

A BIBLICAL VIEW OF THE END TIMES

Week 23: Understanding the Rise of the Antichrist, Part 5 October 2, 2022

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Review:

- The high-level theme we are presently studying is, "The Rise of the Antichrist."
- There are a series of important issues related to the ascent of this final apocalyptic leader that we must properly understand, if we are to avoid the wild conjecture that infects so many Christians today.
- One of those issues is the onset of the false one-world religion that will emerge during the final years of human history.
- It is a false religion that is closely tied to the rise of the antichrist, and vice versa.
- Last week, we learned a number of introductory elements about this false one-world religion. I want to do a "flash review" of those things as we get into our lesson today:
 - First, this false one-world religious system will rapidly spread following the Rapture of the Church.
 - Further, it will be an intolerant false religion that will result in the persecution of many who refuse to conform to it.
 - It will be a false religion that will advance a great deception, and will do all it can to bury the truth and advance a lie.
 - ➤ It will be a false religion that will be genocidal in its efforts in order to force complete conformity.
 - It will be a false religion that will build on current delusions such as socialism, climate change, evolution, global governance, and the presence and return of aliens.
 - > It will be a false religion that is supported by counterfeit and visible supernatural signs and wonders.
 - The campaign of death, which is the agenda of this one-world false religion, results in the pleas of the martyred saints in the 5th Seal Judgment.
 - It is this future campaign of death that the Bible calls an "overflowing scourge" in **Isaiah Ch. 28.**
 - It is this "overflowing scourge" that Israel will want to be INSULATED from as she seeks to set up the INSTITUTION of the temple and its sacrificial system.
 - These elements will be a key inclusion of the covenant that the antichrist will confirm with Israel; it is this covenant which sets in motion the seven years of The Tribulation.
 - ➤ One of the most important agenda items of this false one-world religious system will be to explain away the Rapture. It will present convincing arguments that deflect from the truth of God's Word.
 - Those who have already "rejected the love of the truth that would have saved them" will fall for this lie, this "powerful delusion."

- ➤ We studied how the Bible makes the clear case that there will be, during this time, "a return of the days of Noah," a return of the fallen angels into the physical sphere of human events.
- ➤ We noted the writings of various occultic and new age leaders that are ALREADY receiving messages from dark entities, and who are ALREADY painting a false explanation about: the Rapture, about the onset of the Tribulation, and about their return to Earth.
- We saw last week that this final one-world false religious system will be one that emerges from already having a foundation that is is widespread across the globe.
- This false religious system will hate the truth of the Gospel, will hate the Jews, and will hate the Christians.
- According to God's Word, particularly in **Revelation Ch. 17**, this future one-world religious system has shown all these same practices and attitudes before.

Last week, we started to review some of the high-altitude points of *Revelation Ch. 17.* This is the chapter in the Bible that provides the greatest concentration of information about this final false one-world religious system. We learned that:

- This false one world religious system is pictured as a prostitute with many customers and supporters.
- > She is arrayed in finery: scarlet and purple, pearls, gold, and precious stones. Putting that another way, these elements define this false one-world religious system, as one that is abundant with riches and resources.
- This "prostitute," has "intoxicated" her followers according to **Revelation 17:2.** In other words, they are not of sound reason.
- They have been deceived. They are foolish and they choose to believe anything but the truth.
- In **vs. 5** she traces her origins back to "Babylon the Great." The foundation of this final false one-world religious systems is both ancient AND occultic.
- This single Babylonian source has been the mother or the SOURCE of all prostitutes (or all false religions) that have contended with the truth since earliest times.
- In **vs. 15 of Revelation Ch. 17**, we read that this prostitute has an impact on all the people in the world: "....peoples, multitudes, nations, and languages." This false religion will invade all cultures and societies.
- It is ecumenical. It has gathered all belief systems under one structure.
- ➤ IMPORTANT: This prostitute is supported by the beast, or BY the antichrist. The relationship between the two, at least for a period of time, appears to be mutually beneficial. They each need one other to achieve their individual agendas.
- Nevertheless, the antichrist, together with his 10 kings, HATE this false one-world religious system underneath it all.
- The Bible says in **Revelation 17:16** that they will destroy this one-world false religion at a key point. It will be a violent overthrow.
- ➤ That point is halfway through the Tribulation at which the antichrist will also terminate the Jewish religious practices.
- After the antichrist overthrows the one-world religious system AND the Jewish sacrificial system, he will demand self-worship.

