

# “Summary of My Research” – By Darryl Eberhart



The World Run by Arturo Sosa Abascal through Pope Francis



Jesuit-controlled Papal Rome is the greatest geopolitical-financial-religious juggernaut that the world has ever seen. She controls many nations on planet Earth.

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## Roman Catholicism By Lorraine Boettner Section Four Chapter XVI The Parochial School



Pope Pius IX declared: “Education outside of the Catholic Church is heresy.” But the Catholic Church Parochial School System is what teaches heresy!

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# Scapegoating the Jews – By Darryl Eberhart



This article confirms what I have been teaching on this website, namely the great satanic worldwide conspiracy to lead people to worship the Image of the Beast is not primarily led by Jews or Zionists, but by the Vatican and the Jesuit Order. The Jesuits and their co-conspirators are using the Jewish people as scapegoats to blame them for the evils they themselves are doing!

I believe the primary source of antisemitism or hatred of Jews is the Roman Catholic Church. Throughout the centuries the RCC killed not only Bible believers, but millions of Jews as well. I was raised Catholic and heard only negative things about the Jewish people from the Catholic nuns in elementary school.

Antisemitism or hatred of any ethnic group of people is not of God. A true follower of Jesus Christ does *not* hate anyone!

*Matthew 5:44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;*

If we're supposed to love even our enemies, how can we hate someone we don't even know?

This article from Darryl Eberhart has all his emphasis because I took it from <https://web.archive.org/web/20100125185129/http://toughissues.org/handoutsnew/Scapegoating%20the%20Jews%20Handout.htm>.

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## **"Scapegoating the Jews"**

By Darryl Eberhart, Editor of ETI & TTT // Website: [www.toughissues.org](http://www.toughissues.org)

A 4-Page Handout // All emphasis is mine unless otherwise stated. // September 20, 2009

**DEFINITIONS** (hopefully in alphabetical order):

**"Blood libel"** (Per Wikipedia): *"Blood libels are false and sensationalized allegations that a person or group engages in human sacrifice, often accompanied by the claim that the blood of the victims is used in various*

rituals and/or acts of cannibalism. The alleged victims are often children.”  
(Per Wikipedia; as applied to Jews): “Blood libels against Jews are false accusations that Jews use human blood in certain aspects of their religious rituals and holidays.”

**“Communism”** (Per “Webster’s New World College Dictionary”; Fourth Edition; 2006; first two meanings): “**1** any economic theory or system based on the ownership of all property by the community as a whole **2** [often C-] a) a hypothetical stage of socialism, as formulated by Marx, Engels, Lenin, and others, to be characterized by a classless and stateless society and the equal distribution of economic goods, and to be achieved by revolutionary and dictatorial, rather than by gradualistic, means b) the form of government of various, esp. former, socialist states which profess to be working toward this stage by means of state planning and control of the economy, a one-party political structure, and an emphasis on the requirements of the state rather than on individual liberties: cf. SOCIALISM...”

**“Freemason”** (Per “Webster’s New World College Dictionary”; Fourth Edition; 2006): “a member of an international secret society having as its principles brotherliness, charity, and mutual aid...”

**“Freemasonry”** (Per “Webster’s New World College Dictionary”; Fourth Edition; 2006; first two meanings): “**1** the principles, rituals, etc. of Freemasons **2** the Freemasons...”

**“Freemasonry”** (Per I.A. Sadler, author of the book “Mystery, Babylon the Great”; 2003; Pages 175-181): “Freemasonry is another branch of the Babylonian Mysteries, which has survived under different names from the time of the fall of open pagan worship in the 5<sup>th</sup> century. ...Freemasonry is just as ripe for manipulation by the JESUITS and the CHURCH OF ROME, that it may be used for the purposes of ROME, as any Protestant denomination. [Ed.: Freemasonry has been manipulated by the Jesuits for many decades.] ...In Britain and the USA, Freemasonry appears as a ‘Christian’ organization. However, this is a most dangerous pretense, for the true god of Freemasonry is Lucifer, who is Satan appearing as an angel of light. ...Both Freemasonry and the CHURCH OF ROME [Ed.: at their highest levels] worship the same god... Masonic ceremonies implicitly deny the sufficiency of Scripture. ...[Ed.: Freemasonry] is particularly strong in many Baptist churches in the USA... Those in the lower levels of Freemasonry know nothing about the higher and even more secretive degrees.”

(NOTE: The Jesuit Superior General controls the highest levels of Freemasonry. American historian James Parton tells us: “...If you trace up Masonry, through all its Orders, till you come to the grand tip-top, head Mason of the World, you will discover that the dread individual and the Chief of the Society of Jesus [Ed.: i.e., the Jesuit Superior General] are one and the same person.”)

**“French Revolution, The”** (Per Darryl Eberhart, Editor of ETI & TTT): “The bloody French Revolution of 1789-1799 was planned, fomented, and orchestrated by a JESUIT-front group called the ‘Illuminati’ [whom some folks falsely believe is a Jewish-founded and Jewish-led group]. The ‘Illuminati’ had been

set up on May 1, 1776 by JESUIT Adam Weishaupt – a man who had taught Roman Catholic Canon Law at JESUIT Ingolstadt College in Bavaria (southern Germany).”

**“Illuminati”** (Per Darryl Eberhart, Editor of ETI & TTT): “The modern version of the Illuminati [whom some folks falsely believe is a Jewish-led group] was formed on May 1, 1776 by JESUIT Adam Weishaupt, who had previously taught Roman Catholic Canon Law at JESUIT Ingolstadt College in Bavaria (southern Germany). JESUIT Adam Weishaupt pretended to leave the JESUIT ORDER so that he could set up a JESUIT front group called the ‘Illuminati’. This JESUIT front group, the Illuminati, planned, fomented, and orchestrated the bloody French Revolution of 1789-1799. By using this Illuminati front group, the JESUIT ORDER was given a great degree of ‘plausible deniability’ about the key role that it had played in the French Revolution.”

“International Banksters” (Per Darryl Eberhart, Editor of ETI & TTT): “‘International Banksters’ is an expression that I use to describe the Jesuit-controlled financial cabal that controls the leaders and governments of many of the nations on this planet. Some people allege that ‘the Jews’ run international banking; however, my research has shown me that Jesuit-controlled Papal Rome is by far the number one financial entity in the world! (Jesuit-controlled Papal Rome rules the financial world through the Vatican’s banking and financial interests – in Rome, throughout Europe, and in the USA – and through the wealthy Jesuit-controlled Knights of Malta Order.)

Dr. Stanley Monteith, on page 58 of his book ‘Brotherhood of Darkness’ (2000), tells us: ‘...Some sincere people believe that the Jews, or the Jewish bankers, are behind the world conspiracy. There are many clues that lead people to that conclusion, but I can assure you that the evidence has been planted to divert attention away from the truth.’

Indeed, some folks like to point to the Rothschild banking dynasty as proof that ‘the Jews’ run international banking; however, one of the titles of the Rothschilds, according to author F. Tupper Saussy, is ‘Guardians of the Vatican Treasury’! Some folks would argue that the Rothschilds should be labeled as ‘Court Jews’ of Papal Rome.

Some would also argue that the Knights Templar Order was the first international banking cabal – at least on the European continent. It is worth noting that when the Knights Templar Order was suppressed, the Knights of Malta (a Roman Catholic religious-military order) ‘absorbed’ some of the great wealth of the Knights Templar. Many of the world’s richest bankers have been Jesuit-controlled Knights of Malta.

