He was bruised for our iniquities; the *chastisement of our peace was upon Him*, and with His stripes we are healed."

(Isaiah 53, 5)

"He is the propitiation (satisfaction) for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world." (I John 2, 2)

[*Saved through Jesus and not through purgatory*]

754 A.D.

### TEMPORAL POWER

[Pope Stephen II crowned Pepin King of the Franks in return for Pepin's assistance in establishing the authority of the Pope in Italy.]

### JESUS SAID:

"My kingdom is not of this world."  
(John 18, 36)

[*Churches whose program is the seeking of worldly power do not belong to Jesus Christ!*]

MAN'S WORD

OR

GOD'S WORD

*Which Will You Choose?*



847 A.D.

## THE DECRETALS OF ISIDORE

(Forgeries upon which Roman Catholicism was built)

[The decretals are a collection of papal letters of thirty-three popes, gathered by one "Isidore", from Sylvester I (314-335) to Gregory II (715-731). The official edition of the "Corpus Juris" (Official canon law) in 1580 still declared them to be genuine. The purpose of the decretals throughout was to secure the power of the Roman Catholic bishop, including the Bishop of Rome. These documents were first proved forgeries by Erasmus (died in 1536) and Charles du Moulin (died in 1556), a Roman Catholic canonist who joined the Reformation.]

Sample rules:

1. A layman can bring no charge against a bishop.
2. A cleric can never bring a charge against his superior.
3. Condemnation of a bishop requires seventy-two witnesses.
4. A bishop may be neither accused nor condemned before a secular tribunal.

[Pope Nicholas I (858-867) pretended that these texts were contained in the archives of the Roman Church (letter of January 22, 865) and used them extensively in a controversy with the French bishops.

In the eleventh century the false decretals became a part of the canon law of the Roman Church and, as a consequence, held a prominent place in the teaching of law until the time of the Reformation.]

## ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH ADMITS IT!

"It remains true, however, that Isidore was a forger. But there are forgers and forgers — And even though it must be admitted that the popes benefited by the forgeries, their good faith

THE ONLY PROGRAM  
FOR THE CHURCH CAME  
FROM CHRIST—  
NOT FROM MAN.

"Go ye and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." (Matthew 28, 19,20)

[If the Roman Church had observed the commandments of Christ, there would have been no need of resorting to forgeries]

CHRIST DENOUNCED MAN-MADE  
COMMANDMENTS TO  
THE CHURCH

"In vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." (Matthew 15, 9)

MAN'S WORD

OR

GOD'S WORD

*Which Will You Choose?*

## THE WORD of ROME

is beyond question. Isidore wrote a long way off from Rome. It was not a very honest proceeding, and Isidore was far from being scrupulous. But men of the ninth century must not be judged according to modern ideas of literary morality. It is impossible to condone such forgeries, but the history of them, puts us in a better position to judge them, and even to discover extenuating circumstances in their favor by emphasizing the powerful forces at work in the society of the period, and which were acting with what one may call historical fatalism." (Catholic Encyclopedia V pp. 773-780)

*[If admitted — why not corrected? Why this man-made machinery? Why not return to the Bible and Christ's program for the Church?]*

858 A.D.

### DONATION OF CONSTANTINE

(Another Forgery upon which Roman Catholicism was built)

[The "Donation" is a spurious document of Emperor Constantine the Great, addressed to the Pope Sylvester I (314-335) purporting to bestow upon the Pope, among other gifts, the following privileges and possessions:

1. The bishop of Rome as successor of St. Peter, is to have the primacy over the four bishops of Antioch, Alexandria, Constantinople, and Jerusalem. Also over all the bishops in the world.
2. The Lateran basilica at Rome, built by Constantine shall surpass all churches as their head.
3. The bishop of Rome shall enjoy the same honorary rights as the emperor, among them the right to wear an imperial crown, a purple cloak, and tunic, and in general all imperial insignia or signs of distinction.
4. The emperor makes a present to the bishop of Rome and his successors

## THE WORD of GOD

### GOD CONDEMNS LYING EVERYWHERE!

"Thou shalt not bear false witness."  
(Exodus 20, 16)

"Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbor."

(Ephesians 4, 25)

### GOD CONDEMNS LYING IN THE CHURCH

"The prophets prophesy falsely and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so. And what will ye do in the end thereof?"

(Jeremiah 5, 31)

MAN'S WORD

OR

GOD'S WORD

*Which Will You Choose?*

## THE WORD of ROME

of the Lateran Palace, of all provinces of the city of Rome, and all the provinces, districts, and towns of Italy and the western territories.

5. The emperor has established in the east a new capital which bears his name. (Constantinople). He has moved his government to this city, since it is inconvenient that a secular government have power where God has established the residence of the head of the Christian religion.

6. The document curses all who dare to violate these donations and assures that the emperor has signed them with his *own* hand and placed them on the tomb of St. Peter.]

