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"And the Light Shines in the Darkness"

Talk No. 17

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"De-Christianization and the Catholic Counter-Revolution"

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The word 'de-Christianization' was used for the first time - to the best of my knowledge - by Pope Pius XI in 1937 in the encyclical letters *Divini Redemptoris* about communism and in *Firmissima Constantiam* about the persecution of Catholics in Mexico.

De-Christianization is not the combat against Christianity or the absence of catechesis or about less people going to Mass: De-Christianization is the removal of Christian principles and institutions from the daily life of a country, in matters involving the economy, politics and law.

Benedict XVI used it several times. For instance, at the Meeting with German bishop, WYD 2005:

"We know that secularism and **de-Christianization** are gaining ground, that <u>relativism</u> is growing and that the influence of Catholic ethics and morals is in constant decline. Many people abandon the Church or, if they stay, accept only a part of Catholic teaching, picking and choosing between only certain aspects of Christianity.

John Paul II called them 'cafeteria Christians'.

Address in September 2008 to a group of newly-ordained bishops: "the wind of **de-Christianization**, religious indifferentism, secularization and the **relativization** of values is blowing ever more strongly upon your societies, as elsewhere. This creates an environment in which the weapons of preaching may seem, as with Paul in Athens, to lack the necessary force.

At the Mass of the Conclave that elected him Pope, Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger denounced the 'Dictatorship of Relativism' that is confronting the [Western] world.

He pointed out that...

- 1. This dictatorship does not recognise anything as absolute and leaves the ultimate measure only the measure of each one and his desires;
- 2. This relativism is seen as the only behaviour abreast of our times;
- 3. Christians, however, have another measure, which is the Son of God true Man;
- 4. Mature faith does not follow fashion and the latest novelty, but is profoundly rooted in friendship with Christ;
- 5. Catholics cannot remain immature in the faith, in a state of inferiority, as they run the risk of being tossed about and carried here and there by any doctrinal wind;
- 6. Friendship with Christ coincides with what the third petition of the Our Father expresses 'Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.'
- 7. A clear faith, according to the creed of the Church, is needed.

What have been the concrete results of this subjective, permissive, truth-free relativism?

- 1. Missionary work aiming to secure authentic conversions to the Catholic Church has nearly disappeared in the West; parish committees.
- 2. False ecumenism reigns supreme, whereby one compromise the Faith for the sake of good relationships;
- 3. Jesus' commandment to make disciples of all nations teaching them to observe all things whatsoever he had commanded the Apostles, has been relegated to oblivion in a great many places.

PRACTICAL CONSEQUENCE: JULY 2005: During an *impromptu* address to some 140 priests of the Aosta diocese in Italy, Pope Benedict XVI referred to the widespread religious indifference that is rampant in Europe and generally in Western society. He said that "The so-called great churches seem to be dying, especially in Australia and Europe, but not so much in the United States".

The Catholic Church in Australia and Europe was not excluded from his mention of the 'dying churches'.

Now we should bear in mind that the death of the great churches does not leave a vacuum. Nature abhors the vacuum. When a given religion and a given culture disappear, other religion (s) and culture(s) take their place. Which religion and culture are making great strides in Europe and most of the West today?

Islam. Europe, for a start, is being culturally Islamized. If you think I exaggerate, hear what the Pope's secretary, Fr. George Fr. Gänswein said, when he alerted the international community about the threat of the *islamization* of Europe: "One must not ignore the attempts to Islamize Europe, and the Catholic Church clearly sees this danger. This kind of attitude may present a risk for European identity." Süddeutsche Zeitung (July 26, 2007).

Truth is that today we witness the greatest Jihad ever carried out by Islam: Not as in the naval battle of Lepanto of 1571, the Holy league led by John of Austria defeated them. Not as in the battle of Vienna on September 11th, 1683 – King Sobieski and the Polish/Austrian/German armies defeated them.

Today it is a *silent jihad*. The cultural islamization happens because of the de-Christianization of Europe – and here is one of its most crucial aspects: de-population. Europeans do not even replace their countries populations.

Consequence of the culture of Death: contraception, abortion, euthanasia + death. Add homosexuality and you have widespread de-population 2.1

EUA 2.07; Ireland, 1.87; New Zealand, 1.79; Australia 1.76; Canada 1.5 Germany and Austria 1.3, Italy 1.2 Spain 1.1

Islamic countries: average 6.5 - They provide the immigration to keep Europe running.

Aosta: "The so-called great churches seem to be dying, especially in Australia and Europe, but not so much in the United States". Pell and Hickey in Australia.

