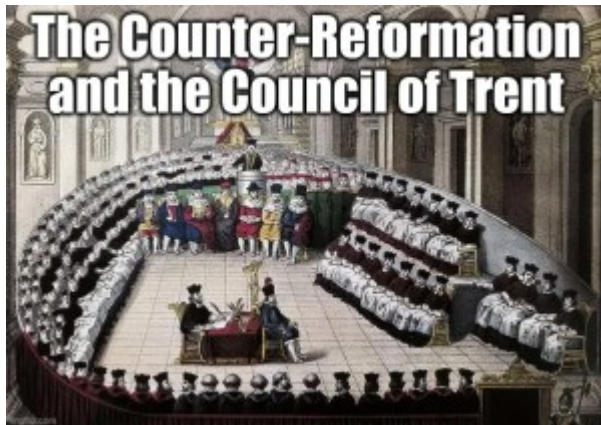


The History of the Counter-Reformation in a Nutshell



True Protestantism is Bible based Christianity. The Jesuit Counter-Reformation is the effort to eliminate Protestantism and Bible based doctrines entirely.

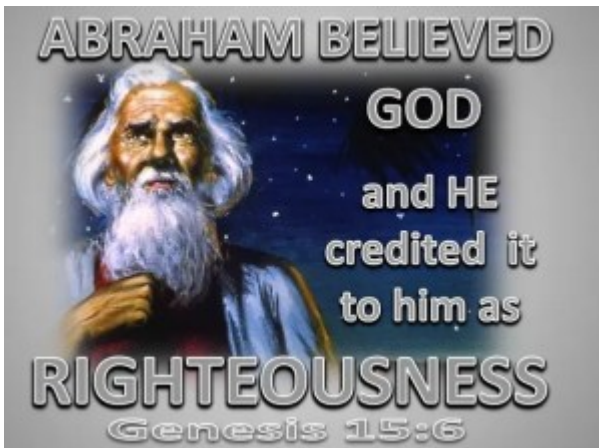
The Excellency of Christ Part I By Jonathan Edwards



In the person of Christ do meet together infinite glory and lowest humility. Infinite glory, and the virtue of humility, meet in no other person but Christ.

What is "The Covenant" of the Book of

Daniel?



The Covenant of the Book of Daniel is referring to the Covenant God made with Abraham. Jesus confirmed it by preaching the Gospel of grace to the Jews.

The Falling Away From Truth



Pope Francis engaging in idol worship.

This article is about the history of errors by the Church of Rome, written by George Burnside. I didn't agree with one of his points and omitted it, the one about "Sunday worship." The Bible tells me that the disciples met on the first day of the week – Sunday. The Sabbath was the *last* day of the week.

*Acts 20:7 And upon the **first day of the week**, when the disciples came together to break bread, ...*

There may be other points in this article you find questionable. If so, please tell me about it in the comments section.

Errors continue to this day. I just read on Facebook of a man speaking as if he were God saying, "I will not cast unbelievers into hell." He doesn't read his Bible. My Bible says,

*John 3:36 He that **believeth on the Son** hath everlasting life: and he that **believeth not** the Son shall not see life; but **the wrath of God abideth on him**.*

200 AD

Immersion of infants who are dying, but considered sinless. (Tertullian V.12)

250 AD

North Africa region is first to practice infant baptism and reduced the age of baptism from minors to all newborns. This is opposed by other regions.

257 AD

Baptism by sprinkling for adults instead of immersion first used as an exception for those on sick beds, but it caused great dispute.

300 AD

Prayers for the dead.

320 AD

Special dress code of the clergy in worship.

325 AD

At the general council of Nice, 325, it was proposed indeed, probably by the Western bishop Hosius, to forbid entirely the marriage of priests; but the motion met with strong opposition, and was rejected.

325 AD

The date for Easter was set.

379 AD

Praying to Mary & Saints. (prayers of Ephraim Syrus)

385 AD

In the West, the first prohibition of clerical marriage, which laid claim to universal ecclesiastical authority, proceeded in 385 from the Roman church in the form of a decretal letter of the bishop Siricius to Himerius, bishop of Tarragona in Spain.

389 AD

Mariolatry begins with Gregory Nazianzen, who mentions in a eulogy, how Justina had besought the virgin Mary to protect her virginity.

400 AD

Impossibility of apostasy or once saved always saved, (Augustine XII.9).

416 AD

Infant baptism by immersion commanded of all infants (Council Of Mela, Austin was the principal director).

430 AD

Exhalation of Virgin Mary: "Mother of God" first applied by the Council of

Ephesus.

502 AD

Special dress code of the Clergy all the time.

500 AD

The "Habit" of Nuns (Black gowns with white tunics).

519 AD

Lent.

526 AD

Extreme Unction.

593 AD

The Doctrine of Purgatory popularized from the Apocrypha by Gregory the Great.

600 AD

First use of Latin in worship (Gregory I) Beginning of the Orthodox/Roman Catholic church as we know it today in its present organization.

