REVELATION 12:1

A ND a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon was under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars.

(See the Mystery inside the cover and page 17.)

apol-og-ics
the branch of theology having to do with the defense and proofs of Christianity

Mount Publications, Rt. 1, Box 298, Morriston, Fla. 32668
The New Testament

Chap. 12, Ver. 1. A woman: this woman is not the Blessed Virgin, for the details of the prophecy do not fit her. The prophecy pictures the Church of the Old and New Covenants. The beams of the divine glory clothe her; the moon is beneath her feet; she is crowned with a crown of twelve stars, and she must bring forth Christ to the world. By accommodation the Church applies this verse to the Blessed Virgin.
Satan Goes Underground

The word "underground" in Greek is μυστικός (mustikos, Divy). This adjective is close to the Bible noun, μυστήριον (mysteirion), "mystery." Let me just mention that the noun μυστήριον (mysteries), "one-initiated," is a name of Apollo (1st) (also Bacchus, 1st).

Note in Apologetics 22, p.12, Satan's authority was over "all the kingdoms of the inhabited-earth," Luke 4:5,6. The NT "church" began within his territorial jurisdiction. Note Jesus' statement to Peter and the disciples, Luke 22:31, Consistent Translation.

"Simon, Simon, behold, the Satan demanded YOU (plural) to sift as the wheat; ..."

The first period of "church" history was that under Ephesus. The second period of "church" history, was under the second phase of the 4th beast of Daniel 7; the period of the "10 horns." This period is known in history as the ten persecutions of Jews and Christians by Roman Emperors and is referred to in Rev. 2 as the Smyrna church. Satan's authority continued. (Rev.2:10 Consistent Translation).

"Behold the devil is about to be casting (some) out of YOU into (a) guard-house in order that YOU might be tried, and YOU will have tribulation of ten days. You becoming trustworthy unto death, and I shall give to YOU the crown of the life."

The Jews were going into a world-wide dispersion. Christianity was also spreading world-wide. In order for Satan to continue to persecute God's people he had to change his Empire into a world-wide empire; this, he now proceeded to do. The little horn of Dan. 7 came on the stage of world history. This began the 3rd phase of the Roman Empire.

Just as the horns on the ram of Dan.8:20 at first represented Darius and Cyrus, and the first horn on the goat of Dan.8:21 represented Alexander the Great; I believe this "little horn" represented Constantine the Great.
Constantine was a "Pontifex Maximus" which title was passed on to the popes. What kind of a "Christian" was he?

The Book of Knowledge, Vol. 4, p. 1252

Constantine, the first Roman emperor to profess Christianity, initiated not only the evolution of the empire into a Christian state but also provided the impetus for a distinctly Christian culture that prepared the way for the growth of Byzantine and Western medieval culture.

It is interesting to note that Constantine, who did more for the Christians than any other emperor, was not a very firm believer in Christianity. He acted as pontifex maximus, or leader of the pagan faith, during a large part of his reign; he became a Christian himself only when he was on his deathbed. He seems to have advanced the interests of Christianity because he felt that it would help to preserve the tottering Empire.

Constantine built a new capital city on the site of the old town of Byzantium, on the European side of the Bosporus. He called this city Constantinople (City of Constantine, in Greek); it was also known for a time as Nova Roma or New Rome. The city of Rome was no longer the centre of the Empire. It continued to be important, however, as the seat of the powerful bishop of Rome, the most important Christian leader in the West. Under the title of pope, the bishop of Rome was to become the head of the Roman Catholic Church.

Vol. 19 p. 7157

anti-Semitism

In the early part of the fourth century, the Roman emperor, Constantine the Great, accepted Christianity and made it the state religion of all Roman dominions, including Palestine. With the zeal of a new convert, he oppressed the Jews, forbidding them to study their religion or even to build synagogues. Their religious life was in peril.

Library of Universal History, Vol. 3

Constantine's conversion to the religion of the meek and lowly Jesus did not prevent him from committing some great crimes—such as the murder of his wife, Fausta, and his eldest son, Crispus. At the age of seventeen, the virtuous Crispus had been made Caesar, and was extremely idolized by the people. This popularity aroused the jealousy of his father, who suspected Crispus of treasonable designs. Constantine seized his son during the festivities at Rome in honor of the twentieth year of his reign, and caused him to be secretly tried and put to death (A.D. 356). At the same time Constantine caused his nephew Licinius, whom he also suspected, to be seized, tried and executed. Constantine had been instigated to these harsh deeds by his wife Fausta; and when too late he discovered his error, he caused Fausta and her accomplices to be put to death.
In Apologetics #6 and #22 we saw that Satan’s primary method of operation is to misquote the word of God. Since very few persons are careful in reading, studying, and teaching the scriptures; in misquoting; Satan has a very clever method of leading astray. What could be even more deceptive than for Satan to cease his operation through a civil power, as the Roman Empire, and move his operation into the “church” itself? Satan did exactly this by moving “his” title “Pontifex Maximus” into the “church” through the Donation of Constantine. Notice below (*), the document is important even though it may be a forgery. Is it a forgery?

Britannica, 14th ed., vol. 1, p. 524

DONATION OF CONSTANTINE (Donatio Constantini), the supposed grant by the emperor Constantine, in gratitude for his conversion by Pope Silvester, to that pope and his successors for ever, not only of spiritual supremacy over the other great patriarchates and over all matters of faith and worship, but also of temporal dominion over Rome, Italy and “the provincies, places and tutelates of the western regions.”

