

# THE SPIRIT OF ANTICHRIST 8: THROUGHOUT THE GENTILE AGE

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Lord willing, we're going to finish what I was planning to complete on Sunday so I might not be that long tonight. I know people look at me funny when I say that but I don't want anybody to be disappointed if I end a little early.

Before we get back to our study, I just have to say: I marvel at what the Lord is doing. We see how He has changed things so much just in the past few weeks with the new President. Just today or yesterday there was an executive order signed stating the obvious – he uses the word *common sense* a lot and *it is* – that men shouldn't play in women's sports.

I'm not really a sports person, it really doesn't matter to me how things go in sports. We hear sometimes about the person who was never picked to be on the team. Well, that was me. Not only did they not pick me to be on their team but the team captains would fight each other because the teacher said that one of them had to pick me. And literally the teacher would have to come and bring peace somehow.

I'm not worried about sports but it's the idea that a man could say that he's *a woman*, and then use that in whatever context. So it's just nice to see: not only did he make that order but people are responding positively to it.

Even greater than that – *far* greater than that – Trump invited Prime Minister Netanyahu to come for a visit and he said: I have this plan that we're going to take over Gaza. He's speaking of the United States. Trump said: I have a vision where Jordan and Egypt provide a place for the Palestinians so they can live in peace. Then we're going to go in, clean out the Gaza strip, and rebuild it.

You just have to say: who even *thinks* of a plan like that?

Of course, we know: at the end of the day, it's not going to be the United States' land, it's going to be *Israel's land*. But we see Trump's *willingness* to find a solution and to be working toward that.

It's now been more than a week. It might not sound that long but *in this presidency* that's a long time. It's been more than a week that he's been saying: Jordan and Egypt need to take in these Palestinians. And I have no doubt he's going to put pressure for them to do that.

We know that's really where they're from originally, at least Jordan and maybe Egypt also because Hagar's son *Ishmael* went down into Arabia and I believe to some extent Egypt as well. [Genesis 25:17-18] Then of course, the descendants of Esau – *the Edomites* – were in what we call today: southern Jordan.

So we see how the Lord is putting things in place and causing men to think certain thoughts that in the end are all to fulfill the plan of God. They may feel: this is *my idea*. Well, it's *their idea* now but God put it there.

I'm not going to say a lot more about that right now but I just marvel at the direction in which things are going. I know we could really look at that deeply and I thank the Lord Brother Govender has been doing that. I'm sure he'll have a lot to say about what has happened this week. It's just a beautiful thing to see how the Lord is working to bring Scripture to fulfillment.

Getting back to our subject, let's go back to Revelation chapter 6 and verse 5.

Revelation 6:5

*And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say,*

Now remember: *the third beast had the face of a man*. [Revelation 4:7]

Revelation 6:5

*Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand.*

Those *balances* mean he's going to sell something.



And that *black horse*, we spoke last time how that represents *death*. Not physical death, that was more the *red horse* [Revelation 6:4] but the *black horse* represents *spiritual death*.

So to a certain extent, we can say: that *spirit of antichrist* went back to what he had begun with the *white horse*. [Revelation 6:2] But now, really through *great deception*, he brought about the existence of a new church which – to the natural mind – was the same church that had always been. To the natural mind, this was maybe even better because the quarrels that they previously had on the foundational Christian doctrine had now been resolved.

I have to say: the fundamental question or the fundamental point of the church is: *who is Jesus Christ?* [Matthew 16:13] Or like we said last time, we might say: *who is Jesus of Nazareth?* Because when we say *Jesus Christ*, we're already sort of answering the question.

So they came up with this doctrine. The doctrine wasn't new, it already had its origins under the *white horse*. You can go back and read history: there were some individuals who already had a Trinitarian doctrine around the year 100 or 110 AD but it wasn't something that was accepted by the church as a whole.

But when we come to 325 AD, the emperor called a meeting of bishops and 1800 bishops came.

