

## The Pope's Push for a One-World Religion



By [Mike Gendron](http://www.pro-gospel.org/) <http://www.pro-gospel.org/>

Rod Houle added the Charles Haddon Spurgeon writings.

*One reason why Roman Catholicism is so popular is because it allows a man to get a deputy to do his thinking for him, and to do his praying for him; but what a poor affair it is with the man who keeps his brains in somebody else's head, and carries his heart in somebody else's bosom!*

*~C.H. Spurgeon, the prince of preachers - June 19, 1834 – January 31, 1892*

by Charles Haddon Spurgeon

### Geese in Their Hoods

In the frequent quarrels between the priests and monks of the Church of Rome, the two parties of rogues were silly enough to expose each other's villainies. On the edifices belonging to monasteries, priests were caricatured in the stonework; and on the churches built by priests, the monks and friars were held up to ridicule. A great deal of real truth was thus brought out by their mutual recriminations. The ancient carving above [not shown] is a specimen of a common caricature representing the clergy as foxes with geese in their hoods; a very admirable picture whether monks or priests were intended. Popery, with its secret confessional and priestly interference at dying beds, is essentially a fox. Puseyism, pretending to be Protestant, and gradually bringing in all the foolery of Rome, is a deep fox indeed. Yet there are geese silly enough to be deceived by priests in this nineteenth century; (and 20th century, Rod Houle) and so long as the supply of such geese is kept up, the foxes will never cease to prowl.

Reader, do you believe that men like yourself have priestly power? Do you think that they can regenerate infants by sprinkling them, and turn bread and wine into the very body and blood of Jesus Christ? Do you think that a bishop can bestow the Holy Ghost, and that a parish clergyman can forgive sins? If so, your head can be seen in the picture peeping out from the cowl of the fox. You are the victim of crafty deceivers. Your soul will be their prey in life and

in death. They cajole you with soft words, fine vestments, loud pretensions, and cunning smiles, but they will conduct you down to the chambers of death, and lead you to the gates of hell. Silly goose, may grace make thee wise!

Jesus Christ is the true Priest who can forgive all your sins; go to him at once, without the intervention of these pretenders. Make confession to him! Seek absolution from him! The Holy Ghost alone can cause you to be born again, and the grace of God alone can bring you to glory. Avoid Puseyite and Romish foxes, for they seek to make a gain of you, and lead you not to Jesus, but to their Church and all its mummeries. Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and not in these deceivers.

**By Mike Gendron:**

One of the greatest dangers to Christianity today is the deliberate suppression of biblical truth for the sake of unity. The danger intensifies as we see many highly visible and influential Christians are jumping on the Vatican's ecumenical bandwagon. Instead of warning believers that this false unity is the emergence of the "*last days*" apostate church, evangelicals are embracing and applauding those who are engineering it. Instead of obeying biblical exhortations and examples to: keep the gospel pure, we are tolerating those who preach another gospel (*Gal. 1:6 – 9* "***I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.***") be sanctified by the truth, they are joining hands with unbelievers (*John 17:17* "***Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.***"). Hate everything false, they are tolerating doctrines of demons and counterfeit gospels (*Psalms 119:104* "***Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way.***" *Psalms 119:128* "***Therefore I esteem all thy precepts concerning all things to be right; and I hate every false way.***"). Expose and name the agents of compromise, they are enduring them (*Eph. 5:11* "***And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.***" *2 Tim. 4:1 – 4* "***I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.***").

### **The Church Must Be Warned**

Amazingly, we seldom hear warnings against apostasy from our pulpits. Rarely are false teachers, who seductively lead people away from the true faith, exposed. These apostates are appearing as ministers of righteousness and are facing very little opposition. They successfully

deceive the undiscerning because pastors and church leaders are not speaking out against them. Very few Christians are warning the church of these ferocious wolves dressed in sheep's clothing. The twenty-first century church needs strong leaders like the apostle Paul. He warned the early church, "Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears." (Acts 20:30, 31). Throughout the Scriptures we are exhorted to test every spirit, every teacher and every doctrine because men are so easily deceived.

### **The Vatican's Strategy**

It is indeed disturbing to see so many evangelicals unaware of the Vatican's strategy for bringing the world under the dominion of the papacy. The Vatican has made a concerted effort since 1965 to bring their *"separated brothers"* back home to *"holy mother the church."* In his 1995 encyclical *Et Unum Sint*, Pope John Paul II said he intends *"to promote every suitable initiative...to increase the unity of all Christians until they reach full communion"* and *"to encourage the efforts of all who work for the cause of unity."* The pope's stated desire is *"to gather all people and all things into Christ, so as to be for all-an inseparable sacrament of unity... expressed in the common celebration of the Eucharist."* During a week of prayer for Christian unity Pope John Paul II said, *"I gladly take this opportunity to call the attention of all believers to the ecumenical commitment that marked VC II. The council rightly defined the division among Christians as a scandal. The council Fathers felt the need to beg pardon of God and of their brethren for the sins committed against unity."* He asked Catholics *"to cultivate an authentic spiritual ecumenism"* through the Virgin Mary [not through the Lord Jesus]. The success of the pope's push for unity can be seen by the announcement made last year by the Archbishop of Canterbury. He urged all Christians to recognize the Pope as the supreme authority of a new global church (6/99 CRN News). In a document called *The Gift of Authority*, he describes the Pope as a *"gift to be received by all the churches."* It would do us all well to heed the words of C.H. Spurgeon, *"Ignorance has been one of the grand agents of Popery ever since her establishment; by it, the eyes of men have been so blinded that they can scarcely discern between good and evil, and follow implicitly any guide even until they fall into the ditch of perdition."*

