Cardinal Ratzinger's Rebellion -- A Mini-Biography And Exposé On Pope Benedict XVI : Part 1

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Biography Of Cardinal Ratzinger, His Conservative Background, Points Of Agreement Between Protestants And Catholics, False Catholic Doctrines, All Have Sinned, Wages Of Sin Is Death, God's Intolerance For Disobedience, God's Patience And Mercy, Blood Sacrifice And Remission Of Sins, Jesus As The Testator Of The New Covenant, Penalty Of Sin, Jesus Paid Our Ransom, Christ Died For All Of Our Sins, One-Time Sacrifice Of Love, Universal Nature Of Salvation Plan, Jesus Christ The Only Way

The following four-part series is a mini-biography, as well as an exposé, of Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, who is known to most people as Pope Benedict XVI. The comments you are about to read will more than likely garner some supporters on my behalf -- although that is not really my intention in writing them -- as well as raise up new enemies, particularly within the Roman Catholic Church, and undoubtedly within Jewry as well. Regardless of the negative reactions which some of my readers may have, given the extreme importance of this issue, I feel motivated to share this information with you. While the series begins by discussing certain events which took place eight years ago -- and thus may be of little interest to some of you -- they do set the stage for the primary topic of discussion, which should be of concern to every Christian who esteems the Bible as the inspired Word of God, because it exposes a dangerously deceptive doctrine that is embraced by Pope Benedict XVI, and apparently by the Vatican itself.

As I write this commentary, a little more than one month has passed since 78-year-old Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, a native of the small Bavarian town of Traunstein, Germany -- although he was actually born in Marktl am Inn to the northeast -- was unanimously elected by the Sacred College of Cardinals, to become Benedict XVI, the 265th Bishop of Rome, and Pope of the Roman Catholic Church, following the death of Pope John Paul II on April 2, 2005. Cardinal Ratzinger is the oldest man to occupy the coveted papal position in two hundred and seventy-five years, and he is the first Pope with roots in what is now Germany, since 1057 AD when Pope Victor II died.

Cardinal Ratzinger's rise to the pinnacle of power within the Vatican has been long and steady. Following seminary studies, as well as alleged involuntary military involvement with the Hitlerian war machine of Nazi Germany, Ratzinger was ordained a Catholic priest at the age of twenty-four in 1951 in Munich. From that time, until 1977, when he became the archbishop of Munich and Freising, Ratzinger engaged in additional studies, and held a variety of teaching positions at the universities of Bonn, Muenster, Tübingen, Regensburg, and Munich, where he received his doctorate in theology in 1953. From 1962 to 1965, Father Ratzinger also served as a chief theological advisor to Cardinal Josef Frings of Cologne, Germany, during all four sessions of the Second Vatican Council.

Three months after being selected the archbishop of Munich, Pope Paul VI elevated Ratzinger to the status of Cardinal. Four years later, in 1981, Pope John Paul II named him the Prefect of the Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, an extremely powerful post, the job of which is to establish and safeguard Roman Catholic doctrine. This body was formerly known as the Holy Office of the Inquisition. While the name of the office has been softened, perhaps for the sake of political correctness, we must truly wonder if its purpose and function has really changed.

For over twenty years, Cardinal Ratzinger was John Paul II's most trusted theological adviser, as well as a close friend. He had private audiences with John Paul II twice a week. In November of 2002, Ratzinger took the final step to becoming the next Pope, when he was appointed the dean of the Sacred College of Cardinals, the very body which elected him as the 265th Pope, on April 19, 2005. Prior to that, he had been the vice-dean of that same body since 1998.

Prior to becoming the 265th Pope, other positions which were held by Cardinal Ratzinger include serving as a member of the Congregation of Bishops, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, the Congregation for Catholic Education, the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, the Congregation for the Oriental Churches, the Council for Christian Unity, the Council for Culture, the Commission Ecclesia Dei, and the Commission for Latin America.

By any definition of the word, within Roman Catholic circles, in a theological sense, Joseph Ratzinger has been considered an ultra-conservative and traditionalist for not quite four decades. While a spirit of liberalism has swept across many parts of the Vatican's far-reaching empire, most notably in Europe and the United States of America, Cardinal Ratzinger has staunchly defended, promoted and enforced principal Roman Catholic positions concerning marriage and divorce, abortion and birth control, stem cell research, the gay and lesbian agenda, women in the priesthood, etc.; even at the price of losing friends, and making new enemies, even in his native Germany.

While some of my non-Catholic readers may find the previous mini-biography of Cardinal Ratzinger's life boring, I have shared it with you for a very specific reason; and that is to clearly demonstrate Ratzinger's conservative background. Even though I am not a Catholic, and in fact, am personally in disagreement with a number of different Roman Catholic doctrines -- as some of my other articles will indicate -when the news of Ratzinger's election was announced a month ago, I initially adopted the attitude that the development might be a good thing; at least for Roman Catholics who have helplessly watched as modernism and liberalism have slowly eroded some of the long-standing positions of their faith; some of which I happen to agree with.

For example, whether we are Catholic or Protestant, if we truly accept the Bible as being God's inspired Word, then we

must agree that abortion is a modern evil which has resulted in the deaths of literally millions of innocent children all across the world during the past several decades. In similar fashion, the Scriptures clearly present God's view concerning homosexuality; so this is another common point of agreement between Catholics and Bible-believing Protestants. Likewise, the Bible instructs us, that except in clear-cut cases of adultery, divorce is to be frowned upon; and even then, when such is evident, forgiveness and reconciliation is the godly option. God's Word also promotes the sanctity of life, and makes it plain that our lives not only proceed from God, but that He in fact knew us before we were born. Thus, the fact that modern science creates human life, and then callously destroys it, through stem cell research, cloning, and other forms of genetic engineering, in the hope that some day it may be able to save other lives, can only be viewed as being wrong and immoral.

In short, whether we are Protestant or Catholic, if we truly view God's Word as being the correct model to follow, then we are pro-life, pro-family and pro-children. These are just a few examples where many Protestants and Catholics can find common agreement; which is why I stated a moment ago, that looking at the situation from this perspective, the election of Cardinal Ratzinger as the new Pope of Rome, looked like a wise choice; because he would help to preserve these healthy family values, which have been long-embraced by conservative Protestants and Catholics alike. All of these positions were likewise embraced by John Paul II, which is why significant numbers of Catholics were enthusiastic with Ratzinger's rise to the Holy See, as he promised to continue in the footsteps of his predecessor.

Sadly, while I have strived to present some common areas of agreement between Protestants and Catholics, as I mentioned earlier, a great gulf still exists between us, as a result of other traditions and practices, which are promoted by the Church of Rome. As I point out in some of my other articles, these include the belief in the infallibility of the Pope; the erroneous doctrine of transubstantiation, whereby it is believed that the bread and wine of the Eucharist become the actual body and blood of Christ; the alleged superiority of the Roman Catholic Church, and the misguided view that it is the only true source of Salvation available to all people everywhere; the fanatical worship of Mary and the Saints; and idol worship, to name a few.

But, it may surprise you to know, that it is not the former differences which motivated me to write this current series. There is an even more important issue, which further reveals, -- at least to me -- that all is not well within the halls of the Vatican. This issue concerns the manner of Salvation of mankind, as it is explained to us in God's Holy Word, the Bible.