607 AD

First Pope: Boniface III is the first person to take the title of "universal Bishop" by decree of Emperor Phocas.

608 AD

Pope Boniface IV. turns the Pantheon in Rome into a temple of Mary and martyrs: the pagan Olympus into a Christian heaven of gods.

709 AD

Kissing of Pope Constantine's feet.

753 AD

Baptism by sprinkling for those on sick beds officially accepted.

787 AD

Worship of icons and statue approved (2nd council of Nicea).

787 AD

Rome (Latin) and Constantinople (Greek) part ways and begin the drift towards complete split, resulting in two denominations emerging in 1054 AD

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965 AD

Baptism of bells instituted by Pope John XIII.

850 AD

Burning of Holy Candles.

995 AD

Canonization of dead saints, first by Pope John XV.

998 AD

Good Friday: fish only and the eating-red meat forbidden.

1009 AD

Holy water.

1022 AD

Penance.

1054 AD

Roman Catholic church breaks away from the Orthodox church.

1054 AD

Roman Catholics officially embrace instrumental music, Orthodox reject instrumental music down to the present time.

1079 AD

Celibacy enforced for priests, bishops, presbyters (Pope Gregory VII).

1090 AD

Rosary beads: invented by Peter the Hermit.

1190 AD

Sale of Indulgences or "tickets to sin" (punishment of sin removed).

1215 AD

Transubstantiation by Pope Innocent III, Fourth Lateran Council.

1215 AD

Auricular Confession of sins to priests instituted by Pope Innocent III, (Lateran Council).

1215 AD

Mass a Sacrifice of Christ.

1217 AD

Adoration and Elevation of Host: ie. communion bread (Pope Honrius III).

1230 AD

Ringling bells at Mass.

1251 AD

The Scapular, the brown cloak worn by monks invented by Simon Stock.

1268 AD

Priestly power of absolution.

1311 AD

Baptism by sprinkling accepted as the universal standard instead of immersion for all, not just the sick. (Council of Ravenna)

1414 AD

Laity no longer offered Lord's cup at communion. (Council of Constance)

1439 AD

Purgatory a dogma by the Council of Florence. (see 593 AD)

1439 AD

Doctrine of Seven Sacraments affirmed.

1480 AD

The Inquisition. (of Spain)

1495 AD

Papal control of marriage rights.

1534 AD

Order of Jesuits founded by Loyola.

1545 AD

Man-made tradition of church made equal to Bible. (Council of Trent)

1545 AD

Apocryphal books added to Bible. (Council of Trent)

1546 AD

Justification by human works of merit.

1546 AD

Mass universally said in Latin. (see 600 AD)

1547 AD

Confirmation.

1560 AD

Personal opinions of Pope Pius IV imposed as the official creed.

1864 AD

Syllabus Errorum [Syllabus of Errors] proclaimed that "Catholic countries" could not tolerate other religions, (no freedom of religion), conscience, separation of church and State condemned, asserted the Pope's temporal authority over all civil rulers (Ratified by Pope Pius IX and Vatican Council) condemned.

1870 AD

Infallibility of Pope. (Vatican council)

1908 AD

All Catholics should be christened into the church.

1930 AD

Public Schools condemned by Pope Pius XII. (see 1864 AD)

1950 AD

Sinners prayer, invented by Billy Sunday and made popular by Billy Graham. (Some Catholics now use this.)

1950 AD

Assumption of the body of the Virgin Mary into heaven shortly after her death. (Pope Pius XII)

1954 AD

Immaculate conception of Mary proclaimed by Pope Pius XII.

1995 AD

The use of girls in the traditional altar boy duties.

1996 AD

Catholics can believe in Evolution. (Pope John Paul II)

Can Roman Catholics Accept The Bible?

- 1. Why does it condemn clerical dress? (Matthew 23:5-6).
- 2. Why does it teach against the adoration of Mary? (Luke 11:27-28).
- 3. Why does it show that all Christians are priests? (1 Pet. 2:5,9).
- 4. Why does it condemn the observance of special days? (Galatians 4:9-11).
- 5. Why does it teach that all Christians are saints? (1 Corinthians 1:2).
- 6. Why does it condemn the making and adoration of images? (Exodus 20:4-5).
- 7. Why does it teach that baptism is immersion instead of pouring? (Colossians 2:12).
- 8. Why does it forbid us to address religious leaders as "father"? (Matthew 23:9).
- 9. Why does it teach that Christ is the only foundation and not the apostle Peter? (1 Corinthians 3:11).
- 10. Why does it teach that there is one mediator instead of many? (1 Timothy 2:5).
- 11. Why does it teach that a bishop must be a married man? (1 Timothy 3:2, 4-5).
- 12. Why is it opposed to the primacy of Peter? (Luke 22:24-27).
- 13. Why does it oppose the idea of purgatory? (Luke 16:26).
- 14. Why is it completely silent about infant baptism, indulgences, confession to priests, the rosary, the mass, and many other things in the Catholic Church?

