

The PLAIN TRUTH

A Magazine of Understanding

VOL. V. No. 2. ** Published by HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG, Eugene, Oregon ** APRIL-MAY, 1940

Democracy DOOMED!

Here are the amazing FACTS!

AMERICA Stands aghast, as it begins to comprehend the horrible, tragic thing that is taking place on the blood-soaked battlefields of France and Belgium!

A stunned world begins to realize the unpreparedness of the Democracies---and that Adolph Hitler has introduced a NEW type of warfare, with larger, superior tanks, more modern mechanized equipment for speedy, lightning war, together with vastly-superior AIR power.

As this is written today, April 23rd, allied armies have been thrown into chaotic confusion, the Germans have pushed to the English channel ports.

People everywhere are solemnly asking, "IS DEMOCRACY DOOMED?"

Briefly, and to the point, without mincing words, we answer YES! ---based upon the only two possible sources of knowledge, 1) the FACTS in the world today, and 2) the Bible prophecies.

The FACTS, Today!

Democracy went, yesterday, in England! Today England is a DICTATORSHIP, as absolute as that of Adolph Hitler or Benito Mussolini! The King is still there as always. He will remain on his throne over the British Commonwealth of Nations until Jesus Christ comes and removes that very throne to Jerusalem! But Winston Churchill rules England as absolutely as Hitler does Germany! The Government of Churchill OWNS England---OWNS every inch of land, every factory, store, and home---OWNS every man, woman and child---has absolute power over every person, every dollar, every resource. Yesterday we heard over short-wave broadcast from London these ominous words:

"Men will work when, and where, and for what pay, the Government shall direct."

The English people have surrendered their rights, their liberties, voluntarily, as the only means to that efficiency needed to save them from defeat.

And WHEN the United States gets into the war---as we are CERTAIN to do sooner or later---THE SAME THING WILL HAPPEN HERE!

This is acknowledged by all who KNOW. As now in England, the President will become Dictator absolute, and not only sol-

diers, but factory-workers, farmers, every dollar of our money and wealth---all will be CONSCRIPTED! And it is THEN, according to Bible prophecies, the Great Tribulation shall come, and the MARK OF THE BEAST will be enforced! The TIME IS AT HAND! It is time for us to AWAKE!

It is thou, too, that "THIS GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM SHALL BE PREACHED ... FOR A WITNESS UNTO ALL NATIONS." (Mat. 24:14,21). Each of us has OUR PART in that! Are we on the BATTLE-LINE FOR GOD? Yes, AWAKE!

Whether this present war is to continue uninterrupted to Armageddon still is in doubt. Armageddon, we believe, must be at least three or four years away. Italy has not YET entered the war, but may at any day. The battle has not YET shifted to the Mediterranean, as it must. Hitler will soon bombard, perhaps invade, England. The present battle still is in doubt, but those PROPHECIED events we have been telling of WILL FOLLOW, regardless of this battle.

WHAT BIBLE PROPHECY SAYS

And now, secondly, Bible prophecy says also that DEMOCRACY IS DOOMED!

Regardless of the outcome of the present furious battle, the ROMAN forces soon will invade Palestine and Egypt, and the BRITISH will be fighting there to oppose them! On thru the Tribulation, the ending of Gentile Times, the dreadful DAY OF THE LORD with its supernatural PLAGUES, on to ARMAGEDDON the war will rage.

THEN, CHRIST SHALL COME! Then, the governments of this world---the Communist, the Fascist, the Nazi, the Democracies--- shall "BECOME THE KINGDOMS OF OUR LORD AND HIS-CHRIST." (Rev. 11:15).

When Christ comes, the invading Gentile hordes attacking Jerusalem---including the ROMAN forces with ten nations included, and also RUSSIA with her many allies---shall be supernaturally destroyed in their tracks! (Zech. 14:12). We do NOT understand this horrible end to apply to the British and American defenders.

