

There is finally an answer to why the unchangeable Catholic Church changed so drastically in the 1960s, and who engineered those changes. That answer will destroy every preconceived notion regarding religious freedom as an unalienable right, what the Catholic Church really teaches and the true meaning of biblical prophecy for the latter days.

**The Phantom Church in Rome:
How neo-Modernists corrupted the Church to establish
Antichrist's kingdom**
by T. Stanfill Bennis

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THE PHANTOM CHURCH IN ROME

How neo-Modernists corrupted the Church to establish Antichrist's kingdom



T. Stanfill Benns

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The author explicitly disavows anything whatsoever stated in this work which might unintentionally be opposed to the doctrines of the One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic and Roman Church. This work in its entirety is humbly submitted to the future Roman Pontiff, canonically elected. The author swears to abide by his judgment concerning all that is written here should Our Lord in His wisdom and mercy see fit to provide us with one.

***Dedicated to Christ the King and to the
Immaculate Conception,
Mary Most Holy, Patroness of America and
vanquisher of all heresies***

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PREFACE

This book is a compilation of a lifetime of study that began in the 1980s and continues to the present. Had it been written four years ago, the proofs presented would still have been just as compelling, but the evidence for the case would have remained largely circumstantial. Thanks to the issuance of a monumental work by David Wemhoff, published in 2015, the landscape has changed dramatically. The evidence has arrived, and it is mind-blowing. In fact it is reflected in the headlines today, as the liberal media continues to pump out even more propaganda, just as they have done for over 100 years. If Catholics and God-fearing men of good will only knew the role the media — not to mention the American government — has played in manipulating the news and destroying the Church, they would be hard-pressed to believe it. And even if they managed to believe it, they still would not be able to draw from it the enormous theological consequences that have cascaded relentlessly around us through the past five decades of our existence. It is the purpose of this book to draw out these consequences and demonstrate how we have arrived at where we are today and where we go from here.

Wemhoff's work, *John Courtney Murray, Time/Life, and the American Proposition: How the C.I.A.'s Doctrinal Warfare Program Changed the Catholic Church* is the itemized documentation, taken largely from declassified material, of just how the American government set out to infiltrate, subvert and subjugate the Catholic Church — and other more orthodox Christian churches — using religion as a means of building empire under the guise of combating Communism. As Wemhoff explains, it was an intense psychological campaign harnessing the print and broadcast media — employing government officials, professors, priests, ministers and American business leaders — to make it appear that the Church had abandoned Her condemnation of Americanism as a heresy. It involved active infiltration and subversion. This out-and-out warfare was declared in order to coerce Catholics worldwide into embracing the Americanist conception of religious liberty. This was accomplished in large part

long before Vatican 2 convened; in fact, it was this very protracted campaign that paved the way for the modernization of the Church, largely carried out by its own clergy and liberal members of the educated laity.

Those living in the 1940s-50s had to know there was an ideological war going on, even if they were only the sort of Catholics who seldom did any more than attend Mass on Sunday. It was in the air, and publications from that time period clearly reflect this. But as it turns out, they cannot be blamed entirely for not being able to pin it down, or effectively resist it. When an intelligence agency sets out to deliberately wage psychological warfare on an entire segment of the population, it successfully distorts reality and actually reprograms brains., Edward Hunter, a C.I.A. propaganda operator who worked undercover as a journalist, wrote in his 1956 work:

The highly educated person who bends medical discoveries to the practice of mind attack is incalculably more evil than any savage using potions, trances, and incantations...The word brain-changing became obscured as brainwashing and began to embrace all the available pressures that could be utilized to bend a man's will and change his attitudes fundamentally. Brain-changing specifically refers to the complete job in all its wickedness. Cardinal Mindszenty underwent a brain-changing. That was how his vigorous mind was bent. A man's memory can be physically eliminated, if at all possible, only at the price of permanent damage to the brain. In such a brain-changing, drugs have to be used to destroy the natural alertness and strong character of the individual, and hypnotism must be employed, too, to help in breaking down resistance. Information obtained through the most persistent inquiry by every possible channel reveals that drugs and hypnotism were used on the cardinal. ¹

And techniques today have been further perfected to anticipate all possibilities and eventualities and to better bind captives to the particular mindset at play.

Hunter spoke at length with servicemen and others who were victims of brainwashing; individuals who, following their release, clung to the beliefs they had imbibed while prisoners of the Communists. He became convinced that at some deep level, all who had experienced “brain-changing” had the tentative idea they were deluded and even could be brought to this conclusion through intensive debriefing. “If truth can linger in the mind in spite of the strongest hallucinations, and the evidence I have accumulated indicates it can, the reason is clear why the Reds cannot be sure of even their completest victories, their Mindszentys. They never capture their minds completely!” And this remark is very revealing. The primary difference between those who were the initial lab rats for brain-changing then and those who experienced it years later is this: *Hunter and others noticed that Americans were far more susceptible to these tactics, for some reason, than others, and this cannot have improved with the passage of time.* Those wishing to use these tactics always look for the weakest, most vulnerable links — the elderly, the young, the disoriented, the uneducated, the grieving, and those emotionally or mentally unstable, for whatever reason. We read everywhere that prior to the false Vatican 2 council, Catholics in general were not well instructed in their faith and tended to lay undue emphasis on external religion. They certainly never possessed the level of faith and spiritual formation of a Cardinal Mindszenty. And so it is not surprising that they became sitting ducks for those wishing to finish the destruction of the juridical Church once and for all.

Despite the fact that Mindszenty was entirely broken by his captors and his brain thoroughly changed or “washed” — even to the extent that he appeared to deny his faith and concede to all Communist demands — Pope Pius XII neither condemned nor deserted him for these forced concessions. Pope Pius XII’s example concerning Cardinal Mindszenty should indicate the mind of the Church in this matter. His behavior in Mindszenty’s case should prompt us to be more open-minded in dealing with those who have experienced what modern experts adjudge to be even worse and more seductive torments than Mindszenty himself experienced. It is

interesting that one of the last constitutions Pope Pius XII wrote contained a section on brain-changing and its evils. In *Ad Apostolorum Principis*, (June 29, 1958) he taught:

17. There should also be noted those courses of instruction by which pupils are forced to imbibe and embrace...false doctrine. Priests, religious men and women, ecclesiastical students, and faithful of all ages are forced to attend these courses. An almost endless series of lectures and discussions, lasting for weeks and months, so weaken and numb the strength of mind and will *that by a kind of psychic coercion an assent is extracted which contains almost no human element, an assent which is not freely asked for as should be the case.*

18. In addition to these there are the methods by which minds are upset — by every device, in private and in public, by traps, deceits, grave fear, by so-called forced confessions, by custody in a place where citizens are forcibly ‘reeducated,’ and those ‘Peoples’ Courts’ to which even venerable bishops are ignominiously dragged for trial.