The Pope used the "Donation" to appeal for the support of Charlemagne: "Just as in the times of blessed Sylvester, Roman pontiff of sacred memory, by the very religious emperor Constantine the Great, and through his generosity, the holy Catholic and Apostolic Roman Church of God was elevated and exalted and was endowed with the right to bestow authority in these regions of the West, so also in these extremely happy times of yours and ours may the holy Church of God, that is of blessed Peter the Apostle, spring out and leap forth." (Pope Adrian I, letter to Charlemagne of the year 778)

### ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH ADMITS IT!

[Even during the Reformation, Roman Catholic writers continued to defend the "Donation."]

"Long after the Donation's authenticity was disputed in the fifteenth century, its validity was still upheld by the majority of canonists and jurists, who continued throughout the sixteenth century to quote it as authentic." (Catholic Encyclopedia V "Donation of Constantine" p. 121)  
Today everyone knows that it is a

## THE WORD of GOD

### JESUS SAID:

"Whosoever shall break one of these least commandments, *and shall teach men so*, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven."

(Matthew 5, 19)

MAN'S WORD

OR

GOD'S WORD

*Which Will You Choose?*

## THE WORD of ROME

"forged document of Emperor Constantine the Great, by which large privileges and rich possessions were conferred on the Pope and the Roman Church." (Catholic Encyclopedia V "Donation of Constantine" p. 118)

### OTHER POPES USED "DONATION" AS AUTHENTIC DOCUMENT

[This forgery was used officially by Pope Leo IX in 1054 to bolster the claims of the papacy to temporal power.

Pope Urban II used this forgery in 1091 to support his claims on the island of Corsica.

Innocent III, Gregory IX, and Innocent IV also used this forgery as an authentic document to prove papal pretensions to secular power.]

## THE WORD of GOD

1075 A.D.

### GREATEST MASS DIVORCE IN HISTORY FORCED UPON CLERGY BY GREGORY VII

#### C E L I B A C Y

Gregory VII declared all clerical marriages invalid.

"Our judgment upon marriages contracted by persons of this kind (the clergy) is that they must be broken."

(First Lateran Council, 1123,  
Canon XXI)

"Marriage is honorable in all."  
(Hebrews 13, 4)

[*"all includes the clergy"*]

"But Simon's wife's mother lay sick of a fever, and anon they tell him of her."  
(Mark 1, 30)

[*St. Peter was a married man, and Christ did not declare his marriage invalid.*]

"What God hath joined together let no man put asunder." (Mark 10, 9)  
[*The Roman edict is the exact opposite of Christ's*]

"A bishop must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;

One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity;

For if a man know not how to rule

MAN'S WORD OR GOD'S WORD

*Which Will You Choose?*



## THE WORD of ROME

## THE WORD of GOD

his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?"

(I Timothy 3, 2.4.5)

*[Paul had no objection to marriage on the part of the clergy!]*

"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." (I Timothy 4, 1-3)

1100 A.D.

### MONEY FOR MASSES

Money — "The practice of giving the priest a money alms for a Mass dates from the seventh or eighth century, and became a universal practice in the twelfth. If more masses are asked for than a priest can say, he is bound to send them to priests in poor parishes where few offerings are made, or to priests on foreign missions. The custom of accepting stipends for masses is *approved only by tradition*, i.e. the church's approval for the past twelve hundred years. As the divine teacher of Christ's revelation, she cannot make any universal law contrary to the natural or positive divine law." (Conway, *The Question Box*, p. 271) [italics ours]

"Peter said unto him (Simon Magus, who wished to purchase the gift of God with money): Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money." (Acts 8, 20)

*[Rome approves, although Peter disapproved, the sin of "purchasing the gift of God with money"]*

### JESUS SAID:

"Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition. Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered. And many such like things do ye."

(Mark 7, 9.13)

*[Christ denounced church traditions which supplant the Word of God]*

"In vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." (Matthew 15, 9)

*[Rome admits that the practice of requiring money for masses is purely a "commandment of men"]*

MAN'S WORD

OR

GOD'S WORD

*Which Will You Choose?*

## THE WORD of ROME

## THE WORD of GOD

1184 A.D.

### THE INQUISITION

(Torture Trials of those who did not accept all the teachings of the Pope)

The Pope himself established the Inquisition in 1213, together with the death penalty for heresy.

#### TORTURE APPROVED BY THE POPE

"Curiously enough, torture was not regarded as a mode of punishment, but purely as a means of eliciting the truth. It was first authorized by Innocent IV in his Bull "Ad Extripanda" of May 15, 1252, which was confirmed by Alexander IV on November 30, 1259, and by Clement IV on November 3, 1265." (Catholic Encyclopedia VIII "Inquisition", p. 32)

#### IMPRISONMENT AS RELIGIOUS PUNISHMENT

"Imprisonment was not always accounted punishment in the proper sense; It was rather looked on as an opportunity for repentance, a preventive against backsliding or the infection of others." (Catholic Encyclopedia VIII, "Inquisition", p. 33)

#### DEATH TO NON-CATHOLICS

"When those adjudged guilty of heresy have been given up to the civil power by the bishop or his representative, or the Inquisition, the podesta or chief magistrate of the city shall take them at once and shall, within five days at the most, execute the laws made against them." (Pope Innocent IV, Bull "Ad Extripanda", 1252, A.D.)

