

Satan vs the Church of Christ #3

Mystery Babylon: Unmasking the false church system and its deceptions!

Lyall Johnston—January 10, 2026

We say those deceptions are great, because as we read last time, and we read so many times, that Satan has deceived the whole world. ***The whole world is in Satan's clutches!*** I believe we can say that the whole world really is the synagogue of Satan in its various forms. Everyone is walking down the wide path that leads to destruction, which is the path that Satan has given.

So whether a person believes they're following Satan the devil or not, in fact, ***they are because they have been deceived!*** Even the children of God also have to be aware, we have to be on guard, that Satan does not cause us to fall off the track that Jesus Christ set for us: ***the way of life!*** As He said, ***'I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life.'***

We know that all the words of Scripture, whether it be Old Testament or New Testament, as Jesus said, He is the One Who ***breathed*** these words right back to the very beginning in Gen. 1:1 to the very last verse of Rev. 22. All those words were breathed by Jesus Christ as they were given to Him by God the Father (Rev. 1:1).

So, it's important then that we take note, that we take heed, that we do face serious dangers every day. Satan is there wanting to cause us to slip up, as we saw last time in Luke 22. Jesus said to Peter, and all the apostles, 'Satan has demanded to have you.'

We know from the case of Job, that's what happened. In the case of Peter, the early Church, and eventually those who strayed from the straight and narrow path, ***were deceived and many departed!***

We know that today there's going to be a great falling away from the Truth of God. For those today whom God has it, there is going to be another apostasy, just as there was with the Worldwide Church of God back in the 1990s. But the lot set in long before that. But it really should be a warning to us today. It's a very serious subject, ***because hanging on this is eternal life/salvation in the resurrection, to be the sons and daughters of God!***

Satan does not want that! He wants to remain as the ruler of this world. ***He wants to remain in control and he will pull out all the stops!***

As Jesus said in Matt. 24, ***'IF it's possible, he would even deceive the elect.'*** We go back to the history, particularly of the early Church, as it's written, we see that many did leave, many did depart. We had a sermon on that recently about the tares in our midst. We need to be making sure that we are not a tare. How do we do this?

- by living by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God
- by obeying God
- by loving His Commandments
- by hating evil

That's the fear of God. The fear of God is

- to hate evil and every false way
- to love God and His Word

That is a very positive outcome of our calling from God the Father. God's not calling everyone today; that comes later. That's why it's urgent that we take care.

Rev. 12—let's see how that Satan is really after the people of God. This is something that is coming on the face of the earth. Satan is going to be against everyone that claims to be a follower of Jesus Christ.

It doesn't matter what church they belong to. But ***IF*** they claim that they're a follower of Jesus Christ, ***Satan is going to come after those people!***

Now, many will go into apostasy, many will succumb, ***but there will be those who will be martyred and:***

- they ***will not*** follow Satan and his ways!
- they ***will not*** become a part of synagogue Satan
- they ***will not*** reject Jesus Christ

even to the point of death!

In Rev. 12 we find that Satan will be cast out of heaven for last/final time, and there'll be no more room for him. He's going to be incredibly angry, and we can see this. There was a time when Satan came after Christ, and there was a time during the Middle Ages when he was particularly in pursuit of Christians. For those that pulled out of the Church of Rome, the Protestantism, the Catholic Church—Mystery Babylon—slaughter was the cause of the slaughter of tens of thousands. In fact, millions of those were Protestant, even though the Protestant Church has never been a part of the Church of God, because they did not go the full distance of accepting the Sabbath Day, ***which identifies all Christians as the sons and daughters of God!***

God looks down and sees those who are fully keeping the Sabbath according to His Word. But there's one more thing that is needed, and that is what was given to mankind from the very beginning. And particularly today, the Church, or anyone who's been

called into the Church of Jesus Christ, the Church of God; ***without this there is no salvation!***

Now, as we said last time, ***Rome claims***—and this is in their writings and their theology—***there is no salvation outside the Church of Rome!***

The opposite, in fact, is the truth! ***There is no salvation in the Church of Rome***, which is modern Babylon, which God is coming back, sending his Son Jesus Christ ***to wipe Catholicism off the face of the earth!***

Revelation 12:12: “...For the Devil has come down to you, having great wrath *because* he knows that he has *only* a short time. And when the dragon saw that he was cast down to the earth, he persecuted the woman...” (vs 12-13).