*The Jesuit-controlled international banksters have helped to foment and bankroll many of the revolutions and wars of the last 3 to 4 centuries – and in the process have profited nicely from the murder of millions of people.”*

**“Jesuit Order, The”** (Per Darryl Eberhart, Editor of ETI & TTT): “The Jesuit Order was founded in 1534 by Ignatius of Loyola, and was officially approved as a religious order of the Roman Catholic Church by Pope Paul III in 1540. The primary goals of this order are (1) to roll back the Protestant

Reformation and the freedoms that it brought to many of the inhabitants of this planet; (2) to enhance the power and prestige of the Papacy (and its 'White Pope'); and, (3) to rule despotically over the governments of the world through the Papacy. The head of the Jesuit Order is the Jesuit Superior General – the 'Black Pope' – the real power behind the Papal throne. The Jesuit Superior General is also the master of all these: his Jesuit Order, the Knights of Malta, the Knights of Columbus, and the highest levels of Freemasonry – and of all that he controls through these powerful and influential organizations. The Jesuit Order is infamous for fomenting revolutions and wars, assassinating heads of State, and subverting nations. I believe that it is almost impossible to understand European history and Church history without a good understanding of the Protestant Reformation and the Jesuit-led Counter-Reformation."

**"Knights of Malta"** (Per Darryl Eberhart, Editor of ETI & TTT): "The Jesuit-controlled Knights of Malta is a Roman Catholic religious-military order headquartered in Rome with, and under the command of, the Jesuit Superior General, the 'Black Pope'. Much of the wealth of the Knights Templar Order, when it was suppressed in 1312, was given to the Knights of Malta. Many Jesuit-controlled Knights of Malta have held top-level positions in various governments, in the world's foremost intelligence agencies, in international banking, and in the publishing world. A number of Jesuit-controlled Knights of Malta continue to hold such positions. According to author and researcher Eric Jon Phelps, the following heads of the Central Intelligence Agency were all Knights of Malta: William Donovan (head of the OSS – the predecessor to the CIA), Allen Dulles (who was also a high-level Freemason), John McCone, William Casey, William Colby, George Tenet, and Leon Panetta."

**"New World Order, The"** (Per Darryl Eberhart, Editor of ETI & TTT): "The New World Order (N.W.O.) is basically the 'blueprint' for ruling the world via a one-world economy, one-world government, and one-world religion. The real master of this coming N.W.O., who may continue to operate from behind the scenes, is the 'Black Pope' (i.e., the Jesuit Superior General). Since he controls his own powerful Jesuit Order, the wealthy Knights of Malta, the top levels of Freemasonry, and the Papacy itself, he is clearly the most powerful man in the world today. The one-world religion will most likely be headed by the Roman Pontiff, though the 'Black Pope' will continue to be the real power behind the papal throne – as he has been for centuries. When the 'game plan' for the N.W.O. is fully implemented, freedom of religion, freedom of speech, and freedom of assembly – as well as the Right to keep and bear firearms – will all be relics of the past. No dissent will be tolerated, and dissenters will be terminated with 'extreme prejudice'. One of the first acts of this N.W.O. will be the launching of another modern-day [Papal] Inquisition."

**"Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion, The"** (Per Brad and Sherry Steiger; "Conspiracies and Secret Societies: The Complete Dossier"; 2006; Visible Ink Press; Pages 374 and 372): "'The Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion', it would seem, is an amalgam of plagiarized political pamphlets, fictional documents, and various inflammatory works – many of which in their original context did NOT even concern themselves with Jews but were attacks on Jesuits. (Page 374)

(Note from James: former Catholic priest Leo H. Lehmann says the [Protocols of the Elders of Zion were written by Jesuit priests!](#) In that sense it's a forgery. It's also scapegoating the Jews because what the Protocols have to say actually became reality and the Jews are blamed for it! There are two articles on this website about the probable Jesuit authorship of the Protocols:

[Authors of the Protocols of the Elders of Zion – Jews? Or Jesuits!](#)

[Evidence of Jesuit authorship of the Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion](#))r

*...In the opinions of some researchers, 'The Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion' may truly be the 'Mother of All Anti-Semite Conspiracies'. No matter how often the work is proved to be a forgery, some conspiracy theorists will continue to cite the 'Protocols' as proof that an international group of Jewish bankers is plotting to take over the world. (Page 372)"*

**"P-2 Masonry"** (Per John Daniel, author of the book, "The Grand Design Exposed"; 1999; Page 169): "There is a Masonic Propaganda group, number two...known as the 'P-2 Club', with its headquarters being in Rome. ...The P-2 Club is a propaganda society of the world's elite which includes high-ranking Roman Catholic prelates and, of course, Jesuits."

**"Russian Revolution"** (Per "Webster's New World College Dictionary"; Fourth Edition; 2006): "**1** the revolution of 1917 in which the government of the czar was overthrown: it consisted of two distinct revolutions, the first ('February Revolution') being the uprising of March (February, Old Style [Ed.: calendar]), in which a parliamentary government headed by Kerensky came to power, the second ('October Revolution') being the uprising of November (October, Old Style), in which this government was replaced by the Soviet government led by the Bolsheviks (Communists) under Lenin **2** sometimes, the October Revolution alone"

Ed. Comment to the preceding definition: We are told by some folks that "the Jews" financed the Russian (or, Bolshevik) Revolution. Please carefully consider the following quotation:

*"Another point [that] is made [Ed.: to convince us that the Jews, or the Jewish bankers, are our enemy is] that Jacob Schiff provided \$20 million to finance the Bolshevik Revolution. ...Did Jacob Schiff really help the Bolsheviks? Because of the progressive dumbing-down of our people, most Americans don't realize that there were two Russian revolutions. The first revolution was in March 1917 (or February if you use the old Russian calendar); the second [Ed.: Russian Revolution] was in October of that same year. ...The March [1917] revolution began in St. Petersburg when a contingent of military recruits refused to fire on anti-government demonstrators. ...The Czar was forced to abdicate. Alexander Kerensky was chosen to lead Russia until elections could be held. When it became obvious that he intended to continue the war, the German High Command approached Lenin, who was living in Switzerland. ...They offered him money and transportation to go to Russia to overthrow Kerensky.*

...During World War I, the American State Department was responsible for collecting intelligence information. Their files confirm the fact that Jacob Schiff opposed the czar, and after Kerensky had taken power, Jacob Schiff sent Kerensky a telegram congratulating him – but the Bolshevik Revolution didn't take place until seven months later. ...When he [Ed.: i.e., author Antony Sutton] examined the State Department's intelligence files, he found evidence that Jacob Schiff **opposed** the Bolsheviks, and encouraged our State Department to oppose them.

...The document [Ed.: i.e., 'The Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion'] first appeared in Russia in 1905; it claimed that Zionists were behind the wars and revolutions of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and planned to seize control of the world. Many Russians believed 'The Protocols', and they began to persecute the Jews and [to] destroy their property. When the czar refused to intervene, Jacob Schiff began plotting to depose him. He provided revolutionary literature to the Russian soldiers captured by the Japanese during the Russo-Japanese War in 1905...It is even possible that some of the soldiers who participated in the March [1917] revolution read Jacob Schiff's literature, so he may have played a part in inciting the March [1917] revolution, but that was **not** the Bolshevik Revolution [Ed.: which occurred seven months later]. When Antony Sutton researched the State Department intelligence files, he found documents showing that **English and American financiers** provided funding for the Bolsheviks, but that fact is never mentioned today. Could it be that the story of Jacob Schiff's \$20 million gift to the Bolsheviks was contrived to divert attention away from the real source of their funding?" – Dr. Stanley Monteith ("Brotherhood of Darkness"; Pages 60-62)

**"Scapegoat"** (Per "Webster's New World College Dictionary"; Fourth Edition; 2006): [noun]: "2 a person, group, or thing upon whom the blame for the mistakes or crimes of others is thrust – [verb]: to make a scapegoat of."

