

A COMPARISON BETWEEN THE ANTICHRIST & THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

The Antichrist...	The Roman Catholic Church...
is one who sets himself up as an opponent to Christ, or as a replacement for Christ. 1Jn 2:18; 2 Thess. 2:4	has a leader who claims to be "vicar of Christ" – or Christ on earth. ^{5, 21, 24}
originated in the 1 st century. 1Jn. 2:18; 4:3; 2Thess. 2:7	claims unbroken succession of Popes back to Peter in the 1 st Century. ¹⁶
is not just a singular individual but will be a group of people – a system. 1Jn. 2:18; 4:1; Matthew 24:24; 2Thess. 2:7	is a group or system, headed by a single individual. ^{7, 17, 18}
was originally part of the true system of religion (the first century Church). 1Jn. 2:19; Acts 20:30	traces its origin to the 1 st Century Church. ^{6, 16}
is associated with lying wonders, falsehood, and deceit - an apostasy from the true gospel. 2Thess. 2:3, 9; 1Tim.4:1	has doctrines borrowed from Greek mythology and paganism, and claims many "miracles". ^{28, 29, 30, 34, 35}
teaches a concept that contradicts the true relationship between God and Jesus. A doctrine that teaches Jesus didn't have our human nature. 1Jn. 4:3	espouses the doctrine of the Trinity, which denies the true relationship between God and Jesus, and teaches that Jesus has God's nature. ^{27, 31}
will be a popular system. 2Jn 7; 2Pet. 2:2-3	claims membership of over a billion. ³⁸
will exist before Christ returns to gather believers to himself. 2Thess. 2:1-3	has existed for almost 2000 years. ^{25, 30, 36}
is revealed at the same time there is an apostasy from the true gospel. 2Thess. 2:1-3	came to prominence when Constantine made the Trinity the official Church teaching. ^{27, 30}
exalts himself over all, and claims to be God. 2Thess. 2:4; Daniel 7:24-25; 8:23	has a Pope who claims, rulership over all lands, and to be "God on earth". ^{1, 2, 3, 11, 12, 14, 18, 19}
rules from a pseudo temple of God, and claims to rule as a king! 2Thess. 2:4; Daniel 7:24-25; 8:23	claims the Vatican is God's throne and Temple, and allows the Pope to wear a crown. ^{5, 10, 23}
has false doctrines that include dietary regulations and enforced celibacy. 2Tim. 4:2-3	has dietary regulations still enforced, and its priests and nuns are celibate. ^{39, 40}
persecutes true believers and gains wealth through merchandizing. Daniel 7:25; Revelation 17:6; 18:24	has a history of persecuting "heretics", and has incredible wealth and political influence. ^{36, 37}
can monitor events throughout the world – "seeing" all that goes on, and making global proclamations! Dan. 7:8; Revelation 13:7-8; 17:1-2,15	ironically calls the Vatican "the Holy See", and uses its network of ministers to control and monitor the masses of Roman Catholics. ¹⁶
tries to change the times and laws appointed by God. Daniel 7:25	was influential in establishing the calendar used throughout the world today, and has many traditions/laws that negate God's laws. ⁴
has its power limited by God to 1260 years (referred to as 42 'prophetic' months). Dan. 7:25; Re 13:5	has ruled by several schemes – many lasting for a period of 1260 years. ⁴⁴
is associated with the Roman power that took away the daily sacrifice and destroyed God's sanctuary at Jerusalem in A.D. 70. Daniel 8:11	succeeded the Roman Empire – taking for itself many attributes of Caesar's empire. ^{15, 23, 25}
uses peace to destroy. This false religious system appears to be loving and peaceful – but its true motives are quite the contrary! Daniel 8:25	appears benign and harmless to the majority of people, especially under the current frail Pope. ^{22, 23}
originated from Rome and Greece – showing a pagan and Greek influence in its doctrines and practices. With an Eastern and Western element. Daniel 2	split into two parts – The Roman Church in the West, and Greek Orthodox in the East. ^{25, 26, 29, 30}
attains global influence over all "kindreds, and tongues, and nations", and is worshipped. Revelation 13:7-8; 17:1-2,15	dominates many countries, and the current Pope has visited more countries and met more dignitaries than any other person in history. ^{9, 23}
is arrayed in purple and scarlet. Revelation 17:4	has archbishops and cardinals arrayed in these colours. ⁴³
is associated with "mystery". 2Thess. 2:7; Revelation 17:5	has many doctrines, like the Trinity, it considers mysterious – not understandable by the "average" member. ^{32, 33, 42}
is considered a "mother" church, with harlot daughters. Revelation 17:5	still considers itself the mother of all Christian churches – the Protestant denominations are its daughters. ²⁰
is associated with a city built on 7 hills. Revelation 17:9, 18	is founded in Rome – a city famous for its 7 hills. ⁴¹
will be destroyed by Christ at his coming. 2Thess. 2:8	Still to occur!

