

Catholic Candle

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Words to Live by – from Catholic Tradition

In these apostate times, we need words such as the following to encourage us and remind us that God intends that the crosses He sends us will make us better:

Let us not revenge ourselves for these things which we suffer. But esteeming these very punishments to be less than our sins deserve, let us believe that these scourges of the Lord, with which, like servants, we are chastised, have happened for our amendment, and not for our destruction.

Book of Judith, 8:26,27

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Catholic Candle note: The article below refers to Rome's betrayal of the Catholic Faith. However, a reader would be mistaken if he assumed that Pope Francis' betrayal somehow means that he is not the pope.

Sedevacantism is wrong and is (material or formal) schism. *Catholic Candle* is not sedevacantist. On the contrary, we published a series of articles showing that sedevacantism is false (and also showing that former Pope Benedict is not still the pope).

We recommend a small book explaining the errors of sedevacantism. It is available:

➤ Here, for free: <https://catholiccandle.neocities.org/faith/against-sedevacantism.html>

or

➤ Here, at cost (\$4): https://www.amazon.com/Sedevacantism-Material-Quanta-Cura-Press/dp/B08FP5NQR6/ref=sr_1_1

Here is what St. Bernard of Clairvaux, Doctor of the Church, teaches concerning the need to recognize and respect the authority of a superior – such as the pope – even when he is bad:

Even should the life of any superior be so notoriously wicked as to admit of no excuse or dissimulation, nevertheless, for God's sake, Who is the source of all power, we are bound to honor such a one, not on account of his personal merits, which are non-existent, but because of the divine ordination and the dignity of his office.¹

However, even while recognizing the pope's authority and our duty to obey him when we are able, we know we must resist the evil he says and does. Read more about this principle here: <https://catholiccandle.neocities.org/faith/against-sedevacantism.html#section-7>



VC II Set Up a Distinction of Compromises Without a Difference

Starting in 1965, most Catholics compromised their Faith and followed liberal leaders into what became the conciliar church.

In 2015, most Traditional Catholics compromised their Faith by following liberal leaders into a changed SSPX which accepted increasing liberalness.

After the Second Vatican Council, when the conciliar church of the '60s and '70s set out to destroy the traditional Catholic Church, they depended on the love and trust of most Catholics for their cardinals, bishops, and priests, plus the average layman's love for his Church, plus their assumption that Church leaders neither would nor ever could do anything contrary to the welfare of Christ's Church. After all, the bishops confirmed them, and the priests baptized, instructed, and confessed them with a father-like affection. Why wouldn't they accept and believe their pastor of many years? And besides, everyone else went along (*i.e.*, to get along).

In addition to that, they were told repeatedly that the Catholic Church is old and slow and needs to keep up with the ever-changing world. Their pastor said change is good and necessary to improve church attendance (and revenue), and that it was also necessary to be "open to the world". Moreover, (the pastor added) the Church has to be more like the

¹ Quoted from St. Bernard of Clairvaux, Third Sermon for Advent, entitled: *On the Three Advents of the Lord and the Seven Pillars which we ought to Erect within us.*

world, more accepting of humanism, and more open to compromise, in order to be with the world.

So, what did nearly all low-information “Sunday” Catholics do? They accepted wholeheartedly the conciliar church because their Faith became more fun with clown masses, no more confession “box”, *etc.* There was group reconciliation with our fellow man, *etc.* And besides, everyone goes to heaven now.

A billion or so Catholics went along with the changes, placing their salvation in ever-greater danger. They *went along to get along*. They tried to avoid losing friends or family by not objecting to what was happening to their Church and by not fighting against the changes listed below.

- The “elimination” of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and its replacement with a non-Catholic service designed with the help of six Protestant ministers under the direction of a notorious Mason.
- The “elimination” of the Holy Sacrament of Penance and its replacement with “reconciliation” with your fellow man.
- The “elimination” of the truth that there is *No-Salvation-Outside-the-Catholic-Church*, and promotion of Religious Liberty for error.
- The “elimination” of the need for the Sacrament of Extreme Unction by promoting Universal Salvation (*i.e.*, everyone goes to heaven)
- The “elimination” of the Sacrament of Confirmation (no need now with universal salvation). There is no need in the conciliar church to fight for Christ the King. There is only the “entrance into the [so-called] adult christian community.”
- The “elimination” of the primacy of the pope in favor of a democracy of bishops and cardinals, as well as the parish and diocesan councils.
- The rejection of the one true Church founded by Christ, in favor of a pan-religious aggregate of hundreds of protestant and other “churches” with “various degrees of communion” (as VCII and the conciliar church likes to say).
- The acceptance of easy (so-called) annulments which function as divorce on demand.

Archbishop Lefebvre fought hard against the errors of Vatican II and set up an uncompromising Traditional Catholic Society (*i.e.*, SSPX) to help followers to fight against the evils of VC II that have deprived most Catholics of the usual sources of sanctifying grace which are so essential for salvation.