Last time I showed this little drawing here:

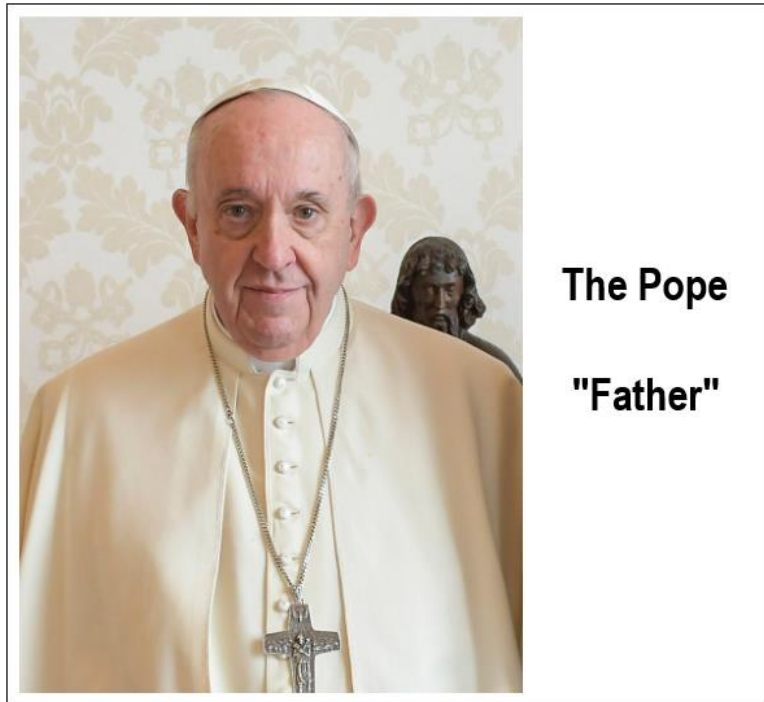


This would just be a small part of it. There were almost 2000 people present and basically – to put it in our terms today – they were all pastors and they solidified and voted on the Trinitarian doctrine.

Then they said: what are we going to do the next time there's a problem? Do we have to go back to the emperor? So over time they came to the conclusion: the bishop of Rome will be the bishop of bishops. And eventually he became *the Father of the Church* which we know is what the word *pope* means.

This of course is the pope today:





**The Pope**

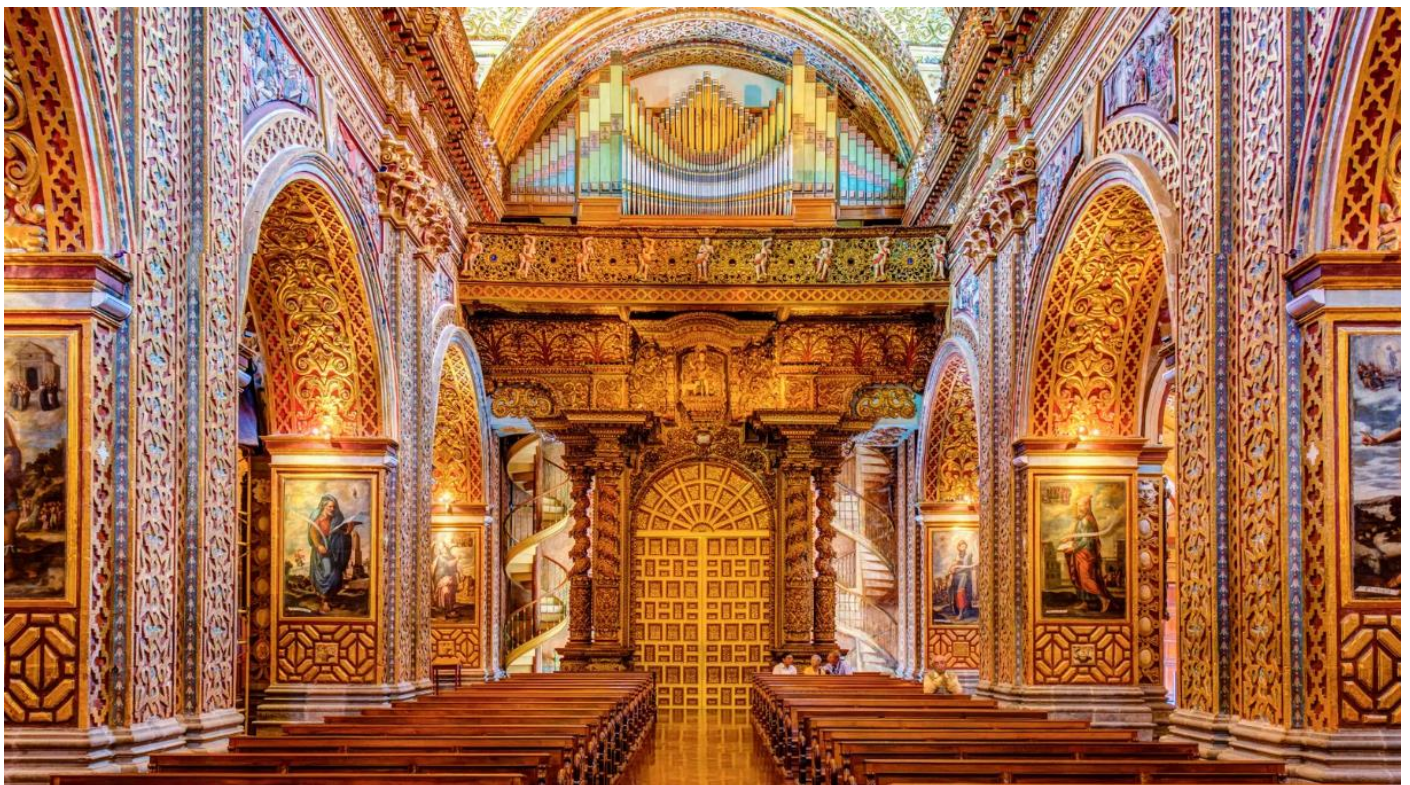
**"Father"**

Over time, the Catholic Church has taken on all kinds of ceremonials vestments, ornaments, and rituals.

It has absolutely become a playground for the carnality of man.

And man looks at that and says: this is just absolutely amazing!

Look how wonderfully dressed they are! Look at their beautiful buildings!





And here's one that just had a fire a few years ago, maybe seven years ago: the Notre Dame Cathedral in France. Oh, they got to work right away to rebuild it.

The magnitude! These structures are just enormous! Every one of them is unique and they are so beautiful!

Even John, when he saw *that great whore* in a vision [Revelation 17] he said: *I marvelled!* [Revelation 17:6] As what he saw represented the Catholic Church, *of course he would marvel!*





At the end of the day, that church is a place where men's souls go to die. There is *no life* in that church. Salvation is *not* in the Catholic Church. It is *not*. Because it has completely perverted the gospel.

Now yes, we can say: during the Dark Ages while there was not yet another standard lifted up, there could've been people in that church – the Catholic Church – whose hearts were sincere and they walked in the light that they had. And God could extend Grace to them. But the Catholic Church as a whole was literally a place of *spiritual death*. And it still is today.

I will say: today and really *since Martin Luther*, God has lifted up a standard. Someone may be raised in the church – I'm speaking of the Catholic Church – but if they really come to know the Lord, He will call them out.

In fact, that's what *church* means, it means: *called out*.

Now we normally think: called out of the world. And yes that's true. But also today if we are in some religious system, God will call us out of that and get us into His Word. Praise the Lord.

Before we read more, we have this chart here:



We have the Seven Church Ages starting around 56 AD and we have 2028 which is what the calculation of the Two Days gives us. [Hosea 6:2] We also have a *question mark*. A lot of people don't see that. They just say: you're setting dates.

I'll say this first: until just a couple years ago I had never in my life heard that a year is a date. But a date was always: *a month, a day, and a year*.

Now we say: the Two Days bring us to 2028 and they say that we're setting a date. On top of that, we still have the *question mark* there. It's a *focal point in time* that has been given to us *in Scripture*. Praise the Lord.

I have to say: we would be *foolish* not to be aware of that and not to have the urgency to be ready. But when we talk about *being ready*, a lot of people don't want to hear that. Some say: I'm building a new house or I'm starting a new business. I have all these plans.

Well hey, it's fine to have plans but I would *love* for my best plans to get interrupted by the rapture. Praise the Lord. And that's going to be the number-one desire of *every true believer*.





