

THE TRUTH GLEANER.

BIBLICAL, HISTORICAL AND CURRENT.

“Buy the truth and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.” Prov. 23:23

A Christadelphian publication devoted to gleaning and heralding the Truth concerning the problem of life, here and hereafter, the restoration of the Jews to the Holy Land, the return of Christ as King of all the earth, and the signs of the approaching end of Gentile times.

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Welcome to **THE TRUTH GLEANER – e-mail edition!** It is hard to believe that 2004 is halfway over, yet how much closer are we now to the Apocalypse of our Lord and Master! The nearness of his coming is witnessed to by the signs in the political heavens as foretold nearly 2000 years ago. The Papal throne casts its eye over Europe, biding its time and waiting for the nations to willingly give their power to a Catholic-based European “beast” (Rev. 17:12) as to re-establish “*Imperium Marianum*” [Mary’s Imperial Kingdom], which has been the prayer of Catholic Bishops for the past millennium. Is the apocalyptic message that predicted these things reliable? In this issue we will explore but a few of many examples that prove the veracity of the Apocalypse and the “Continuous Historic” interpretation thereof.

~ Mary’s Stars on the European Flag ~

Suggested Reading: Revelation 12:1-5

In Revelation chapter 12, John saw a vision of the Body of Christ that had become so corrupted through the development of vain religion from within, that the “chaste virgin” was now a “woman with child”, pregnant with the seed of apostasy that had developed over the course of 280 years (AD 32-312, period of gestation).

“And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars: And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered” (Rev. 12:1-2).

While Christadelphians have long understood this vision as being applicable to the development of the Church of Rome and its eventual enthronement in the political heavens by the man-child Constantine, the

Roman Catholic Church, on the other hand, erroneously believes that the vision of Rev. 12 is of the virgin Mary, the “Madonna”, or “Mother and Child”. It is no surprise, therefore, to find cathedrals throughout Europe with statues and portraits of Mary wreathed with twelve stars.



What seems to escape the attention of most, however (or perhaps because it is so obvious that no one need draw attention to the matter), is that these star-wreathed images of Mary are the very basis for the present European Flag.

According to Church history, it was on December 8, 1955 (especially arranged to coincide with a church “holy day”) that the European Ministers officially adopted the European flag, **twelve stars on a blue background**, designed by Arsene Heitz.



In a recently published internet article by a Dr. Samuele Bacchiocchi, he notes that Heitz revealed to a French magazine the inspiration for his design. According to the artist, he thought of the twelve stars in a circle on a blue background as they are represented in traditional iconography of the “Immaculate Conception”.

Heitz did not fail to notice the words of the Apocalypse, “*And there appeared a great wonder in Heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars.*” He erroneously applies this passage to Mary, whom Catholics worship as “the queen of heaven”. (Without coincidence, this reminds Bible students of Ashtaroth [Asherah/Astarte], god of the Zidonians, Canaanites, and Babylonians, who was worshipped as the “queen of heaven”, or of the stars and planets [Jer. 44:15-26] and the god of Jezebel, who herself was the wicked representation of sin in high places of self-appointed authority—Rev. 2:20.)

The end result is that the European Union’s flag consists of twelve stars, inspired by the halo of twelve stars that appear around the Madonna (above-left graphic from the Bacchiocchi article). Thus, before the eyes of the world stage flies a flag not only representative of European union, but of a Catholic Europe subject to the authority of the “Church”.

Again, Dr. Bacchiocchi points out that “*a former secretary-general of the Council of Europe, Leon Marchal, affirmed (again, in error—Ed.) that the stars are those of ‘the woman of the Apocalypse.’ Enthusiastically he explained, ‘It’s wonderful that we have gotten back to the Introit of the new Mass of the Assumption. It’s the corona stellarum duodecim (the crown of the twelve stars) of the*

woman of the Apocalypse.’ The Catholic Church has always claimed that she represents the Virgin Mary, ‘the mother of God.’ This means that the European flag is a Catholic flag.”

The EU now has fifteen member countries and is in the process of adding many more to bind with clay the otherwise divided elements of the former Roman Empire (Dan. 2:42). Even though EU authorities indicate that the number of stars on the flag will always stay at twelve, it is “*a shared flag... symbolizing completeness. The number will remain twelve no matter how many countries there are in the European Union,*” according to an EU leaflet given to visitors of the EU headquarters in Brussels. Spiritually speaking, twelve is indeed the number of governmental completeness/perfection, while ten (as in ten toes of Nebuchadnezzar’s image, or ten horns of Daniel’s fourth beast) represents ordinal completeness/perfection, hence the



Europa rides upon Zeus—the woman and the beast, wreathed with the twelve Marion Stars of European union.

Roman Empire was completely divided into lesser independent kingdoms, nevertheless still having their roots in a Roman head.

With the number twelve being of a higher order than ten, one should quickly be able to discern how Yahweh has perfectly revealed this arrangement

in the political heavens before us presently and historically: the harlot of Revelation crowned with twelve stars has authority over, or will “*sit upon a scarlet colored beast*”, having seven (Roman) heads and ten horns (Rev. 13:1; 17:3).

The ten horns originally consisted of ten barbarian kingdoms that arose out of the Roman beast through the successive invasions of the Huns, Vandals, Visigoths, Burgundians, Gepidae, Lombards, Franks, Suevi, Alans, and Babarians (see Daniel Expositor, page 75 and 76 for further details with regards to Dan. 2:41-44). These representative ten,



while having been further divided by political boundaries of man, are nevertheless being re-bound by the humanizing influence of the democratic “frog spirits” (“Many tongues, One voice”—an EU slogan) beneath the banner of Roman superstition and political expediency, and will at length give their power willingly to the reconstituted Roman Beast (Rev. 17:12-13). Subsequently, the image of Nebuchadnezzar will stand again as “Babylon the Great” (Rev. 18:2) upon the former eastern and western dominions of Rome, and Israel will become a spoil and a prey (Ezek. 38:12).