19. Against methods of acting such as these, which violate the principal rights of the human person and trample on the sacred liberty of the sons of God, all Christians from every part of the world, indeed all men of good sense cannot refrain from raising their voices with Us in real horror and from uttering a protest deploring the deranged conscience of their fellow men.

20. And since these crimes are being committed *under the guise of patriotism*, We consider it Our duty to remind everyone once again of the Church's teaching on this subject.²

Sadly, the doctrinal warfare conducted by the C.I.A. against Catholics and conservative non-Catholics alike continues even following Vatican 2, but in subtler forms. It is waged today by the successors of those infiltrators implanted during the 1950s-60s, to

corral those who weren't complying with the norms set down at the false Vatican 2 council. These individuals, both those belonging to the church of Rome and those known as Traditionalists, believe themselves to be Catholics. They follow some of the teachings and traditions of the Church prior to Vatican 2, but they are as much the victims of brain-changing as those living in the 1940s-50s. The intelligence sector in that time employed scholars and other experts to twist and manipulate Catholic doctrine. They presented this warped version as authoritative teaching in order to compel acceptance of it and obedience to it. The Catholics of this time naturally passed on their adherence to this manipulated Church doctrine to their unwitting children.

Wemhoff explains in his work how these change agents insisted on misinterpreting the papal teachings to fit their own skewed view of Christ's message. Even though American theological giants such as Monsignor Joseph C. Fenton and Reverend Francis Connell of Catholic University of America fame vigorously refuted their assertions, others with greater power and all the money needed were assisting the enemy from the other side. These two men's valiant defense of magisterial teaching serves today as the illuminating beacon guiding true Catholics out of their brain-changed darkness. And just because Fenton and Connell lost the battle, this doesn't mean Catholics won't win the war.

The cunning and devious method employed to approach those wishing to remain Catholic has not been appreciated nor properly understood. Using a strategy which Hunter describes in *Brainwashing*, the C.I.A. provided Traditionalists with a straw man on which to project their rightful suspicions they had been toyed with and duped. Working with the Jesuits, the C.I.A. allowed the "Jewish menace" to be used as the perfect scapegoat on which Traditionalists could project all their anger and frustrations. This served the dual purpose of demonizing Traditionalists as an unhealthy and anti-Semitic sect, while distracting them from the real source of the problem. Books were even written to this purpose and circulated by those Jesuits presumably placed in the service of the C.I.A. Traditionalists who did not blame the Jews, or at least not primarily,

blamed the Communists or secret societies. While this blame was not misplaced, those wishing to remain Catholic failed to comprehend the entire scope of what had actually occurred. Nor was it possible to fully understand what had happened until only recently.

It is the author's hope that what is written in this work will resonate with all sincere Catholics everywhere, despite the mental torture to which they have been subjected; that this book will help finally and completely dislodge any residual cognitive dissonance in order to liberate that "truth [which] can linger in the mind in spite of the strongest hallucinations." After all, this cognitive dissonance is in all likelihood the result of that operation of error spoken of by St. Paul:

And then that wicked one shall be revealed...Whose coming is according to the working of Satan, in all power, and signs, and lying wonders, and in all seduction of iniquity to them that perish: because they receive not the love of the truth that they might be saved. *Therefore God shall send them the operation of error, to believe a lie.* That all may be judged, who have not believed the truth, but have consented to iniquity. ³

This passage is a chilling and accurate description of exactly what took place. The C.I.A. agents were operatives engaging in an actual *operation*. God Himself sent that operation to see if the faithful would believe the lie of Americanism; and they did.

True Catholics then — if they love the truth — will seek the meaning of what they have been calling themselves all these years. A description can be found in the *Catholic Encyclopedia* (1911) under "Tradition," ⁴ where Catholics will learn that to live up to the name, they must accept *all* the truths contained in the continual magisterium. This, Holy Scripture avers in this same book of St. Paul, is the only remedy for escaping the operation of error, as the apostle teaches in verse 14: "Therefore, brethren, stand *firm*; and hold the *traditions* which you have learned, whether by word, or by our epistle." And those traditions, the *Catholic Encyclopedia* article

explains, are the teachings of Our Lord as conveyed by the popes from St. Peter to Pope Pius XII.

A word here to our non-Catholic brethren: all Catholics have ever wanted is to be re-united with those who, they believe, truly love Christ but have been seduced by the very people described in this work. Non-Catholics too, although by different means, have been targeted with perverted doctrines and coerced into believing a false interpretation of Scripture. This in addition to being misled by the ecumenists who worked with the Americanist forces to implement doctrinal warfare. A Protestant author writing in the 1980s was one of the many authors who alerted this writer to the true nature of what has now come to pass, and some of the prognostications in her work have proven to be truly prophetic.

Authors Flo Conway and Jim Siegelman remarkably describe the very phenomenon we are witnessing across America today — the subjection of Americans to endless streams of what amounts to propaganda, “pouring out a constant flow of information to the American public, designed to stimulate the consumers guilts, fears, weaknesses, insecurities and fantasies” — and then reward each individual in immediate physical and emotional terms for succumbing to them. This simple ploy is carried out on Americans literally hundreds of times each day, stunning them with a barrage of false promises, distorted values and jumbled personal priorities, then urging them to give into every whim and impulse. This propaganda campaign is accompanied by

a cultural confusion of new goals, shifting values and collapsing traditions...It could be that in subtle ways, these stresses and techniques which shape our modern lives have started every American down the sloping catastrophe curve of snapping and information disease. Television may be our country's primary contributor to snapping in everyday life...

And this state of affairs was described before cell phones, computers and social media! Still, Conway and Siegelman note that

Even under conditions of impaired awareness, delusion and domination, there is always the possibility they will snap out of it. After years have passed, these robots may still regain their freedom of thought, their responses as individuals may be restored, and the skeleton of their personalities may drop back into place.⁵

At least for some, then, it may not be too late; there may yet be hope. St. Paul reminds us that “snapping back” is essential to salvation: “It is now the hour for us to arise from sleep. For now our salvation is nearer than when we believed...Cast off the works of darkness, and put on the armour of light” (Rom. 13: 11, 12).