Concerning God's Plan of Salvation, all Bible-believers know that the Scriptures clearly teach us that all men everywhere are sinners. Not only did we inherit our sinful nature from the Original Pair, that is, Adam and Eve, but we continue to freely sin, of our own accord, throughout our entire lives. Thus, we find verses like the following in God's Word: "Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me." Psalms 51:5, KJV

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" Romans 3:23, KJV

"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:" Romans 5:12, KJV

As I point out in a few of my other articles which deal with the topic of Salvation, such as "Message to the World", as a result of our sin, that is to say, our rebellion against, and our violation of God's Holy Laws, under normal circumstances, as in any court of law, we would be forced to face the sad consequences of our foolish actions. As one of the previous verses reveals, the Bible tells us that the consequences, or "wages", of our sin, is death, plain and simple. We are on death row, and we are condemned to die, as we see by these additional verses:

"Then said Jesus again unto them, I go my way, and ye shall seek me, and shall die in your sins: whither I go, ye cannot come . . . I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins." John 8:21, 24, KJV

"For the wages of sin is death . . ." Romans 6:23a, KJV

"Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)" Ephesians 2:5, KJV

It becomes rather clear in the Scriptures, that God simply does not tolerate any form of rebellion or disobedience within His Kingdom. Consider the sad example of King Saul. He lost the blessing, and the kingdom, as a result of doing certain things which he thought were right in his own eyes. God apparently saw things differently; so He basically fired King Saul, and He found a more obedient servant in the person of a young shepherd boy by the name of David. Saul, and his three sons, eventually all died in battle, and the Scriptures make it plain that this was by the Will of God, as a result of Saul's pride and disobediences.

Yet, at the same time, the Bible also informs us, that like many earthly parents, and in actuality, even more so, God is extremely patient and merciful with His wayward children. He gives us plenty of time to come to our senses, and to repent of our misdeeds, before the proverbial axe falls. Thus, in the Bible, we find such verses as the following:

"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." 2 Peter 3:9, KJV "Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him." Psalms 103:13, KJV

"It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness." Lamentations 3:22-23, KJV

Thus, thankfully, all is not lost. In spite of the looming sword of death which hangs over our lives, as a result of our own sins, there is hope; and that hope is provided by God Himself, through the loving Sacrifice of His own dear Son, Jesus Christ.

As I point out in a number of other articles, such as "The Blood Atonement: In Jesus' Own Words", God's Law required that a sacrifice of blood be made for the remission of sins. But, that blood could not come from just any animal. It had to come from an unblemished, unspotted lamb. In other words, it had to be physically perfect. This practice was followed by the Israelites throughout the Old Testament period, and was merely a foreshadow of greater things to come, when the son of a Jewish carpenter would present Himself before His real Father in Heaven, as the unblemished Lamb of God, of the New Testament period, who would take away the sins of the world. Through the spilling of His own innocent Blood, Jesus willingly became the Testator of the New Covenant between God and man, as we see by these verses:

"For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." Matthew 26:28, KJV

"And he said unto them, This is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many." Mark 14:24, KJV

"Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you." Luke 22:20, KJV

"After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me." 1 Corinthians 11:25, KJV

"Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life." 2 Corinthians 3:6, KJV

"But now hath he [Jesus] obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises. For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. 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: 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. For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more. 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."

"And for this cause he [Jesus] is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance." Hebrews 9:15, KJV

"And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel." Hebrews 12:24, KJV

So to reiterate, Jesus took our sins upon Himself, thereby relieving us of the same, and redeemed us from the penalty of sin; that is to say, eternal death. In short, He became a ransom for our sins, by willingly surrendering His own life to the Father. In essence, He paid the price for us, and took our punishment for us, as we see by the following verses:

"Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many." Matthew 20:28, KJV

"Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men." 1 Corinthians 7:23, KJV

"For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time." 1 Timothy 2:5-6, KJV

"What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." 1 Corinthians 6:19-20, KJV

Over and over again, the writers of the New Testament tell us that Jesus Christ gave Himself for our sins. From John, to Peter, to Paul, the message is made exceedingly clear: Jesus died for you and for me. Following are some additional verses which amply prove this point:

"For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;" 1 Corinthians 15:3, KJV

"Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ, Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:" Galatians 1:3-4, KJV "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief. 1 Timothy 1:15, KJV "Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;' Hebrews 1:3, KJV "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whosé stripes ye were healed." 1 Peter 2:24, KJV "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." 1 John 1:7, KJV "And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world." 1 John 2:2, KJV "And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.' 1 John 3:5, KJV "And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, Revelation 1:5, KJV Unlike the high priests of the Old Testament era who had to repeatedly offer sacrifices for the sins of the people, the New Testament Scriptures also make it clear, that Jesus died but once for the remission of all sins of all times, and He did it for all people everywhere, without exception, because we have all sinned. Please consider these additional verses: "Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this he did once, when he offered up himself." Hebrews 7:27, KJV "Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.' Hebrews 9:12, KJV "Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others; For then must he often have suffered since the

foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the

world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation." Hebrews 9:25-28, KJV

"By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." Hebrews 10:10, KJV

Finally, as we have already seen, Jesus made this Great Sacrifice, as the Ultimate Demonstration of His love for, and obedience to, His Father, as well as His deep, abiding love for us, His wayward children. Again, this point is verified by Scriptures such as the following:

"I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep...As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep. And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd. Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father."

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." John 15:13, KJV

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16, KJV

"Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren." 1 John 3:16, KJV

"He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love. In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins." 1 John 4:8-10, KJV.

"For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:6-8, KJV

"For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:38-39, KJV

Taking into consideration this preponderance of Scriptural evidence, it should be clear to you, the reader, that the Forgiveness of sins, Redemption, Salvation, and Eternal Life, can only be achieved through unswerving faith in the atoning Sacrifice of Jesus Christ; the only-begotten Son of God, who by His own choice, was born into the world of sinful men, and lovingly died for the same.

What I would also like to bring to your attention, is the clearly universal nature of God's Plan of Salvation. As we have seen, the Bible plainly states over and over again, and in a variety of ways, that "all have sinned and come short of the glory of God", and that there are no exceptions to this rule. Either the word "all" really means all, or else it doesn't. In other verses we have examined, the words "the world", or "the whole world", are used, which again point to the universal nature of God's Divine Plan, as well as to the universal nature of sin.

Now, if we humbly accept the truth, and recognize that we are all sinners, then we must also logically conclude, based upon the previous Scriptures, that we are all in danger of facing eternal death, because we are plainly told that "the wages of sin is death". If "a" is true, then "b" must also be true.

If we continue along this same line of thought concerning the universal nature of God's Plan of Salvation, we're forced to also conclude that if we are all sinners, and if we are all in danger of facing eternal death, then we must likewise all need to recognize, accept and turn to God's appointed Savior, if we hope and expect to find a reprieve from our sentence of death. In short, we cannot say that yes, we are all sinners, and yes, we will all face a certain death because of it, but no, we do not all have to recognize and accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, if we expect to receive remission of our sins, and gain Eternal Life. We simply cannot have it both ways.

In short, either all of God's Word is true, or else all of it is not. The Lord tells us that "a + b = c"; He doesn't say that "a + b = something else". If "a" is true, and if "b" is true, then "c" is likewise true. It is that simple. Sin + Jesus = Salvation. Sin - Jesus = Eternal Death.

