The Antichrist Unity Agenda

The year 2014 was an especially notable one for Pope Francis, and it appears this popular, charismatic leader is increasing in influence—reaching across the divide to join hands with powerful religious and political figures in the name of global unity. But what's really going on?

In a recent YouTube video called Antichrist Unity Agenda, Pastor Doug Batchelor reviewed the past year's biggest spiritual developments in light of Bible prophecy.
Now, this Friday, January 16, at 5:00pm PT, he'll host a special 60-minute presentation of *Friday Night Live*, discussing *Antichrist Unity Agenda* and taking your Bible questions!

Please watch the videos below for helpful information regarding these fascinating events and then join Pastor Doug Friday night for *Friday Night Live — Antichrist Unity Agenda*!

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**Featured Media**

1/12/2015 - Antichrist Unity Agenda

7/12/2014 - Pope Francis Superstar

7/3/2014 - Pope’s Video Fulfills Prophecy II

2/28/2014 - Pope’s Video Fulfills Prophecy I

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**Featured Articles**
**Historic Prophecy Headlines: The Rapid Progression of Papal Power**

In reviewing my notes from 2014, I was stunned by how many historic headlines we witnessed revealing a major progression of papal power.

*Read More*

**Pope Promotes Sunday**

Pope Francis recently discouraged people from working on Sundays, speaking of the day as a traditional Christian holiday. Is this custom found in the Bible?

*Read More*

**Urgent Prophecy Alert!**

At times the wheel of prophecy can seem to turn slowly, but it never jumps off track! We’ve seen incredible evidence of this recently when Pope Francis sent a personal message of unity to a large convocation of Pentecostal leaders. In Mark 13:36, Jesus warns us that the events of the end will happen suddenly. As you can see, that’s why now is the time to surrender our hearts to Christ and His everlasting gospel. Learn how Amazing Facts new plan will open eyes all over the world and win souls to the kingdom!

*Read More*
Does Pope’s Message Fulfill Prophecy?

A recent video from Pope Francis appealing for unity with Protestants in America has gone viral. Many are asking, "Is this a fulfillment of Bible prophecy?" Click here for a special message from Pastor Doug Batchelor, which includes a link to his special video message directly addressing this event.

Read More
Historic Prophecy Headlines: The Rapid Progression of Papal Power

An Amazing Fact: “All the world marveled and followed the beast.” —Revelation 13:3

In reviewing my notes from 2014, I was stunned by how many historic headlines we witnessed revealing a major progression of papal power.

Last year was an especially notable one for the world’s first Jesuit pope, and it appears this charismatic, approachable leader has only just begun. Pope Francis has been successfully inserted into the social, spiritual, financial, and political arenas of world affairs—while winning back mountains of lost influence for the Roman Catholic Church.

It’s critical that you and I stay informed and keep our eyes on the prize of winning souls for Christ in light of world events, so please watch the eye-opening timeline of this past year that reveals these amazing developments.

I think you’ll agree that the stage is being set for the final, dramatic movements of prophecy, right before Jesus returns!

That’s why I also want to share with you an urgent project that I believe we must complete very quickly in response to this global spiritual crisis …
Amazing Facts Stands Boldly

It is breathtaking how much in this last year the pope has reached out to Protestants, Jews, Mormons, Muslims, Hindus—as well as powerful government leaders. He is now consolidating his global influence, yet most people don’t know their Bibles well enough to understand what this all really means, leaving them open to soul-destroying deception!

Together we can change that!

Did you know more than a million souls have already seen our new Revelation: The Bride, the Beast & Babylon
DVD? (But that is not nearly enough!)

In a tasteful way, this groundbreaking documentary is helping people see the truth behind the end-time beast power, how to avoid its deadly deceptions, and how they can be a part of Christ's remnant church!

To rapidly expand the reach of this life-changing resource, Amazing Facts has a bold four-part plan:

1. With your help, we will buy national television airtime to broadcast the first half of the message, then invite viewers to order this DVD to learn the full story of Rome's agenda.

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We know this will work because this DVD is already making an enormous impact! A ministry friend shares:

“The Revelation DVD has been very useful. My wife and I recently went to Malawi … to share with Christians there how prophecy is being fulfilled, particularly the reaching out by the pope to Evangelicals. We figured rightly that many in Malawi were unaware of these developments due to their limited access to the Internet. By God’s grace, we were able to present this message—and the response was overwhelming, with people eager to learn more. … We distributed many DVDs. I share our experiences so that you can be encouraged that God's Word continues to reach far and wide.”

