

OUTLINE OF THE HISTORY OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH AND ANTICHURCH

by
Gerardus D. Bouw, Ph.D.

INTRODUCTION TO THE ANTICHURCH¹

Based on oral “traditions”

= leaven that leaveneth the whole lump (Mat 16:12 with 1 Cor 5:6)

Pappias (60-130)

rejected book of Revelation as part of canon

Story of Christ born in a cave invented

The Acts of Paul claims that:

Paul was bald

crooked-legged

long-nosed

& had the face of an angel [presenting a contradictory picture]

Rejected the millennial² reign of Christ

INTRODUCTION TO THE TRUE CHURCH

Church = called out.

It is self-governing (Acts 6)

It chooses its own pastors and deacons (1 Tim 3:1-12)

Its pastor is its visible head on this earth (Heb 13:17, 1 Tim 5:17)

It immerses its converts (Acts 16:33)

It sends out evangelists & missionaries (Acts 13:1-4, 16:1-4)

Why Christians Were Persecuted:

For not conforming:

until then societies were sacral³

Christians distinguished between:

secular politics and

sacred church

Some, like Origen, proposed a “Christian sacralism” where the government adopts a Christian stance to “merit” God’s blessings (Ex 14:14.)

Tertullian fought against “Christian sacralism.”

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CATHOLIC CIVIL LAWS

The U.S.A.’s early history is devoid of Catholic interference. No R.C. put a finger to the Bill of Rights or the Declaration of Independence. America was the first Western Country since Constantine (A.D. 325) to grant complete religious freedom to anti-Catholics. Congress was forbidden to pass any law that says anyone has to be baptized in any church, that anyone has to attend any Catholic church, that anyone has to respect (or honor) any Catholic priests, nun, Pope, or Bishop – they should “tolerate” them – that anyone would be forbidden to witness to Catholics or “proselyte” them, or that anyone could be fined or imprisoned for identifying the Catholic Pope as “The Man of Sin” or “The Son of Perdition” or Rome as the Babylonian Whore of Revelation 17.

According to Roman Catholic Canon Law, national governments are to pass and enforce laws forbidding those things. (*Catholic Encyclopedia*, XII, p. 336, *Catholic Dictionary* p. 18, *Penal Legislation in the New Code of Canon Law* [53] cited in *Catholic Encyclopedia* V, p. 441.)

² Edward Gibbons, in chapter 15 of *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire* wrote in 1700 that early Christians who sat at the feet of the apostles were taught that Jesus would come back in the year A.D. 2,000. Hos. 3-6 (esp. 3:4-5; 6:2) indicates that after the Jews had been scattered into the world for 2,000 years, Jesus would return to fulfill the promises of God to Israel.

³ A *sacral society* is one with a state religion. All people are deemed “members” of the church or temple, although they may have other gods, too. The state enforces conformity to the state religion because that is the common bond which keeps the state and society together. Thus Christians, for not participating, were deemed rebels and a danger to society.

he foresaw the “conversion” of Constantine.
 They often met after dark (thus viewed as subversive)
 Refused to get permits or incorporate
 Thus Rome suspected them of plotting assassinations
 Christians also had private devotions
 Plato (427-347 BC) (=Socrates) proposed in his *Laws* that those who had private rites be forced to do them in public temples or else be punished, ultimately with death. This is because private devotions are essentially asocial, countermending religion’s most important function of tying the tribe together. To Plato religion is an act. He cares not for “the message.”
 Lack of idols, figurines, pictures & beads
 Rome blessed brothels with holy water & prayers
 Lit candles
 still practiced in RCC, of which practice Lactantius wrote: “They light up candles to God as if they lived in the dark: and do not they deserve to pass as madmen, who offer lamps to the Author and Giver of Light?”⁴
 To Romans, Christians were atheists
 Refused fellowship with Romans who charged them with:
 “hatred of the human race”
 (Acts 21:28, “against the people”)
 distributing “hate literature” (the Bible)
 “hatred in their preaching” (man is evil)
 Answered the decreed greeting of the day, “Caesar is lord!” with “Jesus Christ is Lord!”
 the issue became one of lordship and so the Caesars persecuted Christians
 that’s still the issue today

Church and nations go through cycles:

Preaching	A man
Teaching	A movement
Culture	A Machine
Apostasy	A Monument
Paganism	Materialism

“Early Christians hammered out rules to govern their duties to the State. They forbade certain professions: the actor who had to play the part of pagan gods, the teacher forced to teach pagan mythology in public schools, the gladiator who took human life for sport, the soldier who killed, the policeman and the judge.” –Philip Yancey

⁴ Middleton, Conyers, 1729. *Letters From Rome*, (London: W. Innys), p. 22.

EPHESIAN CHURCH AGE

(Apostolic, A.D. 33-200)

The Ephesian church age runs from A.D. 33 to about 200 (180 may be slightly better). “Ephesus” means “full of purpose,” as exemplified in its first love. It was commended for intolerance, in that it didn’t allow every claim. It refused apostolic succession (v. 2) because the apostolic signs were not present (2 Cor. 12:12; Mark 16:15-18), and a priestly class lording it over the believers (the Nicolaitanes, v. 6) as if they were not themselves priests (Rev. 1:6).

Although Ephesus was commended for their works and laboring (v. 2), their reprimand in v. 4 suggests a growing ritualism and formalism; “isms” which make a church grow colder. And this is what happened during this period of church history. Towards the end, they were still resisting the Roman priesthood but were courting the Alexandrian formalism.

Traditional tales of the fates of the Apostles & other New Testament names:

Stephen (= crown) is 1st martyr.

James (John’s brother) died under Caligula:

falsely accused

converted one of his accusers who died w. him

beheaded by sword in 44.

Philip (52)

traveled Asia, Phrygia, Hierapolis where

conversions led to destruction of serpent idol

—> imprisoned, tortured, crucified

Matthew (60)

(Account is source of Mt being written in Heb)

went to Ethiopia, then Parthia where

killed by sword

Mark

Established bishopric at Alexandria

went to Libya, back to Alexandria

accused by jealous Egyptians

dragged feet-first through streets

left overnight in dungeon

body burned in the morning

James (author of Epistle)

beaten & stoned to death by Jerusalem mob

Mathias (Judas’ successor)

stoned & beheaded at Jerusalem

Andrew

went to Asia then Patrae, Greece where

crucified w. ropes on X-shaped cross

continued to thus preach 3 days

released ordered by governor

died on release

Peter

According to the records of the bishops of Tungenr, about A.D. 50, Peter sent Eucharius, Valerius & Maternus to Belgijs-Gaulen (Incl. Trier, Tungenr, Luyck, & Cologne) Christianity came to Zeeland from Luyck.

Crucified head-down during Nero's time

Paul

Beheaded by sword under Nero

Roman Catholic Church (RCC) myth that no blood, only milk issued from his veins
his head jumped thrice & at each spot raised a spring of "living water,"
place is still called "The Three Fountains"
claimed that the water still tastes like milk⁵

Jude (brother of James) = Thaddeus

Persia

crucified in 72

Bartholemew

slain with sword? beaten with clubs?

Thomas

Preached Parthia to India

thrust through with spear

Simon Zelotes

Nicephorus reports that he preached in many lands

Mauritania to Africa to Britain

crucified in Britain in 74

John

Ephesus, Domitian had him caught & sent to Rome

escaped being boiled in oil

banished instead to Patmos

Released by Domitian's successor, Nerva

John returned to Ephesus

died naturally at age 100:

Barnabas

Died in 73, not known how

The Heresy of Gnosticism

The first heresy to infiltrate the Church

Countered by the Apostle John in 1 John

The heresy settled in Alexandria

whence it may have originated

Founders:

Plato (427-347 BC) A heathen philosopher

Philo (20BC-AD50) A Bible rejecting Jew

Pantaenus (140-200) a heathen philosopher

Clement of Alexandria (150-215)

Ammonius Saccas (175-242)

Adamantius Origen (185-254)

Beliefs:

Matter is evil

Christ was human, not God

People need to be sprinkled to be saved

Sprinkling takes away "original sin"

NT "bishop" is a priest

The world evolves into better states

The church must direct that evolution so ...

Church to rule the world till Jesus comes

But:

⁵ Middleton, *loc. cit.*, pp. 10-11.

World does not get better with age
Christ's 1st advent was to a corrupt world, 2nd...
Nations are to be bundled and burned (Mt 13:40)
one-world movement = gathered-together tares

Consequences:

Apollos: (Acts 18)
imperfect knowledge
salvation by water baptism (baptism of John)
types reformation church
Christianity uses falsehood to teach truth
Gen 1-3 not true
but it teaches "great truths"
so falsehood in cause of virtue is harmless

Ebionites:

Several kinds
some may have been continuations of various pre-Christian Judaisms

Repudiated Paul

declared him apostate fm. the law

Persisted as small minorities until latter part of 4th century, if not longer

"The Ebionites maintained that Jesus was merely a man, a prophet, a spokesman for God, as were the great Hebrew prophets of the past. Although some of them accepted the virgin birth of Jesus, others are said to have taught that Jesus was the son of Joseph and Mary, that at his baptism Christ descended upon him in the form of a dove, that he then proclaimed the unknown Father, but that Christ, who could not suffer, departed from him before his crucifixion and resurrection." – Kenneth Scott Larourette, *Early Church History*.

Note: this reads like the *Koran*.

The Ten Imperial Persecutions and the Eleventh

1) Nero (54-68)

beheaded Paul (2 Tim 4:1-8)

so vicious that tribulation was read into that time by Jerome & Augustine (Nero = antichrist)

It is said that the altar was defiled at the command of the Emperor, but though Josephus does write that some emperors (e.g., Julius Caesar and Augustus) did offer personal sacrifices (performed by the priests), he does not say that the altar was defiled, causing the revolt as it did with the Maccabees. Neither does he mention that the defilement of either temple or altar figured in the cause of the Jewish revolt ending in AD 70.

Bran⁶

British king held hostage in Rome to control his son, Caradog

Of West British or Silurian family of Caradog (Caratacus)

held from 51-58

"brought the faith of Christ to the Cambrians"

his great-great grandson first gave lands to those dedicated to the faith of Christ
ca. AD 130-160

2) Domitian (81-96)

Mark and Andrew died under his reign

⁶ Source: Welsh documents known as Triads 18 & 35. Appendix 13 of Bill Cooper, 1995. *After the Flood*, (New Wine Press: Chichester, W. Sussex).

