

ENEMIES OF THE EUROPEAN CHURCH TODAY

The enemies are the emergence of heresies that
are already defeated

Catholicism lowering – Protestantism the only alternative for Christianity in Europe

The Jewish professor, Joseph H. H. Weiler, in his book *A Christian Europe*, gives 8 reasons for anti-Catholicism which has become a Christ-phobia in Europe:

1. After the theatrical play of Hochhuth, *The Deputy* (1963), which leaves the Vatican not looking good, a great disillusion started to arise among Christians because of the behavior of the protestant and catholic clergy at the Holocaust.
2. The lack of tolerance towards others, especially among the governments that denominated themselves as Christian.
3. The failure of communism that began as a hope for Europe, which failed at its peak because of the strong pope implication.
4. The bond that began in the 50's between the Christian faith and many political parties also influenced the Christ-phobia. People saw Christianity and a political action more than what is it should be, an eternal hope.
5. The fight between the right and left political parties. A right that declares itself Christian and a left that declares itself secular.
6. The lack of wisdom from the church when dealing with such sensible and present subjects such as abortion, homosexuality, a women's role, etc. all have contributed to Christ-phobia.
7. Changes that the church has provoked on subjects like the modernity, which in the past has been much condemned, also create Christ-phobia.
8. The emptiness in the churches and the lack of integration of Christians in society create Christ-phobia.

EXTERNAL ENEMIES

1. ISLAM

A Christian heresy.

Nestorius (386-451) Fifth Century.

Muhammad was raised by his uncle Abu Talib from his father's side, a Nestorius monk.

His uncle died in 619 ac, 9 years after Mahammad received the revelation and started to found islam.

The Nestorians are Muhammad's source of the beliefs.

Islam is born from Muhammad in 610 ac.

To connect Islam to Abraham is Muhammad's great sermon to convert Arabs to Muslims. To repeat this prediction is a great mistake that many misinformed Christians make.

2. ATHEISM

According to my friend Josue Ferrer, professor of the University of Valencia, who wrote the book "why are stopped being an atheist", says that atheism is not a thought but an organized movement. That is why he can talk about the militant atheism, because he was once part of it.

The objective of atheism is to take society to corruption.

The pre-flood generation took two steps toward world corruption.

1. The first step was to do things in secret. They tried to do things without God seeing them because they had awareness of the existence of God. That is why the text says "Gn. 6:12a And God looked upon the earth..."
2. Secondly, after they have lost all awareness of God they began doing things openly and that is why it says "Gn. 6:12b for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth."

When all awareness of God is lost, social crimes are committed openly. It is then that the whole earth is corrupted. That is why it says: "Gn. 6:13... for the earth is filled with violence...". This indicates that there was no longer any place on earth that had not committed a crime. "Violence", in Hebrew "Hamas", which means, "theft in small quantities". If you stole less than the value of a "perutá" (smallest coin value), you were not punished. So everyone would commit "Hamas". Noah was chosen for not having committed "Hamas", even though this was permitted. Noah's integrity captured God's attention and this is why he was chosen (Gn 6:8).

According to Jewish scholars, Moses was also chosen for not having practiced theft since he took his sheep to graze further, to the fields no one owned, as far as Horeb (Ex 3:1), so that they would not eat from someone else's grass. On one of these journeys he found God's Mount where God called him for his integrity.

The objective of atheism is to take society to the last step to total corruption, to take God out of society and of the awareness of the people. When society no longer has awareness that there is an eye that sees all, an ear that hears everything, a book where all is written, humans become totally corrupt and corrupt everything that is around them.

There is a source of Christ-phobia in all of Europe that is being orchestrated by atheism. The historians René Remond and L.J. Rogier go even further saying that it is difficult to explain this anti Christianity and brutal rejection without talking about hate. For example, the German magazine "Der Spiegel", dedicated the front page to the atheists entitled : "Crusade of the atheists, God has the blame for everything".

INTERNAL ENEMIES.

3. The sound-doctrinists.

"2 Timothy 4:3 (RSV) For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own likings,"

Titus 2:1 (RSV) But as for you, teach what befits sound doctrine.

What is sound doctrine?

Sound doctrine cannot only attend to knowledge because knowledge for knowledge faints. (1Cor. 8:1).

We must acquire knowledge to put it in practice not to know something but to live and experience something. That is what it says in James 1:23-25 **"23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; 24 for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. 25 But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does."**

Example: Papias a Christian writer from the II century said that he learned more by living the word of God and preserving in it than from any book.

The word is the mind of Christ, his way of thinking and feeling. When we study it to live it we start becoming what Christ is.

Christianity unlike other religions and even Judaism, started as an "ethos", A way of life and behavior that effected all daily life and the whole world. Its crisis started when it stopped being an "ethos".