Returning to the Marian symbol of twelve stars, it is found on every official document of the European Union, on all Euro coinage and every banknote in Europe. This is but an incremental step in the long range goal of establishing Roman Catholicism as the official state religion

of Europe with prohibitions and restrictions against any non-conformist group (as is already the case under the realm of the eastern “patriarch”). Again, in this manner, the woman of Revelation 17:3 will ride upon the nations that comprise Daniel’s fourth great and terrible beast, influencing all state policy and activity, whether political, economic, or military, and in its policies, anti-Semitic.

Dr. Bacchiocchi remarks that “*so important is Mary in Catholic worship, that... Archbishop Montini of Milan (the later Pope Pius XII) raised... a twenty-meter high statue of Mary and called it ‘Our Beloved Lady, Ruler of Europe.’ Pope Pius XII called Mary ‘Mother of all Nations’ ...Bishop Dr. Graber said on September 9, 1978:... ‘We pray and ask in silence that the western world one day will be as it was: an Imperium Marianum [Mary’s Imperial Kingdom].’*”

We find that the degree of de-

ception freely exercised on the part of the Roman Catholic Church is evidence to the fact that the nations are indeed “*drunk with the wine of her fornication*” (Rev. 17:2). “*These,*” say the Spirit, “*shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for He is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful* (Rev. 17: 14).

We will further explore a portion of the history of the Catholic system of deceit as identified in the revealed Word of Yahweh under the heading of “*Who were the Huguenots? - A Witness to the Veracity of the Apocalypse*” on page 7. The truth of these matters should encourage us that Yahweh indeed “*ruleth in the kingdom of men*”, but we encourage our readers to “*try the spirits whether they are of God*” and to determine for themselves the unspeakable riches of Yahweh’s Word. (Editor).

~ He Obtained for Himself Eternal Redemption ~

**Memorial remarks delivered at the 48th Annual Florida Gathering of Christadelphians
March 2004, by Michael T. Jasionowski**

In this article the author explores the link between the types under the law and the record of Hebrews that explains the necessity for Christ to have offered first for himself, so that he could thereafter redeem them who were under the law, as well as those that would follow afterward.

Clause 6 of the *Original Birmingham Statement of Faith*, which was in use in the Birmingham Ecclesia as early as 1870, reads as follows:

*“That these promises had reference to a second (or last) Adam, to be raised up in the condemned line of Abraham and David, who should purchase life by perfect obedience, and by dying, abrogate the law of condemnation for those who were under condemnation, and, therefore, **for himself**, who was*

made in all points like them; that having thus died unto sin once, he should afterwards be raised to immortality; in which (death having no more dominion over him) he should be permitted to extend a participation in his life and inheritance to all who should believe and obey him; and that he should afterwards become the head and ruler of the whole world.”

Our Lord Jesus Christ, in overcoming the flesh nature, was the ultimate, perfect, total manifestation of his Father in character. And we know he is our

example as Peter tells us... *He has left us an example that we should follow in his steps.* Despite perfectly overcoming the nature he bore and manifesting the Father's character in all he did, thought and said, our Lord still required a change of nature to come ultimately into complete and eternal fellowship with Deity. This change of nature could only be accomplished for himself through his own sacrifice.

Christ's own need for his sacrifice, or atonement, has been a divisive and controversial subject within Christadelphian circles for many years. Such is ironic since the *Original Birmingham Statement of Faith*, as referenced above, seems very clear on the point. This important teaching, though worded slightly different, has also found its way into subsequent versions of both "Amended" and "Unamended" Statements of Faith in use today. More crucial than any Statement of Faith is the fact that this teaching is well grounded in **Bible teaching**, both directly and typically.

It is our intention to explore this subject further and glean therefrom the exhortation in Christ's willing offering to humble the flesh and, in the ultimate, to put it to death. Thereby he declared the righteousness of God by becoming the first to benefit from his own sacrifice and providing the means whereby we might also be saved.

~ Christ's Own Need Shown Directly in Hebrews 9:12 ~

We read in Hebrews 9:11-12 these words:

*"But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by **his own blood** he entered in once into the holy place, **having obtained eternal redemption.**"*

We purposely omit the last words, *for us*, in the King James version as they are not in the original. The translators of the 1611 King James version could not understand this verse without the words *for us* at the end. They could not understand how the Lord Jesus could possibly have benefited from his own sacrificial death because they viewed him as a pre-existent, second member of a triune god. We know, of course, this is false. How then should these important verses be understood?

The first thing we should note carefully is that the subject matter contextually is that of sacrifice. The tabernacle and the blood of goats and calves are all referenced. Second, the Greek text is in the third person, masculine, middle voice. It therefore expresses

something that one does for himself. More literally it has been translated: "**having found for himself eternal redemption.**"

In demonstrating this point we are sometimes accused of attempting to "separate the Lord Jesus from his work". In no way are we doing so. To try and separate Christ from the work he came to do is foolish. He was not a separate person from the human race. As we learn throughout Paul's letter to the Hebrews, he was a *representative man* (Heb. 5:1). What Hebrews 9:12 is teaching us is that it was necessary that the Lord Jesus himself be redeemed from the nature that he bore, and therefore he himself was the first to benefit from his own sacrifice. Or, perhaps more directly, he himself **required** his own sacrifice in order to be redeemed from the sin nature he bore and from death itself. Bro. Roberts summarizes the point nicely when he wrote: "for himself that it might be for us, for how otherwise could we have obtained redemption if it had not first come into His possession, for us to become joint heirs of?"

