Fundamental Belief Number Thirteen

The Remnant and its Mission

Part 21

INDEX OF TITLES, QUESTIONS AND BIBLE TEXTS page 1

MEMORY TEXT page 1

BIBLE STUDY SUMMARY INTRODUCTION STATEMENT page 1

BIBLE STUDY pages 1-5

RESEARCH QUESTIONS pages 5, 6

The United States of America worked with the Papacy to bring down Communism their common enemy and is working in other religious areas of common interest with the Roman Catholic Hierarchy pp. 1-5

How has the United States of America worked together with the Roman Catholic Church? Revelation 13:11, 12 pp. 1-5

Memory Text

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**.

Bible Study Summary Introduction Statement

The universal church is composed of all who truly believe in Christ, but in the last days, a time of widespread apostasy, a remnant has been called out to keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. This remnant announces the arrival of the judgment hour, proclaims salvation through Christ, and heralds the approach of His second advent. This proclamation is symbolized by the three angels of Revelation 14; it coincides with the work of judgment in heaven and results in a work of repentance and reform on earth. Every believer is called to have a personal part in this worldwide witness.

BIBLE STUDY

The United States of America worked with the Papacy to bring down Communism their common enemy and is working in other religious areas of common interest with the Roman Catholic Hierarchy

How has the United States of America worked together with the Roman Catholic Church?

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.

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.

The Holy Alliance: Ronald Reagan and John Paul II

By CARL BERNSTEIN Monday, Feb. 24, 1992 Time Magazine

But Reagan and the Pope spent only a few minutes reviewing events in the Middle East. Instead they remained focused on a subject much closer to their heart: Poland and the Soviet dominance of Eastern Europe. In that meeting, Reagan and the Pope agreed to undertake a clandestine campaign to hasten the dissolution of the communist empire. Declares Richard Allen, Reagan's first National Security Adviser: "This was one of the great secret alliances of all time."

... The Catholic Team

The key Administration players were all devout Roman Catholics--CIA chief William Casey, Allen, Clark, Haig, Walters and William Wilson, Reagan's first ambassador to the Vatican. They regarded the U.S.-Vatican relationship as a holy alliance: the moral force of the Pope and the teachings of their church combined with their fierce anticommunism and their notion of American democracy. Yet the mission would have been impossible without the full support of Reagan, who believed fervently in both the benefits and the practical applications of Washington's relationship with the Vatican. One of his earliest goals as President, Reagan says, was to recognize the Vatican as a state "and make them an ally."

"In this timely and provocative new book, bestselling author Malachi Martin reveals the untold story behind the Vatican's role in the collapse of the Iron Curtain, as well as the popes far-reaching assessment of the three-way contest now unfolding among the global powers the Soviet Union. . . the capitalist nations of the West, and the pope's own universal Roman Church a winner-take-all race against time and each other to establish, maintain, and control the first one-world government that has ever existed on the face of the earth. . . And Martin reveals the pope's own blueprint for a genuinely geopolitical structure: a one-world government that is both viable and humanly acceptable."

Martin, a Vatican insider, wrote this non fiction <u>apocalyptic</u> book as a <u>geopolitical</u> and georeligious analysis of the last decades of the <u>20th century</u>. He identifies this period as the *millennium end-game* for a <u>new world order</u>, which has three main contenders. It will establish the first ever one-<u>world government</u>. <u>Pope John Paul II</u>, <u>Mikhail Gorbachev</u>, and international business leaders are in competition to establish this one world government and that this competition will intensify around the turn of the 20th century. The book further claims to be an inside account of what the pope is doing to win this geopolitical struggle and how he played an instrumental role in the collapse of the Iron Curtain.

Martin identifies the three main players vying for world domination in the world today and thus lays the ground for his historical analysis: materialism with the <u>East</u> and <u>West</u> in their <u>communism</u> or <u>socialism</u> and <u>capitalism</u> or <u>liberalism</u>, which he places on one side together, and the <u>Roman Catholic Church</u>, the only truly geopolitical spiritual organization in existence today. One of the two sides must win, for they cannot coexist.

Article Wikipedia encyclopedia

But how much influence does the Church of Rome have in American politics today? Melady, former ambassador to the Vatican said, "Just as the Evangelicals have become the base vote of the Republican party, Catholics are now today the swing vote in American politics. Any candidate who wins the Catholic vote will be able to govern America. . . . I believe if Catholics and Evangelicals can unite there is no person who runs for office in any city or state in America that can't be elected and there is no bill that can't be passed in either house of Congress or any state legislative chamber anywhere in America. It is the emerging force in the electorate today." G. Edward Reid, Sunday's Coming!, p. 71.