Britannica, 15th ed., vol. 22, p. 191

There has been and still is considerable discussion of the circumstances of the notorious Donation of Constantine, which is so closely linked to the beginnings of the church’s temporal power. This was a forgery, a pretended document in which the Emperor, after narrating his miraculous recovery from leprosy and his subsequent conversion by Pope Sylvester, donated to this pope the Lateran palace, Rome, Italy and its islands, and, indeed, the entire western part of the empire. The whole thing is probably the work of a cleric attached to the Roman Curia, between the pontificates of Stephen II and Adrian I. The size and vagueness of the donation make it a statement of principle rather than a legal proof; this is confirmed by the importance that is given to the document in the correspondence to the pope of the diadems, purple garments, and other symbols of empire and also the equality established between the papal dignitaries and those of the imperial court. It seems as if the forger’s primary intent was to support the pope’s claim to a dignitas equal to that of the emperor and as if the territorial donation was merely a corollary of that dignity. The use made of the document in the Roman Curia confirms this interpretation. In any case, the Donation of Constantine is an extremely important document for understanding the development of the political ideology of the papacy.

* It is not as though the Donation of Constantine was the only evidence of Satan’s transfer of power. The first Ecumenical Church Council, the council of Nicaea, was called together by Constantine in 325 A.D. Constantine presided in this council. Between 250 and 381 bishops were present in this first council. Little by little the authority of the Roman Empire was transferred to the Roman Catholic Church.

Britannica, 15th ed., vol. 20, p. 628

Note who “proved?” the forgery. His name was Valla.

Between about 1440 and his death in 1457, Valla was one of the most influential Humanists. His Elegantiæ linguae latinæ (1444; “Elegancies of the Latin Language”) was a treasury of information about correct Latin usages. For Valla the meaning of words was not natural but conventional and historical, because it was derived from changing custom. Thus a sense of ceaseless historical evolution was planted at the very centre of Christian preoccupations with the recovery, the correction, and the interpretation of ancient texts.

In 1440 Valla’s patron, King Alfonso of Naples, at war with the papacy, asked Valla to write a treatise against Pope Eugenius IV. Valla obliged by decisively disproving, on both linguistic and historical grounds, the genuineness of the “Donation of Constantine.”

Note first; Valla was biased, and paid by the opposition. Second; note what he believed about scripture. Valla’s work on the texts of the New Testament proved in the long run to be one of the most influential applications of the new science of historical philology. His aim was to recover, as far as possible, the original Greek version through the use of the oldest extant manuscripts. He defended these researches by pointing out that he was not correcting the Holy Scriptures but merely the Latin Vulgate translation of St. Jerome that had been adopted by the Catholic Church. The revolutionary nature of Valla’s historical approach comes out most strikingly in his comment that “none of the words of Christ have come to us, for Christ spoke in Hebrew and never wrote down anything.” The corrections assembled by Valla became generally known when, in 1503, Erasmus published them as Annotationes on the New Testament.
Romanism As It Is, Barnum, 1881

A Council is properly a council assembled from all parts of the inhabited world.

The word οἰκουμένη (oikoumenē) occurs 15x in the NT. The KJV translates this word once "earth" and 14x "world"; neither of which is correct. (See A Teaching Dictionary, R.H. Mount.) This word means the "inhabited-earth." Consider one NT use, Luke 2:1.

Luke 2:1 KJ

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the inhabitants of the earth should be "taxed."

Luke 2:1 CT

But it came to pass in those days (a) decree went out from Caesar Augustus, all the inhabited-earth to be being registered;

Compare these two translations.

It should be obvious that slaves were not sent home to be registered; nor traveling foreigners etc. The "inhabited-earth" was the Roman Empire.

Theological Dictionary of the New Testament, vol.5, p.159, says, "There is within the NT no disputing of the political oikouμενη understanding of the Roman Empire, not even in Rev."

Satan went "underground" or "undercover" and used this word οἰκουμένη (ecumenical) for his new "Christian," Roman Catholic Empire, the Roman Catholic Church. Thus delegates at the Ecumenical Council of Nicaea 325 A.D. were from the Roman Catholic Church world, not the entire Christian world.

Consider what the empire of the "little horn" was to do.

Dan. 7:8, 20, 24 ASV

8 I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another horn, a little one, before which three of the first horns were plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking great things.

even that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake great things, whose look was more stately than its fellows. 21 I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them;

and another shall arise after them; and he shall be diverse from the former, and he shall put down three kings. 25 And he shall "speak words against the "Most High, and shall "wear out the saints of the Most High; and he shall think to "change the times and the law: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and half a time.

Consider the "eyes":

Clare's History p.1119, vol.3

Even the ten thousand spies, known as the King's Eyes, were maintained in the Roman Empire under Constantine the Great, as they had been of old in the Medo-Persian Empire under Darius Hystaspes and Xerxes the Great.
Romanism As It Is, Ch. 17

CONFESSION AND THE CONFESSIONAL.

Confession is defined in the "Catechism of the Council of Trent,"

"A sacramental accusation of one's self, made to obtain pardon by virtue of the keys."

1. Matt. 16:19

vs.19 But I also am saying to you, because you yourself are Peter, also upon this rock I shall build up my assembly, and gates of Hades will not prevail in it.

vs.19 And I shall give to you the keys of the kingdom of the heavens; and what (thing) you might bind on the earth, it will be having been bound and still bound in the heavens; and what (thing) you might lose on the earth, it will be having been loosed and still loosed in the heavens.