Exiled John

3) Trajan (98-117)

AD 98, "A Letter from Clement" is forged
author a Roman bishop in the west
tries to correct a bishop in the east
at time Pauline epistles were written
seeds of RCC

1st organized persecution started in Bithynia during Pliny the Younger (112)
would ask 3 times if say "Yes" 3x, death
Prescribed rack for women under 18

Ignatius (50-115)

bishop of Antioch (center of Christianity)⁷
origin of the Syrian texts —> TR
thrown to the lions, said he'd force them to eat him

Epistles of Ignatius

3 Syrian epistles rejected by RC

These are most likely authentic, being in Syrian

7 Greek accepted by RC

one has "Catholic" in it, Syr doesn't

Cat=down, by, mother, holic=wholly

Gk philosophical term

has episcopal hierarchy

Hadrian (117-138)

built temples for Jupiter (Ac 14:12) & Venus on temple and supposed crucifixion sites in Jerusalem

Antonius Pius (137-Mar. 7, 161)

Polycarp (69-155)

burned at stake

story goes he wouldn't burn till killed by sword

wrongly said to have said "faith is the mother of us all"

(Actually due to Cyprian (195-258)) contrast Gal 4:26

Martyrs were increasingly venerated from 100-200 (Fetishism)

deemed a measure of spirituality

martyrdom lent credence to their beliefs, even if heretical

Irenaeus, (140??-202?)

Bishop of Lyons (apostate?)

Held that Matt. was written in a Heb. *dialect*

Problem:

If NT "Christianity" in Rome & Alexandria is fm Jewish Apostles (i.e., Peter)
& if at least 1 gospel was written in Hebrew (Matthew),

then what to do with signs of Mk 16:17⁸

none of Alexandrian teachers had them,

the Bishop of Rome didn't have them

[NB Jews seek after a sign, Gks after wisdom]

Solution:

omit ending verses of Mark

⁷ Genesis 25:20 "And Isaac was forty years old when he took Rebekah to wife, the daughter of Bethuel the Syrian of Padanaram, the sister to Laban the Syrian." The first reference in the Bible to Syria is a positive reference.

⁸ Mark 16:17 "And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues."

Held that Mark wrote from the mouth of Peter
(hence 100 words removed from NT by W&H & Nestle
Matthew copied Mark or
Mark copied Luke or
Luke copied Matthew or ...
(the *Two document theory*)
Called Rome's the oldest church (what of Jerusalem?)
founded by Peter & Paul
First mentioned as a martyr (during Septimus Severus) in 6th C.
by Gregory of Tours

Clement of Alexandria (150? - 215?)
student of Pantaenus in Alexandria
disputed canonicity of Jude, Hebrews & Revelation
because they're offensive to infidels

4) Marcus Aurelius (161-180)

blamed Christians for:
military disasters
earthquakes
floods

Wrath of populace fell heaviest in southern France

Montanists

= **Kataphrygians**

started in Phrygia, Asia, by Montanus ca. 156

Believed in a glorious earthly kingdom of Christ upon his return

Had a passion for martyrdom

Had a "charismatic" zeal

Accused of heresy

Maligned by the mainline church which was becoming worldly

Tertullian (140-230) a leader

wrote a baptism immersion tract ca. 190

joined African "Montanists" about 207

These were less "radical" than the Kataphrygians.

Stated that "the Britons in parts inaccessible to the Romans, Christ has truly subdued."⁹

Eventually became legalistic.

Scillitan Martyrs at Carthage (A.D. 180) were martyred for possession of the "letters of Paul, the just man," in Latin.

The church believed translations could be inspired; not until about 1800 did the church's "scholars" think differently, and not until the 1880s did laymen start to think differently.

Eleutherius (ca. 180)

sent by Lucius, bishop of Rome to Britain

5) Commodus (180-192)

One of his concubines persuaded him to ease up on the churches

These were becoming increasingly worldly

executed Roman senator **Appolonius** for professing Christ

AD190, "*Pope Victor*" broke fellowship with churches of Asia Minor over the date of Easter

SMYRNAN CHURCH AGE

(Antenicene, A.D. 200-325)

“Smyrna” is related to “myrrh, which is used for embalming. It types bitterness and death. This church age ran from roughly A.D. 200 until the Council of Nicea in 325. It is an uncompromising, faithful, persecuted church. During its time the last five or six official Roman persecutions happened, including that of Trajan, the bloodiest of them all.

During the Ephesian church age, there were those who claimed apostolic succession. That church didn't buy it. Now these secessionists, the Nicolaitanes or “conquerors of the common people,” began to claim that since the Christian is a spiritual Jew (Rom. 2), he is also a physical Jew. Thus, he inherits all the promises of the Jews because God is through with all the children of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Thus started A-Millennial and Post-Millennial theology. Those who taught such were Cyprian (200), Jerome (345), Origen (182), Clement (200), Didymus (313), Athanasius (297), and Cyril of Jerusalem (380).

The Gentile Roman “Catholic” can thus persecute the Jew, take his property, send Crusades against him, etc. But those who do so are not Jews but are of the synagogue of Satan. Significantly, Jews headed the inquisition in Spain, supplied Spanish Catholic and Islamic Moor alike with weapons, and all with the permission of the Pope. Later, that synagogue of Satan, including the Illuminati, will work with the papacy through the Jesuits to take over and dominate organizations such as the Masons. Through these secret organizations, they will take over the governments of the world. Here this is called blasphemy.

Septimus Severus (193-211)

tolerated persecutions but did not promotion of them

passed a law against spread of Christianity in 202

that resulted in persecution in 211 in Africa (Alexandria & Mauritania)

Leonides (Origen's father) beheaded

Clement of Alexandria wrote: “Many martyrs are daily burned, crucified and beheaded before our eyes.”

Caracalla (211-217)

Oriental mystic

Extends citizenship to all territories

Christians no longer restricted to lower classes

killed by

Macrianus (217-218)

reigned 14 months

kicked off throne by army

Helio Gabalus (218-222)

effeminate

sun worshiper

started ecumenical movement

army ran him out for

Alexander Severus (222-235)

Added statues of Abraham & Christ to Gabalus' collection of Orpheus and Roman emperors

Wanted to build a temple to Christ

His mother (Julia) studied under Origen (no conversion)

First “church buildings” built.

Origen (185?-254?) was corrupting Receptus Mss in Alexandria

he is heralded as:

the greatest scholar of his time

the greatest Christian philosopher the world's ever known

⁹ *Adv. Iud.*, p. 189, edit. 1664.

an erudite talent
 the father of textual criticism
 his beliefs and teachings:
 evolutionist (held that Gen. 1-3 are not history)
 baby sprinkler
 no Hell
 universal salvation after purgatory
 no resurrection (except for Christ's)
 transmigration of souls
 stars are angels from whom Christ died¹⁰
 search for mystical "kiss of peace"
 deny physical pleasure
 hold it till death saves you
 eternal life earned by good works
 baptismal regeneration
 ascetic (castrated himself)
 "The Scriptures are of little use to those who understand them as they are written."¹¹
 Unitarian
 one God (Father) begot the other (Son) before creation
 ("Eternally begotten" of 19th Century)
 Arius believed the same thing
 Thus Mary gave birth to an already "begotten" God,
 so is "mother of God"
 Nestorius countered this claim & was termed heretic
 Actually, Jesus is called the Word before the incarnation
 Origen was declared a heretic at Council of Nicaea (325)
 15 of his propositions declared heretical in 544
 Severus was assassinated by

- 6) Maximinus the Thracian (235-238)
 Ordered death of elders & pastors in Africa, Palestine & Asia Minor
 Origen fled to Caesaria
 where he corrupted the Caesarian family of Mss
 Roman Bishop Hyppolytus banished to Sardinia
 claimed Roman bishop can never be deposed or compelled to resign, no matter
 what his sin

Giordianus (238-244)
 left churches undisturbed
 Philip the Arabian (244-249)
 no persecution
 rise of the Messalines

¹⁰ We ought first to inquire after this point, whether it is allowable to suppose that [the stars] are living and rational beings; then, in the next place, whether their souls came into existence at the same time with their bodies, or seem to be anterior to them; and also whether, after the end of the world, we are to understand that they are to be released from their bodies; and whether, as we cease to live, so they also will cease from illuminating the world... We think then that they may be designated as living beings, for this reason, that they are said to receive the commandments from God, which is ordinarily the case only with rational beings. "I have given a commandment to all the stars." (Isaiah XLV:12) And seeing that the stars move with such order and regularity, that their movements never appear to be at any time subject to derangement, would it not be the height of folly to say that so orderly an observance of method and plan could be carried out or accomplished by irrational beings? In the writings of Jeremiah, indeed the moon is called the queen of heaven. Yet if the stars are living and rational beings, there will undoubtedly appear among them both an advance and a falling back. Job appears to assert that not only may the stars be subject to sin, but even that they are actually not clean from contagion of it. "The stars also are not clean in thy sight." (Job 25:5) -- Quoted from Allen Menzies, 1990. *The Ante-Necene Fathers*, 4, (Grand Rapids Michigan: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publ. Co.), p. 263.

¹¹ Fuller, David, 1970. *Which Bible?*, (Grand Rapids: Grand Rapids International Publications), p. 103.

local churches started to demand:
separation
congregation of baptized believers

- 7) Decius Trajan (249-251)
bloodiest murderer of the lot
edict of 250
subjects must worship state religion
every householder was to be able to provide an affidavit stating he'd recently participated in and eaten of a pagan sacrifice (mass).
This was followed by house-to-house check
killed thousands of Christians and pastors
Cyprian (200-258)
had enough zeal for the Lord to die
carnal mind
Bishop of Carthage
church built on Peter
Peter was in Rome
Rome was not Satan's seat
Rome is "the chair of Peter"
but
Peter never was in Rome (Ro 15:20-22)
was not a gentile (Gal 2:15)
was married (Mt 8:14)
preached in the East, not West (1Pe5:13)
let no man bow to him (Ac 10:26)
taught salvation by grace (Ac 15:11)
before water baptism (Ac 10)
First of a long line of Bible ignoramuses whose authority lies elsewhere
second only to Origen in destructiveness

Gallus (251-253)
continued persecution

- 8) Vallerian (253-260)
started friendly to Christians
Roman Empire fell apart due to immorality
needed scapegoat
edict of 257
Christians must conform to Roman Church State
pastors separated from congregations
no Christian assemblies
edict of 258
ordered pastors to death
confiscate Christians' property
Gallienus (260-268)
Continued blaming Christians at first
Tried a policy of appeasement
Christians grew in number, wealth & worldliness
Pagans brought their idols with them
Philo, Pantaenus, Clement & Origen's dirty work in Alexandria was completed
about this time
spiritual Christians split from them