[Law of Moses, p. 177].

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~ Christ's Own Need Shown by a Correct Understanding ~ of Hebrews 7:27

Hebrews 7:26 and 27 read:

“For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens; Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people’s: for this he did once, when he offered up himself.”

Verse 26 illustrates for us the perfection of the Lord’s character. He was indeed holy, harmless, undefiled and separate from sinners. Verse 27, when correctly understood from the Law of Moses, proves the Lord’s own need for sacrifice and redemption due to the Adamic nature he bore in common with us.

The high priest under the Mosaic Law had a daily need for forgiveness just like every other Israelite. Nevertheless, he was only permitted to make intercession in the Most Holy Place for his sin nature (as well as the nation’s) once a year on the Day of Atonement. To that end, Leviticus 16:6 reveals to us in very emphatic terms how that the high priest had to offer sacrifice **first for himself** and then for the people: *“And Aaron shall offer his bullock of the sin offering, which is for himself, and make an atonement for himself, and for his house.”* Paul says in Hebrews 7:27 that it was not necessary for the Lord Jesus Christ to offer two separate offerings, because this he did once when he offered up himself.

Now consider again very closely Hebrews 7:27, which tells us *“...First for his own sins, and then for the people’s...”* What personal sins did the Lord Jesus Christ have for which he had to offer? The answer is none. But Paul says here that he made an offering. Why did he do it? Or in what respect did he



The high priest under the Mosaic Law had a daily need for forgiveness just like every other Israelite. Nevertheless, he was only permitted to make intercession in the Most Holy Place for his sin nature (as well as the nation’s) once a year on the Day of Atonement. (Picture from: The Parable of the Priesthood, By C. Cresswell)

do it? In Leviticus 16:6, 11-15 we learn that the high priest under the Law of Moses was a sinner just like all the rest of the people. He was not a sinless man, whether it be Aaron or any of the others that followed after him. He stood in the same state of condemnation as all the people on whose behalf he offered, both for personal sins and for the nature he bore as a result of the condemnation in Adam. Why then did he have to make a separate offering for himself? We would think that he simply should have been required to make **one** offering, and offer it on behalf of himself and all the people: since he was a sinner and they were sinners, they could all be covered under one sacrifice. But they couldn’t. He had to offer a sacrifice for himself. There can be only one reason why this was so. And that was that the high priest that he typified, the Lord Jesus Christ, had a need, as well as his people. But since the need of the Lord Jesus Christ had nothing to do with actual personal sins, it must be for the cleansing of his sin nature (unclean, and bearing the sentence of condemnation in Adam), and that is why we have this exposition in Hebrews 7:27 to explain it to us. Paul is emphasizing in Hebrews 7:27 that **he did it**. But he only did it once in the one offering. And so therefore we should understand the magnificent teaching in this, that the Lord Jesus Christ, as we have just seen from Hebrews 9:12, had to obtain **for himself eternal redemption**, that he might obtain it for us. Therefore, the sins of the high priest being likened unto the sins of the people, as requiring a separate offering, shows that the Lord had a need with respect to the sin nature that he bore.

~ Christ's Own Need Shown Typically in Leviticus 12 ~

In Leviticus 12 we learn of the uncleanness of a woman when she had given birth to a child. At first this may sound strange to us because giving birth to a child in itself is not a sin. What could it possibly be teaching us? It is teaching that human nature is corrupt and defiled at its very source:

“And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, If a woman have conceived seed, and born a man child: then she shall be unclean seven days; according to the days of the separation for her infirmity shall she be unclean. And in the eighth day the flesh of his foreskin shall be circumcised. And she shall then continue in the blood of her purifying three and thirty days; she shall touch no hallowed thing, nor come into the sanctuary, until the days of her purifying be fulfilled” (Lev. 12:1-4).

In verse 4 we learn that for a male child she had to continue in the blood of her purifying 33 days.

On the day for a year principle, how many years did our Lord, as the male child, live? The answer is 33 years. This teaching from the Law would seem to indicate that just as she needed purifying for 33 days for a male child, so the Lord required cleansing and purifying. But from what did he need cleansing?

We can piece together the answer by looking at verse 5 where we learn that for the female child she had to continue in the blood of her purifying 66 days:

“But if she bear a maid child, then she shall be unclean two weeks, as in her separation: and she shall continue in the blood of her purifying three-score and six days” (Lev. 12:5).

For the birth of the female child a **double cleansing** was needed. Is this because females are somehow greater sinners than males? Of course not! The beauty of this teaching is surely apparent to us. The female child represents the bride of Christ and **we have a dual need**. We need a double cleansing. We need to be forgiven and cleansed from the personal sins we have committed as convicted sinners, and we also need the cleansing process for our (Adamic) sin nature. For us this process commences at baptism. We are forgiven our personal sins, and the sentence of death which rests upon us (which would otherwise consign us eternally to the grave) is set aside, and we are now called to walk in newness of life awaiting the completion of the process by a change of nature, God willing.

Since the 66 days for the female child typifies the dual need (sins and nature) of the bride of Christ, what does the 33 days typify for the male child, the Lord Jesus Christ? Well, we know he committed no personal sins, and so his need must relate to the nature he bore. He was cleansed once and for all after 33 years by the wonder and glory of divine nature.