Henry Hyde, U.S. House Representative, said, "We now have 128 Catholics in the House and 21 in the Senate. If we had the Catholics behind us we would always carry the day." G. Edward Reid, Sunday's Coming!, p. 68.

After the collapse of the Soviet Union, Jim Hoagland wrote in the Washington Post that, "America would now determine all major global events." Clifford Goldstein, Day of the Dragon, p. 25.

Former President George Bush said in his State of the Union address, "It's a big idea: a New World Order, where diverse nations are drawn together in common cause... only the United States has both the moral standing and the means to back it up." Los Angeles Times, February 18, 1991.

An article in Time magazine called the United States the "world's sole remaining superpower, no prospect in the immediate future of any power to rival the United States." *Time*, *July* 29, 1991, p. 13.

Melady, former ambassador to the Vatican, said, "I believe that the U.S., as the world's only superpower, and the Holy See, as the only world-wide moral-political sovereignty, have significant roles to play in the future. Their actions will impact the lives of people in all parts of the globe." G. Edward Reid, Sunday's Coming!, p. 31.

Pope John Paul II "insists that men have no reliable hope of creating a viable geopolitical system unless it is on the basis of Roman Catholic Christianity." *Malachi Martin*, *The Keys of This Blood*, p. 492.

"Evangelicals and Catholics Together" is a 1994 ecumenical document signed by leading Evangelical and Roman Catholic scholars in the United States. The cosigners of the document were Charles Colson and Richard John Neuhaus, representing each side of the discussions.

1 It was part of a larger ecumenical rapprochement in the United States that had begun in the 1980s with Catholic-Evangelical collaboration in para-church organizations such as Moral Majority during the Ronald Reagan administration.

[Citation needed]

The statement is written as a testimony that spells out the need for Protestants and Catholics to deliver a common witness to the modern world at the eve of the third millennium. ^[2]It draws heavily from the theology of the <u>New Testament</u> and the Trinitarian doctrine of the <u>Nicean creed</u>. It does not mention any specific points of theology, and instead seeks to encourage what is known as <u>spiritual ecumenism</u> and day-to-day ecumenism.

Article Wikipedia encyclopedia

On January 10, 1984, upon the orders of the United States President Ronald Reagen and the "Holy See," the central government of the Roman Catholic Church, represented by "the Holy Father," Pope John Paul II, full diplomatic relations were established between these two entities.

"This cordial and cooperative framework did not always exist. In fact it took 208 years for the United States to enter into full diplomatic relations with the oldest international personality in the community of nations." (Thomas P. Melady, The Ambassador's Story – The United States and the Vatican in World Affairs, p. 41).

What brought these two powers together is the "common enemy strategy." In essence, Pope John Paul told former U. S. president Ronald Reagan: "Though we may not have a lot in common between us, we do have a common enemy in Communism. Let's work together for its downfall. And so what "Time" Magazine called the "Holy Alliance" was born (See "Time" February 24, 1992).

With the success of that endeavor the papacy then turned its attention to cooperative ventures with the Protestants of America in working to defeat the common enemy of moral corruption in the United States.

It was in an atmosphere of common cause that leading American Catholics and Evangelicals (Protestants) prepared and signed on March 29, 1994, the historical document entitled "Evangelicals and Catholics together." In essence these two groups agreed to work together to defeat a common enemy.

Evangelical author Dave Hunt in his recent book, "A Woman Rides the Beast," states that the signing of this document "was the most significant event in nearly 500 years of church history ... The document in effect overturned the Reformation and will unquestionably have far reaching repercussions throughout the Christian world for years to come (p.5).

We see further evidence that America and the Papacy are cooperating as predicted in Revelation 13 in the activity of the Christian Coalition, headed by Pat Robertson. In early October 1995 on the occasion of the papal visit to the United States, Robertson and other Evangelical (Protestant) leaders had a private meeting with John Paul II at the residence of Cardinal John O' Connor in New York. At the meeting Robertson presented the pope with a three- page letter pledging his support for the unity of Christians. Robertson later joined the pope on the platform for the papal mass in New York's Central Park.

The Christian Coalition recently announced the formation of the Catholic Alliance, its Catholic branch, already with over 250,000 members. Prominent Catholic leaders have just concluded the first national conference of the Catholic Campaign for America. As stated in their printed materials, "The mission of the Catholic Campaign for America is to activate Catholic citizens, to increase the Catholic electorate's influence in forming public policy, and to focus the public's attention on the beauty and richness of Catholic teaching." G. Edward Reid, "Sunday's Coming," pages 13-15.

