

THE PAPAL AUTHORITY TO CHOOSE BISHOPS

The Roman Catholic Church claims that the popes have ruled the Church since Jesus made Peter the first pope. History shows that the Church is lying. Anyway, as the bishops are the successors of the apostles in Catholic theology and the priests are not but their assistants it stands to reason that the pope picks bishops.

For the first millennium, and well into the second, the popes never claimed that they had the authority to choose bishops (Thomas Bokenkotter, *A Concise History of the Catholic Church*, page 134). Had they been heads of the Church, their main job would have been to conserve the faith by having a say in who would be consecrated bishop and choosing the right one. There was a danger of heretics being chosen and the Church being corrupted. The modern popes see their choosing of bishops as the most important part of being pope and it follows that if the pope is the head of the Church any bishop he has not chosen is illegitimate for the pope cannot run the Church unless he uses the bishops as his eyes, hands and feet. When candidates for ordination to the priesthood were just tested if they knew the basics of the faith for a few days and then ordained (page 153) there had to have been loads of priests and therefore bishops who did not understand their religion and so who would have preached heresy. Their allegiance to the Church might have been based on what they thought the Church was and on what it taught and they might have broken away or lost their faith if they found their perception was wrong.

The Church and the papacy forbade usury (page 162). This tradition has been forgotten though the Church says tradition is infallible truth.

Gregory VII following Pope Gelasius held that even people who are not Christians are obliged to obey the princes of the Church for spiritual authority comes before the state (page 124). Gregory VII was the first pope to say that the pope cannot be judged by any earthly power - not even the Roman Emperor. Depending on your view, you can say that is what being pope means. It is very clear in a way that Vicar of Christ or anything that can be taken as a mere claim to primacy but not absolute religious power is not.

Boniface VIII decreed in *Unam Sanctum* that no earthly power had the right to judge the pope (page 187).

If the papacy is not to rule over the whole world then these men were heretics and not real popes. Watch out then!

The Church teaches that the head of the Church in a diocese is the bishop who is subject to the pope making the pope the ultimate head. If the pope is really the head of the Church, why was the authority and right to choose bishops not granted to him until the fourteenth century? (page 308, *Can We Save the Catholic Church?* Hans Kung, William Collins, London, 2013). Only the head of the Church can appoint subordinate heads. Remember, the priests are not heads of their parishes - they administer the authority of the bishop.

CONCLUSION

The papacy is a late development in the Church and is not supernatural in origin. It is not supported by the Bible and is a blight on the world with many of its evil policies. To argue that the Catholic Church is the true Church because it is led by Peter's successor is simplistic. Yet it is the kind of thinking that the Catholic Church deceptively fosters in the naïve.

APPENDIX - COMMENT POSTED IN 2018

Catholic doctrine about the pope being the vicar of Christ and head on earth of the Church contradicts history for only later in history did the bishop of Rome imagine he was boss and spiritual father of all Christians. The doctrine of the papacy is immoral for it argues the pope has the keys of the sacraments and can block the whole Church from forgiving sins or performing marriages - any attempt will be invalid. Relativism starts with lying about history and that is what the papacy is doing. History does not support Catholic doctrine and the orthodox never recognised the pope. Most Christians do not. Indirect and subtle catalysts for relativism are the worst. Relativism solidifies which is why appropriate action is never taken over papal lies.

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Pope John Paul II condemned as an immoral and traitorous and heretical pope
www.trosch.org

Of Bones and Boners: St Peter at the Vatican, Frank R. Zindler ,
www.atheists.org/church/bones.html

This page claims that prophecies about the Vatican apostatising have come true and that the pope, John Paul II is a fake and a heretic. It reports on evidence from Masons and Communists that they had a plan to subvert the Church from within and had placed spies and impostors in the Church. Pope John Paul II was the first pope not to take the standard oath to defend the traditions of the Church and the canon laws and to excommunicate anyone who threatened the faith of the Church. That shows that there is more to this heretic than meets the eye and he is famous for allowing fake Catholics to function within the Church. Padre Pio who was famous for seeing the future snubbed Karol Wojtyla, he who would become John Paul II. It is said too that John Paul II having stated that religious freedom is lawful is contradicting Leo XIII who said that once you give men the right to believe whatever they will you give them the right to refuse to believe in loving God and remove all restraint on crime. It has been noticed too that the pope claims that Muslims worship the same God as Christians though the Muslim God said that anybody who believes in a three in one God is as impure as dung. In 1986 the pope let ash that was a sign of devotion to the Hindu god Shiva be placed on his forehead. In Assisi 1986 the pope invited devil-worshipping animists to pray with him there for peace. The psalm says that the gods of the pagans are all evil or demons (95:5). And there have been similar meetings since, ones in Warsaw and Bari for instance. Another fault is that Cardinal Ratzinger, the pope's right hand man, has stated that the resurrection of Jesus is not a historical event the way the crucifixion of Jesus is. The 1917 Code of Canon Law states that if the pope becomes a heretic he is no longer pope. Even the autocratic Innocent III stated that a pope who becomes a heretic is to be cast out and ignored.

