

SESSION 19

REVELATION

2:8–11

(DOCTRINAL APPLICATION, PART 3)

THE LAST SESSION IN 10 TWEETS

1. We saw The Apostolic Church Fathers begin to deviate from the Word of God in the Ephesus Church Period (90–200 A.D.). #WordStrong
2. The deviations continue in the Smyrna Church Period (200-325 A.D.) through the Ante-Nicene Church Fathers.#WordStrong
3. One of the key deviations in the Smyrna Period is the teaching that God is finished with the Jews .(Rev.2:9) #WordStrong
4. Understanding this teaching is vital because Jesus calls it Satanic and blasphemous! (Rev.2:9) #WordStrong
5. Jesus also lets us know that this teaching will be one of the key tenets of Satan’s counterfeit church. (Rev.2:9) #WordStrong
6. What you believe about the Jew has significant implications & ramifications on what you believe about the Millennium. #WordStrong
7. The difference between correct/false doctrine comes down to whether or not somebody is premillennial. #WordStrong
8. Premillennialists know where to place the Jew correctly in the Word of God so they don’t misapply biblical teaching.#WordStrong
9. Losing sight of the Jew is what is at the root of false teaching regarding baptism, tongues & eternal security. #WordStrong
10. What Premillennialists are looking for is a gov’t of Christ, brought to the earth by Christ & setup for Christ. (Isa. 9:6-7)! #WordStrong

i. Where this teaching went and how it developed in history...

- That Christ made Peter the first “_____” or “_____ of Christ.”
- That Christ gave Peter the _____ to the Kingdom of Heaven.
(i.e. The literal, physical, _____ kingdom on earth.)
- That the church is the kingdom of _____...and so the church has the God-given right to exercise _____ over the governments of the world.
 - * *“Jesus could scarcely have used stronger or plainer words to indicate that He would confer on Peter such a great authority that any act of government, any rule which he should prescribe, any interpretation of the Master’s teaching which he should promulgate, would be ratified, sanctioned, and fully approved by God in heaven.”**
*Book “C,” Knights of Columbus.
 - * *“Peter’s successor fell heir to Peter’s job, which carried with it the assurance of divine guidance and assistance, such as had been promised to Peter. This is what is meant by the infallibility of the Pope.”—*
Book “D”, Knight of Columbus, “Peter, the Pope, and Infallibility,” p. 14–18.
- Augustine will write “The City of God,” and in it purport that _____ has even replaced Jerusalem.
- The Roman Catholic Church will have everything it needs to vaunt itself as the _____ and _____ empire of the world. (Rev. 17 and 18)

B. The rise of Gnosticism

1. Gnosticism came about as an attempt to make Christianity a _____ system.
2. “Gnostic” comes from the word “gnosis,” which means “to _____” or “_____.”
3. A Gnostic was one who claimed to have a higher plane of _____, or ability “to _____” more than the common man could know.
 - It is a form of the “deeds of the Nicolaitans” (Rev. 2:6)
The first step was teaching that the pastor is elevated over the common man...
And if his _____ is elevated...the next step was, so is his _____.
 - In Gnosticism, “A man is regarded as exalted in the scale of being in proportion to his knowledge”
* Albert Henry Newman, *A Manual of Church History, Vol. 1, 183-184*
4. **Three common components of Gnosticism:**
 - a. **Dualism–**
The Gnostic belief that all _____ is _____, and all _____ is _____.
 - b. **Doceticism–**
Since all flesh is evil, God could never live in a _____...
He only _____ to have a body.

- c. Demiurge–
Jesus was only a “_____ -god” or “_____ God.”

5. Gnostic Leaders in the first two periods of Church History:

- a. Cerinthus
- b. Saturninus
- c. Basilides
- d. Valentinus
- e. Marcion

C. The writings of the Ante-Nicene Church Fathers

1. IRENAEUS (130–202 A.D.)

- a. He is known as the _____ of Lyons (Southern France)
- b. He was born in _____ and in his early years, is influenced by the life and ministry of _____.
- c. He later became educated in the _____ mindset of the Greeks, and in his writings, quotes most of the leading Greek _____.*
*Newman, *A Manual of Church History*, 248-249.
- d. He is very important because he wrote five books against _____ called *Adversus Haereses*, or “_____ Heresies.”

*Note: Don't miss the subtlety of Satan here!

Some of the things Irenaeus will write in coming against Gnosticism, will be the very things Satan is going to use to more fully _____ his false _____ of religion. (Rev. 2:9)

- e. In attempting to refute Gnosticism, Irenaeus writes that if there were a “secret _____” the Apostles certainly would have had it, and they certainly would have entrusted it to those “whom they selected as their _____ in the government of the churches.”*
*Walker, *A History of the Christian Church*, 58.
 - “In Book 3, Irenaeus emphasized the organic unity of the church through the apostolic _____ of the leaders from Christ and a rule of faith.”*
*Cairns, *Christianity Through the Centuries*, 110.
 - It is through this fabricated Apostolic line that Irenaeus will tell us “the ecclesiastical _____ from the Apostles,” and “the preaching of the _____ have come down to us.”*
*Irenaeus, *Against Heresies*, III, cited by Schaff II, 159.
- f. Irenaeus writes that Rome was the “_____” and “oldest” church “acknowledged by _____,” and founded by _____ and Paul.*
*Irenaeus, *Against Heresies*, cited by Schaff, II, 159.

