

temkit For CHILDREN

TEMKIT'S MISSION:

To provide Bible based, true reading material for children and youth.

Year 1 - 3rd Quarter - Issue #8



CREATION CORNER

IS OUR EARTH MILLIONS OF YEARS OLD?

Ask the Trees that Never Die.

The giant sequoias (*Sequoia gigantea*) of the Sierra Nevada Mountains of California, along with the bristlecone pines of Arizona and California, are the oldest living things on earth.

“The sap of the giant sequoia is nonresinous. The trees, once they have developed a heavy bark, are practically fireproof, which may account for their long life. Even if they are fire-damaged, the high tannin content of the sap has the same healing action that tannic acid has on human flesh when burned.”—*Isaac Asimov's Book of Facts (1979), p. 178*

Nothing can kill a mature sequoia, with the exception of man and his saws. Yet none of them are older than 4,000 years of age. They date back to the time of the Flood, and no farther.

The bristlecone pines of the White Mountains in California and nearby Arizona, appear to be somewhat older, but research by Walter Lammerts, a plant scientist, has disclosed that the bristlecone pine routinely stops growth during the dry summer and, when both spring and fall are rainy (which is common), it produces two rings a year. Thus, **the giant redwoods (*Sequoia gigantea*) are with certainty the oldest living thing; not the bristlecone pine.**

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The giant sequoias of California have no known enemies except man. And only recently did man (with his saws) have the ability to easily destroy them. Insects do not bother them, nor even forest fires.

They live on, century after century. Yet the sequoias are never older than about 4,000 years. These giant redwoods seem to be the original trees that existed in their timber stands.

Sequoia gigantea, in their groves in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, never have any dead trees (“snags”) among them. Unless man cuts them down, there is no evidence that they ever die!

Think of it! Today we have just ONE generation of the *Sequoia gigantea*! Both the parent trees and their offspring are still alive. There is no record of any tree or other living thing that is older than any reasonable date given for the Genesis Flood.

In the case of the giant sequoias, there is no reason why they could not have lived for many thousands of years beyond their present life-span; BUT no older trees are found. From <http://evolution-facts.org> = ^ .. ^ =

HISTORY

The Protestant Reformation: 4

It is important to understand that when Luther put his papers on the door of the church in Wittenberg, he had no idea that it would be sent all over, and he had no intention then of separating from the Roman Church. If someone would have told him at that time that the Pope was the antichrist, he would have been horrified at such an idea.

His only intention was to improve his church. But Luther had entered the School of Christ when he first began to read the Bible for himself, and God had plans for Luther that were higher and broader than the monk would have dreamed.

The following year on 'All-Saints' day, there were far less people that came to worship the bones and relics at the church. Far less money was flowing down to Rome from the area of Germany and the Pope and Bishops began to get concerned; also, the multitudes who loved sin more than Jesus, did not like to be told that their 'easy way to heaven' was not true; trouble was brewing.

Though at first many important people had seemed to agree with him and he really thought that the leaders of the church would be glad to put the church in line with God's Word, he was sadly mistaken.

Quickly encouragement changed to criticism. Many leaders, both of Church and State, knew he spoke truth; but they soon saw that these truths would make great changes. To enlighten and reform the people would weaken the authority of Rome, and would stop the streams of money now flowing into her treasury, and thus end the luxury of the papal leaders.

Also, to teach the people to think and act as responsible beings, looking to Christ alone for salvation, would overthrow the pope's throne, and eventually destroy their own authority. For this reason they refused the truth that Luther spoke.

There were more people that came to Wittenburg for another reason. Bright young scholars found their way to the University to learn in the classes of Dr. Martin Luther. There he presented the Word of God as the highest authority. Light was spreading!

When church leaders would attack him by upholding tradition he would answer from the word of God. Though he trembled thinking of all the power that was against him, he would not back down, he stood on God's truth.

Soon the angry leaders demanded that he appear in Rome as a heretic. His friends were afraid at this summons and refused to let him go. They arranged for him to be 'examined' in Germany. The Pope's legate was sent to force Luther to give in to the Pope or be destroyed. This is the spirit of the papacy, before the trial, he was declared guilty and sentenced.

At this time, Jesus saw he needed a special friend and sent Melancthon to help him. His friends urged Luther to run away and hide with powerful friends but he would not do this, and trusting God, started out on the walk to Augsburg where he was to meet with the Pope's men.