But when the war finally is ENDED by Christ's coming, then CHRIST shall rule all nations with a rod of iron. The KINGDOM OF GOD, a THEOCRACY, shall rule the world!

So let us PRAY: "Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth." **KEEP PRAYING!**

What *is* the Soul?

"SAY, Carl," exclaimed John Jones, as he and Carl Smith, chum and fellow church-member, left the office for their Monday noon lunch, "that sure was a wonderful sermon Dr. Johnson delivered last night. Best explanation I ever heard of where the soul goes at death."

"Sorry I missed it," said Carl. "How did he explain it? That's always puzzled me."

"Well, he said that what we call death is not really death at all, but merely the release of the soul from the body. It's only the body that dies--we, ourselves, are immortal souls. He said the soul is immaterial---not composed of matter, but of spirit, and can never die. When a person dies, if he's saved, the soul leaves the body, and, Dr. Johnson explained, at almost the same instant, it arrives in heaven millions of miles away, where it enters a body all prepared and waiting for it."

"Well what about the body prepared up in heaven," asked Carl, "is it just like the one the soul had lived in here on earth--does it LOOK the same?"

"Oh sure. Dr. Johnson said we would look exactly like we do here. Just the same"

"Well," said Carl, "I suppose Dr. Johnson knows." Then, suddenly bursting into a laugh, ---"Look, John! I know I oughtn't to laugh at such things, but it just popped into my mind,---there are thousands of people dying over the world every day, and it must take an awfully big warehouse up in heaven to keep all those new bodies waiting."

"And say, listen! I suppose if a baby dies, his soul enters a body that is baby-size and looks just like the baby did here; but if that same baby DOESN'T

TWO YOUNG MEN LOOK into this question for themselves.

They are shocked, amazed, at what they find! Yet it is exactly what YOU will find, if you, too, look for the true FACTS, and PROOF, getting your definition from a reliable Bible Dictionary, the meaning of inspired Hebrew words, and the history of the origin of the present common conception.

Here, surely, is food for thought! Here is an article that is DIFFERENT, surprising, refreshing, interesting.

Here is an example of what we mean when we tell our radio listeners and readers, "Our people---the popular church-going MAJORITY---are in 'BABYLON' today! All nations have been deceived by the pagan traditions that emanated from 'Mother Rome,' cloaked as Bible Christianity. Most people today sincerely believe things just the opposite from the TRUTH. God's Word has been perverted, turned upside-down!"

What these two young men, digging down under the rubbish of inherited error, find is only what ANYONE would find and believe who would make an unbiased STUDY of this question, without ever having HEARD what most of us have always heard, been taught from childhood, and blindly accepted as truth. It is ten times harder to UNlearn error than to learn virgin TRUTH.

This is the first of a series covering the exciting adventures of Carl Smith and John Jones in their search for PROOF. In the next issue, they learn what man really is.

die until he's an old man, then I suppose his soul enters a body in heaven that is full man-size and looks like he had come to look, here, as an old man. Do those bodies prepared up there keep growing and changing just as ours do here, all ready for whatever second we die and go to heaven?"

"M-m-m," mused John. "I don't know. Dr. Johnson didn't explain that."

"Well, I think we must admit that seems a little strange. And then, what of the resurrection? What happens to the body the soul lives in, up in heaven, when the earthly body is resurrected out of the grave down here?"

"Oh, Dr. Johnson said the soul leaves its body in heaven at that time, and returns almost instantaneously to earth and enters its former body that died, as that body is resurrected out of the grave."

"Well," said Carl gravely, "I suppose I ought not to question such things. Of course Dr. Johnson knows what the Bible says. But it does seem a little,---well, sort of strange, to me. I can't see WHY God would have us leave this body, go to heaven and enjoy a better one up there, and then leave all that and return back here and get

back into this same old body, resurrected again. And then what happens? Do we stay here on earth in our resurrected bodies, or take another trip to heaven IN THEM? WHERE do we spend eternity?"