This catechism—and other catechisms and devotional works agree with it in substance—teaches that the institution of confession is most useful and even necessary; that this sacrament was instituted by our Lord Jesus Christ; and that it is obligatory upon all of both sexes, who have arrived at the use of reason, to confess their sins at least once a year.

2. John 20:22

vs.22 And having said this, he breathed on (them), and he is saying to them: YOU take (the) Holy Spirit.

vs.22 Of (ones) whom you might forgive the sins they are having forgiven them of (ones) whom you might not forgive, they have been and still are retained.

A "confessional" may be simple, i.e., accommodating but one penitent at a time; or double, i.e., having a place for a penitent on each side of the confessor. The accompanying cut is of a simple confessional, and shows the penitent's place by the grate at the end, and the confessor's seat in the closet, which is furnished with a door.

The priest who attempts to seduce a woman by means of the confessional may therefore laugh at human penalties; no one knows the fact but himself and his victim; or if she communicates it to others, she only publish her own shame, and becomes a slanderer of her spiritual guide and intercessor with God. He can not be convicted of sin on her testimony, but she may be punished without mercy for bringing up an evil report of the priesthood, the sacraments, the church. The priest knows all the secrets of every female heart in his parish, and, as the church teaches, holds the keys of the kingdom of heaven; not a girl or a woman within his jurisdiction but must blush and tremble before him; she must confess to him every unchaste thought, desire, and action under pain of eternal damnation; she is taught from her infancy to reverence him, to regard him as the infallible representative of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Let me conclude by observing, that no invention of the Roman church equals this, as regards the power it gives to the priesthood. One of the greatest difficulties to establish a free and rational government in Popish countries arises from the opposition which free and equal laws meet with from the priests in the confessional. A confessor can promote even treason with safety, in the secrecy which protects his office.

The pope claims the "keys" promised to Peter. This one of Satan's lies; a misuse of scripture.

To Peter, not the pope. This is before the cross.

Another misuse of scripture. This scripture, John 20:23, is also before the cross and spoken to the disciples.

1 Tim. 2

Catholic, NT.

5 For there is one God, and one Mediator between God and men, himself man, Christ Jesus,

Thus through the confessional the pope can be alert to everything going on in the world. Truly like "eyes."
Let us now consider the "mouth speaking great things." It must be remembered that while the "little horn" came up in a few years of history, the development of the horn into a powerful mystery world power was only gradual and took centuries. The line of popes provide the "mouth" of this horn. What "great things" are being spoken?

1. "He shall speak words against the Most High." Dan. 7:25
2. "He shall wear out the saints of the Most High." Dan. 7:25
3. "He made war with the saints, and prevailed against them." Dan. 7:21
4. "He shall think to change the times and the law." Dan. 7:25. Better perhaps; he will think secretly to alter seasons and religion. (See LXX)

The saints here, are the Jews. The seasons are God's established seasons, such as Passover, Sabbath, etc. The religion, is God's established theocracy. (See Deut. 33:2)

Let me list a number of passages from various sources without trying to keep them in chronological order.

Encyclopedia Judaica, p. 536 vol. 5

Under the Roman Empire. While a Catholic (i.e., "universal") Church came into being only at The Council of Nicaea in 325, a unified interpretation of the new religion of Christianity had begun to emerge during the three preceding centuries, and concomitantly the foundations of a Church attitude toward the Jews. The early Church Fathers, eager to complete the break with the synagogue, urged the substitution of Sunday for the Jewish Sabbath and the abandonment of Passover, commemorative of the Exodus, for Easter, commemorative of the crucifixion. Retaining the Bible while denying the people that was its subject, the Church declared itself the New Israel. It claimed the patriarchs and prophets for itself and later pronounced Judaism an aberration from the Divine Will. All warnings and rebukes contained in the Jewish scriptures were applied to the Jewish people, while all praise and promise were applied to the Church. At the Council of Nicaea, Christianity was unified under the Roman emperor, whose favorite theologian at any given time set the standard for orthodoxy.

Ex. 31:16, 17 KJV

16 Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant.

17 It is a sign between me and the children of Israel for ever: for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed.

Ex. 12:14, 24 KJV

14 And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the Lord throughout your generations: ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever.

24 And ye shall observe this thing for an ordinance to thee and to thy sons for ever.

All of this applies to both Roman Catholic and Protestant Churches to this day.

The Sabbath applies to Israel only. Notice in the scriptures the word "forever." Satan has become strongly entrenched by tampering with God's word.

Passover

(Apologetics*)

It is regrettable that many so-called "Bible believers" follow this same pattern. Satan's method is to misuse the word of God and he does so very successfully.
Constantine proclaimed Sunday, the day of the sun, a day of rest. (Clare's History, Vol. 3, p. 1116) Christianity was thus led to the paganism of Rome.

Romanism as It Is, p. 125.

In process of time the pope has been authoritatively declared by general councils to be not only "the successor of the blessed Peter," but also "the true vicar of Jesus Christ, the head of the whole church, and the father and teacher of all Christians." "Both the name and the works of God have been appropriated to the pope," says Rev. Dr. Edgar, "by theologians, canonists, popes, and councils." In the 4th session of the 5th Lateran council, December 10, 1512, and with the approbation of the council, Christopher Marcellus thus publicly addressed the pope in the name of the church: "Thou art pastor, thou physician, thou governor, thou supporter, thou in fine another God on the earth." According to Innocent III., "the pope holds the place of the true God." The canon law, in the gloss, designates the pope "our Lord God"; and the canonists say that "the pope is the one God, who has all power in heaven and in earth." The canon law also declares that "the pope has the plenitude of power and is above right," "he changes the substantial nature of things, for example, by transforming the unlawful into lawful."

