

Many scholars and reformers of previous centuries, and even today, interpreted the prophecies of Daniel, John and Paul to be a reference to the Vatican and the popes of Rome. Observing the following facts of history, it is no wonder they drew these conclusions.

The popes perfectly fit Paul's description of the Antichrist in his Second Epistle to the Thessalonians, where he says the man of sin will take his seat in the Temple of God and declare himself God. That is exactly what they did in the early Church in Rome; they completely took it over and took God's titles – His Holiness, Most Blessed Father, etc.

Not only do the popes claim to be infallible, some of them have even openly declared themselves to be God on Earth. Skipping over centuries, Pope Leo XII declared in an encyclical letter, 1894, "We hold upon this earth the place of God Almighty."

The Catholic National, July 1895 declared, "The Pope is not only a representative of Jesus Christ, but he is Jesus Christ himself, hidden under the veil of flesh."

Further, the popes have always demanded Catholics call them Holy Father, which the Bible strictly forbids, and they sit upon a physical throne modelled upon God's Throne, which the Bible also forbids.

In addition, the popes perfectly fit the name *Antichrist* itself. In the Greek, the prefix *anti* can mean *against* or *in place of*. This is exactly what they have done and still do. They pretend to be a part of the true Church, to be the Vicar of Christ, but they are treacherous and the majority of their teachings are contrary to the Bible.

In the prophecies of Daniel and John we are told that blasphemy is a significant characteristic of the Beast. The Bible gives us many definitions of the word blasphemy. But the following two examples are quite significant.

The first is found in the Gospel of John, where Jesus' opponents say they wish to stone Him, not for His good works, but for blasphemy. And how did Jesus in their eyes commit blasphemy?

Because you, though only a human being, are making yourself God.

(John 10:33)

So when a man makes himself God, or equal with God, he commits blasphemy. We have given an example above of how the popes do this. The second definition is found in the Gospel of Luke. It reads:

When he saw their faith, he said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven you." Then the scribes and the Pharisees

began to question, “Who is this who is speaking blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?”

(Luke 5:20-22)

This is clear. For a man to claim he has power to forgive sin is blasphemy, as he is taking upon himself the prerogative that belongs to God alone. The popes have long claimed to be invested with the power and authority to forgive sins, and so do the Catholic priests.


Another characteristic of the Beasts of Daniel and John is that it is said to make war on the people of God. The Vatican has persecuted and killed more Christians than any other power upon the Earth. You can read the *Book of Martyrs* by John Fox, or google the Catholic Torture Devices to discover how they devised the most cruel and brutal tortures known to man.

The biblical prophecies say the Beast will exercise not only religious power over the nations of the world, but also political power. The Roman Church, since its birth, has fulfilled these predictions to the tee.

Finally, the Apostle John tells us to count the number of the Beast, and that it is the number of a man, and that in counting this number it would amount to 666. We are also told it is not just the number of a man, but the number of his name, which could easily mean his title.

One of the pope's titles is *Vicarius Filii Dei*. This is Latin for the *Vicar of the Son of God*. And if we count the number of this name using the Roman numeral system, you will find that it amounts to the numerical value of 666.

VICARIUS FILII DEI		
V = 5	F = 0	D = 500
I = 1	I = 1	E = 0
C = 100	L = 50	I = 1
A = 0	I = 1	501
R = 0	I = 1	
I = 1	53	
U/V = 5		
S = 0		
112		



Dear friends, the message we seek to convey with this short study is this: Since the Second Vatican Council, many have totally forgotten the history of Rome, being persuaded that the Papacy has changed.

But the Beast of Revelation WILL NEVER CHANGE, and while it was wounded for a period, we are told that its deadly wound will be healed, and that after this is accomplished, the whole world will once again be amazed at the Beast and submit to its rule!!