Reasons Why The Apocrypha Is Not Inspired:

1. The Roman Catholic Church did not officially canonize the Apocrypha until the Council of Trent (1546 AD). This was in part because the Apocrypha contained material which supported certain Catholic doctrines, such as purgatory, praying for the dead, and the treasury of merit.
2. Not one of them is in the Hebrew language, which was alone used by the inspired historians and poets of the Old Testament.
3. Not one of the writers lays any claim to inspiration.
4. These books were never acknowledged as sacred Scriptures by the Jewish Church, and therefore were never sanctioned by our Lord.

5. They were not allowed a place among the sacred books, during the first four centuries of the Christian Church.

6. They contain fabulous statements, and statements which contradict not only the canonical Scriptures, but themselves; as when, in the two Books of Maccabees, Antiochus Epiphanes is made to die three different deaths in as many different places.

7. The Apocrypha inculcates doctrines at variance with the Bible, such as prayers for the dead and sinless perfection.

And the day following Judas came with his company, to take away the bodies of them that were slain, and to bury them with their kinsmen, in the sepulchers of their fathers. And they found under the coats of the slain some of the donaries of the idols of Jamnia, which the law forbiddeth to the Jews: so that all plainly saw, that for this cause they were slain. Then they all blessed the just judgment of the Lord, who had discovered the things that were hidden. And so betaking themselves to prayers, they besought him, that the sin which had been committed might be forgotten. But the most valiant Judas exhorted the people to keep themselves from sin, forasmuch as they saw before their eyes what had happened, because of the sins of those that were slain. And making a gathering, he sent twelve thousand drachmas of silver to Jerusalem for sacrifice to be offered for the sins of the dead, thinking well and religiously concerning the resurrection, (For if he had not hoped that they that were slain should rise again, it would have seemed superfluous and vain to pray for the dead,) And because he considered that they who had fallen asleep with godliness, had great grace laid up for them. It is therefore a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sins. (2 Maccabees 12:39-46)

8. The apocrypha contains offensive materials unbecoming of God's authorship.

Ecclesiasticus 25:19 Any iniquity is insignificant compared to a wife's iniquity.

Ecclesiasticus 25:24 From a woman sin had its beginning. Because of her we all die.

Ecclesiasticus 22:3 It is a disgrace to be the father of an undisciplined, and the birth of a daughter is a loss.

9. It teaches immoral practices, such as lying, suicide, assassination and magical incantation.

10. The apocryphal books themselves make reference to what we call the Silent 400 years, where there was no prophets of God to write inspired materials.

And they laid up the stones in the mountain of the temple in a convenient place, till there should come a prophet, and give answer concerning them. (1 Maccabees 4:46)

And there was a great tribulation in Israel, such as was not since the day, that there was no prophet seen in Israel. (1 Maccabees 9:27)

And that the Jews, and their priests, had consented that he should be their

prince, and high priest for ever, till there should arise a faithful prophet. (1 Maccabees 14:41)

Josephus rejected the apocryphal books as inspired and this reflected Jewish thought at the time of Jesus.

"From Artaxerxes to our own time the complete history has been written but has not been deemed worthy of equal credit with the earlier records because of the failure of the exact succession of the prophets." ... "We have not an innumerable multitude of books among us, disagreeing from and contradicting one another, but only twenty-two books, which contain the records of all the past times; which are justly believed to be divine..." (Flavius Josephus, Against Apion 1:8)

12. The Manual of Discipline in the Dead Sea Scrolls rejected the apocrypha as inspired.

13. The Council of Jamnia held the same view rejected the apocrypha as inspired.

They debated the canonicity of a few books (e.g., Ecclesiastes), but they changed nothing and never proclaimed themselves to be authoritative determiners of the Old Testament canon. "The books which they decided to acknowledge as canonical were already generally accepted, although questions had been raised about them. Those which they refused to admit had never been included. They did not expel from the canon any book which had previously been admitted. 'The Council of Jamnia was the confirming of public opinion, not the forming of it.'" (F. F. Bruce, The Books and Parchments [Old Tappan, NJ.: Fleming H. Revell, 1963], p. 98)]

14. Although it was occasionally quoted in early church writings, it was nowhere accepted in a canon. Melito (AD 170) and Origen rejected the Apocrypha, (Eccl. Hist. VI. 25, Eusebius) as does the Muratorian Canon.

15. Jerome vigorously resisted including the Apocrypha in his Latin Vulgate Version (400 AD), but was overruled. As a result, the standard Roman Catholic Bible throughout the medieval period contained it. Thus, it gradually came to be revered by the average clergyman. Still, many medieval Catholic scholars realized that it was not inspired.

16. The terms "protocanonical" and "deuterocanonical" are used by Catholics to signify respectively those books of Scripture that were received by the entire Church from the beginning as inspired, and those whose inspiration came to be recognized later, after the matter had been disputed by certain Fathers and local churches.

