



April 2014

Newsletter

SPECIAL EDITION

CLEAVER OF TRUTH
Ministry
2558 Clem Lowell Rd
Carrollton GA 30116
Ph (770) 854-6658

Dear Reader,

We are living in an awesome time in earth's history. I'm afraid most of Christendom is not aware of how close we could be to our Lords coming. We can see prophecy being fulfilled almost on a daily basis.

Cleaver of Truth's purpose for existing is to help people be aware of God's truth and be ready for our Lord's return.

No one knows the day and hour of our Lord's return but prophecy is given to us so we can know when it is near.

Scripture says in AMOS 3:7 "Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets."

Revelation chapter 13 rightly understood tells who is working to bring about a new world order and a one world church and who is going to enforce the mark of the beast.

Here is a verse by verse analysis of the thirteenth chapter of Revelation with current events and history to make it clear what to expect and who is working behind the scenes to control and destroy Protestantism and Christianity before Jesus comes.

For those of you that have computers, I suggest you go to u tube and watch Kenneth Copeland's meeting with Tony Palmer and Pope Francis.

Revelation 13 Explained

Revelation 13:1 And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up *out of the sea*, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.

Note: Revelation 17:15 And he saith unto me, *The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.* (This beast nation comes from great population.)

The prophet John is in vision and he sees a beast coming up out of the sea having seven heads and ten horns. In order to arrive at a true interpretation of what John sees we need to go to the only source of truth, the Bible. In the book of Daniel chapter 7 verses 17 and 18 we find a beast is a king or kingdom. The beast also has ten horns and a horn is also a nation or power.

Smiths Bible dictionary says; "**Horn:** The word "horn" is often used metaphorically to signify strength and honor, because horns are the chief weapons and ornaments of the animals which possess them; hence they are also used as a type of victory. Of *strength* the horn of the unicorn was the most frequent representative.

This beast nations heads (leaders) wore crowns which denote victory and upon their heads was the name of blasphemy. One way to blaspheme God is to claim the prerogatives which belong to God alone such as claiming the right to forgive sin as the Pope and his priests do.

"Luke 5:21 And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, Who is this which speaketh blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone?"

Revelation 13:2 And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as [the feet] of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.

This beast has characteristics of a lion, a bear and a leopard. Where in the bible do we find these three beasts mention together? In Daniel 7 verses 4-7 we read, "The first [was] like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was

lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it.

Daniel 7:5 And behold another beast, a second, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and [it had] three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh.

7:6 After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it.

7:7 After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it [was] diverse from all the beasts that [were] before it; and it had ten horns.

If we go to history we will find that nations used animals as national symbols the USA uses the *eagle*. Babylon's symbol is a *lion*. (The picture is a lion on the wall of the gate of Babylon.)

The second beast is a bear and is the double kingdom of the Medes and Persians and the third beast is Greece under the rule of Alexander the Great represented by a leopard. This brings us to the fourth beast of Daniel 7:7, which is described as being dreadful and terrible and exceedingly strong. Going to history we find only four kingdoms have ruled the entire world and they are Babylon, Media Persia, Greece and Rome.

Rome ruled the world when Jesus was on earth and she claims to own the world today.

Most notable in the papal emblem is the tiara, or triple crown. The first circlet, or crown, symbolizes the pope's "universal episcopate." This means that he claims to be ruler over all the church of Christ. All priestly power, including the power to forgive sins, must come through him and his agents.

The second crown symbolizes the pope's claimed "primacy of jurisdiction." This means that he alone is complete ruler of the church. He is the final judge, teacher and ruler. Over the Church of Christ, the pope claims to be King. [The last circlet in the crown represents the pope's temporal power.](#)

This means that he is ruler of the entire world. All kings, presidents and governments are subservient to him. The papacy claims that all civil rulers have only that authority which the pope, as spiritual and temporal head, allows them to have. Lest you think this to be an empty claim, consider how rulers and governments tremble at the opposition of the pope.

Revelation 13:3 And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.

Note: The head of a nation is a dictator, president or king, The head of the fourth beast (Rome The Vatican) Is the Pope who is determined to rule the world. This is why we have the formation of the New World Order and the One world church at the present time as I write.