The Society remained an uncompromising traditional Catholic haven throughout the world until the death of the Archbishop. The new leaders of the Society were not opposed to compromise. They were most interested in being in a “partnership” with the anti-Catholic conciliar church. They wanted to be accepted by them and wield some influence in Rome, with the false dream of converting them.

In reality, Rome won't convert until the pope and the bishops of the world consecrate Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

With the increasing liberalism in the SSPX, there is less and less difference between the positions of that group and the liberalism which has been promoted by the conciliar church for decades.

The following is a list of conciliar liberalism, showing that the distinction between the mainstream conciliar church and the “new” SSPX increasingly is a “distinction without a difference”. The now-liberal SSPX and its compromised followers must now accept/condone:

- ❖ That the religious liberty taught by Vatican II is “a very, very limited one, very limited”.² The truth is that the scope of religious liberty which Vatican II teaches is unlimited as long as public order is not breached.³
- ❖ That there are no errors in the important Vatican II document, *Lumen Gentium*. The SSPX now teaches that this document is free from errors/liberalism.⁴ The truth is that there are hundreds of liberal and false statements in *Lumen Gentium*.⁵
- ❖ That Vatican II does **good**, because the “Second Vatican Council ... illuminates – *i.e.*, deepens and further makes explicit – some aspects of the life and of the doctrine of the Church”.⁶ The truth is that Vatican II does **not** do good.

² Listen to then-superior general Bp. Fellay's exact words at the following link – listen at minute 1:25 of 6:00 at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DdnJigNzTuY&feature=topics>

³ Read the quote from Vatican II here: <https://catholiccandle.neocities.org/faith/religious-liberty-vatican-ii.html>

⁴ <https://catholiccandle.neocities.org/priests/sspx-the-new-sspx-claims-archbishop-lefebvre-endorsed-vatican-iis-lumen-gentium,-as-free-of-all-errors-and-ambiguities.html>

⁵ <https://catholiccandle.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Lumen-Gentium-Annotated.pdf>

⁶ Quoted from Bishop Fellay's April 15, 2012 Doctrinal Declaration (dashes are in the original).

- ❖ That there are degrees of being in communion with the Catholic Church.⁷ The “new” SSPX indicates it accepts this conciliar theory by now using the term of “full communion”, as if there were any other kind. *Id.*
- ❖ That Pope Francis’s exhortation on marriage “contains many things that are correct and beautiful”.⁸ The truth is that this is a vile, thoroughly-conciliar document.
- ❖ That Vatican II’s *Optatam Totius* is free from errors/liberalism. The truth is that there are many liberal and false statements in it.⁹
- ❖ That the Jews did not commit Deicide. The truth is that, because Jesus Christ is God, the Jews committed Deicide because they killed a Person Who is God. The “new” SSPX¹⁰ joins Vatican II contradicting the traditional teaching from the time of the apostles, that the Jews committed Deicide.¹¹
- ❖ That by making a practical agreement with Rome, the “new” SSPX “will return to the Church”.¹² The truth is that Traditional Catholics are *in* the Church and have no need to “return”.

The SSPX wants you to believe there can be necessary and good compromises to be made. That can never happen. ***All compromises are bad when they are about the traditional Catholic Faith or morals.*** The first compromise leads to the next one and a person becomes willing to accept progressively larger compromises.

⁷ Quotation, citation, and analysis here: <https://catholiccandle.neocities.org/priests/schmidberger-conciliar-ideas-jargon.html>

⁸ Quotation, citation, and analysis here: <https://catholiccandle.neocities.org/priests/fellay-francis-eroding-marriage.html>

⁹ <https://catholiccandle.org/2019/01/08/the-evils-of-vatican-iis-decree-on-priestly-training/>

¹⁰ Quotations, citations, and analysis of the Catholic teaching and of the “new” SSPX’s denial of the Catholic teaching, are here: <https://catholiccandle.neocities.org/priests/2014-01-14-bp-fellay-ltr.html>

¹¹ *Nostra Aetate*, §4.

¹² Here is the longer quote: “Anyway, the Pope said that it is only a problem of canonical discipline. An act of Rome will suffice to say it is finished and we will return to the Church. It will come. I am very optimistic!” Bp. Fellay, Interview with Les Nouvelles Caledoniennes, 12/27/10.

The distinction between 1960 and 2015 is merely a difference in time. Both groups – not only the *then-soon-to-be Novus Ordo* Catholics of the 1960s but also the increasingly liberal SSPX followers of 2015 – had (have) to accept the evil changes of VC II. But between the two groups, there is little actual difference. Through these compromises, both groups increasingly jeopardize their salvation.



Mary's School of Sanctity

Lesson #7 Explanation of the First Week Rules for the Discernment of Spirits (part 2)

In our last lesson in Mary's School we discussed the *Rules for the Discernment of the Spirits* through Rule # 8. We discussed what St. Ignatius calls consolation and desolation and how to act when in desolation. In this lesson we will look at Rules #9 through #14.