- 9) Aurelian (270-275)
 followed by several who let the church rest:
 Novatians arose in AD 281
 Tacitus
 Probus
 Carus
 Carinus & Numerianus
- 10) Diocletian (284-305)
 began with a mild threat against the “Manichaeans”
 decreed all soldiers sacrifice to State gods
 decree of 303:
 imprison all pastors
 razed church buildings
 burn every copy of the Bible
 Donatists arose as a result
 Spanish martyrs (St. Vincentius, Eulalia)
 British (St. Alban)
 decree of 308:
 state sacrifices (mass) had to be eaten (1Cor 10:25-33)
 all goods to be sprinkled with “holy wine”
 forced Christians to eat “Holy Eucharist”
 conservatively, 10,000 dead, 20,000 jail, tortured, or exiled
 bonfires made of the scriptures
 no Alexandrian Mss burned
 St. George & the Dragon
 born in Cappadocea of rich Christian family
 became good soldier
 refused to kill Christians to emperor’s face
 was severely tortured & killed
 dragon = Satan over whom Geo. had faith
 Galerius (305-311)
- 11) Constantine the Great (313-337)
 Suppressed Biblical Christianity for next 1200 yrs.
 Combined Church and State
 Exempted clergy from taxes (313)
 Abolished offensive pagan practices (315)
 Observance of Sunday by all (321)
 20 pieces of gold & white robe to all converts (324)
 Called himself “Bishop of bishops”
 Replaced statues of Venus, Jupiter etc. w. saints
 Constantine ordered 50 copies of Alexandrian Bible for the churches at Constantinople
 text came from Origen via Pamphilus and Eusebius
 = RSV, ASV, NASV, NIV, LB, RV, NKJV (footnotes)
 Vaticanus & Sinaiticus survive
 contain Apocrypha
 The “two swords” of Lu 22:38 reinterpreted as “the sword of the Spirit” & “the sword of steel.”
 Cross of Christ became a means for political power.
 Those who hadn’t yet been baptized had to attend catechism classes until baptized.
 Those who weren’t then baptized were subject to death.
 Constantine was not himself baptized
 until 1 week before his death

withheld his (sword) arm from baptism until hour of his death
Had 12 empty coffins w. his, signifying apostles
but Paul was 13th Apostle

Pagan Rome's political structure became Roman Catholicism's

Emperor ----- Pope (*sol invictus* etc)
Senate ----- College of Cardinals
Imperial Governor ----- Patriarch/Archbishop
Provincial Governor ---- Metropolitan or Bishop
Civitas ----- Priests
Civilian ----- Parishioners

“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.”¹²

Donatists opposed this new sacralism

to them it wasn't any change

their bishop Petilian viewed the new persecution as the same as the old

refused to even utter the word *catholic* in the creeds because it means “according to the entirety,” that is, according to the world.

(After the Reformation, the Presbyterians & Anglicans etc. would start a Protestant sacralism.)

Montanists were to be “killed on sight”

opposed episcopal hierarchy

championed priesthood of believer

¹² Adam, Karl, 1928. *The Spirit of Catholicism*. (New York: MacMillan), p. 2.

PERGAMON CHURCH AGE

(Post-Nicene, A.D. 325-500)

Pergamos = much marriage, elevated by marriage, mixed marriage; 2 Cor. 6:14-16. It is commended for holding fast the name of Jesus, and not denying *his* faith.

The age starts with the founding of the Roman Catholic Church at the council of Nicea in 325. Augustine (350) defines its theology in a book entitled *The City of God*. Alexander Hislop, in *The Two Babylons*, traces the movement of the Babylonian priesthood to Pergamos, to where it moved in 133 B.C. The reference to Satan's seat could refer to any or all of the following:

- (1) the great altar of Zeus, which depicted a battle between giants and gods. The excavated altar was in Berlin until after World War II when the Russians took it to Moscow. It is not on public display there. Is it in use again? In 1924, the architect Stjusef used it as a model for Lenin's sepulchre.
- (2) The temple of Æsculapius, whose emblem was the serpent.
- (3) The worship of the emperor, or
- (4) All three.

During the transition from the Smyrnan to Pergamon church ages, the seat (authority, not the altar,) moved to Rome, as the worship of the emperor became joined with Christianity by Constantine. The Babylonian priesthood thus merged with the Bishop of Rome. So when The Pope speaks *ex cathedra*, "out of the chair," the reference is to Satan's seat.

The church at Pergamos was reprimanded for associating with those that hold the doctrine of Balaam (= swallower, confounder of the people – Num. 25:1-8; 31:8; Balac = annihilator, waster). Balaam's doctrine was to enlarge the church by compromise and absorption. Also, Pergamos was reprimanded for tolerating the exaltation of the clergy over the laity, the doctrine of the Nicolaitanes.

By these the Pergamon Church was wedded to the world, and has fornication and idols as part of its worship, and also a special priestly class between the believer priests and their high priest, Jesus Christ.

Jerome, Augustine, Clement, etc. thought that since the persecution stopped, and they were now worshipping in big buildings with gold, silver, and jewels, that the Millennium had come. Thus in the Apostles' Creed of 325, there is no detailed statement on the return of Christ.

For its tolerance to spiritual adultery, the church lost its testimony and nearly lost its Bible for the next 1,000 years. For the cause of fornication, Mat. 5:32, a man gave his wife a "bill of divorcement." Interestingly, according to Mk. 10:4 in Greek, the man gives her a *biblion apostasion*, literally an apostate bible. It is in this age that Jerome produced the *Vulgate*, the official bible of the Roman Catholic church. All the modern versions are based on that *Vulgate*, and the texts from which the *Vulgate* was translated.

Pergamos ==> marriage between world & Church:

married woman is "one" with husband (Eph 5:24)

steps out on him to highest bidder

man gives her a *Biblion apostasion* (Mt 19:7)

advent of the Devil's Bible

the Pergamon age starts with Council of Nicaea (325)

Arius (unitarian fm. Alexandria) vs

Athanasius (Alexandrian "orthodox" view)

It abolished premillennialism, which had been defended by:

Eusebius (at that Council)
Justin
Papias
Irenaeus
Methodius
Polycarp
Ignatius
Commodian
Hippolytus

Athanasian Creed adopted (1st version didn't have the word Catholic¹³ & was rejected).

The Antichurch in the Pergamon Church Age

After Connie there followed:

- sons Constantine II, Constans & Constantius
- killed off other family members
- Constantine II killed by Constans in 340
- Constans murdered by Manentius, 350
- Constantius sole emperor, 353
- fanatical Arian
- called himself Bishop of bishops
- Constantine's nephew Julian (the Apostate)
- into occult
- worshipped sun
- sacrificed to Jupiter
- sponsored a reformation among pagan priests to make them look Christian
 - dress like Catholic "priests"
 - practice separation
 - give alms
 - live chaste lives
 - dress simply
 - avoid taverns
 - practice rites of:
 - excommunication
 - absolution
 - restoration
 - sacraments
- Jovian (363-364)
- Valentian I (364-375)
 - rejected Nicene catholicism
- Gratian, his son (375-383)
 - sided with Ambrose, Bishop of Milan (Augustinian)
 - took away rights of churches who disagreed w. Rome
- Valentinian II, his brother (383-392)
- Theodosius the Great (392-395)
 - accepted Nicene catholicism
 - established RC as state religion
 - provided armed officers to kill dissenters
 - after his death followed by his 4 sons
- Arcadius, Honorius, Theodosius II, Valentinian III

¹³ *Catholic* apparently came from the Greek *catholicon*, (a drug once thought to be a "universal purge," able to purge all evil and sin; just as *panacea* was an herb providing a universal cure and cornucopia had all things necessary for food in it). Also, *catholic* is a synonym for *liberal, human(ism)*.

empire broken in 2: West & East
 it never recovered politically
 Honorius ruled against "Pelagianism"
 for Pope Innocent (402-417)
 Rome fell to Visigoths (Alaric) in 410
 Alaric (410)
 Ataulf marched into Gaul & settled there
 Vandals (Alans & Suevi) took Spain
 Franks took Northern France
 Celts were driven Westward to England, Ireland & France
 Vandals took Rome in 455
 Leo I had been pope 15 yrs (440-461)
 had bought off Attila (435-453)
 his main concern from Constantinople
 council after council
 Sardica (343) Western bishops over Eastern
 Constantinople (381) Apollinarian¹⁴ question
 Ephesus (431) Nestorian¹⁵
 Calcedon (451) Eutychian¹⁶ heresy
 Constantinople's bishop tad below Rome's
 Pope speaks for Peter
 Mary mother of God confession
 Synod of Orange (529) Pope Boniface
 soul of man injured in Gen. 3
 free will re-established by sprinkling
 Constantinople (553) Monophysite¹⁷
 charges of heresy, mostly about transubstantiation
 all heretics were called "Arian" (unitarian)
 E.g., the tribes which sacked Rome were called "Arians"
 While assailing "Arianism," RC promoted it in their versions of
 Lu. 2:33, 1 Tim 3:16, Acts 4:26 etc.
 Rome issued its own Latin Bible (Jerome, 420)
 Included Apocrypha, contrary to Jerome
 those who rejected it were called Arians or Manichaeans

Sophronius Eusebius Hieronymus (Jerome, 340-420)
 educated by the pagan Donatus
 Never worked a day in his life
 consorted with a rich woman who financed him
 About *Paula*, a nun:
 called her "The Mother-in-law of God"
 she kissed the stone (?) before Christ's tomb
 disfigured her face to humble herself
 tormented her body
 wept hours at a time for the "sins of laughing"

¹⁴ A theory, according to which Christ had a human body and a human soul, but no human rational mind, the "Divine Word" taking its place. Apollinaris (Apolinarios) the Younger, was Bishop of Laodicea, working in the latter half of the fourth century. At first he was highly esteemed by men like Athanasius, Basil, and Jerome for his classical (Greek) culture, his Biblical learning, his defense of and his loyalty to the Nicene faith. He assisted his father, Apollinaris the Elder, in reconstructing the scriptures on classical models in order to compensate the Christians for the loss of Greek literature of which the edict of Julian had deprived them.

¹⁵ The heresy, Nestorianism, is that Mary bore Jesus as both God and man, and so cannot properly be called the mother of God. Rome said Mary bore only God, which is why they call her the "mother of God."

¹⁶ That Jesus had only a divine nature and not a human one.

¹⁷ The term means "one nature." This council ruled that Jesus did not just embody God the Son, he is God the Son.

Jerome spent all his money buying Origen's works
Commissioned by pope Damasus to revise Old Latin Bible
first intended revision of OLB (=“Italic” Bible)

**“to make it understandable to world”
is saying the Holy Ghost can't do it.
Also true for the new versions.**

later abandoned it for Origen's & Euseb.'s A.T.
finished 405

did translate *Apocrypha* because Origen included it
didn't think it inspired, himself

Jerome's view of the Bible:

Shunamite of 1 Kings not real person
but was the “ever virgin wisdom of God”
Peter & Paul's argument of Gal 2 not real
a playlet to teach Antiochian Church
Mt 24 was fulfilled in 70 (post-millennial)

RCC is Kingdom of God
it's to conquer world by infant baptism

Peter lived in sin all his life
bec. he was married
his martyrdom washed his sin away

About Jerome's *Vulgate*

perpetual virginity of Mary
his Mt 1:25, omits “firstborn” (NASV, NIV)¹⁸

anti-premillennial
omits ending of Mt 6:13¹⁹

unitarian
Lord left Jesus when he was crucified
(thus Jerome omits “lord” in Luke 23:42²⁰)

Aurelius Augustine (354-430)

said to be:

most intellectual man of his time
oracle of the Latin church (John Lord)
immortal benefactor of mankind
master of words
boundless influence & authority
won every heart by love
“greatest Christian since NT times
his death left world in “darkness & tears”

but:

he caused murder of hundreds of Christians during his life
he was directly responsible for 100,000s deaths after him
he taught new birth was water sprinkling in RC church
he was a 5-point Calvinist
he believed 2nd coming comes one piece at a time at mass
he believed it ok to force pagans to become Christians on the grounds that Hagar
was forced into servitude.