"Pius VI allied himself with the enemies of France. Napoleon's forces invaded and occupied the papal territories in 1796, and on Feb. 15, 1798, occupied Rome. Pius VI was taken prisoner and, while still in captivity, died broken and abject in Valence, France on Aug. 29, 1799." This explains the mortal wound of the head of the beast.

The San Francisco *Chronicle*, Tuesday, February 12 1929, exploded with the headlines, "Mussolini and Gaspari Sign Historic Roman Pact. . . . Healed Wound of Many Years." It was hardly likely that the correspondent and the editors of the San Francisco *Chronicle* had any concept of the significance of the dramatic event they were reporting. The previous day, February 11 1929, Cardinal Gasparri (representing pope Pius XI) and Benito Mussolini (representing King Victor Emmanuel III) signed the



Lateran Treaty.

Revelation 13:4 And they worshipped the **dragon** which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who [is] like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? Who is the dragon that gives power to The Vatican and is worshipped? Revelation 12:9 says, "**And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.**"

Revelation 13:5 And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty [and] two months. This beast has a mouth (a voice). The Roman Catholic Church is the largest church in the world according to the Census of the 2013 [Annuario Pontificio](#) (Pontifical Yearbook), the number of Catholics in the world was about 1.21 billion at the end of 2011. The Roman Catholic Church is in at least 199 countries and in Islamic countries where Christianity is not allowed. Their Cathedrals are along side of Muslim mosques.

You may not be aware that Catholicism is not Christian as they claim but an extension of Paganism with its roots in Babylon. Catholicism is anti Christian and the popes are antichrists. **The biblical definition of antichrist is an opponent and substitute for Christ.** I understand that when a Catholic priest is ordained they are ordained as another Christ. "[www.catholic.com/tracts/the-forgiveness-of-sins](#) If the disciples believed that Christ instituted the power to sacramentally **forgive sins** in his ... the **forgiveness of sins can** take place only "through the **priests.**"

Mark 2:5-7 "When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee.

But there were certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts, Why doth this [man] thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only?"

When a priest forgives sins he is being a substitute for God which is impossible! (blasphemy)

Only God can stand in His place. He is capable of doing the job himself, He needs no help in the forgiveness of sins.

Revelation 13:6 "And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven."

The pope claims to be God on earth. "In 1512 Christopher Marcellus said this to Pope Julius II:

*Take care that we lose not that **salvation, that life and breath which thou hast given us, for thou art our shepherd, thou art our physician, thou art our governor, thou art our husbandman, thou art finally another God on earth** (emphasis added).ⁱⁱⁱ*

Just recently, in 2004, Bishop Patrick Dunn of Auckland said this:

"It seems that Pope John Paul II now presides over the universal Church from his place upon Christ's cross."^{iv}

The Gloss of Extravagantes of Pope John XXII says this:

*But to believe that **our Lord God the Pope** the establisher of said decretal, and of this, could not decree, as he did decree, should be accounted heretical (emphasis added).^v*

Words from the Popes themselves:

In 1302 Pope Boniface said this in a letter to the Catholic Church:

Furthermore, we declare, we proclaim, we define that it is absolutely necessary for salvation that every human creature be subject to the Roman Pontiff.^{vi}(world dominion)

Revelation 13:7 And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over **all** kindreds, and tongues, and nations. (the entire world)

Note: During the dark ages from 476 BC till 1798 somewhere between 100 and 200 million Christians were murdered by The Roman Catholic Church because they would not submit to the Catholic rule.

Note: Who gave this power? "Revelation 13:4 **And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast:**

Revelation 13:8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, **whose names are not written in the book of life** of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

Revelation 13:9 **If any man have an ear, let him hear.**

Revelation 13:10 He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.

Note: The pope went into captivity in 1798 and died in captivity.

Revelation 13:11 And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. *(This beast nation comes from the earth which is the opposite from water, absence of great population)*

Note: There was only one beast or nation rising to prominence in 1798 when the pope was taken captive and that was **The United States.**

The United States came on the scene lamb-like. (peace loving) The two horns like a lamb represent two separate powers.