So either the Plan of Salvation applies to all men, or else it applies to no one. If even one person can gain Salvation without professing faith in Jesus Christ, then we would be forced to conclude that Jesus died in vain. If even one race of people can claim that they have achieved forgiveness of sins, and have found some other way to achieve Eternal Life, then again, we would be forced conclude that all of the men and women of God down through the ages, beginning with the Disciples and Apostles of the First Century, who have been persecuted, who have been tortured, and who have sacrificed their lives as a result of preaching the Gospel to the lost, truly did so in vain. I mean, let's face it. If people don't really need to believe in Jesus in order to be saved, then why even preach the Gospel, right? Why sacrifice our lives, and put our families through such hardships and risks? Why

suffer so much ridicule? Why face being ostracized from society because of our beliefs, if it isn't necessary? Now, of course, I am sure you realize that all of my previous remárks are purely rhetorical in nature, because I personally remain utterly convinced that none of it has been, or is, in vain. Furthermore, I firmly remain persuaded, that there is no other way, than the Way of Jesus Christ; for as the Lord Himself taught us: I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. John 14:6b, KJV "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto mé." John 12:32, KJV ". . . if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins." John 8:24b, KJV "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.' John 3:36, KJV And as the Apostles would also later proclaim: "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Acts 4:12, KJV "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; 1 Timothy 2:5, KJV So the issue concerning the way to Salvation and Eternal Life, for all men, is very clear in the Scriptures. As far as I am concerned, it is a black and white issue, and there are no shades of gray, or ambiguous areas to discuss. What applies to one person, must necessarily apply to all. Either we accept and believe in Jesus Christ as the Savior of the world, or else we don't; in which case, we will eventually reap our due rewards for our sins of rebellion and unbelief. I simply do not believe that God plays favorites when we are discussing the issue of Salvation. I do not believe that He is partial in His Judgments, or in His Love. It is my belief

that His Righteous Nature prevents Him from acting in such a manner. As the Apostle Peter stated in the tenth chapter of the Book of Acts: "Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons".

Please go to part two for the continuation of this series.

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Cardinal Ratzinger's Rebellion -- A Mini-Biography And Exposé On Pope Benedict XVI : Part 2

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God Doesn't Play Favorites, Jesus Was Without Sin, God Is No Respecter Of Persons, Chosen People Doctrine, Satanic Jewish Leaders, Jews Forsook Kingdom Of God, Spirit Of Antichrist, Jesus' Offensive Doctrines, New Nation Founded Upon Christ's Blood, Worldly Empire Of Satan, Building On Right Foundation, Jesus The Cornerstone, Christians Are Chosen People of God, Replacement Theology, Simple Gospel For Simple-Minded People, Chosen By God, Predestination, All One In Christ, "Good" Jews

As I concluded in part one, I embrace the belief that God does not play favorites. I do not believe that He is partial in His Judgments, or in His Love, particularly when it comes to the all-important issues of sin and Salvation. In other words, regardless of our ethnic, political, socio-economic or religious background, we are all on equal footing before God, because we have all been born with sin; and there is really no exception to this rule, other than Jesus Christ Himself. As the Apostles Peter, John and Paul all clearly testified concerning Jesus:

"For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." 2 Corinthians 5:21, KJV

"For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin." Hebrews 4:15, KJV

"So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation." Hebrews 9:28, KJV

"Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth:" 1 Peter 2:22, KJV

"And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin." 1 John 3:5, KJV

So as I noted in part one, the Apostle Peter plainly stated, after receiving his own personal revelation from the Lord, "that God is no respecter of persons". This proclamation by Peter is supported by other verses found throughout God's Word as well. Please consider the following:

"Wherefore now let the fear of the LORD be upon you; take heed and do it: for there is no iniquity with the LORD our

God, nor respect of persons, nor taking of gifts." 2 Chronicles 19:7, KJV "These things also belong to the wise. It is not good to have respect of persons in judgment. Proverbs 24:23, KJV "To have respect of persons is not good: for for a piece of bread that man will transgress." Proverbs 28:21, KJV "For there is no respect of persons with God." Romans 2:11, KJV "And, ye masters, do the same things unto them, forbearing threatening: knowing that your Master also is in heaven; neither is there respect of persons with him." Ephesians 6:9, KJV "But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons.' Colossians 3:25, KJV "And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear:' 1 Péter 1:17, KJV "My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons. For if there come unto your assembly a man with a gold ring, in goodly apparel, and there come in also a poor man in vile raiment; And ye have respect to him that weareth the gay clothing, and say unto him, Sit thou here in a good place; and say to the poor, Stand thou there, or sit here under my footstool: Are ye not then partial in yourselves, and are become judges of evil thoughts? Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him? But ye have despised the poor. Do not rich men oppress you, and draw you before the judgment seats? Do not they

blaspheme that worthy name by the which ye are called? If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well: But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors."

James 2:1-9, KJV

To continue then, contrary to the belief that is held by some people, there is no special class or race of people, who are somehow exempt from sin, or from the deadly penalties of sin, no matter what anyone else may try to tell you. Any person who teaches this false, deceptive doctrine, is either really misinformed, and doesn't fully understand the Scriptures, or else they are an outright liar and false teacher. As we have already seen, because there exists absolutely no exemption from sin, or from the penalties of sin, in His Righteousness, in His Love, in His Divine Mercy, and because He is not a respecter of persons, or partial in His views, God has also made the opportunity to find Forgiveness, and Salvation, available to all men everywhere, without exception; and that opportunity is found through faith in Jesus Christ alone. Naturally, to embrace these ideas, as I do, leaves no room for any so-called "chosen people", be they Jews, or any other race for that matter. As I have already stated, either we are all sinners, as the Scriptures clearly state, and thus we are under the penalty of sin, or else we are not. In my view, no one is exempt, and we all need Jesus. In fact, as I shared with you in part one, when Jesus was confronted by some of the unbelieving Jewish leadership, He plainly told them:

". . . if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins." John 8:24b, KJV

Can the truth be made any plainer than that? Jesus clearly told the Jews that they needed to accept Him as the Messiah and Savior; and that if they refused to do this, then they would surely die in their sins. If you continue to read that chapter, you will see that only twenty verses later, Jesus straightforwardly told His evil accusers, that they were of their father the Devil. Consider this:

"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it." John 8:44, KJV

If, as Jesus plainly states in the previous verse, the Jews would die in their sins, if they refused to accept Him as their long awaited Messiah, and if He told them that they were in fact the very children of Satan, and murderers just like him, then obviously, it is impossible for them to have been the so-called "chosen people" of God. It really doesn't require much intelligence to arrive at this rather obvious conclusion. One simply cannot be a Child of God, and the spawn of Satan, at the same time, can he? So if you believe as strongly in the words of Jesus Christ as I do, then what do you think should be the proper attitude and understanding concerning the Jews?