Amen! This, friend, is because of your faithfulness in the past. So will you please reach deep and send a special gift for this project, but also remember that we must continue to fund our regular TV, radio, Internet, publishing, and Bible training ministries at the same time—including our upcoming project 50 Amazing Prophecies That Prove the Bible Is True DVD?

**Time is Running Out!**

So much is happening, and we don’t have time to spare in helping people see the truth of today’s tremendous events, which clearly reveal Jesus is coming soon.

May I even be so bold as to ask you to please give over and above your normal giving this month to ensure Amazing Facts can move forward and quickly respond to these world-shaking events? In 2015, we’ve increased our television budget spending almost $100,000 each week to help people understand the Bible and not be deceived.

We need you to make it happen!

Whether you give $25, $50, or $100 or more, it will make a profound difference. So thank you for your response today!

Your friend in Jesus,

Pastor Doug Batchelor
President, Amazing Facts
The Pope in 2014: Benchmarks of the Beast

“No now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near.” —Luke 21:28

January 21: Pope Calls for Christian Unity

The year began with a bang, as Anglican Bishop Tony Palmer, a close friend of Francis, delivered a personal message from the pontiff to a Charismatic leadership conference, calling for all Christians to unite. Palmer declared, “The protest is over,” speaking, of course, of the Reformation. He even added, “We are all Catholics now.” If you haven’t seen the enthusiastic response to the pope’s message by these leaders, it will astound you!

March 13: Pope Invited to Address Congress

The Washington Post reports that on behalf of the U.S. House and Senate, John Boehner (R-Ohio) sent a formal invitation to the pope to address a joint session of Congress in 2015. Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) said she was pleased to join Boehner in making the invitation, adding that she has been inspired by the pope’s “message of peace, compassion, and brotherhood.” This will be the first time in history that a pope addresses the primary leaders of the U.S. government!

March 27: Pope Francis Meets U.S. President at the Vatican

Two of the world’s most influential men met at the Vatican, speaking privately for an hour. The president gave the pope a box made of the timber from the first Catholic cathedral in the United States. The pope gave the president a medallion that symbolized the need for peace and solidarity between the two hemispheres.
April 27: Pope Canonizes Saints
Pope Francis made history in Vatican City, elevating two famous papal predecessors to sainthood—John XXIII and John Paul II. Because these late popes represent opposite liberal and conservative philosophies, many believe this was done to unify the world’s billion Catholics. Even more important, it elevated the status of Pope Francis, as the spectacle, with thousands of Catholic leaders from more than 90 countries giving their unanimous support, was beamed across the world.

May 9: Pope Advises United Nations on Economics
Francis met with officials of the United Nations to endorse what he called “the legitimate redistribution of economic benefits by the state, as well as indispensable cooperation between the private sector and civil society.” Influential columnist John Moody wrote about this event, saying, “Francis ... became what amounts to a robe-wearing politician.”

May 25: Pope Visits Holy Land, Calls for Peace
For the first time, Pope Francis visited the most important holy sites for Muslims, Jews, and Christians in Jerusalem’s Old City on the final day of a Middle East tour. Bartholomew I, the leader of 250 million Orthodox Christians, says his meeting with Pope Francis in Jerusalem helped move the two churches closer to ending their nearly 1,000-year divide.

June 1: Pope Attends Charismatic Convocation
Francis spoke to 53,000 Charismatics gathered in Rome for the 37th National Convention for the Renewal in the Spirit Conference. He knelt as the crowd “spoke in tongues” and prayed over him. The pope humbly acknowledged he had once been uncomfortable with the Charismatic movement, but he is evidently feeling much better about it. It was the first time in history a pope visited an event of Charismatics.

June 5: Pope Meets with Joel Osteen
A 15-person delegation, including mega-church pastor Joel Osteen and members of the Mormon church, met with Pope Francis to discuss the question: “Can we find common ground to advance the ministry of Jesus so more people can experience the joy of Christian faith?” Osteen exclaimed, “I felt very honored and very humbled,” saying he found the pope to be warm, personable, and full of joy. He added, “I like the fact that this pope is trying to make the church larger, not smaller. ... He’s not pushing people out but making the church more inclusive. That resonated with me.”