By the time we get to the year 500 AD, the Catholic Church had become very well defined and it had even begun to exert influence over the political leaders: the kings. And for a *thousand years*, mankind was in *spiritual ignorance*. From the year ~ 500 AD until about 1500 AD which is a *thousand years*, we call that: *the Devil's Millennium*.

Brother Jackson used to say: they entered that time burning candles and they came out burning candles. They entered with horse-drawn carts and they came out with horse-drawn carts.

In other words: even though it was *spiritual darkness*, it even had an effect on the *natural advances of man*.

There were no great natural advancements in science, in engineering, in mathematics, and those sorts of things. That *spiritual ignorance* even extended to *natural ignorance*.

During that time *the popes* were ruling and they had this idea that the earth was the center of the universe. Then a man came along by the name of Galileo Galilei and he basically invented the telescope. You say: well Brother, that's a good invention! Yes it was but he was excommunicated because of his reports on what he saw.

What did it help to have a telescope? He looked out, he studied space, and he said: you know what? *The earth goes around the sun!* It's *not* the sun that goes around the earth.

But the pope said: are you blind? The sun comes up every morning and goes down every night. *Of course* the sun goes around the earth! So they excommunicated him.

I have to say: that was outside martyrdom. That was the worst thing a person could experience at that time. Nobody would listen to him!

Then they had the audacity back in the 80s or 90s, I think it was in the 90s – I'm talking about the 1990s – they said: we rescind our excommunication of Galileo. In other words: they let him back in the Catholic Church.

I have to say: he's already dead! And *I'm sure* he doesn't want back in! But they're saying they let him back in.

Anytime there is a tragedy here in the United States, what do we hear? *Pray for the families*. Right? But lately I've also heard some say: pray for the souls of those who have died.

I have to say: we've always said: *pray for the family* because we know we can't do anything for the souls of those who have died. That's a Catholic doctrine and it is *100% anti-Bible*.

The Bible says: *it is appointed unto man once to die and then comes the judgement*. [Hebrews 9:27]

Once a person's heart stops, their destiny is sealed. Those who pray for their souls are wasting their time. So pray for the ones who are *still here*. We need to pray for *their souls!* Because *now* is the time they can make the decision that is going to determine their destiny.



Again, the time under the *black horse* [Revelation 6:5] don't try to align it up exactly with the dates above. As far as the dates, it's more between the years 500 and 1500 AD.

I have to say: there was *darkness*. Yes, the sun came up and it shined as brightly as it always did but *spiritually* there was *great darkness*.

As they were *deceived*, the people were putting their faith *in men*. Those *priests*, *cardinals*, and *popes* claiming to show them the way yet all they were doing was taking them further and further away from the true Word of God.

Now, it says here in verse 8:

Revelation 6:8

*And I looked, and behold a pale horse:*

I was talking with my wife before church. That word *pale* was the hardest word for me to understand.



I remember when I was in school, somebody would get sick and people would say: *they look pale*. I would say: what colour is that? And they would say: it's like they don't have colour. I would say: oh, it's white. And they would say: no, it's not white.

I have to say: I could never understand *pale*. I still don't think I understand it well.

But in other translations it says: *ashen*. I can understand that. Also: *sickly* or *yellow*. I can understand all of that.

Now Brother Jackson *who knew horses* said: there is no such thing as a *pale* horse but there is a *grey* horse. Again, I can understand that. To me, it aligns with *ashen*.

I think I'm jumping ahead of where I want to be. Yes, I'm sorry. We're going to get there but I wanted to say something about verse 6 first. I just jumped over all of that.

So back to verse 6:

Revelation 6:6

*And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny;*

Now, what are *wheat* and *barley*? They are *the staples* of the food we eat.

We know that it is written that *man shall not live by bread alone* – amen – *but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God*. [Matthew 4:4] So the Word of God is the *spiritual bread*.

Now this is not speaking of the natural bread. This is looking at how that church was supposedly feeding the Word of God to the people even though we know it had been *perverted*.

Not only did it go into – we can say – *a perversion of the Word*, but it got to the point as man was, we can say: *deceived*, this church took advantage of it and out of every way they could, they made money by *selling* what was supposed to be the Word of God and the service of the Christian ministry.

