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Editor - Evangelist Mike Gendron

"They worshiped the dragon, because he gave his authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, 'Who is like the beast, and who is able to wage war with him.'"

(Rev. 13:4)

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Proclaim ng he Gospel

"I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth." - <u>Romans 1:16</u>

The Remarkable Formation of The One World Religion

s the church awaits the glorious return of our Lord Jesus Christ we are witnessing the formation of a global religious system that will one day worship the Beast (Rev. 13:12). Jesus warned that a widespread dynamic deception would be one of the signs of His return to the earth. His word reveals there will be many false teachers who will prepare an unsuspecting bride for the anti-Christ. This counterfeit religious system will give her allegiance and worship to one who will blaspheme God.

There is currently a dialogue among world religious leaders who are seeking common threads of truth as a basis for unity. As diverse as some religions appear, there are some common bonds of unity. One is the teaching that salvation is attained by what men must do for God, instead of what God has already done for man through His Son. All religions, with the exception of biblical Christianity, arrogantly deny that salvation is by grace, the unmerited favor of God.

Several organizations have been working diligently to unite the people of the world but none as aggressively as the Roman Catholic Church. The Second Vatican Council made this clear when it stated: The Catholic Church endeavors "to gather all people and all things into Christ, so as to be for all an inseparable sacrament of unity... expressed in the common celebration of the Eucharist."

The Vatican has been building strategic bridges to all Christian denominations and non-Christian religions for the purpose of bringing all people under the papacy. In a 1998 speech to the leaders of Islam, Pope John Paul declared: "Dialogue between our

two religions (Islam and Catholicism) is more necessary than ever. There remains a spiritual bond which unites us and which we must strive to recognize and develop." Later in January of 2002 many of the most influential religious leaders of the world responded to the pope's invitation to gather in Assisi, Italy to discuss unity and peace. The pope, whom Catholics believe is the supreme head of the entire Christian Church, made all the leaders of non-Christian religions feel comfortable by removing all the images, crucifixes and icons of Jesus Christ.

Strategy for Christian Unity

The Vatican has a well defined and aggressive strategy for uniting all of Christianity under the papacy. Some of the elements of this master plan are outlined below:

I. Promote the opinion that Catholics, Orthodox and Protestants are all brothers-in-Christ and therefore must be reunited. This is why the Vatican is urging all "separated brethren" to come back home to Holy Mother, the Church, to enjoy the "fullness of salvation." Rome believes the salvation of Protestants cannot be complete unless and until they receive the transubstantiated Christ in the Eucharist.

II. Another important part of their strategy is to redefine evangelical terms in vague and ambiguous words to make them acceptable to both Catholics and Protestants. This strategy has been used effectively in their recent unity accords with Evangelicals and Lutherans. They have also been effective in identifying and seducing highly visible and influential evangelicals to promote Catholicism as a valid expression of Christianity.

III. The Vatican's strategy also involves exploiting post-modernism and the emerg-(see Global Religion page 2)

(**Global Religion** from page 1)

ing church movement, which has gained widespread popularity. These movements have caused confusion, biblical ignorance and a lack of discernment within Protestant churches. In turn, these have produced fertile soil for seeds of deception and compromise to grow. Many who are uncertain of the true Gospel are easily deceived and willing to embrace the false gospel of Catholicism.

IV. Rome is also encouraging tolerance of all faiths because tolerance unifies and brings peace, while doctrinal truth divides. Whenever doctrinal truth is suppressed there can be no distinction between believers and unbelievers. One example of the Vatican's push for tolerance is seen in a statement from the 1997 accord: The Gift of Salvation. It reads: "All who truly believe in Jesus Christ are brothers and sisters in the Lord and must not allow their differences, however important to undermine this great truth." Some of the differences cited that should never divide Evangelicals and Catholics were listed as: baptismal regeneration, the Eucharist, sacramental grace, justification, purgatory, indulgences, Marian devotion, the assistance of the saints in salvation, and the possibility of salvation for those who have not been evangelized. Clearly, each of these differences can not be tolerated because they all oppose the Gospel and bear eternal consequences for those who are on the wrong side of truth.

Same Story Different Verse

Rome attempted to reunite Catholics and Protestants in Germany in 1541 but Martin Luther gave this stern warning: "Popish writers pretend that they have always taught, what we now teach, concerning faith and good works, and that they are unjustly accused of the contrary, thus the wolf puts on the sheep skin till he gains admission in the fold." Three hundred years later another great preacher warned against unity with the Roman Catholic Church. Charles Spurgeon said: "There is a deep and indelible sentence of damnation written upon the apostate church...the curse is registered in heaven...its infamy is engraven in the rock forever...followers of Jesus, for their own sake as well as for their Lord's, should oppose it with all their might." The 21st century church needs more Luthers and Spurgeons to contend earnestly for the faith against the fatal errors of Catholicism.

Apostasy is Fueling the Push for Unity

In spite of the numerous Scriptural warnings Page 2

of apostasy, many Protestants are returning "home to Rome." Nearly every documented case of Protestant apostates who departed to join the Catholic religion, gave one of three reasons. They were either convinced by some "early church fathers" that Catholicism is true, or they were compelled to become Catholic in order to marry a Catholic, or they joined because of pleasurable experience. We have never heard of anyone who became a Catholic because the Bible convinced them to do it.