June 8: Pope Again Inserts Himself in the Middle East Peace Process
For the first time in history, the pope invited the presidents of Israel and Palestine to visit the Vatican and pray for peace. During the two-hour gathering, the three leaders heard Christian, Jewish, and Islamic prayers from cardinals, rabbis, and Muslim imams in various languages. Additionally, for the first time the Koran was read in the Vatican.
“Concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. For when they say, ‘Peace and safety!’ then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape” (1 Thessalonians 5:1–4).

July 7: Pope Meets with U.S. Televangelists

Just before his untimely death, Tony Palmer led a delegation of Evangelical leaders to Rome to meet with Pope Francis, including prominent televangelists James Robison and Kenneth Copeland. The meeting and luncheon lasted almost three hours. While there, they proposed signing a “JOINT DECLARATION OF FAITH IN UNITY FOR MISSION” on the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther’s 95 Theses in 2017! The declaration encourages “Christians to act and pray together across the world, in spite of their differences,” all in the name of unity.

July 22: Pope Picks Council to Promote Global Christian Unity

This significant event actually escaped most headlines, but Pope Francis named an international list of eight individuals to serve on an elite council to promote Christian unity worldwide. His move to unite the Christian body is growing stronger and more rapid—like labor pains.

August 22: Pope Approves Use of Military Force

During a news conference, Francis was asked explicitly: “Do you approve [of] the American bombing?” He responded, “Where there is an unjust aggression, I can only say this: It is [allowed] to stop the unjust aggressor.”

September 4: Pope Asked to Head United Religions Organization

Former Israel president Shimon Peres elevated the Catholic leader as a central figure for world peace. Traditionally, Jewish leaders have felt the papacy has been compliant to anti-Semitic movements. Peres called Pope Francis “a more powerful peace advocate” than the United Nations! Then on October 25, Jerry White, the U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, called for a “global covenant of religions” with the pope at the head.

October 27: Pope Declares Faith in the Big Bang and Evolution

The Big Bang, which some scientists believe led to the formation of the universe some 13.8 billion years ago, was all part of God’s plan, Pope Francis has declared. The pope also said biological evolution is compatible with the Bible creation. Of course, if the theory of evolution were actually true, the Sabbath and the Great Controversy would be meaningless ideas.

“Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God” (2 Thessalonians 2:3, 4).
November 18: Pope Meets with Pastor Rick Warren
Warren, a leading American Protestant, after meeting with Pope Francis, said, “Up close, you can feel the humility and compassion that others see from afar.” Warren went on to say Catholics and Protestants “are on the same team.” Other participants at this family conference included Southern Baptist Russell Moore, as well as Muslim, Jewish, and Mormon representatives, who considered topics such as cohabitation and same-sex marriage.

November 30: Pope Calls for All Christians to Unite
Speaking from Istanbul, Francis again joined with Bartholomew vowing to intensify efforts “to promote the full unity of all Christians ... that all may be one, that the world may believe.” The two leaders also signed a document declaring the same, urging Christians “to speak out boldly and listen humbly—but also to heal the wounds of Christian division.” They also called on the world to foster solidarity and a greater dialogue with Islam.

December 2: Pope Joins World Leaders to Condemn Slavery
For the first time in history, major Catholic, Anglican, and Orthodox Christian authorities, along with leaders of the Buddhist, Hindu, Jewish and Muslim religions, met to sign a shared commitment against modern slavery.

December 11: Pope Francis Takes “The World by Storm”
A Pew Research Center study released December 11 shows that the pope has broad support across the world. Sixty percent of the 43 nations polled had a positive view of the pontiff. And Americans, in particular, have shown their fondness for Pope Francis, often extolling his down-to-earth style. According to the Pew study, 78 percent of Americans view the pope favorably.

December 15: Pope Leads the “Most Progressive Year for the Catholic Church”
“Pope Francis initiated a revolution in the Catholic Church in 2014—a revolution of common sense rather than ideology or doctrine.” —Paul Moses, Professor, Brooklyn College

December 17: Pope Plays Major Role in Resolving 50-year U.S., Cuba Standoff
“In a deal negotiated during 18 months of secret talks hosted largely by Canada and encouraged by Pope Francis, who hosted a final meeting at the Vatican, Mr. Obama and President Raúl Castro of Cuba agreed in a telephone call to put aside decades of hostility to find a new relationship between the United States and the island nation just 90 miles off the American coast.”
—*The New York Times*
Dear friend,

This letter is going to be different. I’ve skipped my regular “amazing fact” because I have more than a dozen to share with you today! In reviewing my notes from 2014, I was stunned by how many historic headlines we witnessed revealing a major progression of papal power …

Last year was an especially notable one for the first Jesuit pope, and it appears this charismatic, approachable leader has only just begun. Pope Francis has been successfully inserted into the social, spiritual, financial, and political arenas of world affairs—while winning back mountains of lost influence for the Roman Catholic Church.