#### CHRIST'S WORD TO PETER

"They that take the sword shall perish with the sword."

(Matthew 26, 52)

*[Christ did not want His church to be built with the sword]*

#### THE REAL SWORD OF THE CHURCH

"Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;" (Ephesians 6, 17)

#### CHRIST'S WORD TO THE CHURCH

"Take my yoke upon you, and *learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart* and ye shall find rest unto your souls." (Matthew 11, 29)

*[Where can we find Christ's meekness in the Inquisition?]*

#### PAUL'S WORD TO THE CHURCH

"Walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, with all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love." (Ephesians 4, 1, 2)

*[There is no love in the use of imprisonment — for religious punishment]*

#### CHRIST'S WORDS TO HIS DISCIPLES

"Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness sake; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are ye, when man shall revile you and persecute you and shall say all manner of evil against you for my sake.

MAN'S WORD OR GOD'S WORD

*Which Will You Choose?*

## THE WORD of ROME

### THE SPANISH INQUISITION

[The Inquisition in Spain was established by Pope Gregory IX (Bull *Declinante iam Mundi* of May 26, 1232). This institution of infamous memory was approved by numerous popes, including Pius VII (1800-1823). It was abolished only a century ago by the Spanish Revolution of 1820.]

## 1190 A.D. INDULGENCES

### VARIOUS KINDS OF INDULGENCES

"By a plenary indulgence is meant the remission of the entire temporal punishment due to sin so that no further expiation is required in Purgatory.

"A partial indulgence commutes only a certain portion of the penalty." (Catholic Encyclopedia VII, "Indulgences" p. 783)

### WHO CAN GRANT INDULGENCES?

"The Pope, as supreme head of the Church on earth, can grant all kinds of indulgences to any and all of the faithful. Pius X (August 28, 1903) allowed cardinals in their titular churches and dioceses to grant 200 days; archbishops, 100; bishops, 50; (Catholic Encyclopedia VII "Indulgences" p. 784)

### BASIS FOR THIS TEACHING—

"An essential element in indulgences is the application to one person of the satisfaction performed by others. Besides (the satisfaction of Christ) there are the satisfactory works of the Blessed Virgin Mary, undiminished by any penalty due to sin, and the virtues, penances, and sufferings of the saints vastly exceeding any temporal punishment which these servants of God might have incurred. These are added to the treasury of the Church as a secondary deposit." (Catholic Encyclopedia. "Indulgences" p. 784)

## THE WORD of GOD

"Rejoice and be exceedingly glad: for great is your reward in heaven; for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you."

(Matthew 5, 10-13)

[Christ blesses those who suffer for His sake]

### ALL SIN TAKEN AWAY BY CHRIST

"Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world." (John 1, 29)

"The blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, cleanseth us from *ALL* sin." (I John 1, 7)

[Why the need of man-made indulgences, when Christ's blood "Cleanses us from *All* sin"?]

### ONLY GOD CAN FORGIVE SINS

"Who can forgive sins, but God alone?" (Luke 5, 21)

[How dare any man, including the Pope, usurp this power of God?]

"If we confess our sins *He* is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from *all* unrighteousness." (I John 1, 9)

### NO MAN CAN FURNISH REDEMPTION FOR THE SOUL OF ANOTHER

"None of them can by any means redeem his brother, nor give to God a ransom for him, for the redemption of their soul is precious."

(Psalm 49, 7.8)

[No man, not even a saint canonized by the Roman Catholic Church, can give to God a ransom for another man]

MAN'S WORD

OR

GOD'S WORD

*Which Will You Choose?*

1215 A.D.

## TRANSUBSTANTIATION

BREAD AND WINE CHANGED  
INTO BODY AND BLOOD

"By the consecration of the bread and of the wine a conversion is made of the whole substance of the Body of Christ our Lord, and of the whole substance of the wine into the substance of His Blood; which conversion is by the Holy Catholic Church suitably and properly called transubstantiation." (Council of Trent, Session XIII, Canon 4)

[The importance of this seemingly harmless invention became evident eleven years later with the introduction of the pagan custom of adoration of the host (bread)]

BREAD AND WINE  
BODY AND BLOOD

"As often as ye eat of this *bread* and drink of this cup (wine), ye do show the Lord's death till He come."

"But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup."

(I Corinthians 11, 26, 28)

"The *cup* (wine) of blessing which we bless is it not the communion of the blood of Christ; the *bread* which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?"