"And the lamb-like horns, emblems of innocence and gentleness, well represent the character of our government, as expressed in its two fundamental principles, Republicanism (civil power) and Protestantism (religious power)." —Spirit of Prophecy, v01. 4, P. 277. (A country without a king or a pope) (Separation of church and state)" "And he had two horns like a lamb.' The lamb-like horns indicate youth, innocence, and gentleness, fitly representing the character of the United States when presented to the prophet as 'coming up' in 1798." —The Great Controversy, p. 441.

This lamb-like beast finally speaks as a dragon. You tell me, Is the United States speaking as a dragon today, is

she flexing her muscles? Is she the world's policeman in almost every country giving orders and sanctions? Revelation 13:12 And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.

Is it possible that The United States could make such an alliance with The Vatican that it would enforce Papal rules and force the people of the world to become Catholics?

We know that today our Supreme Court has only two justices that are not Catholic and they are not protestant.

Revelation 13:13 And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men,

Revelation 13:14 And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by [the means of] those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.

Revelation 13:15 And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.

It is true that The United States is the most powerful nation in the world today and the only one with the clout to force such worship.

In his book "The keys of this blood" Malachi Martin A Roman Catholic Jesuit writer says at the beginning of his book;

"Willing or not, ready or not, we are all involved in an all-out, no-holds barred, three-way global competition. Most of us are not competitors, however, We are the stakes. For the competition is about who will establish the first one-world system of government that has ever existed in the society of nations. It is about who will hold and wield the dual power of authority and control over each of us as individuals and over all of us together as a community; over the entire six billion people expected by demographers to inhabit the earth by early in the third millennium. The competition is all-out be-

cause, now that it has started, there is no way it can be reversed or called off. No holds are barred because, once the competition has been decided, the world and all that's in it—our way of life as individuals and as citizens of the nations, our families and our jobs, our trade and commerce and money; our educational systems and our religions and our cultures, even the badges of our national identity, which most of us have always taken for granted—all will have been powerfully and radically altered forever. No one can be exempted from its effects. No sector of our lives will remain untouched.”

The competition was between Russia, The United States and The Roman Catholic Church.

How did The Roman Catholic Church and the Vatican win in the three way competition?

They have a secret service second to none called The Society of Jesus (The Jesuit order) It is a fact that the CIA is controlled by them. They were secret enough and smart enough to infiltrate our government and our churches plus our social clubs. They control the Masonic order and many if not most of our judges and lawyers are Masons. By the way our law makers are lawyers and masons. That is how they did it.

On Page 286 of the book Keys of this blood he mentions some churches that call The Roman Catholic Church the whore of Revelation; which include The Advent Christian Church, The Church of God of Abrahamic Faith and The Seventh Day Adventist Church. And on page 287 he says, ' On the day of reward and retribution for which each of these groups waits, whatever elements of true religion each maintains will surely be integrated into profession of the full faith of Christ" (In other words, become Roman Catholics)

This shows what the Roman Catholic Church is planning to do and how it lines up with what the Bible says the *Beast* is going to do. The picture on the right shows who George Bush has reverence for.

Look who else bows to the pope. Who is subservient to who?

What does everyone who gets an audience with the pope required to do? Bow before him and kiss his ring.

What is the significance?

A king's ring in bible days was used to sign documents to make them legal. (See Esther 8:8) The presidents seal is used for the same purpose. And the pope's ring is also used to make the documents of the Vatican legal. When our president bows and kisses the popes ring he is accepting the authority of the Vatican over Him and The USA. When we bow before God we are accepting His authority over us.

Esther 8:8 Write ye also for the Jews, as it liketh you, in the king's name, and seal [it] with the king's ring: for the writing which is written in the king's name, and sealed with the king's ring, may no man reverse.

13:16 And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: The Beast (The Vatican has a mark.)

Let the Vatican tell you what the mark is. "Sunday is our mark of authority..... The church is above the Bible, and this transference of Sabbath observance is proof of that fact." The Catholic Record, London, Ontario, September 1, 1923.