Summary

Period of Separation for cleansing being typical of Christ and his brethren

<i>Birth of a Child:</i>	<i>Period of Cleansing:</i>	<i>Application of period:</i>	<i>Typical of need:</i>
<i>Male</i>	<i>33 Days</i>	<i>Single period</i> = a day for a year of Christ's life, or 33 years	Cleansing for nature he bore due to his lineage in the condemned race of Adam <u>only</u>
<i>Female</i>	<i>66 Days</i>	<i>Double Period</i> = twice the necessity for cleansing required for the Bride of Christ	Cleansing for condemned nature <u>as well as</u> personal transgression

We read in Hebrews 13:20 concerning Christ's sacrifice that he *“was brought again from the dead... through the blood of the everlasting covenant.”* This is an excellent summary of the principles we have been discussing. This verse is in perfect harmony with our understanding of Christ's own need because the blood of the everlasting covenant was his own blood. Therefore, he himself, the great shepherd of the sheep, was brought again from the dead through his own sacrifice, and so abrogated the “sentence of death” (or condemnation in Adam) for all who pass into the “sentence of life” through his name (suggested reading: Elpis Israel, P 323—327, Logos Edition, “The Name of Jesus Christ”).

Who Were the Huguenots? ~ A Witness to the Veracity of the Apocalypse ~

By Bro. A. B. Bryan

Suggested Reading: Revelation Chapter 11:1-13 ; 12:13-17

In the following article we hope to pause and consider the tumultuous history of a people known as the Huguenots—who, in the time of their witnessing against the State, withstood repeated attempts by Rome to extinguish their voice and render complete silence to the light of Yahweh’s Word to effect a response in the conscience of the thinking man. All of the historical information contained herein is a compilation from the efforts of other writers referenced at the end of this article (particularly the National Huguenot Society) and is not original with the author. Information has, however, been reorganized for compositional purposes. Direct quotations are given in italics.



John Calvin
(1509 - 1564),
religious reformer

The Huguenots were members of the *Reformed Church* of France, which was established circa 1550 by John Calvin as part of the advancing “Protestant Reformation”. Christadelphians have written about this group now and again over the last 150 years because they figure prominently as a “witness” against the Roman Catholic system as well as to the unfolding revelation given to the Apostle John. In both Revelation 11 and 12 the French Huguenots appear as part of the group of political and religious protesters against the Roman Church-State system. Of these “*two witnesses*”

one is styled “*the woman*” and the other “*the earth*”. (See Revelation 12:14 and 12:16.) To these were given power from Yahweh through His spirit messengers working among the kingdoms of men that “*they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days*” (or 1,260 years – Ch. 11: 3).

To “prophesy” in the sense of the usage in this passage is to proclaim what is revealed from the inspired Word, and what was revealed is that the Roman harlot under Constantine and his pseudo-Christian aristocracy would persecute the believers of Bible truth just as vehemently as did their pagan predecessors.

In general the eleventh chapter of Revelation lays the context for understanding the timing and purpose of the birth of the “man child” or “Constantine the Great” of chapter 12 as being absolutely necessary for the separation of believers from the general mass of “Christianity”, and for the long-term preservation of the Truth. This could only be accomplished by a clear dividing line between those who would support the newly “Christianized” yet ignorant potentate (Constantine), and two other classes influenced by the oil and light of the Word of Yah-

weh becoming powerful antagonists against the Roman state by their witnessing with sword and spirit. Upon this arrangement, Bro. Thomas remarks:

*“Thus were organized in the unmeasured Court of the Gentiles two powerful antagonisms—civil and religious despotism, on the one hand (i.e. Roman Catholicism – Ed.); and civil and religious liberty, on the other (i.e. two witnesses)...the **One Body** and its unconscious instrument, ‘**the Earth**’ –unconscious that it was the Divinely appointed and Divinely energized agent for the aid, nourishment, and vindication of the Spirit’s witnessing prophets against their enemies” (Eureka, Vol. Iib, Pg 228).*

The first of these groups identified with *religious despotism* encompasses the Roman harlot, having become the dragon and ten horns, or “God of the earth”, that has been killing Saints since the blood of righteous Abel was shed. The latter group in support of religious and civil liberty are identified as the “two witnesses” - a class of agents developed by the hand of the Deity to antagonize the adherents of the so-called “Church”, who would “prophesy”

or make witness against the apostasy for a period of 1260 years (Rev. 11:3; 12:14). The effect of this witnessing was essential for the development and preservation of a spiritual seed (“*the remnant of her seed*”- Rev. 12:17) that would be helped by the earthy, yet anti-papal, anti-catholic, religious protestors and advocates of civil rights for all, styled the *Earth*. This prophetic time period began with the ascension of Constantine to the throne of the Roman Empire in AD 312, and extended unto the end of the effectual witnessing of these antagonists (that is to say, when the effect of their doctrine and use of the sword, or rather the lack thereof, ceased to have effect upon the Roman system and its adherents). This period terminated in A.D. 1572 with the slaying of the Huguenots throughout the “tenth of the City” or Kingdom of France (11:13), France being but one of the 10 horn kingdoms of the scarlet colored beast. How many, if any, having the true faith of Abraham were killed in these riotous events can not be told. It might be said, however, that the Huguenots were the last to witness against the authority of the “Church” as the end of this prophetic epoch approached. As such, their prominence in the close of one chapter of history and the beginning of another, which is indeed the last, terminating with the Messiah enthroned upon Mt. Zion, is worthy of some review. This we will offer briefly beginning with the origin of the name.

~ *The Huguenot's Tumultuous History* ~

The origin of the name Huguenot is uncertain, but most historians date the name from approximately 1550 when it was used in court cases against heretics (dissenters from the Roman Catholic Church). Only 12 years after the formal organization of the group as a religious body, some 1200 Huguenots were slain at Vassy, France on March 1st, 1562. This ignited what is termed the “Wars of Religion” which would devastate and bankrupt France for the next thirty years. Though the Huguenots were only twenty percent of the total French population at the time, it appears that they became a vigilant foe against the Church by the taking up of arms in order to win concessions from the Roman Catholic majority. (Note: this is a strong indicator that these “reformers” did not possess the Truth in its entirety, but provided protection nonetheless for those who did.) Such concessions, however, were only an expedient hypnosis that a viper places upon its prey before the deadly strike! The shattering of the so-called “peace” therefore occurred without notice on Saturday, August 23, 1572, in which thousands perished in the flood of the serpent’s venom (Rev. 12:15).