Tragically, we seldom hear warnings against apostasy from our pulpits. Rarely are false teachers who lead people away from the true faith ever exposed. Apostates, who appear as ministers of righteousness, are facing very little opposition. They successfully deceive the undiscerning because pastors and church leaders are not contending against them. Very few Christian leaders are warning the church of these ferocious wolves dressed in sheep's clothing. The twenty-first century church needs strong leaders like the apostle Paul. He warned the early church, "even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. So be on your guard! Remember that for three years I never stopped warning each of you night and day with tears" (Acts 20:30-31). Throughout the Scriptures we are exhorted to test every spirit, every teacher and every doctrine because men are so easily deceived.

Two Kinds of Unity

Doctrine is what divides the true church from the emerging world religion. The Bible condemns any unity that is not founded in God's word. False unity is based upon man's ambitions and is always independent of God (Gen. 11:1-9). This type of unity will be a tool of the Antichrist (Rev. 17-18). On the other hand, biblical unity is based on apostolic truth and is a work of the Holy Spirit, not of man (Eph. 4:3,13; 1 Cor. 12:13).

One of the greatest dangers to Christianity today is the deliberate suppression of biblical truth for the sake of unity. The danger intensifies as we see influential Christian leaders jumping on the Vatican's ecumenical bandwagon. Instead of warning believers of this false unity, they applaud those who are creating it. Instead of obeying biblical exhortations to keep the Gospel pure, they are tolerating those who preach another gospel (Gal. 1:6-9). Rather than hating every false

(See Global Religion on page 8)

The Ministry of Proclaiming the Gospel

OUR PURPOSE

The ministry was established in 1991 and is incorporated in the State of Texas as a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation for the purposes of: 1) glorifying, honoring and serving the Lord Jesus Christ by proclaiming His Gospel of grace clearly and completely; 2) equipping and encouraging the Body of Christ to be faithful ambassadors to the King of Kings; 3) providing resources with biblical integrity; 4) exposing any doctrines that oppose or nullify the Gospel of grace so that people can discern truth from error and avoid being deceived; 5) contending earnestly for the faith against the agents of compromise who suppress doctrinal truth for the sake of ecumenical unity and 6) supporting former Catholics who may be feeling a sense of guilt, ostracism or persecution from their family for leaving the Catholic religion and culture.

OUR METHOD

In a spirit of love and compassion, we teach evangelistic seminars and conferences to encourage Christians to be effective witnesses to Catholics and others who may be lost in their religion. We offer DVDs, books and Gospel tracts to equip those who labor in this huge mission field. We also extend the ministry through our web site, radio and TV appearances and short term missions' trips.

OUR NEWSLETTER

Proclaiming the Gospel's quarterly newsletter is designed to extend the purposes of the ministry throughout the world. The editor is Evangelist Mike Gendron, a graduate of Dallas Theological Seminary and a former Roman Catholic of over 34 years.

OUR STATEMENT OF FAITH

Jesus Christ, fully God and fully man, satisfied the righteous justice of God by paying the complete penalty for sin when He died as man's substitute on Calvary's cross. Any person who repents and receives Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior by grace through faith in His life, death and resurrection, ceasing to trust in anything else for salvation, becomes a child of God and receives the gift of eternal life, which can never be revoked.

OUR PROVISION

Everything we do is made possible through the prayers and financial support of those who share our burden for the lost. We recognize the sacrifices God's people make to sustain our work and pledge to use these resources effectively and efficiently. Donations (except for products) are tax deductible.

Debate on Catholic Radio

Throughout the 17 years of this ministry I have often been challenged to debates by Roman Catholic apologists. Each time I let them know that I will accept their challenge provided they meet three conditions: 1) the debate will center on the question: What must I do to be saved?, 2) the Bible will be the only source of reference and 3) the debate must be held either in a Roman Catholic venue or at a neutral site. The last condition was given because I refuse to allow Protestant apostates, who converted to the Catholic religion, promote their false gospel in an evangelical church. No one had ever accepted my conditions until recently.

As a result of the publicity and promotion of my city-wide seminar in Green Bay last month, the producer of the *Drew Mariani Show* on *Relevant Radio* called to let us know that a former Baptist pastor, now a Catholic apologist had accepted the challenge. The debate with Tim Staples was broadcast "live" on a nation-wide Catholic radio station that is headquartered in Green Bay on June 14th. Needless to say, I was thrilled to be able to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ on Catholic radio. It may have been the first time the true Gospel has ever been aired on Relevant Radio.

We are so thankful for Pastor Keith Crosby and leaders of <u>Bethel Baptist Church</u> in Green Bay for scheduling and promoting the evangelistic rally at a local high school auditorium. It was this outreach to Roman Catholics that provoked the challenge for a debate from Relevant Radio. Again we stand in awe of what our Sovereign Lord accomplishes when churches are obedient to the great commission. He blessed the courageous efforts of a faithful church by expanding their Gospel outreach from evangelizing a small community of Catholics to reaching a nationwide audience of precious souls who are lost in religious deception.

In the debate my goal was to glorify our Lord Jesus Christ by focusing on His perfect, sufficient and finished work of redemption which is able to save sinners completely and forever. My opponent stressed the importance of doing good works to maintain a salvation that begins with the sacrament of water baptism. He continually denied the Gospel's promise of eternal, everlasting life. "Let God be found true and every man be found a liar" (Rom. 3:4).

Quick Quotes

"Because of its antiquity, the church of Rome has the greater apostolicity; it traces its origin from the pillars of the apostolic college, Peter and Paul. All the churches must be in accord with the church of Rome - the standard of the true apostolic tradition, of the one, common faith of the church."

