

The Destroyer of the Church

The Council of Nicaea,
1,700 Years of Deceiving the Church

Rev. Charles E. Darnell, PhD

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Scripture quotations

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Introduction

It seems quite odd that I feel God is leading me in the direction of history and the following was written by me as the introduction to my book entitled, "People of the Book, Are You Listening?" and copyrighted © in 2007. What all has happened in the last twenty-five years? We have gone through seven Presidential elections since that date. We have seen leadership changes made in many countries. We now have a new declared axis of evil in the form of four nations grouped together. They are China, Russia, North Korea and Iran. We are watching riots and protests on our college campuses. We have just watched the installation of a new Pope, Leo XIV. Stop for a moment and think, with each passing day we are closer and closer to the Second Coming of Christ. We do not know when that moment in history will occur, but you can rest assured that God (Yahweh) knows when it will happen and He is still on His throne, and still in charge no matter what Satan and his band of demons will do in their rebellion against God's rule. So we begin from the past to take us toward the future!

Through the journey of life, God has led me to serve my fellow man via active duty military service in the Air Force over a period of twenty-seven years. Along the way, God allowed me to learn and He began a process of stepping stones that have taken me across all fifty of our United States and through twelve other countries around the globe. I was shown a parallel pertaining to the discipline of the military and my fellowship with God. With each step, I would again knock on the door and ask God to show me what it was He wanted me to understand. He has shown me the greatness of His creation through landscapes, seas and sky, animals from the very small to those of great size and, of course, mankind itself. I learned the character of various places and their customs and religious beliefs. All of this was leading to another very large stepping stone to change from the service of military duty to the duty of serving God by writing what I had been shown.

Anyone can look up my name at the Library of Congress and see what God has given me to write. Most of those books are about the Bible, but all of mankind does not accept, or know, a great deal about the Bible. Around the globe there are three religions that claim they go back to Abraham as their chief patriarch: Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Most Christians understand that the Old Testament of their Bible is taken from the Torah and Talmud of Judaism. But what about Islam? They claim a line of tradition from Adam to Abraham, to Ishmael and on to Muhammad. They also use a different book to learn the stories that they are taught about these individuals. Perhaps all three religions should have a little more tolerance toward their fellowman. Maybe, just maybe, each should accept that the followers of the other two denominations should be considered distant cousins instead of hated adversaries.

Therefore, after reading the Qurán many times, I felt confident enough to write that which I feel God has instructed me to write. I knew up front that this will be controversial and cause discontent in many circles. But, the fact remains, all humans on the face of this planet are of one blood: human blood. We should find order in the things we do in life and have peace with our brothers. But, that is not what the great combined holy book of these three religions record. Maybe we should pause for a moment in our journey of life and attempt to understand a little more about others. With that thought, and guidance from God, this work will attempt to look at the People of the Book in a different light.

Reverend Charles E. Darnell, PhD

That was my initial introduction to a previously written book. But, that was not all that was written at that time. The first chapter of that book called to mind many things that every descendant of Abraham should attempt to understand because of the influence of Satan. Yes! I fully understand that,

by the influence of Satan, that religions, and even cultures, will take up a blame game and declare that the other religion, or people, are the reason that there is name calling. They place the blame, because of Satanic influence, on that other group as the cause of the present situation. My introduction was carried forward and the first chapter is an illustration of what was going on twenty-five years ago. Here is that first chapter. Placed here as a review.

Who are the players? We are inundated with this information every time we go to the theater, opera, ballet, the movies, turn on television or attend a sporting event. However, we no longer pay attention to the scrolling list of credits or the information given in the program; yet there's hidden information in many of the credits. Many times in the movies, a character has a name but the name is never spoken. If you didn't read the credits you'd never know the name for that one character. Here's an example: (This is dated material that goes back to the original Star Wars Trilogy) Most of us have watched the Star Wars Trilogy and, in the second movie, Han Solo is encased in a block. It was the bounty hunter, Bubba Fett, who captured Han. How did you learn the name of the bounty hunter? For most of us, it was the trivia questions after the movies that provided the information. But where did this information come from? In the case of Bubba Fett, it wasn't because his name was spoken, only because the name was shown in the credits and the clues to the identity of the character that led to the conclusion of the identity of Bubba Fett.

That's ancient history and very outdated material, you say. That's funny. I can easily show you material that is two thousand years old, or older, and most people can't tell who the players are, much less the clues leading to the identity of the characters. The players are the three religions that stem from the same patriarch Abraham: Jewish, Christian and Islam. So what do I allude and why the concern? If all three take their basis from Abraham, why is there so much hatred among the three? My viewpoint of Judaism or Islam may offend many and be taken as an attack when it is not meant to be. As religious people, we tend to only listen, read or attempt to understand the religion with which we are associated. In the case of the three major religions, who claim to worship the same God, interaction to seek any common truth is mute. Christians do not attempt to understand Jews or Muslims. Jews do not attempt to understand Muslims or Christians, and, Muslims do not attempt to understand Christians and Jews. Each, as a religion, points its finger at the other in blame and disgust, claiming it's their fault or they are not following the proper prescribed method to worship God.