St. Ignatius's Rule #9. There are three principal reasons why we are in desolation:

- ***The first is because we are tepid, slothful, or negligent in our spiritual exercises, and so through our own fault spiritual consolation is withdrawn from us.***
- ***The second is that God may try us to test our worth, and the progress we make in His service and praise when we are without such generous rewards of consolation and special graces.***
- ***The third is that He may wish to give us a true knowledge and understanding of ourselves, so that we may truly perceive that it is not within our power to acquire or retain great devotion, ardent love, tears, or any other spiritual consolation, but that all of this is a gift and grace of God Our Lord. Nor does God wish us to claim as our own what belongs to another, allowing our intellect to rise up in a spirit of pride or vainglory, attributing to ourselves the devotion or other aspects of spiritual consolation.***

We saw in our last lesson how to react in desolation. First, we saw how it is so crucial to humble ourselves always, but especially, in the time of desolation. Likewise, we saw how *Rules #7* and *#8* expressly tell us how God does not abandon us when we are in desolation. Thus, by explaining our weakness to us, these Rules help us to be humble and to see the absolute need we have to simply trust in God. Yet, we need to remember that even to obtain the ability to trust God as we ought; we must beg for this gift like little children ask their parents for help.

At this point, when we are considering *Rule #9*, we can see clearly that desolation is a time of great merit and benefit to the soul. Although desolation is difficult to endure, we can learn many things about ourselves when we are in desolation. St. Ignatius explains in *Rule #9* that we should examine our desolation and try to discover its cause. This examination is, in itself, humbling. If we discover that our desolation came from a failure of our own, then we need to tell Our Dear Lord that we are sorry and, of course, beg Him to help us improve.

Whether the desolation came from our own failing or not, it is a good idea to thank God for allowing us to have the desolation. Gratitude is something we owe to God on all occasions. St. Paul reminds us to “give thanks to God for all things.” Further, showing gratitude makes things easier to bear and lightens the cross.

St. Ignatius’s Rule #10. A person who is in consolation ought to think of how he will conduct himself during the desolation that will follow, and thus build up a new strength for that time.

St. Ignatius’s Rule #11. A person who is in consolation should take care to humble and abase himself as much as possible. He should recall how little he is worth in time of desolation without such grace or consolation. On the other hand, a person who is in desolation should recall that he can do much to withstand all of his enemies by using the sufficient grace that he has, and taking strength in his Creator and Lord.

In *Rules #10 and #11*, St. Ignatius tells how to act when we are in consolation and desolation. Again, St. Ignatius reminds us to abase ourselves. When we strive with all of our might to be humble, then we will be safe.¹³

The following are Three Powerful Rules to conquer the evil one:

St. Ignatius’s Rule #12. The enemy acts like a woman in that he is weak in the presence of strength, but strong if he has his will. It is in the nature of a woman in a quarrel with a man to lose courage and take to flight when the man makes a show of strength and determination. However, if the man loses courage and begins to flee, the anger, vindictiveness, and rage of the woman become great beyond all bounds. In the same manner, it is the nature of our enemy to become powerless, lose courage, and take to flight as soon as a person who is leading a spiritual life stands courageously against his temptations and DOES EXACTLY THE OPPOSITE OF WHAT THE ENEMY SUGGESTS. On the contrary, if a person begins to take flight and lose courage while fighting temptation, no wild

¹³ St. Vincent de Paul said, “The most powerful weapon with which to overcome the devil is humility; because, not knowing how to use it [humility], he does not even know how to defend himself from it [humility].” Taken from *Spiritual Diary, 1962 ed. Page 37; Daughters of St. Paul, Boston, Mass.*

beast on earth is more fierce than the enemy of our human nature as he pursues his evil intention with ever increasing malice.

This *Rule* is often called the ***Agere Contra Rule***. Literally, this means to ***act against***. These *Rules* are really foolproof. They always work! If one actually recognizes a temptation correctly and does the exact opposite, the devil will leave him alone. This does not mean that the devil will not try again at some other point; however, just remember to use the same counter-defense. One example of how to apply this *Rule* is given by St. Ignatius himself in his *Spiritual Exercises*. He explains that when one is tempted to shorten his prayers, he should do the opposite and extend the length of his prayer. How wonderful to know that by simply doing the opposite of what the devil proposes, we can foil his plans and attempts to drag us down to hell!

St. Ignatius's Rule #13. Our enemy also behaves like a false lover who wishes to remain hidden and does not want to be revealed. For when this deceitful man pays court, with evil intent, to the daughter of some good father or the wife of a good husband, he wants his words and suggestions to be kept secret. He is greatly displeased if the girl reveals to her father or the wife reveals to her husband his deceitful words and depraved intentions, because he clearly sees that his plans cannot succeed. In like manner, when the enemy of our human nature tempts a just soul with his wiles and deceits, he wishes and desires that they be received and kept in secret. When they are revealed to a confessor or to some other spiritual person who understands his deceits and evil designs, the enemy is greatly displeased for he knows that he cannot succeed in his evil design once his obvious deceits have been revealed.