Catholic priest Tom Forrest, who is head of Evangelization 2000 said, *"Our job is to make people as richly and as fully Christian as we can make them by bringing them into the Catholic Church. So evangelization is never fully successful, it's only partial until the convert is made a member of Christ's body by being led into the Catholic Church."*

The Vatican's ecumenical movement goes beyond the unity of all professing Christians. Their strategy is to bring all religions under the power and influence of the papacy. Pope John Paul II has been traveling the world to build bridges to all non-Christian religions. In a recent speech he said, *"Christians and Muslims, we meet one another in faith in the one God...and strive to put into practice...the teaching of our respective holy books. Today, dialogue between our two religions [Roman Catholicism and Islam] is more necessary than ever. There remains a spiritual bond which unites us and which we must strive to recognize and develop."* Even Mother Theresa had the ecumenical spirit as noted from her book *Servants of Love*. She stated,

*"we went every day to pray in some temple or church. The Archbishop gave us permission to do so. We prayed with the Jews, the Armenians, the Anglicans, the Jains, the Sikhs, the Buddhists, and the Hindus. It was extraordinary. All hearts united in prayer to the one true God."*

As we watch the Vatican we can see a seductive strategy for uniting all Christians. They masterfully and deliberately redefine biblical terms to make them more vague, ambiguous and acceptable to both Catholics and Protestants. An example of this is the 1999 Lutheran-Roman Catholic *"Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification."* In the declaration, Rome uses equivocal and indefinite words to affirm the doctrine of *"justification by faith alone"* but, at the same time, continues to affirm the anathema's that condemn all who believe this doctrine. We must not be misled. Rome has not changed its position on things that really matter! Instead they take advantage of professing Christians who lack discernment or who are unwilling to contend for *"the faith."*

### **Two Kinds of Unity**

Tragically, the evangelical community continues to move away from sound doctrine for the cause of unity. This only fuels the fires of ecumenism. When church leaders are willing to suppress doctrinal truth they are allowing the walls that separate the church from the world to come down. Doctrine is what divides believers from unbelievers. While unity and brotherhood sound wonderful to a hostile world full of fighting and killing, the Bible condemns any unity that is not founded in God's truth. False unity is based upon man's ambitions and is independent of God (Gen. 11:1-9 *"And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech. And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there. And they said one to another, Go to, let us make brick, and burn them throughly. And they had brick for stone, and slime had they for mortar. And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth. And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men builded. And the LORD said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do. Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech. So the LORD scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city. Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the LORD did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did the LORD scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth."*) Religious unity is the false unity of the Antichrist (**Read Revelation Chapters 17, 18**) and should be resisted by God's people. Biblical unity is based on apostolic truth (Eph. 4:3 *"Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."* Eph. 4:13 *"Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:"*) and is a work of the Holy Spirit (**1 Cor. 12:13** *"For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit."*). Biblical unity is not man-made, but man is exhorted to keep it. Biblical unity is impossible apart from the one true and settled faith taught by the Apostles. God's people are called upon to (**Jude 3** *"Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto*

*the saints.*”) There is no spiritual unity whatsoever between those who believe the Gospel and those who do not. True Christian unity is modeled when believers are united together in mind, faith and purpose to serve the Lord Jesus Christ, while submitting to the authority of His Word.

### **Contending for the Faith**

As the ecumenical movement gathers momentum, we must be strong and continue to contend for the faith, no matter what others might do or say. Let us pray for our evangelical leaders to return to the authority of Scripture for every issue of faith. Let us use God's Word to lovingly admonish any church leader who encourages unity with apostates or unbelievers. And finally, let us resist the pressure to participate in any activity or event that will deliberately suppress or compromise biblical truth for the sake of unity. We must return to the infallible, inerrant and inspired Word of God to heed its warnings and obey its commands. The Bible exhorts us to test all teachers and spirits (1 John 4:1 *“Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.”* 1 John 4:6 *“We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.”*) We are to expose false teachings and the evil deeds of darkness (Eph. 5:11 *“And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.”*). Christians are to lovingly confront and rebuke false teachers (Titus 1:9 *“Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.”* Titus 1:13 *“This witness is true. Wherefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith;”*) We are to separate from those who persist in teaching error (Romans 16:17 *“Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.”* Titus 3:10 *“For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision:”*) If we ignore these exhortations we may be disqualified for service (2 Timothy 2:20 *“But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour.”*), or worse yet, be identified with the false teachers themselves (2 John 10, 11 *“If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.”*)