(I Corinthians 10, 16)

*[The Roman Catholic Church to the contrary, the bread is still bread, and the wine is still wine]*

1226 A.D.

## ADORATION OF THE HOST

## THE ORIGIN OF THE PRACTICE

[The practice of exposing the Host (bread) for adoration was started by Bishop Pierre de Corbie in celebration of the victory of Louis VII over the Albigenses. The display attracted great hordes who carried on the adoration by day and night, an act subsequently approved by the Pope himself]

ROMAN CHURCH  
ADMITS LATE ORIGIN

"No trace of existence of any such extralitururgical cultus of the Blessed Sacrament can be found in the records of the early Church. It first appears in the later Middle Ages." (Catholic Encyclopedia I, "Perpetual Adoration" p. 153)

## JEUS SAID:

"God is a Spirit; and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth." (John 4, 24)

*[Christ considered such idolatrous practices as the adoration of the host unworthy of the worship of the living God]*

"There shall no strange god be in thee; neither shalt thou worship any strange god." (Psalm 81, 9)

*[Why misuse the Holy Sacrament to make a "strange god"?)]*

MAN'S WORD OR GOD'S WORD

*Which Will You Choose?*



## THE WORD of ROME

### [PERPETUAL ADORATION ASSOCIATIONS

sprang up after 1592, when special indulgences were granted them. One of the important ones is the organization, established at Rome in 1882, of "The Perpetual Adoration of Catholic Nations" represented in the Eternal City]

### SPECIAL INDULGENCES

"It would be impossible to enumerate the special indulgences belonging to these different associations." (Catholic Encyclopedia I "Perpetual Adoration" p. 154)

1229 A.D.

### BIBLE

#### SCRIPTURES NOT SUFFICIENT— TRADITION MUST BE ADDED

"The attitude of the Church toward the Bible societies (American & British Bible Societies) is one of unmistakable opposition. Believing herself to be the divinely appointed custodian and interpreter of the Holy Writ, she cannot, without turning traitor to herself, approve the distribution of Scripture without note or comment. It would be the violation of one of the first principles of the Catholic Faith—a principle arrived at through observation as well as by revelation—the *insufficiency of the Scriptures alone* to convey to the general reader a sure knowledge of faith and morals. (Catholic Encyclopedia II, "Bible Societies" p. 545) [The Council of Toledo (1229) placed the Bible on the Index Librorum Prohibitorum, the list of books Catholics are not allowed to read]

#### CONDEMNATION OF BIBLE SOCIETIES

"Among the chief machinations by which in our times non-Catholics of various denominations try to ensnare Catholic believers and turn their minds away from the holiness of their Faith, a prominent place is held by the Bible Societies. These

## THE WORD of GOD

#### SCRIPTURES SUFFICIENT FOR JESUS

"Search the Scriptures, for in them ye think ye have eternal life; and they are they which testify of me."  
(John 5, 39)

#### SCRIPTURES SUFFICIENT FOR THE MAN OF GOD

"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be *perfect, thoroughly furnished* unto all good works." (II Timothy 3, 16,17)

*[Why does Roman Catholicism deny the sufficiency of Scripture to make the man of God perfect, thoroughly furnished to all good works?]*

#### SCRIPTURE FOR SALVATION

"The Holy Scriptures . . . are able to make you wise unto salvation through faith in Christ Jesus."  
(II Timothy 3, 15)

"... they received *the Word* with all readiness of mind, and searched *the scriptures* daily, whether those things were so." (Acts 17, 11)

MAN'S WORD                      OR                      GOD'S WORD  
*Which Will You Choose?*

## THE WORD of ROME

societies, first instituted in England and since extended far and wide, we now behold in battle array, conspiring to translate the books of divine Scripture into all the popular languages, to issue immense numbers of copies, to spread them indiscriminately among Christians and heathen, and to entice every individual to read them without any guidance.

(Pope Gregory XVI, Encyclical *Inter Praecipuas*, May 8, 1844.)

1303 A.D.

### CLAIM OF THE POPE TO POLITICAL SUPREMACY

Pope Boniface VIII issued the official document on the political aims of the papacy, in his Bull *Unam Sanctam*, which is good canon law today:

1. "It is necessary to salvation that every man should submit to the Pope.
2. "The material sword is drawn for the Church, the spiritual by the Church.
3. "The supremacy of the Pope, even in temporal things is to be enforced.
4. "The temporal power is subordinate to the ecclesiastical, as to the higher."

### DOES THE POPE MAKE THIS CLAIM TODAY

"The question has been raised whether it be lawful for the church to not merely sentence a delinquent to physical penalties, but itself to inflict these penalties. As to this, it is sufficient to note that the right of the church to invoke the aid of civil power to execute her sentences is expressly asserted by Boniface VIII in the Bull 'Unam Sanctam'. The question is of theoretical, rather than of practical importance, since civil governments have long ceased to own the obligation of enforcing the decisions of any ecclesiastical authority. *The state of things supposed could only exist when a whole nation was thoroughly Catholic in spirit*, and the force of papal decisions was recognized by all as binding in conscience." (Catholic Encyclopedia XII "POPE" p. 266)

MAN'S WORD

OR

GOD'S WORD

*Which Will You Choose?*

## THE WORD of GOD

### ONE MASTER

"Neither be ye called masters, for one is your master, even Christ."  
(Matthew 23, 10)

### ONLY ONE COMMISSION FOR THE CHURCH

"Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature."  
(Luke 16, 15)

### CHURCH AND STATE

"Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's and unto God the things that are God's." (Matthew 22, 21)