At first the church leaders at the trial pretended to be his friends but as they urged him to deny the truth, he just responded with the Word of God. Calmly Luther asked that they show him his error. But they would give him no chance to talk but called him names and made fun of him, yelling at him to recant. Finally, they allowed him to answer in writing. They did not want to do this but God had other ideas.

Carefully he wrote out his answer and read it at the next interview. He handed it to the cardinal who angrily threw it down. Now Luther was aroused and he met the haughty prelate on his own grounds, tradition and teachings of the church and defeated him. When this man saw he could not beat Luther he became raging angry and yelled, "Retract or I will send you to Rome! Retract, or return no more!"

So Luther and his friends left. This was not what the cardinal expected and he stood there looking very foolish. The people who were there had a good chance to see the difference between the angry cardinal and Luther and his friends in their calm ways.

Luther's friends advised him to go back to Wittenburg quickly and he left before dawn on horseback. This was wise as the Roman leaders had planned to imprison him but the bird escaped from the trap. = ^ .. ^ =

TRUE-STORY-TIME

Nsikana, the Heathen Prophet: 2

By Josephine Cunnington Edwards

Last week we learned about a young Xhosa lad named Nsikana Gaba. {En-si-KAH-na GAH-ba} who from an early age seemed to long for the things of God. When his friends all went to a big party, he found himself unhappy there and went away to be quiet with his thoughts. The Lord spoke to this young man and gave him a message for the leader of his people. We continue:

The next day his companions regaled him with accounts of the pleasures he had missed. They scolded him for leaving just as the fun was beginning. They joked with him, calling him mtebe, which means "old man." But he did not care what they called him. Silently he went to the kraal of the great chief. The talk all around the great kraal was of the night before, but Nsikana's mind was too full of more important matters to pay attention to such trivia.

The chief was holding audience in his house. About him were his servants, wives, and dogs. Leopard skins lay on the smooth earth floor where Nsikana sat down to wait. He rose to his feet soberly when asked to tell his mission. "I have a message for the chief from the Great One of the heavens who dwells in light," he responded quietly. The reply was so strange that every eye in the room turned to him. The chief bade him go on, interest flickering in his somber old eyes. Such a thing had never happened to any Xhosa king.

Nsikana revealed all that had happened the previous night. His voice was vibrant with the importance of his message. The chief leaned forward, cupping his hand behind his ear, listening intently. Nsikana's voice went on in the silent hut. He told the chief of the strange Voice that had spoken to him from the midst of the light, calling him by name. "The Voice said, 'I have many things to reveal to you, Nsikana, for the salvation of your people.' The Voice told me there would come to this country a strange race of men, with flesh the color of a plucked fowl. There will be hair on their heads and on their faces, but not such as we have; it will be long and straight."

The old chief gasped, shaking his head in surprise. Every person in the room listened carefully as Nsikana went on. "They will be a clever, strong people. They will know many wonderful things the people of the villages have never dreamed

of. This strange race will know how to travel faster than the leopard or the cheetah, in a strange wagon of fire."

Dramatically, Nsikana pointed to the cleft in the Ntaba Dzika Ndota Mountains. "In the dream that the Voice gave to me, I saw the wagon of fire, long, fierce, and terrible, coming through a cut in those mountains. But this will not be while we live. These men will come after we have lain down, old and weary, and have been covered with the good mother earth. Then what I have told you about will happen. But we must warn and prepare our children for the great and terrible things they will see and hear after we have laid our burdens down."

No one in the kraal realized the passage of time. No one wanted Nsikana's voice to cease. So much had been packed into that light-drenched interview with the Lord.

Nsikana told them that this race would bring to the country two things that would change the people's lives. First, he would bring a strange calabash, full of the drink of wickedness. "Our mowa and mtwala are evil, and upset men's minds and thinking, but this will be far worse. We must teach our children and our children's children never to touch it or taste it, for there is a curse upon it. If they drink it, sorrow, misery, disease, poverty, and death will come upon them as swiftly as a lion leaps upon the zebra."

The next warning was almost impossible for them to understand. "They will bring with them strange round things of many sizes, made of gold and silver. These will be as the buttons we make for the fastening of our clothing, but they will have no holes in them, and they will not be for decoration or for apparel. They are to be for trade and barter, as a man now trades a pig for a goat. He will carry these buttons with him in bags, and he will have a great love for them. For them, some of this race will not hesitate to cheat and lie and kill. They will teach our people the importance of the buttons so that they too will begin to love them and will do all they can to gather many. But this devotion to the buttons without holes will ruin our people. They will go anywhere to acquire them, and the nation will be scattered. No one will ever be able to bring the tribes together again."