In *Rule #13*, St. Ignatius is fostering communication and opening up one's heart to an appropriate person who can help us when we are being tempted. Prudence must be used when choosing the person to whom one will tell the temptation. Once the temptation is told, it loses its attraction and goes away. There are really several logical reasons for this. First of all, since sin is inherently irrational, then it follows that temptations are not reasonable. When one articulates his temptation to someone, then the irrational aspects of the temptation stand out and become more evident to the one being tempted. The person told the temptation can see even more flaws in the temptation and then can explain these additional flaws to the poor person being tempted. A good little saying to remember for this *Rule* is ***things hidden, that are forbidden, are from the devil***.

There are countless examples from human history of hidden plots and intrigues that were inspired by the evil one. In our own times and surroundings as well, we can find many examples of things that were kept secret, which were diabolical, and the Good Lord allowed them to leak out and foil the plan of the evil-doers.

God does not intend for us to fight our battles alone. Prayer is essential, yet, God intends us to use other reasonable means as well. If we keep our temptations to ourselves, then

the devil will trick us into some kind of false reasoning and we will undoubtedly fall into sin.

Another aspect of the revealing of our temptations is that doing so is an act of humility. We see our weakness and our need of help. We see that we cannot “go it alone” and this is good to curb our fallen human nature and the pride of life. For one to think he is an island and doesn’t need any help is clearly a form of pride. “God helps those who help themselves” is certainly applicable here.

St. Ignatius’s Rule #14. The enemy’s behavior is also like that of a military leader who wishes to conquer and plunder the object of his desires. Just as the commander of an army pitches his camp, studies the strengths and defenses of a fortress, and then attacks it on its weakest side, in like manner, the enemy of our human nature studies from all sides our theological, cardinal, and moral virtues. Wherever he finds us weakest and most in need regarding our eternal salvation, he attacks and tries to take us by storm.

This *Rule* is a very practical one and fits with St. Ignatius’s military background. This makes perfect sense that the devil studies us. Lucifer was the highest angel and did not lose his nature when he fell, although he is blinded by his pride. The devil knows human nature very well. Of course, he will see our weakest spot and attempt to catch us in a snare when we least expect it. This *Rule* shows how important it is for us to know ourselves well. The *Spiritual Exercises* themselves are a powerful way to get to know ourselves. They are very humbling and foster in us a desire to see ourselves more and more how God sees us. They foster in us the desire to please God, namely, they foster in us an eternal perspective.¹⁴

Later on, St. Ignatius will talk about the ***Particular Examine*** which is meant to help us find our particular fault, namely, what *Rule 14* calls our weak spot. It is a great blessing from God to find one’s particular fault. We have many weak spots but usually one particular biggest weak spot which we must try to find. We ought to beg God to help us find it if we have not found it yet. Once we find it, then we concentrate on fixing this fault.

The devil will be at his tricks again to find the next weakest spot but we can pray and take the appropriate means to find that one too. How good God is to give these *Rules* to help us fight the evil one and his helpers! These are all of the *Rules* for the first Week of the *Spiritual Exercises*, although they apply for our whole life.

In our next lesson we will begin to look at the *Rules for the Discernment of Spirits* for the second week of the *Spiritual Exercises* (Which also are applicable to our whole lives). The

¹⁴ For a further examination of the importance of having an *eternal perspective* see ***Catholic Candle*** Reflection #18 in the Objective Truth Series, available here: <https://catholiccandle.org/2021/01/01/having-an-eternal-perspective/>

Rules for the Second Week are more about consolation; its causes; and the subtle tricks that the devil uses then. We really cannot thank God enough for the countless blessings that He has given us, one of which is the work of St. Ignatius in giving us the *Spiritual Exercises!*



***Catholic Candle* note:** In past issues, *Catholic Candle* has examined some of the evils of feminism. In those articles, we saw how feminism is anarchy in the family.¹⁵ We saw how feminism contrasts to the magnificent work of a wife and mother that is the vocation and great work for which God created women.¹⁶ We saw some first-hand accounts of the evils of “women’s empowerment” activities.¹⁷ Lastly, we saw the gentility and virtuous chivalry that men should show toward women. *Id.*

In the article below, *Catholic Candle* begins a multi-part examination of how the feminists follow the same program as Satan and Marx. Readers might remember how *Catholic Candle* previously examined how *Black Lives Matter* (“BLM”) and the so-called “racial justice” movement also follow the program of Satan and Marx.¹⁸ Although the feminists and BLM both follow this same program, Satan and the leaders of these modern movements ***apply*** the principles of this program a little differently, in different circumstances, in order to appeal to different groups.

The Feminist Program is the same as that of Satan and Marx

The modern feminist movement has its origin in Satan, especially as Karl Marx interprets and applies Satan’s program. In this article we examine the connection between the programs of Satan, Marx, and modern feminism.

¹⁵ <https://catholiccandle.neocities.org/faith/feminism-is-anarchy-in-the-family.html>

¹⁶ <https://catholiccandle.org/2020/10/01/the-importance-and-need-for-stay-at-home-moms/> & <https://catholiccandle.org/2019/12/02/the-role-and-work-that-god-gave-to-woman/>

¹⁷ <https://catholiccandle.org/2019/12/23/booke-review-ungodly-rage/>

¹⁸ <https://catholiccandle.org/2021/03/03/black-lives-matters-program-is-the-same-as-that-of-satan-and-marx/>

We start by examining key features of Satan's program.