It’s critical that you and I stay informed and keep our eyes on the prize of winning souls for Christ, so I hope you will pray as you carefully consider the timeline of events I’ve assembled for you. I think you’ll agree that the stage is being set for the final, dramatic movements of prophecy, right before Jesus returns!

But first, I want to share with you an urgent project that I believe we must complete very quickly in response to this global spiritual crisis …

**Amazing Facts Stands Boldly**

It is breathtaking, friend, how much in this last year the pope has reached out to Protestants, Jews, Mormons, Muslims, Hindus—as well as powerful government leaders. He is now consolidating his global influence, yet most people don’t know their Bibles well enough to understand what is happening.

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And whether you give $100, $200, $400 or more, it will make a profound difference. As my special thank you for your gift today, I’d like to send you my brand-new DVD message, “The Pope in 2014: Benchmarks of the Beast Power,” which provides indisputable proof that our world is quickly changing. Every believer needs to see this and share it with their friends.

Thank you for your response today, and please don’t forget to let me know your prayer request by writing it on the back of the response card.

Your friend in Jesus,

![Signature]

Pastor Doug Batchelor
President, Amazing Facts

P.S. Now, friend, please put on your seatbelt and review the attached timeline of events. And when you’re ready, please share it with someone who hasn’t seen these dramatic developments and needs to know that Jesus is truly coming soon!
Pope Promotes Sunday

While traveling in Italy this past week, the popular leader of the Catholic Church discouraged opening businesses on Sunday as a way to provide poor people with jobs. He also said working on Sunday negatively impacted families and wasn't beneficial to society.

"Francis said the priority should be ‘not economic but human,’ and that the stress should be on families and friendships, not commercial relationships. He added: ‘Maybe it’s time to ask ourselves if working on Sundays is true freedom.’ He said that spending Sundays with family and friends is an ‘ethical choice’ for faithful and non-faithful alike." [1]

Of course, It is perfectly reasonable to find time to spend with our families every week, but is a Christian tradition always a biblical truth? Not in this case. The Bible is not only unequivocally clear about which day is God’s Sabbath day of rest, but it also forewarns that a day will come when a substitute for the fourth commandment will be pressed as a testing point on whether people will follow God's laws or the rules of mankind.

God's holy Ten Commandments explicitly identify which day of the week is for worship and rest from business labor: “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it you shall do no work; you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates” (Exodus 20:8–10).

It was the practice of Jesus to worship on the seventh day (Luke 4:16). The Sabbath was not established for only Jews but was set in place by God at creation, before there were any Jews (Genesis 2:2, 3). Never have God’s ten laws been changed by the Lord or the apostles (Acts 17:2; 13:13, 14). All people are called to honor God’s holy day (Isaiah 56:2, 6, 7).

But if Sunday-keeping is not in the Bible, why do so many people worship God on the first day instead of the seventh day? The Bible predicted that a power “shall intend to change times and law” (Daniel 7:25). Jesus warned that some would make “the commandment of God of no effect by your tradition” (Matthew 15:6). He added, “In vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men” (v. 9).

God predicted that misguided people would announce that God’s holy day was changed from Sabbath to Sunday. This error was passed from generation to generation as fact. But this tradition breaks God’s law. Only God can determine which day is holy. It is dangerous to tamper with God’s holy commandments.
It is the seventh day that God asks us to close our regular business labor and to worship and rest. Obeying God is a biblical choice that results in true freedom. Breaking God’s law brings bondage.

If you would like to learn more about God’s true Sabbath, **click here**.

***Amazing Facts is a non-profit, donor-supported ministry.***

We greatly appreciate your prayers and financial support.

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**NOTE:** If you have a Bible question please submit it [here](http://www.amazingfacts.org/news-and-features/af-blog/id/1146/pope-p...). We cannot guarantee answers to Bible questions posted in the comments.

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An Amazing Fact: On January 14, Pope Francis recorded an unprecedented video message on his friend’s smartphone to be played before a large convocation of charismatic church leaders, inviting them to embrace the Roman Church and to end the separation between Protestants and Catholics.