For the sake of discussion, we must establish that there is a difference between religion and truth. On the one hand, religion establishes the tenants of ceremony and mannerisms of worship. In theory, religion seems to be the just and proper answer to the means of how to worship a deity. Reality, on the other hand, should clearly illustrate that in practice religion becomes the taskmaster to our own enslavement. We become slaves for several reasons.

First, the leadership of society, or our religion, enslaves us. We become enslaved because of our human nature. Most of us do not want to step forward and be the leader. There's responsibility that goes along with leadership and those who step forward, in the purest sense, must demonstrate the qualities of a true leader by being responsible for their actions and the actions of others. For the most part, we tend not to want to be held responsible for our own actions, and in a supervisory role, be accountable for the actions of others. Now, take the veil of greed and influence of power, and sprinkle these over the leader and see what you get. Under these conditions, the leadership is looking out for itself, and no one else, especially the little guy who is following under their leadership. Unchecked, the influence, control and manipulation by fear leads to laws of ceremony or circumstance, followed by a horde of tolerance checkers who must observe every aspect of life to see that you have not broken any one law. In some cases, these controls are boldly proclaimed and in the open. In other situations, the controls are subtle, masked and part of cultural makeup. You could possibly call this the book of the law or hide it in words

and say it was the faith of the believer, or maybe the practice of shunning another. No matter the means, the effect is still enslavement.

A second means, by which we are enslaved, is by the influence of others. Passion, for whatever cause, enflames many and want the same affect. The most notable illustration is simply what's going on around us. If a friend comes to you with a story of great love, you want the same experience to be part of your life. If the person down the street has a new car, you want one also. If a new believer in a cause or faith demonstrates a perceived halo, you try to find how you can get one for yourself. If a business person in the next block has struck it rich, you want to mimic the idea. If someone in your area just won the lottery, you spend all your extra money buying lottery tickets so you can be the next winner. All in all, we become enslaved because someone else did it or said it. We are coveting what another has.

Finally we become enslaved because of ourselves. For the most part, we are all lazy creatures. We will not research what we are told, to see whether it is true or not. If we see something on television or written in a book, we take it as truth just because it is on television or in print. If a friend tells you something, you take it as truth because of the friendship. If our social position indicates something to us that is a standard, we never question to see if the standard is correct or not, especially if it is compounded by the other two means of enslavement, influence and leadership. We permit ourselves to become enslaved because of family feuds, society standards and personal pride. Yet, a small investment of time, to learn the circumstances or situations, would lead us from enslavement to being free. Free to know because we went to the source. Recall what Paul instructed us to do in 1 Thessalonians 5:21-22.

²¹ *Test all things; hold fast what is good.* ²² *Abstain from every form of evil.* (NKJV)

But, at the same time, we tend to permit this word *free* to take on a meaning of its own, and somehow believe, that because of freedom, we do not have to be moral, ethical, chaste, honest, or sincere. We somehow have accepted that freedom means you do not have to adhere to any authority, nor do you have to respect anything other than yourself. It sounds like the last verse in the book of Judges 21:25. ²⁵ *In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.* (NKJV)

You foolish people! Who has deceived you? Paul made the following statement to the Galatians: Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified. Galatians 3:1. ¹ *O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified?* (NKJV) Paul then asked the following to these same people: Galatians 3:2-4:9. ² *This only I want to learn from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?* ³ *Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh?* ⁴ *Have you suffered so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain?* ⁵ *Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, does He do it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?*—

⁶ *just as Abraham "believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness."* ⁷ *Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham.* ⁸ *And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, "In you all the nations shall be blessed."* ⁹ *So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham.*

¹⁰ *For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them."* ¹¹ *But that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for "the just shall live by faith."* ¹² *Yet the law is not of faith, but "the man who does them shall live by them."* ¹³ *Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"),* ¹⁴ *that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.*

¹⁵ Brethren, I speak in the manner of men: Though it is only a man's covenant, yet if it is confirmed, no one annuls or adds to it. ¹⁶ Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "And to your Seed," who is Christ. ¹⁷ And this I say, that the law, which was added hundred and thirty years later, cannot annul the covenant that was confirmed before by God in Christ, that it should make the promise of no effect. ¹⁸ For if the inheritance is of the law, it is no longer by promise; but God gave it to Abraham by promise.

¹⁹ What purpose then does the law serve? It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was appointed through angels by the hand of a mediator. ²⁰ Now a mediator does not mediate for one only, but God is one.

²¹ Is the law then against the promises of God? Certainly not! For if there had been a law given which could have given life, truly righteousness could have been by the law. ²² But the Scripture has confined all under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

²³ But before faith came, we were kept under guard by the law, kept for the faith which would afterward be revealed. ²⁴ Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.