**SCAPEGOATING THE JEWS:** "The Jews" have often been falsely accused throughout the centuries of "blood libel" (i.e., using human blood in various religious rituals), of desecrating and torturing Roman Catholic Eucharistic wafers (i.e., the bread allegedly "transubstantiated" into the body of Christ during the Roman Catholic Mass), and even of causing "the Black Death" (i.e., probably the bubonic plague) in Europe and Asia in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. Simon Wiesenthal, on page 14 of his book, "Every Day Remembrance Day: A Chronicle of Jewish Martyrdom", sums up well this "blame the Jews for all evil" syndrome: "Hatred of the Jews grew as they came to be regarded as the cause of every catastrophe – if there was too much rain or too little, if the harvest was poor, earthquakes, floods, fire, famine, lightning, the plague, everything was laid at the door of the Jews; even though as many Jews were among the victims of such catastrophes as the rest of the population, the Jews were responsible for all calamities."

In recent centuries, "Jews" have been accused of fomenting wars and revolutions; of creating Communism and Freemasonry; of conspiring to rule the world; of running Hollywood, the American mainstream media, and the U.S. government (via Jewish "neo-conservatives"); and of running International and U.S. banking.

The false accusations about Jewish “blood libel” started with the Greeks and Romans. Later, the Roman Catholic Church and the Orthodox Church used these false “blood libel” accusations against Jews, which often led to bloody massacres of European Jews. The only “evidence” presented in these false accusations of Jewish “blood libel” was testimony obtained from Jews who had been tortured! Ignored in all this are the commands found in the Old Testament forbidding Jews from consuming blood! Equally “ridiculous” is the idea that Jews steal Roman Catholic Eucharistic wafers in order to “torture” a piece of bread that has allegedly become “Jesus Christ” – yet this allegation has in the past been made against Jews by Roman Catholics– often leading to massacres of Jews!

Who is the “guilty party” for fomenting wars and revolutions? It’s not the Jews! Please consider these quotes:

(1) *“It is my opinion that if the liberties of this country – the United States of America – are destroyed, it will be by the subtlety of the Roman Catholic **Jesuit** priests, for they are the most crafty, dangerous enemies to civil and religious liberty. They have instigated most of the wars of Europe.”* – Marquis de Lafayette (1757-1834)

(2) *“This [Ed.: American Civil] war would never have been possible without the sinister influence of the **Jesuits**. We owe it to **popery** that we now see our land reddened with the blood of her noblest sons.”* – Abraham Lincoln

(3) *“The public is practically unaware of the overwhelming responsibility carried by the **Vatican** and its **Jesuits** in the starting of two world wars...”* – Edmond Paris (*“The Secret History of the Jesuits”*; 1975; Page 9)

The Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion has been used for several centuries to try to convince folks of an alleged “Jewish conspiracy” to rule the world. Yet the Protocols were originally written in France as a satire that accused the **Jesuits** – not the Jews – of lusting for world domination! But the Jesuits “edited” the Protocols so that “*the Jews*” were substituted in the place of the **Jesuits** as the conspirators who are lusting after world domination!

To find out who controls international banking, the international intelligence community, the highest levels of Freemasonry, Hollywood, the American mainstream media, etc., please read the last 3 articles listed below in #1 of “For Further Research”; and especially read the 1836-page book, “*Vatican Assassins*”, by Eric Jon Phelps. (Hint: It’s not the Jews! Rather, the “real controllers” are the agents of **Papal Rome** – especially agents of the **Jesuit Order**!)

**FOR FURTHER RESEARCH** (on the topic of “blaming Jews” – and also on related topics, such as genocide):

1. Read these following articles on [www.toughissues.org](http://www.toughissues.org): “Multiple-Choice Quiz #1”, “Bloody Hands & Wicked Hearts”, “The Real Controllers”, “Simply Amazing”, and “The Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion”.
2. Purchase a copy of the book, “*The Secret History of the Jesuits*”, by



Edmond Paris by calling **1-909-987-0771**.

3. Purchase a copy of the 58-minute DVD, *"Innocents Betrayed"*, by JPF0 by calling **1-800-869-1884**.
4. Watch the 58-minute DVD, *"The Inquisition"*, on the [Berean Beacon website](#).
5. Do a "google-style" search on the Internet for the following books: *"The History and Sociology of Genocide"* by Frank Chalk and Kurt Jonassohn, *"Death by Government"* by R.J. Rummel, *"The Vatican's Holocaust"* by Avro Manhattan, *"Hitler's Pope: The Secret History of Pius XII"* by John Cornwell, *"The Popes Against the Jews"* by David I. Kertzer, *"Every Day Remembrance Day: A Chronicle of Jewish Martyrdom"* by Simon Wiesenthal, and *"Our Hands Are Stained with Blood: The Tragic Story of the 'Church' and the Jewish People"* by Michael L. Brown.

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## [Roman Catholicism By Lorraine Boettner](#) [Chapter XV Marriage](#)

The Roman Church has attempted to control everything pertaining to marriage. Since marriage was held to be a sacrament, civil marriage was declared to be unlawful.

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## [Roman Catholicism By Lorraine Boettner](#) [Chapter XIV Celibacy](#)



The Catholic Church requires that its priests, & nuns abstain from marriage. It's not to be confused with the vow of chastity – abstention from sexual relations.

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# James Japan is Good for Another Year! A Big Thank You to All the Supporters of This Website!



Tess teaching the Bible to children

Praise God, I just paid the Ipage hosting company \$257.79 for another year to host this website. It was due on May 3rd and we're glad to get it paid early. The price went up! It was \$220 a year but suddenly went up to \$270 a year. I asked the company why and was told it was because of inflation. But they kindly gave me a little discount. James Japan is now good for another 12 months for the hosting. The payment for the domain name, jamesjpn.net, is a separate payment to another company, Godaddy, and it's due every year on August 14, but it's only \$20 a year.

The hosting cost is no small money for my wife Tess and me since moving to the Philippines. When we lived in Guam, our income was much higher than now because Tess had a full-time job at Macy's. I used to work there too just before the Christmas holidays in 2022. It was of the Lord we moved from Guam to the Philippines when we did because she cannot work anymore due to a bad knee which hurts more the longer she has to stand. The door opened for us when the required COVID-vaccine mandate to enter the Philippines was lifted.

The next time you see a department store salesperson, you might feel sorry for him or her knowing that they are on their feet 8 hours a day, and sometimes more. They're only allowed to sit down during break-time for 15 minutes after a couple hours. Some department stores have an hour break for lunch, and some only 30 minutes.

There are no big companies employing hundreds of people where we live, only farms, little shops, and a lot of poor people doing what they can do to make a living such as raising chickens.

Today I picked up a man with my motorbike with sidecar who waved me down as I passed him. He told me he wanted to go to the same village I was going and offered me money. I didn't accept it knowing how poor he probably is.

Besides the work on this website, we have three Bible studies per week teaching children, teenagers, and adults.



It's because of your love for Jesus, the Word of God, the truth, and the support and encouragement I get from you that keeps me going. Thank you so much! God bless you and your loved ones.

## What is the Greatest Intelligence Agency in the World? – by Darryl Eberhart



All of the world's intelligence agencies together do not even have one hundredth of the information-gathering capabilities of the VATICAN.

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## Roman Catholicism By Lorraine Boettner Chapter XIII Ritualism



Roman Catholic people have to struggle with ritualism and superstition, forms and ceremonies which impress the eye but deaden the soul to spiritual truth.

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# A Description of the Antichrist – By Darryl Eberhart

According to the Bible, which of the below is the Antichrist likely to look like?



the identity of the Antichrist] is proclaimed in II Thess. 2 as BOTH a system AND a person: the 'man of sin' and the one who would sit in the 'temple [Ed.: Greek: "naos"] of God' calling himself God. And the only one in the pages of history who has done this is the Pope.

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## Roman Catholicism By Lorraine Boettner Chapter XII Penance, Indulgences: Salvation by Grace or by Works?



Protestantism is primarily a reassertion of New Testament Christianity, the teaching that salvation is by faith rather than works. Romanism, on the other hand, teaches that salvation depends ultimately upon ourselves, upon what we do, that one can "earn" salvation by obedience to the laws of the church.