This is the true Church of the living God called the Church of God collectively, but also they are the Churches of Christ because they are the Churches that He is building.

“...he [Satan] persecuted the woman who had brought forth the man-*Child*” (v 13)—Jesus Christ. As we read back there in the first verses of this chapter.

Verse 14: “And two wings of a great eagle were given to the woman, so that she might fly to her place in the wilderness, where she is nourished *for* a time, and times, and half a time, from *the* face of the serpent.”

And that’s a time yet future where there’ll be a small remnant of the Church of God that God will take and protect them and keep them safe until the resurrection.

Verse 15: And the serpent cast water out of his mouth... [armies; which is what the Biblical symbolism is] ...as a river, so that he might cause her *to be* carried away by the flood.”

Reminds us of Egypt, doesn’t it? *Israel departed from Egypt, Egypt passing through the waters of the Red Sea*. Then, of course, the armies of Satan, which were Pharaoh and his armies, and were destroyed when God brought the waters back together again.

Verse 15: “And the serpent cast water out of his mouth as a river, so that he might cause her *to be* carried away by the flood. But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth, and swallowed up the river... [the armies] ...that the dragon had cast out of his mouth” (vs 15-16).

So by his command, he sends them forth to destroy the people of God; but it doesn’t work. But notice what happens from here.

Verse 17: “Then the dragon was furious with

the woman...”

Who is the woman? *The Church of the Living God!*

- those who keep His command
- those who keep the Sabbath Day
- those who keep the Passover

Because without the Passover, there is no salvation! The Church of Rome, modern day Babylon, does not keep the Passover. They keep Easter after the goddess Ishtar, and there is no salvation in Ishtar or Easter. That’s a religion that goes back 4000 years, 2000 years before the Passover of Jesus Christ before His crucifixion. ***It’s a counterfeit! It’s a lie!***

But how many are *circle* christians, ***both Rome and Protestantism that today keep Easter worshipping the sun-god, worshipping a woman—Mary—which is not Mary, the mother of Christ; she is dead and buried!*** Yet, they pray to her. Babylon. They pray to all the ‘saints’ saying and asking because Jesus Christ, that they can be so angry

‘We will pray to the saints, we will pray to Mary; she’ll go and talk to her Son because you see Mary is the mother of God.’

What a great deception! So we have all these incantations, and we have all this idolatry by this Babylonish church, which is little by little destroying the lives of people. The whole system of Babylon is to ***keep the people ignorant!***

The priests are under the authority of the church and of the pope. That they cannot interpret the Bible according to their own study. They must follow the teachings of the theologians. You are going back to the so-called ‘church fathers’ of the third and fourth century and so forth. And people like Thomas Aquinas and others must teach the Bible ***according to the theology of those ‘church fathers.’*** One problem is pointed out by one man who was a Catholic priest for 25 years. In fact, he was brought up in the Catholic Church.

But he read the Bible on his mother’s knees. He learned the ABC’s, but his basic foundation was the Bible. So, all his life, or most of his life as a Catholic, his conscience and his intelligence had a struggle. Because as a Catholic he had to follow all the dictates that come out of Rome. But going back again to the theologians, he read all the writings of the theologians.

This man’s name was Charles Chiniquy; he was a French Canadian priest. There’s a lot to be said in his book. It’s the one place where we get a deep look into the moral, not so much the historical going back to ancient Babylon, which Hislop does, Chiniquy actually gives us ***a blow-by-blow account***

of all the false doctrines of Catholicism! How demonic...