Satan's Program

What are the elements of Satan's program (war) against God? It:

1. Is anti-God (and anti-worship of God);
2. Emphasizes disobedience and opposition to the authority ordained by God;
3. Seeks to divide people;
4. Promotes discontent, envy, and discord;
5. Promotes hatred;
6. Is result-oriented and self-interested; Satan neither acts according to immutable principles nor encourages his followers to do so;
7. Is full of lies; and
8. Is against Nature and is anti-Natural Law.

Below, we examine each of these elements of Satan's program promoting feminism.

Examining the key features of Satan's program to promote feminism

1. Satan's program is anti-God (and anti-worship of God).

A key characteristic of Satan's program is that it is explicitly against God and the worship of God. We consider this aspect of Satan's plan obvious.

As we see in society around us and also later in this article, the feminists are among Satan's dupes and/or his willing servants. Feminists are not all equally "hard core" in their adherence to (or devotion to) feminism. The most extreme feminists are the most extremely anti-God.

Those who are "in between" – *i.e., more or less* feminist – are also correspondingly *more or less* anti-God. But no feminists are devoted to and docile to God and to the life He wants them to live.

Because we are on earth to know, love, and serve God, we see that the satanic strategy of promoting feminism is directly opposed to our Final End and to the reason we are alive.

2. Satan’s program emphasizes disobedience and opposition to the authority ordained by God.

All authority comes from God.¹⁹ Satan’s first act was to declare disobedience against God. Satan’s motto was – and continues to be – “*Non serviam!*”

Satan is the original rebel and is the father of all rebels. Satan’s purpose in his first encounter with a human, Eve, was to foment disobedience in her. Satan tempted Eve to “go rogue” by disobeying God and by acting in this *eternally-serious* matter without seeking the guidance of her husband.

As St. Paul teaches:

Our wrestling is not against flesh and blood; but against principalities and powers, against the rulers of the world of this darkness, against the spirits of wickedness in the high places.

Ephesians, 6:12.

In other words, St. Paul knew that Satan is the chief enemy of the human race. St. Paul labored to fight Satan’s attacks on wives when Satan spurs them to disobey their husbands. Here are the words of St. Paul’s “counterattack” against Satan:

Wives, be subject to your husbands, as it behoveth in the Lord.

Colossians, 3:18.

Also, St. Paul instructs wives in obedience in this way:

As the church is subject to Christ, so also let the wives be to their husbands in all things.

Ephesians, 5:24.

By marking St. Paul’s infallible teaching that wives must obey their husbands, we can see that Satan’s teaching is the opposite, promotes women’s disobedience and rebellion.

3. Satan’s program seeks to foment division between persons, classes, and groups.

¹⁹ *Romans*, ch.13, vv. 1-2 & 4-5; Pope Pius IX, *Qui Pluribus*, November 9, 1846, §22.

Satan knows that *a house divided against itself will not stand*. *St. Mark's Gospel*, 3:25. Thus, Satan seeks division in order to weaken and to destroy human society, as he divided the angels of heaven by leading the rebellious angels in opposing God and His good angels.

Satan's first attack on the human race was not only to foment Eve's disobedience (see above) but at the same time to destroy the social cohesiveness of the human race.

Satan is the founder of feminism. He tempted Eve to reject the order God created, which included her submission to Adam, her husband. Eve's disobedience unmoored her from the benefit she would have received from her husband, by his directing her in avoiding sin. In this way, by Satan being a cause of Eve committing the first human sin, he succeeded in his attempt to get her to reject both the natural and the supernatural order.

Satan attacked Eve first and used her subsequently to conquer Adam. Without Eve as his tool, Satan would not have succeeded (or at least not as easily) in obtaining victory over Adam and the fall of the whole human race through the fall of its head.

After Satan's first victory over the human race, Satan continues to use the same successful strategy (among others) of attacking all women in order to thereby prevail against men too. We see this in countless ways, *e.g.*, by getting women to dress immodestly, Satan achieves their downfall and also defeats the men, bringing more people to hell by sins of impurity than by any other sin (as Our Lady declared at Fatima).

Satan seeks to destroy the natural and supernatural order God created for the human race including a wife being united with her husband and being taught and directed by him. To counter these satanic attacks upon women, we see St. Paul warn his flock using these words:

Let women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted them to speak, but to be subject, as also the law saith. But if they would learn anything, let them ask their husbands at home. For it is a shame for a woman to speak in the church.

1 *Corinthians*, 14:34-35.

Here we see Satan's program through seeing the opposite program of St. Paul. In fomenting division in the human race, Satan especially seeks to divide those who should be most united: *viz.*, spouses united in the bond of holy matrimony. Division between a man and his wife is division among those whom God intended to be most united in a lifelong best-friendship.