By His very words, the Lord was plainly telling the Jews that they were in the same boat as everyone else; that is to say, that they were sinners, that they were by no means immune to the penalties for sin, and that they needed to recognize Him as their Savior. In other words, they had no special status or unique standing with God as they claimed; and they didn't possess any special privileges above everyone else. In fact, if you carefully examine the New Testament Scriptures, as I have done over the years, you will arrive at an astonishing conclusion regarding the Jews, which clearly flies in the face of modern Christian doctrine, as it is espoused by some churches and popular preachers and evangelists, especially those found in the United States of America. Consider the following shocking verses, taken straight from God's Word:

"Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves." Matthew 23:15, KJV "In whom the god of this world [Satan] hath blinded the minds of them [the Jews] which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them." 2 Corinthians 4:4, KJV

". . . Did ye [speaking to the unbelieving Jews] never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected [meaning the Jews rejecting Jesus], the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes? Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, [from the Jews] and given to a nation [God's new born-again Christian nation] bringing forth the fruits thereof. [meaning the fruits of true repentance]" Matthew 21:42b-43, KJV

"But ye [meaning we Christians, since Peter was writing to the Christian brethren, and NOT to the unbelieving Jews] are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:"

1 Peter 2:9, KJV

"And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven. But the children of the kingdom [the Jews who falsely claim to be God's "Chosen People"] shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth." Matthew 8:11-12, KJV

"I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan." Revelation 2:9, KJV

"Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee." Revelation 3:9, KJV

As the previous verses further demonstrate, many Jews, from 2,000 years ago until today, have forsaken the true Kingdom of God through their stubborn rejection of Jesus Christ, who is God's one and only true Savior and Messiah. According to the Lord's own words, until the Jews choose to accept Jesus Christ as their one and only Savior, they remain as ungodly, as satanic, and as antichrist, as their forefathers of 2,000 years ago. While they claim to be the "Chosen People", even in His final words to John, found in the Book of Revelation, and written at least several decades after the Lord's return to Heaven, Jesus continues to say that the unbelieving Jews are in fact the "synagogue of Satan". These are difficult words to hear, but nevertheless, they represent Scriptural truth.

Based upon my understanding of these verses, as well as the many other Scriptures which I have shared with you throughout

this series, I can only conclude that the status of the Jews will not, and cannot possibly change, until they express true repentance, and a true, sincere faith in Jesus Christ. This Biblical truth applies not only to the Jews, but in fact, to anyone, and everyone, who foolishly rejects the Sacrifice of Jesus Christ, as Atonement for their sins. Such people are likewise antichrist; for as the Apostle John clearly wrote:

"Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son." 1 John 2:22, KJV

"And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world." 1 John 4:3, KJV

"For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist. 2 John 1:7, KJV

As I noted a moment ago, the previous verses describing the ungodly nature of the Jews, all of which were spoken by the Lord Himself, present a Biblical truth which many modern Christians, particularly Western Christians, find difficult to accept; nevertheless, this is clearly what Jesus taught all the way to the final Book of the Bible. This is not a doctrine of men, but sound Biblical truth, fully supported by the Scriptures, no matter how offensive some people may find it. Allow me to remind you that Jesus taught a number of things which some people found highly offensive. Some of Jesus' doctrines were so strong, and so unpopular, that even some of His very own disciples drew back and no longer chose to follow Him, as we see by the following verse:

"From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him." John 6:66, KJV

In the previous set of verses, Jesus clearly states that the Kingdom of God would be taken from the Jews, who in their pride, viewed themselves as the "children of the Kingdom", and would be given to another nation. The Scriptures make it plain, that this nation, which would receive the Kingdom, as per Jesus' own words, is the one which was founded 2,000 years ago, upon His very own Blood. A new nation was indeed born in one day; as per the prophecy of the Old Testament; and it was born the minute that Jesus died on the Cross. As we saw in part one, the Blood of Jesus Christ sealed the New Covenant, which would govern this New Nation of born-again believers.

On the other hand, as I have pointed out before, ever since they first demanded an earthly king to rule over them, that is, King Saul, because they no longer desired to acknowledge the God of Heaven as their one and only true King, the Jews have accepted a cheap imitation and counterfeit; that is to say, an earthly kingdom of wealth and power, given to them by the false god of this current world, Satan himself, who has blinded them to the truth. This is the kingdom of men, which they ruled during the time of Jesus Christ -- with the conditional blessing of Rome -- and which they continue to rule to this present day. Needless-to-say, their influence is felt everywhere. The following verses describe for us the sharp contrast between the temporal kingdom of Satan and the Eternal Kingdom of God, which all Christians should embrace:

"In whom the god of this world [Satan] hath blinded the minds of them [the Jews] which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them." 2 Corinthians 4:4, KJV

"And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it." Luke 4:5-6, KJV

". . . My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence." John 18:36b, KJV

"Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." Matthew 6:19-21, KJV

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever." 1 John 2:15-17, KJV

"These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city." Hebrews 11:13-16, KJV

So as I just explained a moment ago, God gave the Jews their heart's desire; and just like the Parable of the house which was built upon the sand, during the past two millennia, they have continued to build upon their false foundation, because they have foolishly rejected the True Cornerstone; that is to say, Jesus Christ. But in the end, they will discover that all of their work has been in vain, and will just be ashes between their fingers; for as God's Word plainly tells us:

"According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire." 1 Corinthians 3:10-15, KJV

"Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit." Ephesians 2:19-22, KJV

"Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed. But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy."

1 Peter 2:5-10, KJV

"And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ."

1 Corinthians 10:4, KJV

While the modern Jews still claim to be the "Chosen People" of God, please carefully notice what the Apostle Peter says in the previous verses. First he explains that we believers are lively, or living, stones, which together, form God's true "spiritual house". Peter then goes on to explain that this "spiritual house" is built upon the true Cornerstone; that is, Jesus Christ. He then adds that this is the very same stone which the unbelieving Jews stumbled upon, were offended by, and ultimately rejected, which was their lot to do, as per the Old Testament prophecy. You may recall that Jesus likewise quoted this very same prophecy in the Gospels. Peter then explains, that because of our faith in Christ, we have become a "Holy Nation", as well as a "Royal Priesthood".

Now, please notice the clear contrast in Peter's words. He is discussing two distinct groups of people in those verses. He is describing the unbelieving Jews who have rejected Christ, and then he turns around and describes those people who have accepted Christ. In other words, as I mentioned earlier, he is obviously writing to the body of Christian believers; he is NOT writing to the Jews by any means. If Peter was in fact writing to the Jews, then it seems to me that there wouldn't even be a need for him to tell them that they were a "chosen generation", a "holy nation", and a "royal priesthood". Why? Because the self-righteous Jews already viewed themselves in this fashion, even though Jesus had plainly told them that it was no longer true, due to their rejection of Him, and their murder of the many Prophets sent to them by God.

Once you understand this distinction in Peter's words; once you grasp that when he says "ye", "ye are", "you" and "unto you", he is referring to the believers in Christ, who have become a "Holy Nation" and a "Royal Priesthood", as a result of their faith in Jesus Christ, as opposed to "unto them", and "to them", meaning the unbelieving Jews, his final words in those verses become even more important. Peter writes:

"Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy." 1 Peter 2:10, KJV

Earlier in those verses, Peter referred to the Christians as being "a chosen generation". In the above verse, he expands upon that thought by adding "Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God". Do you see what he is saying there? Could Peter have said it any clearer than that? Peter plainly states, "but are now the people of God"; and he obviously means the Christian brethren to whom his Epistle is addressed. Why does Peter say "but are now"? In my mind, it can only be, because the deciding factor which has made them "a chosen generation", as well as "the people of God", is their new found faith in Jesus Christ. If they had not accepted Christ, then they would be no better than the unbelieving Jews who stumbled upon, and rejected, Jesus Christ, the Cornerstone.

In short, and I truly hope that you can see this, Peter is saying that the Christians are now the Chosen People of God; not by their own merit or goodness, but only through their faith in Jesus Christ. That is what makes us different from the unbelieving Jews. That one fatal decision has caused the Jews to lose the blessing, as well as the Kingdom; which is exactly what Jesus said would happen, as a result of their stubbornness and unbelief.