17. Pope Damasus (366-384) authorized Jerome to translate the Latin Vulgate. The Council of Carthage declared this translation as "the infallible and authentic Bible." Jerome was the first to describe the extra 7 Old Testament books as the "Apocrypha" (doubtful authenticity). Needless to say, Jerome's Latin Vulgate did not include the Apocrypha.

18. Cyril (born about A.D. 315) – "Read the divine Scriptures – namely, the

22 books of the Old Testament which the 72 interpreters translated" (the Septuagint)

19. The apocrypha wasn't included at first in the Septuagint, but was appended by the Alexandrian Jews, and was not listed in any of the catalogues of the inspired books till the 4th century.

20. Hilary (bishop of Poitiers, 350 A.D.) rejected the apocrypha (Prologue to the Psalms, Sec. 15)

21. Epiphanius (the great opposer of heresy, 360 A.D.) rejected them all. Referring to Wisdom of Solomon & book of Jesus Sirach, he said "These indeed are useful books & profitable, but they are not placed in the number of the canonical."

Was Peter The First Pope?



The Catholic church falsely claims that Peter was the first bishop of the church in Rome, and all power was handed down to the bishops or popes of that city.

The Rapture Theory



We should read the prophecy in 1 Thess 4 as it continues into chapter 5 as the Second Coming of Christ and events that all happen all on the same day!

Forefathers of the Faith Exposed the REAL Antichrist



God's people of the past correctly identified the Antichrist. Most of God's people today don't have a clue and are only speculating who it could be.

God's Promise to Abraham in Genesis 12:3 is Misinterpreted by Zionists to Promote Genocide



The misunderstanding of God's promise to Abraham in Genesis 12:3 has led to the murder of innocent Palestinians in Gaza.

Why Do Jews Not Believe Jesus As

Messiah?



A man asks, Why Do Jews Not Believe Jesus As Messiah? I need an answer from the Jews themselves.

Who is the Prince of the Covenant of Daniel 11:22 ?



One of the problems of interpretation of Bible prophecy is not knowing it was fulfilled in the past and therefore thinking it is a future event. This is why the “prince of the covenant” of Daniel chapter 11 is popularly interpreted to be the Antichrist of the future who makes some kind of peace deal with the nation of Israel. This kind of interpretation is called “eisegesis” meaning reading into the text what it is not actually saying. Eisegesis is the process of interpreting the text in such a way as to introduce one’s own presuppositions, agendas or biases. It is commonly referred to as reading into the text. That’s a no-no!

Let’s read Daniel 11:22 in context with verses before and after.

Daniel 11:21 And in his estate shall stand up **a vile person**, to whom they shall not give the honour of the kingdom: but he shall come in peaceably, and obtain the kingdom by flatteries.

22 And with the arms of a flood shall they be overflown from before him, and shall be broken; yea, also **the prince of the covenant**.

23 And after the league made with him he shall work deceitfully: for he shall come up, and shall become strong with a small people.

It's my observation that contemporary Bible prophecy teachers confuse the prophecy of Daniel 9:27 with the prophecies of Daniel 11. They are entirely different! Daniel 9:27 was fulfilled in the ministry of Jesus Christ and His Apostles during a seven-year period from 27 AD which was the year Jesus started His ministry of preaching the Gospel to the restored house of Israel which confirmed the Covenant God made with Abraham, the Covenant of grace through belief in God's Word. The Bible says so no less than 3 times!

Romans 4:3 For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

Galatians 3:6 Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.

James 2:23 And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.

And the Apostle Paul unequivocally says the Covenant of Daniel 9:27 was confirmed in Christ!

Galatians 3:17 And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ,...

I won't discuss Daniel 9:27 further in this article because I have covered it in detail a [multitude of times on this website](#). What I want to talk about now is the problem of combining prophecies that are not related to each other.

Commentary of Daniel chapter 11:21-22 from Adam Clarke (1762 – 26 August 1832), a British Methodist theologian.

Daniel 11:21 And in his estate shall stand up **a vile person**, to whom they shall not give the honour of the kingdom: but he shall come in peaceably, and obtain the kingdom by flatteries.

In his estate shall stand up a vile person – This was Antiochus, surnamed Epiphanes – the Illustrious. They did not give him the honour of the kingdom: he was at Athens, on his way from Rome, when his father died; and Heliodorus had declared himself king, as had several others. But Antiochus came in peaceably, for he obtained the kingdom by flatteries. He flattered Eumenes, king of Pergamus, and Attalus his brother, and got their assistance. He flattered the Romans, and sent ambassadors to court their favour, and pay them the arrears of the tribute. He flattered the Syrians, and gained their concurrence; and as he flattered the Syrians, so they flattered him, giving him the epithet of Epiphanes – the Illustrious. But that he was what the prophet here calls him, a vile person, is fully evident from what Polybius says of him, from Athenaeus, lib. v.: "He was every man's companion: he

resorted to the common shops, and prattled with the workmen: he frequented the common taverns, and ate and drank with the meanest fellows, singing debauched songs," &c., &c. On this account, a contemporary writer, and others after him, instead of Epiphanes, called him Epimanes – the Madman.