T. Stanfill Benns
Easter Sunday, 2017

Preface Endnotes

¹ Edward Hunter, *Brainwashing: The Story of Men Who Defied It*, Farrar, Strauss and Cudahy, New York, N.Y., 1956

² <http://www.papalencyclicals.net/pius12/p12apost.htm>

³ Douay-Rheims edition of Holy Scripture, 2 Thess. 2:8, 9-11

⁴ <http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/15006b.htm>

⁵ Flo Conway and Jim Siegelman, *Snapping: America's Epidemic of Sudden Personality Change*, Dell Publishing Co., New York, N.Y., 1978

INTRODUCTION

THE MOST DIABOLICAL DECEPTION ON EARTH

The hijacking of the Roman Catholic Church

“He that readeth, let him understand.” (Matt. 24:15)

In 1948, a high-profile member of the U.S. hierarchy predicted the imminent collapse of the Catholic Church. Despite his superb oratory skills, those predictions obviously were lost in the pandemonium that followed the death of Pope Pius XII in 1958. Incredibly, in the span of only one decade, this popular archbishop would cast aside his prognostications to become a part of the bogus replacement for the Church he described so accurately, and in such lurid terms.

[Satan] will set up a counterchurch which will be the ape of the [Catholic] Church ... It will have all the notes and characteristics of the Church, but in reverse and emptied of its divine content. We are living in the days of the Apocalypse, the last days of our era. The two great forces – the Mystical Body of Christ and the Mystical Body of the anti-Christ – are beginning to draw battle lines for the catastrophic contest.

The ‘false prophet’ will have a religion without a cross. A religion without a world to come. A religion to destroy religions...or a politics which is a religion, one that renders unto Caesar even the things that are God’s...There will be a counterfeit ‘Church.’ Christ’s Church, the Catholic Church, will be One; and the false ‘prophet’ will create the other.

The Phantom Church in Rome

The false ‘Church’ will be worldly, ecumenical, and global. It will be a loose federation of ‘churches’ and religions, forming 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 Antichrist.* The Mystical Body on Earth today will have its Judas Iscariot, and he will be the false ‘prophet.’ Satan will recruit him from our bishops.

The Antichrist will not be so called; otherwise he would have no followers. He will not wear red tights, nor vomit sulphur, nor carry a trident nor wave an arrowed tail as Mephistopheles in Faust. *This masquerade has helped the devil convince men that he does not exist.* When no man recognizes, the more power he exercises. God has defined Himself as “I Am Who I Am,” and the Devil as “I am who I am not.

In the midst of all his seeming love for humanity, and his glib talk of freedom and equality, he will have one great secret, which he will tell to no one. He will not believe in God. Because his religion will be brotherhood without the fatherhood of God, he will deceive even the elect. He will set up a counterchurch... a mystical body of the Antichrist that will in all externals resemble the Mystical Body of Christ.¹

Archbishop Fulton Sheen only echoes Reverend E. Sylvester Berry, who wrote: “Satan will imitate the Church of Christ to deceive mankind; he will set up a church of Satan in opposition to the Church of Christ.”² As Sheen also notes, Catholics of the 20th century will join the counterchurch because it claims to be infallible “when its visible head speaks ex cathedra...in matters of economics and politics.”³ Ironically, Sheen’s description of the counterchurch was first found in the writings of the Freemason Limouisin, who had written over 50 years earlier: “Freemasonry is a Church: it is the counter-Church, counter-Catholicism. It is the other church — the church of heresy, of free thought. The Catholic Church is the

archetype church, the first church, church of dogmatism and orthodoxy.”⁴

Sheen's inexplicable adherence to the very church he foretold, following the death of Pope Pius XII, only crystallized the sum total of Catholic teaching regarding Antichrist's deceptions and his ability to master the art of doublespeak. The truly diabolical nature of those who would later embrace this counterchurch lay hidden until the very end. Once Pius XII died, Sheen effectively helped implement the very evils he foretold, successfully placing stumbling blocks of immense proportions along the path of those who would later try to prove his scenario had come to pass.

Presenting the case

There is nothing more demeaning or more effectively dismissive, in the literary world, than the styling of an historical account of an event as a baseless conspiracy theory or a hack job pulled off by those lacking credentials and sufficient evidence. That is why it is so intellectually dishonest to pretend that a considerable body of theological evidence concerning the anticipated destruction of the Roman Catholic Church and the coming of Antichrist does not exist. The diligent researcher can easily disprove this, but doing so takes time and dedication, which few seem willing to devote to matters of faith. To venture the opinion today that the *true* Church of Christ has long since disappeared is tantamount to inviting an on-the-spot excommunication or taunts for being a conspiracy theorist, at best. Some might even suggest a strait jacket and a padded cell.

But a careful look at what the Heads of the Church themselves have to say about what to expect and when — and the authority with which Christ Himself invested them to say it — tells a straightforward tale and leaves no wiggle room from a doctrinal standpoint. Nor does it need to be anything but an anthology of authoritative writings by the hierarchy and Church-approved theologians, taking it out of the realm of any conspiracy or hypothetical meanderings. For those who genuinely value both history and theology, this is far more credible — especially from a theological standpoint — than the mere opinion of present-day

laypeople or the purported possessors of the Roman See and their modern-day appointees.

Of course, those denigrating conspiracy theorists forget the term conspiracy has legal connotations. In legal terms it is defined as, “An agreement between two or more persons to engage jointly in an unlawful or criminal act, or an act that is innocent in itself but becomes unlawful when done by the combination of actors; a secret plan or agreement to carry out an illegal or harmful act, especially with a political motivation (plot)...The act of making such plans in secret.”⁵ This is the very definition of what is described in the preface of this work. Certainly, in the political and governmental sphere there are many combinations of such incidents that were never proven and prosecuted. It is actually, however, *a matter of faith* for Catholics to believe in certain “conspiracy theories” and failure to so believe costs them Church membership. Furthermore, Catholics owe a firm and irrevocable assent to infallible papal teaching, even if it issues only from the Pope’s ordinary magisterium, (i.e., his teaching delivered worldwide to all the bishops, to be passed on to the faithful).

