

Short Answer Series # 28

Will the final Pope be the Anti-Christ?

Many Christians believe the 'Anti-Christ' will be an atheistic World Leader, who persecutes Christians. But, 'Anti' means 'against,' and it doesn't mean 'against' God, as in non-religious, but 'against' Christ, against Christianity. The Anti-Christ will not be an atheistic world Leader, but he will rather be a wolf-in-sheep's-clothing, a 'Christian' Leader, whose leadership has little to do with 'Christ.'

The Lord said, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me." (John 14v6.) But Pope Francis has announced, "All religions are true," and he is wooing all Nominal 'Christian' Denominations, (those that are 'Christian' in name only, and function without the Lord's Presence), Islam, Eastern Religions, Wicca, Animists, Paganists, and all the other Religions that abound in a world that doesn't know Jesus Christ, to join with him, in forming a World Religion, with Rome, and especially, himself, at the head of it. Why does this suggest he may be the 'Anti-Christ?' Let's look at what has been said on the subject by faithful Catholics.

Archbishop Fulton Sheen warned, "The False Prophet will have a Religion without a Cross. A Religion without a world-to-come, a Religion to destroy Religions. There will be a counter-Church, Christ's Church will be one, and the False Prophet will create the other. The False Church will be worldly, ecumenical, and global. It will be a loose, federation of Churches, and Religions, that forms some type of Global Association, a world Parliament of Churches. It will be emptied of all Divine content. It will be the Mystical body of the Anti-Christ. The mystical body on earth today, will have its Judas Iscariot, and he will be the False-Prophet. Satan will recruit him from among our Bishops." That sounds much like what is going on in Rome today. Forming a Global Religious Association, without any Divine content; ie, without God being present, or even welcome in it. A Godless World Religion, being led by one of their 'Bishops.'

Father Lomer said, "The Catholic Church under the leading of sacred tradition teaches that the final Pope will defect from the faith." Pope Francis has said so much that is contrary to the traditional teachings of Catholicism, that Bishops, and even Cardinals, are speaking out against him. In 1226, St Francis forewarned, "There is an hour coming when there is going to be a tremendous schism in our Church; Priest against Priest, Cardinals against Cardinals, it's going to be a horrendous day when it comes." Today, the Catholic Clergy are either in support of their Pope, because of his Office, or they are publicly speaking against him, because of his heresies, and this is creating a schism within Catholicism. His speeches, coming from one who is supposedly 'infallible' are making him unpopular with his own clergy.

Malachi Martin wrote "In that day when this False-Prophet comes on the scene, of Revelation 13v11, the Roman Catholics will then have the spectacle of a Pope validly elected, who cuts the entire visible body of the Church loose from the traditional unity, and the Papacy-oriented Apostolic structure, that the Church hitherto has always believed, and taught was Divinely established." The Catholic laity are taught their Pope is Divinely appointed, so they are loathe to question his pronouncements. But in order to create his 'World Religion,' he has to compromise on traditional Catholic Dogma, and open his arms to other religions, that in the past were shunned as heretics, and in doing this, and pleasing his new bedfellows, he risks estranging himself from those who respect and support him. This leaves many faithful Catholics somewhat bewildered, and wondering just what is going on? For 1700 years they have been taught their Church teachings are immutable, and unquestionable, yet here, the Pope himself is erring from.

In the 12th century, the Archbishop of Armagh, St Malachy O'Morghair, had a vision of the 113 Popes there would be until the end, and he wrote a short Latin phrase to describe each one. Pope Benedict was number 111, and Pope Francis 112. In 1625, Fr Thomas Messingham, edited the list of St Malachy, and combined 112, and 113, into one. Of this one, he translated, "During the final persecution of the Roman Church, Petrus Romanus (Peter the Roman, the Pope), will reign, who will nourish his believers in many sufferings. After that, the town of seven hills, (Rome), will be destroyed, and the dreadful Judge (Jesus Christ), will sentence his people."

If there are only 112 Popes, this Prophecy relates to Pope Francis; if not, it relates to Pope 113. There was a Prophecy given many years ago, about a 'Pope out of America.' If this is so, there will be 113 Popes but, time will prove all things.

Revelation 18 describes the destruction of Rome, (Babylon), at the end of the Tribulation, when the last Pope, and the last Gentile world empire, the restored Roman Empire, will be destroyed by Jesus Christ, at His return. This fulfils Nebuchadnezzar's dream of Daniel 2, the Roman Empires feet of iron and clay being destroyed by the 'Stone cut without hands,' i.e. not made by man. Will the final Pope be the anti-Christ? It seems so, but you decide.

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