

Current Affairs #173 – The Separation of the Early Church  
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We were talking about how the Kingdom of God was shut up, closed up, against ordinary people early in the history of the church.<sup>1</sup> This thing began to appear early, even when John was still alive, and it became rather dominant throughout church history. And it is what caused the woman, representative of those who followed Christ early on, to be divided into:

- The faithful servants of the Lord who would continue throughout time,
- And this aberrant departure from the truth defining the activities of the harlot as she continued to reach for the approval of kings and to dominate the thinking of people by the re-creation of, more or less, a mysterious or mystical church.

Let us go back to where the point of departure is noted in the Scriptures. The apostle John is writing in 1 John, chapter 2. He says,

*Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, [You have heard that, eventually, the Antichrist is coming.] even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour [or the last epoch] (1 John 2:18 NKJV, comments added in brackets).*

We are in the last epoch, he said. It will culminate with the Antichrist, but the spirit of Antichrist is already here. Antichrist simply means that which is opposed to Christ. Now, what would John identify as central to discerning the spirit of Antichrist versus central to identifying those who belong to Christ? He would remind the disciples of the thing they had heard from the beginning, which was, “Love one another as I have loved you.”<sup>2</sup> It is here. It is the subject matter of this writing. So those who would persist in loving one another would acknowledge... The basis of

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This transcript is presented with the hope of preserving the authenticity and spirit of the spoken message, while addressing areas that may require clarification in the written form. All Scripture quotations in the footnotes are from the NKJV Bible, unless otherwise noted.

<sup>1</sup> See Matthew 23:13: “But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut up the kingdom of heaven against men; for you neither go in *yourselves*, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in.”

<sup>2</sup> See John 13:34: “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.”

loving one another, you know, is the acknowledgment of the Christ in the other. “Do not tell me you love Christ whom you have not seen, and yet you hate your brother in whom Christ lives.”<sup>3</sup> The question is, how does the love of God dwell in you?

Already, the spirit of Antichrist was the opposition, or the failure to recognize Christ in the other. Because if you do not recognize Christ in the other, what does that do to the Body of Christ? It savages it. What holds us together as the Body of Christ is the recognition by the one concerning the other of the Christ in the other. So you address that person with the dignity and with the honor with which you would address Christ, even if he is taken in a fault. According to Galatians 6,

*Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual [You are not caught up in the fault yourselves.] restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, [meekness, humility] considering yourself lest you also be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ [which is, “Love one another as I have loved you.”] (Galatians 6:1-2, comments added in brackets).*

The Book of 1 Corinthians, chapter 12, makes it abundantly clear that the body is one, but it is comprised of many members; and each member has been placed in the body as Christ foreordained their placement.<sup>4</sup> So the new commandment, “Love one another as I have loved you,” is designed to recognize Christ in His appearing in each of the individual parts. When we do that, we preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace—as in, there is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and so on.<sup>5</sup>

But the spirit of Antichrist begins the manifestation with a desire for preeminence. So we use church offices and we use these powerful sounding phrases to create exclusivities, and by that, to

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<sup>3</sup> See 1 John 4:20-21: “If someone says, ‘I love God,’ and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also.”

<sup>4</sup> See 1 Corinthians 12:12-14: “For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also *is* Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. For in fact the body is not one member but many.”

<sup>5</sup> See Ephesians 4:1-6.

create divisions between clergy and laity. When the word “clergy” comes from the word *kleroo*,<sup>6</sup> which means to have an allotment, meaning, you have an inheritance. Every member of the Body of Christ has an inheritance.

Paul said to the Ephesians in chapter 1, “I am writing to tell you about three things:

1. What is the hope of His calling,
2. What is His glorious inheritance in the saints,
3. What is the working of His mighty power on behalf of those who believe.”

It is like when He raised Jesus from the dead and seated Him at His right hand, far above all rule and authority, and any title that may be given not only in the present age but in the age to come. And He put everything under the feet of Christ and made Him to be head over all things for the church, which is His body.<sup>7</sup>

Any time someone suggests that clergy has to do with officials and that laity... These are inventions, distortions of the original Greek words. *Kleroo* is the root word for “clergy,” and it means to have an inheritance because you are a son. The spirit of Antichrist does not recognize your sonship. The spirit of Antichrist does not recognize your gift from God, your inheritance. It heaps it all up to itself and makes the clergy the arbiters of all things related to God. This is the doctrine of demons.