*[Nowhere in Scripture has God commissioned the church to rule in temporal things]*

### JESUS SAID OF HIS KINGDOM

"My kingdom is not of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence." (John 18, 36)

## THE WORD of ROME

## THE WORD of GOD

1415 A.D.

### WITHHOLDING THE COMMUNION CUP FROM THE LAITY

#### ONLY THE BREAD IN THE SACRAMENT

"Laymen, and clerics when not celebrating, are not obliged by any divine precept to receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist under both kinds (bread and wine); neither can it by any means be doubted, without injury to faith, that communion under either kind is sufficient for them unto salvation." (Council of Trent, Session XXI, Canon 1)

#### TWO THINGS TO RECEIVE IN THE SACRAMENT

1. "Take eat, this is my Body."
2. "Drink ye all of it, this cup is the new Testament in my Blood."  
(Matthew 26, 26; Mark 14, 22; I Corinthians 11, 24)

#### CHRIST GAVE BOTH!

"And they *all* drank of it."

(Mark 14, 23)

*[How dare the Roman Catholic priest withhold the cup from the laity and thus defy the plain command of Christ?]*

1545 A.D.

### TRADITION MADE EQUAL IN AUTHORITY TO THE BIBLE

#### THE PROTESTANT VIEW CONDEMNED

"The Protestant principle is: The Bible and nothing but the Bible; the Bible, according to them, is the sole theological source; there are no revealed truths save the truths contained in the Bible; according to them the Bible is the sole rule of faith; by it and by it alone should all dogmatic questions be solved; it is the only binding authority." (Catholic Encyclopedia XV, "Tradition" p. 6)

#### THE CATHOLIC VIEW

"Catholics on the other hand, hold that there may be, that there is in fact, and that there must be of necessity certain revealed truths apart from those contained in the Bible." (Catholic Encyclopedia XV, "Tradition", p. 6)

"Holy Scripture is not the only theological source of Revelation made by God to His church. *Side by Side* with Scripture there is tradition." (Catholic Encyclopedia XV, "Tradition", p. 7)  
[These views became a part of the "tradition" at the Council of Trent, 1545-63]

#### EYE WITNESSES— NOT TRADITION

"For we have not followed cunningly devised fables when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eye-witnesses of his majesty."

(II Peter 1, 16)

#### POWER OF GOD— NOT THE WISDOM OF MEN

"For I am determined not to know anything among you save Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

"And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power;

"That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God."

(I Corinthians 2, 2.4.5)

MAN'S WORD

OR

GOD'S WORD

*Which Will You Choose?*

## THE WORD of ROME

ROMAN CHURCH ADMITS  
IT CAN NO LONGER  
BE IDENTIFIED WITH  
THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST

"We Catholics acknowledge readily, without any shame, nay with pride, that *Catholicism cannot be identified simply and wholly with primitive Christianity, nor even with the Gospel of Christ*, in the same way that the great oak cannot be identified with the tiny acorn. There is no mechanical identity, but an organic identity. And we go further and say that thousands of years hence Catholicism will probably be even richer, more luxuriant, more manifold in dogma, morals, law and worship, than the Catholicism of the present day. A religious historian of the fifth millenium A.D. will without difficulty discover in Catholicism conceptions and forms and practices which will derive from India, China, and Japan." [italics ours]

(Karl Adam, *The Spirit of Catholicism*, Macmillan, New York, 1928, p. 2)

[Adam was a Roman Catholic priest. His book is an authoritative Roman Catholic work, bearing the *Nihil Obstat* of the Board of Censors of the Archdiocese of New York and the *Imprimatur* of the late Cardinal Hayes.]

## THE WORD of GOD

CHRIST — NOT TRADITION

"Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, *after the tradition of men* — and *not after Christ*. For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily, and *ye are complete in Him*."  
(Colossians 2, 8.9)

[*The Bible is sufficient—Roman Catholic tradition is not needed*]

## 1545 A.D. JUSTIFICATION

### THE CATHOLIC VIEW

"All the errors of Martin (Luther) were resolved into that point—Justification—from whence he hath determined efficacy in the Sacraments, authority of priests, purgatory, sacrifice of the Mass, and all other remedies for remission of sins. Therefore, by a contrary way, he that will establish the body of the Catholic doctrine, must overthrow the heresy of Justification by faith only." (Giovanni del Monte, soon to be Pope Julius III, at the Council of Trent, 1545-64)

### THE BIBLE

"Therefore we conclude that a man is *justified by faith without* the deeds of the law." (Romans 3, 28)

"Therefore being *justified by faith* we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." (Romans 5, 1)

"The law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be *justified by faith*."  
(Galatians 3, 24)

MAN'S WORD

OR

GOD'S WORD

*Which Will You Choose?*



## THE WORD of ROME

## THE WORD of GOD

### THE BIBLE DOCTRINE CURSED

"If anyone saith that justifying faith is nothing else but confidence in the divine mercy which remits sins for Christ's sake or that this confidence alone is that whereby we are justified, let him be anathema." (Council of Trent, Session VI, Canon 12)

