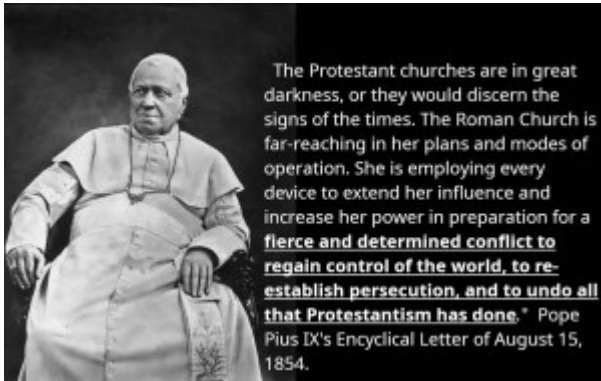


The Papacy And The Civil Power –

Chapter VI. Claim of Divine Power



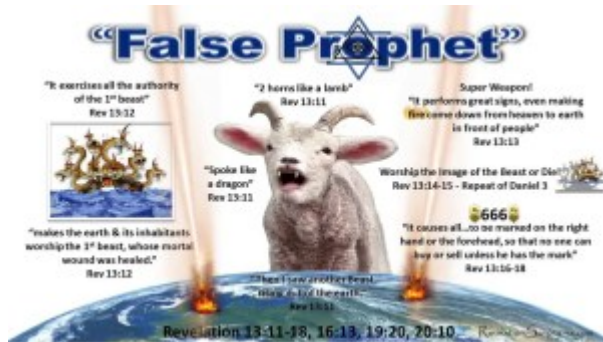
Claim of Divine Power over Temporals by Pius IX.—Its Extent.—He alone Defines its Limits.—Effect of this in the United States.—Principles of the Constitution within the Jurisdiction of the Papacy. —Germany, Italy, etc. —The Pope stirs up Insurrection there.—The Jesuits Expelled.—Papists in the United States Justify Resistance to the Law of Germany.—Same Laws in the United States.—Effect upon Allegiance.—Bavarian Protest. —Abuse of the Confessional.—Power of Absolution.—The Immoral Bearings of the Confessional.

The Papal System – XII. The Confessional



As the mass is the great aggregate of Romish doctrine, the confessional is the chief executive of the papal system. By it, the decrees of the infallible Church are applied and carried out with an unequaled measure of minuteness and rigor.

The Two Babylons Chapter VII. Section III – The Beast from the Earth



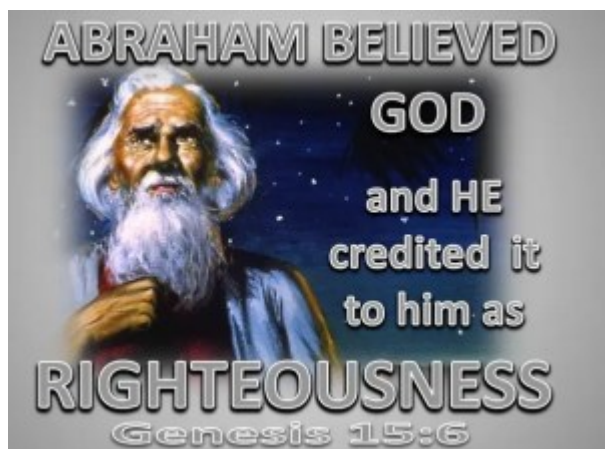
And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon.
Revelation 13:11

The Two Babylons Chapter VI. Religious Orders. Section II – Priests, Monks, and Nuns

The Two Babylons Chapter VI. Religious Orders. Section II — Priests, Monks, and Nuns

If the head be corrupt, so also must be the members. If the Pope be essentially Pagan, what else can be the character of his clergy?

The Two Babylons Chapter IV. Section II – Justification by Works



The worshippers of Nimrod and his queen were looked upon as regenerated and purged from sin by baptism, which baptism received its virtue from the sufferings of these two great Babylonian divinities. But yet in regard to justification, the Chaldean doctrine was that it was by works and merits of men themselves that they must be justified and accepted of God.

The Two Babylons Chapter I. Distinctive Character of the Two Systems.



The Chaldean Mysteries can be traced up to the days of Semiramis, who lived only a few centuries after the flood, and who is known to have impressed upon them the image of her own depraved and polluted mind.