²⁶ For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁷ For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

^{4:1} Now I say that the heir, as long as he is a child, does not differ at all from a slave, though he is master of all, ² but is under guardians and stewards until the time appointed by the father. ³ Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world. ⁴ But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. ⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts crying out, "Abba, Father!" Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

⁸ But then, indeed, when you did not know God, you served those which by nature are not gods. ⁹ But now after you have known God, or rather are known by God, how is it that you turn again to the weak and beggarly elements to which you desire again to be in bondage? (NKJV)

Galatians 4:21-31, ²¹ Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not hear the law? ²² For it is written that Abraham had two sons: the one by a bondwoman, the other by a freewoman. ²³ But he who was of the bondwoman was born according to the flesh, and he of the freewoman through promise, (Paul left out the other six sons of Abraham by Keturah, Genesis 25.)

²⁴ which things are symbolic. For these are the two covenants: the one from Mount Sinai which gives birth to bondage, which is Hagar— ²⁵ for this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and corresponds to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children— ²⁶ but the Jerusalem above is free, which is the mother of us all. ²⁷ For it is written: Rejoice, O barren, You who do not bear! Break forth and shout, You who are not in labor! For the desolate has many more children Than she who has a husband."

²⁸ Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are children of promise. ²⁹ But, as he who was born according to the flesh then persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, even so it is now. ³⁰ Nevertheless what does the Scripture say? "Cast out the bondwoman and her son, for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman." ³¹ **So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman but of the free.** (NKJV)

Do you find fault with anything written in the blue letters? If so, do not blame me! These are not my words, they are the words of the Apostle Paul in his letter to the Galatians.

As I said in the beginning of this, there is information hidden in the credits. Now, to fully answer my question to which I allude and why the concern. My observation indicates there are very few people in either of the three religions named, that have taken time to read the Book and attempt to understand it. Most are enslaved and haven't a clue. The concern is for all the children of the free woman.

With that, I'm sure I could find many who would say Muslims fall under the premises of the slave woman. Little do you know, if you believe this! Throughout the Holy Book of God, there is a difference between flesh and spirit. On the side of flesh, Muhammad was descended from the slave woman through Ishmael. However, every Muslim I've ever spoken to has indicated their tie point to biblical characters is through Amelek. That being the case, we can see the spiritual side. Simple reading will show that Amelek was the grandson of Esau. Esau is the twin brother of Jacob, both represent the generations of Abraham through the free woman. Thus, all three religions tie to the promises given to Abraham through the free woman and are heirs to the promise. Muhammad spoke truth, recorded truth and left the truth with his followers just as Yeshua Bin Yusuf (Joshua son of Joseph), known to many as Jesus (His name in the Greek), left his authority with the church. Oh, what a mess we now have because of enslavement, deception and lack of concern to seek the truth. Come along, bring an open mind and invest a little time, because we are now on a journey to investigate as we see what truth may be hidden in the Book.

The Destroyer of the Church

The Council of Nicaea, 1,700 Years of Deceiving the Church

God appears to be sending me in the direction of history. As a watchman on the wall, my God has sent many thoughts to my mind to think about, and then, to write about as a warning to others. It started with the idea, prior to the 2024 elections, that I needed to understand the Constitution of the United States and the covenant that the United States made with God. Our covenant with God is different from the covenant that Israel made with God. God is the same God (Yahweh) in either covenant! The thing that most Americans do not understand, or accept, is recorded in the 48th chapter of Genesis in verse 16. This verse is a portion of the blessing that Jacob (Israel) places upon the two sons of Joseph as he blesses them and adopts them as his own sons. This is another portion of the record recorded in the 48th chapter of Genesis. For the moment, let's recall what verse 16 tells us. *16 The Angel who has redeemed me from all evil, Bless the lads; Let my name be named upon them, And the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac; And let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth.*" (NKJV) I underlined two important statements in this verse. First, there is the statement that these two lads were to also be known as Israel, which is the name that Jacob received from God. The second statement requests a blessing be placed on these two, that they grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth. Ephraim represents the United Kingdom of England and Manasseh represents the United States. That is the portion of history that many Americans will not accept as being true. However, on the other hand, these same Americans will accept, without question, the great deception that Satan led Emperor Constantine to establish as rule, or law, in the period of time between 325 and 380 AD.

What Americans do not understand is that they are descendants of these two sons of Joseph. I have written previously that as a tribe of the House of Israel (the ten northern tribes) we are a part of the lands of Israel. Notice that there is an "s" in the word lands. Arab nations in the Middle East understand this truth and that is why the nation of Israel is called "The Little Satan" and the United States is called "The Big Satan". It is also for this same reason, that there should be this relationship between the nation of Israel and the United States. In my writings, I have attempted to illustrate, to my reading audience, that the nation of Israel represents the House of Judah or the Jews. The House of Judah is composed of the tribes of Judah, Benjamin and Levi. Ephraim, who is the younger of these two sons of Joseph, is the holder of the birthright as it has switched on more than one occasion through history. I have traced the birthright from the time of Cain and Abel to the twins of Judah through Tamar, for the House of Judah and Ephraim for the House of Israel. That fact alone should stand out as the reason that the two nations of Israel and the United States should support one another. There should be no anti-Semitism from the viewpoint of the United States. Those nations, including the UK and US, who do practice anti-Semitism don't understand God's ordained Word, instead they are practicing the lawlessness of Satan.