Footnotes: Below are references to support claims made about the Catholic Church above:

1. "The Pope is of so great dignity and so exalted that he is not mere man, but as it were God, and the vicar of God."
2. "Hence the Pope is crowned with a triple crown, as king of heaven and of earth and of the lower regions."
3. "As to papal authority, the Pope is as it were God on earth, Sole sovereign of all the faithful of Christ, chief king of kings, having a plentitude of unbroken power, entrusted by the omnipotent God to govern the earthly and heavenly kingdoms."
4. "The Pope is of so great authority and power, that he is able to modify, declare, or interpret even divine laws."

Source: Lucius Ferraris, "Papa," art. 2, in his Prompta Bibliotheca Canonica, Juridica, Moralis, Theologica, Ascetica, Polemica, Rubristica, Historica. ("Handy Library"), Vol. 5, published in Petit-Montrouge (Paris) by J. P. Migne, 1858 edition, column 1823, Latin.

5. "In the coronation of all popes the tiara is placed on the candidate's head with the words: "Receive the tiara adorned with three crowns and know that thou art Father of princes and kings, Ruler of the world, Vicar of our Savior Jesus Christ."

Source: Paul Hutchinson and Winfred E. Garrison, 20 Centuries of Christianity: A Concise History (1st ed.), p. 120. © 1959 by Harcourt, Brace and World, Inc., New York.

6. "That the Roman Church was founded by the Lord [Jesus] alone."
7. "That the Roman Pontiff alone is justly called **universal.**"
8. "That he alone can depose bishops or restore them ..."
9. "That all princes should kiss the feet of the pope alone..."
10. "That it is lawful for him to depose emperors ..."
11. "That his sentence ought not to be reviewed by any one; and he alone can review [the decisions] of all."
12. "That he ought to be judged by no one ..."
13. "That the Roman Church never erred; nor will it, according to Scripture, ever err ..."
14. "That he can absolve subjects from their allegiance to unrighteous [rulers]."

Source: Gregory VII (1073-1085 A.D.), Dictatus Papae ("Dictates of the Pope"; sometimes called the Dictates of Hilderbrand), Latin text in Karl Hofmann, Der Dictatus Papae Gregors VII (Paderborn [Germany]: Ferdinand Schöningh, 1933), p. 11.

15. "The papal theory ... made the Pope alone God's representative on earth and maintained that the Emperor received his right to rule from St. Peter's successor...and culminated with Boniface VIII. at the jubilee of 1300 when, seated on the throne of Constantine, girded with the imperial sword, wearing a crown, and waving a sceptre, he shouted to the throng of loyal pilgrims: "I am Caesar—I am Emperor.""

Source: Alexander Clarence Flick, The Rise of the Mediaeval Church (reprint; New York: Burt Franklin, [1959]), p. 413

16. "We likewise define that the holy Apostolic See, and the Roman Pontiff, hold the primacy throughout the entire world; and that the Roman Pontiff himself is the successor of blessed Peter, the chief of the Apostles, and the true vicar of Christ, and that he is the head of the entire Church, and the father and teacher of all Christians... just as is contained in the acts of the ecumenical Councils and in the sacred canons.""

Source: Pope Eugene IV, Papal Bull Laetentur Coeli, dated July 6th, 1439, Denzinger, The Sources of Catholic Dogma, Translated by Roy J. Deferrari, from the Thirtieth Edition of Henry Denzinger's Enchiridion Symbolorum, published by B. Herder Book Co., Copyright 1957, page 220, #694.

17. "The dogma of Papal Infallibility ... involves a question of absolute power...It is the direct antipode of the Protestant principle of the absolute supremacy and infallibility of the Holy Scriptures. It establishes a perpetual divine oracle in the Vatican. Every Catholic may hereafter say, I believe—not because Christ, or the Bible, or the Church, but—because the infallible Pope has so declared and commanded."

Source: Philip Schaff, The Creeds of Christendom (4th ed., rev.; New York: Harper, 1919), Vol. 1, pp. 164, 165.