¹⁸ Mat. 1:25 in A.V. reads that Joseph “knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.” NIV says: “But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.”

¹⁹ Mat. 6:13 in A.V. reads “And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.” Jerome omits from “For thine...” on.

²⁰ Lu. 23:42 “And he said unto Jesus, **Lord**, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom.”

he believed sprinkling a baby made him “elect,” that non-elect babies go to Hell unless sprinkled in which case they go to Limbo if R.C.

he wrote: “All who ... will not that young children which are newly born from their mothers womb shall be baptized, taking away original sin, ... are accursed.”

Council of Carthage (Fifth Council) backed Augustine.

Council of Mela (415) decreed Augustine “orthodox”

After Augustine, RCC position was:

Tychonius’ *Key to the Scriptures* was adopted by Augustine, but Tychonius was a Donatist & Aug. favored killing them because they were “heretics.”

Augustine figured on a Postmillennial 2nd coming in 1000 (because he adhered to LXX which arbitrarily adds 1,000 years before the Flood).

First resurrection was *spiritual* only, not physical

RCC was fulfillment of Isaiah 35 [millennial era]

Some sins are *mortal*, others *venial*

Infant baptism (regeneration by sprinkling) held as a N.T. doctrine

The Apocryphal Susanna was a real person & so she should be in the book of Daniel

Unlawful to baptize anyone unless Bishop present

Virginity is condition of salvation (Hieracas of Leontopolis, Egypt)

One can reject all gospels except Matthew (Cerinthus)

Origen’s 5th column is LXX (included *Apocrypha* & NT)

Marriage was prohibited (Ecratites & Saturnius)

[All of the above names are now listed as “heretics”]

Rise of Monasticism

Allowed one to live Christian life & be friends w. RCC

Started about time of Augustine & Jerome

Started in N. Africa

Actions of monks include:

Wore heavy iron collars

Dragged chains tied to testes

Kept fists shut till nails grew through palms

Stood on 1 leg for a week

Looked over shoulder till muscles froze

Laid on spikes

Suspended selves from hooks over fires

Fastened self to tree trunk for 5 to 30 years

Crucified selves

“Paul the Simple” said 300 prayers per day

Isadore of Alexandria ate no meat

Ptolemy spent 3 yrs in desert drinking dew

he lost his mind

Macarius lay 6 mo. naked in desert being eaten by gnats

Batthaeus had worms crawling out of his teeth

Symeon the Stylite (390-459)

Lived on 10’ platform for 4 yrs.

Built 22’, then 35’

Last platform 40’ (3’ diam.)

Lived on it 20 yrs

Platforms measured his approach to heaven

Preached 2x/day on good works

Settled theological controversies

Performed miracles from his perch

Women not allowed (surrounded by wall)

Had abscesses full of worms
Akepsimas of Cypres
Spent 60 yrs in a cell
When he finally came out:
Stoned by shepherd who thought him a wolf
(a “sheep in wolf’s clothing”)

Hillary of Poitiers
Would rather have God kill his daughter than have her married

Benedict of Nursia (480-550)
Founded Benedictine Order
Changed Apollo’s temple to Mt. Cassino Abbey
Believed salvation by works
Abbot represented God & Christ
(Adolph Hitler was trained in a Benedictine school)

Revisionist history:

Pope Gregory I (ca. 600) systematically destroyed and altered historical records
about believers.

Still done in recent times

Waldenses records consigned in 1658 by Morland to U. of Cambridge Library
in 7 packets labeled A-G
These were gone in 1823 when Gilly looked for them²¹

²¹ Wilkinson, Benjamin, 1930. *Our Authorized Bible Vindicated*, (Takoma Park), p. 34.

THE TRUE CHURCH IN THE PERGAMON CHURCH AGE

GROUPS & INDIVIDUALS COMPOSING THE REAL CHURCH:

(These groups go by different names, although for the most part they are united in doctrine. Their critics often obscured their true beliefs in order to paint them as unquestionably heretical, most often calling them Gnostics even if all they did was preach 1 John 2:15. Geographically, they ranged far wider than the Roman Catholic church until about 900.)

Montanists = Priscillianists = Cataphrygians (150-400)

Came from Asia Minor

active in Southern France & N. Africa circa 165

no special priesthood

premillennialists

baptistic

“holy rollers”

branded as heretics by anti-premillennialists

Origen (184-254)

Eusebius (260?-?340) who was premil. before Nicaea

because premil. teaches all govts will fail & join Satan at the end times (Rev. 13)

Messalines = Euchites²² = Manicaeans (c200-800)

connected with Paul of Samosata, bishop of Antioch

moved from Thrace & Bulgaria

from them came, over the next 6 centuries, the:

Paulicans (600-1200)

emphasized Pauline epistles instead of “Hebrew Christian” Epistles

Cathari (1200-1500)

S. France, region of Pyrenees (Languedoc)

RCC says they’re the same as Albigenses, fm. town of Albi

evangelical “Puritans” within Catholic church

didn’t recognize (Roman Catholic) church marriages

women and men equal before God

agreed with Bogomiles that Rome is whore of Rev 17

that pope is antichrist

Albigenses (800s-1250)

Cathari from the region around Albi, in S. France, & some cities in the north

Albigensian Crusades against them in particular and Cathari in general

ordered by Pope Innocent III & King Philip Augustus of France

when Béziers fell 1209

Crusade leader monk Arnold Amaury was asked how their swords were to distinguish between Catholic and Cathar

Answered, “Kill them all. God will know his own.”

these Crusades were thinly-disguised land grabs

Honorius III persuaded Louis VIII to renew crusade in 1226

Louis IX asked for & received support fm. Gregory IX for another crusade

hundreds of thousands killed betw. 1200 to the siege of Montségur in 1244.

Cathari persisted in remote places such as Montailou in the Corbières range (N. of Andorra).

Bogomiles (800-1200) = “worshippers of God”

Rome is whore of Rev 17

²² *Euchites* means “praying people,” used in a derogatory sense.

pope was Antichrist
Apostolic Ante-Nicene & Post-Nicene “fathers” are false prophets, namely:

Cyprian
Origen
Irenaeus
Dionysius
Papias, etc

All these groups rebaptized man on confession of faith
They were also called *Poblicans*, *Poplicans*, *Philopopolans*
Also named by countries where they settled:

Phyrgians
Bulgarians
Armenians, etc

After AD 325 all:

Viewed R.C.C. & Gk. Orth. Ch. as Satanic
Were intolerant of images in worship services
Rejected Alexandrian scholars and doctrines
Held that pope = antichrist
Held that Rome = whore of Rev 17

Gregory Thaumaturgus (210-270)
bishop of Pontus (Asia) in 240
had great conversion success.

Novatians Ca. 250-600

Founder: Novatius
Charged with murdering an unborn child
Was against laxity of church under Cornelius, Callistus & Zephyrinus
Came out of Catholicism
Many of his followers joined Montanists
= *Cathari* of (1000-1200)
Adult immersion of believers
Pure discipline in local church
Rejected anyone’s baptism done by an immoral bishop

Donatists (300-800)

Linked with *Paulicans*, *Albigenses* & *Waldenses*
Called those who turned Bibles in to Diocletian “traitors”
Each had a hidden Bible
Would not tell where another had hidden his Bible either
Persecution for their Bible & faith continued through Augustine
Rejected infant baptism, though RCC accepted it
Baptized adult believers only
Rejected Constantine/Jerome’s bible & so were condemned to death

Ephraem the Syrian (306-373)

believed in an immanent, pre-tribulational rapture²³

²³ Post-tribulationist writers claim the the belief in the pre-tribulational rapture cannot be true since there seems to be no reference to the belief prior to about 1820. They variously ascribe its origin to Emmanuel Lacunza (Ben Ezra, 1812), Edward Irving (1820), or Margaret MacDonald (1830), or John Darby (1820).

However, there are earlier sources. Ephraem the Syrian (306-373) was a major theologian and poet of the early Byzantine Eastern Church. He was born near Nisbis near present-day Edessa in Turkey (then the Roman province of Syria). His hymns and homilies are still used in the liturgy of the Greek Orthodox and Middle Eastern Nestorian Church. He believed in a personal, Jewish Antichrist who will rule the Roman Empire in the last

Priscillian

taught in Spain from ca. 350 to 385

movement spread to Portugal, France, and to some degree to Rome

contemporaries accused him of being a Gnostic

but in 1886 a copy of some of his writings was found

salvation resulted from a person's will in choosing to follow Christ

not because of a magical result of the sacrament of baptism

promoted simplicity as an aid to living a godly life

salvation by faith

obedience to the Bible

life of good works and moral purity.

In 385 he was tried with 5 followers by a synod of bishops

condemned and executed for teaching "false doctrine."

They were the first martyrs executed directly by the RCC²⁴

Jovinian

it took 2 councils to put him down

days, a rebuilt Temple, the two witnesses, and a literal great tribulation period. In his *The Book of the Cave of Treasures*, Ephraem taught that Daniel's seventieth week will be fulfilled in the final 7 years at the end of this age that will conclude with Christ's return at the battle of Armageddon.

The following are some key passages from Ephraem written about A.D. 373 and translated by Prof. Cameron Rhoades of Tyndale Theological Seminary:

From *On the Last Times, the Antichrist, and the End of the World*:

1. Most dearly beloved brothers, believe in the Holy Spirit who speaks in us. Now we have spoke before, because the end of the world is very near, and the consummation remains. Has not the first faith withered away in men?
2. We ought to understand thoroughly therefore, my brothers what is imminent or overhanging. Already there have been hunger and plagues, violent movements of nations and signs, which have been predicted by the Lord, they have already been fulfilled, and there is not other which remains except the advent of the wicked one in the completion of the Roman kingdom. Why therefore are we occupied with worldly business, and why is our mind held fixed on the lusts of the world or anxieties of the ages? Why therefore do we not reject every care of earthly actions and prepare ourselves for the meeting of the Lord Christ, so that he may draw us from the confusion which overwhelms the world? Believe you me, dearest brothers, because the coming of the Lord is nigh, believe you me, because it is the very last time. Because all saints and the elect of the Lord are gathered together prior to the tribulation which is about to come, and are taken to the Lord in order that they may not see at any time the confusion which overwhelms the world because of our sins. And so, brothers, most dear to me, it is the eleventh hour and the end of this world comes to the harvest, and angels armed and prepared, hold sickles in their hands awaiting the empire of the Lord.
3. When therefore the end of the world comes, there arises diverse wars, commotion on all sides, horrible earthquakes, perturbations of nations, tempests throughout the lands, plagues, famine, drought throughout the thoroughfares, great danger throughout the sea and dry land, constant persecutions, slaughters and massacres everywhere.
6. When therefore the end of the world comes, that abominable, lying and murderous one is born from the tribe of Dan. He is conceived from the seed of a man and from a most vile virgin, mixed with an evil or worthless spirit.
7. But when the time of the abomination of his desolation begins to approach, having been made legal, he takes the empire. Therefore when he receives the kingdom, he orders the temple of God to be rebuilt for himself, which is in Jerusalem; who, after coming into it, shall sit as God and order that he be adored by all nations then all people from everywhere shall flock together to him at Jerusalem, and the holy city shall be trampled by the nations for forty-two months just as the holy apostle says in the Apocalypse, which become three and a half years, 1260 days.
8. In these three and a half years the heaven shall suspend its dew because there will be no rain upon the earth and there will be a great tribulation as has not been since people began to be upon the earth and no one is able to sell or to buy of the grain of the fall harvest unless he is one who has the serpentine sign on the forehead of the hand.
10. And when the three and a half years have been completed, the time of the Antichrist through which he will have seduced the world, after the resurrection of the two prophets, in the hour which the world does not know, and on the day which the enemy or son of perdition does not know, will come the sign of the Son of Man and coming forward the Lord shall appear with great power and much majesty, with the sign of the word of salvation going before him, and also even with all the powers of the heavens with the whole chorus of the saints. Then Christ shall come and the enemy shall be thrown into confusion, and the Lord shall destroy him by the Spirit of his mouth. And he shall be bound and shall be plunged into the abyss of everlasting fire alive with his father Satan; and all people, who do his wishes, shall perish with him forever; but the righteous ones shall inherit everlasting life with the Lord forever and ever.