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# Roman Catholicism By Lorraine Boettner

## Section Three Chapter XI The

### Infallibility of the Pope



The doctrine of papal infallibility appeals to many people who are poorly informed. They know practically nothing about the Bible. Consequently, they have no sound theology on which to base their actions.

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## Good News for Those Who Fear Going to

### Purgatory!



The doctrine of purgatory says that while God forgives sin, His justice nevertheless demands that the sinner must suffer the full punishment due to him for his sin before he will be allowed to enter heaven.

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# Roman Catholicism By Lorraine Boettner

## Chapter X Purgatory



You don't have to fear going to Purgatory after you die because there is no such place! Purgatory is an invention by the Church to keep you under its control.

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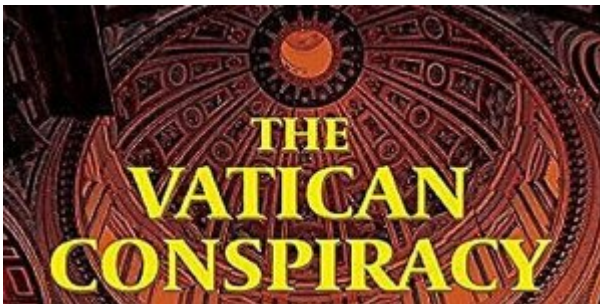
## [Roman Catholicism By Lorraine Boettner](#) [Chapter IX The Confessional](#)



Catholic Church says "In the confessional the minister has the power to forgive all crimes committed after baptism." The Bible says only God can forgive sins.

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## ["What is the Roman Catholic Church-State?" – By Darryl Eberhart](#)



One of the top goals of the Roman Catholic Church-State is the elimination of its competition! That is why for many centuries it has waged relentless war.

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## [Roman Catholicism By Lorraine Boettner](#)

## Chapter VIII The Mass



Christ's sacrifice on Calvary was complete in that one offering, and that it was never to be repeated. But the Catholic Church repeats it daily in the Mass.

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## WANTED: More Christians with Backbone – By Darryl Eberhart



Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

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## Roman Catholicism By Lorraine Boettner Chapter VII Mary Part 2



As evangelical Protestants we honor Mary, the mother of our Lord, but we don't worship her or say we must come to Jesus through her.



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## WHO is the Real Antichrist? – By Darryl Eberhart



John Wycliffe, Martin Luther, John Calvin, John Knox, Zwingli all preached that Jesus was the Christ and that the ROMAN PAPACY was the ANTICHRIST of Scripture.

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## Roman Catholicism By Lorraine Boettner Chapter VII Mary Part 1



This is the continuation of the previous chapter [Roman Catholicism By Lorraine Boettner Section Two Chapter VI The Papacy](#). This chapter is very long which is why I am dividing it into two parts.

### **1 Mary's Place in Scripture**

The New Testament has surprisingly little to say about Mary. Her last recorded words were spoken at the marriage in Cana, at the very beginning of

Jesus' ministry: "Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it"—then silence. But the Church of Rome breaks that silence, and from sources entirely outside of Scripture builds up a most elaborate system of Mary works and Mary devotions.

Following Mary's appearance at the marriage in Cana, we meet her only once more during Jesus' public ministry, when she and His brothers came where He was speaking to the multitudes, seeking Him, only to draw the rebuke: "Who is my mother? and who are my brethren? Whosoever shall do the will of my Father who is in heaven, he is my brother, and sister, and mother" (Matthew 12:46-50). She was present at the cross, where she was committed to the care of the disciple John for the remainder of her natural life (John 19:25-27). Finally, in Acts 1:14, she is mentioned as having been with the disciples and the other women and the Lord's brethren engaged steadfastly in prayer immediately after the ascension, but she has no prominent place.

The apostles never prayed to Mary, nor, so far as the record goes, did they show her any special honor. Peter, Paul, John, and James do not mention her name even once in the epistles which they wrote to the churches. John took care of her until she died, but he does not mention her in any of his three epistles or in the book of Revelation. We recall that Prime Minister Churchill used to make it a special point of honor to mention the Queen in his eloquent public addresses. Imagine the prime Minister of England never mentioning the Queen in any of his addresses to Parliament or in any of his state papers!

When the church was instituted at Pentecost there was only one name given among men whereby we must be saved, that of Jesus (Acts 4:12). Wherever the eyes of the church are directed to the abundance of grace, there is no mention of Mary. Surely this silence is a rebuke to those who would build a system of salvation around her. God has given us all the record we need concerning Mary, and that record does not indicate that worship or veneration in any form is to be given to her. How complete, then, is the falsehood of Romanism that gives primary worship and devotion to her!

## **2 "Mother of God"**

The doctrine of "Mary, the Mother of God," as we know it today is the result of centuries of growth, often stimulated by pronouncements of church prelates. And yet the full-fledged system of Mariolatry is a comparatively recent development in Roman Catholic dogma. In fact the last one hundred years have quite appropriately been called the "Century of Mariolatry."

As late as the fourth century there are no indications of any special veneration of Mary. Such veneration at that time could begin only if one were recognized as a saint, and only the martyrs were counted as saints. But since there was no evidence that Mary had suffered a martyr's death, she was excluded from sainthood. Later the ascetics came to be acknowledged as among the saints. That proved to be the opening age for the sainthood of Mary, for surely she of all people, it was alleged, must have lived an ascetic life! The church acknowledged that Christ was born of the virgin Mary. Apocryphal tradition built on those possibilities, and slowly the system emerged.

The phrase "Mother of God" originated in the Council of Ephesus, in the year 431. It occurs in the Creed of Chalcedon, which was adopted by the council which met in that city in 451, and in regard to the person of Christ it declared that He was "born of the Virgin Mary, the Mother of God according to the manhood"—which latter term means: according to the flesh of human nature. The purpose of the expression as used by the Council of Ephesus was not to glorify Mary, but to emphasize the deity of Christ over against those who denied His equality with the Father and the Holy Spirit. A heretical sect, the Nestorians, separated the two natures in Christ to such an extent that they held Him to be two persons, or rather a dual person formed by the union between the divine Logos and the human person Jesus of Nazareth. They were accused of teaching that the Logos only inhabited the man Jesus, from which it was inferred that they held that the person born of Mary was only a man. It was therefore only to emphasize the fact that the "person" born to Mary was truly divine that she was called "the Mother of God."

Hence the term today has come to have a far different meaning from that intended by the early church. It no longer has reference to the orthodox doctrine concerning the person of Christ, but instead is used to exalt Mary to a supernatural status as Queen of Heaven, Queen of the Angels, etc., so that, because of her assumed position of prominence in heaven, she is able to approach her Son effectively and to secure for her followers whatever favors they ask through her. When we say that a woman is the mother of a person we mean that she gave birth to that person. But Mary certainly did not give birth to God, nor to Jesus Christ as the eternal Son of God. She was not the mother of our Lord's divinity, but only of His humanity. Instead, Christ, the second person of the Trinity, has existed from all eternity, and was Mary's Creator. Hence the term as used in the present day Roman Church must be rejected.

In the life and worship of the Roman Church there has been a long course of development, setting forth Mary's perpetual virginity, her exemption from original sin and from any sin of commission, and now her bodily assumption to heaven. In the Roman Church Mary is to her worshippers what Christ is to us. She is the object of all religious affections, and the source whence all the blessings of salvation are sought and expected.

The Bible calls Mary the "Mother of Jesus," but gives her no other title. All that the Roman Church has to substantiate her worship of Mary is a sheaf of traditions entirely outside the Bible telling of her appearances to certain monks, nuns, and others venerated as saints. At first glance the term "Mother of God" may seem comparatively harmless. But the actual consequence is that through its use Roman Catholics come to look upon Mary as stronger, more mature, and more powerful than Christ. To them she becomes the source of His being and overshadows Him. So they go to her, not to Him. "He came to us through Mary," says Rome, "and we must go to Him through her." Who would go to "the Child," even to "the holy Child," for salvation when His mother seems easier of access and more responsive? Romanism magnifies the person that the Holy Spirit wants minimized, and minimizes the person that the Holy Spirit wants magnified.