"Antiochus IV Epiphanes (c. 215 BC – November/December 164 BC) was a Greek Hellenistic king who ruled the Seleucid Empire from 175 BC until his death in 164 BC. He was a son of King Antiochus III the Great. Originally named Mithradates (alternative form Mithridates), he assumed the name Antiochus after he ascended the throne. Notable events during Antiochus's reign include his near-conquest of Ptolemaic Egypt, his persecution of the Jews of Judea and Samaria, and the rebellion of the Jewish Maccabees." – Source: Wikipedia

Daniel 11:22 And with the arms of a flood shall they be overflown from before him, and shall be broken; yea, also **the prince of the covenant**.

And with the arms of a flood – The arms which were overflown before him were his competitors for the crown. They were vanquished by the forces of Eumenes and Attalus; and were dissipated by the arrival of Antiochus from Athens, whose presence disconcerted all their measures.

The prince of the covenant – This was Onias, the high priest, whom he removed, and put Jason in his place, who had given him a great sum of money; and then put wicked Menelaus in his room, who had offered him a larger sum. Thus he acted deceitfully in the league made with Jason.

Commentary from Albert Barnes (December 1, 1798 – December 24, 1870), who was an American theologian.

Yea, also the prince of the covenant – He also shall be broken and overcome. There has been some diversity of opinion as to who is meant by "the prince of the covenant" here. Many suppose that it is the high priest of the Jews, as being the chief prince or ruler under the "covenant" which God made with them, or among the "covenant" people. But this appellation is not elsewhere given to the Jewish high priest, nor is it such as could with much propriety be applied to him. The reference is rather to the king of Egypt, with whom a covenant or compact had been made by Antiochus the Great, and who was supposed to be united, therefore, to the Syrians by a solemn treaty. See Lengerke, in loc. So Elliott, "Rev." iv. 133.

Commentary from contemporary Bible teacher.

There's a prince that's coming. He's going to make a covenant and to me, it just tells you two things. We're talking about the rise of the Antichrist and the timing. We finally began the Tribulation, notice verse 23 and after the league made with him. That's the Covenant. So he makes a Covenant but he's a liar he's a vile person and after the league made with him, he shall work deceitfully.

As you can see, this Bible teacher is giving us a futuristic interpretation.

He's calling the Prince of the Covenant the Antichrist. This is exactly what I was taught in the 1970s by a Bible prophecy teacher. And this teacher is also mixing together the prophecies of Daniel 9 with Daniel 11.

Some say a prophecy can have multiple fulfillments but I see no precedent for that in the Scriptures. Daniel 9:27 was fulfilled 2000 years ago and can never be repeated.

Albert Barnes and Adam Clarke come much closer to the truth in their historical interpretation of the Prince of the Covenant than do popular end-time Bible prophecy teachers of today.

If you were looking for an article on Christmas day about the birth of Christ, I have nothing better to tell you than to read the Gospel of Luke chapters one and two and also Isaiah chapter 53. That's what me and my wife did for our morning devotions.

Seven Things You May Not Know about Christmas



There is debate among some Christians about whether we should celebrate Christmas or not. I think we can if we scrape the lies off the Truth and celebrate it as it should be celebrated, as the birth of the Saviour, the Messiah, Jesus Christ, on earth.

Isaac Munter, pastor of a church in Bethel, said there will be no festive Christmas celebrations this year in his church because of the destruction and death in Gaza. But I think we can still praise the Father for sending His Son to earth to be our savior!

Angels of God notified shepherds of the birth of Christ and celebrated the fact.

Luke 2:11-14 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. 12 And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. 13 And

suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, 14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

My wife and I are against the trappings of this world related to the Christmas season. We will never put up a tree or use any other symbols we consider to be Roman paganism.

When I lived in Japan, I took advantage of Christian holidays, Christmas and Easter (I'd rather call it Resurrection Sunday), to tell the Japanese about Jesus. It's a great time to share the Gospel in non-Christian nations. Many Japanese have never heard the Gospel even once. One Japanese lady used to think Jesus was born in America!

Some things many people may not know:

1. December 25th is supposed to be a Christian holiday celebrating the birth of the Messiah, Jesus Christ. But the date chosen was in fact based on *pagan tradition*, a Roman custom called "*Sol Invictus*" meaning, **rebirth of the sun!** In other words, the December 25th holiday is really based on **sun worship**. Just think about it: Winter solstice, the shortest day of the year, occurs either on December 21st or 22nd depending on the shift of the calendar. The day starts to get longer finally from the 25th, hence, the "rebirth of the sun." The Bible does *not* specify the date that Jesus was born. He probably was not born in the winter because Luke chapter 2 says that at the time of His birth were, "shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night". Shepherds usually don't graze their flocks in winter.
2. People who call themselves Christians do not all celebrate December 25th as the birthday of Christ. The Orthodox Church celebrates it on January 7th.
3. Some dedicated and sincere Christians refuse to celebrate Christmas **at all** because of the materialism the worldly merchants promote at this time.
4. December 25th is the **359th** day of the year. The first time the word Satan appears in the King James version of the Bible is in 1 Chronicles chapter 21 – the **359th chapter!** I have researcher, Al Neal to thank for this fact. But I also confirmed this for myself by adding up the chapters using OpenOffice Calc (the same as Excel). According to Al Neal, the numerical value of the Hebrew word for Satan is **also 359!** See <http://www.jewfaq.org/alephbet.htm> that Hebrew letters can be converted to numbers.
5. Santa is **Satan** when you move the third letter N to the end of the name.
6. Christmas trees, mistletoe, jingle bells, etc. are related to paganism. The trees especially are related to pagan Druidism. The evergreen tree is based on sun worship. The sun's energy turns plants green. Druids therefore worshiped the sun through the evergreen tree.
7. Many Japanese do **not know** that Christmas is supposed to be the celebration of the birth of the Son of God to earth. They celebrate Christmas by eating some cake with tea on the evening of December 25th. The only reason they acknowledge Christmas at all is because of Western, and especially American influence.

The Benefits of Persecution For Obedience to the Word of God



Seven reasons why persecution is not bad but good for the Body of Christ, the Church.

The Most Misunderstood Parts of the Olivet Discourse Explained!



The Olivet Discourse in Matthew is so misunderstood because it transitions from the fall of Jerusalem up to verse 34 to the end of the world from verse 35!

The Popular but False Doctrine of the Rapture



I believe this picture may depict an accurate description of 1 Thessalonians 4. But will it happen before a great tribulation? That's the subject of this article.

This post is about comparing popular doctrines about what Christians and evangelicals call "the rapture" to what the Bible actually says. The rapture is also called, "The blessed hope." What do teachers of the rapture mean by that? They mean that Jesus is going to take to Heaven His followers just before the Antichrist starts to persecute them in the Great Tribulation at the end of time! But does the Bible actually teach that?

My Bible says,

Revelation 7:14 And he said to me, These are they which came **out of** great tribulation,

2 Timothy 3:12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus **shall suffer persecution.**

The Bible is its own best commentator. It's a mistake to read things into Scripture based on our cognitive bias or based only on what some preacher says the Bible passage says. That's the mistake I made for 30 plus years. I trusted what my pastor taught me only to find later he himself admitted his interpretation of Endtime Scripture was only a theory which he got from C.I. Scofield!

What is the Rapture?

The word "rapture" is not found in the Bible. It apparently was coined by John Nelson Darby in the 19th century. The Bible calls the second coming of Christ, "the day of the Lord."

1 Thessalonians 5:2 For yourselves know perfectly that **the day of the Lord** so cometh as a thief in the night.

2 Peter 3:10 But **the day of the Lord** will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

Wikipedia says,

The rapture is an eschatological concept held by some Christians, particularly within branches of American evangelicalism, consisting of an end-time event when all Christian believers who are alive, along with resurrected believers, will rise “in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air.”

The Bible does talk about Jesus coming for His own at the end of time.

15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. – 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17.

But when does this happen? The most popular doctrine among American evangelical Christians is that it will happen just before a 7 year tribulation period. Where do they get this idea? From John Nelson Darby of the 19th century. He taught that Christ would return before a final great 7-year tribulation to save His elect from persecution by the Antichrist. C.I. Scofield picked up Darby's teaching and put in in the footnotes of the Scofield Reference Bible.

My Bible tells me just the opposite!

Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together **first the tares**, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

Matthew 13:30

When does this happen? On “the day of the Lord”! The day of the second coming of Christ! The Bible says the rejectors of Christ will be taken away *first*! And after that resurrection will happen and the believers in Christ will be taken up to be with the Lord in the clouds!

On what Scriptures do John Nelson Darby and C.I. Scofield base their pretribulation rapture doctrine on? If *you* believe in a pretribulation rapture of the Church, that is also my question to you. You can write the Bible verses you believe teach a pretribulation rapture in the comments section. When you do that, please remember that the cardinal rule of Bible interpretation is always to interpret the verse in the context of the other

verses before and after it.

Even if you believe the latter part of Matthew 24 is talking about end-time events, verses 29 to 31 make it clear Christians will go through a period of tribulation.

29 **Immediately after the tribulation of those days** shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:

30 And **then** shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and **then** shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

31 And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

For more about the Olivet Discourse of Matthew chapter 24, please see [Futurist Interpretation of Matthew 24 Exposed as Folly by John Gill](#)

Just imagine visiting a country where believers in Christ are undergoing severe persecution and telling them, "Don't worry! Jesus will come soon and save you from the Great Tribulation!" You might hear the following, "What can be greater tribulation than seeing my friends, members of my family, and fellow believers in Christ killed right before my eyes?"

If you cannot use the Bible to explain your doctrines, you either don't know those doctrines well enough, or you picked them up from some preacher you like and never took the time to search the Scriptures for yourself to see if the doctrines are biblically sound.