²⁴ Lester Bauman, *The Little Flock*.

Rome (390) & Milan (395)
taught regeneration was by Holy Ghost, not water
taught eternal security
held priesthood of all adult, baptized believers
denied perpetual virginity of Mary
called “monkery” nonsense

Vigilantus (395)

Rebuked worshipers of martyrs & relics

Castigated:

monasteries

celibacy vows

poverty vows

“To defend religion by bloodshed, torture and crime is not to defend it but to pollute and profane it.”

Jerome considered Jovinian & Vigilantus the two “deadliest enemies of Catholicism.”

Helvidius (380)

Denied the perpetual virginity of Mary

Aerius

Contra nunnery

Contra prayers for dead

Only ordained elder was a bishop

Connected with *Armenians*

Armenians

adult believer baptism

contra:

worship of Mary

veneration of saints

celibacy as means of salvation

Eucharists as means of salvation

beads

images

candles

prayers for dead

purgatory

By 250 Christianity had entered Po River valley from Asia:

Syrian Merchants carried gospel to Gaul & Rhine valley

Greek communities in S. Gaul originally from Ionia, Greece

There were 18 Bishops in Britain before Constantine:

this was 271 years before Rome sent a “missionary” to Brit.

Greatest center of NT Christianity was Syria, not Rome or Alex.

Missionaries from Edessa (Syria) went to Persia, Central Asia, China.

“Arian” Goths (stretched from Germany to the Black Sea)

had Bible in their own language by 350

Ulfilas’ *Gothic Bible*

They invaded Rome

Donatists report them more tolerant of Bible than was the Roman Pope

German translations date from mid 100's
These were followed by the Old Latin Bible
Eventually Goths were Romanized

Roman persecution drove Christians (Novatians, Donatist, Waldenses, Albigenses, Cathari, Montanists, Messalines & Paternines) fm. shores of Mediterranean & Africa through Spain (into France, England, Ireland, Germany, Friesland) & out of Asia Minor (up into Switzerland, Piedmont Valley, Po Valley, Italian Alps, & Balkans whence, via Danube, to Silesia, Bohemia & Moravia (Germany)).

Piramus (325-430)
Evangelist to Britain

John Chrysostom (347-407)
"Golden Mouthed"
Defended Antiochian (Byzantine) text
countered by Jerome
taught by Abbot Diodorus &
Theodore of Mopsuetia
latter is "father of Nestorian theology:" (that Mary is not the Mother of God)
was bishop of Antioch
believed priest = pastor
opposed by Jerome
banished for preaching against sins of rulers
exiled to Black Sea
said to have died on his knees in prayer
Usually he was a literalist, but
he did worship saints & relics

Ninian (ca. 366-432)
Born in Galloway, southern Scotland-northern England
Was called Nynias in writings by the Bede
who credits him with converting the southern Picts
from Clyde to the Grampian Mts.
But they were Christianized 20 years earlier
Called Ninios by Wm. of Malmesbury
Called Ringan in Scotland (the called Albania)
Went to Rome and became disgusted
Started a revival among the Picts
Built Candida Casa (white house) on Whithorn promitory S. of Isle of Man
a retreat/library/study center

Pelagius (c. 400)
Welsh monk
espoused Celtic (Syrian) brand of Christianity
used Old Latin of Waldensians & Albigenses (Italic)
Antiochian school instead of Alexandrian
Fought "Pelagian Controversy" w. Augustine & Jerome
excommunicated by Rome
exonerated by Eastern Orthodox
his points:
(1) infant baptism can not take away "original sin": if there is no original sin inherited from Adam, [since it was taken away by Christ,] then sprinkling avails nothing.

- (2) If Adam had not fallen, he would have died a natural death unless he had eaten of the tree of life [else why was there a need for the tree of life].
- (3) According to Honorius, he was a Nestorian, i.e., one who refused to call Mary “the Mother of God.”
- (4) He believed man has a free will.

Coelestius (Fm. Ireland, then still called Scotland, which is Scotia)
 was a student of Pelagius
 went to Rome & was corrupted from the true Pelagian viewpoint
 Promoted a different version,
 that the consequences of Adam’s sin were restricted to him.
 This version is passed off a *Pelagianism*, and is a true heresy.

Patricius (St. Patrick, 389-465)

Lived at the end of Pergamon church age

Error: Balaam’s doctrine = enlarge church by absorbing pagan holidays & practices

His background:

Grandson of a priest in the British (Celtic) church.

Son of Calpornius, a deacon in the British church.

Bede (673-735) reports of the British church:

Followed Byzantine (Antiochian) order, not Roman order

Rome accused it of “pestilential heresies”

Celebrated Byzantine Easter, not Roman anti-Passover Ishtar

His life (written in his *The Confession*):

Born near Bannavem Taberniae (now Dumbarton), **Scotland**

Not on March 17

Captured by Picts (Celts) at age 16

taken to Belfast

never visited Dublin

became “religious” while a slave there

Escaped to England after 6 years

was slave in England for a while

received a commission (vision) to evangelize Ireland

labored there 53 years

Never mentioned Rome or Pope

His life’s work:

Baptized “thousands of grown men” (Baptist)

Started 300+ local churches

Wrote two works:

Confessions with 25 chapters about his work

The Letter to Coroticus with 10 chapters & Irish hymn

Coroticus was British king of Strathclyde

Had raided Ireland

Killed some new believers on their baptismal day

Established missionary-minded monasteries at:

Armagh, Bancho, Clonar, Clonmacnois, Derry & Glendolough

Trained & sent missionaries

in groups of 12 or 13

to:

Scotland

N. Britain

France

Germany

Switzerland

Northern Italy

One student was Columba (Columbkille, b. 521)²⁵ who went to Scotland

His doctrine:

Sola Scriptura (the Latin Bible Jerome tried to replace with his Roman Catholic *Vulgate*.)

- no transubstantiation
- no infant baptism
- no prayer to dead saints
- no vows of celibacy
- no adoration of Mary
- no apostolic succession

What of his canonization?

Canonized 400 years after his death

at a time when such absorption of national figures was common

the time when Boniface was preaching a new “gospel” of simple deeds and belief

lots of myths and “facts” “surfaced” at that time

Patrick was preaching at the time Jerome perverted the *Vulgate*

Columba (St. Columbkille, b. 521)

Student of Patricius’ school

Founded a monastery on Iona (Hebrides, Scotland)

Evangelized Scotland

Sent missionaries in groups of 12 or 13 to:

- Southern England
- Normandy (France)
- Friesland (Belgium)
- Germany
- Denmark/Scandinavia

Celebrated Byzantine (non-R.C.) Easter

I.e., it was tied to Passover instead of the feast of the goddess *Ishtar* as it is today

Adamnan, 9th abbot of Iona after Col. (700)

Tried to change Easter to R.C. system

His congregation utterly refused

After his death (704), by 715,

“R.C. Easter or leave”

R.C.C. takes over

Nestorians (400-1000)

Emphasized that Mary isn’t “mother of God”

They were inappropriately called “Arians”

Servanus (450-543)

Evangelist to Britain

Drostan (470-540)

Evangelist to Britain

Finbar (490-578)

Evangelist to Britain

²⁵ Columba started a missionary school that sent missionaries to Scandinavia. His 9th successor tried to enforce the Roman Catholic Easter and was kicked out of his church. When he died, all who didn’t celebrate the R.C. Easter were expelled by royal command in 715.

Summary of Early Irish and British Church

no transubstantiation (bread & wine = literal body & blood)

no prayers to “saints”

no vows of celibacy

no adoration of Mary

bishop = pastor

Paul evangelized Britain? or did Peter, James, or Philip?

Norman legends say Joseph of Arimathea

THYATIRAN CHURCH AGE (500-1000)

The name Thyatira means “odor of affliction.” The age is one in which the church accepts correction on the one hand, while committing spiritual adultery on the other hand. This is the first half of the Dark Ages, also known as the Middle Ages, which ran from 500-1500, right in the middle of the 0-2000 range.

The Dark Age is characterized by the religious fascism of the Roman Catholic church. The body of Christ was persecuted as never before. The “Holy” Roman Empire was established under Charlemagne (732-814), and baptismal regeneration is declared an absolute truth. In the face of this, Thyatira is complimented for her works, charity, service, faith, and patience. She is twice commended for her works, the former, and the latter which is the greater.

Nevertheless, the body of Christ tolerates Jezebel, who calls herself a *virgin* and equally bears the titles Queen of Heaven and Queen of Hell. Rome calls her the ever-virgin mother of God, Mary, Queen of Heaven and Hell. It is during this time that Mary is deified.

In Rev. 2:21 God says he gave her (the Roman Catholic church) space to repent. The space for repentance went from 325, her founding, to 500, when her counterfeit bible was formalized. (Her fate is in Rev. 18:1-8.) The death of her children was through disease and pestilence such as the Black Death. Romanism is characterized by the poverty and death in Catholic countries.

An example of the “depths of Satan” (Rev. 2:24) is recorded in Eze. 32:31 which says “Pharaoh shall see them, and shall be comforted over all his multitude, even Pharaoh and all his army slain by the sword, saith the Lord GOD.” In other words, Satan, here personified by Pharaoh, is so “inhuman” as to take comfort in how great a multitude he has brought down to Hell with him.

Thyatira is in danger of abandoning the works of God, even the words of God (Rev. 2:26). Nearly everyone in this era believed what the Roman church taught, namely, that the Bible is too hard to understand, so why bother reading it. The real preachers of the time include Bernadino of Sienna, Henry of Lausanne, Tanchelm, the Nestorians, Leuthard and Raymond Lull (1235). The believers used the Old Latin Bible, derived from the Byzantine text. (Eventually the Philadelphian Church overcomes and obtains the “power over the nations.”)