Here is what John had to say about that: “They went out from us...” (1 John 2:19a). We know the Antichrist has come. They are against Christ. The way to be against Christ is to be against the Body of Christ. You cannot be against Christ in the world today without being against the Body of Christ. That is why it is relevant when he says, “They went out from us.” They used to belong to us. This woman contained both true believers and heretics. And after a while, as time went on, the heretics began to make their play for preeminence over their brothers and violated the first and greatest, in fact, the only commandment Christ ever really gave us. Christ said “A new commandment I give you: Love one another”—by laying down your life for the other, because that is how He did it—“as I have loved you. Greater love has no man than this, that a man would

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<sup>6</sup> See *kleroo*, Strong’s Greek 2820 - <https://biblehub.com/greek/2820.htm>

<sup>7</sup> See Ephesians 1:18-23.

lay down his life for his friends.”<sup>8</sup> That is how we ought to love one another. Husbands, love your wives as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her.<sup>9</sup>

John said the spirit of Antichrist has already come, and it is how we know those who belong to Christ and how we know those who belong to Satan—who are the Seed of God and who are the seed of the devil. And, by the way, he names Cain, over in chapter 3 of this same book, as one of the primary seeds of the devil because he kills his brother Abel.<sup>10</sup> And he uses the context of Cain’s murder of Abel to identify Cain as the son of the devil.<sup>11</sup> That is what started to happen in the church. That is why the woman divided into those who continued to follow Christ and those who sought the favor of kings. One continued to and has become the mature and maturing Body of Christ, and the other has become an intractable harlot. Here, this is how John put it.

*They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but they went out that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us (1 John 2:19).*

This is in the early church. This is no surprise that even in the early church, like the present church, there are those who are faithful to God, and there are those who are along for the ride; there are those who have an absolute conviction of the truth and have been sealed by the Holy Spirit, and those who are playing church—even in the present church. But aside from that, there has been, historically, a development of a spirit of Antichrist that wages war against Christ. That is the harlot, to whom those who are still among us but have never bought in. They want the benefits of being the bride of Christ, but they are not willing to submit to Christ; therefore, they are not a bride.

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<sup>8</sup> See John 13:34; 15:13.

<sup>9</sup> See Ephesians 5:25-27: “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.”

<sup>10</sup> See Genesis 4:1-10.

<sup>11</sup> See 1 John 3:10-12: “In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor *is* he who does not love his brother. For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another, not as Cain *who* was of the wicked one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his works were evil and his brother’s righteous.”

“Wives, submit to your own husbands, as unto the Lord” (Ephesians 5:22). If you will not submit to the Lord, you are not the bride of Christ. There is already a fully-developed alternative, historically. And eventually, in this shake out, people will fall into the two existing camps: the bride of Christ or the harlot.

Going on, he said,

*But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things. I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and that no lie is of the truth.*

*Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son. Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also.*

*Therefore let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father (1 John 2:20-24).*

What was this from the beginning? John is the one telling us in chapters 13 through 16 what the new commandment was. John is the one who is telling us in chapter 17, where Jesus says, “Father, let them be one in the fashion in which You and I are one. Let them be one in Us—You are in Me, I am in You; Let them be one in Us by letting them be assembled to Me. And I am in You, therefore, they are assembled to You. Let them be one in Us, that the world might believe that You sent Me and have loved them as You have loved Me.”<sup>12</sup> This strikes right at the core of the original intent, the mandate for which God created human beings: a man in the image and likeness of God<sup>13</sup> who presents the nature of the Father—puts the nature of the Father on display—so that if you see this man, headed by Christ, you will see the Father. For Jesus said, “I have come to show you the Father.”<sup>14</sup> So that is the perspective.

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<sup>12</sup> See John 17:20-23.

<sup>13</sup> See Genesis 1:26a: “Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness;’”

<sup>14</sup> See John 14:7-11.

But the harlot began by having a heart separated that from the husband, who is Christ, seeing instead the possibility of gain by wearing the robes of her history while she flirted with kings. Why would kings want to be associated with that which presents itself as the bride of Christ? Because, the way to hold nations together, the way to hold populations together is not by politics; it is by religion. That is why we have these embedded churches, state churches. They are the church of a people group.

I mean, why are there days like St. Patrick's Day, the most quintessential Irish celebration? You have a people from Ireland, and their quintessential celebration is St. Patrick's Day. What about Leprechaun Day? What about Gaelic Day—things that are more endemic to a people who actually have historically inhabited the land? Why St. Patrick's Day? Because, you see, state churches have so wrapped themselves around the identity of people groups that the people groups have no way of understanding who they are aside from the religious descriptions in the form of cultural happenings, like feast days and celebrations of one sort or another. When do families in Ireland, for example—since we are talking about that, but not unique to them—when do they get together? What are the most important things for them to get together around? Christenings, confirmations, weddings, funerals. Who are the people but for these ceremonies and these celebrations? It is the glue that holds these national identities together, and it is all religious. How did it come to be that? Because the harlot persuaded the kings to adopt these identities, assuming that somehow they were related to God.

Now this is offensive to people. I know that. Because it is saying, other than a religious identification, if you are proud to be of a certain people group, you do not have an identity apart from the religion. Who do Spaniards know themselves to be other than by their religious definitions? Who do Italians know themselves to be? Or the French? Or Mexicans? The Lady of Guadalupe. These are all religious things. How did they come to be so? Because the proponents of these state religions and people groups wrapped themselves so tightly in the culture of a people that the people then accepted, over time and history, that they were as defined by their religious practices.