Says S. E. Anderson:

"Roman priests call Mary the 'mother of God,' a name impossible, illogical, and unscriptural. It is impossible, for God can have no mother; He is eternal and without beginning while Mary was born and died within a few short years. It is illogical, for God does not require a mother for His existence. Jesus said, 'Before Abraham was born, I am' (John 8:58). It is unscriptural, for the Bible gives Mary no such contradictory name. Mary was the honored mother of the human body of Jesus—no more—as every Catholic must admit if he wishes to be reasonable and Scriptural. The divine nature of Christ existed from eternity past, long before Mary was born. Jesus never called her 'mother'; He called her 'woman'" (Booklet, *Is Rome the True Church?* p. 20).

And Marcus Meyer says:"

God has no mother. God has always existed. God Himself is the Creator of all things. Since a mother must exist before her child, if you speak of a 'mother of God' you are thereby putting someone before God. And you are therefore making that person God. ... Mary would weep to hear anyone so pervert the truth as to call her the mother of her Creator. True, Jesus was God; but He was also man. And it was only as man that He could have a mother. Can you imagine Mary introducing Jesus to others with the words: 'This is God, my Son?'" (Pamphlet, *No Mother*).

Furthermore, if the Roman terminology is correct and Mary is to be Called God's mother, then Joseph was God's stepfather; James, Joseph, Simon, and Judas were God's brothers; Elizabeth was God's aunt; John the Baptist was God's cousin; Heli was God's grandfather, and Adam was God's 59th great grandfather. Such references to God's relatives sound more like a page out of Mormonism than Christianity.

The correct statement of the person of Christ in this regard is: As His human nature had no father, so His divine nature had no mother.

### **3 Historical Development**

It is not difficult to trace the origin of the worship of the Virgin Mary. The early church knew nothing about the cult of Mary as it is practiced today—and we here use the word "cult" in the dictionary sense of "the veneration or worship of a person or thing; extravagant homage."

The first mention of the legend about Mary is found in the so-called Proto-Evangelism of James, near the end of the second century, and presents a fantastic story about her birth. It also states that she remained a virgin throughout her entire life. Justin Martyr, who died in 165 compares Mary and Eve, the two prominent women in the Bible. Irenaeus, who died in 202, says that the disobedience of the "virgin Eve" was atoned for by the obedience of the "virgin Mary." Tertullian, who was one of the greatest authorities in the ancient church, and who died in 222, raised his voice against the legend concerning Mary's birth. He also held that after the birth of Jesus, Mary and Joseph lived in a normal marriage relationship. The first known picture of Mary is found in the Priscilla catacomb in Rome and dates from the second century.

Thus the Christian church functioned for at least 150 years without idolizing the name of Mary. The legends about her begin to appear after that, although for several centuries the church was far from making a cult of it. But after Constantine's decree making Christianity the preferred religion, the Greek-Roman pagan religions with their male gods and female goddesses exerted an increasingly stronger influence upon the church. Thousands of the people who then entered the church brought with them the superstitions and devotions which they had long given to Isis, Ishtar, Diana, Athena, Artemis, Aphrodite, and other goddesses, which were then conveniently transferred to Mary. Statues were dedicated to her, as there had been statues dedicated to Isis, Diana, and others, and before them the people knelt and prayed as they had been accustomed to do before the statues of the heathen goddesses.

Many of the people who came into the church had no clear distinction in their minds between the Christian practices and those that had been practiced in their heathen religions. Statues of pagan gods and heroes found a place in the church, and were gradually replaced by statues of saints. The people were allowed to bring into the church those things from their old religions that could be reconciled with the type of Christianity then developing, hence many who bowed down before the images of Mary were in reality worshipping their old gods under a new name. History shows that in several countries Roman Catholicism has absorbed local deities as saints, and has absorbed local goddesses into the image of the Madonna. One of the more recent examples is that of the Virgin of Guadalupe, a goddess worshipped by the Indians in Mexico, which resulted in a curious mixture of Romanism and paganism, with sometimes one, sometimes the other predominating—some pictures of the Virgin Mary now appearing show her without the Child in her arms.

As we have seen, the expression "Mother of God," as set forth in the decree of the Council of Ephesus gave an impetus to Mary worship, although the practice did not become general until two or three centuries later. From the fifth century on, the Mary cult becomes more common. Mary appears more frequently in paintings, churches were named after her, and prayers were offered to her as an intercessor. The famous preacher Chrysostom, who died in 407, resisted the movement wholeheartedly, but his opposition had little effect in stemming the movement. The Roman Catholics took as their text the words of the angel to Mary, found in Luke 1:28: "And he came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favored, the Lord is with thee." It is to be noted, however, that shortly after the angel spoke to Mary, Elizabeth, speaking by inspiration of the Holy Spirit, did not say, "Blessed art thou above women," but, "Blessed art thou among women" (Luke 1:42). Starting with the false premise that Mary was above all other women, there developed the practice of worshipping her.

Invocation of the saints had a similar origin. In the year 610 Pope Boniface IV first suggested the celebration of an All Saints festival and ordered that the Pantheon, a pagan temple in Rome that had been dedicated to all the gods, should be converted into a Christian church and the relics of the saints placed therein. He then dedicated the church to the Blessed Virgin and all the martyrs. Thus the worship of Mary and the saints replaced that of the heathen gods and goddesses, and it was merely a case of one error being

substituted for another.

The spiritual climate of the Middle Ages was favorable to the development of Mary worship. Numerous superstitions crept into the church and centered themselves in the worship of the Virgin and the saints. The purely pagan character of these practices, with dates and manner of observance, can be traced by any competent historian.

The art of the Middle Ages represented Mary with the child Jesus, Mary as “mater dolorosa” at the cross, etc. The rosary became popular; poems and hymns were written in honor of the “god-mother.” Stories of miracles performed by her started in response to prayers addressed to her.

Also during that period arose the custom of looking to “patron saints,” who in fact were merely Christianized forms of old pagan gods. In polytheism everything had its own god—the sea, war, hunting, merchants, agriculture, etc. After the same fashion there developed the Roman Catholic gallery of “patron saints” for seamen, soldiers, travelers, hunters, and in modern times, for fliers, divers, cyclists, artillerymen, etc. This kinship with the pagan cults explains why Mary worship developed so rapidly after Constantine made Christianity the official religion.

#### **4 Contrast Between Roman and Protestant Teaching**

We are indebted to Dr. Joseph Zacchello, editor of *The Convert*, Clairton, Pennsylvania for the following statement concerning Mary’s place in the Christian church, followed by extracts in one column from Liguori’s book, *The Glories of Mary*, and in a parallel column extracts setting forth what the Bible teaches:

“The most beautiful story ever told is the story of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. And a part of that beautiful story is the account of Mary, the mother of our Lord.

“Mary was a pure virtuous woman. Nothing is clearer in all the Word of God than this truth. Read the accounts of Matthew and Luke and you see her as she is—pure in mind, humble, under the hand of God, thankful for the blessing of God, having faith to believe the message of God, being wise to understand the purpose of God in her life.

“Mary was highly favored beyond all other women. It was her unique honor that she should be the mother of our Lord Jesus Christ. Blessed was Mary among women. Through her, God gave His most priceless gift to man.

“But, though Mary be worthy of all honor as a woman favored of God beyond all others, and though she be indeed a splendid, beautiful, godly character, and though she be the mother of our Lord, Mary can neither intercede for us with God, nor can she save us, and certainly we must not worship her. There is nothing clearer in the Word of God than this truth.