An Introduction to the History of Western Europe, J.H. Robinson

63. Among the writings of Gregory VII there is a very brief statement, called the Dictatus, of the powers which he believed the popes to possess. Its chief claims are the following: The pope enjoys a unique title; he is the only universal bishop and may depose and re-instate other bishops or transfer them from place to place. No council of the Church may be regarded as speaking for Christendom without his consent. The Roman Church has never erred, nor will it err to all eternity. No one may be considered a Catholic Christian who does not agree with the Roman Church. No book is authoritative unless it has received the papal sanction.

Gregory does not stop with asserting the pope's complete supremacy over the Church; he goes still further and claims for him the right to retrain the civil government when it seems necessary in the cause of righteousness. He says that "the Pope is the only person whose feet are kissed by all princes"; that he may depose emperors and "absolve subjects from allegiance to an unjust ruler." No one shall dare to condemn one who appeals to the pope. No one may annul a decree of the pope, though the pope may declare null and void the decrees of all other earthly powers; and no one may pass judgment upon his acts. 1

I don't know how the pope could be more blasphemous. Let me show you a picture by Albrecht Dürer, 1511, published in Symbols, Signs and Signets by Ernst Lehner, 1950 (over).
Adoration of the Trinity, 1511

Jesus is in the arms of the Father, who is wearing the pope's tiara. (pages)

The dove, the Holy Spirit, is above the Father. Now from what you read on page 7, is the pope the Holy Father or the Holy Father the pope?

Consider a very important passage of scripture closely connected with the subject we are studying. Those who are "pre-trib" sweep this whole passage into the future, largely because of their lack of knowledge of history. Perhaps some day I can make an apologetic on this passage, but for now note just a few points.

- "the apostasy" has been going on from Satan's undercover position for many centuries.

- vs. 4, certainly the pope, the little horn has been doing this.

- Alford, p.67 says Pope Gregory the Great called the Papacy the "forerunner of Antichrist."

- "the mystery --- is already operating," in Paul's day, under the Roman Emperors.

And it continues even today.

2 Thes. 2 CT

vs. 1 But we are intercessors you, brothers, in behalf of the presence of our Lord Jesus Messiah and leading together completely of us upon him.

vs. 2 With reference to you not to be quickly stirred from the mind nor to be being assumed neither through spirit nor through word nor through epistle as through us, as that the day of the Lord has stood in-and-still stands in.

vs. 3 Might not anyone delude you according to not one manner: because (that day will not come) if not the apostasy might come firstly and the man of the lawlessness might be uncovered, the son of the destruction.

vs. 4 The one opposing and being exceedingly lifted up over every thing being-called God or venerated object so that he to seat with reference to the sanctuary of the God, pointing out himself that he is God.

vs. 5 Do you not have in memory that still being with you I was saying these things to you?

vs. 6 And now you are knowing absolutely the thing holding fast with reference to him to be uncovered in his season.

vs. 7 For the mystery of the lawlessness * is already operating for itself; only the one holding that just now till he might become out of (the) midst.
No single person, an antichrist, could by himself, in a few years exceed the devilries perpetrated by the 4th beast of Daniel 7. The devilries of an antichrist will simply be a terrible climax to add to the long list. Let us consider the “little-horn” activity against the Jews, the OT saints, first.

Jesus warned the Jews: Matt. 24:9, Mark 13:13, Luke 21:17 “You will be hated by all because of my name.” (see Apologetics #14)

One of the first writers of the NT “church” to tend toward anti-Semitism was the author of the Epistle of Barnabas. He taught that the sacrifices are now abolished, the new covenant belongs to “Christians,” the true Sabbath was the first day of the week, etc. (about 100 A.D.) cont.

Anti-Semitism existed from the very beginning of the church. Through anti-Semitism, Satan very early in church history sowed the idea that the “church” was the true Israel. This basis aided greatly in Satan’s misuse of Scripture. (See Apologetics 6) Today more than ever scriptures are being misused and misquoted.
Encyclopedia Judaica

Vol. 3 p. 87

In Antiquity. Prejudice against Jews appeared in antiquity, almost exclusively, in those countries which later became part of the Roman Empire.

Vol. 5 p. 552

*John Chrysostom (354-407) delivered eight sermons of extreme violence against the Jews while he was in Antioch. These were intended to warn certain Christians against the attraction which Judaism exerted upon them to the extent that they participated in the Jewish festivals or adopted Jewish practices.

Vol. 5 p. 554

*Augustine, who, on the contrary, does not appear to have had any personal contacts with Jews, defined his doctrine concerning them in his "Sermon against the Jews" where he asserts that even though they deserved the most severe punishment for having put Jesus to death, they have been kept alive by Divine Providence to serve, together with their Scriptures, as witnesses to the truth of Christianity. Augustine's reputation from his own times as a violently anti-Jewish author explains why many other anti-Jewish treatises by unknown or obscure authors have been attributed to him.

Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge, Schaff, vol. 1

Disposing of his property, he began in Tagaste an ascetic life; but in 381 he was elected priest to the church of Hippo-Regius, and in 390 became the colleague of Bishop Valerius, and shortly after full bishop.