By now, I expect you have either seen or heard about the surprising viral video of Pope Francis personally appealing for unity with Protestants, presented at a Kenneth Copeland conference of charismatic leaders in Texas.

But almost as important as the pope’s message is the bold preamble given by his longtime friend and emissary, Tony Palmer. This Anglican bishop, a self-proclaimed Pentecostal, used his cellphone to capture a persuasive video message from the former Jesuit priest.

While introducing the pope’s remarks, Palmer seemed to frame himself as a type of Elijah, sent to “turn the hearts of the sons to the fathers.” At least three times he declared, “The protest is over,” speaking of the Protestant Reformation, and even added, “Maybe we are all Catholics now.”

Palmer went on to say we should not be distracted by doctrinal differences, that “God will sort out all the doctrine when we get [to heaven]” and that “diversity is divine but division is diabolical.” It makes me wonder whether, someday soon, those who do not submit to this call for unity will be accused of being “diabolical.”

The Pope’s Message

After Palmer’s very direct comments, the auditorium lights dimmed and the pope’s video message was played. The normally high-spirited Pentecostal audience was thunderstruck with silence as they realized they were watching a personal video message from the supreme leader of the Catholic Church.

Here are some highlights from the pope’s message …

- He said the sins that separated Protestants and Catholics were due to “misunderstandings” throughout history.

- He drew an analogy of Joseph’s hungry brothers coming to Egypt and being reconciled to their misunderstood sibling.

- He said the miracle of unity had already begun and would be completed.
Believe me when I say that the authentic feel of this disarming presentation was very effective!

**Why this urgent plea?**

This is not the first time the Catholic Church has made overtures for their “separated Protestant brethren” to return to the “true fold.” Past popes have typically embedded vague messages of unity in pontifical letters and speeches. However, this was so direct, winsome, and personal, it took everyone by surprise.

There are many probable reasons for the pope’s candid appeal for unity, and I sense some are as much political as spiritual.

In recent years, the Catholic Church has been rocked by bad press: a financial scandal, mounting litigation over pedophile priests, a mysterious murder in the Vatican, and an unprecedented resignation of a living pope.

Now put these challenges together with the fact that Islam and secular atheism are spreading across Europe, and today, many Catholic churches there are virtually empty. Yet at the same time, Charismatic churches are growing in Europe, Latin America, Africa, and Asia. And remember, the headquarters, programming, and funding for most of these evangelical churches come out of North America.

So is it any wonder that the pope would reach out to charismatic leaders in America? The Catholic Church can certainly read the handwriting on the wall. To survive in this new millennium, they will need to build a formidable alliance with other Christian denominations.

**The Beast Has Not Changed**

Yet whatever the cause for the pope’s recent appeal, do not think for a moment that this plea for unity means the Roman Church is ready to renounce her unbiblical beliefs or to surrender what she deems as her rightful authority.

More than 100 years ago, Ellen White foretold this very scenario …

> “Romanism is now regarded by Protestants with far greater favor than in former years. … [As] the papists are taking a conciliatory course in order to gain influence, there is an increasing indifference concerning the doctrines that separate the reformed churches from the papal hierarchy; the opinion is gaining ground that, after all, we do not differ so widely upon vital points as has been supposed, and that a little concession on our part will bring us into a better understanding with Rome. The time was when Protestants placed a high value upon the liberty of conscience. … But how widely different are the sentiments now expressed” (*The Great Controversy*, p. 563).

I’m deeply concerned that in our age of information overload, by the time you read this letter, other headlines will have crowded the significance of this important event from the minds of most Christians. We can’t let that happen! “What I say to you, I say to all: Watch!” (Mark 13:37).

> “The Protestant churches are in great darkness, or they would discern the signs of the
times. The Roman Church ... is employing every device to extend her influence and increase her power in preparation for a fierce and determined conflict to regain control of the world ... and to undo all that Protestantism has done” (The Great Controversy, p. 563).

**An Image to the Beast**

These overtures for unity are happening all around us, and they seem to be warmly received by most Protestants. Step by step, American evangelicals are sacrificing doctrinal truth and making an image to the beast.

The enthusiastic response from the audience to the pope’s message should not be dismissed. It culminated in a crescendo of clapping and “praying in tongues.” Then Kenneth Copeland, who is, coincidentally, the same age as Pope Francis (77), heartily embraced the bishop. It seemed to me like a perfect storm—apostate Protestantism, Spiritualism, and Catholicism uniting!