Within modern Christian circles, what I have just explained to you might be included as a part of what some people refer to as "Replacement Theology". There are a number of popular preachers and teachers -- who just so happen to be extremely pro-Israel -- who are strongly opposed to this doctrine. They claim that "Replacement Theology" is false and misleading; even going so far as to suggest that it is satanic. I think that with true "Replacement Theology", America is supposed to totally replace Israel in a prophetic sense, much like a similar doctrine referred to as "British Israelism". While in some of my articles I have made interesting comparisons between ancient Israel and the modern spiritual condition of the United States of America, I do not believe for a minute that the U.S.A., or Great Britain for that matter, replaces Israel in the Endtime prophecies. As I have noted a number of times before, as of this current date, I remain convinced that Endtime prophecy centers around the small nation-state of Israel.

As some of my regular readers will know, I really don't like to attach labels to my personal beliefs, being as it sounds too much like organized religion, not to mention, divisive denominationalism. I strive to preach a simple Gospel, which everyone can understand, without all of the fancy terminology attached to it. If someone can't even understand what you are saying and preaching, how in the world are they ever going to come to accept Christ as their Lord and Savior? I think that some of these modern pulpit preachers preach the way that they do, in order to impress their audiences, or perhaps to steal the stage from their rival in the church next door. Who knows. I am sure that it helps to fill their coffers.

At any rate, what I can tell you, is that based upon all of the Scriptures which I have shared with you in this series, I remain convinced that what I have stated here is true, as well as according to God's Word. I also believe that those people who continue to promote the idea that the Jews are still the "Chosen People" of God, are the ones who are truly in doctrinal error. Perhaps some of them have been blinded by political correctness, or maybe even by pressure from the Jewish lobby. Perhaps others have been influenced by their seminary backgrounds, or maybe by other preachers. In the case of ordinary lay people, many of whom have very little, or no knowledge of the Scriptures at all, they have more than likely been swayed by their friends, by their church priest or pastor, or perhaps by some radio and television preachers. I honestly don't know.

All I can say is, the idea that in some mysterious way, in spite of their strong rebellion against God, and against His Son, the Jews still have some unique advantage over everyone else, and still have special favor with God, and occupy some special niche in His affections, is something which I find difficult to understand. This belief is totally contrary to all of the verses I shared earlier, where Jesus tells us how He and His Father view the Jews, as a result of their pride, stubborn nature, and unbelief.

As we have already clearly seen, the people who are chosen, are those who have chosen to place their faith in Christ; and that is precisely what makes them chosen to begin with. In a way, it is similar to an eternal circle. God has chosen us, because we have chosen to believe in Jesus Christ; and we have chosen Christ, because God has chosen us to believe. Of course, now we are beginning to broach the profound topic of predestination, which is an issue that I delve into, in a few of my other articles, so I will leave it for now.

One thing is certain though; and that is that once we have

made the decision to accept Jesus Christ as our Savior, our ethnic background, as well as our prior religious background, means very little to God, because we are all one in Christ Jesus, as the Apostle Paul so wisely taught. All that God sees is the precious Blood of His Son. Either we are washed in it, or else we are not. There are no other distinctions as far as I can tell. Prior to our conversion, we were all sinners, regardless of our ethnic or religious backgrounds. After we accept Christ, our slate has been washed clean, and we all begin on equal footing. We are all chosen of God. As the Apostle Paul wrote:

"For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus." Galatians 3:26-28, KJV

So again, the one thing that makes all the difference in the world, is Christ. Notice how many times Paul uses the word "Christ" in those verses. That says a lot.

While earlier, I emphasized the contrast in Peter's words, in order to make a specific point, it is also important for you to realize that not all the Jews were as antichrist as their spiritual elders and those who were in positions of political authority. In fact, the New Testament makes it plain that not even all of the Jewish Elders were against Christ, or against His First Century followers. Many of you reading this will be familiar with the story of the Pharisee Nicodemus, who came to Jesus by night, seeking the answers to the questions which plagued him. Later, in John chapter seven, Nicodemus likewise tried to defend Jesus during a discussion with his religious peers. In the nineteenth chapter of the Gospel of John, we discover that following Jesus' Crucifixion, Nicodemus also brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes in preparation for the Lord's burial.

In addition to Nicodemus, another secret Disciple worthy of note, was Joseph of Arimathaea. The Gospels tell us that he was a rich man, as well as an honourable counsellor, which I interpret to mean that he was a member of the Sanhedrin. We are also told by Luke that Joseph was not in agreement with the evil plot by his Jewish peers to kill Jesus. As you may recall, it was Joseph who went to Pontius Pilate following Jesus' Crucifixion, in order to ask for the Lord's body. It seems unlikely that Pilate would have even given Joseph an audience with him, unless Joseph was of high standing. At any rate, we are told that Nicodemus and Joseph placed Jesus in a new sepulchre, hewn out of stone, which was located in a garden near the area where the Lord had been crucified.

Another New Testament character which comes to mind is the Apostle Paul's spiritual mentor, Gamaliel. In Acts chapter five, Luke informs us that Gamaliel was a Pharisee, and a doctor of the law, and also a man who had a good reputation among all the people. It was Gamaliel who wisely warned his spiritual peers to tread cautiously when dealing with the Disciples, and to give them some leeway, lest they be found to be fighting against God. Please go to part three for the continuation of this series.

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Cardinal Ratzinger's Rebellion -- A Mini-Biography And Exposé On Pope Benedict XVI : Part 3

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Jewish Lineage Of Christ And His Followers, Growth Of Early Church, Differentiating Between Chief Priests And Priests, Annas Caiaphas And The Corrupt Core, Jewish Priestly Courses Murderous Plot Of Chief Priests, Blood-Thirsty Jewish Mobs, Instruments In God's Hands, God's Divine Purpose - Salvation Jewish Remnant Shall Be Saved, Jesus' Sacrifice Cornerstone Of Our Faith, Pro-Catholic ZENIT.org, Ambiguities and Mysteries Can We Be Saved Without Acknowledging Christ?, Jesus' Central Role, Key Points Of Our Faith, Pope Benedict XVI Like A God, Blind Leading The Blind, Spirit Of Complacency, Lake Of Fire, Destruction Of The Unbelievers, Global Evangelism, Brevity Of Our Human Existence, Ratzinger's Rebellion And False Gospel, Beware Of Lying And Seducing Spirits And Doctrines Of Devils

While I have chosen to highlight some of the more prominent Jewish figures who were painted in a positive light by the writers of the New Testament, let us not forget that Jesus Himself was of Jewish lineage, at least after the flesh, as were many of the original Apostles and Disciples. While the vast majority of people have been conditioned to believe by Hollywood movies that Jesus had only twelve followers, the writer Luke informs us that, in actuality, in addition to the main Twelve Apostles, the Lord appointed other people to represent Him throughout the towns and cities of Israel as well. Luke writes as follows:

"After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come . . . And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name." Luke 10:1, 17, KJV

In the Book of the Acts of the Apostles, which many scholars believe was a continuation of Luke's account from the Gospel of Luke, Luke tells us that following the Lord's Ascension to Heaven, there were at least one hundred and twenty people who had joined the ranks of the Disciples. Luke writes:

"And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were

about an hundred and twenty,)" Acts 1:15, KJV

Of course, as we also know from Acts chapter two, following the miraculous outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost, the Apostles had even greater success at winning new converts, and thousands more joined the ranks of the Disciples.