Time to move the hands on our clock. We have viewed the time of Abraham and the promise God gave to Abraham. We have also viewed several statements made by Paul, at the time just after the crucifixion of Christ. Remember that Paul was made the Apostle to the Gentiles by Christ on the road to Damascus. Paul is the most prolific writer within the New Testament and he leaves us with vital information to cover most any situation. At the same time, we also need to remember several statements made by Christ Himself. Recall that Yeshua left us with the statement made in Matthew 24:3-14. *3 Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?" 4 And Jesus answered*

and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you."⁵ For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many.⁶ And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.⁷ For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places.⁸ All these are the beginning of sorrows.⁹ Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake.¹⁰ And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another.¹¹ Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many.¹² And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.¹³ But he who endures to the end shall be saved.¹⁴ And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come. (NKJV) Do you see the hint that there will be a ridding away of the church long before the end will come? Look closely at verses 9-12, especially verse 11. Joshua did not give us a time that these false prophets will rise up to deceive many. Even with this statement made by Christ, there must be at least 2 other verses that forewarn us that false prophets will come to deceive many. Here are those other verses. Luke 21:8-9,⁸ And he said, "See that you are not led astray. For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is at hand!' Do not go after them."⁹ And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified, for these things must first take place, but the end will not be at once." (ESV) Galatians 6:7-8,⁷ Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.⁸ For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. (NKJV) Ephesians 5:6-7,⁶ Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.⁷ Therefore do not be partakers with them (NKJV) James 1:16,¹⁶ Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. (ESV) 1 Corinthians 15:33-34,³³ Do not be deceived: "Bad company ruins good morals."³⁴ Wake up, for our drunken stupor; as is right and do not go on sinning. For some have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame. (ESV) 1 Thessalonians 2:3-4,³ For our appeal does not spring from error or impurity or any attempt to deceive, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not to please man, but to please God who tests our hearts. (ESV) That makes up six of these verse passages.

I saved two sections of scripture to be the final two because of what they say. Read on, because these are powerful and true. 1 John 3:7-10,⁷ Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, for he is righteous.⁸ Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.⁹ Whoever is born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him, and he cannot keep on sinning because he has been born of God.¹⁰ By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother. (ESV) 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12,¹ Now concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we ask you, brothers,² not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by a spirit or a spoken word, or a letter seeming to be from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come.³ Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction,⁴ who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God.⁵ Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things?⁶ And you know what is restraining him now so that he may be revealed in his time.⁷ For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work. Only he who now restrains it will do so until he is out of the way.⁸ And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming.⁹ The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders,¹⁰ and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be

saved.¹¹ Therefore God sends them a strong delusion, so that they may believe what is false,¹² in order that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness. (ESV)

Do you understand what we are finding verses and actions that take place in the time period between the time of Christ to the end of the writing of Revelation by John. That would make the date around 100 AD? We should see in these verses of warning that the influence of Satan is already at work throughout the land of the Mediterranean Sea area of the known world. That would most certainly include the area of influence of the Roman Empire.

If we use the book of Daniel as our reference, we will find the illustration of King Nebuchadnezzar's dream, as interpreted by Daniel. In that first dream, the king sees a huge statue and the third kingdom was depicted of bronze representing the Grecian Empire of Alexander the Great. After Alexander's death, Antiochus IV Epiphanes was king of the Seleucid Empire from 175 BC until his death in 164 BC. Notable events during Antiochus' reign include his near conquest of Ptolemaic Egypt, his persecution of the Jews of Judea and Samaria, and the rebellion of the Jewish Maccabees. For all practical purposes, he was one of the first antichrist to be influenced and to rule over people as Satan desired. I'm not sure of my math, but let's jump from the death of Antiochus (164 BC) to the first noted rule from Emperor Constantine of the Roman Empire on March 7, 321 AD. My math says there are 164 years before we get to the BC/AD breakpoint and 321 years until the action of Constantine. That should be a total of 485 years that we need to jump forward. In the area of the middle (1-31AD), we will also find the time period of the life of Christ during His first period of living on the Earth.

From any red letter edition of the Bible, we have the words of Christ which were spoken and recorded by the Gospel writers. Within those words are the actions of Christ and the modeling and teaching of how believers of the Son of God should act and to follow Christ's example. That is what being a Christian (meaning a follower of Christ) should be all our example. To deviate from the given model indicates that we are not observing the teachings of Christ in the manner that He gave the example to us. For an example, Yeshua observed the Commandments of God and instructed others to observe and obey the Ten Commandments. Use the story of the rich young man in Matthew 19:17 to see Yeshua's instruction. Matthew 19:17,¹⁷ *And he said to him, "Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only one who is good. If you would enter life, keep the commandments."* (ESV) We can go further and observe that the Pharisees attempted to test Christ with the following question in Matthew 22:35-40.³⁵ *And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him.*³⁶ *"Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?"*³⁷ *And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."*³⁸ *This is the great and first commandment.*³⁹ *And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.*⁴⁰ *On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."* (ESV) Yeshua replied correctly, there is a natural breakpoint within the Ten Commandments of God. The first four pertain to being obedient to God and the remaining six are a moral code for mankind to follow. Yeshua's answer is very much correct.