I. THE CRITICAL THREAD IN THIS ISSUE: Satan's desire to be worshipped.

- A. The Bible says Satan fell from his place as the highest created being because he wanted to be above God and to be worshipped as God (Cf. Isaiah 14:12-17)
- B. Satan has never changed his desire to be worshipped as "God" above all else. He laid all kinds of tempting proposals in front of Jesus in an effort to achieve this goal (Cf. Matthew 4:1-11)
- C. All the false religions of the world are designed in some way to take the worship of Jesus Christ away and redirect it to Satan's occultic agenda *(Cf. Revelation 17:5)*.
- D. The one world false religious system that will emerge in the wake of the Rapture, and when the Restraining power of the Holy Spirit has been removed, will be directly reinforced by Satan's power.
 - 1. In **2** Thessalonians **2:9**, it says Satan will employ "all kinds of counterfeit miracles, signs, and wonders" to support this powerful delusion.
 - 2. Make no mistake: Satan is heavily-invested into seeing that false one-world religious system will come about.
 - a. It will keep people from seeing and seeking the truth about the Gospel.
 - b. It will deceive many because Satan is "the father of lies" (Cf. John 8:44)
 - c. It will try to explain away the Rapture and the clear facts of God's Word.
 - 3. But it is all still a step or two away from what Satan most covets, and that is the direct worship of himself.
 - 4. Satan takes it in steps. Getting the global religion out of the way and setting up the antichrist to be worshipped, gets even closer to achieving Satan's original goal.
 - 5. Satan's almost at the point of being visibly worshipped by all the inhabitants of the earth. However, that is as far as he gets. Jesus Christ returns as King of kings and Lord of lords. Satan's goal of being directly worshipped never comes to total fruition.

NOTE: Let me add a couple more thoughts about this false one-world religious system that we read about in *Revelation Ch. 17* and which is represented by this prostitute that rides the beast:

- It says in vs. 6 that she is "....drunk with the blood of the saints, the blood of those who bore testimony to Jesus."
 - One point is very clear here: this one-world religion seeks to destroy and to kill those who believe in Jesus Christ and who state the truth of the Scriptures.
 - Again, we are reminded that Death and Hades in the 4th seal judgment empower, or give ability to, one quarter of the world's population to kill.
 - Again, we are reminded that Israel wants to be INSULATED from this overflowing scourge
 of Death and Hades as they seek to have the INSTITUTION of their temple and their
 sacrificial system of worship (Cf. Isaiah 28:15).
 - And again, we are reminded of the masses of Christian martyrs in the 5th seal judgment who are asking God, "When will you begin to judge the inhabitants of the earth and avenge our blood?"

