

THE REVELATION & END TIMES PROPHECY SERIES

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ROMAN CATHOLIC COUNTER-REFORMATION PROPAGANDA

FRANCISCO RIBERA – JESUIT SCHOLAR

FATHER OF THE FALSE DOCTRINE OF MODERN FUTURISM

The following is an excerpt from Wikipedia (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Francisco_Ribera), and the information contained in this quote can be sourced from Encyclopaedia Britannica as well.

This is the root of all the most popular heresies deceiving the churches today on end times prophecy.

This is not theory or opinion. It is plain historical fact.

Ribera's whole scheme and points of (false) doctrine are pure invention and pure propaganda – they do not rest on a single verse of Scripture.

See for yourself and mark how the Roman Antichrist has “deceived the very elect” and convinced most Protestants that their Protestant forefathers were wrong on Bible prophecy.

In deceiving the very elect, the Antichrist has engineered certain key points of (false) doctrine, has patiently waged a consistent war of patient propaganda of the centuries, and used these errors, which are now common to the majority of churches, to draw together in a mighty ecumenical religious movement, particularly over the past 100 years, which has rebuilt the world wide influence of Rome, which she first enjoyed in the days of Constantine. While there are broader aspects of this world wide web of deception which generally do not influence true Christians, such as Communism and Evolution, the key heresies I speak of, that the true Church needs to address urgently and vigorously are: Arminianism, Zionism, Pentecostalism, the displacement, via the introduction of modern Bible versions, of the King James Bible and its Protestant equals in other European nations, and last but not least, Ribera's Futurism. Note well, that the great significance of Ribera's work, and its great success in recent times, is due to such a deception of Christians, that most do not believe that The Revelation can be understood without the help of special experts in prophecy, hence, they are robbed of any confidence in Scripture, in stark contrast to the Protestant Reformers, led by Martin Luther's cry, “Scripture alone!” Read the following excerpt of the plain facts of Counter-Reformation history, and marvel how the Antichrist has “deceived the very elect”. This is a vital part of our study. It is necessary to understand just how so many have been deceived, otherwise many will find it too difficult to accept the plain facts of Scripture in the rest of our studies.

If there is a deadly snake in the house, and the people in the house are being bitten every day, and dying one by one, the first thing you must do to save the occupants of the house, is to point out the snake and destroy it – it is pointless to point out the cat and the dog, and the canary, if you ignore the snake as it wreaks its havoc on the whole household. Here is the snake which has murdered much of Protestantism – its name is Ribera, and it's offspring are Futurism and Dispensationalism. Don't take my word for it – see for yourself:

Apocalypse commentary

In order to remove the papacy of the Catholic Church from consideration as the Antichrist (as an act of countering the Protestant Reformation)^{[[citation needed](#)]}, Ribera began writing a lengthy (500 page) commentary in 1585 on the *Book of Revelation* (Apocalypse) titled *In Sacrum Beati Ioannis Apostoli, & Evangelistiae Apocalypsin Commentarij*, proposing that the first few chapters of the Apocalypse apply to ancient pagan Rome, and the rest he limited to a yet future period of 3½ literal years, immediately prior to the [second coming](#). During that time, the Roman Catholic Church would have fallen away from the pope into [apostasy](#) because of the Reformation cry stating that "the

papacy is the seat of the true and real Antichrist." (Martin Luther, Aug. 18, 1520). Then, he proposed, the **Antichrist**, a single individual, would:

- Persecute and blaspheme the saints of God
- Rebuild the temple in **Jerusalem**
- Abolish the Christian religion
- Deny **Jesus Christ**
- Destroy Rome
- Be received by the Jews
- Pretend to be God
- Kill the two witnesses of God
- Conquer the world.

To accomplish this, Ribera proposed that the 1260 days and 42 months and 3½ times of prophecy were not 1260 years as based on the **year-day principle** (**Numbers** 14:34 and **Ezekiel** 4:6), but a literal 3½ years, hence preventing the arrival of the deduction of (i) the 1260 years.

Other works

- *Vida de la madre Teresa de Jesús* (1590), a work of **hagiography**.^[3]
- *In epistolam B. Pauli apostoli ad Hebraeos commentarii* (1600).^[4]

Futurism^[edit]

Futurism (Christianity) is the proposal that the *Book of Revelation* does not bear the application to the **Middle Ages** or the papacy, rather the "future" (more particularly to a period immediately prior to the Second Coming). The *Dictionary of Premillennial Theology* (1997) states that Ribera was an **Augustinian amillennialist**, whose form of futurism proposed that only the introductory chapters of "Revelation referred to ancient Rome, and the remainder referred to a literal three and half years at the end of time. His interpretation was then followed by **Robert Bellarmine** and the Spanish Dominican **Thomas Malvenda**.^{[2][5]}

Thomas Brightman, in particular, writing in the early 17th century as an English Protestant, contested Ribera's views. He argued that the Catholic use of the **Vulgate** had withheld commentary from the *Book of Revelation*, and then provided an interpretation avoiding the connection with the **Papacy** put forward in the **historicist** point of view.^[6]

References^[edit]

- Ralph Thompson, *Champions of Christianity in Search of Truth*, p. 91.
- H. Grattan Guinness, *History Unveiling Prophecy or Time as an Interpreter*, New York: Fleming H. Revell Co., 1905, p. 289.
- Dave MacPherson, *The Incredible Cover-Up: Exposing the Origins of Rapture Theories*. Omega Publications, Medford Oregon. 1980.
- **Leroy Edwin Froom**, *The Prophetic Faith of Our Fathers: The Historical Development of Prophetic Interpretation*, Washington, DC: Review and Herald, 1948, Vol. 2, pp. 486–493, Vol. 3, pp. 533, 655, 731, Vol. 4, 1195, 1196, 1204.

Notes^[edit]

- [↑] Mal Crouch (editor), *Dictionary of Premillennial Theology* (1997), p. 378; [Google Books](#).
- [↑] **Jump up to:**^a ^b David Brady, *The contribution of British writers between 1560 and 1830 to the interpretation of Revelation 13.16-18* (1983), p. 202; [Google Books](#).
- [↑] Carlos M. N. Eire, *From Madrid to Purgatory: The Art and Craft of Dying in Sixteenth-Century Spain* (2002), p. 383; [Google Books](#).
- [↑] [In epistolam B. Pauli apostoli ad Hebraeos commentarii \(Google Books\)](#).
- [↑] [Beiträge zur Geschichte der biblischen Exegese \(Google Books\)](#).
- [↑] Donald Burke, *New England New Jerusalem: The millenarian dimension of transatlantic migration. A study in the theology of history* (2006), p. 39;