= 1st half of Dark Ages, which ran from 500-1500.

The Antichurch During the Thyatira Church Age

Pope Boniface II (530-532) established modern RCC
By 590 Bible believers have become like hunted animals
Believers dominated rest of Europe (outside of S. Italy & N. Africa) in early days.

Roman Catholicism enters Britain

King Ethelbert married a French RC princess
She brought her own private bishop
She came with plans to rid England of Bible believers
Her bishop was a Benedictine monk, “St.” Augustine (the 2nd)

Augustine of Canterbury

Sent to Kent by Pope Gregory the Great in 597
with 40 men
Resided at Canterbury
became archbishop (Jesus was only a bishop)
in 601 Pope told Ethelbert to obey Augustine
his French wife, Bertha & her priest, Luidhard
in 602 anti-Catholic bishops were given an ultimatum:
infant baptism or else

Pope is ultimate power or else
celebrate Roman Easter or else
they refused to yield, massacre of Welsh clergy at Bangor
having failed, Augustine then “healed” a blind man
misfired, they didn’t change
Augustine threatened to call in the Saxon armies
again refused
Saxons didn’t come for 10 years
When they did invade, RCC claimed it “divine judgment”

*Pope Zachary (741-752)*²⁶

Was a woman (Pope Joan, Pope John, dates uncertain 855-857?)

According to Roman Catholics who tried John Hus

According to Dominican & Minorities in Rome

According to historian Mosheim

Her bust is found among papal busts in Sienna

To deny her existence, she was renamed Pope John VIII (872-82)

Pope Clement (1601) calls her Zacharias

She gave an untimely birth while going from Vatican to Lateran Palace.

Only mother, who dressed like a father, who became a mother while she
was a holy father.

Condemned Aldebert & Clemens (700s, qv)

Called them “impostors” [ha!]

They were performing miracles [w/o permission?]

They claimed equality with the Apostles while

leading women astray

boasted they had more valuable relics ‘n Rome had

her papal nuncio to Germany was Boniface (Winifred)

unsuccessfully tried to subvert Germany to Rome

called a council to condemn them

killed by pagan army

was picked as a patron St. of England

in 1875 pope commanded RCs in England & Germany to pray to him to make those
countries 100% RC

Paschasius Radbertus (800-865)

²⁶ According to the third rescension of the chronicle of Martin of Troppau, also called Martinus Polonus, after a Pope Leo (IV in the “rescension,” who ruled from 847-855,) there ruled a Pope John VIII, who ruled for two years, seven months and four days. This pope was actually a woman named Joan (or Agnes, Gilberta, or Jutta, depending on the source, but Joan was standard in the 13th century, though earlier accounts did not name her). The story goes she gave birth during a procession from St. Peter’s to the Lateran, somewhere between the Coliseum and St. Clement’s. Martinus reports that she died on the spot and was buried there.

The Catholic church from at least the 13th century through the 15th century accepted the Dominican priest, Martinus’s (d. 1278) account. In the Siena Cathedral, a bust of Pope Joan resided among the other popes until Clement VIII had it transformed into Pope Zachary in 1601. After thoroughly searching the papal records in 1276, Pope John XX changed his title to Pope John XXI in recognition of Joan’s reign. For three hundred years, the story of Pope Joan was included in the Church’s official pilgrim’s guidebook to Rome. Beginning in the 16th century, Catholic historians began to deny the existence of Pope Joan. David Blondel (1590-1655) concluded the story may have come from a satire on Pope John XI (931-36), whose mother Marozia and her daughter seeded the “See” for several popes.

So much for the official story. Assuming that Pope John XXI (there is no John XX) did thoroughly research the records, it is reasonable that “Joan” would’ve been John XX. That means that she must have ruled between John XIX and XXI, or the Pope would have moved the other Pope John’s numbers forward, too. This makes sense, as there is no time between the official “numbers” in Martinus’s *third* rescension, i.e., between Leo IV and Benedict III (855-858) for a 2-year Joan. However, there is plenty of room between John XIX and his successor Benedict XI (1032-45) who may have placed her (she’s said to have been given the throne by her lover) on the throne at the beginning of his era. She may even have been the mysterious “Sylvester” (1045) who was succeeded by Benedict XI (again), officially, in 1045.

If, however, this assumption is wrong and we need to find another Leo followed by a Benedict, we can find that. Leo VIII (963-64), called the antipope, is followed by Benedict V (964) who, in turn, was followed by John XII and Theodora’s son, John XIII (965-74).

According to the Universal Chronicle of Metz and *Mirabilia Urbis Romana*, the new fatherly mother had a vision offering her choice between earthly disgrace of eternal punishment. She chose the former, ending her days in confinement in the open street. Etienne de Bourbon (*Seven Gifts of the Holy Ghost*), after the birth Joan was tied to the tail of a horse, dragged around the city, stoned to death by the mob, and buried at the palace where she died. Martinus gives a second account: She was deposed and did penance for many years. Her bastard son became Bishop of Ostia.

Crystallized transubstantiation dogma

Charlemagne (Karl der Grosse) (768-814)

get sprinkled or die order

Saxons (many of whom were Christians) resisted that for 83 yrs.

4,000 murdered at Verder

1st church-appointed massacre

Saxons responded:

burned 12 RC churches

killed priests

finally 10,000 Saxon families were scattered

Intended to “bring in the kingdom”

called the “Moses of the Middle Ages”

50⁺ military campaigns

stood nearly 7’ tall

had Augustine’s *City of God* read during all his meals.

Limited himself to “only” 4 concubines after wife died

Took steps to “correct” every Italic Bible in Europe

Dismissed wives he didn’t like

Helped Pope Hadrian against Lombards in N. Italy, 774

Helped Pope Leo quench revolt in Rome in 799

Crowned as “Caesar” in 800

crowned by pope means pope can now make kings

the kingdom had come: but

Charley appointed his own Bishops & kings over Pope’s

*Theodora & her daughters, Marozia & Theodora*²⁷ (ca900-950)

Filled papal throne with lovers & their bastards

John X (914-928) was her lover

John XI was her bastard son

John XII (955-963)

Guilty of homicide & adultery

Turned Vatican into a brothel

Prayed to Jupiter & Venus

Otto the Great (963-973)

Restored Carolinian empire.

THE TRUE CHURCH IN THE THAYATIRA CHURCH AGE

Believers dominated Europe outside of S. Italy & N. Africa in early days

Waldenses (40-1800)

also called Baptists, Anabaptists, Cathari

neighbors to Vaudois in Piedmont/Poplains

actually started with Cornelius (Ac 10) “Italian Band”

²⁷ Romanist historians have drawn this part of the pontifical annals in colors as dark as those employed by Protestant writers. The best friends of the papacy, such as Petavius, Luitprand, Baronius, Hermann, Labbe, Du Pin, &c. &c. labor for language to depict the enormous abuses of the papal rule. Baronius speaks of these pontiffs entering as thieves, and dying, as they deserved, by the rope. Of the three candidates, which occasioned the Schism Of A.D. 1044, Binus and Labbe remark, “A three-headed BEAST, rising from the gates of hell, infested in a woeful manner the holy chair.” This monster, of course, is a link in the chain of apostolic succession.

In Northern Italy (“Italy” proper)
Valleys of Lucerne, Peroza & St. Martin
between Piedmont & Savoy
At times called “Baptists,” “Anabaptists,” “Cathari”
Translated Bible into Italian in mid-thirteenth century
Another version appeared in 1471
By Nocolo Malermi (or Malerbi)
Went through 21 editions during 15th and 16th centuries
Neighbors of the Vaudois which held similar faith
Attempts by the Pope to exterminate them:
diverted Crusades
Massacre of 1655:
Pope gave their land to the Irish
they’d been banished for the massacre of 1641 there
early in year sent orders from court of Turin to heads of Wal. & Vau. families at
LaTorre to:
leave their homes in 3 days
move to certain assigned districts
prove in 20 days they’d become RC or had sold their land to Catholics
in the spring:
pope sent 15,000-man army
burned 22 villages
burned aged people in their homes
hewed the men to pieces
impaled women naked
dashed childrens’ brains out before mothers
150 women beheaded & heads used for bowling
Sir Oliver Cromwell put a stop to it.

Willibrord (658-739)
raised in Irish convent
missionary to Belgium & Holland in 690
1st Bishop of Utrecht
anti-Catholic
was expelled from Friesland in 691
then went to Denmark

Baeda (the Venerable Bede) (673-735)
Born in England
Celtic Christian
Northumbrian monk
Constantly corrected Augustine’s (2nd) corrupt Latin Mss
Translated the Gospel of John (1-6:9?) into Anglo-Saxon
It’s said that after finishing it he sang the *Doxology* and died

Clemens & Aldebert (Eldebert) (700s)
Clemens:
Irish
preached in Franconia
killed by Pope Zacharias (qv)
Aldebert:
a Gaul
preached in Rhine area

anti-RC
opposed:
 clerical celibacy
 tradition over Bible
taught Christ's descent to Hell was literal
opposed by Boniface (=Winifred), papal nuncio (q.v.)

Methodius (815-885) & Constanius (827-869)

brothers
born in Greece

Constanius = Cyril

educated in Constantinople
used Byzantine Bible (Antiochian)
missionaries to Tartars, north shore of Black Sea (845)
then to Bulgars (Balkans)

Cyril gave them an alphabet to hold the Bible (Cyrillic)
went to Rome to make an agreement about their work
Pope Adrian II went behind their backs to usurp the work

Lief Erikson (ca. 1000)

Eiric's Saga, a medieval Icelandic saga about the Norse discovery of Vineland

Left Iceland to preach Christianity in Greenland

"It says that Leif Eirikson had spent the winter in Norway, where he had been persuaded by King Olaf Tryggvason to go back to Greenland as his evangelist agent in order to convert Greenland to Christianity; and that in the summer of 1000 he had set sail for Greenland but had been blown off course right across the North Atlantic. He discovered unsuspected lands there, where he found wild wheat, vines, and maple trees. ...when he reached home he successfully converted the country to Christianity despite opposition from his father ..."²⁸

China (600-700)

The Worshippers of the Doctrine of the Cross

during Tan dynasty, "...all cities were filled with churches and houses that flourished with the happiness of the gospel."

²⁸ M. Magnusson & H. Pálsson. *The Vineland Sagas: the Norse Discovery of America*, pp. 32-33.

THE SARDINIAN CHURCH AGE

(1000-1500)

Sardis (plural of sard) is a clear or translucent, deep orange-red to brownish-red variety of chalcedony, a semi-precious stone. The Sardinian Church age runs from A.D. 1000 to 1500 and is the bloodiest in the history of the Church. This era spawned the Spanish Inquisition and saw the massacre of the Huguenots in France and the Bartholomew's Day Massacre where the Pope gave a medal to armed Catholics who killed unarmed Protestants. It saw the Crusades and the invasions of Saladin and Ghengis Khan. The Hundred Years War (1337-1450) between England and France occurred in this time.