"Oh, come, come, Carl!" laughed John a little impatiently. "We can't know all those things. We have other things to do and think about. It's up to us to just take the preacher's word for it, and let it go at that."

"Yes, I suppose so," rejoined Carl. "Still, that does seem like the most im-

A CHART, SHOWING PROPHECIES OF REIGN OF "TIMES OF THE GENTILES"							
Dani 2 The IMAGE	Daniel 7 The FOUR BEASTS (State) (Church)	Dan. 8 The RAM & GOAT	Revelation 13 The BEAST & IMAGE (State) (Church)	Rev. 17 BABYLON & BEAST	EXPLANA- tion of Symbols	The EVENTS Fulfilled in HISTORY	
Head of GOLD v. 32, 39	1st BEAST like LION -v. 4				1st HEAD of pro- phetic BABYLON	The CHALDEAN EMPIRE (Bab- ylon) --- 625-538 B.C.	
Breast & arms of SILVER v. 32, 39	2nd BEAST (BEAR) v. 5	RAM with 2 horns v. 3, 4, 20			2nd HEAD of pro- phetic BABYLON	The PERSIAN EMPIRE (Mede- Persia), --- 558-330 B.C.	
Belly & Thighs of BRASS v. 32, 39	3d BEAST (LEOPARD) 4 heads, v. 6	HE-GOAT with goat horn & 4 notable ones-v. 5-8, 2, 22			3d, 4th, 5th, 6th HEADS of prop'et- ic BAB- YLON	GREECE, under Alexander the Great, and four divis- ions, 333-31 B.C.	
Legs of IRON v. 33, 40-45	4th BEAST strong like IRON with 10 HORNS, v. 7, 25, 24		The BEAST with 7 HEADS & 10 HORNS, v. 1, 2		7th HEAD of pro- phetic BABYLON, with 10 HORNS	The ROMAN EM- PIRE, 31 B.C. -476 A.D., in 2 divisions, West, & East	
			The DEAD- LY WOUND v. 3			Fall of the ROMAN EMPIRE 476 A.D.	
1st of TEN TOES	1st HORN (plucked by roots)		1st HORN		These 3 horns, destroyed at behest of Pope, fill the "Transi- tion Age" (Myers).	The HERULI, Odoacer's Gov't. 476-493 A.D.	
2nd of TEN TOES	2nd HORN (rooted up)		2nd HORN			The VANDALS, 429-553 A.D.	
3rd of TEN TOES	3d HORN (rooted up)		3d HORN			The OSTROGOTHS 493-554 A.D.	
		LITTLE HORN, a- mong 10. v. 8, 20- 22, 24-27		2-horned "LAMB- DRAGON" & "IMAGE" v. 11-26	SCARLET WOMAN who rode the BEAST v. 1, 2	Ruled the Beast, so called BABYLON the GREAT of Roman Emp. government.	
4th of TEN TOES.	4th HORN.		1st of remaining 7 horns-- DEADLY WOUND HEA- LED (to con- tinue 1260 yrs.) v. 5.	↑ 534-1814 = 1260 years. Beast Continued ↓	1st HEAD of BEAST (healed) ridden by Scar- let Wo- man.	"IMPERIAL RES- TORATION" of Empire by Jus- tinian, 527 A.D. He recognised supremacy of the pope, sub- mitted to him.	
5th of TEN TOES	5th HORN.		2nd of remaining 7 HORNS		2nd HEAD ridden by Woman	FRANKISH KING- DOM Began 774. Charlemagne crowned by pope 800 A.D.	
6th of TEN TOES	6th HORN.		3d of remaining 7 HORNS		3d HEAD ridden by Woman	HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE, (German head), Otto the Great crowned by Pope, 962.	
7th of TEN TOES	7th HORN.		4th of remaining 7 HORNS		4th HEAD ridden by "BABYLON"	HAPSBURG Dyn- asty, (Austrian head) Charles the 6th, crowned by Pope, 1520	
8th of TEN TOES	8th HORN.		5th of remaining 7 HORNS		5th HEAD ridden by Woman	NAPOLION'S KINGDOM, (French head). Crowned by Pope 1806.	
In 1814, just 1260 years after "deadly wound" was healed, the "HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE" was dissolved. "So closed a gov't. that dated from Augustus Caesar." (West, p. 377)							
9th of TEN TOES	9th HORN.		6th of remaining 7 HORNS		6th HEAD ridden by Woman	ITALY, united by Garibaldi 1870 to NOW.	
10th TOE	10th HORN		7th and last HORN.	Beast ap- pears at of pit.	7th HEAD & 10 HORNS	Revived ROMA N EMP. by 10 Dictators.	