18. "But the supreme teacher in the Church is the Roman Pontiff. Union of minds, therefore, requires, together with a perfect accord in the one faith, complete submission and obedience of will to the Church and to the Roman Pontiff, as to God Himself."

Source: Pope Leo XIII, Encyclical Letter, Sapientiae Christianae (On the Chief Duties of Christians as Citizens), dated January 10, 1890, trans. in The Great Encyclical Letters of Pope Leo XIII (New York: Benziger, 1903), p. 193.

19. "We [the pope] hold upon this earth the place of God Almighty, ... "

Source: Pope Leo XIII, Apostolic Exhortation Praeclara Gratulationis Publicae (The Reunion of Christendom), June 20, 1894, trans. in The Great Encyclical Letters of Pope Leo XIII (New York: Benziger, 1903), paragraph 5, page 304

20. "The Roman Church, as the mother and mistress of all the faithful, by the will of Christ obtains primacy of jurisdiction over all other Churches." These declarations were preceded by the consent of antiquity which ever acknowledged, without the slightest doubt or hesitation, the Bishops of Rome, and revered them, as the legitimate successors of St. Peter. ..."

Source: Pope Leo XIII, Encyclical Letter SATIS COGNITUM (On the Unity of the Church), June 29, 1896.

21. "The pope is not only the representative of Jesus Christ, but he is Jesus Christ Himself, hidden under the veil of the flesh. Does the pope speak? It is Jesus Christ who speaks. Does the pope accord a favour or pronounce an anathema? It is Jesus Christ who accords the favour or pronounces that anathema. So that when the pope speaks we have no business to examine."

22. "The Pope represents Jesus Christ Himself, and therefore is a loving father. The life of the Pope is a holocaust of love for the human family. His word is love; love, his weapon; love, the answer he gives to all who hate him; love, his flag, i.e., the Cross, which signed the greatest triumph on earth and in heaven."

Source: Radio Replies, Second Volume, by Rev. Dr. Leslie Rumble, M.S.C. and Rev. Charles Mortimer Carty, Copyright 1940, printed by Radio Replies Press, St. Paul 1, Minn., U.S.A., #310, page 84.

23. "Why is it that in this country where we have only seven per cent of the population, the Catholic Church is so much feared? She is loved by all her children and feared by everybody. Why is it the Pope has such tremendous power? Why, the Pope is the ruler of the world. All the emperors, all the kings, all the princes, all the presidents of the world are as these altar boys of mine. The Pope is the ruler of the world."

Source: The Western Watchman, a paper published in St. Louis by Father D. S. Phelan, June 27th, 1912

24. "... Thus the priest, as is said with good reason, is indeed "another Christ"; for, in some way, he is himself a continuation of Christ. ..."

Source: Pope Pius XI, Encyclical AD CATHOLICI SACERDOTII (On the Catholic Priesthood), on 20 December 1935.

25. "Whatever Roman elements the barbarians and Arians left ... [came] under the protection of the Bishop of Rome, who was the chief person there after the Emperor's disappearance... The Roman Church in this way privily pushed itself into the place of the Roman World-Empire, of which it is the actual continuation; the empire has not perished, but has only undergone a transformation... That is no mere "clever remark," but the recognition of the true state of the matter historically, and the most appropriate and fruitful way of describing the character of this Church. It still governs the nations... It is a political creation, and as imposing as a World-Empire, because the continuation of the Roman Empire, the Pope, who calls himself "King" and "Pontifex Maximus," is Caesar's successor."

26. "The Papal title of Pontiff originated with the Caesars of Rome, which declared Caesar to be the head of the Sun worshipping Pagan church. This title was adopted by the Bishop of Rome with the demise of the Roman empire, and it makes the Pope the head of the pagan church of Rome."

Source: Adolf Harnack, What Is Christianity? trans. by Thomas Bailey Saunders (2d ed., rev.; New York: Putnam, 1901), pp. 269, 270. [Ernest Benn Ltd., London, has recently published a new edition of this book.]

27. "I believe in ... one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God. Born of the Father before all ages. God of God, light of light, true God of true God. Begotten not made; being of one substance with the Father...."

Source: The Nicene Creed (325 AD)

28. "The Trinity is a corruption borrowed from the heathen religions and engrafted on the Christian faith."

Source: A Dictionary of Religious Knowledge. Lyman Abbott; 1875. Trinity;944

29. "Alexandrian Christianity had a special flavour. In this turbulent and intellectually saturated melting pot, outstanding thinkers drew on the latest trends in Greek philosophy to explain biblical texts and expound Church doctrines."