The \$64,000 question is this: since the Catholic Church has always and everywhere maintained and demonstrated that Her teachings are irreformable and incapable of adaptation to modern ideas and moral standards, how does one account for the evident changes in doctrine and discipline articulated at the Vatican 2 council (1962-65)? Can it really be said that the teachings and standards proposed as Catholic teaching by the “church” in Rome since Vatican 2 are the same as those held prior? Or, since the reign of Angelo Roncalli (John 23, omitting the Roman numerals to distinguish him from the others as a non-pope), has the church in Rome, once synonymous with unchangeable teaching, violated the ideals it professed and held for nearly 20 centuries?

Catholics cannot believe the latter, so they must cite the reply of St. Thomas More to his Anglican interrogators prior to his death:

For I doubt not, but of the learned and virtuous men now alive — I do not speak only of this Realm, but of all

Christendom — there are ten to one of my mind in this matter; but if I should take notice of those learned Doctors and virtuous Fathers that are already dead, many of whom are Saints in Heaven, I am sure there are far more, who all the while they lived thought in this Cause as I do now. And therefore, my Lord, I do not think myself bound to conform my Conscience to the Counsel of one Kingdom, against the general Consent of all Christendom.⁶

It is precisely the general consent of all 20 centuries of Christendom that those calling themselves Catholics today are being asked to discount — and demonstrating that is the purpose of this present work.

Since Jorge Bergoglio's election as "Pope Francis," murmurings that he is not a true pope have been making the rounds. Remarkably, similar murmurings have circulated for many decades, beginning with the election of Angelo Roncalli as "Pope John XXIII." Those asking questions about the validity and liceity of these men are categorized as kooks and their objections discredited out of hand, and this by some members of the same generation of college graduates and "erudite scholars" who have demonstrated publicly, on camera, how little they know about *American* history, far less world or Church history. Never mind that a total of 31 antipopes have previously reigned in the Church, with no guarantee this phenomenon could not occur again. In fact, the Church actually teaches that there will be an unprecedented time when the Church will suffer the pretensions of a papal usurper. Saints, popes, theologians, holy people — all have spoken of it, and their testimony is compelling. This doctrine is reflected in Church law and the teachings of ecumenical councils concerning the content of Divine revelation, but most importantly it issues from infallible decrees of the Roman Pontiffs, the significance of which cannot be underestimated. Even faithful Catholics who believe themselves well versed in Church teaching are unlikely to appreciate the full extent of the binding power of such decrees.

Culture shock

Consider the psychological impact alone the changes in the Church had on the faithful. Over a brief period of time, everything about the Church that Catholics had come to know, love and cherish disappeared into thin air. The churches were rearranged and the altars obscured by new, modern altars facing the people. Gregorian chant was gone; *Latin* was gone. Already some of the older and more conservative priests and nuns had either retired or left their orders. Catholics became trapped in the inescapable maze of Vatican 2 with no guides to help them. Those who welcomed the ecumenical changes to the Church which began in the 1950s worked feverishly to advance the Church's modernization or *aggiornamento*; the rest simply dropped out and many, in the 1960s, unfortunately, "turned on." Foolishly some began "looking" for the Church they lost and found it in "Traditional" mass chapels (men calling themselves priests who set up chapels independent of the Holy See, forbidden by the Church). But this was only another blind alley. Figuring out what happened was like peeling successive layers of paint and wallpaper off the walls of a very old home. Just when you think you've peeled off the final layer, another one appears.

Traditionalists tended to bounce from one "Trad" sect to the other, in search of what they had lost. They often found each Traditional "priest" or leader was worse than the first, and in a different way. The amount of research and study it took in order to determine that these men were the wolves in sheep's clothing and false christs about whom Our Lord had warned in the Gospels was staggering. This bizarre odyssey sometimes entailed cult involvement. At the very least it consisted in the manipulation of information by these clerics and self-proclaimed lay leaders to suit the mindset of their particular Traditional sect and justify their own position among other warring sects. Not surprisingly, these leaders' techniques involved the suppression of that very information necessary to make educated decisions regarding the faith. The toll it took on families and personal relationships was heartbreaking; the guilt felt at having been so mistaken for so long, crippling. Perhaps the dropouts had it right after all, (sans the turned-on part). By the

time Catholics realized what had taken place, it was too late to turn back, too late to prevent the damage to themselves and others. In the end, they chose their own pathways and walked on alone, sometimes not even in the company of loved ones. They bowed their heads and accepted their fate, knowing they were destined to share in Christ's own suffering and Passion, still being reenacted in the Passion of His Church.

Imagine the trauma that (orthodox) Catholics endure when hateful invective is aimed against the organization to which they believe that they belong, but which in fact is not that organization at all. The sexual abuse horrors in the Novus Ordo church,⁷ the money scandals, abominable perversions of the liturgy, the departure from dogma, all the lies flung at the Church, revived and refined from the past — everything has been employed to make her a laughingstock, defame Her in the eyes of the world and ultimately destroy Her. But that “church” is not in reality the Catholic Church, but only the empty shell, Her external trappings and grandeur, which yet represents Her glorious past. These knives have been thrust to the hilt in the Mystical Body of Christ, over and over again. And those at least trying to be true members of that Body are penetrated by these instruments of torture as well. The all-too-acute agony of the situation is the knowledge of the faithful that they cannot properly defend the Church they love because so few believe what has happened to Her could be true. They are faceless bodies with hands raised in supplication to Heaven, deprived of any voice.

The Church that disappeared

It is astounding that in less than a century, the carefully guarded and transmitted teachings of nearly 2,000 years could so completely disappear that no one today would accept or believe them as the integral body of truths that Christ imparted to His Church. An enemy has done this. That enemy, the creator of all political and historical revisionist propaganda — all public opinion now prevailing today — has succeeded in convincing the last few generations that the Catholic Church was the primary historical source of religious tyranny, political machinations, underhanded financial dealings,

slavery, anti-feminism, sexual perversion, even covert Satanism. What was once revered as sound moral teachings and faithfulness to the Gospels has long been cast aside as foolishness unsuited to the times, even out and out fanaticism. All that is left of the Church is Her external rites, manipulated by so-called Traditionalists who can only simulate what once was the sacrificial reality.

There is an explanation for all this, but no one wishes to consider it. It would raise the possibility that just as easily as the transformation came in less than a century, the world could return to what existed before. The old moral code would prevail once again and the Church would be unhindered in her activities. All would be open to the truth, and true conversions would be possible. This the powers that be today would prevent at all costs. Most would readily die defending their freedom to sin rather than live to lead a life serving God who created them and His Divine Son who redeemed them. That such evil would exist in the world was foretold in Holy Scripture. That this particular time is described in those verses is something the enemy has gone to great lengths to conceal. Many calling themselves Catholic clergy know full well we live in what is described as the latter days or end times, yet they want none of the deprivations and call to sacrifice that go with it. They have allowed themselves to be convinced that they live at the bare beginning of these times, not the end of them; and they have succeeded in convincing their followers of the same. But for that “success” they have paid a great price.