What is the Image of the BEAST?

MILLIONS, right here in America, are worshipping the "image of the Beast" today, and do not know it! The time is soon coming when those who refuse this false way of worship shall be MARYTRED!

And it is these, of this very present generation, who are participating in this popular idolatry who shall suffer the unspeakable tortures of the SEVEN LAST PLAGUES.

The time is AT HAND: All ---including you and me---must soon decide. Either we shall have to suffer at the hand of MAN, or at the Hand of GOD! WHY are all the churches baffled over the true identity of this "Image"? WHY??

We shall tell you in this article. It is PLAIN to those who are willing to know!

IDENTITY OF THE "BEAST"

The "BEAST" is described in the 13th chapter of Revelation, verses 1 to 10. This word "BEAST"---obviously a symbol used to picture a real person or power---rose up out of the sea. It was like a leopard, its feet were as the feet of a bear, its mouth like a lion. It had seven heads and ten horns.

A complete article in the November, 1939, number of The PLAIN TRUTH, made plain and certain the identity, as revealed by the 2nd and 7th chapters of Daniel, and the 17th of Revelation.

The "Beast" is the ROMAN EMPIRE. It had a "deadly wound" in 476 A.D. Its deadly wound was healed in 564 when Justinian restored the Empire in the West, and it continued, as prophesied (verse 5) exactly 1260 years as the "Holy Roman Empire," going into the symbolic "bottomless pit" in 1814, with Napoleon's defeat at Waterloo.

Once more this mighty Empire is to come to life, rising out of its "bottomless pit" by a federation of ten nations (Rev. 17:12-18). This, Mussolini is now rapidly bringing to pass.

The "dragon" gave this "beast" its seat and great authority. In Rev. 12:9, and 20:2, it is explained the "dragon" is a symbol for Satan the devil. So this has been Satan's CIVIL government on earth.

Has Satan had also an ecclesiastical, or CHURCH government? In II Corinthians

11:14, we find Satan is transformed into an "ANGEL OF LIGHT." In Rev. 12:9 and 20:3, it is written that

UNLESS you worship the "Image of the Beast," you will be martyred---killed!

But IF you worship this "Image" you shall suffer, without mercy, the SEVEN LAST PLAGUES---the wrath of Almighty GOD!!

Satan has DECEIVED the whole world. In II Cor. 11:13-15, we find Satan has HIS ministers, pretending to be the ministers of righteousness, false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ! Therefore they claim to be CHRISTIAN ministers. They are the MANY, not the few, because all prophecies say it is the MANY, not the few, who have been DECEIVED. Satan's main labor for six thousand long years has been the DECEIVING OF THE WORLD. Has he not, therefore, had religious organization, as well as civil government, as his instrumentality?

The "TWO-HORNED BEAST"

Now notice again the 13th chapter of Revelation, beginning verse 11:

"And I behold another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a LAMB, and he spake as a DRAGON."

Who---what---is this "beast?"