Further reading on this subject:

<https://www.ucg.org/world-news-and-prophecy/the-rapture-a-popular-but-false-doctrine>

[**Some White Nationalists' / neo-Nazis' belief: Jesus was White and Shem the Father of the white race**](#)



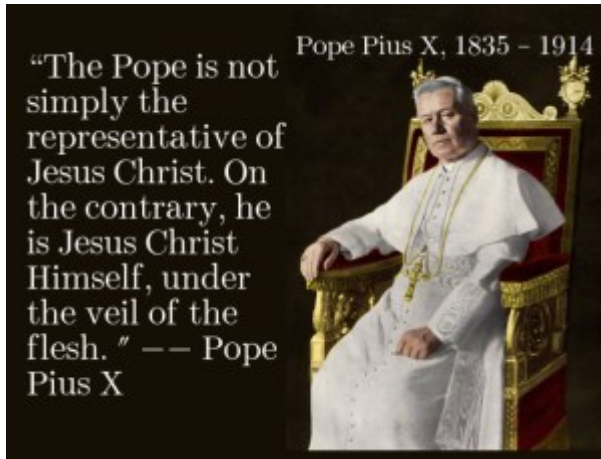
The followers of the Lord Jesus Christ should not have any racial, ethnic or nationalistic prejudice toward others!

Know Your Enemy



The evil powers that be causes people to debate about the actors so that they don't focus on the director who is controlling the whole narrative!

Seven Events Evangelicals Incorrectly Believe Will be Fulfilled in the Endtime



Most evangelicals today are teaching false Endtime doctrines based on a false interpretation of Daniel 9:27. Futurism originated with a Jesuit priest Francesco Rivera in the 16th century.

Gog and Magog identified: Turkey, NOT Russia!



The erroneous belief that Russia is Magog can be traced back to a small group of 18th and 19th century theologians who wrote long before the primary evidence from the ancient Assyrian records was discovered, translated and made available to the public.

Munther Isaac: Christian Zionism as Imperial Theology in Text Format and

Video



Palestinian Christians must always confirm to the Christian Zionists theology or else we are deemed heretics or anti-semites. Christian Zionism is an oxymoron.

John Hagee vs. the Bible



Millions of Christians today, especially American Christians, have been deceived by false doctrines of dispensationalism formulated by John Nelson Darby in the 19th century that say God has two covenant peoples, the Church and Israel. Dispensationalism rejects the longstanding teaching that there is one church that consists of both old covenant saints and new covenant saints. Dispensationalism rejects the teaching that old covenant Israel was the church and that, in the new covenant, God grafts believing Gentiles into that same church (Rom. 11:17–24).

Dispensationalism is a false unbiblical doctrine! The Book of Hebrews clearly says God will give the house of Israel a *new* covenant, the *same* covenant the Church is under, the covenant of grace through the belief that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God Who died for our sins and was resurrected on the third day.

Hebrews 8:10 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:

11 And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest.

12 For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.

13 In that he saith, A new covenant, **he hath made the first old**. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away.

Darby's doctrines of dispensationalism became popular because it was promoted by C.I.Scofield and his reference Bible. It was further promoted by the Dallas Theological Seminary It led to so-called "Christian Zionism" and the promotion of the restoration of the Jews in Palestine which has resulted in the bloodshed in Gaza we see today! And why do Christian Zionists want to promote the State of Israel? Because they believe Israel has a role in the end time to bring about the return of Christ! They believe the Antichrist will make a deal with Israel and the Muslims creating peace so that the Jews can rebuild their temple to renew animal sacrifices. They believe the Church will be raptured to heaven just before that happens. They believe that three and a half years later the Antichrist will set up his image in the temple, tell everyone to worship it, and have all those who don't killed. They believe Jesus will return three and a half years later with his raptured saints to fight the Antichrist and his people in the battle of Armageddon. All these doctrines are *false*! They are all based on the erroneous interpretation of Daniel chapters 9, 11, Matthew 24, and the Book of Revelation. I wrote extensively about this subject on this website.

If this surprises you, it's because you have been influenced by popular dispensational preachers today who promote Christian Zionism. One of the loudest and most influential Christian Zionist preachers is pastor John Hagee.

"John Charles Hagee (born April 12, 1940) is the founder and Senior Pastor of Cornerstone Church in San Antonio, Texas, a non-denominational evangelical church with more than 22,000 active members. He founded John Hagee Ministries, which telecasts to the United States and Canada. He is also the founder and chairman of the Christian Zionist organization Christians United for Israel." – Source Wikipedia and Hagee Ministries website.

Let's compare what John Hagee teaches to what the Bible says:

"I'm not trying to convert the Jewish people to the Christian faith. . . . trying to convert Jews is a waste of time. The Jewish person with his roots in Judaism is not going to convert to Christianity" (Houston Chronicle, Apr. 30, 1988)

"The first rule adopted by Christians United for Israel was that there would be no proselytizing at our events. CUFI exists only to honor and support the Jewish people, never to convert them" (Hagee, "Why Christian Zionists Really Support Israel," May 13, 2010).