Pope Benedict XVI, (CNS, 3/28/07)

Catholics are not the disciples of Christ but of Mary; she is their confidence and hope. Pope Gregory says that she "is our greatest hope, yea, the entire ground of our hope." Now, I think it is clear that the religion of such people ought to be called after the one who is their greatest hope; and I have suggested a name to the Catholics which I advise them to adopt. Let their religion be called Marianism, and let them leave to us the name Christianity, since Christ is our hope.

William Nevins, 19th century pastor of a church in Baltimore.

Where Mike Is Speaking

July 15 <u>Victory Bible Church</u> Hammonton, NJ (609) 567-4466

July 16-20 <u>Baptists for World Missions</u> Harrisburg, PA (717) 774-7000

July 22 <u>Believers' Chapel</u>

Dallas, TX (972) 239-5371 July 27-29 <u>Harvard Bible Church</u> Harvard, IL (815) 382-6560

Aug. 3 Pacific Hope Church San Diego, CA (858) 272-4673

Aug. 5 <u>Denton Bible Church</u> Denton, TX (940) 382-4198

Aug. 12, 19 <u>Believers Chapel</u> Dallas, TX (972) 239-5371

Aug. 22 <u>Calvary Chapel South Denver</u> Littleton, CO (303) 933-8733

Aug. 24-25 Steeling the Mind Bible Conf. Vail, CO (800) 977-2177

Sept. 4-13 <u>Theological Biblical Academy</u> Krapina, Croatia

Sept. 23-28 **Baptists for World Missions**Cancun, Mexico

Oct. 20 Steeling the Mind Bible Conf. Spokane, WA (800) 977-2177

Nov. 11-13 **Atlantic Coast Prophecy Conf.** Myrtle Beach, SC (800) 845-2420

Nov. 27, 29 <u>The Master's Seminary</u> Sun Valley, CA (818) 782-6488

To schedule <u>Mike Gendron</u> to speak at your church or event, contact him at:

phone: (972) 495-0485 e-mail: ptg@pro-gospel.org

Steeling the Mind Bible Conference Returns to Vail in August

We're heading back to the mountains! It's been seven years since the <u>Steeling the Mind Bible Conference</u> has been held in Vail and they decided it was time to do it again!

Nothing like a lot of steel-on-steel to fortify everyone's minds with biblical truth. What a time to bone up on what's really going on in Israel and behind the scenes in the U.S. and Europe. Great speakers from all over America will tackle tough subjects in the cool breezes of the scenic Rocky Mountains.

Speakers and their topics include: Mike Gendron - The Coming Global Religion;
Dave Reagan - What Happens When You Die?; Mike Riddle - Do You Have a Biblical Worldview?; Ron Rhodes - All About Angels; Ed Hindson - Global Warning; Gerald Robison - The Book of Exodus in 55 minutes; Alan Franklin - Signs of the Times; Chuck Missler - America in Crisis.

Make your <u>reservations</u> early to stay in the hotel where the conference is being held, the Grand Ballroom of the Marriott Resort in downtown Vail Village. Tennis players and golfers come a day early and join us for a good time of fellowship on Friday! There will also be a special Saturday night speakers' dinner. You pick the speaker and enjoy some up close and personal discussions at a private reception and dinner.

FREE CD

"Unmasking the Pope and the Catholic System" by John MacArthur with all orders placed in July



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Seeking His Truth

Letters to the Editor



I'm a devout Catholic who is quite frankly tired of you and all your evangelical rif raf. It amazes me how you have honed the art of brainwashing people into believing your gibberish. In case you haven't forgotten you are the minority. There are over 1 billion Catholics world wide, get over it. I'll keep up my work as a devout Catholic Christian. I read your website. Don't ignore the fact that your whole spiritual being is because of your Catholic upbringing. This power from within comes from that nurturing, not the hocus pocus you subscribe to now. That is the one thing that can never be argued. I'm sure that Jesus would love the way you attack your fellow man. We don't try to make all the other Christians think they are blasphemous. We embrace everyone, even you nuts who love to attack us. You are your own worst enemies and that is fine by me. Just know that Catholics as a whole will respond aggressively to you. As long as there are people like you I will defend the rest of Christianity against your belligerent propaganda. You prey on people who have no soul or knowledge of the spirit of GOD. Meanwhile, you roll around in your "holier than thou" crap when the majority of your people have pasts that rival most felons. Meanwhile good people with proper instruction like Catholics have to suffer from your actions. You prey on the weak and your leaders pray on their bank accounts to buy their mansions, Bentleys and private jets. You are the bastards of Christianity. You are a black eye on us all. Nothing made me happier than when your last leader got caught being a homosexual and drug abuser. You need to stop attacking everyone who doesn't do it your way. Never has a Catholic ever said that none of you nuts aren't going to heaven. The reason being is that we both believe in the Holy Trinity. You want to concentrate on something?! How about the Muslims? They don't acknowledge the Holy Trinity or Jesus Christ as the Savior. Wake up! Anonymous, Internet

My Catholic wife and I are having a discussion about this verse: "Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner, shall be guilty of Page 4

the body and the blood of the Lord" (1 Cor. 11:27). Why would Paul say they were sinning against the body and blood of Christ if it were not literally His body and blood? *A.M., Houston, TX*

Paul is giving instructions and warnings about the conduct of the church when it gathers for the Lord's Supper. Evidently some people in the church at Corinth were making a mockery of the Lord's supper by coming drunk and eating more than their share of food. Paul said their actions were bringing shame to those who had nothing to eat. They had perverted the purpose of the Lord's supper which was to remember the Lord's death as a substitute for sinners. They were dishonoring His body that was crushed for the full payment of their sins and His blood that was poured out to purify their sins. Rather than examining themselves, confessing their sins and repenting before partaking the bread and the cup, they were bringing judgment on themselves. They were acting in an irreverent manner during the time set apart to remember the holy and perfect sacrifice of Jesus. Catholics try to use this verse in a feeble attempt to justify their dogma of transubstantiation. However Paul does not say "as often as you eat His body and drink His blood... " He says, "as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes" (1 Cor. 11:26).