Now, let's look a bit deeper at Commandment number four. I'm using the Exodus version as my base. Exodus 20:8-11,⁸ *Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.*⁹ *Six days you shall labor, and do all your work,*¹⁰ *but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates.*¹¹ *For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.* (ESV) Let's go that extra step and include the reinforcement of this commandment and we find that in Exodus 31:12-17.¹² *And the Lord said to Moses,*¹³ *"You are to speak to the people of Israel and say, 'Above all you shall keep my Sabbaths, for this is a sign between me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I, the Lord, sanctify you.'*¹⁴ *You shall keep the Sabbath, because it is holy for you. Everyone who profanes it shall be put to death. Whoever does any work on*

it, that soul shall be cut off from among his people. ¹⁵ Six days shall work be done, but the seventh day is a Sabbath of solemn rest, holy to the Lord. Whoever does any work on the Sabbath day shall be put to death. ¹⁶ Therefore the people of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, observing the Sabbath throughout their generations, as a covenant forever. ¹⁷ It is a sign forever between me and the people of Israel that in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested and was refreshed.’ “ (ESV)

Just because of the above two passages of scripture, I feel it is necessary to remind my readers how my God instructed me to write these books and booklets. Anything that is my ideas, words or presentations are in black text. However, following that text, I usually place the scripture directly from the Bible to support my statements. I am fully aware that everyone does not accept my interpretation of what the Bible says. Many indeed appear to be more in tune with the concept that tickles the ears of the reader instead of providing the truth. Even Paul expressed this in 2 Timothy 4:2-5. ² Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. ³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; ⁴ and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. ⁵ But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. (NKJV)

Let's use the book of Daniel to observe prophecy and the effects of what Constantine did on March 7, 321. On that date, the leader of the Roman Empire (the fourth portion of the statue in King Nebuchadnezzar's dream,) dictated that the first day of the week (Sunday) would be a day of rest and of worship. He also stated that Sunday was the “Venerable Day of the Sun”. In this action, he clearly showed his pagan base of being a sun god worshipper. He also broke, and disavowed the Fourth Commandment of God. Truthfully, I had to go and look up what venerable meant. Webster's Dictionary says it is “made sacred by religious or historical association”. Therefore, a man took it upon himself to define what day of the week the people would worship. This day of Sunday worship did not follow either the rule of God as given to Moses, nor the modeling and teachings of Christ. Christ observed the Sabbath as the day of worship because it was Holy to God as the day He rested after the completion of His work of creation. Christ also stated the following in His teachings, Matthew 12:1-8. ¹ At that time Jesus went through the grainfields on the Sabbath. His disciples were hungry, and they began to pluck heads of grain and to eat. ² But when the Pharisees saw it, they said to him, “Look, your disciples are doing what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath.” ³ He said to them, “Have you not read what David did when he was hungry and those who were with him: ⁴ how he entered the house of God and ate the bread of the Presence which it was not lawful for him to eat nor for those who were with him, but only for the priests? ⁵ Or have you not read in the Law how on the Sabbath the priests in the temple profane the Sabbath and are guiltless? ⁶ I tell you, something greater than the temple is here. ⁷ And if you had known what this means, ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice,’ you would not have condemned the guiltless. ⁸ For the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.” (ESV) You can also find similar statements in the Gospels of Mark and Luke.

What Constantine did was state that he was getting rid of the Jewish concept of observing the fourth Commandment. I find the action to be the humor of this whole illustration. Here, we have the ruler (leader) of the Roman Empire dictating to the religious bishops under the authority of Rome to change their day of worship. As we then flip this and go to the book of Revelation, we find the False Prophet guiding the Beast in what would be done politically. In other words, these two elements switch their respected positions. We could go further and state that the False Prophet is the Pope and the Beast is the 7th return of the Holy Roman Empire. What I don't know today is the mindset of the new Pope, Leo XIV and which direction that he will take to cause God's ordained time frame to take place. Will this Pope be a destroyer toward the United States because of our relationship to the nation of Israel and the fact that Genesis 48 labels us as “Israel” under Jacob's blessing to Joseph's two sons? My final

question on this action of Constantine: Have you ever seen a Catholic Bible and looked at the Ten Commandments? The Fourth Commandment pertaining to the Sabbath has been removed and is not in their Bible! They split the 10th Commandment on coveting so to make 10 Commandments in their Bible.