Ethnic minorities – London Big Ben telling time 5 times a day to call the faithful to prayer, Eiffel tower in Paris the tallest minaret in the world, Koranic verses echoing in the great cathedrals of Spain, Germany and Italy. Let's see how long Saint Peter' basilica will hold.

As one Moslem mullah said to an Anglican priest in London, 'by the end of this century, all great English Cathedrals will be mosques. Why? Because we have children, and you don't".

Contraception promised a freedom without responsibility, abortion promises the right to do one's own thing with one's own body, homosexual marriage promises respect for different orientations... result: the end of civilization as we knew it.

No children. The demographic winter is upon us. A country without children is a country without a future.

How has the Western world being de-Christianized?

Pius XII, in 1953 explained: Through a three-fold evil: Economy without God, Politics without God, and Law without God.

Not because of the lack of activities in diocesan agencies or lack of works of charity or lack of lay participation in parish committees. No: Economy without God, Politics without God, and Law without God.

To understand this three-fold evil, let us go back in time a bit: Fatima. July 13th, 1917. Expansion of Marxism – 2 errors of Russia

 Economy without God – under socialism or liberal capitalism, to put profits before people; to support products "Made in China", thereby increasing unemployment in the West to profit from cheap prison labour in China. South Africa non-PC - In the European Union, farmers are paid to harvest and to burn crops - NZ consumption units = depersonalization - To lift sanctions against Cuba (1 billion dollars worth of trade a year!)

This is economy without God.

2. Impact on business: it may become very difficult – to put it mildly – for a catholic to do business without betraying his conscience.

2nd evil: politics without God – No objective values, just party politics – people vote according to the party, not principles – "I'm a republican" or "democrat" – I vote according to my party, regardless of who is running. Is the party divine? My old man would turn in his grave…! What about Catholic first? What about being Catholic first?

With the globalization of economy and culture and the end of democracy as we used to know it, Karl Marx would laugh if he could find out how the West is doing what communism failed to achieve!

Impact on business: businessmen may become more and more dependent upon the State, whose godless politics will favour those who have no morals.

"Democracy!"

United Europe began well, became US of Europe – Vladimir Lenin

Pacific Parliament, African Union, /Mercosul in South America, North American Union, Amero, Marx's laughter

Dilution of sovereignty for the sake of alleged economic benefits (Brussels')

Canterbury University

JP II on sovereignty

3rd evil: Laws without God – what is legal becomes good.

Jane Fonda, Kauri, WA trees, apartheid and Abortion - Mandela

Legal - Tien Mien square - the myth of the majority being always right: Hitler 90% votes

Abortion, homosexual marriage, hate crime, pornography, prostitution – No Family, no society, no Church.

Excessive taxation - Undue intervention of government in the economy, -socialization of private enterprise; Globalization of economy.

Consequences: Undue intervention of government in the economy, making trade unions compulsory, socialization of private enterprise; demanding businessmen to step down if they do not comply with government regulations, etc. Once the hate-crime becomes law, employers will not be able to refuse employment to activist homosexuals, negotiate wages without union's interference or promote the Faith among employees.

The state plays God

Ad Petri Cathedram.

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Is there a solution? Yes. Is it feasible? Yes, it is. Will it bring about results? That depends on us.

Benedict XVI Urges Struggle Against Evil

Says This Is the Secret to Christ's Peace

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy, AUG. 19, 2007 (Zenit.org).- The peace of Christ is not "the absence of conflict" but the "struggle against evil," Benedict XVI says.

He added that being instruments of Christ's peace means "defeating evil with good."

Speaking about the words of Jesus from today's Gospel -- "Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division" -- the Holy Father clarified that this saying "means the peace that he came to bring is not synonymous with the simple absence of conflict."

"On the contrary, the peace of Jesus is the fruit of a constant struggle against evil. The battle that Jesus has decided to fight is not against men or human powers but against the enemy of God and man, Satan," the Pontiff emphasized.

He continued: "Those who desire to resist this enemy, remaining faithful to God and the good, must necessarily deal with misunderstandings and sometimes very real persecution.

"Thus, those who intend to follow Jesus and commit themselves without compromises to the truth must know that they will face opposition and will become, despite themselves, a sign of division among persons, even within their own families."

"In such a way, in the footsteps of the Lord Jesus, Christians must become 'instruments of his peace,' according to the celebrated expression of St. Francis of Assisi," the Pope said. "This is not an inconsistent and superficial peace but a real one, pursued with courage and tenacity in the daily commitment to defeat evil with good, paying in person the price that this carries with it."