Source: (R. Rubenstein, When Jesus Became God, pg. 5)

30. "If Paganism was conquered by Christianity, it is equally true that Christianity was corrupted by Paganism. The pure Deism of the first century Christians was changed by the Church of Rome, into the incomprehensible dogma of the trinity. Many of the pagan tenets...idealized by Plato, were retained as being worthy of belief."

Source: (Gibbon, E. History of Christianity. New York: Arno Press; 1972)

31. "Within the unity of the One God there are three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; and these three share the same nature and attributes. In effect then, the three persons are the One God."

Source: Dr. Walter Martin, author of The Kingdom of the Cults.

32. "At its core the Blessed Trinity is mystery; we can attempt to describe it but we can never quite capture its awesome truth in human language."

Source: David Palm at <http://ic.net/~erasmus/RAZ240.HTM>

33. "The Mystery of Faith: An Introduction to Catholicism: *Trinity*" with Father Michael Himes

Source: the title of a video offered at <http://catalog.americancatholic.org/product.asp?prodid=V1110>

34. "The last century-and-a-half has seen numerous accounts of appearances of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Jesus, Himself, is said to speak to a few of the seers. Some of the apparitions have received official approval by the Roman Catholic Church."

Source: <http://www.apparitions.org/>

35. "The Catholic miracles and ecstasies make belief easier for one section of Christianity; but Protestantism—which cuts off miracles at the end of Apostolic Times—has committed suicide."

Source: J. Arthur Hill, *The Hibbert Journal*, October, 1906, vol. V, p. 118

36. On March 12th, 2000, at the Vatican in Rome, Pope John Paul II formally asked forgiveness for the various persecution sins committed by the Catholic Church over the last two millennium. In his "Day of Pardon" homily, the pope confessed: "... we cannot fail to recognize the infidelities to the Gospel committed by some of our brethren, especially during the second millennium. Let us ask pardon for the divisions which have occurred among Christians, for the violence some have used in the service of the truth and for the distrustful and hostile attitudes sometimes taken towards the followers of other religions."

37. "It has been calculated that...the Catholic Church would by the close of the present century [the year 2000] own, control and have a say, directly or indirectly, in at least one-third of all the sources of wealth of the western world...Jesus, the founder of Christianity, was the poorest of the poor. Roman Catholicism, which claims to be His church, is the richest of the rich, the wealthiest institution on earth."

Source: Avro Manhattan, *"The Vatican Billions"* (1983)

38. "The number of baptised Catholics increased worldwide by 38% in the 22 years to 2000, to just over one billion, or 17.3% of mankind, according to statistics released ahead of the publication of the Statistical Yearbook of the Church."

Source: <http://www.cathnews.com/news/205/27.php>

39. "The vast majority of Catholics today do not know that there is an existing obligation to abstain from meat on all Fridays of the year."

Source: The National Conference of Catholic (American) Bishops – <http://www.trosch.org/for/the/abs-main.htm>

40. "It is clear...that the Roman Catholic Church has had a long tradition of requiring celibacy of its priests. By the ordinary rules of traditional morality chastity has always been required of them."

Source: CatholicDirectory.org

41. "It is within the city of Rome, called the city of seven hills, that the entire area of Vatican State proper is now confined."

Source: *The Catholic Encyclopedia* (Thomas Nelson, 1976), s.v. "Rome."

42. Rome's new *Catechism* explains that liturgy "aims to initiate souls into the mystery of Christ (It is 'mystagogy.')" and that all of the Church's liturgy is "mystery." Note: *liturgy means a customary repertoire of ideas, phrases, or observances.*

Source: *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (The Wanderer Press, 1994), p. 279, para. 1075.

43. "The close-fitting, ankle-length robe worn by the Catholic clergy as their official garb.... The colour for bishops and other prelates is purple, for cardinals scarlet."

Source: *Our Sunday Visitor's Catholic Encyclopedia* (Our Sunday Visitor Publishing Division, 1991) pp. 175, 178

44. In 533 AD Justin the Emperor of Constantinople decreed the Bishop of Rome as Head of the Church. It was not actually effected until the Ostrogoths were driven from Rome in 538 AD.

The decree of the French Revolution in 1793 AD was followed by the stroke with the sword at Rome in 1798 AD. Berthier entered Rome on the 10th Feb 1798 AD and proclaimed a republic, and took the Pope prisoner. Both of these time periods of Papal power are 1260 years in duration!