These leaders have committed a grievous sin against the Holy Ghost by rejecting the known truth, a truth that can easily be demonstrated and proven. Only objective truth can set them free, but first it will make those accepting it miserable, as one sage observed. And it is that very misery they wish most of all to avoid. No one wants to champion an unpopular cause. The misery of being set apart, of being different — of being mocked and derided, jeered at and shunned; the naked terror of being alone — it is these fears which keep them huddled together with their followers, clinging to the make-believe shreds of a security blanket that doesn't even exist. All these years they believed that the primary purpose for the

Church's existence was all about them and their needs, not the preservation, whole and entire, of the sacred truths Christ entrusted to His Church; and they cannot look like fools in the eyes of their followers now and run it back. Those truths are essential to salvation, and once they are fully demonstrated and understood, the true nature of the Church — who She really is and has always been and how it has been made to appear that She could ever change — will become abundantly clear.

While those who quietly mouth the possibility that Francis in Rome is not a true pope may believe they are entertaining a novel idea, Catholics today have good reason to question not only Francis' validity as pope, but also the validity of all popes since the death of Pope Pius XII. The reason is simple: Catholic truth never changes; yet beginning years before the reign of Angelo Roncalli as John 23 in 1958, many things changed in the Church. From the earliest ages of Catholicity, novelty has been recognized as a sure sign of departure from Catholic faith. And novelty, which abounded a full decade and more before the advent of the false Vatican 2 Council (V2) — convened by John 23 October 11, 1962 and closed by his successor, Giovanni Battista Montini ("Pope" Paul 6) in December of 1965 — was only concluded at that council. But more importantly, those currently in positions of authority in Rome and even those who pretend to reject that authority do not employ the methods sanctioned by the Church to demonstrate the truth of what they are doing. In fact, they generally ignore these methods, which in itself is a rejection of Church teaching condemned by several popes, resulting in the loss of Church membership. Christ Himself designated the popes as the teachers of His divine message. Theologians, priests, and even bishops are authorized to teach only if they are in communion with a validly and canonically elected pope. This has been the constant teaching of the Church since Her inception. For nearly 60 years the Church has existed in an acephalic or leaderless state, not non-existent as some might assume, but merely comatose, so to speak. For Christ, Her true Head (the brain or intellect of the Mystical Body, with the Holy Ghost as Her soul, since She cannot be brain-dead or soulless), keeps Her alive, and at some juncture He will

see either that She is restored to health or He will return as Eternal Judge. While most may be oblivious to the Church's current predicament, it is very real. The fact that it would be met with such disbelief and scorn is the very proof that it does indeed exist.

Here, perhaps, is the place where the players in this tragedy should be introduced.

False sects and the appearance of truth

Those remaining with the new church in Rome following the death of Pope Pius XII will be called here Novus Ordo (NO) catholics but are not really Catholics as the Church of all time has always understood the word. They range on the belief scale from ultra-liberal to conservative. They attend the "new mass" introduced in 1969 by Paul 6, attenuated somewhat by "Pope" Benedict XVI. They receive the new rites of the sacraments also approved by Paul 6 in 1968. They also accept the heretical idea of religious liberty as taught by the suspected Modernist John Courtney Murray, and a host of other heresies and errors propagated at the false Vatican 2 council. Most people today consider these NO catholics to belong to the established Church of all time, but this is not the case. It is important that non-Catholics, especially, understand that just because Rome retains the name Catholic, and their followers call themselves Catholics, that doesn't mean they are what they say they are. The same applies to those presenting below as "traditional" Catholics, that is, as heirs to all the Catholic Church once was, for they do not correspond to the meaning of the word Catholic, either.

Since the conclusion of Vatican 2 in 1965, but especially following the abrogation of the Latin Mass in 1969, "Traditional" Catholics came into existence. These individuals exited the church in Rome sometime after the completion of the council in 1965 or the introduction of the *Novus Ordo Missae* or "New Mass" (NOM) in 1969. Some Traditionalists believe that the present leader of the church in Rome is a true pope but is not to be obeyed wherever he departs from the faith. Sedevacantists believe that the Church has been without a true pope since the death of either Pius XII or John 23. There are many sects within the Traditionalist fold. All claim to

be Catholic but none can prove their Catholicity, and their “clerics” cannot prove any claim to apostolicity.⁸

One particular traditionalist-like sect was established in the 1940s within the Church itself, although its co-founder was not formally excommunicated until the 1950s. This is the St. Benedict Center legitimately founded by Catherine Goddard in Boston in 1940 to instruct college students. In 1942, the Jesuit Leonard Feeney became a lecturer at the center. Feeney was excommunicated for his crusade on the doctrine “outside the Church no salvation.” Pope Pius XII warned him many times he was wrong in his teaching on this subject and tried to reconcile him to the Church’s true teaching, but Feeney would not budge. At one point, he even called Pope Pius XII a heretic. Following Feeney’s excommunication, St. Benedict’s Center also broke with Rome. This group today is reconciled with the Novus Ordo church but some Traditionalists (and even some calling themselves stay-at-home Catholics) still hold Feeney’s teachings as Catholic, claiming his excommunication was only a “disciplinary” matter.

There also are lay “conclavists” who have elected various “popes” throughout the world, an act condemned as heretical by the Church.⁹ For want of proper form and subject matter, none of these groups are Catholic. Some claim the successor to Pope Pius XII was Cardinal Giuseppe Siri, now deceased, and that his successor is now pope somewhere in Europe. There are no proofs accepted as such by Catholic standards that his election ever occurred, and abundant proof that Siri was loyal to the Novus Ordo church until his death. As will be demonstrated below, very few of those cardinals casting votes in the 1958 election were even Catholic, and therefore could not have validly elected anyone. They had long before fallen away without the faithful even realizing it.