Augustine is one of the doctors of the Universal Church. He is, perhaps, the most prominent leader in the development of doctrine, and to many the successor of the apostles. Luther and Calvin, in the doctrines of sin and grace, are essentially Augustinian. The Protestant emulates the Romanist in paying honor. But, though a fountain of sweet water, he gave out bitter water too; for many of the errors of Rome, her deference to human authority, her doctrines of the church, tradition, baptismal regeneration, and the right of perpetuation can be either traced directly to him, or deduced from his writings. He was pre-eminently a preacher; was in the habit of composing rapidly; and so, if many of his works were very deliberately written, many more were not, and the necessity of making up his mind quickly may have weakened his judgment. Although he was not a scholar like Jerome, for he knew little Greek and no Hebrew, he had a deeper spiritual insight into the Scriptures than any other of the Fathers. Genius, more than learning, gave him light. With all his defects, he claims the reverence of the world.

* Keep in mind that the Roman Catholic Church was coming into a world power very slowly, not instaneously.

At the same time, the Roman Empire was breaking up.

The Popes, Michael Walsh, 1980, p. 55

Leo appropriated the once pagan title of Pontifex Maximus, still used by the popes today, and borne, until towards the end of the fourth century, by Roman Emperors to indicate that as civil rulers they had a right to intervene in religious affairs.

Note the concentration in prejudice to the Roman Empire, Satan's place of authority. John Chrysostom was ordained a priest 384 A.D. (E.J. Vol. 10 p. 161)

These 8 sermons, were written down verbatim by his audience and subsequently circulated. Thus their great anti-Jewish influence was felt beyond the period... (Vol. 10, p. 161)

Augustine has a reputation as a great theologian even among Protestants, but note a few items from Schaff, vol. 1

As a Roman Catholic bishop he started many theological errors. Through the "little horn of Dan 7, Satan launched his war with the saints to wear out the saints of the Most High" (p. 6) Rom. 11 kjv. This he was able to do in spite of scripture, simply by a twist of God's word. He convinced the "church" they were a new Israel.

I say then, "Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For if I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin, 2 God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew."

11 I say then, Have they stumbled that they should fall? God forbid: but rather through their fall salvation is come unto the Gentiles, for to provoke them to jealousy. 12 Now if the fall of them be the riches of the world, and the 'diminishing of them the riches of the Gentiles; how much more their fulness?"
The Popes, Michael Walsh, p. 54

The question of the day was this: fourth-century councils declared that Jesus Christ was truly God. But was He truly man, and if so, how? The Council of Ephesus of 431, at which the Roman delegation arrived late, decided that because Mary was mother of Jesus she was Mother of God: Jesus, in other words, was God from the moment of his conception as man.

Instructions for Non-Catholics, 1954
by Parish Priests, p. 125

J. LEARN THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

At the end of this course of instructions the priest will ask you to recite the Commandments in order. Study them now.

1. I am the Lord thy God; thou shalt not have strange gods before Me.
2. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain
3. Remember thou keep holy the Sabbath day.
4. Honor thy father and thy mother.
5. Thou shalt not kill.
6. Thou shalt not commit adultery.
7. Thou shalt not steal.
8. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.
9. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor’s wife.
10. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor’s goods.

4 Thou shalt not make to thyself a graven thing, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, nor of those things that are in the waters under the earth.
5 Thou shalt not adorne them, nor serve them: I am the Lord thy God, mighty, jealous, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me:
6 And shewing mercy unto thousands to them that love me, and keep my commandments.
7 * Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain: for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that shall take the name of the Lord his God in vain.
8 * Remember that thou keep holy the sabbath day.
9 Six days shalt thou labour, and shalt do all thy works.
10 But on the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: thou shalt do no work in it, thou nor thy son, nor thy daughter, nor thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy beast, nor the stranger that is within thy gates.
11 * For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, and the sea, and all things that are in them, and rested on the seventh day: therefore the Lord blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it.
12 * Honour thy father and thy mother, that thou mayest be longlived upon the land which the Lord thy God will give thee.
13 * Thou shalt not kill.
14 Thou shalt not commit adultery.
15 Thou shalt not steal.
16 Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.
17 * Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor’s house: neither shalt thou desire his wife, nor his servant, nor his maid, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is his.

The “church” was moving closer and closer to paganism. Statues (images) from paganism were moved into Satan’s new type of world power.

How were they permitted? Compare the 10 commandments as taught, with those given in the scriptures. These verses of scripture are from Exodus 20 in a Catholic Bible. Number 2 (*) is omitted in Catholic teaching and number 10 is made into two: 9 and 10.

Pope John Paul in the hospital recovering from several serious gunshot wounds thanks Our Lady of Fatima for saving his life. He recognized in this assassination attempt on his life, and Our Lady’s miraculous intervention and appeal from Her to listen to Her Fatima Message.
In Tibet prayers are written, then placed in a prayer wheel. The prayer wheel is spun around to say more prayers faster.
Remember, Constantine had already changed command-
ment number 3 from the 7th day to the 1st day of the
week. Most “Christians” refer to Sunday as the Sabbath.
Don’t lose sight of Satan’s “methods.” He twists, misuses,
and misquotes the scriptures. He hates those who believe
and trust the word of God and he is hiding under
paganism, made to look like Christianity. His primary
hatred is directed against Israel. He hates the true NT
believers as well. It is difficult to show early Jewish
persecution separate from the persecution of true NT
believers, for these persecutions usually occurred together.

