

# The New World Religion—Part VI

## Pope John Paul's Universal Aspirations

By Gary Kah

In the last few articles we have examined some of the one world political and religious goals being pursued by the current Pope. These goals are increasingly being endorsed by New Age politicians, Eastern mystics, and leaders from the world's religions. Influential world figures seem to be coming together around the Vatican.

The most recent example of John Paul's push for a new religious order came in his invitation to more than 200 "spiritual" leaders (representing the world's major religions) to join him on a pilgrimage to Assisi, Italy—the site of an earlier interfaith summit in 1986. This "pilgrimage" is scheduled to take place within the next few months and will coincide with the Vatican's Year 2000 Jubilee celebrations. Significant announcements are anticipated from the Pope at that time, including the unveiling of his plans to eliminate global debt and a call to international spiritual unity.

The fact that Pope John Paul has become highly revered in religious circles is made evident by author Malachi Martin, a former Jesuit priest (recently deceased). Regarding the Pope's claim to moral and religious leadership of the human race, Martin states: "All realize, seemingly, that he is in a category superior to the Dalai Lama, the Patriarch of

Constantinople, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Billy Graham, any renowned itinerant Indian swami, or any other religious leader who travels."

Not only is the Pontiff revered by his religious peers, he is highly esteemed by all segments of society, including many within the Protestant realm. This Pope, more than any other, has particularly endeared himself to evangelical Christians. This unique relationship has been born largely out of their appreciation for his strong stance against abortion. However, most Evangelicals remain unaware of John Paul's acceptance of evolution and his strong devotion to Mary. It is widely expected that he will publicly elevate Mary to the status of co-redeemer in the near future.

While many Evangelicals have embraced the Pope as a spiritual ally, he is only returning the favor in public. Privately, he continues to hold Bible-believing Christians in contempt. In a Sunday mass in Venezuela, Pope John Paul called on parish workers to intensify their efforts against "the threat from evangelical Protestantism." In spite of his antagonism toward Bible-believing Christians, the Pope is playing the lead role in promoting "universal harmony."

The following statements by John Paul summarize his views on the role of the Catholic Church in achieving global unity:

**THE APPROACHING END OF THE SECOND millennium demands of everyone an examination of conscience and the promotion of fitting ecumenical initiatives so that we can celebrate the Great Jubilee, if not completely united, at least much closer to overcoming the divisions of the second millennium.**

Source: Compiled by Nick Bakalar and Richard Balkin, *The Wisdom of John Paul II: The Pope on Life's Most Vital Questions* (New York, NY: HarperCollins Publishers, 1995), 96-97. (uppercase in original)

***It is necessary for humanity to achieve unity through plurality, to learn to come together in the one Church, even while presenting a plurality of ways of thinking and acting, of cultures and civilizations.***

Source: John Paul II, *Crossing The Threshold of Hope*, (New York, NY: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1994), 153. (italics in original)

**UNIVERSAL BY NATURE, [THE CATHOLIC CHURCH] is conscious of being at the service of all and never identifies with any one national community...She is mindful of—indeed she knows that she is the depository of—God’s design for humanity: to gather all people into one family.**

Source: *The Wisdom of John Paul II*, 96. (uppercase in original)

**In a divided world, *the unity of the Catholic Church, which transcends national boundaries, remains a great force*, acknowledged as such even by its enemies and still present today in world politics and international organization. Not everyone is comfortable with this force...**

Source: *Crossing The Threshold of Hope*, 169-170. (italics in original)

**The eve of the Year 2000 will provide a great opportunity, especially in view of the events of recent decades, for inter-religious dialogue...**

**In this regard, attention is being given to finding ways of arranging historic meetings in places of exceptional importance like Bethlehem, Jerusalem, and Mount Sinai as a means of furthering dialogue with Jews and the followers of Islam, and to arranging similar meetings elsewhere with the leaders of the great world religions.**

Source: John Paul II, *Tertio Millennio Adveniente*, “As the Third Millennium Draws Near,” [<http://www.cin.org/jp2ency/tertmill.html>]

The interfaith unity proposed by Pope John Paul II is a false unity being orchestrated to further the Vatican’s ulterior agenda—the building of a new political/spiritual order. This agenda is very seductive. It has outwardly cloaked itself with the appearance of Christianity and is moving forward under the banner of world peace and spiritual harmony.

The Bible warns us of deceptive times such as these that would temporarily prevail before the return of Jesus Christ. The apostle Paul prophesied, “For when they say, ‘Peace and safety!’ then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape.” (1 Thessalonians 5:3). Christians would do well to heed this warning from Scripture.

As followers of Jesus Christ we are not destined to participate in the wide scale deception of the Antichrist. Rather, God offers us His discernment through the teachings of His Word and the leading of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, we can face the future with confidence knowing that the Holy Spirit will guide us around the snares of Satan.

*“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”* (Hebrews 4:12)

*“Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.”* (1 Thessalonians 5:5)

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