Some say it will be the United States. Some say a federation of Protestant churches. Others say it will be the Pan-American Union. Still others tell us it is a giant metallic statue of Mussolini, now being built. Most church organizations ignore this very vital subject completely, or say frankly, "WE DO NOT KNOW!"

Why this ignorance, when the answer is SO PLAIN? Yes, why indeed? We shall answer that question in this article!

THE BIBLE INTERPRETATION

Remember, first, THE BIBLE INTERPRETS ITS OWN SYMBOLS! When men put their OWN interpretation on Bible symbols, their conclusions are always false!

Notice, after John saw one "BEAST", which we have proved to be the BYZANTINE EMPIRE, he now sees ANOTHER---a different "beast" rise up. We have learned that "BEAST" is a symbol for a kingdom, or government (Dan. 7:17,23), and the term represents either the kingdom or its leader, as the case may be (Dan. 7:17,23).

So this other "beast" with the two horns, is the prophecy of another kingdom or government. In these prophecies, God pictures to us the earthly Gentile governments as the wild beasts whose characteristics describe them. This two-horned "beast" appeared as a LAMB. But actually it spoke as a DRAGON---its true characteristic---for "out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh" (Mat. 12:34).

What does the word "LAMB" symbolize, in the Bible? The answer is, CHRIST (Jno. 1:29; Rev. 17:14). And "DRAGON" is a symbol of the DEVIL (Rev. 12:9; 20:2).

So here is some kingdom or government, masquerading as that of CHRIST, or the KINGDOM OF GOD, but actually being a government of SATAN:

Now notice carefully verse 12:

"And he exerciseth ALL the power of the first beast before him."

The first "beast" is the Roman Empire. Here is ANOTHER government, also controlled by Satan, pretending to be CHRIST'S government, the Kingdom of God, taking, exercising, using, employing, ALL the power of the first kingdom, the Roman Empire.

Now WHEN? 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." (verse 12). So, it was AFTER the deadly wound (of 476 A.D.) was healed. It was healed when Justinian brought about the restoration of the Empire in the West in 554 A.D. Consequently this RELIGIOUS government took over, exercised, by ruling, all the power of the Roman Empire AFTER 554 A.D.

DID A CHURCH GOVERNMENT RULE ROME?

So here we have pictured a government---a RELIGIOUS government, appearing as CHRIST'S government, the KINGDOM OF GOD, actually ruling the civil Roman Empire, AFTER 554 A.D. Was there such a government? Indeed there was! And only ONE!!

Prior to 554, Justinian had written a letter to the pope, acknowledging his supremacy. And when he ascended the throne at Rome in 554, he was crowned by the pope, before whom he knelt! The Roman Empire, thus restored to continue until 1814 (1260 years), became known as "The HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE." We read in history that the popes were accepted as the Vicar of Christ, which means "IN PLACE OF Christ." The teaching was that the Second Coming of Christ had occurred---Christ had returned to earth, as KING of kings and as LORD of lords, in the person of the popes. For the entire 1260 years, the emperors accepted the popes as such, ruling ALL nations with a "rod of iron" as Christ is to do WHEN He really comes.

Consequently they gave over their power to the popes. The Roman Catholic Church was organized as a GOVERNMENT---as a dual, two-fold government (its TWO "horns" or kingdoms---for the "horns" symbolize kingdoms also---see Dan. 7:24). It embodied CHURCH government, and it also was a STATE, or civil government, always

occupying a certain amount of territory over which it, alone, ruled as an independent sovereign state,---in addition to actually ruling over the vast civil kingdom called "The Holy Roman Empire." Even today, "Vatican City" is a separate, independent, sovereign STATE. It is NOT a part of Italy. Most nations send ambassadors to it, just as they do to the United States, or to Italy, Germany, or Japan.

Notice, this second "beast" was to wield power over ALL THE EARTH, because it was to CAUSE the earth, and them that dwell therein to WORSHIP this first "beast" "whose deadly wound was healed"--after 554!