As I witness I am finding people who absolutely cannot discern between the truth and a lie. They have no stomach for truth anymore. If it moves them from their comfort zone, or makes them think, or calls them to investigate what we're trying to show them, not only will they refuse, but they appear to have no capacity to do it. They just put their brains in neutral and refuse to think. Because people are so relativistic, pluralistic and tolerant of all beliefs, they are filled with lies and believe them to be true. They will defend their lies even when you make the truth very clear; even when you show them the very clear difference between the truth and the lie. Now that I've got that off my chest, I'd like to say how much I appreciate

you and your ministry. You speak the truth in love. My 94 year old Catholic aunt and I watched your DVD "Are you sure your a Christian" today and she wants to watch it again. She is beginning to question her Roman Catholic faith. I have been praying for her and witnessing to her for years and now she is beginning to respond. She is extremely bright and understands what you are saying but asks "How could all of these Catholics be going to Hell?" I covet your prayers for this dear Aunt whose soul is hanging in the balance. Your teaching is awesome. God bless you both. We pray for you every day.

L. T., Watsonville, CA

I bought several copies of <u>Preparing Catholics For Eternity</u> and gave them to my neighbors and relatives, but to date I haven't heard a word. We pray and do what we can, then leave the results to God. I know you are right on when it comes to God's word showing us His way to be saved. I like your illustration of Catholics who hang onto the ritualistic rungs of "monkey bars" and are afraid to let go and trust Jesus to save them. Mike, I know the opposition to the truth you face causes strength because God is in what you are doing. Press on! *B.D.*, *Syracuse*, *NY*

Your last newsletter was a fine treatment of transubstantiation. Recently, while discussing this with a Catholic friend I blurted out: "why would the disciples have left Jesus if all they had to do was eat the Eucharist?" Jesus told them He would give His life for them and then asked: "Does this cause you to stumble?" (John 6:51). Our prideful human nature shrinks back from the horror of the crucifixion. We cannot comprehend the need for Jesus' death. Such is the chasm between God's holiness and our sinful flesh. "Those who are in the flesh cannot please God" (Rom 8:8). In Christianity worshippers praise God for providing a way to Him, other religions focus on ways man can find favor with God.

J.C., Moran, TX

It surely meant a lot to talk (and especially pray) with you. How precious were the few words that you spoke to me, because they were words of life that exalted our Lord. When I called "Catholic Answers" the lady said: "we don't believe in eternal security because even if God is faithful, we might not be." I read your book *Preparing Catholics For Eternity* and was astounded by it

all, especially the responses from Catholics at the back of the book. I listen to their Catholic radio programs, and so much of what they say is defensive against protestant teachings. How glad I was to have the truth so accurately portrayed in your book! How valuable! How I needed it! May I ask one question? Why do Catholics say they gave us the Bible? I will be patient for your answer, knowing you are traveling and busy. Thanks for praying with me.

K.S., Scandia, MN

The Catholic Church did not give us the Bible, the Scriptures came from God. Paul knew this and told his readers that his writings were from the Lord (1 Cor. 14:37; 1 Thes. 2:13). Peter also recognized Paul's epistles as Scripture (2 Pet. 3:15-16). Throughout biblical history God's people have always recognized the books written by the prophets and apostles were divinely inspired Scripture (2 Pet. 1:21). Catholics foolishly say they determined which books make up the Bible, but God is the One who determined and regulated the canon. Humans only discovered what God had previously determined.

My brothers and dad are very similar in their logic. They are held captive by the Catholic Church as evidenced by their stubbornness: "you are not going to change me, I was born a Catholic and I will die a Catholic". Once I told dad that there are many Catholics who believe they should not read the Bible. He told me that is right, you are not supposed to read it, leave it to the priest to interpret!

K.R., Las Cruces, NM

I heard you on the radio and listened to your four steps into apostasy that many churches are now following. I must say I was blown away by it. I'm so frustrated with trying to find a good church. I'm sick of the "mega-church" junk of today, but on the other end there are also small spiritually dead churches that go through the same empty motions every week. I'm starving for the word of life, not entertainment, but sobering truth and all that goes with truly honoring Christ. I would rather be a part of 25 people who are truly seeking Christ than to be with 2,500 deceived ones who are comfortable in their entertainment centers each week. I truly enjoyed hearing you on the radio.

A.H., Cookeville, TN

Catholics point to <u>Colossians 1:24</u> as proof that we need to suffer on earth or in purgatory for our sins. Paul writes: "I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I do my share on behalf of His body (which is the church) in filling up that which is lacking in Christ's afflictions." Can you comment on this?

G. H., Saskatoon, Canada

Paul rejoiced in the persecution he received because of His great love for Christ. His persecutors heaped more suffering on Paul to make up for anthing they thought might be lacking in the afflictions Christ endured. The Christ-haters who crucified Jesus were not satisfied with the pain and suffering they inflicted on Him so they continued to persecute those who proclaimed His glorious Gospel of grace.