"Sunday is a Catholic institution and its claim to observance can be defended only on Catholic principles..... From beginning to end of Scripture there is not a single passage that warrants the transfer of weekly public worship from the last



day of the week to the first." Catholic Press, Sydney, Australia, August 1900.

13:17 And that no man might buy or sell,



save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

13:18 Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number [is] Six hundred threescore [and] six.

Who do The Free Masons, The Shriners which are degrees above Masonry and The upper echelon of Catholicism worship?

LUCIFER PRAISED AS THE LIGHT-BEARER OF FREEMASONRY

"**Lucifer**, the **Light-bearer!** Strange and mysterious name to give to the Spirit of Darkness! **Lucifer**, the Son of the Morning! Is it he who bears the **Light**, and with its splendors intolerable, blinds feeble, sensual, or selfish souls? Doubt it not!" [Albert Pike, *Morals and Dogma of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry*, p. 321, 19th Degree of Grand Pontiff; Red Emphasis added]

What a revelation! From the first degree, the first Initiation, the Mason is urged mightily to "**seek the Light!**" The average Mason is continually saying that he is "seeking the Light", and will spend his entire life "moving toward the Light". Almost every person in Western Civilization will assume that this "Light" is the revelation of the God of the Bible; indeed, this statement is held up continuously to try to convince us that Masonry is Christian. Yet, here, Albert Pike is saying that Lucifer is the One who bears the Light of Freemasonry! **Lucifer is the Light-bearer of Freemasonry .**

Satanism in the Vatican

In November 1996, during the papacy of John Paul II (d. 2005) and under the seeming appearance of his approval, allegations were made by Archbishop Emmanuel Milingo (b. 1930) that members of the Catholic hierarchy were secretly involved in formal Satanic worship, and these stunning claims were confirmed by eminent Vatican insider, Dr. Malachi Martin (1921-1999). Later, a new round of allegations about Satanic activities in the Vatican surfaced in Rome that the media described as 'explosive', and the newspaper headline at that time

said: 'Satanism Is Practiced In Vatican!'. The article said this, in part:

In recent weeks, a firestorm has been raging in Italy. The controversy revolves around the statements of Archbishop Emmanuel Milingo, who made formal allegations that satanic activity is taking place inside the Vatican. When questioned by the Italian press about the allegations, he said that he stood by them. (Subject: 'Satanism Is Practiced in Vatican'; Sunday February 28, 1999, 4:49 am; <http://www.fatima.org/satanism.html>) In doing so, Archbishop Milingo became another Vatican insider to allege that Satanic rituals were regularly performed within the hallowed walls of Vatican City. After the Archbishop gave an electrifying speech at the third 'Our Lady of Fatima 2000 International Conference on World Peace on November 18–23, 1996', the opinion arose in amongst the Vatican hierarchs that Archbishop Milingo was a 'far-right' critic of the institutional Church.

Archbishop charges Vatican hierarchy with Satanism Archbishop Milingo openly charged high-ranking members of the Holy See as 'followers of Satan', or otherwise enablers of evil. This is part of what the Archbishop said:

The devil in the Catholic Church is so protected now that he is like an animal protected by the government; put on a game preserve that outlaws anyone, especially hunters, from trying to capture or kill it. The devil within the Church today is actually protected by certain Church authorities from the official devil-hunter in the Church - the exorcist.

To the following question, 'Are there men of the Curia who are followers of Satan?' Milingo answered; 'Certainly, there are priests and bishops. I stop at this level of ecclesiastical hierarchy because I am an archbishop; higher than this I cannot go' ('Milingo Accuses Catholics of Illicit Sex, Homosexuality', *passim*). After Archbishop Milingo's frank indictments, Dr. Malachi Martin, also in attendance at the Conference, was questioned about the alarming nature of the Archbishop's accusations. He added this observation:

Archbishop Milingo is a good Bishop and his contention that there are Satanists in Rome is completely correct. Anybody who is acquainted with the state of affairs in the Vatican in the last 35 years is well aware that the Prince of Darkness has had, and still has, his surrogates in the court of St. Peter in Rome.