“When Protestantism shall stretch her hand across the gulf to grasp the hand of the Roman power, when she shall reach over the abyss to clasp hands with Spiritualism [the charismatic movement?] ... then we may know that the time has come for the marvelous working of Satan and that the end is near” (Christian Service, pp. 160, 161).

While I don’t think this event represents a "sky is falling" scenario, it definitely is a significant prophetic step. It should wake us up! At times the wheel of prophecy can seem to turn slowly, but it never jumps off track. So I urge you to be fully surrendered to Christ and willing to be used in His service. Let’s be diligent to work while it is day, for “the night is coming when no one can work” (John 9:4).

**A Door of Opportunity**

This is why the mission of Amazing Facts is so crucial at this very moment. People everywhere are asking questions about the Bible and prophecy. We can’t neglect this opportunity to reveal God’s truth to a world being hypnotized by the beast. And we now have a powerful plan that will make a lasting difference.

Amazing Facts is now preparing a vital new evangelistic series called **The Panorama of Prophecy**, a complete array of 24 Bible presentations covering the high points of prophecy and the gospel. In a loving yet bold way, I will present the present truth of prophecy. Not only will these programs air on national television, they will make for a powerful new DVD sharing series and lesson studies that you can use for sharing the gospel with your friends. The timing is crucial!

To record and edit these 24 new prophecy programs, to prepare the lessons, and to package them will require about $250,000. I know this might seem like a lot, but over the past 15 years, our Millennium of Prophecy and Prophecy Code programs have changed literally tens of thousands of lives with the everlasting gospel. With a fresh presentation and the latest technology, we believe this new series will have an even greater impact. Each soul we reach because of your support is well worth it!
As always, we are stepping out in faith because time is so short. I trust that God will supply much-needed funds through His children to continue this important work of global evangelism. So can I ask you again to please join me in sharing His message of warning and love?

Have you ever wondered what the last days would look like—and how it would feel to have the final prophecies unfolding around you? Might I suggest, this is how it looks and feels!

Let's meet this exciting challenge while we still can!

Your friend in these last days,

Doug Batchelor
President, Amazing Facts

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This is not the first time the Catholic Church has made overtures for their “separated Protestant brethren” to return to the “true fold.” Past popes have typically embedded vague messages of unity in pontifical letters and speeches. However, this was so direct, winsome, and personal, it took everyone by surprise.

There are many probable reasons for the pope’s candid appeal for unity, and I sense some are as much political as spiritual.

In recent years, the Catholic Church has been rocked by bad press: a financial scandal, mounting litigation over pedophile priests, a mysterious murder in the Vatican, and an unprecedented resignation of a living pope.

Now put these challenges together with the fact that Islam and secular atheism are spreading across Europe, and today, many Catholic churches there are virtually empty. Yet at the same time, Charismatic churches are growing in Europe, Latin America, Africa, and Asia. And remember, the headquarters, programming, and funding for most of these evangelical churches come out of North America.

So is it any wonder that the pope would reach out to charismatic leaders in America? The Catholic Church can certainly read the handwriting on the wall. To survive in this new millennium, they will need to build a formidable alliance with other Christian denominations.

**The Beast Has Not Changed**

Yet whatever the cause for the pope’s recent appeal, do not think for a moment that this plea for unity means the Roman Church is ready to renounce her unbiblical beliefs or to surrender what she deems as her rightful authority.

More than 100 years ago, Ellen White foretold this very scenario …

> “Romanism is now regarded by Protestants with far greater favor than in former years. … [As] the papists are taking a conciliatory course in order to gain influence, there is an increasing indifference concerning the doctrines that separate the reformed churches from the papal hierarchy; the opinion is gaining ground that, after all, we do not differ so widely upon vital points as has been supposed, and that a little concession on our part will bring us into a better understanding with Rome. The time was when Protestants placed a high value upon the liberty of conscience. … But how widely different are the sentiments now expressed” (The Great Controversy, p. 563).

I’m deeply concerned that in our age of information overload, by the time you read this letter, other headlines will have crowded the significance of this important event from the minds of most Christians. We can’t let that happen! “What I say to you, I say to all: Watch!” (Mark 13:37).

> “The Protestant churches are in great darkness, or they would discern the signs of the
times. The Roman Church … is employing every device to extend her influence and increase her power in preparation for a fierce and determined conflict to regain control of the world … and to undo all that Protestantism has done" (*The Great Controversy*, p. 563).