Finally, there is the vast sea of non-Catholics who identify themselves as Christians, some of whom are validly baptized and, according to Church teaching, are actually subject to Church teaching and laws. The majority of this population is what the Church would describe as invincibly ignorant (a prejudice against Catholicism unable to be overcome) and indeed, it is believed many of them are

in good faith. Since Vatican 2, many denominations believe the Church has come more to their way of thinking and is not the intolerant organization that once sought to convert them to “Romish ways.” Their ministers are often accepted as equals by some NO officials and after all, they were invited to be consultants during Vatican 2. Therefore, they now count these “Catholics” as Christians in the full sense. Other denominations, however, are not as forgiving. They yet believe the Church, as She existed throughout history and up to the present, is the Antichrist, the Scarlet Whore of Revelations. This is often accompanied by the teaching that Rome is behind the creation of a New World Order, which is certainly true of the anti-Church now reigning in Rome but is entirely untrue of the Church as She existed prior to the death of Pope Pius XII.

While the primary purpose of this book is to demonstrate how the Catholic Church was infiltrated and destroyed from within by sinister forces and how Her continual teaching was perverted, the infiltration was not limited to the Catholic Church. It was simply accommodated to Protestant beliefs, targeting mainly biblical teaching and interpretation. In addition, Wemhoff’s book relates that it was actually a Presbyterian minister and missionary, John Mackay, who on the Protestant side worked with fellow Presbyterian minister Robert Speer and YMCA founder John Mott to advance religious liberty as the concept was understood and promoted by Murray. Mackay was a huge proponent of ecumenism and evangelism. He was also active in the Federal Council of Churches, forerunner of the World Council of Churches. The influence of these men within the Protestant church helped those working to destroy the Catholic Church accomplish their desired end. And yet not all Protestants agreed at the time with their ideology. Nevertheless, the biblical view of non-Catholics was successfully skewed and their basic understanding of Scripture perverted, regardless of which denomination they were affiliated with.

Phenomenalism and Modernism

The philosophy underlying the belief systems of both Traditionalists and the Novus Ordo can be classified as

Phenomenalism. Phenomenalism (Gr., *phainomenon*, from *phainesthai*, to appear) literally means any system of thought that has to do with appearances. It is the theory that knowledge is limited to phenomena including (a) physical phenomena or the totality of objects of actual and possible perception and (b) mental phenomena, the totality of objects of introspection. Phenomenalism assumes two forms according as it (a) denies reality behind the phenomena (Renouvier, Shadworth, Hodgson), or (b) expressly affirms the reality of things-in-themselves but denies their knowability (Kant, Comte, Spencer).¹⁰ They accept the shadow, not its substance; the appearance of truth, not truth itself. For according to Reverend A.C. Cotter, "Error is impossible unless it has the *appearance* of being true."¹¹ Pope St. Pius X condemns this Modernist teaching as follows: "Human reason is entirely restricted to phenomena, namely things that appear, and that appearance by which they appear..."¹²

Phenomenalism is actually condemned by Christ Himself in Holy Scripture, where He warns: "Judge not according to the appearance, but judge just judgment"¹³ And in St. Matthew, "For by the *fruit* the tree is known"¹⁴ and such fruit means what a man reaps through his works or actions. According to the *Catholic Encyclopedia* (1911), this heresy is related to errors regarding the attainment of certitude and to pragmatism, which teaches that an *unproved* hypothesis or hypothetical cause, if it explains the facts observed, fulfills the same purpose and serves the same ends as a *true cause* or established law; truth perpetually evolves, (evolutionism). Phenomenalism is also associated with dialectical materialism, the foundational philosophical system of Communism.

Marxism, as we have seen, believes that the mind acquires an imperfect and obscure knowledge of reality by the very fact that it receives a sense-image. It bases this contention on its belief that there is no difference between the accidents or phenomena of a thing and its nature. It is sufficient to point out here that Marxism's identification of the phenomena and the nature of a thing is an error common to many materialistic philosophies.¹⁵

Because Traditionalists and others falsely perceive reality, they are unable to arrive at truth. Instead, needs and impulses dictate their actions and fuel their experience. Pope St. Pius X condemned this error as Modernism:

For them the Sacraments are the resultant of a double need, for...everything in their system is explained by impulses or necessities...The first need is that of giving some manifestation to religion; the second is that of propagating it, which could not be done without some sensible forms and consecrating acts, and these are called Sacraments... The Sacraments are mere symbols and signs, though not devoid of a certain efficacy...What the phrases are to the ideas, the Sacraments are to the religious sentiment — that and nothing more.

Modernists claim to arrive at knowing by experiencing a “kind of intuition of the heart which puts man in immediate contact with the very reality of God... [But] *everything that leads the heart captive proves a hindrance instead of a help to the discovery of the truth...*The vast majority of mankind hold and always will hold firmly that sentiment and experience alone, when not enlightened and guided by reason, do not lead to the knowledge of God.”¹⁶

Reverend A.C. Cotter S.J. teaches that “Truth is conformity of the mind to reality...Reality means...that which exists, did exist, will exist.”¹⁷ As St. Thomas Aquinas expounds, man must be able to express what is in his mind in words and then convert knowing and believing to action (“thought, word and deed”). This is true reality. But Traditionalists perceive God and His Church only in terms of what satisfies their insatiable needs and makes them feel good, not the obedience owed to God and His vicar on earth. “If you love Me, keep my commandments” has no meaning for them. All they know is that they have rights to the Church’s spiritual goods, and they believe that God loves them so much that He would never deprive them of these goods. It doesn’t matter that the Church teaches otherwise on this subject, or that others have been deprived of Mass and

Sacraments for decades and still kept their faith. These facts do not apply to Traditionalists, even though among those who have been deprived of Mass and Sacraments are today's "stay-at-home" or catacomb Catholics, who follow only the popes up to and including Pius XII, say their prayers at home, study and defend their faith and perform good works, as they are able.

Separating these purported Catholics into several distinct groups effectively destroys any pretension to the necessary mark of unity required for the Catholic Church's existence, for unity is achieved only when the faithful and hierarchy are in communion with a true and canonically elected pope.

But who would ever believe the once most renowned religious body in the world could be the victim of a hostile takeover right under everyone's noses, and with few objections whatsoever from Catholics? It is an imposture so outrageous that even to contemplate the possibility seems to qualify one for inclusion in the lunatic fringe. Yet what if such an imposture had been predicted in Holy Scripture for the end times? And what if it had been perpetrated in such a way that results, as Sheen indicates above, in the very surreal experience that Catholics have been enduring for decades? "And he did great signs...and he seduced them that dwell on the earth by the signs." ¹⁸ St. Paul describes these signs as "lying wonders." ¹⁹ That great Doctor of the Church, St. Francis de Sales taught: "The miracles of Antichrist will be *simply an illusion*... [They will be] unnatural and will not endure." ²⁰ What greater lie or illusion than to pretend to be something one is not *and could never be*, without being detected or called out? To pose as the world's most prestigious religious leader, head of the ancient and venerable Roman Catholic Church, while violating its most sacred principles and being accepted universally as the genuine article?!