I just found your awesome site. I'm going to use it to encourage the weary believers in our area in evangelism. I was saved out of the RCC after 17 years and my life has not been the same since. I have sowed the seeds of truth among Catholics but have not had too much response other than outrage when they scream at me. Then they continue to worship 'Mary' of Fatima, and the Pope, rather than Jesus Christ.

Loretta, San Franciso, CA

I agree that the Bible cannot itself lie or deceive anyone, and yet many people come to conflicting conclusions on many issues presented in the Bible. According to your Biblebased religion, you could say that since everybody interprets the Bible differently (hence all the denominations), and the Bible is the sole authority, everybody's own interpretation is correct. Could not the Catholic Church's interpretation be true as well? What makes your personal perception of the Bible any more correct than the next person's? Peter was specifically chosen as the rock on which Jesus would build his Church, so he was the first pope. It is important to have an open heart to God's will in spite of past deceptions you experienced and clearly hold on to. Letting it go will give you so much more freedom and peace. Thank you for helping me to realize what a horrible mistake I would have been making to leave such a beautiful religion. I am sad that you never really got to know it before you left it yourself. You asked where do I go to be sure I will not be deceived? My answer is that I am not concerned at all with being deceived. In fact, I happen to be very

trusting. I always ask God for guidance for everything. Since I have been praying for truth, I feel God has answered my prayer in my rediscovery of the Catholic Church. You asked how do I believe I am saved? My answer is - I don't. I think it is absurd to say we are able to judge ourselves and our salvation. Many Scriptures point out the need for works such as: "work out your own salvation with fear and trembling" (Phil. 2:12). Alicia, Internet

You are right there are many interpretations, but only one is correct. There are many gospels, but only one that has the power to save (Rom. 1:16). There are many Jesus's, but only One whom the apostles preached (2 Cor. 11:4). There are many mediators, but only One who was qualified to reconcile sinful man to the Holy God (1 Tim. 2:5). There are many spirits, but only One that will lead us into all truth (John 16:13). God never tried to confuse anyone. He laid out the truth plainly to every man's conscience (2 Cor. 4:2). The Lord Jesus gives life to those He chooses (John 5:21). He is the author and perfecter of the very faith that He gives as a gift (Heb. 12:2; Eph. 2:8). He is also the personification of truth (John 14:6). Yet most people would rather turn to someone other than Jesus for life's most important issues. Many Protestants and Catholics have been deceived because they trusted their pastors and priests to tell them the truth. They are easily deceived because they never verify the veracity of man's teaching with the Word of God (Acts 17:11). The Bible is what God says. Religion is what man says God says. Those who interpret the Bible correctly follow a principle of interpretation based on a historical, geographical, cultural and grammatical context. The only way anyone can know they are deceived is to test their faith against a correct interpretation of God's word. The Bible teaches that you can know you are saved when you trust the person and work of Christ and believe His promises (1 John 5:13). Please remember that eternity is forever and you must trust the only One who will never deceive you.

Please submit questions or comments to:

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Pope Benedict Communicates with the Dead

Pope Benedict XVI said he can already hear the voice of John Paul II among the saints, indicating that on the second anniversary of his predecessor's death, he too was fully in favor of canonization. Benedict spoke during an open-air Mass in St. Peter's Square in honor of John Paul after Roman Catholic officials formally closed their investigation into his life and virtues - a milestone in the process of elevating the late pontiff to sainthood. "In the communion of saints, it seems we can hear the living voice of our beloved John Paul II, who from the house of his father, we are sure, continues to accompany the Church," Benedict said (AP, 4/2/07).

Nun Cured by John Paul II

According to Sister Marie Simon-Pierre, Pope John Paul II exercised miraculous powers from beyond the grave. Smiling and strong-voiced, the 46-year-old nun stepped out of her quiet life of prayer and good works and stood in front of a wall of cameras to proclaim that the pope cured her of Parkinson's disease two months after his death in 2005. She told journalists gathered in Aix-en-Provence. "My healing was the work of God through the intercession of Pope John Paul II." John Paul needs one verifiable miracle to be beatified, which means that one has reached heaven and can be referred to as "blessed." Sister Marie Simon-Pierre's case has been chosen as the first potential miracle. The pope has been put on a fast track to sainthood. Only 26 days after the pope's death, Pope Benedict XVI, waived the five-year waiting period to begin the process of beatification, the first step toward sainthood. (NY Times, 3/30/07)

Limbo No Longer Exists

Pope Benedict XVI has reversed centuries

of traditional Roman Catholic teaching on limbo, approving a Vatican report that says there were "serious" grounds to hope that children who die without being baptized can go to heaven. Catholics have long believed that children who die without being baptized are excluded from heaven because of original sin. Pope Benedict, when he was the church's top enforcer of dogma, said he viewed limbo as a mere "theological hypothesis." Never part of formal doctrine because it does not appear in Scripture. From the Latin "limbus," for hem or edge, limbo refers to a "state of natural happiness" outside heaven, a destination for the souls of babies who were not baptized. In the fifth century, St. Augustine declared that all unbaptized babies went to hell upon death. By the Middle Ages, the idea was softened to suggest a less severe fate, limbo. "If there's no limbo and we're not going to revert to St. Augustine's teaching that unbaptized infants go to hell, we're left with only one option, namely, that everyone is born in the state of grace," said the Rev. Richard McBrien, professor of theology at the University of Notre Dame. "Baptism does not exist to wipe away the "stain" of original sin, but to initiate one into the Church," he said. A Vatican advisory panel said it was reassessing traditional teaching on limbo in light of "pressing" pastoral needs, primarily the growing number of abortions and infants born to non-believers who die without being baptized. (AP, 4/20/07)