Encyclopedia Judaica Vol. 4 p.1120 This idea seems to be
anti-Semitic propaganda
as early as Antiochus Epi-
phanes (175-164 B.C.) p.1121.
One particular case is that
of Simon of Trent. Vol.15, p.1374

BLOOD LIBEL, the allegation that Jews murder non-Jews,
especially Christians, in order to obtain blood for the
Passover or other rituals; a complex of deliberate lies,
trumped-up accusations, and popular beliefs based on the
murder-lust of the Jews and their bloodthirstiness, based on
the conception that Jews hate Christianity and mankind in
general. It is combined with the delusion that Jews are in
some way not human and must have recourse to special
remedies and subterfuges in order to appear, at least
outwardly, like other men. The blood libel led to trials and
massacres of Jews in the Middle Ages and early modern
times; it was revived by the Nazis. Its origin is rooted in
ancient, almost primordial, concepts concerning the
potency and energies of *blood.

TRENT, city in northern Italy. The presence of some Jews
in Trent, most of them emigrants from Germany, is
mentioned from the first half of the 14th century. The usury
regulations of the Jews of Trent served as a model elsewhere
in the Tyrol. In the 15th century Jews in Trent possessed a
synagogue, a house for study, and three other houses. The
Jewish physician Tobiah practiced among the Christian
as well as the Jewish population. In 1475, the fanatical
Franciscan, *Bernardino da Feltre, preached there against
the Jews in his Lenten sermons, and foretold that their sins
would soon be manifested to all.

A few days after this, on Maundy Thursday, a Christian
infant named Simon disappeared. Shortly afterward his
body was discovered near the house of the head of the
Jewish community, and the whole community, men, wo-
men, and children were arrested. After 17 of them had
been tortured for 15 consecutive days they “confessed” to
the crimes of which they had been accused. One of the
tortured died in prison, six were burnt at the stake, and
two (who had converted to Christianity) were crucified.
At this stage Pope **Sixtus IV intervened in the affair
and the judicial proceedings were temporarily halted.
A papal commissary was sent to Trent to investigate the
circumstances of the incident, but was forced to leave when
the results of his inquiries led him to contradict the findings
of the local “trial.” Proceedings were reopened in Trent in
face of violent opposition from the commissary, and at the
end of the year five more Jews were executed (two of them
were converted to Christianity before their deaths). A papal
court of inquiry in 1476 justified the libel, and in 1478, as a
result of its proceedings, Sixtus published the *Bull Facili-
nos pietas endorsing the “legality” of the trial.

In the meantime four Jewish women of Trent had accepted
the Christian faith and the property of the murdered Jews had
been confiscated. Jews were henceforth excluded from
Trent, and in the 18th century were still not allowed to pass
through the town (see H. J. D. Azulai, Ma’gal Tob, 10-11).
Simon was beatified. The libel had widespread repercus-
sions and served for intense anti-Semitic propaganda both
inside and outside Italy. According to legend, the rabbits of
Italy imposed a ban on Jewish settlement in Trent after
1475: this was formally raised when Simon was de-beatified
in 1655.
I have tried to show the paganism of the Roman Catholic Church; but only a small part. Satan was well hidden in the Thyatira "church." (Rev. 2:24"--the deep things of Satan--") There were thousands of persons who rejected the Roman Catholic Church and were called "heretics." Many were true NT Christians. Satan had convinced the majority of people that his system, the Roman Catholic Church, was truly "Christian." How thoroughly had Satan gone underground?

Romanism As It Is, 1881, p.391

The 4th Lateran council, held in 1215, under pope Innocent III., is one of the great ecumenical councils; and, in its 3d canon (see Chapter XXIII.), still unrepealed and undisclaimed, it not only excommunicates and anathematizes every heresy, and decrees that the condemned are to be given up to the secular powers to be punished and to have their goods confiscated; but directs the secular powers, under pain of excommunication, to endeavor to exterminate all heretics from their countries; and grants to Catholics who take the cross and arm themselves to exterminate heretics, the same indulgence and holy privilege as to those who joined the crusades for the holy land. This canon was enacted with direct reference to the crusade against the Albigenses, and it sanctioned and held up as a model for all time the principles of procedure which had been adopted in regard to them and their country. The responsibility of the course pursued was assumed for the Roman Catholic church in this language of the council:

"How much the church has labored by preachers and crusaders to exterminate heretics and injurious persons from the province of Narbonne and the parts near it, almost the whole world knows."

The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, Gibbon, vol. 2, p.244

The Church of Rome defended by violence the empire which she had acquired by fraud; a system of peace and benevolence was soon disgraced by proscriptions, wars, massacres, and the institution of the holy office.

Romanism As It Is, p.382

In 1208, Castelnau, one of the legates, who had become odious by his severities, was murdered near Toulouse; and Innocent III. on this proclaimed a regular crusade against the Albigenses, and against Raymond VI., Count of Toulouse, who supported them. All the French barons were summoned to take the field; and Simon, Count of Montfort, was appointed chief of the expedition, under the direction however, of Arnald, abbot of the Cistercians, and the pope's new legate. The war began in 1209, and lasted many years, attended by circumstances of the greatest ferocity. At the taking of Béziers, a general massacre of the inhabitants began. The legate being asked by some of the military leaders how they were to distinguish the Albigenses from the orthodox Catholics, of whom there were many in the town,—"Kill them all," was the reply: 'God will sift out his own.'
In 1653, the Capuchins were driven away from their convent in one of the valleys by some Waldenses in a transport of imprudent zeal, and the convent was burned. Peace, however, was reestablished; but the new duke found that the Waldenses had purchased property and established schools and houses of worship beyond the limits fixed by former edicts; and in January, 1655, he ordered the Waldensian families in the 8 lower communes or districts to sell out their property within 20 days and remove to the 5 communes in the higher part of the valley, or else to embrace the Roman Catholic faith. This order necessitated the hurried removal of more than 1000 families, it is said, in the depth of an uncommonly severe winter. On the 17th of April an army of Piedmontese, French, German and Irish troops, under the Marquis of Pianessa, entered the valleys, and soon gained possession by stratagem of all except the highest parts of the country. At a signal given April 24th, a massacre of the Waldenses began, of which the following condensed account is taken from Rev. Dr. Robert Baird’s “Sketches of Protestantism in Italy.”