So overcome was Nsikana at what he had seen, that he covered his face with his hands and his chest heaved with his sobs. Presently, he continued, "Parents will not see the graves of their children. They will die in a far country. Nor will the children

care for the old ones when they are weak and sick and in trouble.”

At this juncture Nsikana called for a pot of water. When a servant brought it to him, he poured it out on the ground in front of the chief. The dry ground quickly absorbed it. “Pick up this water again,” Nsikana directed the waiting servant, handing the pot back to him. The man sank to his knees and trembled, shaking his head.

“That is impossible!” the chief cried. “Spilled water can never be picked up, you know that.”

“Neither can the Xhosa people ever be gathered together again after they are scattered by the calabash and the buttons.” Nsikana replied calmly. He stood silently, his face expressive of great sorrow. Then a look of joy crossed his countenance. He took a step nearer to the chief.

“But there is a way out, there is good news to come!” His voice was ringing now with joy. “Not all of the men who come will be evil and cruel to our people. Good men will come to help us. They will heal our diseases and teach us a better way to live. We will be able to tell these people from the others, for they will bring with them warnings against the buttons and the calabash.

“Mainly, though, they will bring with them umqulu, a scroll. The Voice told me there will be marks on the umqulu that will speak words of life. I do not know how marks can talk, but the Voice said that our children would understand this. If we take the words that the umqulu will speak, and obey and love them in our lives and hearts, the buttons and the calabash will never break the unity of our nation. Our families will be blessed and established by the words of the Great One in the marks of the umqulu.”

Nsikana Gaba bowed politely and turned to go. The chief and his family stood as he left. Then the whole kraal burst into a babble of amazement. Did the chief believe these strange words? What could be done? Was this danger coming soon? The old chief pondered for a while. “We must do as Nsikana has told us,” he said deliberately. “Our children must be taught. Then when the evil comes, the blow will be softened.”

Because of the chief’s counsel and the young man’s blameless life, Nsikana Gaba came to be looked upon as a prophet. The people listened to what he said. In the years that followed, the light came many times to him as he sat pondering, or when he knelt, talking to the Great One.

On a gentle rise of ground near his old village,

still stands “The Bell of Nsikana.” It is the strangest bell in all the world. A great concave section has been split from the side of a gigantic boulder. This is so suspended, that when it is tapped with a rock, a rumbling reverberation is heard all over the countryside. The old people love to tell the tales their fathers and their grandfathers have told them of the doings of this great man. It is said that when the people heard the bell, they dropped whatever they were doing and ran to Nsikana’s kraal. It was a signal that he had seen another vision. They felt themselves to be a people favored of God. They listened to the prophet wide-eyed.

Nsikana had never seen a white man, could not read, and never saw a book except in vision, yet he preached the gospel. He told the people about the creation of the world. He talked to them about Christ who suffered death for all the world. He described the holy city, the New Jerusalem, which he saw the same way the seer of Patmos saw it. He told them of the better land and the better life, where death and sorrow and suffering will be unknown.

Nsikana taught his people a song. He sang it so often that even the little children knew it by heart. It is a delightful song, full of the funny little click-clicks of the Xhosa language that strangers cannot pronounce. When reading and writing came to the tribe, men wrote Nsikana’s words and his music down. Translated to English, here is how it goes:

“Thou great God of heaven, Thou art a shield of Truth. Thou art a true Refuge. Thou are a shelter of Truth. Thou art He that dwelleth on High. Thou that created life, Created the heavens. The Maker of stars and constellations and shooting stars talks to us. The Maker of darkness made it purposely. The trumpet blew, calling us. That witnesses to seek souls, He that gathereth, gathereth the flock and leadeth us. Thou art a great garment that we wear. Thy hands have wounds, Thy feet have wounds For whom was Thy blood shed? Have we asked Thee to pay this great price? Have we asked for Thy city?”

The people still talk about Nsikana Gaba, the prophet of the Xhosa people. For how true his prophecies have proved to be! The calabash of the white trader was the downfall of many in the tribe. As bad as was the native brew, the whiskey of the white men was much worse. When gold was discovered in the Transvaal and diamonds were found in Kimberly, men came offering “buttons without holes” to the Xhosa young men, to hire

them to work in the mines for these gold and silver pieces. The old ones wept to see their young men go, for they remembered the prophecy of Nsikana. Many never returned, and no one knew whether they were alive or dead.