"Christ is not looking for tired conformists, but witnesses of courageous faith, those who burn in the fire of his love."

REVITALIZE CATHOLIC ACTION:

- 1.Prayer
- 2. Study
- 3. Action.
 - 1. What prayer: Rediscover devotion to the Real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, Our Lady, the Sacred Heart of Jesus, rediscover the sense of the sacred in liturgy. *Sacramentum caritatis*.
 - 2. What study: New apologetics, leave aside useless niceties and tell the truth as it is : JP 2 in Spain
 - 3. REVIVE THE NOTIONS OF GOOD AND EVIL TO OPPOSE THE DICTATORSHIP OF REALTIVISM
 - 4. What action: Promote true ecumenism, that is, bring all peoples together into one faith, not all faiths together into one people.

REUNIFICATION OF ALL BAPTISED CHRISTIANS

The initial step must be the reunification of all baptized Christians under 'one Lord, one faith, one baptism' (Eph. 4:5) in the one church of God, the pillar and mainstay of the truth (1 Tim 3:15)

Why re-unify? Because as long as our separated brethren-in-baptism remain fragmented into thousands of denominations with a wide variety of creeds and moral codes, all claiming to derive their interpretations from the Bible, Christianity will not stand a chance against Islam. It

is already sorely weakened by the influence of secularism and the Culture of Death.

The World Anglican Communion and the Episcopalian Church appear to be crumbling, especially after the ordination to the episcopate of women and practicing homosexuals.

In 1956, the substitute for the Vatican secretary of state, Msgr. Angelo Dell'Acqua, stated: "Because of the religious agnosticism of the states," there has been "a decline or almost loss of the sense of the Church in modern society."

John XXIII and Ad Petri Cathedram

Paul VI and the smoke of Satan inside the sanctuary. Liberation theology and Marxist class struggle.

JPII in Evangelium vitae: the culture of death.

At the sermon of the Conclave that elected him Pope, Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger denunced the 'dictatoriship of relativism' that is confronting the world.

He pointed out that this dictatorship does not recognize anything as absolute and leaves the ultimate measure only the measure of each one and his desires; this relativism is seen as the only behavior abreast of our times; Christians, however, have another measure, which is the Son of God true Man; mature faith does not follow fashion and the latest novelty, but is profoundly rooted in friendship with Christ; Catholics cannot remain immature in the faith, in a state of inferiority, as they run the risk of being tossed about and carried here and there by any doctrinal wind; friendship with Christ coincides with what the third petition of the Our Father expresses, "Thy will be done, on Earth as it is in heaven"; and a clear faith, according to the creed of the Church, is needed.

So the word is 'de-christianization'. Pope Benedict mentioned the it when he addressed the German bishops during the world youth day in 2005:

"We know that secularism and de-Christianization are gaining ground, that relativism is growing and that the influence of Catholic ethics and morals is in constant decline. Many people abandon the Church or, if they stay, accept only a part of Catholic teaching, picking and choosing between only certain aspects of Christianity."

JPII cafeteria Catholics.

He affirmed in Aosta: The great Churches seem to be dying... and in Sacramentum Caritatis: We know that the faithful are surrounded by a culture that tends to eliminate the sense of sin and to promote a superficial approach that overlooks the need to be in a state of grace.

These affirmations - and many more could be added - prove that the world in general, and the West in particular, is undergoing a tragic process of de-Christianization. Christian principles, values and institutions have been extirpated from our social, economic, political, legal, educational structures. Sometimes publicly, sometimes stealthily, the process has wrought havoc in Europe and the countries that descended from them.

Concretely speaking, and in the context of the Fatima message, what do we see today:

- 1. The glorification of pride, whereby legitimate authority is spurned;
- 2. The glorification of desobedience, whereby laws, both natural and divine, are spurned.
- 3. The Culture of Death, whereby contraception, abortion, euthanasia and homosexual unions are being forced upon the nations;
- 4. The corruption of the youth, especially children, through the education system, fashions and the media:
- 5. The impoverishment of Catholic worship, the loss of the sense of the sacred, the banalization of liturgy.

What has caused this de- Christianization?

The Cultural Revolution is moved by two distinct passions: pride and disobedience. Pride and desobedience, the precise opposite of the Christian virtues of humility and meekness, embodied as they are in the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the perfect model for

mankind.