In the Encyclopedia Britannica, article "MILLENNIUM", you will read the history of this very event,---of how the "Holy Roman Empire" was called the "Kingdom of God upon earth." They claimed the MILLENNIUM had arrived!

Notice verse 14: "and DECEIVETH them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast." Verse 13 says "he doeth great wonders."

ALL NATIONS DECEIVED

So notice these three points:

- 1) This "beast" performs miracles.
- 2) He performed them "in the sight of" the "Holy Roman Empire," or first beast
- 3) With them he DECEIVED all nations.

Where else, in the Bible prophecies, do we find these same identical facts?

First, note Rev. 17. Here is pictured a woman. In II Cor. 11:2; Eph. 5:22-27, and elsewhere, we learn that "woman" is a symbol for CHURCH. This woman is a fallen woman---an apostate church---and a great one, called "the great whore" pictured as ruling over many nations, verses 1,15. In verse 3, this great false church is pictured sitting on a "beast" having seven heads and ten horns." A woman riding a horse guides, controls, the horse. It does her bidding. It is well known by ALL who understand Bible prophecy that this 17th chapter of Revelation pictures the Roman Catholic Church ruling over the so-called "Holy Roman Empire." Notice, verse 18, she is "that great city"--ROME---"which reigneth over the kings of the earth." Notice, verse 2, the inhabitants of the earth have been DECEIVED by this great false church. Also Rev. 18:3, she has deceived all nations.

Next, notice II Thes. 2:3-4. The day of Christ---and the Coming of Christ---shall not come, until there be a falling away, and a "MAN OF SIN" be revealed. He exalts himself above all that is called God. AS God; he sits in a Temple claimed to be the Temple of God, showing himself to deceive people into accepting him AS God. God is our HOLY FATHER. This man, then, would claim the same title. This wicked man is to be DESTROYED at, and by, Christ's coming. (verse 8). Notice verse 9: "even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with ALL POWER and SIGNS (miracles) and lying WONDERS, and with all DECEIVABLENESS of unrighteousness."

Here is the head of a vast ecclesi-

astical empire, performing miracles and lying wonders, with which he DECEIVES people everywhere.

AT ARMAGEDDON!

This deceiving religious ruler will still be active clear down to the Battle at ARMAGEDDON and the Second Coming of Christ! In Rev. 16:13-16, are described three foul spirits. They come from the "dragon," which is the devil; from the "beast" which is the civil Roman ruler (Mussolini holds that position now); and from the mouth of the false prophet associated WITH the Roman ruler---the pope. "For" continues verse 14, "they are the spirits of devils, WORKING MIRACLES, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty." And they are gathered, finally, at ARMAGEDDON! Note it! Yet future, the Roman ruler, as the Roman Empire is again restored, along with the pope---and all in the power and influence of the DEVIL! Working MIRACLES! All prophecies concerning them show these powers doing the same things!

Now notice the last battle of ARMAGEDDON. It is in Rev. 19:19-20. Here is pictured the "Beast"---Mussolini or his successor; "and WITH him the false prophet (the pope) that wrought miracles before him, WITH WHICH HE DECEIVED them that had received the MARK of the Beast, and them that had worshipped HIS IMAGE."

Note it: Compare with the two-horned beast of Rev. 13:11-17.

- 1) BOTH perform miracles.
- 2) BOTH perform them before, or in the sight of, the "Beast."
- 3) WITH them, BOTH False Prophets and Two-horned Beast DECEIVE them that have the MARK of the Beast---cause them to receive that mark! (Rev. 13:16).

Certainly, then, this two-horned beast and the false prophet and the man of sin, and the woman that rode the Beast, are all one and the same thing---the ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH! and it's pope!