False prophets and wolves in sheep's clothing

How did this happen? The entire collapse of the Church cannot be explained alone by the implementation of doctrinal warfare. Already in the late 1800s, false teachers had penetrated the Church and began disseminating error in Catholic schools during the

Modernist infestation. So a certain number of Catholics received a false education in the faith without even realizing it. Others chose not to educate themselves or to learn only the basics concerning the faith. In short, Catholics had grown lax, worldly and careless. Pope St. Pius X was able to halt this cancer (Modernism) for a time in the first decade of the 20th century, but it resurged again in the 1920s. The ill-educated, the willfully uneducated and the semi-educated who came of age in the 1940s-50s were not equipped to repulse the predations of government-funded change agents, who began actively lobbying for doctrinal change by subverting the clergy. These poor rubes didn't have anything close to the background needed to unravel the sophisticated arguments of the Modernists.

Had they engaged in Catholic Action, as the popes commanded them to do, they might have had a fighting chance. But as will be explained below, already they had been effectively sidelined. Like the Apostles in the Garden of Gethsemane, Catholics were asleep when the enemy arrived. It would never have occurred to them to question a papal election. Their perception of the Church's attribute of indefectibility would not allow them to countenance treachery within the Church itself, even though the early history of the papacy is replete with examples of turmoil in seating the pope and keeping him in office, including kidnapping and even death. The only thing they knew about the popes and the possibility they could err as pope and lead the Church astray came from Protestants calling the Church the Antichrist, and this they understandably dismissed out of hand. If anything, it made them less likely than ever to even allow such a thought to cross their minds.

Books have been written portraying the Church as the Scarlet Whore of Rome²¹ and the popes as perpetual Antichrists persecuting down through the ages. Many of these authors also have linked today's church in Rome with the New World Order; and if they would limit their theory to the past nearly six decades and abandon their verifiably unsubstantiated claim (according to both Protestant and Catholic Scripture scholars) of a perpetual Antichrist persecuting, they would definitely be onto something. For in so doing they would discover a wealth of comparisons and proofs that would

solidly establish their case and perhaps prepare the way for a true understanding of the evil times we experience today. Unbeknownst to Catholics today, the Protestant teaching on a papal Antichrist was a perversion of a long-held tradition in the Church. Following papal teaching, certain saints and theologians identify the Man of Sin as a false pope reigning as a true pope. Catholic theologians as recently as the 1800s also interpret St. Paul's "he who withholdeth" ²² as the pope and the papacy itself.

Some Catholics despise the Roman church as the whore of Babylon along with many Protestants, yet with this distinction: that this whore is NOT the authentic Catholic Church of antiquity. For how could she be the true Church and be drunk with the blood of saints and martyrs? ²³ On her forehead is inscribed the word "mystery," ²⁴ which the angel explains as the beast "that was and is not" ²⁵ — pagan Rome reborn. The true Catholic Church was dispersed among the nations decades ago following Vatican 2, as foretold in Holy Scripture. For the remnant is commanded to separate themselves from the Babylonish whore ²⁶ (St. Paul refers to pagan Rome as Babylon), lest they partake of her sins and receive her plagues. This command was issued to the universal Church, meaning it would apply to faithful in all parts of the world who would potentially heed it. Catholics also must remember that Christ warned the faithful that when the Shepherd (Himself and by analogy His Vicar) was struck, the flock would be dispersed. ²⁷

Ecumenism: the visible Church's death gasp

Ecumenism was deliberately fostered and manufactured by those secretly waging doctrinal warfare around the world, but especially in America, following World War II. It is interesting to note that John Foster Dulles, leader of the Federal Council of Churches in the 1940s and chairman of a commission headed by ecumenical proponent John Mackay, was the brother of Allen Dulles, future head of the C.I.A. Avery Dulles, the son of John Foster Dulles and nephew of Allen Dulles, later worked his way up through the clerical ranks of the Novus Ordo church to become a "cardinal."

The president of the Federal Council of Churches was a Methodist Bishop, Bromley Oxnam, who by all reports was fiercely anti-Catholic. When the ecumenical movement matured in the 1960s, it spelled the end for both Catholicism and any remaining “Christian” orthodoxy. The Church of previous ages may have been perceived as oppressive and unyielding, Her Latin liturgy condemned as mummery and papal infallibility billed only as an attempt to enforce the dictates of a man with pretensions to Godhead. Yet Catholics are well aware that even non-Catholics respected the Church; the Pope’s assistance in worldly matters was tolerated, even welcomed in some cases, despite these widespread prejudices. Prior to Pope Pius XII’s death in 1958, they definitely did not enter as the all-embracing, doctrinally bereft pop heroes as today’s “popes” have done.

Pope Pius XI described what happened to papal authority as “moral, juridical and social Modernism...an (outward) profession of loyalty to Catholic social doctrine plus a disregard for the encyclicals as though they were ‘out of date’.”²⁸ Indifferentism thinly disguised as ecumenism, deliberately foisted on society by deceptive means, has failed to bring non-Catholics into the fold as promised; one flock under one shepherd. Instead it has unleashed a moral and spiritual calamity that will soon culminate in the inevitable punishment of those who, while passing as the elect, have savaged Christ’s eternal plan for all mankind. True freedom comes not from being able to believe and to act as one wishes, but in knowing which beliefs and behaviors will please God and obtain salvation. Christ instructs in His mention of the abomination of desolation in Matt. 24:15, “He that readeth, let him understand.” Because Christ granted St. Peter and his successors the charism of infallibility in matters of faith and morals, this means the Church alone can impart that understanding: She alone possesses the unchangeable truth that releases man from the bondage of sin and error and sets him free to pursue eternal happiness. Even if none other than Catholics ever believe this, no one has the right to force them to believe otherwise. And if Catholics claim that right only to be psychologically manipulated to deny or doubt the very beliefs they are bound to hold in order to remain

Catholic, then “freedom of religion” is exposed for the lie that it truly is.

In order to be able to understand the Church’s true teachings throughout the ages, the following chapters are dedicated to helping those who have been so confused all these years discern what constitutes Catholic truth, and what they must believe in order to enjoy happiness in heaven with the Blessed Trinity and the Church Triumphant.