“Houses and churches were burned to the ground. Infants were remorselessly torn from the breasts of their mothers, and dashed against the walls or the rocks, or had their brains dashed out against each other; or two soldiers, taking each a leg, rent them asunder, or cut them in two with their swords. The sick were either burned alive, cut in pieces, or thrown down the precipices with their heads tied between their legs. Mothers and daughters were violated in each other’s presence, impaled, and either carried naked as ensigns upon pikes at the head of the regiments, or left upon poles by the road-side. Others had their arms and breasts cut off. Men, after being indecently and barbarously mutilated, were cut up limb by limb, as butchers cut up meat in the shambles; they had gunpowder thrust into their mouths and other parts of their bodies, and then were blown up. Multitudes had their noses, fingers, and toes amputated, and then left to perish in the snow. Some, both men and women, were buried alive. Some were dragged by the hair on the ground at the tail of a mule. Numbers were cast into a burning furnace. Young women fled from their pursuers, and leaped down precipices, and were killed, rather than submit to their brutal violence. That these things occurred, we have in proof the depositions of more than 150 witnesses, taken in the presence of notaries-public, and of the consistory of the different localities. Morland and Leger give all the details, with the names of the men and women who suffered the greatest cruelty, as well as the depositions of the witnesses.”

Romanism As It Is, p. 395

A Te Deum was sung by order of pope Gregory XIII; a salute was fired from the castle of St. Angelo; the bells rang; bonfires blazed; a medal was struck; and a painting by Vasari, representing the massacre, and bearing in Latin the inscription, “The Pontiff approves the killing of Coligny,” was placed in the Vatican, and is still to be seen (Chapter 1). The medal, which is represented in the accompanying cut, bears on one side the portrait of the Pope with the inscription “Gregorius XIII. Pont. Max. An. I” (= Gregory XIII. Chief Pontiff. Year 1); on the reverse is the destroying angel, with a cross in one hand and

ST. BARTHOLOMEW MEDAL

Aug. 24, 1572. Throughout France the slaughter continued 3 days.
a sword in the other, slaying the Protestants, the inscription being "Hugonorum Strages [= Slaughter of the Huguenots], 1572." The medal, from which the cut was executed, was purchased at the pontifical mint in Rome a little more than 25 years ago for Sir Culling Eardley Smith. The painting and the medal both testify that in the 19th century the authorities of the Roman Catholic Church approve the massacres of St. Bartholomew.

The Approaching End of the Age
H. Gratian Guinness, 1886, p. 204

* The INQUISITION.—a name at which humanity has learned to shudder,—is a long and supremely cruel and wicked history compressed into one word! Instituted for the avowed purpose of suppressing heresy, it was established in every country which submitted to Papal authority. In Spain alone it has been proved by the careful statistical investigations of Llorente, that between the years 1481 and 1808 over three hundred and forty-one thousand persons were condemned by this "Holy Office," of whom 31,912 were burned alive, 17,000 burned in effigy, and nearly 300,000 tortured and condemned to severe penances. Every Catholic country in Europe, Asia, and America, had its Inquisition, and its consequent unexplained arrests, indefinitely long imprisonments of innocent persons, its secret investigations, its horrible torture chambers, and dreadful dungeons, its auto da fé, or burnings of obstinate heretics, and its thousand nameless cruelties and injustices.

When the French took Toledo, and broke open the Inquisition prison there, we read, "Graves seemed to open, and pale figures like ghosts issued from dungeons which emitted a sepulchral odour. Bushy beards hanging down over the breast, and nails grown like birds' claws, disfigured the skeletons, who with labouring bosoms inhaled, for the first time for a long series of years, the fresh air. Many of them were reduced to cripples, the head inclined forward, and the arms and hands hanging down, rigid and helpless: they had been confined in dens so low they could not rise up in them: . . . in spite of all the care of the surgeons, many of them expired the same day. The light of the sun made a particularly painful impression on the optic nerve. . . . On the following day General Lasalle minutely inspected the place, attended by several officers of his staff. The number of machines for torture . . . thrilled even men inured to the battle-field with horror; only one of these, unique in its kind for refined cruelty, seems deserving of particular notice.

"In a recess in a subterraneous vault, contiguous to the private hall for examinations, stood a wooden figure, made by the hands of monks, and representing the Virgin Mary. A gilded glory encompassed her head, and in her right hand she held a banner. It struck us all, at first sight, as suspicious, that, notwithstanding the silken robe, descending on each side in ample folds from her shoulders, she should wear a sort of cuirass. On closer scrutiny, it appeared that the fore part of the body was stuck full of extremely sharp nails and small narrow knife-blades, with the points of both turned towards the spectator. The arms and hands were jointed and machinery behind the partition set the figure in motion. One of the servants of the Inquisition was compelled, by command of the General, to work the machine, as he termed it. When the figure extended her arms, as though to press some one most lovingly to her heart, the well-filled knapsack of a Polish grenadier was made to supply the place of a living victim.