Today if you travel to the country where Nsikana lived, you can buy a ticket for the “wagon of fire.” It will carry you down the tracks through the very cleft in the mountains that Nsikana pointed to. Not far away the village people proudly show the prophet’s huge bell. Better yet are the results of the umqulu! You can see churches that the missionaries have helped to build in which to teach the people to beware of the calabash and the love of the buttons without holes.

How can the people doubt that Nsikana was a true prophet when they are now being taught to follow the same light he told them about nearly two hundred years ago? Undoubtedly it was the Lord of the Damascus road who spoke to him.

What a merciful God we serve! One who cares enough about those simple heathen tribes in the jungle to send a prophet to shed light in their darkness. How blessed those were who listened will only be known as they tell their story in heaven.
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OLD TIME STORIES

ONLY A BOY

More than a century ago a faithful minister coming early to the church, met one of his deacons, whose face looked stern and cross.

“I came early to meet you,” he said. “I have something on my conscience to say to you. Pastor, there must be something wrong in your preaching and work; there has been only one person added to the church in a whole year, and he is only a boy.”

The old minister listened. His eyes moistened, and his thin hand trembled on his broad-headed cane.

“I feel it all,” he said; “I fee it, but God know that I have tried to do my duty, and I can trust him for the results.”

“Yes, yes,” said the deacon, “but ‘by their fruits ye shall know them,’ and one new member, and he, too, only a boy, seems to me not much evidence of true faith and zeal. I don’t want to be hard, but I have this matter on my conscience, and I have done but my duty in speaking plainly.”

“True,” said the old man; “but ‘charity suffereth

long and is kind; beareth all things, hopeth all things.’ Ay, there you have it; ‘hopeth all things’! I have great hopes of that one boy, Robert. Some seed that we sow bears fruit late, but that fruit is generally the most precious of all.”

The old minister went to the pulpit that day with a grieved and heavy heart. He closed his sermon with dim and tearful eyes. He wished that his work was done forever, and that he was at rest among the graves under the blossoming trees in the old churchyard.

He lingered in the dear old church after the rest were gone. He wished to be alone. The place was sacred and inexpressibly dear to him. It had been his spiritual home from his youth. Before this altar he had prayed over the dead forms of a bygone generation, and had welcomed the children of a new generation; and here, yes, here, he had been told at last that his work was no longer blessed!

No one remained – no one? – “Only a boy.”

The boy was Robert Moffat. He watched the trembling old man. His soul was filled with loving sympathy. He went to him, and laid his hand on his black gown.

“Well, Robert?” said the minister.

“Do you think if I were willing to work hard for an education, I could ever become a preacher?”

“A preacher?”

“Perhaps a missionary.”

There was a long pause. Tears filled the eyes of the old minister. At length he said: “This heals the ache in my heart, Robert. I see the divine hand now. May God bless you, my boy. Yes, I think you will become a preacher.”

Many years ago there returned to London from Africa an aged missionary. His name was spoken with reverence. When he spoke in public, there was a deep silence. Priests stood uncovered before him; nobles invited him to their homes.

He had added a province to the church of Christ on earth; had brought the gospel to the most savage of African chiefs; had given the translated Bible to strange tribes; had enriched with valuable knowledge the Royal Geographical Society; and had honored the humble place of his birth, the Scottish church, the United Kingdom, and the universal missionary cause.

It is hard to trust when no evidence of fruit appears. But the harvests of right intentions are sure. The old minister sleeps beneath the trees in the humble place of his labors, but men remember his work because of what he was to one boy, and

what that one boy was to the world. – Youth's Companion

ENCARTA: "Moffat, Robert (1795-1883), Scottish missionary to southern Africa and translator of the Bible. Born in Ormiston, Scotland, Moffat went to the Cape Colony, in what is now South Africa, in 1820. He was a gardener by training. He settled first in Lattakoo, then moved to Griquatown, and finally to Kuruman, where he built one of the foremost Protestant mission stations in Africa and a large stone church. He remained there for the rest of his life." = ^ .. ^ =

BUILDING FOR JESUS

BOSSSES part 2

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right." Ephesians 6:1

Last week we learned how God is displeased with us when we try and force others to worship or obey Him the way we think they should. But does that mean there are never to be any 'bosses'?

No, there are several earthly situations where God approves 'bosses' and expects us to obey them. We see one in this first text: God expects children to obey their parents.

We will look at a few more; "Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord." Ephesians 5:22. Wives are to honour their husbands as the head of the home.