- II. THE PHYSICAL LOCATION (HEADQUARTERS) OF THE FINAL FALSE ONE WORLD RELIGIOUS SYSTEM. Revelation 17:9 a place of "seven hills."
 - A. Now, there is a very long list of cities which claim in one way or another to be built on seven hills.
 - B. But keep in mind that God's Word tells us at this juncture to use "wisdom" (Cf. Revelaion 17:9a).
 - C. It makes no sense to be speculating about Rio De Janiero, New York, Kampala (Uganda), Bristol, England or Boulder, CO.
 - D. God's Word connects the dots in a very systematic way. Something that is said in one place is supported by something that is said in another place.
 - E. There is only one location, one city, one view which conforms to **all of the related Biblical texts** about these same issues. It is the city of Rome.
 - F. SO, A HISTORY LESSON IS NEEDED....IT'S IMPORTANT TO GET US ALL ON THE SAME PAGE:
 - 1. The Roman Empire (which is first introduced in the Bible in *Daniel Ch. 2*), eventually became known as The Holy Roman Empire, then the Holy Roman Catholic Empire, then the Roman Catholic Church. Today it is now simply known as the Catholic Church.
 - a. This gradual evolution is all very clear in the ubiquitous historical records, and they all affirm these stages.
 - b. THIS IS A VERY IMPORTANT PROCESS OF CONTINUITY THAT WE MUST SEE. It means the Roman Empire, from God's perspective, never really went away.
 - c. It just changed form and representation.
 - 2. The angel in *Revelation Ch. 17* which explained to John the meaning of the great prostitute, tells John that "a mind with wisdom" is needed.
 - a. That suggests it is possible to draw the reasonable conclusions. Such a mind must be sound and impartial. That is necessary to connect all the dots (my paraphrase).
 - b. The angel further explains that there is an association between this global false religion and a prominent city on seven hills.
 - c. It's MOST likely this city would have been known by this description in John's time.
 - d. This city will have worldwide influence over many global leaders at this future prophetic time, and is still future to you and I today.
 - 3. This is why I've stated that the Roman Empire (and - ultimately the Roman Catholic Church) emerges as the chief suspect if we take God's Word at face value.
 - a. It is the only reasonable sum of all the parts.

- b. It is the ONLY common ground that unites all the Biblical passages about this false and final one world religious system.
- c. Remember, the second principle about proper Biblical interpretation is all passages on one subject must agree.
- d. It is also the most reasonable assumption that emerges from the historical records, as well as from an objective assessment of the prior inquisitions and activities of the Roman Catholic Church.

NOTE: I want to say three things at this juncture:

First - I know some of you have already reached this conclusion on your own. You've considered this issue objectively, and you've reached these conclusions before we all began to probe this matter in this class.

Second – I know there are others of you that find this idea new. This is a perspective you've not previously considered. You are curious now, but you are not convinced.

Third - there are likely those of you that are uncomfortable with this suggestion that some future iteration of the Roman Catholic Church will become this final global false religion.

- I am most sensitive to those of you who are in this third group.
- O I am further sensitive to the fact that we ALL know people who would claim to be part of the Roman Catholic Church - that includes friends and family.
- o Considering the <u>much</u> larger crowd that will ultimately listen to these lessons online, I am especially aware of the responsibility I have here to support the suggestions I am making.

So today, I want to begin a process that will take up a couple of lessons. It amounts to an overview that looks at the past, present, and future issues within the Roman Catholic Church.

- o IMPORTANT: It is not my intent to pick on our Catholic friends or to challenge the veracity of anyone's salvation who may claim to be part of this denomination.
- o God alone knows the heart of man. He will judge the integrity of everyone's faith.
- However, I feel it is my responsibility as I stand up here to explain what I feel the Word of God is saying, and to evaluate those things against the backdrop of other things we should also know and understand.
- This will all tie back into *Dan. 9:27* as we will see why the antichrist will put a stop not only to
 Jewish sacrifice and offering but also to the activities of this global false religion.

III. A HISTORICAL REVIEW OF THE HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE.

NOTE: Daniel interpreted Nebuchadnezzar's vision back in **Daniel Ch. 2**, and he essentially explained to the king that the Roman Empire would – in some final form – be the concluding Gentile empire in world history. (NOTE: He did not mention "Rome" as such, but we can concur with his over-arching point).