**Huguenot Admiral
Gaspard Coligny**

Catherine de Medici, the real power behind Charles IX on the throne of France, after a fashion of Jezebel, began the conflagration by ordering the assassination of the brilliant Huguenot Admiral Gaspard Coligny. Having failed in the attempt and panicking in the face of possible reprisal, it is thought-



Catherine de Medici

It was Catherine de Medici who persuaded her weakling son Charles IX to order the destruction of the Huguenots. On Sunday morning August 24th, 1572, she personally walked through the streets of Paris to inspect the carnage.



Coin of Charles IX (1560-1574): Note the *Fleur-de-Lis* in context with the cross, identifying the Catholic apostasy with the “Frog Sprits” of Rev. 16:12 that would later brutally turn upon the “Church”.

that she conspired with other authorities for the destruction of all Huguenots! This, as it so happened, occurred as thousands of Huguenots were converging on Paris for the wedding of her daughter to Henry of Navarre, a Huguenot noble. It is difficult to imagine the obstinate fury that would cause her to act with such a callous disregard for human life, and all for the sake of her own pride and superstition.

The conflagration began in Paris on the evening of St. Bartholomew's Day and spread to the



Henry IV, himself a former Huguenot

countryside on the following days. It is estimated that between 40,000 and 100,000 Huguenots lost their lives for refusing to conform to the dictates of the apostasy. No doubt, this “Jezebel” appearing upon the eve of the sounding of the Seventh Trumpet was true to the prophetic type: **“For they have shed the blood of Saints and prophets”** (Rev. 16:6). The Huguenots were one of this class of prophets in that they were a prophesying witness against the murderous character of the Mother of Harlots and abominations of the earth. Surviving Huguenots fled to their fortresses followed by continuous war until the Huguenot prince, Henry of Navarre, became heir-elect to the throne of France. On April 13th, 1598 King Henry IV **issued the “Edict of Nantes”**, which brought an end to the Wars of Religion.

“The Huguenots were allowed to practice their faith in 20 specified French ‘free’ cities. France became united and a decade of peace followed. However, ...in 1610 the persecution of the ‘dissenters’ resumed in all earnestness... The Huguenot free cit-

ies were lost one after the other after they were conquered by the forces of Cardinal Richelieu, and the last and most important stronghold, La Rochelle, fell in 1629 after a siege lasting a month.”

The events that led to the eventual removal of the Huguenots from their fortified cities began with churchmen calling for King Henry to strip away Huguenot privileges, passing laws making it hard for Protestants to enter the trade guilds (Rev. 13:17). Huguenots were forbidden to establish schools. They were forced to leave France by the thousands, yet, if caught, were punished with prison and death.

Louis XIV (the Sun King, 1643-1715) **revoked the “Edict of Nantes”** on 22 October 1685, thus beginning the 105 year prophecy that would terminate in the French Revolution in 1790 (the “three days and a half” of Rev. 11:9).**

The large scale persecution of the Huguenots resumed (*“And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified”* - Rev. 11:8), driving hundreds of thousands of his best citizens abroad who took with them the best skilled artisans in Europe. France declined from being the most powerful and rich nation in Europe to a virtual “empty shell” pressed to hold its own against powerful foes. Poverty and a broader separation of social and economic classes ensued making the nation ripe for revolution.

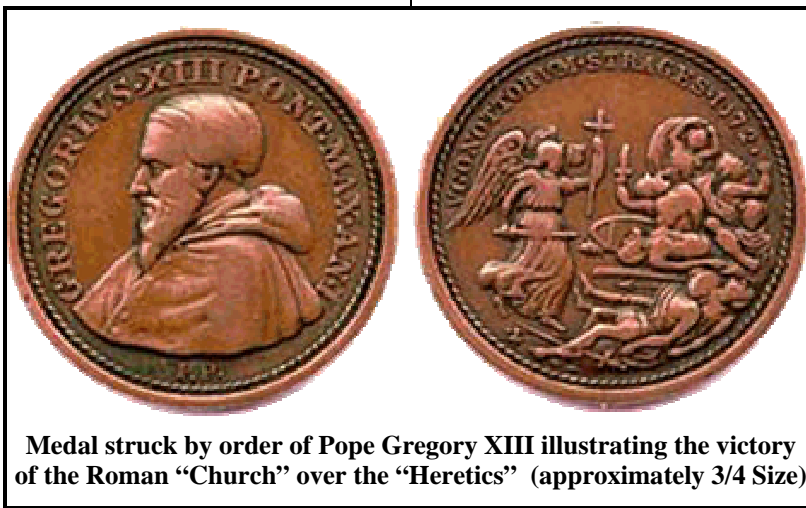
**For more information concerning this prophecy, see *Eureka*, Vol. 2B, Page 265 (Red Edition); Section “The Three Days and a Half”.