g. He says, "it is a matter of necessity that every church should _____ with this church."*
*Irenaeus, *Against Heresies*, III. 3:2; cited by Walker, 61.

h. He writes that the Lord's Supper confers "_____."
"For as the bread, which is produced from the earth, when it receives the invocation of God, is no longer common bread but the Eucharist consisting of two realities, earthly and heavenly: so also our bodies, when they receive the Eucharist, are no longer corruptible, having the hope of the resurrection to eternity."*
*Irenaeus, *Against Heresies*, IV. 18:5; cited by Walker, 90.

"The Eucharist is the human organism of Jesus Christ, made up of His flesh, sinews, and bones, and the cup is His blood and the bread is His body. It nourishes our literal flesh and bones because it is _____ flesh and blood."*
*Irenaeus, *Against Heresies*, V. 2:3; cited by Walker, 90.

i. As he writes about Christ being the Second Adam, he begins to suggest that His mother was the second _____.

"The knot of Eve's disobedience was loosened by the obedience of Mary. For what the Virgin Eve had bound fast through unbelief, this did the Virgin Mary set free through faith."*
*Walker, *A History of the Christian Church*, 63.

2. CYPRIAN (195-258 A.D.)

a. He was born in _____ and is known as the _____ of Carthage.

b. He was known for his _____.*
*Newman, *A Manual of Church History*, 265.

c. Newman writes,
"He was a genuine _____, and had the profoundest regard for the welfare of each member of the flock...He had administrative plans, and he insisted on executing them,"*
*Newman, *A Manual of Church History*, 255, 267.

d. He writes two major works.
1) *De Unitate Catholicae Ecclesiae* or "The _____ of the _____ Church."
2) *Cyprian* _____.

e. A sampling of Cyprian's teaching:
1) He calls the bishops or pastors, "_____."

2) He writes,
"There is one God, and Christ is one, and there is one church, and one _____ founded upon the rock by the word of the Lord."*
*Cyprian, *Epistles*, 39-42:5, cited by Walker, 67.

3) He referred to Rome as "the chief church whence _____ unity takes its source."*
*Cyprian, *Epistles*, 50-54:14, cited by Walker, 67.

- Cairns comments,
 “Though all bishops were equal, and though all were in the line of Apostolic _____ of bishops from Christ Himself, _____ deserved special honor, it was believed, because its bishops were in the line of succession from _____.”*
 *Cairns, *Christianity Through the Centuries*.
- 4) Cyprian’s statements concerning the church and salvation...
- “Whoever he may be and whatever he may be, he who is not in the church of Christ is not a _____.”*
 *Cyprian, *Epistles*, 51-55:24, cited by Walker, 67.
 - “He can no longer have God for his Father, who has not the church for his _____.”*
 *Cyprian, *Unity of the Catholic Church*, 6, cited by Walker, 67.
 - “There is no salvation out of the _____.”
 *Cyprian, *Epistles*, 72-73:21, cited by Walker, 67.
- 5) “In Cyprian, the Lord’s Supper is in the process of becoming a _____ as well as a sacrament.”*
- *Cairns, *Christianity Through The Centuries*, 160.
- “For if Jesus Christ, our Lord and God is Himself the chief priest of God the Father, and has first offered Himself a sacrifice to the Father, and has commanded this to be done in commemoration of Himself, certainly that _____ truly discharges the office of Christ, who imitates that which Christ did; and he then offers a true and full sacrifice in the church when he proceeds to offer it according to what he sees Christ Himself to have offered.”*
 *Cyprian, *Epistles*, 62-63:14, cited by Walker 91.
 - The business of the Christian “priest” is “to serve the altar and to celebrate the divine _____.”*
 *Cyprian, *Epistles*, 67:1, cited by Walker 91.
 - “These teachings are going to become a part of Roman Catholic _____, which they say is not only **with** the Bible, but equal in verbal _____ **to** the Bible.”*
 * Boettner, *Roman Catholicism*, 74, 77, 89.

3. HIPPOLYTUS (170–235 A.D.)

- a. He was a disciple of _____.
- b. He also writes against Gnosticism, in his work, *Refutation of All* _____.
- c. The way Irenaeus and Hippolytus saw to keep the unity of the church against heresies was to _____ the office of _____.

- d. By the time of Hippolytus, Callistus (the Roman Bishop), was saying that a Roman Bishop can never be deposed or compelled to _____ no matter what kind of _____ he's committing.*
* Newman, *A Manual of Church History*, 256.

- e. A conflict arises in Roman Church concerning the _____, and in Book IX Hippolytus writes against Callistus, and divides the church into two distinct _____.*
* Newman, *A Manual of Church History*, 255.

- f. Hippolytus emerges as the bishop of the "party that claimed to be the _____ church of Rome."*
* Newman, *A Manual of Church History*, 253.

5. CALL. (Rev. 2:11a)

"He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches."

6. CHALLENGE. (Rev. 2:11b)

"He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death."