Time to make another step forward. This time we need to look at the Council of Nicaea in the year 325, or in other words, 1,700 years ago. Constantine is still the Emperor of the Roman Empire and it was he who called this conclave of bishops from throughout his realm. The council was not called to gather by the bishop of Rome. No! It was called by the Emperor, was lead by the Emperor and paid for by the Emperor. Man, not God, was taking the lead on what Christendom was to do and how to do it. The object for this was that Constantine was taking charge. He wanted unity across the empire toward three main things. First, Constantine wanted a creed to be used throughout the empire. Secondly, he wanted a settled date to be established for Easter. Thirdly, he wanted a new calendar to be created that did not define the seasons as the Jewish calendar did.

Please allow me to address these three areas in their own paragraph and not grouped together. With that said, let's look at the first objective, the Nicene Creed. It appears that by the third century there was disagreement among bishops throughout the realm over the main disagreement concerning whether Christ is a created being, not coeternal with the Father, or fully divine and eternal, of the same essence as the Father. This creed simply overlooked the plain truth stated in John 1:1-5. *¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.* (ESV) Scripture's simplicity on this point contradicts the ideas leading up to Nicaea, which had become corrupted in the preceding centuries by heathen philosophy that sought to reconcile the simple truths of God's word with the abstract ideas and concepts of the Greeks. Furthermore, once accepted by the council any bishop who would not profess the creed were exiled and removed from their ecclesiastical positions.

Our second subject is the controversy that came to be called the Quartodeciman controversy, after the Latin quartodecima, meaning the "fourteenth." This controversy rests entirely with the difference of opinion between the division of the church. Toward the east was the Orthodox side of the church and to the west was the Roman influenced side of the church. The Orthodox side continued to observe the Passover on the fourteenth day of Nisan as observed by Christ and His disciples. However, Constantine and the bishops under the influence of the Roman church wanted to establish a set date on a given Sunday as established by Constantine in his decree on March 7, 321. The tradition in Rome was different. Rather than observing a memorial of Christ's crucifixion, Roman congregations developed a tradition of observing His resurrection, and they did so on a fixed day of the week, Sunday. Unlike the fourteenth of Nisan, which could occur on different days of the week. Observing the fact that the Roman Emperor would have such sway over the religion bearing Jesus' name should not come as a surprise, even today, the largest organization in the world claiming the banner of that religion is called the "Roman Catholic" church.

Our third subject fulfills a prophecy declared by Daniel but connects with the above subject of Easter. Scholars debate the details, however, the result of the Council's ruling is clear: Not only would the Roman practice of keeping Easter on Sunday become the rule throughout the Empire, but its date would be set by a new Roman calendar calculation, discarding the Hebrew calendar previously used. According to Eusebius of Caesarea, the last vestiges of what Constantine called "the detestable Jewish crowd" were finally cast aside by the bishops at Nicaea. All who sought to follow Christ's example of keeping the Passover on Nisan 14 were declared anathema—that is, cursed and excommunicated. There are two passages of scripture that we need to add to this statement. First, what does God call His

first month of the year? Exodus 12:1-2, ¹ *The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ² "This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you.* (ESV) The only problem we have with this scripture verse is the fact that the month is not named. Turn to Esther 3:7 to find the month. ⁷ *In the first month, which is the month of Nisan, . . .* (ESV) The second reference we need is Daniel 7:25. ²⁵ *He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, Shall persecute the saints of the Most High, And shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand For a time and times and half a time.* (NKJV) Let's face the facts. Constantine was also an antichrist and he did make changes to times and law. Through his decree of March 7, 321 he changed the true Sabbath to a false sabbath of Sunday. He also changed the date for Passover, changing it to Easter. Finally, he changed the calendar entirely to a more Roman style system.

I began this section of this work with the title and subtitle of: "The Destroyer of the Church, The Council of Nicaea, 1,000 years of Deceit to the Church". Yes! As an example of the antichrist, Emperor Constantine laid the foundation to destroy the church that Christ established. What Constantine did was set the path for what many would call the mainstream thought and teaching of the church. It may be that the result of Nicaea was a more unified church, a more orderly church, a more Roman church, but, not a more Biblical church. The church that met with Emperor Constantine, at Nicaea in AD 325, was not the Church founded by Jesus Christ (Yeshua, the Son of Yahweh, the Most High God). The collection of leaders who met in Nicaea did not represent the little flock to whom Christ had given His promise. Matthew 16:18, ¹⁸ *And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.* (ESV)

To me, personally, there is a play on words in this passage. Yeshua changed the name of this apostle from Simon to Peter (Petros—meaning a piece of rock). He then states "on this rock I will build my church". Simon Peter is an apostle, a follower of Yeshua, or in other words, a part of a larger rock. Yeshua states, "on this rock" He is the larger Rock, upon whom the Church will be built. Christ is the Rock of Ages and the Rock of the Old Testament. It is Yeshua who is the teacher who models for mankind how we should act and what we should do to fulfill the Ten Commandments and be obedient to God the Father. We are not to follow the traditions of man, nor to be deceived by what man creates or says under the influence of Satan. This organization of bishops at Nicaea was backed by the most powerful ruler in the world at that time, and was the inheritor of Rome itself. The elders and bishops at Nicaea did not represent the coming Kingdom that was "not of this world" as stated by Christ in John 18:36. ³⁶ *Jesus answered "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world."* (ESV)