In 2006, Archbishop Milingo and four bishops were excommunicated for what appeared to be an unrelated matter, and in October 2007 his Vatican passport was cancelled, taking with it his diplomatic protection from the Vatican City State (Catholic World News, 15th Octo-

ber, 2007; 'Vatican pulls passport of excommunicated archbishop').

Conformation of Satanism in the Vatican

The allegations by Archbishop Milingo of Satanism operating in the Vatican are particularly interesting to many Catholics because his assertions are similar in concept to revelations that appeared in Dr. Malachi Martin's book, *Windswept House; A Vatican Novel*. Dr. Martin describes high ranking members of the Vatican priesthood taking oaths signed with their own blood, and participating in Black Mass rituals that mock and mimic the Holy Sacrifice of the traditional Mass (For a full overview of the Black Mass, see *The Christ Scandal*, Tony Bushby, Stanford House Publishing, 2008, pp. 91-93).

Satanic paedophile rings in the Vatican

There is continuing proof that Satanist paedophiles are operating in the Vatican, and various writers have intimated that Pope John Paul II had good reasons for his perplexing tolerance of paedophilia and his apparent support of Satanic rituals in the Vatican. Dr. Malachi Martin confirms that paedophilia is rife in the Church of Rome because it is a part of a Satanic ritual:

Besides, the incidence of Satanic paedophilia - rites and practices - was already documented among certain bishops and priests as widely dispersed as Turin, in Italy, and South Carolina, in the United States. The cultic acts of Satanic paedophilia are considered by professionals to be the culmination of the Fallen Archangel's rites.

(*The Keys of This Blood*, Dr. Malachi Martin, Simon and Schuster, New York, 1990, p. 632)

Dr. Martin asserted that a 'Satanic Enthronement ceremony' took place in the Vatican in 1963 during the first week of the papacy of Pope Paul VI (born, 1897; pope from June 21, 1963 to August 6, 1978). Dr. Martin confirmed that the satanic ritual took place on June 29th, 1963 at Saint Paul's Chapel inside Vatican City. The result of the ritual meant that the Vatican manifested what clerics referred to as the 'Superforce' of Satan. In his book, Dr. Martin, a Jesuit priest, added these comments:

Suddenly it became unarguable that now during this papacy [that of John Paul II], the Roman Catholic organization carried a permanent presence of clerics who worshipped Satan and liked it; of bishops and priests who sodomized boys and each other; of nuns who performed the 'Black Rites' of Wicca, and who lived in lesbian relationships . . . Every day, including Sundays and Holy Days, acts of heresy and blasphemy and outrage and indifference were committed and permitted at holy Altars by men who had been called to be priests. Sacri-

legious actions and rites were not only performed on Christ's Altars, but had the connivance or at least the tacit permission of certain Cardinals, archbishops, and bishops . . .

('Windswept House: A Vatican Novel'. Fr. Malachi Martin, p. 492)

Whileas there is evidence that paedophilia is part of the rites of Satanism, the records of history reveal that not all paedophile priests are Satanists. Around 70% of the reported cases of child sex abuse were carried out by traditional paedophiles that have compulsive impulses to have sex with children, and the remaining 30% of cases by Satanists whose rituals involved paedophilia.

A curious papal pronouncement

Pope Paul VI (d. 1978) somberly alluded to 'the smoke of Satan that had entered through some crack into the temple of God', meaning the Vatican. Whether or not this was an oblique reference to the enthronement ceremony by Satanists is not known, for it could have also been referring to several other matters of concern to him at that time. In November 2000, the headline in *Il Messaggero*, an Italian newspaper, exclaimed; 'Devil Defeats Pope!', an article that claimed Pope John Paul II had been confronted by a teenage girl in St. Peter's who screamed insults at him in a deep, gravelly and unnatural voice reminiscent of scenes in the blockbuster film, 'The Exorcist'. John Paul II feigned an exorcism on the girl, but his efforts had no effect.