A (healthy) sound doctrine is a doctrine that heals.

A sound doctrine has to heal and take you out of destruction because that is the effect the word has. As it says in **"Psalm 107:20 20 He sent His word and healed them, And delivered them from their destructions."**

The doctrine that heals is the one that teaches, reproves, corrects and instructs you to justice. But to do good works **(2Tim. 3:16-1), to do good, to bless and not to curse (rom 12:14). Not to convert us as apologetics against our own churches. (Ef 2:10 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.)**

Signs should follow a sound doctrine, like we see in **"Mr 16:17-18 And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; 18 they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."**

The evil effects of the sound-doctrinists

In the council of Trent (S. XVI) it was asked to recover "the sound doctrine" in front of the faith of the new protestants. In the catechesis of the catholic churches they would lash out against Protestantism until the year 2002-2005 in the Spanish Episcopal conference (IE 28), where they realized that for having dedicated themselves to this they have committed the mistake of interrupting the transmission of the Christian faith which brought Europe to secularism.

Some protestants are doing the same by abandoning the same flag of "sound doctrine" and going against all Christian movement, especially charismatic and Pentecostal movements that grow. They have abandoned their true mission, the evangelization of the world, instead have dedicated themselves to persecuting the only ones that are reaching the world for Christ.

While some dedicate themselves to criticize and judge, others dedicate ourselves to evangelize and disciple.

Let's not listen to them, because if we dedicate ourselves to defend our faith to other Christians we shall fall into deception of the enemy.

If we dedicate ourselves to defend our faith to other Christians, God's work will cease like it says in, **" Neh 6:3 3 So I sent messengers to them, saying, "I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down. Why should the work cease while I leave it and go down to you?"**

Let's not dedicate ourselves to that, instead let's train new converts in defending:

- Pentecostalism versus the most rancid Calvinism,
- Generosity of tithing versus Antinomianism,
- The commandment of talking in tongues versus cessationism,
- Because the kingdom needs these tools to be able to advance.

4. THE CESSATIONISTS

1Co 39 Therefore, brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak with tongues.

Cessationism comes from the word "to cease"

These are the ones that affirm that the miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit (like tongues, prophecy and healing) ceased from being practiced at some time after the first century. Cessationism has its origins in the heresy of the II century called Montano. Among other heresies he said that in his home town, Pepuza, was the place where the new Jerusalem would come. The montanists affirm that their group exclusively has the prophetic gift and especially to Maximilla, Montano and Prisca, who were the founders of this movement. Maximilla prophesied that after her they would be no prophets. From this, Cessationism was born.

Even so, tongues and prophecies have continued throughout the history of the church.

In the second and third century according to *Ireneo, Bishop of Lyons* talking in tongues has continued. As it says in his book "Against Heresies (Volume 6): "In the same way, we heard the brothers in the church that had the gifts of prophecy, who through the Holy Spirit talk in different tongues and bring light to the benefit of all, the hidden things of men and declare the mysteries of God. To those the apostles also call "spiritual", being these spiritual because they participate in one same spirit...."

***Justino Mártir* another defender of the faith in the first centuries (100-165 b.C.), said: "If you want proof that the Spirit of God that was in your town has left it, come with us. Enter into our assemblies and there you will see Him expelling demons and healing the sick. You will hear him talking in tongues and prophesying.**

In the centuries IV and V. It was also declared similar things.

En los Siglos IV y V. Pacomio, Crisóstomo, Agustín de Hipona also declared similar things.

*** XII al XV Century.* The Britanica Encyclopedia, vol. 27, pp. 9-10, 11ava ed., points out that talking in tongues was also present among the mendicant friars of the thirteenth century. In The History of the Christian Church written by Philip Schaff we read from **Vicente Ferrer** who died in 1419: "Spondamus and many others say that he was honored with the gift of tongues.**

***In the Reform (XVI to the XIX century)*.** In the History of the Christian Church, from the Dr. T. Souer (1859), vol. 3, p. 406, it declares as following: "*The Dr. Martin Luther was a prophet, and evangelist who talked in tongues and interpreted, a person equipped with all the gifts of the Holy Spirit.*"

What destroyed Christianity in Europe is the coldness of the intellectual Christianity.

We need to live in Pentecost so that we can gain our land for the Lord.

"2Timoteo 1:6 6 Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands."

It is only the Holy Spirit and His power that can change people.

Acts 1:8 (NKJV)

8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me[a] in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Acts 1:15 And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples (altogether the number of names was about a hundred and twenty

Only 120 believers were gathered on Pentecost. (Acts 1:15), but before that day was finished there were three thousand more. (Acts 2:41). Before long there were five thousand believers (Acts 4:4). In time, the Jewish directors accused the disciples to have "filled Jerusalem" with the message (Acts 5:28).