Towards the end of this age the Greek text of the Bible, the *Textus Receptus*, multiplied, originating from the Greek Orthodox Church, and traveled up through Hungary, Bohemia, and Bulgaria into Luther's Germany. Believers of this era include Wycliffe, John Huss, and Savonarola.

For most of the age church membership was growing but its members were not growing. Much of the Church consisted of a believing remnant who stayed in the Roman Catholic Church (such as Luther, for example), who had a name for "orthodoxy" but were truly dead orthodox. The Catharists, Huguenots, Waldensians, & Albigenses, who were outside the R.C.C. kept the true Church from being buried.

When considering the church at Sardis as a type of a local church, we find that today charismatic churches fall into this group, as do most "mainline" Protestant or Evangelical churches, not to mention liberal churches.

Sardis = "red ones"

Believers of the period were known as Vaudois, Brethren, Bogomiles, Petrobrusians, Berengarians, Arnoldists & Cathari

THE ANTICHURCH DURING THE SARDIAN CHURCH AGE

1054, Russian (Greek) Orthodox Church came to power in Russia
supplanted the work of Cyril and Constantius
About the same time, RCC took Poland
That was the end of Poland as a great power

1154-1170, Ireland was betrayed to the Catholics through an alliance between the king of England and the pope.

Crusades

- 1st Defeated at Belgrade/Hungary
eventually reached Antioch in 1097
Jerusalem in 1099
Saladin arose (1138-1193) & kicked them out
- 2nd defeated at Damascus & Edessa
- 3rd (1187) w. Richard the Lionhearted
captured Jaffa & Askelon
- 4th (1200-1204) took Constantinople
attacked Gk Orth. Ch.
- Children's Crusade (1212)
Shepherd boy had vision of Mary
parents sent kids (13,000 betw. 8 & 17)
the Mediterranean didn't "part"

went overland to Genoa (7,000) arrived
sent on ships, 2 wrecked, 5 arrived N. Africa
sold to Moslems as slaves
5th (1229) split Jerusalem up w. Moslems
Last (1248-1270) under St. Louis (IX of France)
was monumental flop
spawned Knights Templar, Teutonic Knights & Knights of St. John orders (Knights
of Columbus is Am. version)

Ghengis Khan (ca. 1250)

Pope Innocent IV told him to come to Rome & bow to the ruler of the world

Khan replied "I'm ruler of world"

Pope sent "missionaries"

they found real Christians in Cathay (China)

RCC "mysteriously" disappeared in China 1370

Pope sent Marco Polo & his brother (1371)

Catholic law in the late Middle Ages

Two swords dogma:

Phillippe de Beaumanoir wrote: "for when anyone is condemned as a heretic by the
examinations of the Holy Church then the Holy Church must leave him to lay
justice and the lay justice must burn him, seeing that the spiritual justice ought
not to put anyone to death."

Ralph of Coggeshall, an inquisitor, tells of a virtuous young woman suspected of heresy
(and burned) because she resisted the amorous advances of a priest (Coulton,
Inquisition & Liberty, p. 35ff.) Ralph tells it taking for granted that the reader will
side with the priest. That such situations were not unusual is evident in the writings
of Peter the Precentor.

Grotius, in the sixteenth century, wrote *On the Law of War and Peace* in he claims that
"A law of nature called 'dicates of right reason' proves that all actions are 'approved
of or disapproved of by the Author of Nature, God.'" (Note that "Nature"
establishes laws instead of the Author of "Nature.") This degenerated into "No
government can, in any way, invade the rights of the individual person." John Locke,
1632-1704, severs God from Grotius' law and then says, "Men could rebel against
any attempt to deprive them of their rights of liberty or property. These are natural
rights with which men are born, not rights granted by any government." Since God
is removed as the maker of laws, the laws eventually degenerate into moral
relativism. Today (1996), the attitude is that rights are granted and defined by the
government.

Middle-Ages joke:

One skull of John the Baptist was much smaller than another. The small one must have
been John when he was a young boy.

Contrast between Peter and the Pope

Peter was married (Mk. 1:30), the Pope is not

Peter refused the worship of men (Ac. 10:26), the Pope demands it

Peter lived in poverty (Ac. 3:6), the Pope in splendor

Peter was called Satan (Mt. 16:23), the Pope claims he's God

Papal apologetics

On "Call no man your father" (Mt. 23:9):

Pope justifies his title because it has evolved “out of a long tradition.” (*Crossing the Threshold of Hope*, by Karol Wojtyla (=Pope John-Paul II), 1996.)

On other religions:

“... believers in Allah are particularly close to us” (*ibid*).
warns against “fundamentalist movements”

On Purgatory:

it must be believed because of:
the “bull of Benedict XII”
the “mystical works of Saint John of the Cross”

On Mary:

Pope’s Mary is sinless, Bible’s was a sinner (Lu. 2:24)
Pope’s Mary is a mediatrix, Bible’s needed a saviour (Lu. 1:47).

THE TRUE CHURCH DURING THE SARDIAN CHURCH AGE

Peter of Bruys (1080-1126)
against images & infant baptism
was burned at stake

Henry of Lausanne (1090-1145)
founded *Henricans*
was Benedictine monk
imprisoned & released
joined followers of Peter of Bruys in S. France
then imprisoned for life

Tanchelm of Flandern (1200s)
assassinated by R.C. priest

John Wycliffe (1320-1384)
“Morning Star of the Reformation”
born in England
used Old Latin to translate Bible into English
enlisted grads at Oxford to preach
“Poor Priests”
became known as *Lollards*
died in Church
later his remains dug up, burned w. his books
taught that
Pope = antichrist
no transubstantiation
Bible is final authority
no infant baptism
no worship of Mary
no purgatory
no Apocrypha
added to his translation later by Nicolas Hereford

Lollards:

First woman burned at stake in England was Lollard
Joane Broughton & daughter in 1494

Latourette calls this Mother Church engaged in the “expansion of Christianity”

John Hus (1369-1415)

Bohemian

Translated Wycliffe into his native tongue

Followers called *Hussites*

once Czechoslovakia was almost all Hussite

Summoned to Council of Constance in 1414

promised safe conduct by Pope John XXIII

arrested & burned at stake instead (1415)

Pope said one needn't keep one's word to a heretic

Anabaptists (1400-1700): a name commonly given believers at the time
also called:

Hussites

Brethren

Mennonites

Baptists

Protestants

radicals

Millennial Baptists in N.E. Europe

In 1529 Swiss law against Anabaptists

regardless of sex or age

to be killed by the sword or fire or otherwise

Balthasar Hubmaier (d. 3/10/1528)

was a preacher at Waldhut, Austria (near Swiss border)

through Scripture study became a Protestant believer

married a Christian woman, Elsbeth Hugeline

Austrian authorities demanded his surrender

Waldhut refused to surrender him

Knew believer's baptism but delayed practice

feared for safety of the whole town

When he did preach it

Austrian authorities invaded the town

Hubmaier escaped to Zurich

Zwingli, his friend, was baptistic

feared declining enrollment

wrath of the state

loss of funds

decided to suppress anabaptists

turned against Hubmaier

Hubmaier was baptized by Wilhelm Reublin

In turn, baptized 300

was imprisoned, tortured

agreed to read a prepared statement

Zwingli preached against anabaptists

Hub. started to read, then cried out “Infant baptism is not of God, and men must be

baptised by faith in Christ.”

tortured to sign a written recantation

released on the condition he leave Switzerland

went to Moravia

preached freely for 15 months

circulated Baptist tracts

protected by Leonard and Hans von Liechtenstein
Austria forced his extradition
He and his wife convicted of heresy for refusing to sprinkle babies
he was burned at the stake
his wife was drowned in the Danube 3 days later
then they burned her bones
Hubmaier baptised by pouring water over kneeling converts

Desiderius Erasmus (1466-1536)

Most brilliant scholar of his day

Made his own Latin translation at Oxford in 1505

In 1515, at Basel, reconstructed Greek NT (TR) using

5 Gk. NT Mss.

Italic Mss. (from John Colet)

Rejected Alexandrian text Mss.

Used principles of inerrancy to form TR

His Greek NT underwent

4 revisions under Stephanus (1546,49,50,51)

10 editions under Beza (1560-1598)

Elzevir's editions of 1624, 1633

Was used for translations in 1000⁺ languages

and it ushered in the Philadelphian Church era

After 1522 and by 1530, his name was associated with the Anabaptists²⁹

Who were thought by RCC & Protestants to be the arch-heretics

Believed in baptism, in his annotation to Mat 28 he wrote:

“After you have taught them these things, and they believe what you have taught them, have repented their previous lives, and are ready to embrace the doctrine of the gospel (in their life), then immerse them in water, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.”

Taught rebaptism of those already sprinkled as infants.

Died in 1534 in Basel “without relations of any sort, so far as known with the Roman Catholic Church.”³⁰

²⁹ Friesen, Arthur, 1988. *Erasmus, the Anabaptists, and the Great Commission* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publ. Co.)

³⁰ Edw. Hills, 1956. *The King James Version Defended* (Des Moines, IA: Christian Research Press), p. 194.

PHILADELPHIAN CHURCH AGE (1500-1900)

“Open door” church “kept the word” The Reformation texts translated into over 800 languages before 1900. It ended in 1904 when England traded her birthright for the Roman Catholic version of the bible, despite the warning of the AV translators in their preface.

THE ANTICHRURCH IN THE PHILADELPHIAN CHURCH AGE

John Calvin (1509-1561)

Was a lawyer

Talked Genevan leadership into making it an open city

Previously, in 1533, Geneva forbade its citizens from reading the Bible in German or French

Ordered all translations burnt.

Believed in preserving and promoting the church by *works*, e.g.:

burned Servetus (1511-1553) at stake

See Origen: “We believe in our Lord Jesus Christ *born* of the Father *before* the beginning of all creation.”

