

## Semester 3 – Week 9 - Class 17

# THE UNITED STATES IN BIBLE PROPHECY

**Question:** Is the Bible just a history book?

Does it really describe the rise of the United States? It's important for us as *Bible students* to notice that the Bible has some history, but it is not predominately a history book. Why doesn't the Bible mention China? India? Brazil? Canada? or Poland? If it were predominately a history book, then you just have to raise the question, Why doesn't it say something about every nation?

The Bible brings to view nations that have a direct impact upon God's people. It brings to view nations that have a direct relationship to the plan of salvation.

The Bible first shows us the Garden of Eden with Adam and Eve. After the Flood and the fact that the ark came to rest on Mt. Ararat, we're taken to Ur of Chaldees with Abraham and Egypt, Palestine, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome and Europe.

**Question:** Does the Bible mention the United States in prophecy? We need to turn to the book of Revelation.

Revelation 12 deals with what is called the Great Controversy between Christ and Satan.

Revelation 14 we find God's final message to mankind, as well as the Jesus' second coming.

In Revelation 13 we find that the Mark of the Beast will be strictly enforced as well as the fact that this chapter is the connecting link between the dark ages and God's final message to Earth.

Revelation 13:16, 17 **“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, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.”**

**Question:** Who did we say is this beast?

John said in Revelation 13:1 **“I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.”** We identified this beast power as the Papacy in Rome.

Verse 3 **“I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death...”**

The Roman general, Belsarius gave to the pope of Rome, religious and civil authority in 538 A.D., and the popes of Rome reigned supreme to 1798. Napoleon marched a portion of the French army under Berthier down into the city of Rome, Feb. 10, 1798, exactly 1260 years into the official Papal reign. Bible prophecy is precise.

Revelation 13:9, 10 **“If any man have an ear, let him hear. He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.”**

Revelation 13:3 **“...and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.”**

Paul gave us warning of the coming apostasy in 2 Thessalonians 2:8 **“And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming.**

*U.S. News and World Report*, Oct. 9, 1995 'In the short time that he has been Pope,' Billy Graham said flatly, 'John Paul II has become the moral leader of the world.' New York Times Columnist James Reston... 'he has been received here with more applause than any religious or secular leader in the world.'

*Time Magazine* He was a man for all seasons, all situations, all faiths, a beguilingly modest superstar of the church. Said Billy Graham... 'He's the most respected religious leader in the world today... He'll go down in history as the greatest of our modern Popes... He's been the strong conscience of the whole civilized world.'

*Time*, Dec. 26, 1994 **The stage is set!**

**Question:** What is the stage set for?

Revelation 13:10 Establishes the timing of these prophecies. **“He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.”**

Revelation 13:11 **“And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon.”**

**Question:** Who is this second beast?

**There are Three questions we need to answer:**

- 1) Where does this power arise?
- 2) When does this power arise?
- 3) How does this power arise?

**Question 1:** Where does this power arise?

Revelation 13:1 **“I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.”**

Revelation 17:15 **“And ... the waters which thou sawest ... are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.”** The first beast, the Papacy, arose from the center of civilization.

Revelation 13:11 **“I beheld another beast another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon.”**

Since the waters represent a densely populated area, then the earth would represent a sparsely populated land. The new beast comes up out of the earth or an unpopulated area.

**Question:** What does a woman symbolize in Bible prophecy?

2 Corinthians 11:2 **“For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.”** Jeremiah 6:2 **“I have likened the daughter of Zion to a comely and delicate [woman].”** (Also Ephesians 5:23-32; Revelation 12:1; 17:1-6; Isaiah 1:21)

So God's church is represented as a godly chaste virgin. While the great whore church of Revelations is represented as a corrupt woman.

Revelation 12:14 **“And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.** The woman here is God's true church fleeing into the wilderness and the mountains for the period the Papacy is in power, 1,260 years.

Revelation 12:15 **“And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood.”** So the water as a flood is the multitude of the armies operating under Papal decree to pursue, persecute and kill God's people where ever they sought refuge.

Isaiah 59:19 **“...When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him.”**

Revelation 12:15, 16 **“And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth.”** With the new land, sparsely populated, many of God's people sought refuge across the sea.