Seeking this division between spouses, Satan especially promotes divorce. Our Lord teaches against Satan's program of division in these words:

[Spouses] are not two, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let no man put asunder.

St. Matthew's Gospel, 19:6.

Similarly, St. Paul fought Satan's demonic program of divorce in these words:

For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife, and they shall be two in one flesh.

Ephesians, 5:31.

4. Satan promotes discontent, envy, and discord.

God promotes contentment and harmony.²⁰ He teaches us to bear our crosses joyfully out of love for Him. Satan is the opposite: he promotes discontent wherever he can.²¹

Satan stirred up discontent in Eve when he told Eve that God does not want her to eat of the forbidden tree because God does not want her to be like God. Satan told her: "God doth know that in what day soever you shall eat thereof ... you shall be as Gods".
Genesis, 3:5.

In light of Satan's program, we should expect that he would promote discontent, envy, and discord among his disciples, including the feminists. So, for example, we should

²⁰ Here, *e.g.*, is one way in which Sacred Scripture praises and promotes harmony and unity among people:

With three things my spirit is pleased, which are approved before God and men: The concord of brethren, and the love of neighbors, and man and wife that agree well together.

Ecclesiasticus, 25:1-2.

When soldiers came to St. John the Baptist seeking to learn what God wanted them to do, St. John did not sow discontent but rather told them to "be content with your pay". Here are St. John's words:

And the soldiers also asked him [*viz.*, St. John the Baptist], saying: And what shall we do? And he said to them: Do violence to no man; neither calumniate any man; and **be content with your pay**.

St. Luke's Gospel, 3:14 (emphasis added; bracketed words added to show the context).

²¹ Although Satan promotes all discontent, he especially promotes discontent between persons by the deadly sin of envy. For example, Satan fomented Cain's envy of (and murder of) his brother, Abel. *Genesis*, 4:1-9.

expect him to teach feminists to seek out reasons to be discontented and to ever be on the lookout for how they have been victimized and mistreated by men.

5. Satan promotes hatred.

As St. John the Evangelist writes, God is love.²² Also, God has perfect unity. He created mankind so that love would be a great source of unity with Him and among men.

God created mankind so that a woman would be a great source of unity in her home, flowing from her womanliness. God calls a wife and mother to be the heart of her home and to fill her home with love.

Satan strives to be the contrary of God, as hatred is the contrary of love.²³ Satan is full of hatred and he promotes hatred through all of his works. We should expect that Satan would promote hatred in feminists.

Seeing Satan's program, we should expect that Satan would teach feminists to hate men. As part of this hatred, we should expect him to ingrain feminism with unnatural vice – having sinful relationships with other women instead of natural and loving relationships with men (their husbands). This feminist hatred of men is incompatible with fulfilling their God-given role as lifelong companions – each to her own husband of whom she is (supposed to be) the best friend according to God's all-wise plan.²⁴

6. Satan's program is result-oriented and appeals to self-interest.

²² 1 *St. John*, 4:8.

²³ *Summa*, Ia IIae, Q.29, a.2, ad 2.

²⁴ Here is one way St. Thomas explains this truth:

The greater the friendship, the firmer and the more lasting it is. Now, between husband and wife there seems to be the greatest friendship; for they join ... for the sharing of *all* of home life; hence a sign of this is that man leaves even his father and mother for the sake of his wife.

Summa Contra Gentiles, St. Thomas Aquinas, ch.123, §6 (emphasis added).

God intends the friendship of a husband and wife to be the closest and greatest of all friendships. *Summa Supp.*, Q.44, a.2, ad 3. This friendship between man and wife is the closest friendship because it is the only one complementary under the natural law (*i.e.*, between different sexes) and which is a union in the bond of a Sacrament, resulting in the Great Life Work of women/mothers.

Satan does not act according to immutable principles of the Good and the Reasonable, nor does he encourage others to do so. Satan's program is founded upon selfishness. He does whatever helps him gain an advantage and also encourages his followers to act likewise.

Thus, we should expect that Satan would encourage unprincipled conduct in feminists, *e.g.*, their attacking whoever is against them. We would expect feminists not to be "pro" woman but "pro" whatever gives them an advantage. For example, we would expect that, as Satan's disciples, feminists would viciously attack good women who oppose feminism.

Similarly, with feminists being Satan's students, we should expect that they would not be "pro" woman and show this by cherishing innocent baby girls and protecting them from abortion and infanticide. Nor should we expect that feminists would want to protect older women or sick women from euthanasia. Such protection of the weak and innocent women and girls is incompatible with the program of unprincipled self-interest that they learned from their founder, Satan.

7. Satan's program is full of lies. Lies are one of his main tools.

Our Lord is the Truth and His disciples abide in the truth. Satan is the father of lies. Like any liar, Satan says whatever he thinks will be to his advantage, lying whenever it suits him. Here are Our Lord's words about Satan the liar:

You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and he stood not in the truth; because truth is not in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: **for he is a liar, and the father thereof.**

St. John 's Gospel, 8:44 (emphasis added).