More Ecumenical Unity Christian Churches Together

Over 300 people witnessed the inauguration of Christian Churches Together (CCT), the most diverse ecumenical grouping in U.S. history. Members from the Roman Catholic, evangelical/Pentecostal, Protestant and Orthodox formally established the national body Februaruy 7th. Among the 36 member

organizations of CCT were World Vision, Bread for the World, Sojourners, Evangelicals for Social Action and the Salvation Army. Cardinal Roger Mahony of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles said, "Tonight I commit myself to endeavor to draw even closer to all those who call themselves Christian to strengthen our common witness to the world." (The Christian Post, 2/9/07)

Evangelical Leader Returns To Catholicism

The president of the Evangelical Theological Society and a tenured professor at Baptist-affiliated Baylor University resigned to join the Roman Catholic Church. The announcement by Francis J. Beckwith has left colleagues gasping for breath. "This is a sad day for all true sons and daughters of the Protestant Reformation, for all who lived and died for its truths," Douglas Groothuis, a professor at Denver Seminary said, adding sternly: "you are embracing serious theological error." Beckwith, 46, was stunned by the public response and said strangers have called him at home to berate him. Beckwith said his decision reflects how dramatically the divisions between evangelicals and Catholics have narrowed in recent decades. as they have stood shoulder to shoulder on issues such as abortion, same-sex marriage and school vouchers. The stormy reaction, however, is a reminder of the gaps that remain, particularly on how human beings gain "justification," or righteousness in the eyes of God. On the other side of the equation, the Catholic Church has been losing droves of ordinary worshipers to evangelicalism. Beckwith said he was raised as a Catholic and was "born again" as an evangelical during his teens. He earned a master's degree and a doctorate in philosophy from Fordham University, a Jesuit institution, but then taught at Protestant schools, including Trinity International University and Baylor. He said that for many years he agreed with the leaders of the 16th-century Reformation, who emphasized the authority of the Bible alone and who argued that justification resulted from the grace of God, not from good deeds. But his thinking began to change as he read Catholic theologians. Because Baylor does not require its faculty to sign any statement of beliefs, Beckwith's change of heart will not affect his teaching post. And because he was baptized and confirmed as a Catholic in his youth, he did not have to undergo conversion -- he simply had to go to confession and receive Holy Communion. (Washington Post, 5/12/07)

Two Interesting Responses to My Article on Transubstantiation

From a Deacon of the Catholic Church studying to become a Priest

Your article on Transubstantiation had a number of factual errors. I'm sure it was not your intention to deceive your readers or to misrepresent the teachings of the Catholic Church. First the Catholic Church has never claimed that transubstantiation is a miracle. It is not a miracle for two reasons: it is beyond the grasp of the senses and it has a place in the ordinary course of God's supernatural Providence.

(Mike's response: You do not know your religion very well. <u>Father James Farfaglia</u> says: "At every Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, we participate in a marvelous miracle, the miracle called Transubstantiation.")

You also said the "dogma of transubstantiation" was "first pronounced at the Fourth Lateran Council in 1215 AD." This statement is factually in error. To imply that the idea of transubstantiation is something that the Catholic Church invented in the middle ages is misleading to say the least.

(Mike's response: You have put words in my mouth. I never implied anything. I said the infallible dogma was established in 1215, but everyone knows transubstantiation was a practice the Catholic religion established much earlier.)

A third error in your article is the assertion that, "Each Catholic priest is said to have the Spirit's power to call Jesus down from heaven." Jesus does not leave heaven to make Himself present on the altar at Holy Mass. When Christ becomes physically present on Catholic altars, it in no way affects the fact that His Sacred Humanity always remains in heaven. In the Eucharist, it is Christ Who becomes present (in a true and real way), not in the form of His Sacred Humanity (which never leaves heaven) but in the form of the sacramental species. How is this possible? He is God. A fourth error is when you say the "priests offer Him again to the Father..." The Catholic Church has never taught that Jesus is offered again. This is just plain dishonest.

(Mike's response: Listen to the quote of priest John O'Brien from his book Faith of Millions (which carries the Nihil Obstat and Imprimatur which declare that the book is free of doctrinal error). "When the priest

announces the words of consecration, he reaches up into the heavens, brings Christ down from His throne, and places Him upon our altar to be offered up again as the Victim for the sins of man."

Another error is your claim that "God is eaten by Catholics when they ingest the Eucharist in the stomach." This is a gross and vulgar distortion of Catholic teaching. Catholics receive the Eucharist into their souls at the moment of swallowing the host. Christ, physically present in the Eucharist, unites the soul spiritually to Himself and as soon as this takes place the physical matter of the Eucharist reverts back to the substance of chewed up particles of bread and this is what is ingested in the stomach. Christ is received into the soul, not the stomach.

(Mike's response: Tell a Catholic who has just consumed the Eucharistic Christ that it never made it to his stomach but instead "miraculously" went from his mouth to his soul. You insist on interpreting John 6 literally then you try to explain it figuratively. It is no wonder Catholics are confused!)

Lastly, your statement that "the Council of Trent placed a curse or anathema on anyone who does not believe [in transubstantiation]" is also factually in error. An anathema is not the same as a curse. The Catholic Church doesn't curse anyone. When the Church declares, "let him be anathema" it means, "let him suffer the punishment of excommunication" which cuts that person off from receiving the Sacrament. It is not a curse. To equate an anathema (excommunication) with a curse is patently false.

