

## Global Totalitarianism and Commerce

Last week we sought to establish 2 points:

- 1) That this whole series is an exercise in building **faith, hope, and love**, not fear, despair, and panic, as Jesus and Mary clearly intend.
- 2) That as Satan unleashes his final fury, we are now experiencing the great apostasy or “falling away” from both Jesus and His Church, as taught by Scripture, the Catechism, the Popes, & Mary.

Today we will explore one of the cause of that apostasy: The enforcement of an anti-God, anti-Church, and anti-morality norm on the whole world, a norm which increasingly becomes pre-requisite for any and all political or commercial interchanges world-wide.

The fundamental Scriptural premise for this “Sign of the Time” is found in the Apocalypse to St. John (Revelation), especially Chapter 13, but also in parts of Chapters 14, 16, 17, and 19, as well as in the passage we cited last week from St. Paul, 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12. In fact, based on these Scriptures and others, many of the early Church Fathers taught that, as the end of the present age approaches, a global regime inspired and authorized by Satan, the “liar” and “father of lies”, will stamp out the sovereignty and the rights of many individual nations and peoples.

To give us a better grasp of the meaning of these passages, we will ease our way into the subject through the teachings of our recent Popes.

In Evangelium Vitae, Pope John Paul II’s encyclical that contrasts the culture of life which modern society rejects with the culture of death which it embraces, the Holy Father makes a most telling point:

*With tragic consequences, a long historical process is reaching a turning-point. (This) process once led to the discovery that the concept of “basic human rights”, such as the right to life, is inherent in every person and prior to any Constitution and legislation of the State. But now these inherent rights based on the inviolable dignity of each and every person are everywhere being suppressed in favour of the claimed rights of the stronger over the weaker. In this way democracy, by undermining its own founding principles, effectively turns itself into another form of totalitarianism.*

At the Denver World Youth Day in 1993 the Holy Father made all the connections:

*The struggle parallels the apocalyptic combat described in Revelation 12. Death battles against life: a “culture of death” seeks to impose itself on our desire to live, and to live to the full.... Vast sectors of society are confused about what is right and what is wrong, and are at the mercy of those with the power to “create” opinion and impose it on others.... The “dragon” (Rev. 12:3), who is the “ruler of this world” (John 12:31) and the “father of lies” (Jn8:44) relentlessly tries to eradicate from human hearts the sense of gratitude and respect for the original extraordinary and fundamental gift from God: human life itself. Today that struggle has reached a new pitch of direct confrontation.*

In March of 2000, Cardinal Ratzinger (later Pope Benedict) reflected further on the commercial aspect of this global regimentation and what it implies for the human person. He said:

*The Apocalypse speaks about God's antagonist, the beast. This animal does not have a name, but a number. In the horror of the concentration camps they cancelled faces and personal history, transforming you into a number, reducing you to a cog in an enormous machine. You are no more than a function. The world today is voluntarily taking on more and more characteristics of a concentration camp in which the universal law of the machine takes over and treats people by the law of numbers. You become a computer and the only way to deal with you is with numbers. The beast is a number and transforms everyone else into numbers. In contrast, God has a name and calls us by our name. He is a person and sees us only as persons.*

The irony is that the very characteristics of what President Ronald Reagan famously called “the Evil Empire” – the Communist tyrannies of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century – against which we armed ourselves to the teeth, have now become the **freely chosen** characteristics of our Western Democracies: repudiation of God, trivializing of human life, the reign of materialism, promotion of false ideologies that no one is allowed to question, suppression of dissenting minorities, state monopoly on the education of children and the training of teachers, etc. We have in a host of ways subtly become the Evil Empire which our grandparents died to save us from.

In 1917, before the Communist take-over, the Blessed Virgin told us that there was only one way for us to avoid another World War and the horror of seeing Russia spread its errors throughout the world – the world must repent of its sins and its rejection of God and be consecrated by the Pope to Her Immaculate Heart.\* Today, the world has instead baptized its sins and called them virtues, rather than repenting of them,

and the Pope's consecration of the world to Mary's Immaculate Heart has affected far too few people. What can we expect?