~ Rome Rejoices and Sends Gifts of Medals One to Another ~

One of the most significant and convincing pieces of evidence as to the veracity of the “Continuous Historical” exposition of Revelation chapter 11 concerns verse 10: *“And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another; because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth.”* This verse is an accurate account of the horrible events of 1572 as witnessed to by the perpetrators themselves by striking a medal in commemoration of the criminal deed (below, center) and rejoicing with elaborate celebrations as described in Eureka, Vol. Iib, by Bro. John Thomas thusly:

“The massacre with which they were overwhelmed at the outbreak of the war against them in 1572, and which was then supposed to have entirely ruined them, when known in Rome was a cause of great

joy to their enemies in that city. When the letters of the Pope’s legate residing at the Court of Charles IX, were read in the assembly of the cardinals, by which he assured the Pope that all was transacted by the express will and command of the French king, it was immediately decreed that the Pope should march with his cardinals to the church of St. Mark, and in the most solemn manner give thanks to God for so great a blessing conferred on the See of Rome (Dan 7:8 – Ed.) and the ‘Christian world;’ and that on the Monday after, solemn mass should be celebrated in the church of Minerva, at which Gregory XIII and the cardinals were present, and that a jubilee should be published throughout the whole of ‘Christendom,’ and the cause of it declared to be, to return thanks to God for the extirpation of the enemies of the truth and the church of France. In the evening the cannons of St. Angelo were fired to testify the public joy; the whole city illuminated with bonfires; and no one sign of rejoicing omitted that was usually made for the greatest victories obtained in favor of the Roman church.”



Medal struck by order of Pope Gregory XIII illustrating the victory of the Roman “Church” over the “Heretics” (approximately 3/4 Size)

*“In addition to this, medals were struck commemorative of the joyous event. A copy of it is before me in Elliot’s work, taken from Sir W. Cockburn’s work on the Massacre. It is about two inches and five eighths diameter. One face is the bust of the Roman Deity, Gregory XIII: and on the obverse a winged angel with an uplifted cross in the left hand, and a drawn two edged sword in the right, symbolizing the **papal destroyers of ‘the earth’** in France. Men, women, and children are before the angel dead, dying, falling, and about to fall by the sword; while in*

the background is a woman, with uplifted arms supporting a mantle, and looking complacently upon the massacre, symbolizing the Catholic church. On the margin is the legend, Ugonottorum Strages, 1572 – ‘The Massacre of the Huguenots, 1572.’ These medals were for free distribution to one

another commemorative of the death blow inflicted upon the hitherto unconquered enemies of catholic idolatry. Thus was fulfilled the tenth verse of this eleventh chapter, stating, ‘They that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them and make merry, and shall send gifts (of medals) one to another; because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt upon the earth.’”

In 1682 Louis XIV threatened the Huguenots with every evil imaginable if they did not convert to Catholicism. His religious training, harsh upbringing, and cruel advisers led him to believe he could not be saved unless he wiped out the heresy of the protestant movement. The Huguenots, among others, were reduced to meeting secretly in caves and in the woods (Hebrews 11:38), becoming the subject of savage reprisals and immediate death by burning at the stake if they were caught. Their churches and the houses were destroyed, and their Bibles and hymn books burned.

In light of these brutal conditions of life, verily, how much we today in 2004 take for granted. We have our peaceful homes, meeting where we will, displaying our signs in public, organizing Bible studies, public lectures, etc., without fear of public reprisal. We indeed should give praise and thanksgiving to Yahweh for His mercy toward us! And yet, sadly, there is always the danger of treating these privileges of unmolested freedom with contempt, preferring the pleasures of this life to the privileges of eternal worth. Brethren, in the little time we now have to prepare ourselves as a chaste bride to meet the bridegroom, let us not just serve Yahweh with our lips, for the Truth is not merely a creed, or a faith to be kept upon our bookshelves, but is what we need to be manifesting in our lives, in ourselves, and in the way we spend our time and pursue each day unto the LORD.

The Flight From France to America

The flight of the Huguenots was a double blow to France. The hardworking Huguenots were among the most prosperous citizens, their work ethic having made them masters of the crafts in which France excelled. When they fled, they left behind most of their possessions but carried with them their skills. France's enemies were taught techniques of weaving, lace-making, silk-work, and hattery, once the exclusive possession of the French. Sadly, those people who were expelled might have put up the greatest resistance to the atheistic elements within the Enlightenment. The French Revolution was perhaps now almost inevitable. But, according to some historians, its cruelties were not nearly so terrible as what the Huguenots had suffered.

Between 1618 and 1725 between 5,000 and 7,000 Huguenots reached the shores of America. Those who came from the French speaking south of Belgium, an area known as *Wallonia*, are generally known as *Wal-loons* (as opposed to *Huguenots*) in the United States.

The organized large scale emigration of Huguenots to the Cape of Good Hope in South Africa occurred during 1688 - 1689. By 1692 a total of 201 French Huguenots had settled at the Cape of Good Hope. Most of them settled in an area now known as Franschhoek ("French Corner"), where many farms still bear their original French names.

In the year 1700, more than five hundred emigrants were brought to Virginia by means of four successive voyages. Long preparations for such trans-Atlantic travel as this were necessary, and more than once the destination had been changed. (Imagine waiting to get your passport and not knowing until the last moment whether you were going to Virginia or South Africa!) Two years before the date of the departure, negotiations were opened by the leaders of the Hugue-

A church near the White House in Washington, DC has a memorial that claims 21 US presidents are of Huguenot descent. The National Huguenot Society, more modest, maintains that eight can definitely be traced as Huguenot descendants. They are:

- ***George Washington***
- ***Ulysses S. Grant***
- ***Theodore Roosevelt***
- ***William Howard Taft***
- ***Franklin Delano Roosevelt***
- ***Harry S. Truman***
- ***Gerald Ford***
- ***Lyndon B. Johnson***

As the Bible student may readily perceive, Yahweh has not been slack in making every provision for the Truth to be sown, cultivated, and to thrive in an atmosphere where the Papacy has been stripped of temporal authority.