Confession of Sin, Penance, and

Indulgences



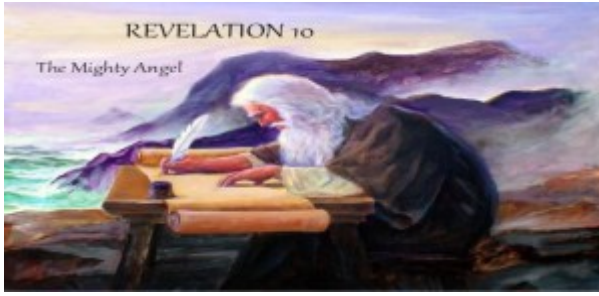
Indulgences have been a source of enormous revenue to the Vatican; by appealing to the superstitious fears of their people, high and low, the popes have filled their coffers with gold.

Revelation 11:3-6. Retrospective View Of The Two Witnesses – Part II



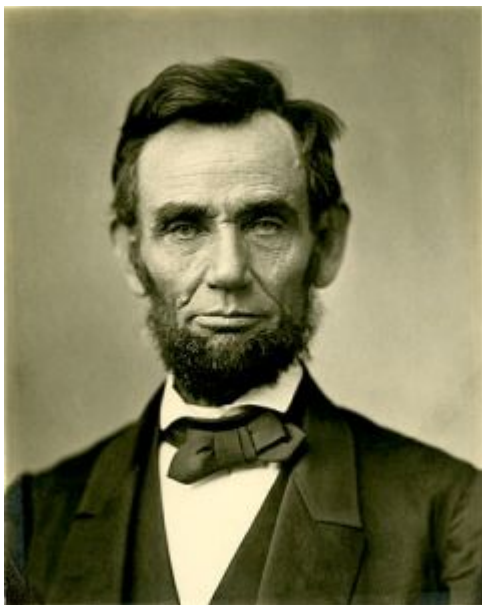
Middle Age History Of The Joint Lines, A.D. 1000-1200.

Revelation 10:1-3. Intervention Of The Covenant Angel



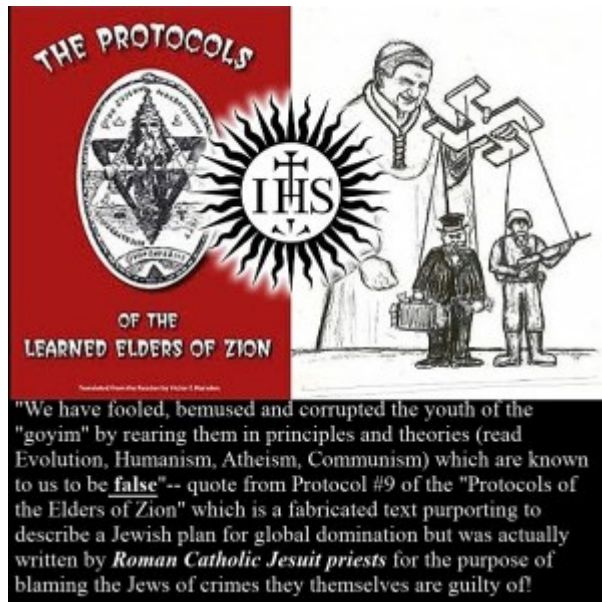
The Epoch Of Antichrist's Triumph, A.D. 1513

Abraham Lincoln's views about Rome, the Pope, the Vatican, the Jesuits and their influence on American society



The true motive power of the Confederacy behind the walls of the Vatican, the schools of the Jesuits, the convents of the nuns, and the confessional boxes of Rome.

Quotations Dealing with the History of the Jesuits



It is impossible to read history except in the context of an army of JESUITS, masters of deceit, treachery, treason, infiltration, subversion, assassination, insurrection, civil war and coercion, plotting for the good of the papacy, and the defeat of all the Pope's foes anywhere in the world.

Roman Catholicism By Lorraine Boettner Chapter XVIII Intolerance, Bigotry, Persecution

Roman Catholicism By Lorraine Boettner
Chapter XVIII Intolerance, Bigotry,
Persecution

The official doctrine of the Roman Catholic Church, is that it alone is the true church, that all other churches and religious groups are in error, either heretical or pagan, and that such churches and groups have not even the right of existence.

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.

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.

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.

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.

British Government Hides Vatican War Treachery From Empire



During the world wars the British Foreign Office was filled with Roman Catholics who were taking orders from the Vatican and undermining Britain's war tragedies!