**An Image to the Beast**

These overtures for unity are happening all around us, and they seem to be warmly received by most Protestants. Step by step, American evangelicals are sacrificing doctrinal truth and making an image to the beast.

The enthusiastic response from the audience to the pope’s message should not be dismissed. It culminated in a crescendo of clapping and “praying in tongues.” Then Kenneth Copeland, who is, coincidentally, the same age as Pope Francis (77), heartily embraced the bishop. It seemed to me like a perfect storm—apostate Protestantism, Spiritualism, and Catholicism uniting!

“When Protestantism shall stretch her hand across the gulf to grasp the hand of the Roman power, when she shall reach over the abyss to clasp hands with Spiritualism [the charismatic movement?] … then we may know that the time has come for the marvelous working of Satan and that the end is near” (*Christian Service*, pp. 160, 161).

While I don’t think this event represents a “sky is falling” scenario, it definitely is a significant prophetic step. It should wake us up! At times the wheel of prophecy can seem to turn slowly, but it never jumps off track. So I urge you to be fully surrendered to Christ and willing to be used in His service. Let’s be diligent to work while it is day, for “the night is coming when no one can work” (John 9:4).

**A Door of Opportunity**

This is why the mission of Amazing Facts is so crucial at this very moment. People everywhere are asking questions about the Bible and prophecy. We can’t neglect this opportunity to reveal God’s truth to a world being hypnotized by the beast. And we now have a powerful plan that will make a lasting difference.

Amazing Facts is now preparing a vital new evangelistic series called **The Panorama of Prophecy**, a complete array of 24 Bible presentations covering the high points of prophecy and the gospel. In a loving yet bold way, I will present the present truth of prophecy. Not only will these programs air on national television, they will make for a powerful new DVD sharing series and lesson studies that you can use for sharing the gospel with your friends. The timing is crucial!

To record and edit these 24 new prophecy programs, to prepare the lessons, and to package them will require about $250,000. I know this might seem like a lot, but over the past 15 years, our *Millennium of Prophecy* and *Prophecy Code* programs have changed literally tens of thousands of lives with the everlasting gospel. With a fresh presentation and the latest technology, we believe this new series will have an even greater impact. Each soul we reach because of your support is well worth it!
As always, we are stepping out in faith because time is so short. I trust that God will supply much-needed funds through His children to continue this important work of global evangelism. So can I ask you again to please join me in sharing His message of warning and love?

Have you ever wondered what the last days would look like—and how it would feel to have the final prophecies unfolding around you? Might I suggest, this is how it looks and feels!

Let's meet this exciting challenge while we still can!

Your friend in these last days,

Doug Batchelor
President, Amazing Facts

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NOTE: If you have a Bible question please submit it here. We cannot guarantee answers to Bible questions posted in the comments.
I know that in Revelation 13, the second beast is described as the Lamb-like beast. In other places I’ve heard him called apostate Protestantism, and also the United States of America. This has troubled me for some time. What am I supposed to believe?

barbara wells


barbara wells

I made the pope’s, Tony Palmer video on u-tube part of my “favorites” The 3-fold union between Rome/Protestants & Spiritualism has happened just as E. G. White said in the Great Controversy/the impending conflict chapter, pg. 588. We’re truly in the "little time of trouble". What an exciting time to live in, when the "blessed hope" of all the ages is about to take place. I can hardly wait to see my Lord and take that fantastic trip to heaven ! God richly bless, Pastor Doug and the team at AF. The website has been a wonderful addition to my study and witnessing efforts.

Seekntruth

It's funny you would bring this up, but my opinion is we all are worshiping the Catholic belief weather we are Baptist, Methodist, Church of Christ, and ect. I have been doing a lot of researching to find out the truth about What I was born and raised to believe over the years and it all comes back to the Catholic Church. Everything begins with Rome and all the Pagan Holidays that we have been doing over the years. I think it's sad when you don't know who to believe anymore. I think it's a conspiracy against all people. You talk to your Pastor about things and where did they learn about what's right and who wrote this and that in always comes back to Rome and the Catholic church. Are we all being deceived to believe in a lie? The sea strolls they found who has control of them? Where are they? I think this is why Our Father the Creator of Heaven and Earth say to Seek and you shall find, but I do know that something is not adding up right. I truly love all people and I Pray for everyone, but I am asking the Father of Creation to guide me to the truth by the spirit, because I think this is the only way to find out what is facts and truth from the lies that we are all being told from this one to that one.

valerie

I watched a youtube video in which you said that the Catholic Church says we are to
Visit www.amazingfacts.org for free Bible study resources!
By now, I expect many Christians have seen the surprising viral video of Pope Francis’ recent appeal for unity with Protestants, presented at a Kenneth Copeland conference of charismatic leaders this past January.