(Mike's response: The Catholic Encyclopedia states an anathema is a curse: "Nations, individuals, animals, and inanimate objects may become anathema, i.e. cursed and devoted to destruction.")

Your characterization of Catholic teaching on this matter was absurd and filled with outlandish characterizations. If the Catholic Church really is the diabolical, blasphemous, malevolent institution you claim it to be, then it is utterly imperative that you characterize its teachings accurately, otherwise, you will never be able to deliver us poor "deceived" Catholics from the bonds of our "slavery."

The Rev. Justin N., FSSP.

From an Evangelical studying to become approved by God

Your article on Transubstantiation has been burning on my heart. An often overlooked command is given in 1 John 5:21: "Little children, guard yourselves from idols". By nature, all mankind tends towards idolatrous practices in elevating ideas and images above the all-glorious God who is completely set apart from the common. Satan has had centuries to study man and to craft religious deceptions that he knows man will fall for. Just as God was deeply offended when the ancient Israelites built the image of a golden calf to represent the unseen God, He must be just as offended when sinful man erects a false image of His Son, who is the image of God's glory and the exact representation of His nature. The Catholic Mass and the Eucharist is a blasphemous offense against God that denies His word. When the false Catholic Priest holds up the Eucharist, the people are called to worship it as their Savior brought down from Heaven. In doing so they disobey the commandment: "You shall not make for yourself any idol, or any likeness of what is **in heaven above** or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth" (Ex.20:4).

Open your eyes dear Catholics and see the perversions and distortions of Scripture that your false Priesthood has foisted upon you. Search the Scriptures looking to the Holy Spirit from above for guidance. The Scriptures clearly tell the "born from above" believer, that Christ cannot come down every day in the form of the Eucharist. "Christ...having been offered once to bear the sins of many, shall appear a second time for salvation without reference to sin, to those who eagerly await Him" (Heb. 9:28).

Our Savior sat down at the right hand of God because His work is finished and is completely acceptable to an infinitely holy and righteous God, whose nature demands complete and total satisfaction. Cease from your dead works Catholics. Your true saving faith must be the assurance of things hoped for and the conviction of things NOT SEEN. Without such faith, it is IMPOSSIBLE to please God (Heb. 11:1,6). If you steadfastly remain in this blasphemous lie, you have nothing but a fearful expectation of eternal judgment from which no lighting of candles nor giving of offerings can ever rescue you. Fear God, and honor the King.



Proclaim ng he Gospel

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"That lawless one will be revealed... with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders, and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved."

(2 Thes. 2:9-10)

Common Bonds For Unity

The True Church

- ♦ Receives divine revelation from Scripture alone (2 Peter 1:20)
- ◆ Is called by God their Father, saved by Jesus Christ and sealed and sanctified by the Holy Spirit (Col. 1:9; Eph. 2:8; 1 Cor. 1:3)
- ♦ Is saved by God's grace for good works (Eph. 2:8-10)
- ◆ Is intolerant, believing there is only one way to God (John 14:6)
- ♦ Is baptized by the Holy Spirit into one body (1 Cor. 12:13)
- ♦ Is alive in Christ and abides in His word (Rom. 6:11; John 8:31-32)
- ♦ Contends for the apostles' faith (<u>Jude 3</u>)
- ♦ Is the Bride of Christ, united in love for the Savior (Rev. 19:7; Jn 13:35)
- ♦ Will worship and serve the true Christ when He appears in glory (Titus 2:13-15)
- ♦ Will rejoice in God's peace (Rev. 21:4)

The World Religion

- ♦ Receives "divine" revelation from demonic sources (1 Tim. 4:1-4)
- ◆ Is blinded by their father the devil, deceived by false Christs and bonded by another spirit (2 Cor. 4:4; John 8:44; Rev. 9:20)
- ♦ Teach they are saved by works, but their works deny God (Titus 1:16)
- ♦ Is tolerant, believing there are many ways to God
- ♦ Is ensnared by another Spirit to do his will (2 Tim. 2:24-26)
- ♦ Is spiritually dead and abides in the world (1 John 2:16)
- ♦ Seeks common truth among all faiths.
- ♦ Is the harlot of anti-Christ, united in hatred for the saints (Rev. 17:6)
- ♦ Will worship and serve a false Christ when he appears in deceit (Rev. 13.12)
- ♦ Will weep in an eternal fire (Mat. 13:42)

(Global religion from page 2)

way, they are allowing the devil's lies to go unabated (<u>Psalm 119:104</u>). Instead of exposing false Christs and lying spirits they put up with them (<u>2 Cor. 11:4</u>).

What Are Christians To Do?

Christians must not tolerate anyone who willfully misrepresents the character or attributes of almighty God or His Gospel. A sound and loving rebuke, using scripture, is necessary to earnestly contend for the faith (<u>Jude 3</u>). To remain silent shows, either an indifference toward the Lord Jesus, or a greater loyalty to another person or institution.

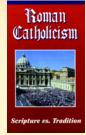
We are commanded to separate from those who persist in false teaching (Rom.16:17; Titus 3:10). For some, this may mean finding another church. For others, it may mean withholding support from ministries that continue to compromise the Gospel. The apostles warned us that if we do not separate from false teachers we could either be disqualified for service, become identified with them and their error, or risk being partakers of their fate (2 Tim. 2:20; 2 John 10-11; Jude 11-13). May God help us all to stand firm and not be carried away by every wind of doctrine!

Tracts

Catholicism: Scripture

vs. Tradition

Everything you need to know to be an effective witness to the world's largest mission field is presented in this 16-panel booklet. It shows how the New Catechism contradicts the Bible, which forces



Catholics to make a choice. Will they trust God at His word or man and his traditions. Also in Spanish.