If someone hires us and we work for them; we are to respect and obey them. "Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God." Colossians 3:22

God also expects people to obey the rulers of the land and respect the government. "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God." Romans 13:1

God expects us to obey our teachers: "And thou mourn at the last, when thy flesh and thy body are consumed, And say, How have I hated instruction, and my heart despised reproof; And have not obeyed the voice of my teachers, nor inclined mine ear to them that instructed me!" Proverbs 5:11-13

So it sounds like there are lots of people who can be bosses. Well there is more to it than that, in the home, the parents and husbands are expected to love their families and thus guide them out of love.

What if my father is ordering me to do something that is wicked and wrong?

The Bible has the answer when it says, 'obey in the Lord', it means in anything that is right in the sight of the Lord, our parents and husbands are to be obeyed. But if they ask us to disobey God we are not to obey them; we are to obey God. We must be respectful about it, but we must explain that we must obey God.

It is the same with all other authority. Jesus said, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." Mark 12:17.

This means if it is not against God's law to do so, we are to obey the laws or rules of our land, our school, and our workplace. Only if it conflicts with God's Law are we to refuse. To be continued.
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Year 1: 3rd Quarter:
“DANIEL, THE PROPHET”
WEEKLY BIBLE LESSON 8:
“GOD WILL JUDGE”

For our Bible lessons we are going to use the King James Version of the Bible. Just like the boys and girls used to use to learn to read from in the pioneer days.

There will be some texts to look up for each day and you should practice your memory verse until you can say it without looking. Don't forget to learn the text too.

MEMORY VERSE: “But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever.” Daniel 7:18

Read the story in Daniel 7.

Sunday

Text: Daniel 7: 9 “I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire.”

Last week we studied Daniel's vision in which he saw four great beasts rise out of an angry sea with winds blowing on it. We learned they were governments or kingdoms. First Babylon, the Medo-Persia, followed by Greece and at last a terrible beast with iron teeth, which was Rome.

But Rome has two parts; first there was Pagan Rome and then the Papacy grew up and ruled in the same city. The Papacy was shown by the strange 'little horn' with eyes and a mouth. The little horn plucked up three other horns and then started to rule the earth. Daniel was worried about this 'little horn' because it persecuted God's people for 1260

years! This week we will learn more from Daniel 7.

In our text today we see a wonderful scene. It is a judgment scene. It seems that God wants very much to tell us that, even though this terrible beast was going to make things hard for God's people, God knew all about it and He would judge fairly.

Here we see God coming in and sitting on a judgment throne. The words 'thrones were cast down', means that seating places were placed in the room, like you would 'throw down' a big cushion for someone to sit on. We see more of this judgment in verses 10 & 11:

“A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened. I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld even till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame.”

So Jesus lets Daniel know that the beast would not always get away with his cruel work against God's people. He would be judged and executed.

Thought - Over and over in the Bible Jesus tells His people that He is in charge and will win at last.

Monday

Text: Daniel 7:12 “As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time.”

Now in this verse we see that it says although their kingdoms ended, their 'lives' were prolonged'. This is interesting as when we study the fourth Beast and especially the little horn kingdom, we can see things from all the other kingdoms in this Roman Papal kingdom.

Babylon had what was called the 'mysteries' or the 'mystery religion'. This came from the time of Nimrod and his wicked wife but the ideas of this secret religion of the priests came down through the ages. When the Jews were in captivity in Babylon, some of them learned this 'mystery religion', and they brought it into their own religion and called it the 'Kabala'. It was ideas of magic and special words and numbers and was really just a bunch of Satan's lies. But many things today use this same stuff. Masonry, witchcraft, some of the Jews, Eastern religions, Wicca, Satanists, and

much of it is in regular Catholicism.

Medo-Persia claimed that when it made a law, no one could change it. That meant they could make no mistakes; they were infallible. The Papacy also claims to be infallible.

Thought - When a man claims he is infallible, he is claiming to be God. Remember how the king of Medo-Persia tried to force people to pray to him? You can't talk to the Pope without first worshipping him and kissing his ring!

Tuesday

Text: Daniel 7:21,22 "I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom."

Greece developed forms of philosophy and religion that still plague us today very much. Our whole worldly system of education is based on Greek philosophy, and this makes it hard for people to understand the real truth of the Bible. Remember Paul said the Greeks thought the truth about Jesus was 'foolishness'? 1 Corinthians 1:23

Of course much of the religion and ways of Rome came right into the papacy. So much so that the Bible doesn't even use a new beast to show Papal Rome, but just a horn on the same terrible beast. The Roman priests were called 'Pontifex Maximus' which means 'Great Bridge Builder'.