"For by grace are ye saved *through faith*; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God;

"*Not of works*, lest any man should boast." (Ephesians, 2, 8,9)

[*Is this the heresy of justification by Faith only, which the Roman Catholic Church "must overthrow"?*]

#### ST. PAUL SAID:

"That I may be found in Him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is *through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith.*" (Philippians 3, 9)

#### CHRIST SAID:

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that *believeth on Me* hath everlasting life." (John 6, 47)

[*St. Paul and Christ come under the condemnation of the Roman Catholic Church*]

### 1600 A.D. SCAPULARS

#### WHAT ARE SCAPULARS?

[A practice originated in the sixteenth century, after the Reformation, of wearing woolen strips over or under the clothing to gain indulgences offered by the groups which have blessed these "scapulars". The Scapular of our Lady of Mount Carmel is the best known, although there are more than a dozen others.]

#### THE "POWER" OF SCAPULARS

"Whoever, even though he be now a sinner, wears the badge of the Mother of God throughout life as her faithful servant, not presumptuously relying on the scapular as on a miraculous amulet, but trustfully confiding in the power and goodness of Mary, may securely hope that Mary will, through her powerful and motherly intercession, procure for him all the necessary graces for true conversion and for perseverance in good.

#### GOD HIMSELF

#### NOT THE VIRGIN, CARES FOR HIS OWN

"Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God . . . casting all your care upon *Him* for *He* careth for you."

(I Peter 5, 6,7)

#### ONE ADVOCATE

" . . . If any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." (I John 2, 1)

MAN'S WORD

OR

GOD'S WORD

*Which Will You Choose?*

## THE WORD of ROME

Such is the meaning and importance of the *first* privilege of the Carmelite Scapular, which is wont to be expressed in the word: 'Whoever wears the scapular until death, will be preserved from hell.'

"The second privilege of the scapular may be briefly defined as meaning that Mary's motherly assistance for her servants in the Scapular Confraternity will continue after death, and will find effect especially on Saturday, the day consecrated to her honor." (Catholic Encyclopedia XIII, "Scapular" p. 510)

### SCAPULAR MEDALS

"Since December 16, 1910, it is permitted to wear instead of one or more of the small scapulars a single medal of metal." (Catholic Encyclopedia XIII, "Scapular" p. 510)

### SCAPULARS

#### EFFECTIVE ONLY WHEN WORN

"Should one have ceased wearing the scapular for a long period (even through indifference) one gains none of the indulgences during this time; but by simply resuming the scapular, one again participates in the indulgences, privileges, etc." (Catholic Encyclopedia XIII, "Scapular" p. 510)

1854 A.D.

## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY

In the year 1854 Pope Pius IX proclaimed and defined the *new* dogma of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary;

"In the first instant of her conception, by a singular privilege and grace granted by God, in view of the human race, the Virgin Mary was preserved exempt from all stain of original sin." (Pius IX, *Ineffabilis Deus*, December 8, 1854)

[Pius XI (Encyclical *Lux veritatis*, Christmas Day, 1931) decreed that every good Catholic must believe in the Virgin Mary as a mediator and intercessor with God. At the same time the Pope appealed to Protestants to join in worshipping Mary]

MAN'S WORD

OR

GOD'S WORD

*Which Will You Choose?*

## THE WORD of GOD

### ONE MEDIATOR

"There is *one* God and *one* mediator between God and men, the man Jesus Christ." (I Timothy 2, 5)

*[If the above statements of Scripture are true, why do we need Roman Catholic scapulars?]*

### ALL MEN HAVE SINNED

"There is not a just man upon earth that doeth good, and sinneth not." (Ecclesiastes 7, 20)

"All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." (Romans 3, 23)

"All our righteousnesses are as filthy rags . . ." (Isaiah 64, 6)

### MARY, TOO, SINNED AND NEEDED A SAVIOUR

"And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord and my spirit hath rejoiced in *God, my Saviour*."  
(Luke 1, 46, 47)

## THE WORD of ROME

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH  
ADMITS THAT THE BIBLE  
KNOWS NOTHING OF THIS  
DOCTRINE

"No direct or categorical and stringent proof of the dogma can be brought forward from Scripture."  
(Catholic Encyclopedia VII. Immaculate Conception", p. 675)

1864 A.D.

### "SYLLABUS OF ERRORS"

[This encyclical of Pope Pius IX refuted eighty serious errors, including freedom of the press, Protestantism, communism, Bible Societies, civil marriages, free scientific investigation, separation of church and state, public schools, and religious toleration. It closed by *condemning* the claim that "the Roman Pontiff can and ought to reconcile himself to, and agree with, progress, liberalism, and civilization as lately introduced."