**Question 2:** When does this power arise?

Revelation 13:9, 10 **“If any man have an ear, let him hear. He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.”** In 1798 the Papacy was taken captive and the first beast received the deadly wound.

Revelation 13:11 **“And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon.”** So this new nation, the second beast was rising when the first beast was descending.

**Question 3:** How does this power arise? Out of the earth.

- Two horns like a lamb – not a beast of prey.
- The first beast has crowns.

- **Crowns represent kingly authority.**
- **There are no crowns on the horns of the second beast.**
- **The lack of crowns indicates freedom.**
- **Horns are a symbol of power. They indicate that this second beast derives its power from political and religious freedom.**
- **Lamb-like beast**
  - 1) What power or nation was rising in 1798, when the papacy was going into captivity? The nation had already been born, like a lamb, but it would not become a mature power until a little later.
  - 2) It would arise in a sparsely populated area of the earth, compared to Europe, in a new location.
  - 3) It would be a young nation and grow up quietly, into a powerful nation rather than simply conquer an existing powerful ruling kingdom, and would espouse Christ-like principles.
  - 4) It had no king represented to us in the fact that there were no crowns upon the horns. No kingly authority.
  - 5) It would rise to a position of worldwide power and influence.

**Question:** What is the only nation that fits this description?

The United States of America. Pilgrims came to America to escape religious tyranny. And God's faithful found refuge on these shores.

Signs of the Times, June 3, 1889 When Wesley began his career in England, there were only a few who rallied around his standard. When the Puritans emigrated from England to America, they were like shipwrecked mariners who had barely escaped with their lives. Left without friends or influence, all they had was their precious faith, their strong will, and their earnest devotion to God. They were as sheep without a shepherd. The believers were few. Like the mustard seed, which is the least of all seeds, so seemed the Pilgrims; but their influence became powerful and far-reaching. The faith of the Puritans was as a coal from the altar of God, an inextinguishable light that glorified the land with its radiance... They were guided by the providence of God.

The New World Compared With the Old, G.A. Townsend, p. 635 "...the mystery of her coming forth from vacancy... Like a silent seed we grew into an empire."

Daniel and the Revelation, Uriah Smith, p. 578 "Emerging,,, amid the silence of the earth, adding daily to its power and strength."

In the Constitution of the United States- First Amendment to the Constitution - Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof;

In his book, Rome Stoops to Conquer, pages 3 & 4 author E. Boyd Barrett wrote, "The present great campaign which the Pope is directing in person, the campaign to win America, is the church's supreme and final effort to regain her ancient preeminence in the world. For him (Pope Pius XI) our country is a battlefield on which is being waged the greatest struggle of the Church's history. The conquest of America is the supreme objective at which he aims. Pius is well aware that the Catholic Church can never hope to dominate the civilized world until America kneels, beaten and penitent, at her feet."

**"... kneels, beaten and penitent, at her feet."**

Rome Stoops to Conquer, pages 13 "Does the Church intend, should the powers be hers, to change and modify the Constitution? Does she mean to discard the American principle of the separation of Church and State? In fine, does she aim at being the established church of the United States? One cannot doubt, in view of the present Pope's teaching, which indeed is simply the reiteration of age-old Catholic doctrine, that the answers should all be in the affirmative."

Mark 12:17 **"And Jesus answering said unto them, Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's. And they marvelled at him."**

Revelation 13:11 **"And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb..."**

Revelation 22:17 “...**And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.**”

George Washington, Letter to the General Committee of the United Baptist Churches in Virginia, May 1789 “Every man, conducting himself as a good citizen, and being accountable to God alone for his religious opinions, ought to be protected in worshipping the Deity according to the dictates of his own conscience.”

Thomas Jefferson, Library of America, p. 519 “I contemplate with sovereign reverence that act of the whole American people which declared that their legislature should make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibit the free exercise thereof, thus building a wall of separation between church and state.”

Benjamin Franklin, “When religion is good, it will take care of itself. When it’s not able to take care of itself, and God does not see fit to take care of it so that it has to appeal to the civil power for support, it’s evidence in my mind that the cause is a bad one.

James Madison, In a letter to Robert Welch, March 2, 1819 “The Civil Government, though bereft of everything like an associated hierarchy, possesses the requisite stability, and performs its functions with complete success; whilst the number, the industry, the morality of the Priesthood, and the devotion of the people, have been manifestly increased by the total separation of the Church from the State.