- A. I want to focus on that phase of the Roman Empire which <u>followed</u> the political-military-governing infrastructure which existed in Jesus' time.
- B. The Roman Empire had two parts as we've learned:
 - 1. The Western Empire which was headquartered in Rome was largely based in the European arena.
 - a. This was the dominant element in Jesus' time.
 - b. Much of the New Testament references Rome and the politics of Rome, the early Christian church in Rome, and so on.
 - c. Most people today, when they think of the Roman Empire, they think of this Western Empire.
 - d. It's the one that all the movies are made about, so it's the one we are most familiar with.
 - 2. But there was also an Eastern Empire as I've shared before. The Eastern Empire of the Roman Empire was headquartered in Constantinople, Turkey. We know that city today as Istanbul, Turkey.
 - a. It outlasted the western leg of the empire by a long shot.
 - b. The eastern leg of the Roman Empire endured politically up through the early 1400's.
 - c. This leg and its territory gave way to the Ottoman Empire which succeeded it. Today, the leader of modern-day Turkey, Erdogan, wishes to resurrect the original Ottoman Empire.
 - d. But already we see two legs of one empire. This is also pictured in the two iron legs of Nebuchadnezzar's statue in *Daniel Ch. 2*.
- C. The Holy Roman Empire began well before the formal demise of the Eastern Empire.
 - 1. The Holy Roman Empire started out as a loosely-organized collection of smaller kingdoms.
 - a. These smaller kingdoms held power in various places in western and central Europe more or less between the late 900's and early 1800's.
 - b. These collective territories were ruled by leaders, usually Germanic kings, who ruled from their various homelands.
 - c. These various leaders oversaw local regions which were, in turn, controlled by a variety of lessor kings, dukes, and other officials.
 - d. The Holy Roman Empire, by all counts, appears to have been some sort of attempt to resurrect the Western Empire of Rome.
- D. It was in the 4th Century that Christianity was embraced by the Roman Emperor and was pronounced the official religion, and was initially headquartered in Constantinople.
 - 1. This was an uneasy situation at best.
 - a. Religion and government were blended in an unhealthy way. The church and the state essentially became one.

- b. What emerged was a powerful, corrupt, and volatile mix of doctrine and politics.
- 2. The foundation for the Holy Roman Empire gained much of its definition in 800 AD when Charlemagne became emperor.
 - a. This event set a template for the next 700 years. The various Popes which followed each claimed the right to choose and install the most powerful rulers on the European Continent.
 - b. In the Holy Roman Empire, politics and church matters wrestled from time to time, however the church usually won.
 - c. The Popes wielded the most influence by far, and the papacy's power probably reached its ultimate expression during this period.
- 3. Eventually, all that power was consolidated in a centralized Roman Catholic Church which established its Capital in Rome.
 - a. This Roman Catholic Church became the major social and religious institution that existed throughout the Middle Ages.
 - b. This part of history was also known as The Dark Ages. I would suggest to you that this designation had much to do with a suppression of spiritual truth and the promotion of various heresies.
 - c. (NOTE: If any of you have watched "Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves" (Kevin Costner), or "The Three Musketeers" with Chris O'Donnell, you will see this dark and deceptive dynamic emphasized.
 - d. It was during the Middle Ages that a variety of "new church traditions" became official doctrine of the Roman Church. (i.e. Replacement Theology)
 - e. It was also during this time that the church-state alliance engaged in many military conflicts, perhaps most famously, the Crusades.
 - f. This church-state alliance consolidated political clout, and it amassed vast resources of land, goods, and other material assets.
 - g. In 1054 AD, the Eastern Orthodox Church separated from the Western (or Roman) Church, in part due to Rome's concentration of leadership under the Pope.
- 4. It was in the late phases of the Holy Roman Empire that true Christianity fought back.
 - a. More and more Christians had become uneasy with the dominance, the teachings, the control, the persecutions and inquisitions, and the corruption of the Roman Catholic Church.
 - b. Perhaps of all these elements, it was the inquisitions that we note with the greatest discomfort:
 - ➤ The Roman Catholic Church inquisitions were so-called "judicial tribunals" that were set up and carried out to primarily locate and sentence people that the Roman Catholic Church maintained were guilty of heresy.