Do You Confess Your Sins To A Priest?



The priest has no right to search out and discover all the secret sins of your life. It is none of his business. God knows your sins. Go to Him and confess them.

Is The Catholic Confessional A Cause Of Crime?



By Joseph Zacchello

This article is from a PDF file on LutheranLibrary.org written in 1944. It was published by *The Converted Catholic Magazine* and edited by former Roman Catholic priest, Leo Herbert Lehmann. If you see the word “recently,” just think it was recent relative to 1944. But I believe the subject of this article is still relevant today. If you’ve seen the film, “The Godfather,” I think you know what I mean.

Joseph Zacchello is a former Roman Catholic priest born in Italy in 1917. You can read his interesting life story and conversion to Christ from Roman

darkness on, [The Priest Who Found Christ](#).

After studying the Bible for the first time in my life after hearing the Gospel in 1971, one of the things I rejoiced in was not having to confess my sins to a Catholic priest in the confessional box! Jesus is my High Priest! The Bible says,

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. – 1 John 1:9

MANY WERE STARTLED by the statistics from official Catholic sources in *The Converted Catholic Magazine* for January showing **the abnormally high percentage of Roman Catholics in our jails and penitentiaries**, as well as the disproportionate number of Catholics among young people arrested in New York as juvenile delinquents. Persistent Catholic propaganda by radio, press and pulpit had almost convinced Protestant Americans that all the crime in America was the result of our “Godless” American public schools, and that few, if any, Roman Catholics ever went to jail.

It is too much to expect that Catholic propagandists will publicize their own crime statistics and allow their Catholic people to find out who or what is responsible for the abnormally high rate of crime among Catholics.

There are priests in the Catholic church who place the blame on the fact that nuns are made the moral teachers of youth in Catholic schools. Nuns, they say, because of their self-repressive, ascetic training are not fitted to teach and prepare Catholic children to face the real facts of life. Nuns regard every thought of sex, for example, as a mortal sin and feel guilty themselves even when they look at the nude image of Christ on the crucifix. But these days, when children have so many ways of discovering the facts of sex for themselves outside school, the influence of the nuns in this regard may be largely discounted.

In the January issue of *The Converted Catholic Magazine*, Mr. Lehmann points to **the unethical teaching of the Catholic Church on theft and robbery as a possible cause of the high rate of crime among Catholics**. This teaching, which gives the reasons that excuse from theft, should not be underestimated since, as he proves on good authority, more than 50% of all crimes among youth are connected with thievery. But such explanations are merely partial and still leave us to find some underlying cause in the Catholic church's whole moral system of the alarming rate of crime among Catholics. This root cause is the Catholic practice of confession, one of the seven ‘sacraments’ or foundation-stones upon which the entire superstructure of Roman Catholicism is built.

Protestants oppose **the Roman Catholic confessional** because it **is a purely Roman invention, is contrary to scripture teaching, and was never taught or practiced by Christ or his apostles**. But few, if any, have ever brought to light its evil effects in social and moral matters. These evil consequences flow from the fact that Roman Catholics are taught to believe that the priest, a mere man, has the power to absolve them from their sins, on the simple condition that they tell their sins in secrecy to him in the

confession-box, and promise to perform a simple 'penance' that he imposes. The following should be noted with regard to the practice of confession:

1. The priest is a real judge.
2. He himself can forgive, or withhold forgiveness, of every kind, degree and number of crimes at his own discretion;
3. There are no witnesses;
4. The sinner is his own accuser;
5. No record of the proceedings is kept; a guarantee in fact is given the sinner that absolute secrecy will be observed;
6. **No public jail sentence or fine is imposed**, only a few minutes of prayers and a verbal promise of reform;
7. By this procedure **all effects of the crimes confessed are destroyed and the criminal instantly made "holy"** and a good citizen again.
8. This secret process of **forgiveness and hiding of crimes may be accomplished again and again as long as the sinner conforms to the regulations** set forth above and as laid down in Catholic Canon Law.

Canon 888 says:

"The priest has to remember that in hearing confessions he is a judge."

Again Canon 872:

"For the hearing of confessions there is required in the priest not only the power of orders [the priesthood] but also a juridical investment."

As to the power of the priest as judge in confession, Canon 870 says:

"In the confessional the minister has the power to forgive all crimes committed after baptism."