But this process of dechristianisation is much older, in fact it started centuries ago. Leo XIII in his Apostolic letter 'parvenu a la vingt-cinquième année' alluded to the cultural Revolution that has wrecked the remnants of Christians civilization. Its profound cause is an explosion of pride and desobedience that has inspired, not one system, but, rather, a whole chain of ideological systems. Their wide acceptance gave rise to the three great revolutions in the history of the West: the Pseudo-Reformation, the French Revolution, and Communism.

The Renaissance paved the way for it, but Protestantism was the first major cultural revolution: it made religion an individual matter, it ignored the role of the Church as the Mater et magister of the nations, and the Church lost her maternal influence over a great number of states.

The French revolution was the second revolution to corrupt Christian culture, which not only destroyed Catholic monarchies but above all brought about the secularization of morals. From then on, not the Church but the State, defined what is right and what is wrong, what is good and what is evil. To this day, even in the so-called Western democracies, the State plays 'god'. The role of the Church as tutor of the natural law was dismissed.

The third great cultural revolution took place in Russia: it was foreseen by Our Lady of Fatima, and brought about the most unjust regime and culture ever invented by the devil and his minions. Communism, which Pius XI referred to as intrinsically evil, and a major element of de-christianisation. Pius XI wrote other encyclicals against de-christianization, especially Mit Brennender Sorge against Nazism and Non abbiamo bisogno against fascism.

Today's cultural revolution has reached a climax, in which governments from virtually all countries in the world declare war against human nature, exemplified in the family. The culture of Death, denounced by JPII, today reigns supreme. Its weapons are Contraception, IVF, abortion ,euthanansia, experimentation with human embryos, homosexual marriage. The last bastion of Christian civilization, the family, is the target of the cultural revolution.

So there we have the many links in a chain of historical dechristianization, from Luther in Germany to Calvin in Switzerland; from Robespierre in France to Cromwell in England, from Lenin in Russia to Hitler in Germany, from Mao in China to Obama in America, all stages in the same process of de-christianization.

Among the multiple aspects of the Cultural Revolution, it is important to emphasize its inducement to underestimate or deny the notions of good and evil, Original Sin, and the Redemption.

The Cultural Revolution is a fruit of sin. However, if it were to acknowledge this, it would unmask itself and turn against its own cause.

This explains why the agents of the Cultural Revolution tend not only to keep silent about its sinful root but also to deny the very notion of sin. Its radical denial applies to Original and actual sin and is effected mainly by:

Today's Philosophical or juridical systems that deny the validity and existence of Moral Law or give this law the vain and ridiculous foundations of secularism.

The thousand processes of propaganda that create in the multitudes a state of soul that ignores morality without directly denying its existence. All the veneration owed to virtue is paid to idols such as gold, work, efficiency, success, security, health, physical beauty, muscular strength, and sensual delight.

The Cultural Revolution is destroying the very notion of sin, the very distinction between good and evil, in contemporary man. And as a consequence it is denying the Redemption by Our Lord Jesus Christ, for, if sin does not exist, the Redemption becomes incomprehensible and loses any logical relation with history and life.

Sorbonne

In such a world, the Redemption by Our Lord Jesus Christ has no place, for man will have overcome evil with science and will have made the earth a technologically delightful paradise. And he will hope to overcome death one day by the indefinite prolongation of life.

Every political, economic, and social regime is ultimately based on metaphysics and morality. The institutions, laws, culture, and customs that are part of a particular regime or correlated with it, reflect in practice the principles of that metaphysics and that morality.

A regime's very existence, the prestige that its authorities naturally enjoy, and the huge influence of habits and living environments, lead a population to accept as good, normal and even beyond question the existing temporal order and culture that are derived from the dominant metaphysical and moral principles. Upon accepting all this, the public mind lets itself be permeated, as if by osmosis, by the same principles, which most people habitually perceive in a confused, subconscious, but very vivid way.

Thus, the temporal order exerts a profound forming or deforming influence over peoples and individuals. This is much more pertinent when it affects children.

There are times when the metaphysical and moral principles that function as soul of the temporal order are coherent and monolithic. They can be so in truth and goodness like in 13th century Europe, or in error and evil as in contemporary Russia or China. Thus, these principles can profoundly mark the peoples who live in a temporal society inspired by them.

To live in an order of things consistent in error and evil already is as such a tremendous invitation to apostasy.

The Cultural Revolution of our days carries out a doctrinal impregnation of the masses with intransigence, amplitude, and method. This impregnation is complemented by an explicit indoctrination repeated untiringly at every opportunity. Media is its best means.