Introduction Endnotes

¹ Fulton J. Sheen, *Communism and the Conscience of the West*, (Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill Company, 1948), 24-25.

² Fr. E. Sylvester Berry, D.D., *The Church of Christ*, (St. Louis, Mo. and London: B. Herder Book Co., 1927), 119.

³ Sheen, *Communism and the Conscience of the West*, 24-25.

⁴ First edition of the Masonic review *L'Acacia*, 1902

⁵ *Free Dictionary* online, <http://www.thefreedictionary.com/conspiracy>.

⁶ From *The Trial of Sir Thomas More*, May 7, 1535 in *A Complete Collection of State Trials and Proceeding Upon Impeachments for High Treason, etc.* (London, 1719),

<http://law2.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/more/moretrialreport.html>.

⁷ Please see the book information posted at www.betrayedcatholics.com on the articles page under *Phantom Church* references. ***The majority of the incidents that have occurred with minors over the past 65 years were the result of deliberate infiltration of the Church by Her enemies, with the intent to degrade Her in the eyes of the world and ruin any chances the next generation would remain Catholic.*** Pope St. Pius V’s constitution *Horrendum illud scelus* is still in effect, save for the conclusion he arrives at regarding the intent of secular governments to put priests perverting young boys to death. Randy Engel’s work, *The Rite of Sodomy*, explains that the Church has fought this plague for centuries and regularly turned over clerics guilty of sex crimes to the authorities for the death sentence even before the issuance of Pope St. Pius V’s constitution. The efforts made to eradicate sexual abuse in seminaries and religious insititutes was not generally made public, in order that the faithful not be scandalized. So

it is unfair to intimate that in the past this problem has existed, but the Church has ignored it.

⁸ However, it should be noted that those men claiming to be Traditional priests, while not priests of the Catholic Church, are indeed ministers of a *non-Catholic* religion. No one here is disputing their ministry as such. What is denied categorically here is their claim to possess the apostolicity guaranteed the priests and bishops of the *Catholic* faith. For these men were never ordained or consecrated according to the infallible precepts of that faith, i.e., in accordance with Canon Law and Catholic dogma. See <http://www.betrayedcatholics.com/free-content/reference-links/7-recent-articles/binding-power-of-papacy-voids-traditionalist-acts/>.

⁹ Henry Denzinger, *The Sources of Catholic Dogma*, 30th Edition, (Powers Lake, N.D.: Marian House, 1957 (DZ 960, 967.)

¹⁰ Dagobert Runes, *Dictionary of Philosophy*, (New York: Littlefield, Adams and Co., 1942)

¹¹ Rev. A.C. Cotter, *ABC of Scholastic Philosophy* (Weston, Mass.: Weston College Press, 1949), 282. (Emph. Cotter's.)

¹² "Pascendi Domenici Gregis," (Sept. 8, 1907) in Denzinger, *The Sources of Catholic Dogma*, (DZ 2072.)

¹³ Douay-Rheims version of Holy Scripture, John 7:24.

¹⁴ Douay-Rheims version of Holy Scripture, Matt. 12: 33; commentary compiled by Rev. George Leo Haydock, reprint 1859, (Monrovia Calif.: Catholic Treasures, 1991).

¹⁵ Charles J. McFadden, O.S.A., Ph.D. *The Philosophy of Communism*; (New York, Cincinnati, Chicago: Benziger Brothers, printers to the Holy See, 1939), 194.

¹⁶ "Pascendi Domenici Gregis," (Sept. 8, 1907) in Denzinger, *The Sources of Catholic Dogma*. (DZ 2081, 2089.)

¹⁷ Cotter, *ABC of Scholastic Philosophy*, 269.

¹⁸ Douay-Rheims version of Holy Scripture, Apoc. 13: 13-14.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, 2 Thess. 2: 9.

²⁰ Rev. Henry Ryder, *The Catholic Controversy*, (New York: Burnes and Oates, Catholic Publication Society, 1886), 183.

²¹ Douay-Rheims version of Holy Scripture, Apoc. 17: 3-6.

²² *Ibid.*, 2 Thess. 2: 6-9.

²³ *Ibid.*, Apoc. 17:6.

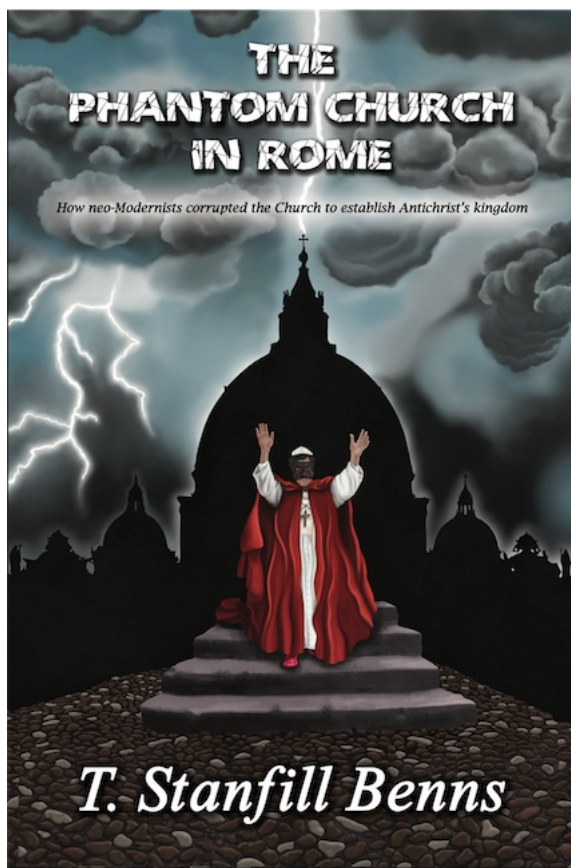
²⁴ *Ibid.*, Apoc. 17:7.

²⁵ *Ibid.*, Apoc. 17:8.

²⁶ Ibid., Apoc. 18: 4.

²⁷ Ibid., Matt. 26: 30.

²⁸ “On Reconstructing the Social Order,” para. 46 (May 15, 1931) in *The Church and the Reconstruction of the Modern World, The Social Encyclicals of Pius XI, Quadregessimo Anno*, (Garden City, N.Y.: Image Books, Doubleday and Co., 1957), 234.



There is finally an answer to why the unchangeable Catholic Church changed so drastically in the 1960s, and who engineered those changes. That answer will destroy every preconceived notion regarding religious freedom as an unalienable right, what the Catholic Church really teaches and the true meaning of biblical prophecy for the latter days.

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