The Council of Trent (Sess. VI. Chap. 7.D.B. 799) decreed that the priest not only forgives sins in confession, but has power to destroy them and thus make of the criminal a perfect citizen and a saint: "The crimes are not only forgiven but destroyed and the criminal made as a new person – a saint". To obtain pardon it is not necessary to be sorry for crimes committed because they are offenses against society or God, but it is sufficient if the criminal is sorry for fear he will go to hell forever if he does not confess them and obtain the forgiveness from the priest in confession. On this point the Council of Trent (Sess. 14, C.H.) says of the sinner: "It is sufficient if he is sorry for fear of otherwise burning in hell for all eternity."

All the decrees of the Council of Trent are binding on Catholics under pain of anathema and excommunication.

The main reason why crime is high in Catholic nations: Catholics have no deterrent to crime!

Anyone can understand that **this practice of the Catholic confession is no deterrent to crime**, and can easily, in fact, be made an excuse for continuing in it. Big-time criminals and racketeers, especially, generally can find ways

to circumvent the civil law and its penalties. If they are Roman Catholics and believe in confession, they have assurance of an easy way of also escaping punishment in the next life.

Examples are plentiful of such big-time Catholic criminals and racketeers continuing in crime without any qualms of conscience. 'Big Tom' Prendergast of Kansas City who died recently after release from Federal penitentiary was one of them. Under his rule, Kansas City was a menace to the morals of young and old... Brothels flourished openly and criminal gangs enforced his dictates. Gambling houses were as commonplace as grocery stores, and he himself was the biggest gambler of his age. Political corruption abounded and Prendergast, as boss of it all, grew fabulously rich from the wealth that flowed into his pockets from this underground traffic in crime. Yet, when he died last January 26, Monsignor Thomas B. McDonald who preached his funeral sermon after solemn high mass, publicly proclaimed him "a man with a noble heart and a true friend," because *"he went to mass every morning at 7:30 for 30 years."*

Tom Prendergast, and other Catholic criminals like him, did not fear the penalties of the civil law, because he could escape them by bribing and corrupting judges and officers of the law whom he himself had appointed. As a Catholic, however, he feared the tortures of hell in the next life. But he was assured by his church's teaching that he could also escape God's punishment as long as he went to confession regularly, told his crimes to the priest and said he was sorry merely because he was afraid of going to hell. He was further assured that he could continue his life of crime with impunity as long as he made sure of having a priest to absolve him before he died and to say masses afterwards for his soul in Purgatory.

Mayor Hague of Jersey City is another of many examples of 'devout' Catholic political bosses and racketeers who escape the punishment of the civil law by bribery and corruption, and at the same time have the assurance from their church's teaching that they can also escape God's punishment in the next life by obtaining pardon regularly from their priests in confession.

Why then should Catholic parents wonder if their wayward children, trained to confession in a Catholic school, refuse to heed their admonitions?

Forgiveness may be had in confession without any expression of sorrow to their parents. Nor should a Catholic wife wonder how her husband can remain unfaithful, even after going many times to the priest to tell him the details of his unfaithfulness. Each time his sin is blotted out and he again becomes the ideal husband – all by merely confessing to the priest and saying a few 'Hail Mary's' as a 'penance.'

Should we wonder why there are so many Catholic criminals? Perhaps we should wonder why there are not many more. That there are not many more may be due to the fact that not all 'judges' sit in confession-boxes, but on criminal court benches and send criminals to jail and penitentiaries, and even to the electric chair.

We former priests now know what true forgiveness of sins means in Christian teaching: that God alone forgives sins and with forgiveness comes a complete change of life. The Catholic practice of confession is merely a recital to a

man of sins committed, with no guarantee of pardon from God, and nothing to prevent the repetition of the same sins over and over again. In true Christian teaching, forgiveness of sins is not just the wiping off of old sins from the soul and then going forth to soil it again with more of the same sins. It means the gift of a whole new soul, the rebirth to a new life for the sinner to whom sin becomes abhorrent and who remains sanctified and a true child of God thereafter. Then the sinner is really saved. He becomes not only a saint, but also a good citizen. Only this kind of religious teaching is a real deterrent to crime.

Catholicism's Moral Code



A THOROUGH UNDERSTANDING of Roman Catholicism is not possible without a grasp of the peculiar structure of its system of moral theology. It is the key to its world wide political power.