You can watch the message in the video below, interspersed with my “blow-by-blow” comments. (Make sure to watch the response at the end.)

Does Pope’s Message Fulfill Prophecy?

This is not the first time the Catholic Church has made overtures for their “separated Protestant brethren” to return to the fold. What makes this appeal different is the directness and personal nature of the message.

Popes have always embedded these messages into their pontifical letters or as fleeting references in some official speech. This particular message was so homey and personal, however, it took everyone by surprise. Not many months ago, I wrote, “The world now has the
first pope with the ability to unite the Catholic and Protestant world—even the press is calling him ‘the people’s pope!’" I think this message of unity speaks to that notion.

There are many probable reasons for his candid appeal to Protestants. And I expect some are as much religious as political. In recent years, the Catholic Church has been rocked by bad press—a financial scandal, mountains of litigation defending priests who have abused children, a mysterious murder in the Vatican, and the unprecedented resignation of a healthy pope.

Now put these things together with the fact that Islam and secularism/atheism are spreading across Europe—and many Catholic churches are virtually empty on Sundays. Yet at the same time, the Charismatic churches are growing in Europe, Latin America, Africa, Australia, and Asia. And, of course, the direction and funding for most of these churches come out of North America.

So is it any wonder the pope would reach out to charismatic leaders in America? The Catholic Church can certainly read the handwriting on the wall. They know if they are going to survive in this new millennium, they will need an alliance with other Christian denominations.

But whatever the cause, do not think that these appeals for unity will mean that the Roman Church is ready to surrender what she considers her rightful authority. In the pope’s message, he says he believes he is like Joseph in the Old Testament, mistreated by and separated from his brothers. Remember, it is the brothers of Joseph, coming to him begging for bread, who bow down before him and move to where he was in Egypt.

Almost as important as the pope’s message is the preamble given by his friend and envoy, Anglican Bishop Tony Palmer. You will hear him declare at least three times in his introductory remarks, “The protest is over,” speaking, of course, of the Protestant Reformation. He even was so bold as to add, “Maybe we are all Catholics now.”

We should also not miss the enthusiastic response to the pope’s message given by these leaders, including a return video message of blessing for the pope.

So is there anything prophetic about this message? Let’s not jump to conclusions—but I venture that it certainly matches the flow of the second beast of Revelation 13, Protestants in North America, making an image to the first beast, Roman Catholics in Europe.

In her book Christian Service, the writer E.G. White comments:

“When Protestantism shall stretch her hand across the gulf to grasp the hand of the Roman power, when she shall reach over the abyss to clasp hands with Spiritualism (the charismatic movement?) … then we may know that the time has come for the marvelous working of Satan and that the end is near” (pp. 160, 161).

But remember, as Bible-believing Christians, we need not be afraid. The Word of God has told us these things must take place.
For more information regarding this important subject, I would also urge you to watch our latest documentary, *Revelation: The Bride, the Beast & Babylon*.

- Visit this link here to learn more: revelationmystery.com.

And one more thing, take a look at this insightful statement in the best-selling book on the Reformation, *The Great Controversy*:

“Romanism is now regarded by Protestants with far greater favor than in former years. In those countries where Catholicism is not in the ascendency, and the papists are taking a conciliatory course in order to gain influence, there is an increasing indifference concerning the doctrines that separate the reformed churches from the papal hierarchy; the opinion is gaining ground that, after all, we do not differ so widely upon vital points as has been supposed, and that a little concession on our part will bring us into a better understanding with Rome. The time was when Protestants placed a high value upon the liberty of conscience which had been so dearly purchased. They taught their children to abhor popery and held that to seek harmony with Rome would be disloyalty to God. But how widely different are the sentiments now expressed!” (p. 563).

Perhaps this is what it looks like when prophecy is being fulfilled.

Doug Batchelor

**Study Resources**

- New Pope, Old Prophecy
- The Beast: Who Will Worship It?
- The Bride of Antichrist
- The Antichrist Power Revealed
- 666 Truth Website

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