Sample statements of "errors" *condemned* in the Syllabus:]

15. Every man is free to embrace and profess the religion which, guided by the light of reason, he shall believe to be true"

[The Roman Church *condemns* this fundamental American right]

55. "The Church ought to be separated from the State, and the State from the Church"

[The Roman Church *condemns* this fundamental American principle]

### WHAT ABOUT

#### RELIGIOUS FREEDOM TODAY?

"Since Catholics constitute at least one-sixth of the population (?) of our country, and have contributed a considerably larger quota to the armed forces, their attitude toward religious freedom should be taken into consideration in the postwar planning" (Connell, Freedom of Worship", The Paulist Press, N. Y. 1944, p. 3)

## THE WORD of GOD

### COMPULSION IS USELESS IN MAKING MEN RELIGIOUS

"Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit saith the Lord of hosts."  
(Zechariah 4, 6)

### CHRIST SAID:

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."  
(John 8, 32)

[No compulsion — not even that of the Roman Church — can make a Christian of a man. The truth alone "makes us free"]

### CHURCH AND STATE

"Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's and unto God the things that are God's." (Matthew 22, 21)

[Rome's disregard of these two principles of scripture and American life threatens to bring the Inquisition into modern life]

MAN'S WORD

OR

GOD'S WORD

*Which Will You Choose?*

## THE WORD of ROME

### WHAT IS THE ROMAN CATHOLIC ATTITUDE TOWARD FREEDOM?

"As far as God's law is concerned, no one has a real right to accept any religion save the Catholic religion, or to be a member of any church save the Catholic Church, or to practice any form of divine worship save that commanded or sanctioned by the Catholic Church" (Connell, op. cit. p. 4)

"The mere fact that a person sincerely believes a certain religion to be true gives him no genuine right to accept that religion . . . *Neither does it necessarily oblige others to allow him the unrestricted practice of his religious beliefs.*" (Connell op. cit. p. 7)

"If the country is distinctively Catholic . . . the civil rulers can consider themselves justified in restricting or preventing denominational activities hostile to the Catholic religion . . . They are justified in repressing written or spoken attacks on Catholicism, the use of the press or the mails to weaken the allegiance of Catholics toward their Church, and similar anti-Catholic efforts." (Connell, op. cit. p. 10)

[Note: this pamphlet was published in the United States in 1944!]

## THE WORD of GOD

1870 A.D.

### THE INFALLIBILITY OF THE POPE

"The Vatican Council has defined as a 'divinely revealed dogma' that the Roman Pontiff, when he speaks *ex cathedra*, is possessed of that infallibility with which the Divine Redeemer wishes His Church to be endowed in defining doctrines of faith and morals. The Pope, teaching *ex cathedra*, is an independent organ of infallibility.

"The conditions required for *ex cathedra* teaching are mentioned in the vatican decree:

a. The pontiff must teach in his public and official capacity as pastor and

### THE SIGN OF ANTICHRIST

"That man of sin shall be revealed, the son of perdition, who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God."

(II Thessalonians 2, 3.4)

[How dare the Pope assume the prerogative of God, in view of the above warning!]

MAN'S WORD

OR

GOD'S WORD

*Which Will You Choose?*



## THE WORD of ROME

doctor of all Christians, not merely in his private capacity as a theologian, preacher or allocutionist, nor in his capacity as a temporal prince or as a mere ordinary of the Diocese of Rome. It must be clear that he speaks as a spiritual head of the Church universal.

b. Then it is only when, in this capacity, he teaches some doctrine of faith or morals that he is infallible.

c. Further it must be sufficiently evident that he intends to teach with all the fullness and finality of his supreme Apostolic authority, in other words, that he wishes to determine some point of doctrine in an absolutely final and irrevocable way, or to define it in the technical sense.

d. Finally for an *ex cathedra* decision it must be clear that the pope intends to bind the whole church, to demand internal assent from all the faithful to his teaching under pain of incurring spiritual shipwreck, according to the expression used by Pius IX in defining the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin.

"Theoretically this intention might be made sufficiently clear in a papal decision which is addressed only to a particular Church; but in present day conditions, when it is so easy to communicate with the most distant parts of the earth and to secure a literally universal promulgation of papal acts, the presumption is that unless the pope formally addresses the whole Church in the recognized official way, he does not intend that his doctrinal teaching is to be held by all the faithful as *ex cathedra* and infallible."

(Catholic Encyclopedia VII. "Infallibility", p. 796)

### ADMITTEDLY

### A RECENT DEVELOPMENT!

"One need not expect to find in the early centuries a formal and explicit recognition throughout the church

## THE WORD of GOD

MAN'S WORD

OR

GOD'S WORD

*Which Will You Choose?*

## THE WORD of ROME

either of the primacy or of the infallibility of the Pope in the terms in which these doctrines are defined by the Vatican Council." (Catholic Encyclopedia VII, "Infallibility", p. 797)

### NO SALVATION WITHOUT SUBMISSION TO THE POPE!

"This (papal infallibility) is the teaching of Catholic truth, from which no one can deviate without loss of faith and of salvation." (Decrees of the Vatican Council, 1870, Session IV, Chapter III)

"If anyone — which may God avert — presume to contradict this our definition: let him be anathema." (Decrees of the Vatican Council, Session IV, Chapter IV)