When the harlot lost her power because she no longer represented Christ, she fluttered her eyes at the kings. They invented notions like the divine right of kings, a very preeminent legal doctrine in England of Henry VIII. The statutes of Praemunire codified the divine right of kings to rule, as by the hand of God. And the kings exploited the people on the basis of this alleged divine right. Hereditary rights were then conflated with priestly rights, and the kings became the vassals of God. Now the Scriptures do say that God appoints the kings.<sup>15</sup> If the meaning of that is that they are all God's vassals, then God is represented by the activities of the kings. No. It is just speaking of God being sovereign over the kingdoms of men. And sometimes His appointments are for the judgments of these nations.

Kings, historically, have been mostly bad. Kings, typically, are condescending when it comes to the people on whose backs they ride. Aren't we all put off by the designation of royalty and commoner? One of the things I never accepted, even when I was born and raised in a British Commonwealth country, was the notion that these folks in England of Elizabeth's house, the House of Windsor, thought themselves to be royalty, and folks like me, commoners. I was far brighter in school than Charles and his siblings. On what basis are you called "common," except this overbearing pretentiousness by this largely witless breed? Do we sit still for this stuff? That is the residue of the church. That is what the harlot did. It is why I resist it. Because in Western civilization, in particular, all these made-up titles were conferred on kings by a harlot church.

I am, by contrast, a member of a royal priesthood,<sup>16</sup> the order of *Melchi*<sup>17</sup>—which means king, and *zedek*<sup>18</sup>—which means righteousness: King of Righteousness; Prince of Peace, *Sar*<sup>19</sup> *Shalom*.<sup>20</sup> If

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<sup>15</sup> See Daniel 2:20-21: "Daniel answered and said: 'Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, For wisdom and might are His. And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise And knowledge to those who have understanding.'"

See also Romans 13:1: "Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God."

<sup>16</sup> See 1 Peter 2:9-10: "But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy."

<sup>17</sup> See *melek*, Strong's Hebrew 4428 - <https://biblehub.com/hebrew/4428.htm>

<sup>18</sup> See *tsedeq*, Strong's Hebrew 6664 - <https://biblehub.com/hebrew/6664.htm>

<sup>19</sup> See *sar*, Strong's Hebrew 8269 - <https://biblehub.com/hebrew/8269.htm>

<sup>20</sup> See *shalom*, Strong's Hebrew 7965 - <https://biblehub.com/hebrew/7965.htm>

you are of Christ, your true identity is not that of a commoner. Do not let a harlot define you that way. The harlot always wages war against the true bride. The true bride is the bride of the King of all kings and the Lord of all lords<sup>21</sup>—nothing common there, nothing common or unclean. Do not let the harlot whisper in your ear, and reject, out of hand, the designations of her harlotry because they are hypocritical, they are insincere, and they are rubbish. As compared to Charles of England, or even Elizabeth, or William, as compared to those who are hereditary kings, we of the House of God, we of the true Body of Christ, we are the royal priesthood—royalty. Not some made-up title by a harlot church, the Church of the English people, coining the phrase “the divine right of kings” to curry favor so she may get baubles and crowns, and may have titles and the appearance of importance.

It is this English Church, that shed the blood of the saints among all the churches of nations, that cannot stand the true Body of Christ. Historically, in the persecution of the sons of God, from the time of the establishment of the harlot and her consorting with kings to preserve her place, she has lied against, plotted against, and acted to deceive the kings to loose upon them persecutions. Why do we think the Pilgrims sailed to North America? Why do we think the Huguenots sailed to South Africa? Why do we think that, in Europe, there were migrations of the most faithful people at the time to new lands, leaving behind their homes and their ancestral connections to these lands? Because the kings, in league with the harlot, persecuted the church.

When she stayed in the wilderness, she saw the opportunity to earn the favor of kings by telling the kings they were more than God made them to be. The kings loved that because it gave them another way of “beating the people with scorpions,”<sup>22</sup> to coin a phrase from the days of Rehoboam, the son of Solomon. This harlot has been paid well, historically; she has been paid well for shedding the blood of the saints.<sup>23</sup> Kings have paid her well. To this day, Putin pays Kirill very

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<sup>21</sup> See 1 Timothy 6:15-16: “...which He will manifest in His own time, He who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honor and everlasting power. Amen.”

<sup>22</sup> See 1 Kings 12:11 (NLT): “Yes, my father laid heavy burdens on you, but I’m going to make them even heavier! My father beat you with whips, but I will beat you with scorpions!”

<sup>23</sup> See Revelation 17:6: “I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement.”



well—Putin being the leader of Russia, Kirill being the patriarch of the Russian Orthodox Church. To this day, the king pays the harlot very well for justifying his blood-thirsty onslaught against a Ukrainian people who, fortunately, have the courage to fight back. This harlot is the nastiest of persons because she claims to represent the Lord, but she drinks the blood of the saints, and is the basis of all the perversion of human thought that has distorted and separated nations from their eternal destinies.

I will continue, and we will wrap up on this harlot, and we will look at her collaboration with kings when we come back.

I am Sam Soleyn. I will see you then. Bye-bye.