

Rev. 2: 6, 15
TEXT

SUBJECT: The Doctrine of The
Nicolaitans

5/6/61
GF

What of the "conversion" of Constantine, and the sign of the cross?
 The sign: criticized by the 2^d Lateran Council
 : incredible to Edward Gibbon who treated it as a fable, without

The conversion: a shrewd political move. Constantine used it for
 political purposes. [cf. Gibbon: "all religion equally false"]

- : at best, half Christian, half heathen.
- (1) retained no many of his pagan superstitions
- (2) sought to combine words of Christ with words of gods,
 giving the name of the one to the figure of the other impressed upon
 the coin.
- (3) In his edict of March, 311, he ordains the observance
 of Sunday under the name of *Dies Solis*, the day of the sun.
- (4) delayed his baptism until death, to avoid more civil
 animosity. The ceremonial ritualism (essence of Nic. 325,
 Constantine, ^{unofficially} presiding & ^{deposed} ^{of his throne} ^{which also shows unity}
 for him to take his seat to preside over the highest assembly, the church
 then for the murder of his children, a just and able general.

But however the sign and the conversion, Nicolaitarianism, which
 is fully accepted. It is no obscure doctrine of the past, but a
 widespread, modern and *gi-janti* system of error. Through the gutter
 to Rome has come down to us.

1. In the hands of the priest, separated from the people, the terrible power of
 domination, of death, & communication. The presence of the word, that
 is supplied by the priest who also has power to forgive sins, but not of
 grace from God, interpret the Scripture, twist the words of the

2. The church assumed the place of a *deus* - Roman idolatry. No
 edifice, ritual, ceremonies, images, idols, architecture, taken over.
 Feast days, pagan deities because saint days in the calendar. The
 sacrifice of the altar because the *shambles* ^{of the mass},
 the sacerdotal deities were ministers of man in religious history.

3. In forms of ritual, sacraments, a person is made "a member of
 Christ" or "child of God." Born again agreement to some
 infants. Born a citizen of the state; Christianized & made of the
 church. No extravagance of the ritual but in law made the
 by the ^{papal} ^{the state} ^{of the world}. By act of parliament,
 a *deus* administrative decree, a member of the church.

4. The marriage of the child to the nurse, brought the
nurse, the child for political purposes, involving
prejudice, personal advancement.

q. 'Singing' boy's child apartment, from Act 8:08

f. Rappaport, Cardinal Richelieu 1595-1643, French diplomat, & King's
Cesare Borgia (1476-1507), sister Lucrezia Borgia

f. inordinate

f. had vocabulary "....."

The call, surprise, had - close to NT

PERGAMUS

THE CHURCH'S GREATEST DANGER

"The whole history of Christianity shows, that she is in far greater danger of being corrupted by the alliance of power, than of being crushed by its opposition. Those who thrust temporal sovereignty upon her treat her as their prototypes treated her Author. They bow the knee, and spit upon her; they cry, "Hail!" and smite her on the cheek; they put a sceptre in her hand, but it is a fragile reed; they crown her, but it is with thorns; they cover with purple the wounds which their own hands have inflicted on her; and inscribe magnificent titles over the cross on which they have fixed her to perish in ignominy and pain."

-Lord Macaulay, *Essay on Southey's Colloquies*

Treachery of Balaam.

Both just to Peter refer to Balaam, they both the use
as mention of his name, was not of him but with
of the others but not the way of war.

Why Balaam in Numbers 22-24

at end, Num 27 appears at the end, but no.
Does it appear in the ~~scriptures~~ not the 'word' was.

25:17. was a stray they, the gift of Balaam
wanted to destroy an interest in the land first of
Israel, the corruption of Balaam.

How the case about, answer first -
Num. 33:16 - through the counsel of Balaam?
This the 2nd of the whole thing. A starkly written.