Another important point worthy of mention here, is that while Jesus had some very negative things to say about the Jewish religious hierarchy who conspired against Him, and who eventually killed Him, His words were not directed at all of them. For example, we have already seen how certain religious elders, such as Nicodemus, Joseph of Arimathaea, and Gamaliel, clearly lent their support to Jesus and His followers. These three high-ranking officials were not the only ones who either outright embraced the young new faith, or at least offered a word of defense in its favor. Turning again to the Book of Acts, Luke tells us that even many of the priests were obedient to the faith, as we see here:

"And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith." Acts 6:7, KJV

I believe that the previous verse requires clarification, as some of you may possibly be a bit confused. Why? Because on one hand, we are told that the High Priest, and the Scribes and the Pharisees were clearly intent on killing Jesus, and on the other, we are told that many of the priests actually embraced the new faith. So which is it? Well, actually, it is both.

You see, if my suspicion is correct, when Luke wrote that "a great company of priests were obedient to the faith", he was obviously not referring to the corrupt inner core of priests who were members of the Sanhedrin. These were the villains who were more concerned with maintaining the status quo, and with guarding their positions of power, than in saving the life of some itinerant preacher from Galilee, who not only had fully exposed their sins, but was causing them one big headache with the Roman authorities, whom they served. Luke offers us an idea of who some of these evil schemers were in the Book of Acts when he writes:

"And Annas the high priest, and Caiaphas, and John, and Alexander, and as many as were of the kindred of the high priest, were gathered together at Jerusalem." Acts 4:6, KJV

It is shortly after this verse, that they threaten Peter and John and the rest of the Disciples, and command them to stop preaching in the name of Jesus Christ. So these men, as well as others who were loyal to them, were the ones who Jesus probably accused of being a generation of vipers, as well as children of Satan, children of hell, hypocrites, murderers, thieves and the synagogue of Satan. Along with the Scribes, they belonged to two main religious sects of the time, which were the Sadducees and the Pharisees, who, from a doctrinal perspective, were on opposite sides of the fence. If we go back to the four Gospels, we also discover that Annas and Caiaphas were concurrently the high priests, and that Annas was actually the father-in-law of Caiaphas; so they were one big happy family of vipers. It was apparently like a corrupt family business, you might say. Consider these verses:

"Annas and Caiaphas being the high priests, the word of God came unto John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness." Luke 3:2, KJV

"And led him away to Annas first; for he was father in law to Caiaphas, which was the high priest that same year." John 18:13, KJV

In contrast to this tight-knit group of murderous, religious rogues, when Luke mentioned the great company of priests who were obedient to the faith, he was probably referring to the lower level of priests, who rotated throughout the year, and performed their priestly duties in the temple. For example, this is precisely what Zacharias, the father of John the Baptist, was doing when the Angel announced John's coming birth to him, as we see here:

"There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judaea, a certain priest named Zacharias, of the course of Abia: and his wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elisabeth. And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless. And they had no child, because that Elisabeth was barren, and they both were now well stricken in years. And it came to pass, that while he executed the priest's office before God in the order of his course, According to the custom of the priest's office, his lot was to burn incense when he went into the temple of the Lord." Luke 1:5-9, KJV

Another clue we are given in the Bible, which suggests this distinction between the corrupt upper level priests, and the lower level priests, is that in quite a few cases, when these scheming devils are mentioned in the Scriptures, the writer will often refer to them as "the chief priests", and not just as "the priests", as we see by the following verses. There are many more examples, so please use your Bible program's search engine if you would like to find them:

"From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day." Matthew 16:21, KJV

"Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man shall be betrayed unto the chief priests and unto the scribes, and they shall condemn him to death," Matthew 20:18, KJV

"And while he yet spake, lo, Judas, one of the twelve, came, and with him a great multitude with swords and staves, from the chief priests and elders of the people." Matthew 26:47, KJV

"Now the chief priests, and elders, and all the council,

sought false witness against Jesus, to put him to death;" Matthew 26:59, KJV

"When the morning was come, all the chief priests and elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death:" Matthew 27:1, KJV

"But the chief priests and elders persuaded the multitude that they should ask Barabbas, and destroy Jesus." Matthew 27:20, KJV

If you take the time to study the other three Gospels, you will see the very same pattern. It is the chief priests, as well as others, who are specifically named when discussing the satanic plot against Jesus. In the Book of Acts, it was also the chief priests who repeatedly persecuted the Lord's Disciples, and who also gave Paul -- who was then known as Saul of Tarsus -- his authority to persecute the fledgling Church. Ironically, it was those very same chief priests who later persecuted Paul as well, after he had embraced the Christian faith. A Jew betraying another Jew was the biggest insult, and that was apparently how the chief priests viewed Paul's conversion to Christianity; so they were out to get him.

While I have spent several paragraphs discussing the evil machinations of the corrupt Jewish priesthood of that era, allow me to add that it would be unwise for anyone to assume that the guilt stopped with the Jewish religious hierarchy. They were indeed guilty, as was Judas Iscariot the betrayer, but the Jewish masses were guilty as well. After all, were they not the ones who allowed themselves to be whipped into a religious fervor, and who demanded Jesus' innocent blood before the seat of Pontius Pilate, while they clamored for the release of a common thief and murderer named Barabbas? It was also the Jewish mobs who cried out:

". . . His blood be on us, and on our children." Matthew 27:25b, KJV

Clearly then, in discussing the cold-blooded murder of Jesus Christ, and the persecution and the martyrdom of the Lord's Prophets and Saints, there is plenty of guilt to go around. In fact, as I have pointed out before, while the modern Jews have tried to switch the blame for Jesus' Crucifixion to the Romans, Jesus clearly cast the blame upon the unbelieving Jews themselves, when He said to Pontius Pilate:

". . . Thou couldest have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above: therefore he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin." John 19:11b, KJV

Who was it who delivered Jesus to Pilate? As we have already seen, it was a money-minded Judas Iscariot; it was the chief priests and their evil cohorts; and it was the unbelieving mobs of Jerusalem. They all played a major role in our Lord's Death. Of course, to add some balance to my words, it is also important that we all look at the Big Picture and realize, as Jesus said, that they could have had no power against Him, if it had not been ordained from above. In other words, while those evil Jews did indeed commit the crime of killing the Son of God, as we all know, this was by God's Design. God merely used them as His instruments. God used the wickedness of their own evil hearts, in order to accomplish His own Divine Purposes, which was the Salvation of mankind. This does not by any means excuse the Jews, but it does serve to remind each of us to check our own hearts, and to realize that all have sinned, and that Jesus died for us all, without exception.

In spite of their rebellion against Him, God is merciful; and as I point out in other articles, such as "The Woman in the Wilderness and the 144,000", "The Great Tribulation and the Rapture", and "Is God a Racist?", the Scriptures do tell us, that the day will come, when after a terrible period of Great Tribulation, a small remnant of Jews will return to their first love for the Father, and will finally embrace Jesus Christ as their only Lord and Savior. But, they will indeed be a small remnant, for as Jesus taught us, many are called, but few are chosen.

Having now fully addressed all of these important concepts, beliefs and issues concerning sin, Salvation, the universal nature of God's Redemptive Plan, and the status of the Jews and other non-believers, let us turn our attention to the topic which actually served as the catalyst for my writing this current series.