Let us notice this truth as it is diligently compared with the teaching of the Roman Catholic Church and the Word of God. The following quotations are

taken from the book, *The Glories of Mary*, which was written by Bishop Alphonse de Liguori, one of the greatest devotional writers of the Roman Catholic Church, and the Word of God taken from the Douay Version which is approved by James Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishop of Baltimore. The Editor's notice says, 'Everything that our saint has written is, as it were, a summary of Catholic tradition on the subject that it treats; it is not an individual author; it is, so to speak, the church herself that speaks to us by the voice of her prophets, her apostles, her pontiffs, her saints, her fathers, her doctors of all nations and ages. No other book appears to be more worthy of recommendation in this respect than *The Glories of Mary*.'" (1931 edition; Redemptorist Fathers, Brooklyn). Note the following deadly parallel:

### **Mary Is Given the Place Belonging to Christ**

*Roman Catholic Church:*

"And she is truly a mediatrix of peace between sinners and God. Sinners receive pardon by... Mary alone" (pp. 82-83). "Mary is our life. ... Mary in obtaining this grace for sinners by her intercession, thus restores them to life" (p. 80). "He fails and is LOST who has not recourse to Mary" (p. 94).

*The Word of God:*

For there is one God, and ONE Mediator of God and men, the man Christ Jesus" (1 Tim. 2:5). "Jesus saith to him: I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No man cometh to the Father, but by me" (John 14:6). "Christ... is our life" (Col. 3:4).

### **Mary Is Glorified More than Christ**

*Roman Catholic Church:*

"The Holy Church commands a WORSHIP peculiar to MARY" (p. 130). "Many things... are asked from God, and are not granted; they are asked from MARY, and are obtained," for "She... is even Queen of Hell, and Sovereign Mistress of the Devils" (pp. 127, 141, 143).

*The Word of God:*

"In the Name of Jesus Christ... For there is no other name under Heaven given to men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 3:6, 4:12). His Name is "above every name... not only in this world, but also in that which is to come" (Eph. 1:21).

### **Mary Is the Gate to Heaven Instead of Christ**

*Roman Catholic Church:*

"Mary is called... the gate of heaven because no one can enter that blessed kingdom without passing through HER" (p. 160). "The Way of Salvation is open to none otherwise than through MARY," and since "Our salvation is in the hands of Mary... He who is protected by MARY will be saved, he who is not will be lost" (pp. 169-170).

*The Word of God:*

"I am the door. By me, if any man enter in, he shall be saved," says Christ (John 10:1,7,9).

"Jesus saith to him, I am the way... no man cometh to the Father but by me" (John 14:6). "Neither is there Salvation in any other" (Acts 4:12).

### **Mary Is Given the Power of Christ**

*Roman Catholic Church:*

"All power is given to thee in Heaven and on earth," so that "at the command of MARY all obey—even God... and thus... God has placed the whole Church... under the domination of MARY" (pp. 180-181). Mary "is also the Advocate of the whole human race... for she can do what she wills with God" (p. 193).

*The Word of God:*

"All power is given to me in Heaven and in earth," so that "in the Name of JESUS every knee should bow," "that in all things He may hold the primacy" (Matt. 28:18, Phil. 2:9-11, Col. 1:18).

"But if any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, JESUS CHRIST the Just: and he is the propitiation for our sins" (1 John 2:1-2).

### **Mary Is the Peace-Maker Instead of Jesus Christ Our Peace**

*Roman Catholic Church:*

Mary is the Peace-maker between sinners and God" (p. 197).

"We often more quickly obtain what we ask by calling on the name of MARY, than by invoking that of Jesus." "She... is our Salvation, our Life, our Hope, our Counsel, our Refuge, our Help" (pp. 254, 257).

*The Word of God:*

But now in CHRIST JESUS, you, who sometimes were far off, are made nigh by the blood of Christ. For He is our peace" (Eph. 2:13-14).

"Hitherto you have not asked anything in my name. Ask, and you shall receive," for "Whatsoever we shall ask according to His will, He heareth us" (John 16:23-24).

### **Mary Is Given the Glory that Belongs to Christ Alone**

*Roman Catholic Church:*

"The whole Trinity, O MARY, gave thee a name... above every other name, that at Thy name, every knee should bow, of things in heaven, on earth, and under the earth" (p. 260).

*The Word of God:*



God also hath highly exalted HIM, and hath given HIM a Name which is above all names, that in the Name of JESUS every knee should bow, of those that are in Heaven, on earth, and under the earth" (Phil. 2:9-10).

Liguori, more than any other one person, has been responsible for promoting Mariolatry in the Roman Church, dethroning Christ and enthroning Mary in the hearts of the people. Yet instead of excommunicating him for his heresies, the Roman Church has canonized him as a saint and has published his book in many editions, more recently under the imprimatur of Cardinal Patrick Joseph Hays, of New York.

In a widely used prayer book, the *Raccolta*, which has been especially indulged by several popes and which therefore is accepted by Romanists as authoritative, we read such as the following:

"Hail, Queen, Mother of Mercy, our Life. Sweetness, and Hope, all Hail! To thee we cry, banished sons of Eve; to thee we sigh, groaning and weeping in this vale of tears."

"We fly beneath thy shelter, O holy Mother of God, despise not our petitions in our necessity, and deliver us always from all perils, O glorious and Blessed Virgin."

"Heart of Mary, Mother of God... Worthy of all the veneration of angels and men. ... In thee let the Holy Church find safe shelter; protect it, and be its asylum, its tower, its strength."

"Sweet heart of Mary, be my salvation."

"Leave me not, My Mother, in my own hands, or I am lost; let me but cling to thee. Save me, my Hope; save me from hell."

Also in the *Raccolta* prayers are addressed to Joseph:

"Benign Joseph, our guide, protect us and the Holy Church."

"Guardian of Virgins, and Holy Father Joseph, to whose faithful keeping Christ Jesus, innocence itself, and Mary, Virgin of Virgins, were committed, I pray and beseech thee by those two dear pledges, Jesus and Mary, that being preserved from all uncleanness, I may with spotless mind, pure heart, and chaste body, ever most chastely serve Jesus and Mary. Amen."

The rosary, which is by far the most popular Roman Catholic ritual prayer, contains fifty "Hail Mary's." The *Hail Mary* (or *Ave Maria*) is follows:

"Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death. Amen."

## 5 Mary as an Object of Worship

The devotions to Mary are undoubtedly the most spontaneous of any in the Roman Catholic worship. Attendance at Sunday mass is obligatory, under penalty of mortal sin if one is absent without a good reason, and much of the regular service is formalistic and routine. But the people by the thousands voluntarily attend novenas for the "Sorrowful Mother." Almost every religious order dedicates itself to the Virgin Mary. National shrines, such as those at Lourdes in France, Fatima in Portugal, and Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico, are dedicated to her and attract millions. The shrine of St. Anne de Beaupre, in Quebec, the most popular shrine in Canada, is dedicated to Saint Anne, who according to apocryphal literature was the mother of Mary. Thousands of churches, schools, hospitals, convents, and shrines are dedicated to her glory.

It is difficult for Protestants to realize the deep love and reverence that devout Roman Catholics have for the Virgin Mary. One must be immersed in and saturated with the Roman Catholic mind in order to feel its heartbeat. Says Margaret Shepherd, an ex nun:

"No words can define to my readers the feeling of reverential love I had for the Virgin Mary. As the humble suppliant kneels before her statue he thinks of her as the tender, compassionate mother of Jesus, the friend and mediatrix of sinners. The thought of praying to Christ for any special grace without seeking the intercession of Mary never occurred to me" (*My Life in the Convent*, p. 31).

The titles given Mary are in themselves a revelation of Roman Catholic sentiment toward her. She is called: Mother of God, Queen of the Apostles, Queen of Heaven, Queen of the Angels, the Door of Paradise, the Gate of Heaven, Our Life, Mother of Grace, Mother of Mercy, and many others which ascribe to her supernatural powers.

