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* Knights of Malta *

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Chancellor's Update

Voices from the Past - Again

As unexpected events occurred and continue to unfold, some of our readers have asked, “Why are these things happening?” “Why now?” “Have they ever happened before or with such force?” Some of the Popes in more recent centuries have addressed these questions and answered them. The chancellor is reprinting the November 2008 Chancellor’s Update. This month we summarize in part with outline format the Holy Fathers’ writings on these topics. (Compacted in some areas to save space)

The Situation Facing Us

Pope Leo XIII, *Quod Apostolici Muneris*, Socialism, Communism, Nihilism, December 28, 1878

A deadly plague (Socialism, Communism, Nihilism, Banking Cartels- Federal Reserve, IMF, NWO) tainting society to its very core and bringing it to extreme peril

Natural union of man and woman held in scorn Family life slackened or held in lust

The rights of private property attacked by greed

Pretending to feel solicitous about needs and requirements of all

Seizing every effort to hold in common all that has been individually acquired

Subversion of supernatural order Enthronement of unaided reason

Governments organized without God and His order

Refusal to submit to laws not passed by themselves

Contention that public authority originates not from God but from the mass of the people

God withdrawn from studies, universities, colleges, schools and public life

Keen longing for happiness seen only in present life

Humble people fixing eager eyes on abodes and fortunes of the wealthy

Gospel twisted and turned to suit evil meaning

Pope Pius XI, *Quadragesimo Anno*, Reconstructing the Social Order, May 15, 1931

Compulsion used to achieve collectivity

Friendship used to attract children to form their minds and manners

Pope Pius XI, *Divini Redemptoris*, On Atheistic Communism, March 19, 1937

De-Christianization of human society Trend to atheism increasing

Antagonisms between classes and annihilation of opposing forces

No spiritual character to marriage, family and home

Claim to inaugurate a new era, new hope and new civilization

Spreading by deception and promises the equitable distribution of goods

Use of younger intelligentsia, racial antagonism, political opposition, great financial resources, gigantic organizations, trained workers, pamphlets, cinema, schools

Conspiracy of silence by press

THE PROBLEM

Pope Leo XIII, *Quod Apostolici Muneris*, Socialism, Communism, Nihilism, December 28, 1878

Marriage under religious sanction lost Paternal authority over children slackened

Duties of children to parents slackened

Preaching that right of property is of human invention

Jerusalem 1048-1291, Cyprus 1291-1310, Rhodes 1311-1523, Malta 1530-1798, Russia 1798-1907, U.S.A. 1908-

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Preaching that no one should endure poverty meekly
Seizing with impunity the possessions and rights of the wealthy
End result: mankind will fall back into most abject condition of bondage
Alternate result: society will have constant outbreaks of plunder and rapine

Pope Pius XI, Quadragesimo Anno, Reconstructing the Social Order, May 15, 1931

Preference for transient goods of this world caused by original sin

Pope Pius XI, Divini Redemptoris, On Atheistic Communism, March 19, 1937

Communism contrary to natural law

Only one reality: matter

No room for idea of God

World already largely de-Christianized

Communism intrinsically wrong

THE SOLUTION

Pope Leo XIII, Quod Apostolici Muneris, Socialism, Communism, Nihilism, December 28, 1878

Cry, cease not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet. (Isaias, 58 v.1)

Earlier warnings by Clement XII, Benedict XIV, Pius VI, Pius VII, Leo XII and Pius IX

No power but from God

Indissoluble union of husband and wife

Children to obey parents and parents to bring up children in the discipline of the Lord

Rights of property and its disposal to remain intact and inviolate

Preaching that coveting the goods of others = violation of 10th Commandment

Rich to give of their superfluity to the poor

All to bridle their passions

Catholics and churchmen not to lend their names to Socialists

Laborers to be content with their lot and lead a peaceful life

Address fervent prayers to God

Invoke patronage of Mary, Joseph and Peter and Paul

Pope Pius XI, Quadragesimo Anno, Reconstructing the Social Order, May 15, 1931

Preach the Christian truth, whole, entire, openly, sincerely

Promote a profound renewal of Christian spirit

Return to sincere teaching of the Gospel

Need an economic life inspired by Christian principles

Pope Pius XI, Divini Redemptoris, On Atheistic Communism, March 19, 1937

Use prayer, joined with penance, especially fasting

Implore the intercession of the Immaculate Virgin

Special Exhortations of the Holy Fathers

“We pronounce as follows: whether Socialism be considered as a doctrine, or as historical fact, or as a movement, if it really remain Socialism, it cannot be brought into harmony with the dogmas of the Catholic Church... the reason being that it conceives human society in a way utterly alien to Christian truth.” *(Quadragesimo Anno)*

“No one can be at the same time a sincere Catholic and a true Socialist.” *(Quadragesimo Anno)*

“Let us bear in mind that the parent of this cultural Socialism was Liberalism (toleration of error), and that its offspring will be Bolshevism.” *(Quadragesimo Anno)*

“The Communism of today, more emphatically than similar movements in the past, conceals in itself a false **messianic idea**. A pseudo-ideal of justice, of equality and fraternity in labor impregnates all its doctrine and activity with a **deceptive mysticism, which communicates a zealous and contagious enthusiasm to the multitudes entrapped by delusive promises.**” *(Divinie Redemptoris)*

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