Satan wants to do whatever he can to disrupt God's creation and Providential plan. Thus, Satan wants to deceive parents into thinking that children should get their own way, doing whatever they want. Satan would want to deceive parents into thinking that children should be allowed to be the "heads" of the family or that family decisions should be made by a democratic vote (one vote per family member). This satanic lie would destroy the natural hierarchy in the family.

Satan would want to destroy the natural harmony God intended to exist between the sexes and deceive them into believing that a woman's role and abilities are the same as man's – whereas the truth is that God made women admirably suited for the role He gave them in life – just as He made men admirably suited for their own role.²⁵ It is very anti-

²⁵ Read more evidence of this truth here: <https://catholiccandle.org/2019/12/02/the-role-and-work-that-god-gave-to-woman/>

woman (as well as anti-Nature, anti-God, and anti-family) to lie to women, as Satan does, that their role is to simply try to act like men and be as much like a man as they can be.

The truth is that the roles and work of men and women are complementary, not a competition. God intends the difference and inequality in the creatures He made, as part of the orderliness of creation.²⁶ Here is one way that St. Thomas Aquinas teaches this complementariness between the sexes:

[I]n other animals, there is communication between male and female only insofar as what was said above, namely only for the procreation of offspring; but in humans, male and female cohabituate not only for the sake of the procreation of children, but also on account of those things that are necessary for human life. It is immediately apparent that **human works that are necessary for life are divided between male and female; such that some are appropriate for the man, such as are to be done outside, and others for the wife, such as sewing and other things that are to be done at home. Therefore, they are sufficient for one another as far as each brings in his own works for the common good.**²⁷

In Satan's promotion of lies, the bigger the lie is, the better he likes it. Thus, we would expect that Satan would promote huge lies (wherever he can) such as "transgender" delusions, *i.e.*, that a man becomes a woman when he "decides" he is one.²⁸ Because Satan is a destroyer and an oppressor, he promotes such "transgender" delusions, in order to harm real women (as well as the deluded men), *e.g.*, when those men intrude on women by using the women's public bathrooms, *etc.*

Because feminists are Satan's disciples, we would expect that the most radical feminists would promote these same "transgender" delusions (when they can), even when this would harm and disadvantage real women, *e.g.*, by allowing these supposed "women" to stay overnight in women's homeless shelters, allowing these "women" to win all of the trophies and records in women's sports, *etc.*

²⁶ For a fuller explanation of this Providential truth, read this article: <https://catholiccandle.neocities.org/faith/god-wills-the-natural-inequalities-between-different-persons-and-between-different-peoples.html>

²⁷ St. Thomas Aquinas, *Commentary on Aristotle's Ethics*, Bk VIII, lect. 12, n.20 [#1271] (emphasis added).

²⁸ For a further examination of the "transgender" delusion, read this article: <https://catholiccandle.org/2019/12/01/the-direct-road-from-apostasy-to-gender-confusion/>

8. Satan's program is against Nature and is anti-Natural Law.

The Natural Law comes from God. So, Satan has a particular desire to promote conduct against Nature and also the breaking of the Natural Law whenever possible. Thus, Satan especially seeks people to commit sins which are *unnatural*.

Satan promotes the murder of innocent babies. Further, Satan would especially want women to promote abortion because it is more unnatural for them (as compared to men) because God put into women a special maternal instinct to help them in their roles as mothers.

Thus, we would expect those who follow Satan's program to promote abortion and infanticide. Although those horrific crimes kill baby **girls** (as well as baby boys), we would expect that feminist leaders would not want to save those girls because the leader of these feminists is Satan, who wants those baby girls dead.

Among the ways that Satan promotes contention and disharmony, he especially likes divorce not only because God made the relationship of spouses to be the most harmonious of all, but also because divorce is against the indissolubility of marriage *even under the Natural Law*²⁹ (as well, of course, as under the Catholic Church's law).

In Satan's war against Nature and the Natural Law, he strongly promotes the vice of unnatural impurity.³⁰ We would expect that feminist leaders – and a great many of their followers – would also be steeped in unnatural vice themselves as well as promoting this unnatural vice in others. This is in keeping with their discipleship to Satan.

Satan's program opposes and blurs the natural distinctions between the sexes. Here is one way that St. Paul labored to fight Satan's attacks on Nature's distinctions between the sexes:

For if a woman be not covered, let her be shorn. But if it be a shame to a woman to be shorn or made bald, let her cover her head. The man indeed ought not to cover

²⁹ *Summa Theologica of St. Thomas Aquinas, Suppl., Q.67, a.1.*

³⁰ Combatting Satan's attack on the Natural Law, St. Paul "counterattacks" by teaching this natural complementariness of man and woman which the devil mocks with the unnatural pairing of two men or two women. A woman is not made for a woman but for a man, as St. Paul teaches:

For the man is not of the woman, but the woman of the man. For the man was not created for the woman, but the woman for the man.

1 *Corinthians*, 11:6-9.

his head, because he is the image and glory of God; but the woman is the glory of the man.

1 *Corinthians*, 11:6-9.