If you happen to be a knowledgeable Christian, then you will already know that all of the verses which I have shared in this series, are taken straight from God's Authoritative Word, the Holy Bible, and that they constitute sound, clear Christian doctrine. These verses, and many others like them, form the very foundation, the very core, and the central belief system of our Christian faith. If we remove Christ as the Principle Figure, and if we eliminate His Sacrifice as the Cornerstone of what we believe, then our faith becomes essentially meaningless; and it is no different than any other worldly religion which promotes peace, love, kindness and good will towards men. Without Jesus' Atoning Sacrifice, our faith becomes a dry religion of self-righteous works.

The other day, while conducting some online research, I came across a certain news article, written not quite five years ago, and published by zenit.org, which really left me rather stunned. For those of you who are not familiar with ZENIT, on their website, they describe themselves as an international news agency, whose mission is "to provide objective coverage of events, documents and issues emanating from or concerning the Catholic Church". In other words, ZENIT is a staunchly pro-Catholic news website. The article in question, which I am reproducing in full below, is entitled "Are Believers Of Other Religions Saved?", and deals with some remarks made by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger. In particular, I would like to ask you to carefully note what Ratzinger states in the second paragraph below.

----- Begin Quote -----

ARE BELIEVERS OF OTHER RELIGIONS SAVED?

Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger Responds

ZENIT.org

September 5, 2000

VATICAN CITY, SEP 5 (ZENIT.org).- "How is it possible to explain the unique character of Christ and of the Catholic Church to a Jew or a Lutheran, a reporter asked Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, prefect of the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, during a press conference to present the "Dominus Iesus" declaration, which is concerned, precisely, with the unique and universal salvation of Christ and the Church.

Referring to a believing Jew, Cardinal Ratzinger clarified that "we are in agreement that a Jew, and this is true for believers of other religions, does not need to know or acknowledge Christ as the Son of God in order to be saved, if there are insurmountable impediments, of which he is not blameworthy, to preclude it. However, the fact that the Son of God entered history, made himself part of history, and is present as a reality in history, affects everyone."

The German Cardinal continued "I think it is important to explain that Christ did not go away to heaven, but has remained in history." Because of this, "we can say that the hidden and real presence of Christ in history affects us all, even those who are opposed or cannot encounter Christ. This is a reality that transforms history; it is something important for others, without violating their conscience."

In speaking of the universal character of the Church's salvation with a Lutheran, Cardinal Ratzinger said that "we all recognize objectively that the Church should be one, and we should all desire to find ourselves in a renewed Catholic Church on the road toward the future.

However, this objective necessity must be distinguished from the state of conscience of persons who learn their faith in their community and are nourished by the world of God in it." This state of conscience impedes some Christians from understanding the importance and necessity of unicity and the unity of the Church.

----- End Quoted Article -----

As I said a moment ago, I was really taken back by the claim that, in Cardinal Ratzinger's words:

"we are in agreement that a Jew, and this is true for believers of other religions, does not need to know or acknowledge Christ as the Son of God in order to be saved"

Right after that, Cardinal Ratzinger offers some other rather confusing and ambiguous statements, the purpose of which, at least in my view, seems to be to soften the harshness of what he is saying in the portion I have quoted above.

I have noticed before, that some of these Catholic leaders seem to have this propensity, that is, this special tendency, for making confusing, semi-veiled remarks; so that when they are done talking, one is not exactly sure what has been said, or what is intended to be understood. They are rather astute politicians. But then, as you may already know, the Catholic faith, in general, seems to enjoy shrouding things within a spirit of mystery; and the word "mystery" itself is found frequently throughout their doctrines and belief system. But, this is precisely what draws certain people to it, and they surely know it!

But allow me to ask you . . .

Do you accept that statement as being Scripturally sound? Do you believe that acknowledging Jesus Christ as the Son of God is not necessary in order for one to receive forgiveness of sins, and Salvation? Do you accept that Jews do not need to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior in order to be saved? How about Buddhists, or maybe Muslims, or Hindus, or Shintoists, or any other religious practitioner for that matter? I most certainly don't! Yet that is precisely what Cardinal Ratzinger appears to be saying. If I understand him correctly, his statement is in total contradiction to all of the Scriptures which I have shared with you in this series, concerning the universality of God's Salvation Plan, and the fact that Christ is the Key to it all, for everyone, without any room for exceptions.

To reiterate the key points of our faith: All have sinned; all deserve death according to God's own righteous Laws; all require a Savior in order to escape the penalties of sin; and Jesus Christ is God's one and only appointed Savior for all of mankind. How truly sad that former Cardinal, Joseph Ratzinger, doesn't seem to agree with this central Biblical doctrine.

Is it any wonder that some non-Catholics have begun to think that Pope Benedict XVI -- Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger -- may be the Antichrist or the False Prophet who is described in certain Bible prophecies? Please understand that I am not suggesting that I agree with this particular point of view concerning the man, but I must admit that I do find Cardinal Ratzinger's remarks quite alarming, and naturally, totally contrary to the Scriptures. What I find equally alarming, is the fact that approximately one billion Catholics worldwide, reverence this man, and look to him for spiritual guidance. Pope Benedict XVI is like a god to them. On one extremely pro-Catholic site which I visited two days ago, they even went so far as to refer to Ratzinger as "Lord Pope Benedict XVI", not to mention the usual "holy father" bit.

Let us not forget that, prior to becoming Pope Benedict XVI, as Prefect of the Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Cardinal Ratzinger's job was to establish, and to safeguard, Roman Catholic doctrine. It simply amazes me that he could have gotten it right on such important issues as marriage and divorce, abortion and birth control, stem cell research, homosexuality, etc., and then turn around and fall flat on his face, when it comes to the core element of our Christian faith. Ratzinger, what are you thinking??? You are really missing the mark!

Considering Ratzinger's own obviously apostate condition, is

this not a prime example of the blind leading the blind? As Jesus said, shall they not both fall into the ditch? Sadly, unless Pope Benedict XVI forsakes this devilish, misleading doctrine, it is a sure thing that millions of people will indeed fall into the ditch; that is to say, the very ditch of hell, or more appropriately, the Lake of Fire.

Why do I say this? Quite simply, because the words of this misguided Pope will help to further convince such people that their false religions are just fine, and that there is really no need for any of them to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Thanks to the tragic apostasy of Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, millions of people around the world will now fall into a spirit of false complacency. They are going to fail to recognize the urgency of their situation, and the dangerous condition in which they are in, if they continue to refuse to recognize and accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Such people may now need the shock treatment. They need to be made aware of the following Scriptural truth:

"For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape." 1 Thessalonians 5:3, KJV

"But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." Matthew 24:37-39, KJV

"It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God . . . For our God is a consuming fire." Hebrews 10:31, 12:29, KJV

"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." John 3:36, KJV

"For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;" Romans 1:18, KJV

"And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." Revelation 20:15, KJV

"But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death." Revelation 21:8, KJV

What a harsh picture indeed; but according to God's Word, it is exactly what awaits everyone who continues to stubbornly reject the Sacrifice of Jesus Christ until the end. As we've already seen, God is indeed patient; and He is very merciful; but He simply cannot wait forever. There must come a time when, in a symbolic sense, He will draw in the fishing nets; He will send forth His Harvesters; and He will gather His true children unto Himself, and then burn up the unbelieving chaff. As Jesus Himself said:

"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." Matthew 24:14, KJV

In this present day of rapid global communications, Internet technology, and widespread propagation of the Gospel, is it possible that our job will soon be accomplished? If that is indeed the case, what does that mean for those of you who have not yet accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? How much longer will you procrastinate? How much longer will you continue to resist God's Spirit speaking to your heart, and beseeching you to accept the Sacrifice of His dear Son? If you are one of such people, please consider the following verses:

"Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away." James 4:14, KJV

"The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever." Isaiah 40:7-8, KJV

"But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?" Luke 12:20, KJV

Again, I ask you to please seriously consider the truth which is found in the previous set of verses. You simply may not have as long as you think. There is no guarantee of tomorrow for any of us. If your day were to arrive, will you really be ready for it? Will you have made your plans for the future?