- ➤ The purpose of the inquisitions was to keep religious control and to preserve doctrinal "unity" throughout the Holy Roman Empire. It was really "conformity" they were seeking.
- These inquisitions were done through the forced conversion or persecution of perceived heretics. Many thousands of people were tortured and killed during this time. Beheadings and burning at the stake were not uncommon.
- ➤ Historians generally divide the inquisitions into four different time frames and places. These were: the Medieval or Episcopal Inquisition, the Spanish Inquisition, the Portuguese Inquisition, and the Roman Inquisition.
- In each of them, extreme persecution and killing took place. While Protestant Christians were the primary target, other religious groups also suffered > particularly the Jews.
- ➤ The Roman Catholic Church has ALWAYS at its core been antisemitic. You can even see these attitudes in the current Pope today.
- c. As a result, this is why in the 1500s, Martin Luther launched the great Protestant Reformation.
 - ➤ Martin Luther is famously-known for his 95 Theses. This was a document listing the oppressive and unbiblical practices and beliefs of the Roman Catholic Church.
 - Luther nailed his 95 Theses on the door of the church at Wittenberg, Germany on October 31, 1517. They were quickly translated and distributed across Germany in a matter of weeks.
 - ➤ It's interesting that Oct. 31, 1517, which became known as Reformation Day, is more well-known in our time as Halloween.
 - ➤ There are some interesting reasons the two land on the same day - I encourage you to do some personal reading and research to see the "how's and why's."
 - Martin Luther was not the only disrupter around this time; John Calvin became a Reformation leader based in Switzerland.
 - ➤ While Luther and Calvin returned the church to many solid Biblical truths it is unfortunate that their writings show they continued in the antisemitic postures of the Catholic traditions.
 - ➤ Other denominations, like the staunch Anabaptist Movement, helped to reform religion in the Western world and return entire societies to a more Biblically-based body of truth.
 - A great struggle emerged between the Roman Catholic Church and the Protestants during this time. This was essentially due to the basic theological positions of the Protestant reformation.

- d. The Protestant Reformation focused on the primacy of Biblical teaching over the authority of the Pope and sacred traditions.
 - For example, the Protestants taught the teaching of <u>salvation by "grace</u> alone" through faith alone in Christ.
 - This sound Biblical doctrine energized a whole new era of evangelistic outreach in the European continent.
 - > That fervor ultimately influenced those who would later settle in North
 - ➤ The basic premise of the Protestants was *Sola scriptura*, or "Scripture alone." This taught that the Bible was the sole authority on all matters of faith. Of course, this flew in the face of the Papal authority.
 - ➤ It was this teaching of *Sola scriptura* that led to the development of various denominations for many Protestant groups that were founded during this time.
 - ➤ While the Holy Roman Empire continued to hold power after the Reformation, the Catholic Church's influence waned and the authority of the Pope was curtailed.
 - Europe, and the rest of the world was experiencing evangelistic fervor.
- e. Today, the Catholic Church is still headquartered in Rome in an area known as The Vatican. In fact, The Vatican is legally its own country, comprising a territory of just over 100 acres.
 - ➤ While its physical headquarters is tiny, the global influence of The Catholic Church is massive.
 - The Catholic Church has a presence in most every country today, and its resources and followers are significant.
 - ➤ I want to point out once more that Death and Hades are "given power over a fourth of the earth" (Cf. Revelation 6:8). This is the situation of the 4th Seal Judgment.
 - ➤ It is likely another indication of this global influence of the Roman Catholic Church seen from a different perspective.
 - Whatever form this future one-world religion takes, this verse makes it clear that it has a large base of support.

IV. THE EFFORT TO UNIFY ALL RELIGIONS:

- A. One of the most popular heresies today is the notion that God has revealed Himself in different ways to different cultures. Here are the arguments of this position:
 - 1. All religions therefore worship the same God, whether His name is Jesus Christ, Buddha, Allah, or Krishna - or whatever.
 - 2. We should therefore all work on tolerating each other and on getting along.
 - 3. We should therefore avoid teaching Biblical truth as being "the only truth" since other belief systems are due the same respect.