All of those titles are false. Let us consider just two of them. When she is called "Queen of the Apostles," is that an apostolic doctrine? Where is it found? Certainly it is not in Scripture. When did the apostles elect Mary their queen? Or when was she appointed by God to be their queen? And the title "Queen of Heaven" is equally false, or even worse. Heaven has no "queen." The only references in Scripture to prayers to the "queen of heaven" are found in Jeremiah 7:18, 44:17-19,25, where it is severely condemned as a heathen custom practiced by some apostate Jews. This so-called "queen of heaven" was a Canaanitish goddess of fertility, Astarte (plural, Ashtaroth) (Judges 2:13). How shameful to impose a heathen title on Mary, and then to venerate her as another deity!

How can anyone of the perhaps one hundred million practicing Roman Catholics throughout the world who desire Mary's attention imagine that she can give him that attention during his prayers to her, his wearing her scapulars for special protection, his marching in parades in her honor, etc., while at the same time she is giving attention to all others who are praying to her, attending to her duties in heaven, conducting souls to heaven, rescuing souls from purgatory, etc.? The average Roman Catholic acts on the assumption that

Mary has the powers of deity. There is nothing in the Bible to indicate that any departed human being, however good, has any further contact with affairs on this earth, or that he can hear so much as one prayer from earth. How, then, can a human being such as Mary hear the prayers of millions of Roman Catholics, in many different countries, praying in many different languages, all at the same time? Let any priest or layman try to converse with only three people at the same time and see how impossible that is for a human being. They impose on Mary works which no human being can do. How impossible, how absurd, to impose on her the works which only God can do! Since Mary is not omnipresent nor omniscient, such prayers and worship are nothing less than idolatry—that is, the giving of divine honors to a creature. Nowhere in the Bible is there the slightest suggestion that prayer should be offered to Mary. If God had intended that we should pray to her, surely He would have said so. Worship is accorded to the infant Jesus, but never to His mother. When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, wise men came from the East, and when they came into the house, they saw the young child with Mary His mother. What did they do? Did they fall down and worship Mary? Or Joseph? No! We read: “They fell down and worshipped him” (Matthew 2:11). And to whom did they give their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh? To Mary? Or to Joseph? No! They presented their gifts to Jesus. They recognized Him, not Mary or Joseph, as worthy of adoration.

Furthermore, in Old Testament times the Jews prayed to God, but never to Abraham, or Jacob, or David, or to any of the prophets. There is never the slightest suggestion that prayers should be offered to anyone other than God. Nor did the apostles ever ask the early Christians to worship, or venerate, or pray to Mary or to any other human being.

The objections against prayers to Mary apply equally against prayers to the saints. For they too are only creatures, infinitely less than God, able to be at only one place at a time and to do only one thing at a time. How, then, can they listen to and answer the thousands upon thousands of petitions made simultaneously in many different lands and in many different languages? Many such petitions are expressed, not orally, but only mentally, silently. How can Mary and the saints, without being like God, be present everywhere and know the secrets of all hearts?

That living saints should pray to departed saints seems on the face of it to be the very height of the ridiculous. But the fact is that most Roman Catholics pray to Mary and the saints more than they pray to God. Yet they cannot explain how departed saints can hear and answer prayers. The endless prayers to the Virgin and to the countless saints cannot bring one closer to God. And particularly when we see all the gaudy trappings that are resorted to in Rome’s distorted version of a glamour queen the whole procedure becomes, to Protestants, truly abhorrent.

The Roman Church commits grievous sin in promoting the worship of Mary. It dishonors God, first, by its use of images, and secondly, by giving to a creature the worship that belongs only to the Creator. We have here merely another example of Rome’s persistent tendency to add to the divinely prescribed way of salvation. Romanism sets forth faith and works, Scripture and tradition, Christ and Mary, as the means of salvation.

Charles Chiniquy, a former priest from Montreal, Canada, who became a Presbyterian minister, tells of the following conversation between himself and his bishop when doubts began to assail him regarding the place given to Mary:

"My lord, who has saved you and me upon the cross?"

He answered, "Jesus Christ."

"Who paid your debt and mine by shedding His blood; was it Mary or Jesus?"

He said, "Jesus Christ."

"Now, my lord, when Jesus and Mary were on earth, who loved the sinner more; was it Mary or Jesus?"

Again he answered that it was Jesus.

"Did any sinner come to Mary on earth to be saved?"

"No."

"Do you remember that any sinner has gone to Jesus to be saved?"

"Yes, many."

"Have they been rebuked?"

"Never."

Do you remember that Jesus ever said to sinners, "Come to Mary and she will save you?"

"No," he said.

"Do you remember that Jesus has said to poor sinners, "Come to me?"

"Yes, He has said it."

"Has He ever retracted those words?"

"No."

"And who was, then, the more powerful to save sinners?" I asked.

"O, it was Jesus!"

"Now, my lord, since Jesus and Mary are in heaven, can you show me in the Scriptures that Jesus has lost anything of His desire and power to save sinners, or that He has delegated this power to Mary?"

And the bishop answered, "No."

"Then, my lord," I asked, "why do we not go to Him, and to Him alone? Why do we invite poor sinners to come to Mary, when, by your own confession she is

nothing compared with Jesus, in power, in mercy, in love, and in compassion for the sinner?"

To that the bishop could give no answer ([Fifty Years in the Church of Rome](#), p. 262).

Even to this day the province of Quebec is almost solidly Roman Catholic. Throughout the province one can scarcely hear the Gospel in any church, or on any local radio broadcast, or obtain anything but Roman Catholic literature. Quebec is full of idols. The late pope Pius XII declared that the province of Quebec was the world's most Catholic country. But everywhere Mary, and not Christ, is represented as the only hope of the four million French-Canadians. And, let it be noticed further, the province of Quebec has the most illiteracy, the poorest schools, and the lowest standard of living of any province in Canada.

It is very difficult to convince Roman Catholic people that Christ has won for them the right to go directly to God in prayer. They read the Bible but very little. Instead they fall back on what their priests have taught them, that to obtain mercy and forgiveness they must cajole some saint, some close and favored friend of God, to intercede for them. And the most powerful intercessor of all, of course, is Mary, since she is the mother of Christ. But the absurd thing about saint worship is that neither Mary nor any of the others ever promised, when they were living, that they would pray for their devotees after reaching heaven.

According to New Testament usage, all true Christians are saints. Paul's letters to the Ephesians was addressed, "to the saints that are at Ephesus" (1:1); his letter to the Philippians, "to all the saints that are at Philippi" (1:1). See also Romans 1:7, 16:15; 1 Corinthians 1:2; 2 Corinthians 1:1. It has well been said, If you want a "saint" to pray for you, find a true Christian and make the request of him. His prayer will be more effective than any request that can be made through departed saints. We have no need for the intercession of Mary, or departed saints, or angels, for we ourselves have direct access to God through Christ. Furthermore, not only do we have no single instance in the Bible of a living saint worshipping a departed saint, but all attempts on the part of the living to make any kind of contact with the dead are severely condemned (Deuteronomy 18:9-12, Exodus 22:18, Leviticus 20:6, Isaiah 8:19-20).

The Scriptures directly repudiate all saint worship. We have specific examples of Peter, and Paul, and even of an angel rejecting such worship. When Peter went to the house of Cornelius in response to the vision that he had while at prayer on the housetop, we read that "Cornelius met him, and fell down at his feet, and worshipped him. But Peter raised him up, saying, Stand up; I myself also am a man" (Acts 10:25-26). Although Peter was one of the twelve, and had been personally associated with Jesus, he knew that he had no right to such worship for he was only a man. At Lystra, after Paul had healed a lame man, the multitude attempted to worship him and Barnabas. We read: "But when the apostles, Barnabas and Paul, heard of it, they rent their garments, and sprang forth among the multitude, crying out and saying, Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men of like passions with you and bring

you good tidings, that ye should turn from these vain things unto a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and all that in them is" (Acts 14:14-15). And the apostle John writes concerning his experience on the island of Patmos: "And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel that showed me these things. And he saith unto me, See thou do it not: I am a fellow-servant with thee and with thy brethren the prophets, and with them that keep the words of this book: worship God" (Revelation 22:8-9). But how different is the attitude of popes, bishops, and priests who expect people to kneel before them and to kiss their hands or rings! The pope allows or expects that under some conditions they shall even kiss his feet! But what nonsense that is, both on the part of the pope and on the part of those who submit themselves to such a servile practice!