Ulysses S. Grant, speech before the Army of the Tennessee, Des Moines, Iowa, 1875 “Leave the matter of religious teaching to the family altar, the church and the private school, supported entirely by private contributions. Keep the church and state forever separate.”

Revelation 13:11 “**And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb...**” “...and he spake as a **dragon**.”

**Question:** What are the characteristics of a dragon-like beast speaking?

Revelation 13:2 “... **the dragon gave him his power, and his SEAT, and great authority.**”

Revelation 13:2 “... **the dragon gave him his POWER, and his seat, and GREAT AUTHORITY.**”

**Question:** How does a nation speak?

A nation speaks through the action of its legislative and judicial authorities.

Washington Times, June 12, 2000 - House votes 416-1 for Vatican voice in U.N.

The House yesterday overwhelmingly came out against efforts by international family planning groups to reduce Vatican influence at the United Nations... Supporters of the measure said Congress will not stand idly by while the hundreds of organizations assail the Vatican... “If anything,” said Rep. Christopher H. Smith, New Jersey Republican and sponsor of the resolution, “the Holy See deserves a more prominent role at the U.N.”...

**Lamb or Dragon? (Dragon)**

Former Supreme Court Chief Justice William Rehnquist “The ‘wall of separation between church and state’ is a metaphor based on bad history, a metaphor which has proved useless as a guide to judging. It should be frankly and explicitly abandoned.”

St Louis Dispatch, Oct. 29, 1991 “As the second century of the Bill of Rights draws to a close, the Supreme Court is redefining what religious liberty will mean in the third century. Broadly, the court’s new approach helps conventional religions, while hurting unconventional ones.”

Washington Post, Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, 2005 “The Commandments...are “a symbol that government authority comes from God, and that’s appropriate. It is a profoundly religious message, but it’s shared by the vast majority of the people... It seems to me the minority has to be tolerant of the majority’s view.”

Supreme Court Justice’s religious affiliation: **Jewish – 3; Catholic – 6; Protestant – 0**

**Lamb or Dragon? Dragon!**

The office of the President of the United States and the Papacy of Rome, a confederacy.

Time Magazine, Carl Bernstein, 2-24-92 Article titled “The Holy Alliance.” On June 7, 1982, Reagan and John Paul met for fifty minutes at the Vatican. During that conversation the plot was hatched to eliminate Communism. In that meeting, Reagan and the Pope agreed to undertake a clandestine campaign to hasten

the dissolution of the Communist Empire declares Richard Allen, Reagan's first national security advisor. This was one of the best kept secret alliances of all times.

*Bill Clinton*, speaking at Xavier University “I tell everyone I’m the closest Baptist you’ll ever get to a Jesuit.”

*John F. Kennedy*, Address to the Ministerial Association of Greater Houston, Sept. 12, 1960 - “I believe in an America where the separation of church and state is absolute - where no Catholic prelate would tell the president (should he be Catholic) how to act and no Protestant minister would tell his parishioners for whom to vote - where no church or church school is granted any public funds or political preference - and where no man is denied public office merely because his religion differs from the president who might appoint him or the people who might elect him. I believe in an America that is officially neither Catholic, Protestant, nor Jewish - where no public official either requests or accepts instructions on public policy from the pope, the National Council of Churches, or any other ecclesiastical source - where no religious body seeks to impose its will directly or indirectly upon the general populace or the public acts of its officials - and where religious liberty is so indivisible that an act against one church is treated as an act against all.”

*Washington Post*, 4-16-01 In 1960, John Kennedy went from Washington down to Texas to assure Protestant preachers that he would not obey the pope.

In 2001, George Bush came from Texas up to Washington to assure a group of Catholic bishops that he would’.

Bush bowed to the Pope. Obama bowed to the Pope. **Speaking as a dragon?**

*Thomas P. Melady*, Former U.S. Ambassador to the Vatican “I believe that the United States, as the world’s only superpower, and the Holy See, as the only worldwide political sovereignty, have significant roles to play in the future. Their actions will impact the lives of people in all parts of the globe.” Indeed they will, as they are closer than ever.