- 4. There are other arguments like these but already, you get the idea. It's not about lifting other religions up; it's about tearing down the Word of God and telling a lie about Jesus Christ.
 - a. Many of you may already know that this effort to unify all religions is a big objective with the leadership of the Catholic Church.
 - By the way, it's also a goal of many liberal Protestant denominations as well.
 - Various leaders within the Anglican, United Methodist, Presbyterian, and Episcopalian denominations are taking this position with greater frequency.
 - ➤ It is also an agenda item within some of the leadership of various popular Christian movements such as The Gospel Coalition.
 - ➤ But no single denomination, and no single element of leadership has been more vocal about blending faiths than the Catholic Church and its highest leadership:
 - Pope Francis, in speaking of Muslims, stated, "We must never forget that they 'profess to hold the faith of Abraham, and together with us they adore the one, merciful God, who will judge humanity on the last day."
 - In one particular Apostolic Exhortation, Evangelii Gaudium, Pope Francis suggested everyone is in the same boat. He stated, "Non-Christians, by God's gracious initiative, when they are faithful to their own consciences, can live 'justified by the grace of God, and thus be associated to the mystery of Jesus Christ."
 - ➤ Pope Francis, as many of us already know, has also held numerous meetings with key leaders of other faiths. He has claimed to see "a tangible sign of the will to grow in mutual esteem and cooperation for the common good of humanity."
 - ➤ I could go on and on. There are many examples which prove that the final false global religion in a post-Rapture world, is most likely to be an amalgamation of various belief systems *including apostate Protestants* most likely under the leadership and authority of the Roman Catholic Church.

V. THE SEARCH FOR EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL LIFE.

- A. You may have heard of the organization SETI (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence). It's been around a while.
 - 1. A more recent offshoot of it is METI, (Messaging Extraterrestrial Intelligence). This subsidiary takes an additional step, that of reaching out and trying to make contact with aliens.
 - 2. The METI organization is comprised of experts in many fields of study: astronomy, physics, linguistics, etc. It more recently added Jose Gabriel Funes, an Argentinian priest, who is also a chair in science, religion and education at the Catholic University of Cordoba, Argentina.

- 3. METI's official position for needing to add an expert in theology, and their quote was: "....to provide a new perspective for our scientists."
- 4. Then there is the matter of the Vatican Observatory...
 - a. The history of the Vatican Observatory goes back two and a half centuries. It's been that long since The Vatican has been studying the skies with these ideas in view.
 - b. More recently, in the last few decades, the Vatican Observatory established a research group at the Steward Observatory of the University of Arizona in Tucson. They placed one of the largest optical telescopes in the world on Mount Graham in SE Arizona.
 - c. There IS a certain focus with this Arizona-based project to probe for extra-terrestrial life. This has fueled speculation about the telescope itself, or some of its associated technologies, being called LUCIFER.
 - d. I'm not saying it is called LUCIFER, and I'm not saying it's not. There seems to be good arguments on both sides of that issue. However, it IS clear The Vatican has devoted considerable resources and technologies to searching the skies for "alien" life.
 - e. These things need to be considered alongside Pope Francis' comment in May 2014 where he said he would baptize aliens if they came to The Vatican. He asked at the time: "Who are we to close doors if the unimaginable appears?"
 - f. There is mounting evidence that the Catholic leadership fully BELIEVES "aliens" will return to interact physically with mankind once more. Of course, these are fallen angels.

NOTE: Recall, I have already stated my personal position that fallen angels will return to earth in visible form after the Rapture to interact with humanity as they did in "the days of Noah," in accompaniment with false signs, miracles, and wonders as **2** *Thessalonians* **2:9** states, and to "mingle themselves with the seed of men" as **Daniel 2:43** prophesies.

g. It's very likely that the extra-terrestrial ideas the Catholic Church is presently advancing will become an "I-told-you-so" position in the future.