The Roman Catholic Church does not worship the God of the Bible, but Satan. Continued on the next page. Virgin Mary??
The statue hugged it closer and closer; and when the attendant, agreeably to orders, made the figure unclasp her arms and return to her former position, the knapsack was perforated to the depth of two or three inches, and remained hanging on the points of the nails and knife-blades. To such an infernal purpose, and in a building erected in honour of the true faith, was the Madonna rendered subservient!

"Representing the Virgin Mary" (p.16) But who does it really represent? She was wearing a "sort of cuirass." (p.16) A Roman cuirass. Minerva, the Roman goddess, wears a "sort of cuirass," covered partly, and having serpents on it. Now Minerva of the Romans is the same as Pallas-Athene of the Greeks. The original was in the Parthenon. Note all of the serpents.

Britannica, 14th, vol.17, p.343,4

The Parthenon probably remained intact until the 5th century of our era, when the colossal statue was removed, and the temple is said to have been transformed into a church dedicated to S. Sophia. In the 6th century it was dedicated to the Virgin Mother of God (Theotokos).

Now consider part of the present trouble in Ireland. These were Christians?? How?

Some were forced to murder their own relatives, and then butchered themselves over the bleeding remains; the last sounds that reached their dying ears, being the savage assurances of the priests, that those agonies were but the commencement of eternal torment. Dublin alone escaped, and became a refuge for the distressed, but all its Popish inhabitants were forbidden, under pain of the direst curse, to afford the slightest succour to the sufferers.

In the province of Ulster alone, upwards of one hundred and fifty-four thousand Protestants, were massacred or expelled from Ireland. O’Niel, the Romish Primate of all Ireland, declared this rebellion to be "a pious and lawful war," and Pope Urban VIII, by a bull dated May, 1643, granted "full and absolute remission of all their sins," to those who had taken part in "gallantly doing what in them lay, to extirpate and wholly root out, the pestiferous leaven of heretical contagion."
Ecumenicalism and Romanism
Peter J. Doeswyck, 1961, p. 42

In the beginning of the 13th century – before the growing power of the Dominicans, Franciscans and the Inquisition – Germany, France and Spain possessed translations of the Bible in their native tongues. Rome burned these Bibles under the pretext that they contained faulty translations, without publishing authorized translations. When the laity of Latin extraction still managed to use the Latin text for study groups, the Western Church placed all Bibles on the Index of Forbidden Books, including the Latin Vulgate. Only the Psalter, which was part of the ritual, could be used by laymen, if read in Latin. The Council of Toulouse (1229) decreed: "We forbid the laity to possess the books of the Old and New Testament, with the possible exception of the Psalter" (canon 14; Mansi 23, 197). The Councils of Valencia and Toledo (1229) passed similar legislation for Spain. The Council of Taragona (1234) condemned any and all translations of the Bible: "No one may possess the books of the Old or New Testament in the native language (in Romanico). And if anyone has them, he must within eight days after this publication…hand them over to the local bishop to be burned" (Mansi 23, 329). Not only the reading, but the simple possession of a family Bible became a crime punishable by death.

Romanticism Ass't Is, 1881, p. 698

The Roman Catholic church is an absurd and meaningless bag, but a living and active organism, formidable in its strength and efficiency. Those who know little of its power may make themselves merry over its pretensions; but many a Protestant can echo the sentiment uttered by the late Rev. Richard Cecil of the Church of England:

"Popery was the masterpiece of Satan."

And a Roman Catholic, the noted Father Ignatius of England, has adopted this sentiment in a measure, by saying to Rev. Dr. Cumming:

"Sir, if the church of Rome be not the church of Christ, it is the masterpiece of the Devil."

And strongly does Dr. Cumming enforce this idea:

"So said Father Ignatius. So say I. I believe there was immense meaning in his words. It is the one or the other. And I believe that one great danger to which Protestants are subject is the constant habit of supposing that Rome is a coarse and vulgar imposture, unfit for the light of the 19th century; instead of feeling that it is the gigantic conspiracy of Satan, worked out by the archangel's wickedness and will. Antichrist, with his people, constituting the church of Rome; Christ, in the midst of his, constituting its correlative, the church of the living God. Despise it, it will overwhelm you; tamper with it, it will enslave and captivate you; resist it in the name of God, and like its author the Devil it will instantly flee from you. It is the masterpiece of Satan beyond dispute, and only by viewing it in that light will you be enabled rightly to estimate your danger and its inherent element of pernicious and power."

p. 700 It has more and plainer marks of the "synagogue of Satan" than of the Church of God.

In Apologetics 22 1

showed that Satan's primary "method" of operation is to misquote, misuse, or twist God's word. Another "method" of Satan is to keep you from God's word altogether. Satan used this "method" in the Roman Catholic Church.

Satan is particular-
ly prominent in both the Pergamos and Thyatira church letters.

Rev. 2: 12 ASV

12 And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write:

These things saith he that hath the sharp two-edged sword:

13 I know where thou dwellst, even where Satan's throne is; and thou holdest fast my name, and didst not deny my faith even in the days of Antipas my witness, my faithful one, who was killed among you, where Satan dwelleth.

Rev. 2: 18 ASV

18 And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write:

These things saith "the Son of God, who hath his eyes like a flame of fire, and his feet are like unto burnished brass:"

24 But to you I say, to the rest that are in Thyatira, as many as have not this teaching, who know not the deep things of Satan, as they are wont to say; I cast upon you none other burden. 25 Nevertheless that which ye have, hold fast; till I come.

This Apologetic has shown some of Satan's operations. Watch carefully when anyone misuses scripture. It is not of the Holy Spirit.