No! This organization was directed by the Emperor of Rome in an unholy union with the powers of this world. Paul gave us the answer to who the power of this age is in 2 Corinthians 4:3-4. ³ *But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, ⁴ whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.* (NKJV) I can see from this passage that the name to identify the god of this age is not given. Therefore, I need to bring in a lot more scriptures to prove my point. Let us begin with 1 Corinthians 3:18-23. ¹⁸ *Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you seems to be wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise. ¹⁹ For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, "He catches the wise in their own craftiness"; ²⁰ and again, "The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are futile." ²¹ Therefore let no one boast in men. For all things are yours: ²² whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas, or the world or life or death, or things present or things to come—all are yours. ² And you are Christ's, and Christ is God's.* (NKJV) Turn over to 1 John 4:1-6. ¹ *Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false*

prophets have gone out into the world.² By this you know the Spirit of God: **Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God,**³ and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.⁴ You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.⁵ They are of the world. Therefore they speak as of the world and the world hears them.⁶ We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error. (NKJV)

Next we look at Galatians 1:3-5.³ Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ,⁴ who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father,⁵ to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen. (NKJV) Also, we should look at 2 Corinthians 11:12-15.¹² But what I do I will also continue to do, that I may cut off the opportunity from those who desire an opportunity to be regarded just as we are in the things of which they boast.¹³ For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ.¹⁴ And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.¹⁵ Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works. (NKJV)

The power of that unholy union would grow in worldly power as the centuries pass. During that meeting more than 200 years after the lives of Christ's initial followers, the council of Nicaea was already far down the road of apostasy and compromise. Where was the true Church in all of this mess? Polycarp, the bishop of Smyrna, a disciple of the Apostle John, always taught the things which he had learned from the apostles, and which the church had handed down. Later on, near the end of the second century, Polycrates of Ephesus confronted Roman bishop Victor regarding Rome's departure from Christ's teachings. According to Eusebius, Polycrates wrote that "we scrupulously observe the exact day, neither adding nor taking away," meaning in his words, "the day when the people put away the leaven" or the Passover kept on Nisan 14. Furthermore, he also wrote the following to the Roman bishop, "those who are greater than I have said, 'We ought to obey God rather than men.'"

Yet this practice of observing the Passover on Nisan 14 fell by the wayside at Nicaea, in favor of the Roman custom. After the Council of Nicaea, anyone who sought to keep the Passover as Christ and His first followers had kept it was declared cursed and thrown out of the congregation. I guess the fear of persecution or even death overcame the principal of truth. Mainstream Christian denominations have accepted the Roman tradition established at Nicaea and now practice Easter and Christmas instead of what Jesus (Yeshua) taught. If the Church would study and practice only the words in red letters in the Bible, these pagan customs would not be in our churches today.

For the sake of following the progression of the worldly traditions of men, allow me to turn to the book of Revelation to see what the final outcome of this will be. We should be able to recall that God gave to mankind a sign that marked His children. That mark, or sign, was given in Exodus 31:12-17. And the Lord said to Moses,¹³ "You are to speak to the people of Israel and say, 'Above all you shall keep my Sabbaths, for this is a sign between me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I, the Lord, am sanctifying you.'¹⁴ You shall keep the Sabbath, because it is holy for you. Everyone who profanes it shall be put to death. Whoever does any work on it, that soul shall be cut off from among his people.¹⁵ Six days shall work be done, but the seventh day is a Sabbath of solemn rest, holy to the Lord. Whoever does any work on the Sabbath day shall be put to death.¹⁶ Therefore the people of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, observing the Sabbath throughout their generations, as a covenant forever.¹⁷ It is a sign forever between me and the people of Israel that in six days the Lord made heaven and earth and on the seventh day he rested and was refreshed.'" (ESV)

We also need to find references to the “beast” and the “false prophet” who are the leading powers of the world at the end of time as we know it today and prior to the Kingdom of God. We find both in the 13th chapter of Revelation. ¹ *And I saw a beast rising out of the sea, with ten horns and seven heads, with ten diadems on its horns and blasphemous names on its heads.* ² *And the beast that I saw was like a leopard, its feet were like a bear’s, and its mouth was like a lion’s mouth. And to it the dragon gave his power and his throne and great authority.* ³ *One of its heads seemed to have a mortal wound, but its mortal wound was healed, and the whole earth marveled as they followed the beast.* ⁴ *And they worshiped the dragon, for he had given his authority to the beast, and they worshiped the beast, saying, “Who is like the beast, and who can fight against it?”*

⁵ *And the beast was given a mouth uttering naughty and blasphemous words, and it was allowed to exercise authority for forty-two months.* ⁶ *It opened its mouth to utter blasphemies against God, blaspheming his name and his dwelling, that is, those who dwell in heaven.* ⁷ *Also it was allowed to make war on the saints and to conquer them. And authority was given it over every tribe and people and language and nation, ⁸ and all who dwell on earth will worship it, everyone whose name has not been written before the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who was slain.* ⁹ *If anyone has an ear, let him hear:*