## **6 In Romanism Mary Usurps the Place of Christ**

A striking phenomenon in Roman Catholicism is the effective way in which they have caused Mary to usurp the place of Christ as the primary mediator between God and men. Christ is usually represented as a helpless babe in a manger or in His mother's arms, or as a dead Christ upon a cross. The babe in a manger or in His mother's arms gives little promise of being able to help anyone. And the dead Christ upon a cross, with a horribly ugly and tortured face, is the very incarnation of misery and helplessness, wholly irrelevant to the needs and problems of the people. Such a Christ might inspire feelings of pity and compassion but not of confidence and hope. He is a defeated, not a victorious, Christ. The Roman Church cannot get its people to love a dead Christ, no matter how many masses are said before Him or how many images are dedicated to Him. There can be no real love for Christ unless the worshipper sees Him as his living Savior, who died for him, but who arose, and who now lives gloriously and triumphantly—as indeed He is presented in Protestantism. In the Roman Church the people prefer a living Mary to a dead Christ. And the result is that the center of worship has shifted from Christ to Mary.

Despite all protestations to the contrary, the fact is that the worship, intercessions, and devotions that are given to Mary obscure the glory of Christ and cause the church to set forth a system of salvation in which human merit plays a decisive part. While asserting the deity of Christ, Rome nevertheless makes Him subservient to the Virgin, and dispenses salvation at a price through the agency of the priest. This most blessed of women, the mother of Jesus, is thus made His chief rival and competitor for the loyalty and devotion of the human heart. In Romanism Mary becomes the executive director of deity, the one through whom the prayers of the people are made effective.

Mary has nothing whatever to do with our salvation. All who think she does are simply deceived. And yet in Romanism probably ten times as much prayer is directed to her as to Christ. The most popular prayer ritual of Roman Catholics, the rosary, has ten prayers to Mary for each one directed to God. The prayer book contains more prayers which are to be offered to Mary and the saints than to Christ. Mary is unquestionably the chief object of prayer.

## 7 Mary Represented as More Sympathetic than Jesus

The spiritual climate of the Middle Ages was favorable for the development of the Mary-cult. Particularly in that age Christ was represented as a Man of stern wrath, a strict judge, avenging evil with an inexorable justice, while Mary was clothed with the virtues of lovingkindness and mercy. Where Christ would demand justice, Mary would extend mercy. The simple believer, who had been told that God was an angry judge always ready to send the sinner to hell, wanted to flee to the protection of the tender-hearted and loving Mary. Even monks who lived ascetic lives and shunned or even hated women as instruments of their temptation and downfall sought the protection of Mary.

In *The Glories of Mary*, Liguori pictures Christ as a stern, cruel Judge, while Mary is pictured as a kind and lovable intercessor. Among other things Liguori says: "If God is angry with a sinner, and Mary takes him under her protection, she withholds the avenging arm of her Son, and saves him" (p. 124); "O Immaculate Virgin, prevent thy beloved Son, who is irritated by our sins, from abandoning us to the power of the devil" (p. 248); and again: "We often obtain more promptly what we ask by calling on the name of Mary, than by invoking that of Jesus" (p. 248).

In another instance Liguori teaches that Mary is the Savior of sinners, and that outside her there is no salvation. He describes an imaginary scene in which a man burdened with sin sees two ladders hanging from heaven, with Christ at the head of one and Mary at the other. He attempts to climb the ladder at which Christ is the head, but when he sees the angry face he falls back defeated. As he turns away despondent, a voice says to him, "Try the other ladder." He does so, and to his amazement he ascends easily and is met at the top by the blessed virgin Mary, who then brings him into heaven and presents him to Christ! The teaching is, "What son would refuse the request of his mother?"

The same reasoning is found among Roman Catholics today. Christ still is looked upon as a stern judge. But Mary, being a mother, is looked upon as having a mother's heart and therefore as more capable of understanding the problems of her children. She can go to her Son with her requests and petitions, and He can never refuse to grant any favor that she asks. She is represented as everywhere present. Romanists are taught to appeal to her with confidence to allay the fierce judgment of Christ, and to turn His serious frown into a friendly smile—all of this in spite of the fact that no prayer by Mary for a sinner can be found anywhere in the New Testament.

But what a travesty it is on Scripture truth to teach that Christ demands justice, but that Mary will extend mercy! How dishonoring it is to Christ to teach that He is lacking in pity and compassion for His people, that He must be persuaded to that end by His mother! When He was on earth it was never necessary for anyone to persuade Him to be compassionate. Rather, when He saw the blind and the lame, the afflicted and hungry, He was "moved with compassion" for them and lifted them out of their distress. He had immediate mercy on the wicked but penitent thief on the cross, and there was no need for intercession by Mary although she was there present. His love for us is as great as when He was on earth; His heart is as tender; and we need no

other intermediary, neither His mother after the flesh, nor any saint or angel, to entreat Him on our behalf.

## **8 One Mediator**

The Bible teaches that there is but one mediator between God and men. It says: "For there is one God, one mediator also between God and men himself man, Christ Jesus" (1 Timothy 2:5). When this verse is understood the whole system of the Roman Church falls to the ground, for it invalidates the papacy, the priesthood, and all Mary worship. Other verses which teach the same truth are:

"I am the way, and the truth, and the life: no one cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6).

"And in none other is there salvation: for neither is there any other name under heaven, that is given among men, wherein we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

"He is the mediator of a new covenant" (Hebrews 9:15).

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

"Christ Jesus... who is at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us." Christ, not Mary, the Scripture says, is at the right hand of God making intercession for us (Romans 8:34).

"Wherefore also he is able to save to the uttermost them that draw near unto God through him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them" (Hebrews 7:25).

Thus Christ, because He is both God and man, is the only Saviour, the only Mediator, the only way to God. Not one word is said about Mary, or a pope, or the priests, or the saints, as mediators. Yet Romanism teaches that there are many mediators, and the great majority of Roman Catholics, if asked, would say that our primary approach to God is through the Virgin Mary, and that only as she begs for us can we enter the presence of God.

The priests detract from the glory of Christ when they teach that Mary is a mediator. Humanly speaking, that must grieve her who would want all honor to go to Christ. The priests have no right to place her in such an unscriptural position. Mary is presented in Scripture as a handmaiden of the Lord who fulfilled her office in the church according to promise, just as did John the Baptist and others, but whose work has long since ceased. The great antithesis is not between Eve and Mary, as Rome sets it forth, but between Adam and Christ (Romans 5:12-21; 1 Corinthians 15:21-22,45,47). Roman tradition has so altered the picture of Mary that the Mary found in the New Testament and the Mary found in the Roman Catholic Church are two different and conflicting persons. Any fair-minded Roman Catholic knows that his church gives first place to Mary and that Christ is kept in the background.

The reason that Mary, the saints, or angels cannot act as our priest or mediator is because they have no sacrifice, nothing to offer in behalf of our



sins. Only a priest with a true sacrifice can serve as mediator between God and men. Christ alone has a true sacrifice, and He alone can act as our priest. In this connection Calvin says:

“I deem it indisputable that the papal priesthood is spurious; for it has been formed in the workshop of men. God nowhere commands a sacrifice to be offered now to Him for the expiation of sins; nowhere does He command that priests be appointed for such a purpose. While then the pope ordains his priests for the purpose of sacrificing, the Apostle [Paul] denies that they are to be accounted lawful priests.”

(Continued in [Chapter VII Mary Part 2.](#))

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