Revelation 13:15 **“And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak...”**

**Question:** What is the “image of the beast”? An image is a “likeness of”.

Revelation 13:12 **“And 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.”**

Revelation 13:16 **“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.”**

**God respects human freedom.**

Revelation 22:17 **“...And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.”**

Joshua 24:15 **“ And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve...”**

Once again, the issues revolve around **WORSHIP**. Worship the Creator – Revelation 14:7 or worship the beast – Revelation 13:4. If you don’t worship the Creator, or if you don’t worship at all, you worship the beast by default.

**Question:** What does the Roman Catholic church claim is the sign of its authority? We covered this thoroughly in our last lesson.

*Catholic Record*, Sept. 1, 1923 - “The church is above the Bible, and this transference of Sabbath observance is proof of that fact.”

*C. F. Thomas*, Chancellor of Cardinal Gibbons, Nov. 11, 1895 “Of course the Catholic church claims that the change was her act. And the act is a mark of her ecclesiastical power and authority in religious matters.”

**Question:** Are Protestant leaders calling for legislation to enforce the papacy’s mark of authority?

*Christianity Today*, Harold Lindsell (editor), May 7, 1976 “All businesses, including gasoline stations and restaurants, should close every Sunday by force of legislation fiat through the duly elected officials of the people.”

The New World Order, Pat Robertson, p. 236 “The next obligation that a citizen of God’s world order owes is to himself. ‘Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy’ is a command for the personal benefit of each citizen... Higher civilizations rise when people can rest and draw inspiration from God. Laws in America that mandated a day of rest (Sunday laws) have been nullified as a violation of church and state... As an outright insult to God and His plan, only those policies that can be shown to have a clearly secular purpose are recognized.”

Pat Robertson “It’s not the duty of any particular group of people, it’s not the duty of the church, but it’s the duty of the government of its people to thus proclaim a day as Sabbath to be universally observed throughout the length and breadth of our land, Sunday as the Lord’s day. If we as a nation would escape the doldrums of increased trouble as God’s hand rests heavily upon His people, opposition to Sunday nationally declared must cease.”

Jerry Falwell “All Americans would do well to petition the President and the Congress to make a federal law, and an amendment to the Constitution if need be, to establish the Sabbath as a National Day of Rest.”

**Church and state will unite to enforce religious practices.** Prophecy has never failed, nor will it.

Blinded by Might, Ed Dobson - “Whenever the church cozies up to political power, it loses sight of its all-important mission to change the world from the inside out,” writes Thomas. “In blurring the lines between politics and Christianity, the Religious Right has traded the only power that can truly change America – the Gospel’s power to transform hearts – for the methods of a kingdom that is of this world.”

‘We are one’, says Robertson after meeting with Cardinal O’Connor.

Politically Incorrect, Ralph Reed, p.13 “Perhaps most encouraging is the new ecumenism that permeates the pro-family community... The union of Roman Catholics and conservative Protestants could have a greater impact on American politics than any coalition since African-Americans and Jews came together during the civil rights movement.” Unity is being stressed.

Associated Press, April 13, 2007 “Two years into his reign, Pope Benedict XVI is finally poised to make a major mark on American Catholicism with a string of key bishop appointments and important decisions about the future of U.S. seminaries and bishops involvement in politics.”

Revelation 17:3-5 **“So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication: And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.**

Associated Press Vatican City – One of Pope John Paul II’s closest aides has written to bishops worldwide declaring that the Catholic Church is the “mother” of other Christian churches... In the document, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger told bishops that it was incorrect to refer to Christian churches, ranging from Orthodox to Protestant, as “sister” churches of the Catholic church. “It must be always clear that the one, holy, catholic and apostolic universal church is not the sister, but the mother of all churches,” Ratzinger was quoted as saying.

Revelation 17:5 **“And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.**

Reuters – October 31, 1999 - “Narrowing a major divide that has separated Roman Catholics and Lutherans since the 16<sup>th</sup> century, the United States largest Lutheran Church on Tuesday endorsed a joint declaration on how humans are saved from eternal damnation.

History of the Reformation, D’Aubinge, book 2, chapter 6 (quoting Martin Luther) “No one can imagine,” he wrote, “what sins and infamous actions are committed in Rome; they must be seen and heard to be believed. If there is a hell, Rome is built over it: it is an abyss whence issues every kind of sin.”

History of the Reformation, D’Aubinge, book 6, chapter 9 (quoting Martin Luther) “Already I feel greater liberty in my heart; for at last I know that the pope is antichrist, and that his throne is that of Satan himself.”