Code: PTRAD Sug. Don. 50 for \$10

The Greatest News Ever Told

A six-page tract presenting the Gospel's six key elements using only the power of Scripture: God's Perfection, Provision and Promise along with Man's Problem, Part and Privilege.



Code: PGNET Sug. Don. 50 for \$8 Have You Ever Been Deceived?

The nature of deception is such that no one knows they have been deceived until they are lovingly confronted with the truth. Only God's word can expose the error of man's ways.

Code: PDEC

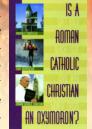
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Is Roman Catholic Christian an Oxymoron?

This tract reveals eleven objective and undeniable differences between Catholicism and biblical Christianity. It explains why Catholics need to exchange their religion for a relationship with Jesus.

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Which Jesus Will You Trust?

Share this thought provoking contrast between the Eucharistic Jesus of Catholicism and the Jesus of Scripture. Those who embrace a counterfeit Christ must be lovingly warned. Also in Spanish.

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Biblical References to Catholic Doctrine. A straightforward, nonthreatening bookmark to give Catholics so they can examine their Church's teachings through the lens of God's Holy Word.

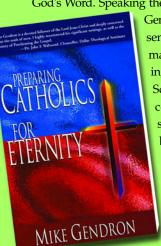
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Book

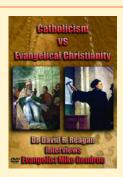
Preparing Catholics For Eternity

This is an excellent discipleship tool to share with Catholics who are unsure of their eternal destiny. Hundreds of questions are answered with the power and supreme authority of God's Word. Speaking the truth in love, Mike



Gendron carefully and sensitively examines major Catholic teachings in light of Holy Scripture. Objective contrasts are given so that Catholics can be persuaded to trust God and His word over man and his traditions.

Code: BPCE Sug. Don. \$12

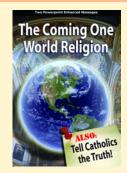


Roman Catholicism vs. **Evangelical Christianity**

Dr. David Reagan of Lamb and Lion Ministries interviews Mike Gendron on a critical subject that both Catholic and Christians need to see. With love, sensitivity and deep compassion, Gendron and Reagan explain how Catholics submit to a different authority, learn from a different bible, believe another gospel, trust another Christ and are on a different path to eternity.

Code: DCVEC Sug. Donation \$16





The Coming One-World Religion

Prophecies related to the global religion that will worship anti-Christ are examined along with the Vatican's strategy for uniting all religions under the papacy.

Tell Catholics the Truth answers the question: "What is our most trustworthy source for knowing God's truth?" Scripture provides the answer—the Bible is our supreme authority in all matters of faith.

Code: DCOWR Sug. Donation \$20

See back for more DVDs

Each DVD contains two PowerPoint messages by Mike Gendron.

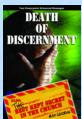


Satan's Attacks on the Christian Faith

Discover how the devil's legions of liars are masquerading as messengers of Christ to deceive the world.

Are You Sure You Are a Christian? looks at Paul's exhortation to "Examine yourselves to see if you are in the faith." The Bible gives several tests to prove our faith is genuine. Tragically, there are many who profess Christ but have never been born-again.

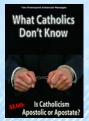
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The Death of Discernment The steady decline in biblical preaching has produced a generation of Christians who cannot discern God's truth from Satan's lies. Many pastors are entertaining the goats instead of feeding the sheep.

The Best Kept Secret in the Church explains why many Christians live in fear and without peace because they have never understood the nature and extent of God's forgiveness.

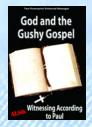
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What Catholics Don't Know Ten biblical truths which Catholics may never hear from their clergy are revealed. These gospel truths will set them free.

Is Catholicism Apostolic or Apostate? This is a provocative question because most Catholics believe their church is the one true church of the apostles. However a close examination of its doctrines and dogmas tells another story.

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God and the Gushy Gospel The tragic consequences that occur when pastors preach a watered-down gospel are explained. Victims of a "gushy" gospel live with a false hope because they have embraced a gospel powerless to save.

Witnessing According to Paul is an urgent call to restore biblical integrity to evangelism by proclaiming a Christ-centered Gospel that calls sinners to repentance!

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A striking contrast between the Jesus of false religions and the true Jesus is uncovered. The Catholic Catechism teaches "another Jesus" whom the apostles never preached. Another Jesus always produces another gospel. **Doctrines of Demons** reveals the

Which Jesus Do You Trust?

Doctrines of Demons reveals the character and ambition of Satan and his schemes to deceive the world using cleverly devised counterfeits.

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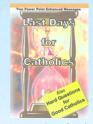


Israel, Islam and The Vatican

The two largest religions will have a powerful influence on events leading up to Armageddon. Both have a history of anti-Semitism and share a common spiritual bond.

Contending for the Faith looks at the epistle of Jude with 21st century applications. All Christians are called to fight the good fight of faith.

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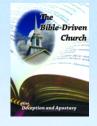


Last Days for Catholics

An objective look at the Roman Catholic religion through the lens of Scripture is followed by seven biblical principles for effective witnessing to Catholics.

Hard Questions for Good Catholics encourages Catholics to examine their faith leading them to repentance and knowledge of the truth. Jesus asked many questions of the Jews to expose the error of their teaching.

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The Bible Driven Church

A striking contrast between the blueprint Jesus gave for building His Church and the post-modern emerging church is presented.

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