VI. THE STRONG PUSH FOR THE CLIMATE CHANGE AGENDA

- A. It's no secret that the Pope is doing everything he can to advance the deceptive climate change agenda.
 - 1. His comments on the matter make news often. He is one of this movement's most outspoken supporters:
 - 2. (In Aug. 2017): He said, "Listen to the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor, who suffer most because of the unbalanced ecology".
 - 3. (At a Vatican summit on the environment in 2015): He said, "Human-induced climate change is a scientific reality, and its decisive mitigation is a moral and

- religious imperative for humanity. In this core moral space, the world's religions play a very vital role."
- 4. (After the US withdrew from the Paris climate accord under President Trump): He said, "We must never forget that the natural environment is a collective good, the patrimony of all humanity and the responsibility of everyone."
- B. Now, it's not my intent to ridicule him, or anyone else, that may choose to believe the earth's warming is the fault of humanity, and we're all going to die within ten years.
 - 1. I do think a few reality checks are in order, the first being that global warming, or "climate change," is now a catch-all notion:
 - a. Depending on who's making the case, climate change is why oceans are rising, ice is melting, and crops are failing. It's also why roosters crow earlier, why looters rob stores, why ISIS attracts recruits, and why some women become prostitutes.
 - b. Global warming has become the convenient excuse for every bizarre event and socioeconomic malady in the world today.
 - 2. However, it was not that long ago that people were alarmed at the new ice age that was coming.
 - a. In 1971, <u>The Washington Post</u>, stated, "The world could be as little as 50 or 60 years away from a disastrous new ice age." (look out 2020!)
 - b. <u>TIME Magazine</u> echoed this view with an article in 1974 titled, "Another Ice Age?"
 - c. (and in 1979, just 40 years ago...) <u>The Daily Chronicle</u> warned everyone about the pending ice age in an article, "Get Ready to Freeze."
 - 3. The pendulum has swung wildly from worrying about cold to worrying about heat. Here are some news releases that dare to present the truth:

"Six years ago, the BBC reported that the Arctic, due to global warming, would be icefree by this summer. That, clearly, has not happened. What has happened, instead, is that the Arctic ice cap has grown at a tremendous rate, by almost a million square miles. In other words, it has grown by a whopping 60%...." (Liberty Voice, Sept. 2013)

"Britain's Met Office, an international cheerleading headquarters for global warming hysteria, conceded last December that there would be no further warming at least through 2017, which would make 20 years with no global warming. That reflects grudging recognition of the newly developing trends." (Forbes, 2013)

"As the Obama administration creates policy based on the premise that the planet is warming, more and more scientists are concluding the real danger is global cooling." (World Net Daily, Aug. 2015)"

4. Where am I going with all this? Here's how this climate change fiasco fits with Scripture, and fits in with the one-world religious system which is coming:

- a. The bottom line with global warming is that it is a devised strategy to accomplish four things:
 - exert political coercion,
 - employ flawed science,
 - > elevate deceptive data, and
 - encourage the world to believe in an ecological farce.

5. Why?

- The answer is "globalism." The world wants a one-world government that conforms to the ideals of socialism.
- ➤ The political elite want nations to relinquish their sovereign rights and yield to a globalist regime.
- Any idea of MAGA goes against this goal. Any notion of BREXIT disrupts the objective of blurring independence and nationalism.
- In other words, this fallen world is doing everything it can to bring about the antichrist.
- ➤ Global warming is part of the agenda to level the playing field, to destroy powerful nations and their economies, and to make everyone goose-step in the same robotic way.
- And as we've seen, these climate change ideals are being promoted at the highest position of the Catholic Church (and I will add, in the highest ranks of liberal Protestant denominations as well).

Now, we've looked at just three of the activities and positions of the Roman Catholic Church today:

- 1. The effort to unify all religions,
- 2. The search for extra-terrestrial life, and...
- 3. The push for the global warming agenda.

I've only touched on the basics of each of these points. Much more could be said. But, these three provide further support to the idea that some future form of the Catholic Church will emerge to lead all pagan belief systems in one deceptive end-times religious system.