He keeps calling it ‘the mystery of iniquity, yet, he said, ‘I have to put my mind to death in order to teach and to believe what the church is telling me!’ Because of his study of the Bible from a youth, and because he was in Catholicism, he couldn’t see anything outside of the Catholic Church. He struggles with that right up until point in time until he finally quit the Roman Catholic Church. Of course, because of what he was doing and teaching and turning people to read the Bible, to understand the Bible and preaching the Bible, **but not according to the teachings of the theologians from Rome!**

As he said that he read all those writings of the so-called ‘holy fathers’ and they don’t all agree; they’re all in disagreement with each other. So his problem was ‘how can I teach the Bible from *the fathers* when they are all in disagreement.’ He kept saying this, but he didn’t understand it until after he had been in the ministry for a period of time.

Now it’s a very interesting book. And as I say, I’ve got a copy here. It’s called *50 years in the Church of Rome* by Charles Chiniquy; an 1885 publication.

He goes through all the doctrines of the church, and one of the most devastating to the people—and particularly to the women, the wives and the young women in the church—is what is called the ‘auricular confession,’ where all Catholics are required to remain a part of the church to go to confession at least once a year.

But the women, when they go into that box with the priest the priest is under the auspices of the church to question them, like an inquisition. To force them to confess. It’s not just that they go into the little box there to confess to the priests so that he can forgive them and absolve them of their sins, which, of course, **is a diabolical doctrine!** But he also becomes the inquisitor, and he searches their conscience to try and bring out anything in their minds that has to do with a moral nature so they can confess their sins. Of course, what he does is he has all these perverse questions that he asks, particularly of the women.

You can imagine what happens; he puts perversion into their minds and destroys what moral capacity they have. They get in there and they control those people.

Now in one of his books. I think it was another one that he wrote before, called *The Priest, The Woman and the Confessional*. That auricular confession he goes into it in great detail and shows what happens.

My family, when I was growing up, were very much against the Church of Rome. We often had discussions over the dinner table. Now at age about 18, I read the first book, this is about 1955, called *The Priest, The Woman and the Confessional*. It’s absolutely a shocker of:

- the mysteries of iniquity
- the depths of Satan

I’m **not recommending** that book for anyone.

But I read that as I say as an 18-year-old, and I got an understanding of what it meant to be a part of the Catholic Church, and what it did for the families. Just one example that Chiniquy gives, often times as a priest. He would hear the confessions of this one woman who probably had eight children, but five of those children were children of the priest, not the husband. **This is so diabolical!** Through the confession they control the family, because what they confess is so perverted! What they are forced to confess is so full of perversions to the point that the wives and the daughters would never talk about these things to their fathers or to their husbands. *So, they control the families through the women folk!*

But Chiniquy way also points out that there are millions of women who would never give in. They would deny the priest a confession to that level, even under the threat of going into purgatory and then to hell. They would rather do that than to confess to an unmarried man. Many of whom, Chiniquy shows with his experience, were drunkards. One of the bishops said about those priests under him that they were ‘depraved, not even Christian.’ The term he used was. ‘atheists.’

But the debauchery of the priests, most of them, really says and helps us to understand the depths of Satan. In Revelation it says that ‘there are those in the church who have not known the depths of Satan.’

I’m not advocating anyone to go in and look at all this information, because it is perverted and twisted. And the church came after Chiniquy because he started teaching the Bible and encouraging his people to teach the Bible. Being French Canadian, he came down from Canada and setup a colony in Illinois. As a result of this, he made sure they all had a copy of the New Testament anyway, and had them read that.

He started preaching that, and that was one of the main reasons why he was thrown out of the church, excommunicated. But he actually had left long before that when God revealed to him the morass of what was being taught in that church.

From what I’ve read elsewhere about him, and other reports, they sincerely tried to kill him as an

infidel, and as one who has departed from the faith. One who was pulling Catholics over to what they considered more of a Protestant approach. *But to read the Bible and to understand it!* Chiniquy had quite a movement. His influence was quite vast!