The Coat of Arms of Pope Gregory XIII (complicit in the Huguenot tragedy) is resplendent with the Dragon—the symbol of his rule and authority. Coincidence or Providence? (Rev. 12:15-17)

not refugees with land owners of the "proprietary of Carolina and Florida," for the purchase of half a million acres of land in the latter territory. At another time Carolina was the objective point of the expedition. Here they came eventually to Charleston, Carolina, where exists today the last and only still active congregation of French Huguenots extant in the western hemisphere. It is sad to note, however, that despite their once pious and sincere worship and hope of a future resurrection, they eventually lost (as most every other so-called "protestant") their anti-papal zeal, co-mingling themselves into extinction amidst the current fog of Roman superstition. Hence, the Huguenot Church in Charleston is but one of the many architectural attractions to be found along "Church Street". It stands like a "whited sepulcher", beautiful in stature and reminiscent of more vigilant days, but on the inside it is like every other religious bazaar of the soul merchants – "full of dead men's bones".

A third site suggested for the settlement was in Norfolk county, Virginia, on the Nansemond River near the Dismal Swamp. Nevertheless, they appear to have settled at different points: some in Jamestown, some



The last surviving Huguenot congregation in the Western Hemisphere meets in this building on "Church Street" in Charleston, South Carolina.

in Norfolk county, others in Surry, and two hundred or more at a spot some twenty miles above Richmond, Virginia, on the south side of James River (now in Powhatan County), where ten thousand acres of land were given them by the King of England.

Today, Christadelphians in Richmond are constantly reminded of these events by the names of the aging Huguenot Bridge crossing the James River and of Huguenot Road on the south side of the James where the

land grant to the Huguenot colonists began. Not far from here along State Route 711, running parallel on the south side of the James River, stands a lonely monument to this group of people who fled France in search of religious freedom and a life free from persecution.

It is on account of Divine mercy to His Saints, that peoples such as these have been provided as a protectorate or "insulator", if you will, between the household or remnant of the woman's seed, and the dragon, which continues to have its effect where ever possible to scorch the earth with its godless decrees. Thus, while there is opportunity, let us busy ourselves with filling our spiritual lamps with the oil of the Word, which is indeed the "oil of gladness" (Heb. 1:9). In so doing we will in time be anointed with immortality in the presence of Yahweh and His anointed for the Kingdom and beyond, without end.

The headstone pictured to the right from a Huguenot graveyard dated May 18th, 1771 reads "Garner and learn that die you must, And after come to judgment just, Here we all rest in hope to see, That day of Christ, and there see thee". Words of promise yet dashed when discovered that this was ascribed to a nine month old babe!



~ Summary of Key Events in Huguenot History ~

(From the National Huguenot Society)

- 1533** John Calvin flees Paris, becomes pastor in Geneva in 1536, and maintains strong ties and influence with French reform movement until his death in 1564
- 1550's** Calvinism comes to France, wins thousands of converts
- 1559** First Huguenot synod held, in Paris
- 1559** Attempt to replace the Catholic Guises with the Huguenot Condé as regent
- 1560** Huguenots petition the king and threaten revolt if persecution persists
- 1562** Massacre at Vassy begins the French religious wars
- 1562** Huguenots sign a manifesto saying they were forced to take arms
- 1565** Huguenot colony massacred at St. John, Florida by Pedro Mendendez
- 1572** Catherine de Medici orders an attempt to assassinate Huguenot leader Coligny
- 1572** St. Bartholomew's Day massacre kills as many as 100,000 Huguenots
- 1585** Huguenots and other Protestants are ordered expelled from France (most stay)
- 1593** Huguenot Henry IV converts to Catholicism to gain the throne
- 1598** Edict of Nantes promises protection to Huguenots
- 1685** Revocation of the Edict of Nantes leaves Huguenots defenseless; 400,000 flee (*Begin 3 days and a half - 105 year period of political death of the Huguenots and other anti-papal groups – Rev. 11:11- Ed.*)
- 1790** French Revolution (*End 3 days and a half - 105 years of political death - Ed.*)

~ Brother Thomas Possibly of Huguenot Descent ~

While compiling these thoughts on the Huguenots, it has come to our attention that in 1982 Bro. Charles B. Blore wrote an interesting compilation of Bro. Thomas's genealogy from which the following information has been derived. From the very beginnings of his life on April 12, 1805, the clues regarding the Thomas family history seem to point to French Huguenot descent. This is of interest to us only from the standpoint of a consideration of the Divine hand acting in the interest of the "One Faith" particularly when considering the Huguenot's record of "witnessing" against the Roman State. We offer this information to our readers as a "side note", which, while not critical to our understanding of the first principles of our faith, would however be in complete harmony with the principles of Divine election and foreknowledge of Yahweh.

Bro. Thomas's father, also John Thomas (Rev. Thomas), was an independent preacher in England among other "non-conformists" outside of the Anglican Church of England. Rev. Thomas was born in 1782 and was thus seven years of age when the French Revolution toppled the "tenth of the

city" (Rev. 11:13). Based on the account of his own diary, this event (reported to the Huguenot community in Huxton by eyewitnesses) had a considerable impression on his mind, and it is evident from his confession of faith "as a lost sinner, guilty and polluted... needing to be born again in Christ," coupled with his belief in the Trinity, that he was as "Calvinist" as any Huguenot. Bro. Blore writes:

"The idea had long been in my mind that the Thomas family might be of Huguenot or related refugee extraction. Thomas, also spelled Tommas, was a name found among these immigrants. The mental capacities, verve, and industriousness of the Huguenot refugees was well-known a century ago. One such London family of Thomases can be traced from their landing at Hastings...some becoming governors of the Bank of England, etc."

Bro. Blore offers these additional "clues" (among others) regarding the Thomas family that are of interest but it must be admitted that no definite proof has come to light, and thus these clues are offered for the reader's own estimation and conclusion:



1. Dr. Thomas attended the French Church in Threadneedle Street, ostensibly to improve his French. May there have been another reason? During one visit to England, Dr. Thomas set off on a tour of France, the Low Countries and [Rhenish] Prussia, 'purely for recreational purpose'. (R.R.)