Calvin believed this, Servetus didn't

Servetus charged with heresy

Calvin's Genevan buddies wanted him burned

Calvin'd rather he'd been killed by sword

Calvinists still want to purify the church, the world, & usher in the millenium by works

Charles V of Spain (1500-1558)

Edict of Spires (1529)

started a crusade against “Baptists” (i.e., on infant baptism)

In Netherlands alone, 50,000 Christians hanged, beheaded, burned, buried alive

June 10, 1535

death to all Bible believers

if you recant, you can die by sword instead of fire

women burned alive

Dirk Willemzoon

sentenced to death

escaped over frozen lake

Papist soldiers gave chase

one fell through ice

screamed for help

deserted by his buddies

Dirk turned & pulled him out

buddies returned & arrested him

burned at stake next day

Henry II & Catherine de Medici (France)

roasted Protestants (1549) at Notre Dame (hung on cranes)

Council of Trent (1546):

Fourth Rule of the Index:

“Inasmuch as it is manifest from experience that if the Holy Bible is translated into the vulgar tongue and indiscriminately allowed to anyone more evil than good will arise from it”

Irish Massacres of 22 Oct. 1641

Anniv. of Loyola, founder of Jesuits

Ignatius Loyola (Don Inigo Lopez de Rcalde)

Was a treacherous, brutal youth

Unruly conceited soldier

Wounded & crippled in service

Only desire was to served the Pope

Decided to capture a country, capture its leaders

On priests command, Irish murdered Protestant neighbors during the night

150,000 Protestants murdered

Said to have been aided by Charles I (son of James I) of England

Could've been his wife, Henrietta Maria, surreptitiously

she brought her priests and nuns with her when she moved to England

Irish had no cause:

Irish had their priests, & above all their Jesuits

Guizot wrote:

“On all sides the Protestants of Ireland were attacked unawares, ejected from their houses, hunted down, slaughtered, exposed to all the perils, all the tortures that religious and patriotic hatred could invent. A half-savage people, passionately attached to its barbarism, eager to avenge in a day ages of outrage and misery, with a proud joy committed excesses which struck their ancient masters with horror and dismay.”

burned houses

turned naked into cold of winter

drowned naked in rivers

if surfaced, they'd be hit by rifle butts or shot

men cut to pieces before their wives

virgins raped before their families

kids 7 or 8 hung before their parents' eyes

Irish taught their kids to strip & kill Protestant kids

buried alive (70 per trench)

The persecution ran for 8 yrs. until Cromwell came

Illuminati founded May 1, 1776

New name for the Synagogue of Satan (Rev. 3:9)

Current Illuminati stemmed from Knights Templar (Crusades)

Corruption of the Bible:

[See Bible history file for Jesuit actions.]

THE CHURCH IN THE PHILADELPHIAN CHURCH AGE

Menno Simmon (1496-1559)

Was RC priest in Holland

In 1531 he saw man burned at stake & several hundred Baptists killed, including his own brother.

Gave up priesthood in 1536

Joined Anabaptists in 1537

Founded the *Mennonites*

Martin Luther (1483-1546)

96 theses in 1496 started Reformation

His 1522 N.T. established the Reformation

Placed the Bible back in the hands of Bible-starved Christians
On his way to the Diet of Wurms, three men laid in wait to murder him. When they saw him, though, there was another man with him, so they did not attack. Years later one of the three got saved and mentioned the event to Luther. Upon asking Luther who accompanied him, Luther answered him, "Man, I don't know of whom you speak, for I was alone on that road."
He did not totally leave Catholicism
Wanted to be martyred, but wasn't
Council of Trent in 1545
Tradition is equal to the Bible
Justification by faith in the shed blood of Christ is anathema

Johann Heinrich Bullinger (1504-1547)
Baptist

Anne Askew (1521-1546)

Betrothed into a bad marriage, took comfort in Bible
Testified openly of her faith
Her abusive husband helped priests against her
She fled to London & worked in court of Catherine Parr, 6th wife of Henry VIII
Queen conducted prayer meetings in her apartment
Included Anne and Joan of Kent, and Anabaptist.
Reformation enemies selected Anne as target to scare the other ladies
Imprisoned for not believing transubstantiation
Her answers frustrated judge Christopher Dare
Next Bishop of London, Edmund Bonner, asked about masses for the dead
She replied "It is a great idolatry to believe more in private masses than in the healthsome death of the dear Son of God."
Bonner: "Why did you say that you would rather read five lines in the Bible than hear five masses?"
Anne: "Because the one does greatly edify me, the other, nothing at all."
Anne was released.
Three months later she was again imprisoned.
Questioned by Wriothesley, Lord Chancellor of England.
Because of her sharp answers he denied her a jury trial & condemned her to death
Tried to make her betray other ladies of the court
Twice tortured on the rack
When ordered to torture her on the rack the second time the lieutenant of the Tower refused.
Wriothesley & Richard Rich, Solicitor General did the deed themselves.
They were censured by Henry VIII for their brutality.
Died at Smithfield on July 16, 1546.
With John Adams, a Colchester tailor
John Lancel of the king's household
Nicholas Belenian, priest of Shropshire
Chained securely to stake so she'd not sink to the ground (bec. of racking)
Condemning sermon delivered by Nicholas Shaxton, bishop of Salisbury
He had earlier recanted to escape burning.
They refused last chance for pardon if they'd recant.

John Knox (1513-1572)

Smithfield & Tyndale, 1550

Jacob Arminius (1560-1609)

King James VI & I (1566-1625)

First king of both Scotland (VI) and England (I)

Commissioned a standard translation of the Bible into English

to assuage infighting among supporters of the previous six translations

Tyndale

Coverdale

Matthew

Geneva

Bishop's

Great

because he was a God-fearing king

For this some Puritans & all Catholics, esp. Jesuits vilified him.

Accused of sodomy

Accusation from disgruntled ex-courtiers and racists such as Weldon & Osborne

Accusation maintained by Jesuits

Further perpetuated by misunderstandings of English and Scotch culture

men then greeted each other with a kiss on the lips

throughout Europe kings shared beds, esp. for protection

"bedchamber" was an office as well as for sleeping

Jas. wrote and spoke against effeminateness, and sodomy in *Basilicon Doron* etc.

The charge was regarded as slander and scarcely believed even under the Puritan parliament of the 1640s

Faulted for his "excessive devotion" to hunting

He had weak legs and found that warming his feet in a freshly killed deer carcass was beneficial. Therefore he hunted often

Regarded at the time (and through 18th Century) as the Godliest king England ever had.

Baptists (1500-present): a name given believers these days

Formerly called *Anabaptists* (1400-1700)

Also called: *Separatists*

Dispensationalists

Fundamentalists (1900-present)

In 1578 the Prince of Orange came to the rescue of persecuted Anabaptists in the Netherlands by the hyper-Calvinistic Reformed churches, repeated it in 1579, and his successor, Maurice of Nassau had to do it again in 1593. These people believed, as did their forbears, in the separation of church and state.

Sir Isaac Newton said: "The Baptists are the only body of known Christians that have never symbolized with Rome."

Baptist in N. America

1st Baptist church was organized by Roger Williams in Providence, RI in 1639

Roger Williams was a Dutch scholar

2nd founded in 1648 by John Clarke in Newport, RI

1663 John Miles in Rehoboth, MA

1665 Thos. Gold, Boston

1684 Cold Springs, PA & Charleston, SC

1688 Middleton, NJ

1705 Valentine Wightman, Grotton, CT

1707 1st assn. Philadelphia Assoc. of Baptist Churches

accepted a confession in 1742

1714 Virginia

1724 Nicholas Eyers, NYC

1727 Perquimins, NC

in N. Am., Baptist were
arrested
jailed
fined
whipped and beaten³¹
by
Congregationalists
Presbyterians
Puritans
Reformed churches
for
teaching that you can't regenerate a baby by sprinkling
in every colony but R.I.

Protestants (1520-1962 Vatican II)

Also called: Lutherans, Calvinists, Puritans, Evangelicals

Huguenots (1500-1750)

French believers stemming from
Paterines, Fratrecelli, Manichaeans, Albigenses & Poor Men of Lyons
Strongly persecuted at times
Henry II & Catherine de Medici (France)
roasted Protestants (1549) at Notre Dame (hung on cranes)
Henry of Navarre (Henry IV)
Aug 24, 1572 massacre (50,000 in less 'n 40days)
Persecution spread to Austria & Bohemia

John Robinson

Instrumental in Mayflower group (1629-1640)
20,000 puritans
Baptist ties

Oliver Cromwell (1599-1658)

God-fearing
Maligned by Catholics & esp. Jesuits
Stopped the 8 years of Irish persecutions starting with the 1641 massacres
He'd surrounded a city
give a chance to surrender
if it did not surrender, then he'd raze it
if it did surrender he let it be
Stopped Pope from exterminating Waldenses & churches of the Piedmont
Kept a Calvinistic, Puritan Parliament in check as best he could
Tried to save Charles I's head

John Bunyan (1628-1688)

English Baptist (not a Puritan)
Wrote *Pilgrim's Progress* in jail
Had been arrested for preaching
w/o license &
w/o Bishop's permission

³¹ Patrick Henry's famous statement, "Give me liberty or give me death," was uttered upon seeing a Baptist street preacher beaten nearly to death by a mob for the "crime" of preaching in public without a "license."

Pietists

Was a reaction against dead orthodoxy in Lutheran church
Philip Jacob Spener (1635-1705)
August Hermann Francke (1663-1727)

Amish

Founded by Jacob Amem in Switzerland, 17th C.

Moravian Brethren

Started with Count Zinzendorf (1700-1760)
who was banished from Saxony in 1736
August Spangenberg (1704-1792)
Instrumental in John Wesley's conversion (Georgia) at Aldersgate in 1738

Quakers

Founded by George Fox (1624-1691)
Rejected infant baptism
premillennial

The Great Awakenings:

1st (Great) awakening (1740)
John Wesley (1703-1791)
was stoned
whipped & clubbed
burned in effigy at Cork
opposed by his wife
turned England from bloody revolution

Charles Wesley in Georgia

George Whitefield (1714-1770)
stoned at Dublin till bloody all over in 1757
preached from Georgia on up
to Boston where
one preacher: "We're sorry to see you here, Mr. Whitefield."
Whitefield: "So's the Devil."
Ben Franklin paced him off & could hear every word a mile away.
Most opposition he encountered came from Yale
He died preaching full blast
Jonathan Edwards (1745-1801)

2nd 1800
3rd 1810 Cumberland Valley
4th 1860 Southern armies of the Civil War
5th 1890 Moody
6th 1920 Sunday

William Carey (1761-1834)

The father of modern missions
Taught himself 6 languages while a cobbler
Spent 42 yrs. in India
Translated AV into 42 languages & dialects

Adoniram Judson (1788-1850)

Went to America a Presbyterian

arrived at Burma a Baptist.
Translated AV into Burmese while in prison

Francis Asbury (1745-1816)
Was a circuit-riding preacher

Charles Haddon Spurgeon (1834-1892)

Ira Sankey (1840-1908)
First to use solos in revival campaigns

LAODICEA (1900-2000)

People's judgment, vengeance, rights: "just people."

Some kept the old ways, but few who were born during the era

T.T. Shields (1873-1955)
W. B. Riley (1861-1947)
Mordecai Ham (1877-1961)
M. R. de Haan (1891-1965)
Charles Fuller (1887-1968)
Bob Jones Sr. (1883-1968)
J. Frank Norris (1877-1952)
Lester Roloff (1914-1982)
Jack Chick
Peter Ruckman

Believers in the Soviet Union:³²

200,000 crucified, beheaded and tortured systematically
500,000 more subjected to persecution after 1917 revolution
Hundreds were shot for not surrendering churchly possessions
Possessions were mostly spent for world revolution
A small portion was given to the poor as promised
In 1917 there were 48,000 churches, in 1969, only 7,000.

³² Jakovlev, leader of the Social Democratic Party and the father of *glasnost*, and president of the Commission for the Rehabilitation of Victims of Political Oppression. Reported in *the Windmill*, 9 Jan. 1996, p. 19 "Sovjet-bewind moordde geestelijkheid uit."