1908 A.D.

### DECREE INVALIDATING ALL MIXED MARRIAGES NOT PERFORMED BY A ROMAN PRIEST

#### THESE MARRIAGES WERE VALID BEFORE APRIL 19, 1908

"Before April 19, 1908, a marriage between a Catholic and a baptized Protestant or . . . between two Catholics in these United States, performed by a minister or a justice of the peace, *was valid.*" (Conway, "The Question Box." The Paulist Fathers, N. Y. 2nd ed. 1929 p. 337)

#### THESE MARRIAGES DECLARED INVALID IN 1908

"The *Ne Temere* decree of Pius X which went into effect on Easter Sunday, April 19, 1908, declares: Only those marriages are valid which are contracted before the parish priest or the local ordinary, or a priest delegated by either of them, and at least two witnesses." (Canon 1904) (Conway, op. cit. p. 337-338)

## THE WORD of GOD

[*The unfortunate Ne Temere decree was made by a man to enslave people, not by Christ who set them free from such crude regulations*]

#### PAUL REPUDIATED SUCH CHURCH REGULATIONS

"Stand fast in the liberty wherewith *Christ* hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage." (Galatians 5, 1)

MAN'S WORD                      OR                      GOD'S WORD  
*Which Will You Choose?*

1950 A.D.

## ASSUMPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY

[The new dogma of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary was proclaimed by Pope Pius XII on Nov. 1, 1950. It makes the Roman Catholic teaching that Mary was "assumed (taken up) body and soul" into heaven an article of faith, to be believed on pain of eternal damnation. Roman Catholic theologians differ on the time and place of this supposed event.]

"We agree that there is nothing in Holy Scripture which *directly* reports such an event. . . . The Feast of the Assumption honors first Mary's holy and peaceful death, her assumption into Heaven, and her crowning there as Queen. That feast has been quite universally observed throughout the Church since the sixth century . . .

"A feast universally observed by Christians for many centuries has always been regarded as dealing with a fact, because, as St. Augustine writes, 'all of Christendom could not be wrong'. He held with other philosophers that 'universal belief is a criterion of truth'. . . .

"The Bible furnishes much other information, which would make the doctrine of the Assumption seem extremely plausible. St. Paul tells us that death is a punishment for sin. 'By *one man* sin came into the world and by *sin death*.' (Rom. 5, 12)

"Therefore Mary, who was conceived without original sin [see this pamphlet under date, 1854] needed not to die at all . . . It is repugnant to believe that God, Who could choose His own mother, and Who did choose her, would have permitted her to have been under the influence of sin, actual or original. Christ drew from Mary's body the flesh and blood by which He made reparation for sin. St. Paul stresses the fact that Christ's body was 'made of woman'." (Gal. 4, 4)

[One will search the Word of God in vain for any reference to the bodily assumption of the Virgin Mary into heaven. Furthermore, there is not even a hint that such an event was likely or possible.]

## HUMAN TRADITION

"Jesus answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition" (Matt. 15, 3)

"Jesus said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your tradition." (Mark 7, 9)

[Jesus made these charges against churchmen who were trying to impose their traditions as divine "dogma".]

[For statements of the Bible contradicting Roman Catholic claims that Mary was sinless, see "Immaculate Conception of Mary," THE SPLIT, p. 18]

## JESUS CHRIST—SON OF GOD

"You know that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by *tradition* from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot, Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you."

(I Peter 1, 18-20)

[Christ's sinlessness was God's doing, not Mary's. Christ redeemed the world, not Mary.]

Mary was simply God's chosen instrument to assure the world that Christ, Who was God, was at the same time a MAN in the fullest sense of the word.]

## PROSPECTS FOR THE FUTURE?

The dogma whose proclamation on November 1 was the Catholic Holy Year's (1950) most important event, is not the one dogma the Roman Catholic Church is considering. It has been stated that another dogma, to the effect that virtually all graces go from God through the Virgin Mary, is also receiving consideration. The process of adopting new dogmas is so slow, however, that the new dogma may not be proclaimed until the next century. The dogma of Mary as the mediator of all graces would teach that grace reaches mankind from God only through Mary, except possibly in rare cases. According to the Rev. Don Bertetto, of Turin, Italy, a logical sequence of the dogma would be the requirement that Mary join God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit as necessary objects of religious devotion, although the Church would not consider Mary as divine.

According to a recent report, the dogma would not prevent prayers to God or to any of the various saints, but would mean that graces are rarely given by God except through Mary's intercession.

### *Which Will You Choose — THE WORD OF GOD* or *THE WORD OF MAN?*

We stand at the beginning of a new era. Atomic energy has been released for good or ill. Social, economic, and political forces are genetically seeking expression in the world.

Will America take its place in this new world in the spirit of Christ to set men free, or in the spirit of Roman Catholicism to enslave them?

The faith of Jesus Christ offers a free life — free from the guilt of sin, free from the punishment of sin, free from man-made Church regulations, free from regulations designed to prevent ready approach to God. It asks but one thing — obedience to Jesus Christ.

The issue is clear: Will you follow Christ or will you follow a man who pretends to speak for Christ? Will you choose the freedom of Christ or the dictatorship of Rome? *The Word of God or the Word of Man?*

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