"The refugees often had family remnants or fortified estates in France, and as it was by then safe, re-establishment of contact was not unknown... Placards in Paris prior to the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes, offered the Huguenots land, houses, employment, moving expenses and exemption from tax for some years. We mention this as it explains why some Huguenot refugees arrived in England from Cleves (and other parts of Prussia). We have in fact traced a John Thomas from Cleves, who received denization early in the 17th century."

2. Dr. Thomas' mother was the daughter of Captain William White (French 'Le Blanc'), a mariner whose last port of call was England.

3. Dr. Thomas's mother and father were notably Calvinists in belief. The Huguenots were Calvinists.

4. Both London and Bristol, where the Thomas family has been traced, had large Huguenot communities.

5. Names that have been traced in association with the Thomas family including Cleeve, Frohuck, Moy, and Fourdrinier, each suggest Huguenot origin.

6. The legal profession figuring prominently in the Thomas line was said to be common among Dutch refugees.

7. The Walloon element of these refugees from France are described to be of medium size, with dark hair, adroit, active, impulsive, thus recalling traits of both the Rev. and Dr. Thomas. They were also known for being ruthless and to make good soldiers...traits that Bro. Thomas was able to steer into a spiritual application. Bro. Blore writes that "I am glad that Bro. Thomas was 'ruthless' with the enemies of the truth, otherwise, we today might be 'truthless'."

Though the research by Bro. Blore has produced nothing beyond dispute, the Dutch Huguenot society regards his conclusions as "highly probable".

References for the above Huguenot articles:

Eureka, An Exposition of The Apocalypse, By Bro. John Thomas, Volume IIB Pg. 206 to 332 (Red Edition)

Dr. Thomas: His family and the background of his times, by Bro. Charles B. Blore, 1982

The National Huguenot Society (including graphics and historical data), Mr. Ken Cutis 9033 Lyndale Ave. South, Suite 108, Bloomington, MN 55420-3535. Other sources include the National Huguenot Society of South Africa, and Huguenot Society of Virginia.

~ Solomon and the Two Harlots ~

By Bro. Alex Briley

Suggested Reading: *1 Kings 3:16-28*

Early in the reign of King Solomon he was presented with the case of two harlots who both claimed to be the mother of a living child. This well known story demonstrates the unique wisdom of Solomon among kings. Indeed, to find such wisdom in any other descendant of Adam, we must look to our lord, Yahshua the Messiah, who exceeded the wisdom of Solomon (Luke 1:40, 52; Col. 2:3).

Christadelphians have long considered Solomon's reign as typical of the Millennial reign of Christ. What then, is the allegorical significance of this story? Are we merely to accept that Solomon was wise? Do we need reassurance that this was so, or is there yet another lesson to be gleaned? The scriptures point to two principal harlots in scripture. The first is

the nation of Israel (Is. 1:21; Jer. 2:20; 3:1,6,8; Ez. 16:15-41) and the other is Rome (Rev. 17:5). Let us then consider that the two harlots that appeared before Solomon are typical of these two nations.

Both women had given birth to a child, one three days before the other. Israel first gave birth to a child, she had produced a natural seed beginning with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and in the third millennia afterward the Apostasy also gave birth (Rev. 12:1-2). The first woman gave birth to a child who lived, the latter to a child who died. Only Israel provided a Seed through which life could come. The seed of the other was, and has been, a child of death. But the Roman harlot was not satisfied with a dead child and tried to claim the seed of Israel for herself, and as its mother,

claim the place that the Lamb of God dwells as her own (2 Thess. 2:3-12, Rev. 13:11). At midnight the Roman harlot stole away the child from Israel and replaced it with her own son of death. Thus, through the long Gentile night, these two thousand years (Luke 21:24), Israel has been left childless and weeping for her children as did Rachel (Jer. 31:15-27), while Rome claims Israel's Son as her own. But the Gentile night will not go on much longer. The Kingdom will come and its King will "arise with healing in his wings". In this new morning (2 Sam. 23:1-4) Israel will learn what the Roman harlot has done unto her and will appeal unto her Lord for justice. And justice will be given unto her, but not before she demonstrates her love for the Son that was taken from her. Zechariah testifies of this love for her son, "And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his first-born" (Zechariah 12:10).

Then shall Israel rejoice. The Son which was stolen from her will be restored. And she will acknowledge that Yahshua is that seed of life, the living child. But what of the Roman harlot? What will be the end of her that thought she could steal the child of life? According to her labour shall she be rewarded. The Revelation details the terrible end that will be heaped upon her for her crimes:

"The merchants of these



From The Story of The Bible, Vol. Three. Courtesy Logos Publications

things, which were made rich by her, shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing, And saying, Alas, alas that great city, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls! For in one hour so great riches is come to naught. And every shipmaster, and all the

"...and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son..." (Zechariah 12:10)

company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off, And cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, What city is like unto this great city! And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, Alas, alas that great city, wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness!

for in one hour is she made desolate. Rejoice over her, thou heaven, and ye holy apostles and prophets; for God hath avenged you on her. And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all. And the voice of harpers, and musicians, and of pipers, and trumpeters, shall be heard no more at all in thee; and no craftsman, of whatsoever craft he be, shall be found any more in thee; and the sound of a millstone shall be heard no more at all in thee; And the light of a candle shall shine no more at all in thee; and the voice of the bridegroom and of the bride shall be heard no more at all in thee: for thy merchants were the great men of the earth; for by thy sorceries were all nations deceived. And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth" (Rev. 18:15-24).

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