The Pope who worshipped Satan

Satanism in the Vatican is not new, and its existence can be traced back more than 1000 years. Bishop Liutprand of Cremona (c. 922-972), one of the leading prelates of the time, recorded a detailed description of Pope John XII (955-964) who opened his inglorious career by invoking Pagan gods and goddesses as he flung the dice in gambling sessions. The Holy Father toasted Satan during a drinking spree, and put his notorious mistress/prostitute Marcia in charge of his brothel in the Lateran Palace (Antapodosis, Bishop Liutprand of Cremona; he also wrote, *De Rebus Gestis Othonis*, c. 960). It appears obvious that Satanism is now, and has been for centuries, operating unrestrained inside the Vatican's walls. Through the courageous and reputable testimonies of Archbishop Milingo and Dr. Malachi Martin, this deeply buried Church secret has surfaced, and these brave authors sought to alert not only the Catholic populous, but the world at large to the reality of the operation of evil forces in the workings of the Holy See. The essential message of these authors is that Satanists lurk in the shadows of the Christian religion, from the

heart of the Vatican down to the local parishes, manipulating people who have been fooled by the Church's false presentation of its origins.

By Doug Bachelor from Amazing Facts Ministry

An Amazing Fact: *On January 14, 2014 Pope Francis recorded a persuasive video message on his friend's smartphone to be played before a large convocation of Charismatic church leaders, inviting them to embrace the Roman Church and to end the separation between Protestants and Catholics.*

By now, I expect you have heard about the surprising viral video of Pope Francis personally appealing for unity with Protestants, presented at a Kenneth Copeland conference in Texas.

The pope's message was introduced by his long-time friend Anglican Bishop Tony Palmer. This self-proclaimed Pentecostal seemed to frame himself as a type of Elijah, sent to "turn the hearts of the sons to the fathers." At least three times he declared, "The protest is over," speaking of the Protestant Reformation.

Palmer then went on to say we should not be distracted by doctrinal differences, that "diversity is divine but division is diabolical." Does it make you wonder, like me, whether someday soon, those who don't submit to this call for unity will be accused of being "diabolical"?

The Pope's Message

Soon the auditorium lights were dimmed and the pope's video message was played. The normally high-spirited Pentecostal audience was struck with silence as they realized they were watching a personal video message from the supreme leader of the Catholic Church.

The pope claimed that the sins that separated Protestants and Catholics were due to "misunderstandings" throughout history and that the miracle of unity had already begun and would be completed. Believe me when I say that the authentic feel of this disarming presentation was very effective! It was so direct, winsome, and personal, it took everyone by surprise!

There are many probable reasons for the pope's candid appeal, and I sense some are as much political as spiritual. In recent years, the Catholic

Church has been rocked by bad press: a financial scandal, mounting litigation over pedophile priests, a mysterious murder in the Vatican, and an unprecedented resignation of a living pope.

Now put these challenges together with the fact that Islam and secular atheism are spreading across Europe, and today, many Catholic churches are virtually empty. Yet at the same time, Charismatic churches are growing in Europe, Latin America, Africa, and Asia. And remember, the headquarters, programming, and funding for most of these evangelical churches come out of North America.

So is it any wonder that the pope would reach out to charismatic leaders in America? The Catholic Church can certainly read the handwriting on the wall. To survive in this new millennium, they will need to build a formidable alliance with other Christian denominations.

The Beast Has Not Changed

Yet whatever the cause for the pope's recent appeal, do not think that this plea for unity means the Roman Church is going to renounce her unbiblical beliefs or to surrender what she deems as her rightful authority.

I'm deeply concerned that in our age of information overload, other headlines will soon crowd the significance of this event from the minds of most Christians. We can't let that happen! "What I say to you, I say to all: Watch!" (Mark 13:37).

Indeed, the enthusiastic response from an evangelical audience to the pope should not be dismissed. It culminated in a crescendo of clapping and "praying in tongues." Kenneth Copeland then heartily embraced the bishop. It seemed to me like a perfect storm—apostate Protestantism, Spiritualism, and Catholicism uniting!

"When Protestantism shall stretch her hand across the gulf to grasp the hand of the Roman power, when she shall reach over the abyss to clasp hands with Spiritualism [the charismatic movement?] ... then we may know that the time has come for the marvelous working of Satan and that the end is near" (Christian Service, pp. 160, 161).