Now did the two-horned beast deceive the very ones who have the MARK of the Beast? He did! Continue in Rev. 13:

"And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth"---HOW? "...saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an IMAGE to the beast, which had the wound by the sword and did live. And he had power to give life unto the image of the Beast, that the image of the Beast should both speak, and CAUSE as many as would not worship the image of the Beast should be killed. AND HE CAUSETH ALL, BOTH SMALL AND GREAT, RICH AND POOR, FREE AND BOND, to receive a MARK in their right hand, or in their foreheads: and that no man might buy or sell (trade, earn a living, hold a job), save he that had the mark, or the name of the Beast, or the number of his name." (Verses 14-17).

So, notice: This two-horned "beast" not only CAUSED people to receive the MARK of the Beast (compare Rev. 19:20), but also CAUSED the MARTYRDOM OF SAINTS. As many as would not worship this IMAGE were caused to be killed. The Catholic church

did not kill them---she CAUSED them to be killed. History shows that the civil government of the so-called Holy Roman Empire martyred between 50,000,000 and 100,000,000 who were declared "anathema from Christ," or "heretics" by the Church!

Compare with the WOMAN who rode the Beast in Rev. 17: "And I saw the woman DRUNKEN WITH THE BLOOD OF THE SAINTS, AND WITH THE MARTYRS OF JESUS." (Verse 6).

Certainly these are one and the same!

Now this great Church, which was a two-fold government, deceived the people by SAYING THEY SHOULD MAKE AN IMAGE OF THE BEAST. Note it, (Rev. 13:14)---that is HOW this church deceived people.

What is an "IMAGE?" The dictionary says a "likeness," a "copy, representation, model, semblance, counterpart." So here is a great CHURCH saying, "Let us make a MODEL, or counterpart, of the civil Roman GOVERNMENT"---for that is what the "BEAST" is,---a GOVERNMENT.

Jesus Christ NEVER ORGANIZED HIS CHURCH! He set up NO GOVERNMENT! His Church includes all born-again saints who have and are led by the Holy Spirit. NO MAN OR GROUP OF MEN CAN ORGANIZE THAT CHURCH! It can't be organized, governed, controlled, by MEN! Christ is its only HEAD, and His Kingdom is NOT of this world!

WHERE, then, did CHURCH GOVERNMENT originate? Yes, WHERE?

"The first pope, in the real sense of the word, was Leo I, (440-461 A.D.);" says the Cyclopaedia of Biblical, Theological, and Ecclesiastical Literature, Vol. 7, page 629. To him the form of GOVERNMENT of the Roman Empire was the most marvelous thing on earth. It became an obsession. He applied its principles to the CHURCH, organized the Church into a GOVERNMENT, forming the PAPACY. This CHURCH GOVERNMENT or ORGANIZATION is the IMAGE OF THE BEAST

Says Myers' Ancient History: "During the reign of Leo I, the Church set up, within the Roman Empire, an ecclesiastical STATE (government) which, in its constitution and its administrative system, was shaping itself upon the imperial MODEL."

The Britannica calls the papacy an ECCLESIASTICAL WORLD EMPIRE!

This IMAGE---church government---compelled people to WORSHIP THE CHURCH! And since the church was organized into a government, this was worship of the IMAGE---FALSE worship---IDOLITRY!!

But this Church became a MOTHER, and DAUGHTER CHURCHES came out of her, in "protest," calling themselves "PROTESTANT." And ALL ARE ORGANIZED, and have CHURCH GOVERNMENT. "Upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS" (Rev. 17:5). Her daughters are called "harlots." Together, they are called "BABYLON." They are pagan, teaching pagan doctrines and customs, cloaked in the NAME of "Christianity," And ALL NATIONS are deceived!

Yes, CHURCH GOVERNMENT is the "IMAGE" of the "BEAST." When people speak of "MY Church," they mean their organized denomination. And today people seem to IDOLIZE their CHURCHES! This is "worshipping the IMAGE of the BEAST." "COME OUT OF HER," God says (Rev. 18:4). God help us to HEED!

A special article on "Church Government," explaining further, sent on request.