Later when the Roman Pagan religion was outlawed, the emperor took this title. But the last emperor felt it was not right for a man to maintain this haughty title, which claimed to have the right over men's souls after death, so he refused it. Immediately the Bishop of Rome snapped it up, and from that time on, the Popes were called 'Pontiffs'.

Thought - We have wickedness from all these kingdoms with us today. We need to study God's word and not be fooled!

Wednesday

Text: Daniel 7: 25 "And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time."

We see four points here that help us to know for sure who this 'little Horn' power on the Roman beast really is.

1- He will speak 'Great Words' and Blasphemies against God.

2- He will 'wear out' God's people; persecute them.

3- He will think he can change God's laws that have to do with time.

4- He will rule for 1260 day/years (that's what it works out to)

There is no other power on earth that can fit this description except the Roman Papacy.

Thought - God wants us to be sure in what we believe so He gives a lot of evidence.

Thursday

Text: Daniel 7:26 But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end.

Jesus assures us in this chapter 4 or 5 different times that this beast with the bold horn will come to it's end in the judgment. Here are the sins of this power:

1- Blasphemy. The Catholic Priests claim to be able to forgive sins every day in the confessional, which is a little room were the people go to confess their sins to the Priests, who pretend to forgive them.

The popes claim to be the vicars of Christ, that means they claim to take His place on earth. Jesus said the Holy Spirit, who is God, would take His place on earth. This is blasphemy against the Holy Spirit.

The Pope also claims to be God and have all the rights of God. 'The Catholic Encyclopedia Vol. 6 p.48, which describes the pope as: 'not a mere man, but as it were God and the vicar of God.' Pope Leo XIII in one of his encyclical letters wrote: 'We hold upon this earth the place of God Almighty.' Pope Innocent III wrote: 'The pope is not simply a man but rather God on earth.' He also wrote: 'The pope is not only the representative of Jesus Christ but he is Jesus Christ Himself, hidden under the veil of flesh.'

2- Persecution. The Western Watchman, a Roman Catholic magazine (December 24, 1908) stated: 'The church has persecuted. Only a tyro in history will deny that... Protestants were persecuted in France and Spain with the full approval of the church authorities. We have always

defended the persecution of the Huguenots and the Spanish Inquisition.' Dr J. Dowling, History of Romanism, pages 541-542, states: 'From the birth of Popery in 606, to the present time, it is estimated by careful and credible historians, that more than fifty millions of the human family have been slaughtered for the crime of heresy by popish persecutors, an average of more than forty thousand murders for every year of the existence of Popery.'

3- Claim to change God's times and law. Catholic literature consistently moves from the first of the Ten Commandments to the third, which is counted as number two. The Second Commandment, forbidding idolatry, is not found in the Roman Catholic catechism. (It is in the Catholic Bible)

For many years, the consistent teaching of the Roman Catholic Church was that Sabbath was changed to Sunday by the action of the Catholic Church. e.g. Geiermann: Convert's Catechism of Catholic Doctrine, 1946 ed. page 50. 'The church substituted Sunday for Saturday by the plenitude of that divine power which Jesus Christ bestowed upon her... The Third (really the fourth but they leave out #2) Commandment commands us to sanctify Sunday as the Lord's Day.'

Thought - The Roman Church claims that changing God's Law and putting the Sunday in place of the seventh day Sabbath, is the 'Mark of her power'!

Friday

Text: Daniel 7:27 "And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him."

Remember in our lesson about Daniel 2 and the Great Image, we learned about the Rock that was cut out without hands and would destroy all the kingdoms and rule forever? Well here we see the same thing. Jesus is telling us that His kingdom will be set up after the time of the judgment and will never fall.

The 'saints' will be given the kingdom of Jesus, to be their kingdom, and they will never more have to worry about terrible beast kingdoms, which persecute them and kill them for serving Jesus.

On earth the saints may have been poor and despised. They were often killed or thrown into dungeons without even a trial. They saw their beloved Bibles torn up and burned and their children killed or made slaves. It was so unfair, but God has not forgotten even one of His dear children.

The wicked ones, who killed them, often thought that nobody knew what they did in those dark dungeons, but angels were there, and it is all written down. God's children will be honoured and those who persecuted them will have to pay for their deeds unless they repented while they lived.

Thought - God's side of this Great Controversy WILL WIN! Even if the entire world tries to stop it. Make sure YOU are on Jesus' side of this war!
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