On the day just before Jesus ascended back to Heaven, He told His disciples:

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Witnesses to whom in Jerusalem and Judaea? To the Jews!

Acts 2:5 And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven.

Peter preached the Gospel in Acts chapter 2 to those Jews.

Acts 2:41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

Those 3000 souls who were saved were all Jews! Jesus clearly told His disciples to share the Gospel with them!

Hagee says,

"I'm delighted to present my latest book, **"In Defense of Israel."** This book will expose the sins of the fathers in the vicious abuse of the Jewish people. *"In Defense of Israel"* will shake Christian theology. It Scripturally proves that **the Jewish people, as a whole, did not reject Jesus as Messiah.** It will also prove that Jesus did not come to Earth to be the Messiah. It will prove that there was a Calvary conspiracy between Rome, the high priest and Herod to execute Jesus as an insurrectionist too dangerous to live. Since Jesus refused by word and deed to claim to be the Messiah, how can the Jews be blamed for rejecting what was never offered?" (also declared on p. 145 of the book)

Anybody who believes that statement by Hagee doesn't read their Bible! Even a Sunday School kid should be able to disprove Hagee's heretical statements.

Jesus identified Himself to the Samaritan woman at the well as the Messiah.

John 4:25 The woman saith unto him, I know that **Messias cometh, which is called Christ**: when he is come, he will tell us all things.

26 Jesus saith unto her, **I that speak unto thee am he**.

In the KJV, the word Messiah is found twice in the Old Testament in Daniel 9:25 and 26. The spelling variation of Messiah in the New Testament is Messias. Besides John 4:25 it's also found in John 1:41.

John 1:41 He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messias, which is, being interpreted, the Christ.

As you can see, both times the name Messias is used, Christ is also used as the Greek meaning of the Hebrew word Messias / Messiah. Messias / Messiah and Christ are synonymous! Christ occurs 60 times in the four Gospels! It occurs 555 times in the entire New Testament! For Hagee to say, "Jesus did not come to Earth to be the Messiah" is the same as saying that Jesus did not come to Earth to be Christ! It's even saying that Jesus is *not* Christ! Does that make John Hagee an antichrist? It does if he denies Jesus is Christ!

Jesus unequivocally told the high priest He is Christ!

Mark 14:61 But he held his peace, and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked him, and said unto him, **Art thou the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?**

62 And Jesus said, **I am**: and ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.

Jesus also told it to the elders of the people, the chief priests and the scribes:

Luke 22:66 And as soon as it was day, the elders of the people and the chief priests and the scribes came together, and led him into their council, saying,

67 Art thou the Christ? tell us. And he said unto them, If I tell you, ye will not believe:

68 And if I also ask you, ye will not answer me, nor let me go.

69 Hereafter shall the Son of man sit on the right hand of the power of God.

70 Then said they all, Art thou then the Son of God? And he said unto them, Ye say that I am.

71 And they said, What need we any further witness? for

we ourselves have heard of his own mouth.

Jesus identified Himself to the man who was blind from birth who He healed as the Son of God, the Messiah, the Christ.

John 9:35 Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when he had found him, he said unto him, Dost thou believe on **the Son of God?**

36 He answered and said, Who is he, Lord, that I might believe on him?

37 And Jesus said unto him, Thou hast both seen him, and it is he that talketh with thee.

Hagee says,

“If God intended for Jesus to be the Messiah of Israel, why didn’t he authorize Jesus to use supernatural signs to prove he was God’s Messiah, just as Moses had done?” (p. 137)

The Bible says that God *did* authorize Jesus to use supernatural signs!

Luke 7:20 When the men were come unto him, they said, John Baptist hath sent us unto thee, saying, Art thou he that should come? or look we for another?

21 And in that same hour he cured many of their infirmities and plagues, and of evil spirits; and unto many that were blind he gave sight.

22 Then Jesus answering said unto them, Go your way, and tell John what things ye have seen and heard; how that the **blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised**, to the poor the gospel is preached.

Hagee says curing the blind, the lame, the lepers, the deaf and raising the dead are not supernatural signs?!

“Jesus refused to produce a sign ... because it was not the Father’s will, nor his, to be Messiah.” (p 138)

Jesus refused to produce *an immediate sign* to the Pharisees when they demanded one! The fact is Jesus *already did* many signs!

John 10:31 Then the Jews took up stones again to stone him.

32 Jesus answered them, **Many good works have I shewed**

you from my Father; for which of those works do ye stone me?

John 20:30 And **many other signs** truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book:

“The Jews were not rejecting Jesus as Messiah; it was Jesus who was refusing to be the Messiah to the Jews. . . . They wanted him to be their Messiah, but he flatly refused. . . . He refused to be their Messiah, choosing instead to be the Savior of the world.” (pp. 140-141, 143)

I hope this convinces you that John Hagee is a false teacher. His book *In Defense of Israel* is rank heresy. If you support the modern state of Israel in its genocide of Palestinians, many of whom are Christians, it means you have their blood on your hands as much as he does.