History of the Reformation, D’Aubinge, book 7, chapter 6 (quoting Martin Luther) “I said formerly that the pope was Christ’s vicar; now I assert that he is our Lord’s adversary, and the devil’s apostle.”

Daily Telegraph, May 13, 1999 "Disagreement about the extent of the Pope's authority was one of the main causes of the English Reformation in the 16<sup>th</sup> century... If a new united Church was created it would be the Bishop of Rome who would exercise a universal primacy. The Pope was recognized as the overall authority in the Christian World by an Anglican and Roman Catholic commission yesterday which described him as a 'gift to be received by all the Churches'.

timesonline, Feb. 19, 2007 - Churches back plan to unite under Pope - Radical proposals to reunite Anglicans with the Roman Catholic Church under the leadership of the Pope are to be published this year, The Times has learnt. The proposals have been agreed by senior bishops of both churches. In one significant passage the report notes: "The Roman Catholic Church teaches that the ministry of the Bishop of Rome (the Pope) as universal primate is in accordance with Christ's will for the Church and an essential element of maintaining it in unity and truth... We urge Anglicans and Roman Catholics to explore together how the ministry of the Bishop of Rome might be offered and received in order to assist our Communion to grow towards full, ecclesial communion."

**Question:** What does Bible prophecy reveal?

Revelation 13:11, 12 **"And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. And 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."**

Washington Post, 1-8-01, p. A-19 (Jim Wallis) - "When the phone call came from Austin, I was surprised. Just two days after his election was assured, President-elect Bush wanted a meeting with religious leaders to discuss faith-based initiatives in solving poverty... Bush asked theological questions such as, 'What is justice?'.... We [the religious leaders] told him that in forging new partnerships to reduce poverty, the religious community will not only be service providers but prophetic interrogators."

**Question:** What does the Roman Catholic church claim is the sign of its authority?

Catholic Record, Sept. 1, 1923 "The church is above the Bible, and this transference of Sabbath observance is proof of that fact."

C. F. Thomas, Chancellor of Cardinal Gibbons, Nov. 11, 1895 "Of course the Catholic church claims that the change was her act. And the act is a mark of her ecclesiastical power and authority in religious matters."

The central issue regarding the mark of the beast is WORSHIP.

No one will receive the mark of the beast until religious legislation is passed enforcing the counterfeit Sabbath.

**Question:** Who is actually being worshipped through the beast power?

Revelation 13:4 **"And they worshipped the DRAGON which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast..."** Satan is the one who is actually receiving the worship.

**Question:** Does the Bible reveal the method Satan will use in these last days?

Revelation 13:13, 14 **"And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, 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; ..."**

Numerous articles have been written about miracles in the Catholic Church all over the world.

Revelation 13:3 **"And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast."**

Exodus 23:2 **"Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil; neither shalt thou speak in a cause to decline after many to wrest judgment."**

John 16:2 **"They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service."**

Matthew 7:21-23 **"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done**

**many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.”**

Luke 6:46 **“And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?”**

Acts 5:32 **“And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.”**

**Question:** What will prevent God’s end-time people from being deceived?

Isaiah 8:20 **“To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.**

Present Truth for this time is the three angels messages of Revelation 14.

Revelation 14:6, 7 **“And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.**

The issues revolve around:

1. The authority of God’s Word.
2. Loyalty to Christ.
3. Obedience to His Commandments.

Matthew 16:26 **“For what is a man profited, if he gain the whole world, and lose your own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?**

Throughout the dark ages, many millions of Christian martyrs were willing to die for their faith — many burned at the stake over disagreeing with the Roman Church of the Dark Ages over the nature of the communion “host” (bread).

The church said it became the actual body of Christ, changed from ordinary bread by the power of the priest, or was it simply a symbol of such, for the faithful to remember Christ by? Many could have had their lives spared by compromising their faith in this “little” particular, and only agree with the church authorities but chose rather to be faithful in all things and in doing so also chose death.

**End Semester 3 – Week 9 - Class 17**

## **The Next Class** Semester 3 – Week 9 - Class 18

**Armageddon and the Seven Last Plagues**

## **The Following Class** Semester 4 – Week 10 - Class 19

**Revelation’s Saints – A Peculiar People**