During those Dark Ages, *everything had a price*.

If someone wanted their cousin who had died to get out of Purgatory, they had to pay. If they wanted forgiveness for a certain sin, they had to pay. In fact, there was even a way they could pay and *then sin*: they could *buy the sin*. They had a price for everything a person could think of!

Again, remember: where did the money come from to build these cathedrals?



For hundreds of years people were convinced that they had *to pay* for every spiritual benefit. Or at least what they *perceived* to be such benefits.

As we spoke last Sunday: these are not the only two Cathedrals. I don't know *how many hundreds* there are.

I was down in Guadalajara Mexico. On one side of the town square there is a Cathedral. That thing is just enormous! I was looking at the stones. They were like four feet wide, and the same height and same depth. I don't know how they got them there! And then they put others on top!

They built this huge monstrosity and they even have a little plaque that tells: it took them something like 200 years to build it. The amount of work and the amount of money, I have to say: the Vatican is extremely wealthy.

But it says here:

Revelation 6:6  
*and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine.*

Praise the Lord.

We know the *oil* represents the Holy Ghost. Amen. It doesn't matter what plans man has, it doesn't matter what the devil has done, *no one can control or influence the Holy Ghost*. That is *God's Spirit* and He can do as He pleases. And He *will do* as He pleases. Praise the Lord.

The *wine* represents *the revelation*. And of course, the only way to obtain that is *by the Holy Ghost*.

Now, if it had just been up to man and the spirit of antichrist – which is the devil himself – we would still be in the Dark Ages today. Man himself could not pull himself out of it. But by the Grace of God, when the time came, God by His Spirit – as it says here: *hurt not the oil and the wine* – God by his Spirit anointed a man who was just trying to be the best Catholic he could be.

As this man got to a certain point and he got to the feet of the statue of Mary – I don't know if he was going to kiss her feet or exactly how he was going to bless her or do some kind of obeisance – he heard a voice: *Martin Luther, the just shall live by faith*. [Romans 1:17]

That's Scripture. *God revealed that to his heart*. The devil couldn't keep that back. The pope couldn't keep that back. And there began to be a *spiritual revolution*.



God Himself – see, that’s the *third beast that had the face of a man* [Revelation 4:7] – God used *the intellect of man* to lift up a standard against the Catholic Church and against the pope.

Martin Luther did a wonderful work and there were others who followed.

We look at some of those men, the things they wrote and the works they did, and we say: how can somebody have that kind of a mind?

Martin Luther himself translated – I believe it was – the New Testament. At that time when they went to Mass, the priests were speaking in Latin. Even if they read the Word, it was just a dead drone of syllables which the people didn’t understand!

And not only did Martin Luther translate that into German – because *he was German* – but this was also around the same time that the Gutenberg printing press came out. So they began to print what was known as the Gutenberg Bible.

Ever since then, the book that is printed more than any other book is *the Bible*.

I have to say: the Protestant Reformation spread like wildfire with that *beast* lifting up a standard against the *black horse rider*. [Revelation 6:5]

I also have to say: it was extremely effective because it was the work that God was doing. He said: *that’s enough! It is now time to bring light back to the Church!* And right away, the people realized they had to get out of that Catholic Church.

Even after Martin Luther saw what he saw and he wrote his *Ninety-five Theses*, his desire was that the leadership of the Catholic Church would see their error and that they would change. But what they did instead is: they kicked him out of the church!

I’m sure at the beginning he had to be very distraught. But it didn’t take long for him to see that really, *he had to get out of that church* and then he could lead others who would also need to leave that church if they were going to be true Christians.



That brings us to the end of the reformation as far as the *first three horses*.

I didn't get to the *pale horse* but at least I explained the word *pale* and we're going to view it as *the grey horse*. [Revelation 6:8] We'll get into that next time.

We can see how every time the devil has come along with something, God has *lifted up a standard*, but then the enemy finds another way to continue to push against the Church.

But as we read: *the gates of hell shall not prevail against the church*. [Matthew 16:18] Amen.

Let's go ahead and pray.