Mark Mallett sums it up well:

*The powerful undercurrent beneath the surface is a new totalitarianism – an intellectual dictatorship that uses the state's coercive powers to control those who disagree by accusing them of “intolerance” and “discrimination”, of “hate speech” and “hate crime.” (p.81f.)*

With the victory of Barak Obama in the American Presidential election of 2008, James Francis Cardinal Stafford foresaw, based on Obama's history of promoting a radical anti-life and anti-Catholic agenda, what was in store for the Church in the days ahead.

*In the intervening 40 years since Humanae Vitae, the United States has been thrown upon ruins.... For the next few years, Gethsemane will not be marginal to our experience. We will know that Garden all too well.*

Let us turn now to Sacred Scripture. First a reminder of what we noted in passing last week, in terms of the global reign of an anti-God figure just before the close of this age:

*[Read 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12 again – See last week's presentation.]*

And now for a much closer look at the main Scriptural foundation for the particular “Sign of our Times” which we, with Mark Mallett, have

called “Global Totalitarianism and Global Commerce”. We will take a “lectio divina” approach to these passages:

*[Read these passages aloud and interpret and discuss them.]*

- 1) Revelation 12 – This passage describes the defeat of the Red Dragon by St. Michael, his fall from heaven, and his rage on earth against Mary and the whole Church, “her other offspring”, “because he knows that his time is short.”
- 2) The Red Dragon behind it all is Satan (12:3,9)
- 3) The **leopard**-like Beast (13:1-10) is the earthly “incarnation” of the Red Dragon, Satan.  
Free Masonry and its counterparts, in attacking and invading the Church **from the outside**, are a perfect expression of this Beast.
- 4) The **lamb**-like Beast (13:11-18) is the earthly expression of the Red Dragon identified as eroding and corrupting the Church **from the inside** and predisposing many people to accept the first Beast, who is a satanic imposter, as an authentic replacement for God and Jesus, and using religious and moral arguments to make the normal transactions of everyday commerce impossible for anyone who does not do so.  
This Beast is identified with the False Prophet in Revelation 19:20.

{N.B. Dr. Kelly Bowring, p.150f. points out that this Beast, in the name of religion, actually **reverses the 10 Commandments**, all of them, right down the line!

This is very scary,  
because this is exactly what liberal Christianity has done,  
whether Protestant and Catholic.

Check it out: **Exodus 20:1-17**

This is one of the surest ways of telling the difference between the True Church and the False Prophet - this Beast, between true Christianity and popular religion masquerading as “Christian” which is actually diabolical in origin. }

Revelation 14:9-13 – Those who cave in to the Beast shall share its fate.

Revelation 16:2 – Wrath of God (as taught in Romans 1:24,26)

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God’s giving people up  
to the logical consequences of **their own** bad choices.

Revelation 16:13-14 – Satan is the source of the deceptive signs and wonders which will occur just before “the great day of God the Almighty”. (2 Thessalonians 2:9-12)

Revelation 19:19-20 – The final defeat of Satan and his earthly expressions is rapid and total.

We end this evening on the note sounded in Revelation 13:10:

*Here is a call for the endurance and faith of the saints.*

**-Endurance** is making use of our God-given ability to resist the constant temptation to apostatize, that is, to betray Jesus and embrace the enemy.

**-Faith** is making use of our God-given ability to be true to Jesus in all circumstances and to see beyond the present trials to Jesus' final Victory over the hosts of evil and to the Marriage Feast of the Lamb.

This is our call today.

\*The exact wording of Our Lady's message of July 13, 1917, to the children is as follows:

*"Sacrifice yourselves for sinners, and say many times, especially whenever you make some sacrifice: O Jesus, it is for love of You, for the conversion of sinners, and in reparation for the sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary."*

After the vision of Hell: *"You have seen Hell where the souls of poor sinners go. To save them, God wishes to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart. If what I say to you is done, many souls will be saved and there will be peace. The war is going to end: but if people do not cease offending God, a worse one will break out during the Pontificate of Pius XI...."*

*To prevent this, I shall come to ask for the consecration of Russia to my Immaculate Heart and the communion of Reparation on the First Saturdays. If my requests are heeded, Russia will be converted and be at peace; if not, she will spread her errors throughout the world, causing wars and persecutions of the Church. The good will be martyred, the Holy Father will have much to suffer, various nations will be annihilated.... In the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph. The Holy Father will consecrate \Russia to me, and she will be converted, and a period of peace will be granted to the world...."*