¹⁰ *If anyone is to be taken captive, to captivity he goes; if anyone is to be slain with the sword, with the sword must he be slain. Here is a call for the endurance and faith of the saints.*

¹¹ *Then I saw another beast rising out of the earth. It had two horns like a lamb and it spoke like a dragon.* ¹² *It exercises all the authority of the first beast in its presence, and makes the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose mortal wound was healed.* ¹³ *It performs great signs, even making fire come down from heaven to earth in front of people, ¹⁴ and by the signs that it is allowed to work in the presence of the beast it deceives many who dwell on earth, telling them to make an image for the beast that was wounded by the sword and yet lived.* ¹⁵ *And it was allowed to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast might even speak and might cause those who would not worship the image of the beast to be slain.* ¹⁶ *Also it causes all, both small and great, both rich and poor, both free and slave, to be marked on the right hand or the forehead, ¹⁷ so that no one can buy or sell unless he has the mark, that is, the name of the beast or the number of its name.* ¹⁸ *This calls for wisdom: let the one who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man, and his number is 666. (ESV)*

If the “beast” and “false prophet” are the worldly leaders at the end of time prior to the Kingdom of God, what happens to them? First, look at Revelation 19: 20-21. *“And the beast was captured, and with it the false prophet who in its presence had done the signs by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped its image. These two were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur.”* ²¹ *And the rest were slain by the sword that came from the mouth of him who was sitting on the horse, and all the birds were gorged with their flesh. (ESV)* Okay! That illustrates for us what happens to the beast and the false prophet. But, they had received their authority from Satan himself. What happens to Satan? We know that he is released from his captivity after the 1,000-year reign of Christ (Yeshua), but what happens to him? Turn over to Revelation 20:10 for the answer. ¹⁰ *and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. (ESV)*

Here is my question: Do you understand from this short booklet what the Council of Nicaea did to the true church? Are you prepared to discuss with your church leaders why you meet for worship on Sunday? Are you also prepared to change back to the teachings of Yeshua and to be obedient to the feast days of God and to celebrate Passover on Nisan 14, and finally to set aside your pagan holidays of Easter and Christmas? You really need to think about these questions for the sake of your very soul!

I have to admit that as a child I was raised in a Southern Baptist church. My Christian upbringing followed what my parents knew and taught to my brother and myself. My parents taught what their upbringing gave to them. As someone who deals in Genealogy, I can take my ancestors back to early kings and queens of Europe and beyond. For the most part, they all held a belief of the mainstream denominations of the Protestant Reformation. We always went to church on Sunday, celebrated Easter and Christmas with great excitement and expectations. This pattern was extended during my twenty-seven years of military service. However, as time changed and I retired from the military to civilian life, my searching of God's Word and the facts and teachings of Christ from the Bible began to change. I couldn't find the answer I was seeking. Why were the feasts of God not being observed. No! I had not changed my religion and become Jewish toward God's feasts. Plainly and simply, it just didn't make sense. If Jesus was Lord of the Sabbath and observed the Sabbath from Friday at sundown till Saturday at sundown, why didn't the church do this as a principal teaching of Christ?

God began to work on my mind and things began to change. I was shown the truth of God's ordained feast days. I was shown the pagan influence toward the birth and death of my Lord. There really is a path that can be followed by scripture that would lead a person to understand that the birth of Christ is really in the fall of the year. I cannot pinpoint the exact day, but I fully believe that it is either the tenth day of the seventh month or the fifteenth day of that month. Those two dates are the Day of Atonement and the beginning of Tabernacles.

Everyone should understand that Easter is not the date that Christ died. Christ died on the cross on the day portion of Passover. Remember that ever since Moses penned Genesis, God has always presented the evening and then the day. Thus leading to the Passover meal in the evening, the betrayal of Jesus, the trial by the Jews, the trial by Pilate and the crucifixion of Christ. Stated by Jesus Himself, there was a stipulation that had to be met. Jesus was to spend exactly 72 hours in the grave. Jonah spent in the great fish. This 72 hour obligation had to be met by Christ but, the false church has taken this time period down to a mere 39 hours. Jesus was not crucified on Friday and resurrected on a Sunday morning! Period!! Easter is a pagan celebration of fertility. Christmas is a pagan celebration of the winter solstice. Neither of these two days have anything to do with the birth or death of Jesus.

Now, after 1,700 years of deception the false church is ready to claim to the world that the Nicene Creed is the greatest thing since sliced bread for the church. Wrong! Wrong! Wrong! When is the church going to return to true worship of God and toward His Son Yeshua, the Savior of the world?

You have to make these choices for yourself! What are you going to do? Will you change and repent and study God's Holy Word? Or, will you stick to the false teachings of the counterfeit church and go on with the lie that has been set up by the Council of Nicaea? 1,700 years of deception, no wonder that Jesus (Yeshua) said "let no one deceive you".