In fact, at one part in his life. He went to England, and he was talking about the *auricular confession*. There were ministers there who wanted to hear more about that. That was the reason why he wrote the book: *The Priest, The Woman and the Confessional*.

What was happening at the church, I guess the Anglican Church in England was that the Catholics were trying to bring this into the Church of England the Protestant Church.

I have another book here which is called *Shall Ritualism and Romanism Capture New Zealand* by J. Dickson.

It's interesting that in the 19th century Chiniquy went to England and preached a lot in England and he preached in the United States and Canada, but he also at one stage came down to Australia, and he preached in Tasmania, Sydney and in Melbourne. Everywhere he went the Catholics were there to attack him. They tried to kill him; they stoned him and he suffered many injuries.

This book also talks about the influence of Rome. This was written in 1911 just about 30 or 40 years after Chiniquy had been down here to New Zealand.

This book is talking about the influence of Rome. They did not want Catholic priests. They did not want the Church of England priests who were going for the *auricular confession* to come to this country. They were totally against Rome.

I remember growing up that was the influence that I had. I can remember also the 1950s, I was a Presbyterian at that stage, there was talking about the church uniting with Rome. I know the church that I was a part of at that time, in no way wanted to be united with Rome in any way. So, there was great resistance.

The moral attitude, the mentality of the Roman Catholic Church—the depths of Satan—is one of absolute putrid perversion! It is totally contrary to the very Law of God. ***It's the synagogue of Satan!***

It's the same church that had a beginning in the Garden of Eden. The seeds were sown, it grew!

Genesis 6:4: "There were tyrants on the earth in those days, and also after that, the sons of God came in to the daughters of men, and they bore *children* to them. They were mighty men who *existed*

of old, men of renown. And the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually" (vs 4-5).

Here is the influence that Satan had and we don't know everything that took place before the Flood of Noah, but it was wicked and I would say that what we see taking place in the Church of Rome, which is modern Babylon.

Those things that are going to come on this world because of Satan's influence through this church goes right back here to Gen. 6

Well, it goes back to Gen. 3, but in Gen. 6 before the Flood is what God saw when He looked down on the face of the earth. It's like God was looking down and He saw what we understand and see today as the evils of Babylon the Great, which God is going to destroy at the coming of Jesus Christ and wipe it off the face of the earth.

He's going to take that False Prophet and the Beast ***and they're going to be thrown live into the Lake of Fire***, which you can read in the book of Revelation.

Here is the influence of Satan's synagogue going right back to the beginning of this world, meaning from the days of Adam and Eve. We know the very first man who was born of Adam and Eve killed his brother.

Genesis 6:4: "There were tyrants on the earth in those days, and also after that, the sons of God came in to the daughters of men, and they bore *children* to them. They were mighty men who *existed* of old, men of renown."

They were not men of God! (there is an explanation that you can go and check that in the Faithful Version)

Verse 5—***this is critical***: "And the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, **and every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.**" *Is that not describing mankind:*

- man's societies
- man's governments
- man's religions as the synagogue of Satan

As the children of God we do not want to be in any way a part of that system!

Scriptural References:

- 1) Revelation 12:13-17
- 2) Genesis 6:4-5

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Revelation 1:1
- Luke 22
- Matthew 24
- Genesis 3
- Revelation 12:12
- Revelation 17

Also referenced: Books (secular)

- *50 Years in the Church of Rome* by Charles Chiniquy
- *The Priest, the Woman and Confessional* by Charles Chiniquy
- *Shall Ritualism and Romanism Capture New Zealand* by J. Dickson

LJ:bo/po

Transcribed: 1/15/26

Copyright 2026—All rights reserved. Except for brief excerpts for review purposes, no part of this publication may be reproduced or used in any form or by any means without the written permission of the copyright owner. This includes electronic and mechanical photocopying or recording, as well as the use of information storage and retrieval systems.