To reiterate, in my view, This is Cardinal Ratzinger's evil rebellion. If this is what he truly believes, and if I have understood his words correctly, then according to the Holy Scriptures, he appears to be a heretick of the first order. Pope Benedict XVI, as Ratzinger is now known, is in direct rebellion against the very Cornerstone of our Christian faith. His words totally contradict the truth of the Bible. Cardinal Ratzinger is preaching not just a perverted gospel, but in fact a false gospel. He is preaching another "Jesus". Based upon Ratzinger's own statements, it appears that the "Jesus" he preaches, did not die for the sins of all men everywhere. This, I do not accept, and you shouldn't either. As God's Word plainly tells us regarding such deceivers:

"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;" 1 Timothy 4:1, KJV "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;" 2 Timothy 4:3, KJV

"That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:" Ephesians 4:14-15, KJV

"Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein." Hebrews 13:9, KJV

"Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them." Romans 16:17, KJV

"But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him . . . For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works." 2 Corinthians 11:3-4, 13-15, KJV

"I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed." Galatians 1:6-9, KJV

"If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness; He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings, Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself." 1 Timothy 6:3-5, KJV

"Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds." 2 John 1:9-11, KJV Please go to part four for the conclusion of this series. Written by the WordWeaver wordweaver777@gmail.com http://www.endtimeprophecy.net

Cardinal Ratzinger's Rebellion -- A Mini-Biography And Exposé On Pope Benedict XVI : Part 4

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Ratzinger's Rebellion And False Gospel, Millions Of People Lost And Cursed Due To Believing Benedict XVI's Doctrine of Devils, Update: Pope Benedict XVI Announces His Resignation, Papal Prophecies Of St. Malachy, Petrus Romanus: The Final Pope Doctrine, Roman Catholic Church And Rome Predicted To Be Destroyed, Will Vatican Use Petrus Romanus Belief As A Means To Promote Their Own Agenda, People Deceived By Their Own Choice, Test The Spirits, Many False Predictions Over The Decades Have Made Me A Skeptic, Suggested Reading List

While Cardinal Ratzinger's papal name -- Benedict XVI -- may indeed mean "blessed", unless he repents of his foolishness and rebellion, and forsakes this devilish doctrine and false gospel which promotes the erroneous belief that one "does not need to know or acknowledge Christ as the Son of God in order to be saved", he may find himself in serious trouble with the Lord. Furthermore, millions of people may also be shocked to discover that rather than being blessed due to following the pope's words, they will in fact not only be cursed, but they will be cast out by the Father, and lost, because they chose to spurn the Son of God, foolishly tread His loving Sacrifice underfoot, and deemed the doctrines and traditions of men to be of more worth than the words of the Savior, who said:

". . . I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6b, KJV

Update: February 12, 2013:

In a speech before a consistory of cardinals on February 11, 2013, eighty-five year old Pope Benedict XVI shocked the Vatican -- and then the Roman Catholic world -- with the announcement that he intends to resign by the end of this month, due to his advanced age having negative effects on his physical and mental health. Pope Benedict XVI is the first pope to make the decision to resign in just under six hundred years. The last pope to do so -- and for different reasons -- was Pope Gregory XII, who resigned in 1415. As a result, the College of Cardinals will convoke a conclave in order to select a new pope by the end of March of this same year.

As a result of Benedict XVI's announcement, Internet chatter and offline discussion have reached a fevered pitch regarding the so-called "papal prophecies" of St. Malachy. As I explain in the article "Nostradamus: Prophet of God, or Messenger of Satan?", according to St. Malachy's predictions -- that is, if one even believes them -- the next pope will supposedly be the final pope, and will take the Latin name of "Petrus Romanus"; that is, Peter the Roman. Based on one popular interpretation of Malachy's predictions, it is claimed that this final pope will betray the Vatican, and that Rome and the Roman Catholic Church will be destroyed. If you would like to learn more about these predictions, please refer to the aforementioned article.

Quite frankly, I am glad that this is happening; not so much because I don't like the Roman Catholic Church, but because I suspect that with the election of the next pope, another bogus "prophecy" will finally be exposed for the deception that it truly is. In my opinion, what will be most interesting is how the Vatican may possibly use the widespread belief in "Petrus Romanus" for its own selfish ends. In other words, will the next pope actually choose the name "Peter", simply to achieve some hidden Vatican agenda? We don't have long to find out, as the end of March is only seven weeks away at the time of this update.

Of course, if the next pope chooses a name other than "Peter", then it will obviously prove from the start of his papacy that St. Malachy's "prophecy" is in fact false, and that there is no False Prophet or Antichrist named Petrus Romanus. Not only that, but it will also prove that the next pope probably is not the final pope. However, I suspect that even if the next pope does not take the name of "Peter", there are some people who are so deceived, that they will still find a roundabout way to make some imaginary connection between the next pope and Petrus Romanus. In other words, they will be deceived by their own choice. I am reminded of the following verse:

"But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived." 2 Timothy 3:13, KJV

If some of you are wondering why I am so skeptical of all of the hype which is currently surrounding Pope Benedict XVI's resignation and the "papal prophecies" of St. Malachy, as I explain in such series as "Sorry . . . Jesus is Not Coming at Any Moment", and "The Misguided End of the World Predictions of Harold Camping", it is because I have seen so many failed "prophecies" and predictions over the past forty plus years. Contrary to what some people may think, in this current age of strong deception, being in possession of a healthy dose of skepticism can actually be a good thing. After all, as I point out in other articles, the Apostle John does in fact advise us to try -- or test -- the spirits, in order to determine if what is being said is truly of God, as we see here:

"Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world." 1 John 4:1, KJV

With these thoughts I will bring this series to a close. I hope that you have found it informative, and I pray that it has been a blessing and an inspiration in your life. If you have enjoyed reading this series, please consider sharing its URL with your online friends. If you have an account with Facebook, Twitter or Google+, I would also appreciate if you would take the time to click on the corresponding link that is found on this page. Thanks so much, and may God bless you abundantly!

For additional information and further study, you may want to refer to the list of reading resources below which were also mentioned in this series, or which are related to the topics which were discussed in this series. All of them are also located on the Endtime Prophecy Net web server:

Have You Read the New Scriptures Yet? Is God a Racist? Lies and Deceptions of the Roman Catholic Church Lying Wonders of the Endtime Mary Worship, Christianity and Roman Catholicism Message to the World Nostradamus: Prophet of God or Messenger of Satan? Pontifex Maximus: Pagan High Priest to Roman Catholic Pope Roman Catholicism, Water Baptism and the Trinity Sorry . . Jesus is Not Coming at Any Moment The Blood Atonement: In Jesus' Own Words The Great Tribulation and the Rapture The Misguided End of the World Predictions of Harold Camping The Woman in the Wilderness and the 144,000 To Pray or Not to Pray, That is the Question

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