Ecumenism is a fairly new term, used since 1948 to describe the tendency of modern Christian groups or bodies to cooperate and unify. Two recent documents on ecumenism and the unity of Christians have major significance. One was written in Rome – at the Vatican – and the other was written in the United States. The first is "Evangelicals and Catholics together: The Christian Mission in the Third Millennium." This 25-page document was developed by Protestant Chuck Colson and former Protestant Richard John Neuhaus and signed by 40 well-known Evangelical and Catholic leaders. The document was signed on March 29, 1994.Among the Catholic signatories are John Cardinal O'Conner, Richard John Neuhaus, Kieth Fournier, Nathan Hatch, and Matthew Lamb. The Protestant signatories included Pat Robertson, Bill Bright, Chuck Colson, Mark Noll, and Richard Mouw.

The Christian Coalition gave the document front page coverage in their 'Christian American' publication. Their report states: "After nearly four centuries of division and hostility,

Protestants and Catholics have taken an important step toward unity. Forty key Evangelical and Catholic leaders signed a statement at the Institute on Religion and Public Life in New York City, on March 29, 1994, urging their followers to accept each other as Christians, put aside differences and contend for common civil causes.

"'This is the wave of the future. It is as significant a coalition to the future American politics as the unification of the blacks and Jews during the civil rights struggle,' Dr Ralph Reed, executive director of the Christian Coalition, told the "Wall Street Journal." G. Edward Reid, "Sunday's Coming," pages 13-15.

Pat Robertson, founder and president of the Christian Coalition, authored a book titled "The New World Order." In it he states: "Galley slaves and coolies forced to work seven days a week became no better than beasts of burden. Higher civilizations rise when people can rest, think, and draw inspiration from God. Laws in America (Sunday laws known as blue laws) that mandated a day of rest from incessant commerce have been nullified as a violation of church and state... What idiocy our society has indulged in by refusing to acknowledge the wisdom of God.

Since exaltation and promised rewards came from one day of rest and worship. I determine to remake my Sundays according to the biblical model" (Pat Robertson, The New World Order, pp. 236, 237).

Another indication of the way that American Protestants are joining with Catholic thinking in regards to Sunday blue laws is recorded in the papers written for the Massachusetts Council of Churches that was printed in Boston, January 1993. The articles were written under the title "Sunday Closing Laws Revisited, a Biblical, Ethical, and Sociological Study of a Common Day of Rest". Bradley Googins, Ph.D., of Boston University writes in this article: "It seems to me that it is up to the clergy and others among us concerned with the quality of life to speak out strongly for the value of the system which is supportive of our families and communities. We must articulate a vision of life which values family time, reflective time and communities built on caring and mutual support. Only by framing the Sunday closing laws in this manner do we have a chance for insuring a basic quality of life for our families and communities."

In the same set of papers Dr Barbara Darling-Smith wrote the article "The Meaning of Sabbath Rest in the World of Commerce" for the series. She wrote that "The benefits of Sabbath for humans and our environment are too precious to be left to the vagaries of the marketplace, to the luck of where one find employment, or to the good intentions of one's employer. Like the question of family leave, a basic human need of this sort needs legislative support; otherwise workers will be exploited."

In concluding a Council of Churches session Dr. Ruy Costa stated, "Only with a renewed vision, with a statewide grassroots effort, and, with the will to be political in defense of the Sunday laws, will common day of rest advocates in this Commonwealth be able to persevere against the tremendous odds faced in defense of the Sunday Closing laws."

Would you like to put your trust totally in Jesus Christ who told us and warned us of things to come for our faith to grow so that we can be saved at last? Yes!

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

What alliance does the Bible predict that has been fulfilled since the reign of Pope John Paul II and American president Ronald Reagen? The Papacy and the USA

What common enemy did these two powers work together to overthrow? Communism

What did Revelation 13:12 prophesy that America would cause dwellers on the earth to do? Worship the papacy symbolized as the first beast

What power does Revelation 13:12 declare that America symbolized as the second two horned lamb-like beast would exercise? All the power of the first beast or papacy

What has America the power to usher in according to the Los Angeles Times, February 18, 1991? A new World Order

Who is the only remaining world superpower according to *Time*, *July 29*, 1991, p. 13? The USA

What term is used to describe the movement that is bringing the Roman Catholics and American and other Protestants together? The Ecumenical movement

What is one of the common goals of this ecumenical movement? Reintroducing the enforcement of the Sunday Blue laws