God gave Moses the following law to combat Satan's program of blurring Nature's distinctions between the sexes, with this command:

A woman shall not be clothed with man's apparel, neither shall a man use woman's apparel: for he that doth these things is abominable before God.

Deuteronomy, 22:5.

God gave man the Natural Law "Increase and multiply and fill the earth". *Genesis*, 1:28.

Because raising her children well is the ***Great Work*** of a woman's life³¹, Sacred Scripture infallibly connects that work directly to a woman's own salvation. For example, here is one way St. Paul makes that connection:

She [*viz.*, a woman] shall be saved through childbearing; if she continues in faith, and love, and sanctification, with sobriety."³²

Because motherhood is the ***Great Work*** of a woman's life, St. Paul teaches that "younger [women] should marry, bear children, be mistresses of families".³³

By contrast, Satan promotes whatever is against Nature and the Natural Law. Thus, he promotes voluntary sterility in women. He promotes women rejecting God's role for them to be wives and mothers. Instead, Satan promotes the evil feminist "ideal" of careers outside the home.

In these careers, Satan promotes the world, materialism, power and pride, in causing mothers to leave their God-given full-time homemaking roles to seek careers in the world.³⁴

³¹ <https://catholiccandle.org/2020/10/01/the-importance-and-need-for-stay-at-home-moms/> & <https://catholiccandle.org/2019/12/02/the-role-and-work-that-god-gave-to-woman/>

³² 1 *Timothy*, 2:15.

³³ 1 *Timothy*, 5:14.

³⁴ Our focus should be spiritual. Our material wants should be few and simple. Our Lord teaches us:

Be not solicitous therefore, saying, What shall we eat: or what shall we

Karl Marx's Program

Karl Marx adopted the key features of Satan's program. Let us examine how Marx promoted and applied Satan's program.

1. Like Satan, Marx was fundamentally anti-God and anti-worship of God.

Karl Marx was anti-God. Marx made a pact with Satan, declaring "with Satan I have struck my deal."³⁵

Not only did Marx choose Satan instead of God, but Marx also opposed and had contempt for religion. He declared that:

➤ "Religion ... is the opium of the people".³⁶

drink, or wherewith shall we be clothed? For after all these things do the heathens seek. For your Father knoweth that you have need of all these things. Seek ye therefore first the kingdom of God, and his justice, and all these things shall be added unto you.

St. Matthew's Gospel, 6:31-33.

St. Paul instructs us in the simplicity we need: "But, having food and wherewith to be covered, with these we are content". 1 *Timothy*, 6:8.

³⁵ Here is the longer quote from Marx's poem, *The Fiddler*:

How so! I plunge, plunge without fail
My blood-black sabre into your soul.
That art God neither wants nor wists,
It leaps to the brain from Hell's black mists.

Till heart's bewitched, till senses reel:
With Satan I have struck my deal.
He chalks the signs, beats time for me,
I play the death march fast and free.

Emphasis added. Quoted from Volume I of Marx's collected works, p. 23 as quoted here:
<https://www.lifesitenews.com/blogs/a-little-known-side-of-karl-marx-his-poetry-and-his-diabolism>

³⁶ Here is the longer quote from Marx:

Religious suffering is, at one and the same time, the *expression* of real suffering and a *protest* against real suffering. **Religion** is the sigh of the oppressed creature, the heart of a heartless world, and the soul of soulless conditions. It **is the opium of the people**.

- “Communism abolishes ... all religion.”³⁷
- Religion is merely a class tool which the rich use to oppress other people.³⁸

Because Marx was so fundamentally anti-God and pro-Satan, it is fitting that Marx used (and Marxists continue to use) the clenched-fist salute – which is clenching their fists and lifting them high. When a person displays a clenched fist at another person, it is an act indicating defiance. Thus, Marxists *raise their clenched fists heavenward*.³⁹

Seeing Satan’s and Marx’s rejection of God and the worship of God, we would expect to find this same rejection of God and the worship of God among the feminist leaders

The abolition of religion as the *illusory* happiness of the people is the demand for their *real* happiness. To call on them to give up their illusions about their condition is to call on them to *give up a condition that requires illusions*. The criticism of religion is, therefore, *in embryo, the criticism of that vale of tears of which religion is the halo*.

Quoted from *A Contribution to the Critique of Hegel's Philosophy of Right*, by Karl Marx (emphasis added).

³⁷ Here is the longer quote from Marx:

“There are, besides, eternal truths, such as Freedom, Justice, etc., that are common to all states of society. But **Communism abolishes** eternal truths, it abolishes **all religion**, and all morality, instead of constituting them on a new basis; it therefore acts in contradiction to all past historical experience.”

Communist Manifesto, Chapter II (emphasis added).

³⁸ Here is one way Marx taught this doctrine:

In the condition of the proletariat, those of old society at large are already virtually swamped. The proletarian is without property; his relation to his wife and children has no longer anything in common with the bourgeois family relations; modern industry labour, modern subjection to capital, the same in England as in France, in America as in Germany, has stripped him of every trace of national character. Law, morality, **religion**, are to him so many **bourgeois prejudices, behind which lurk in ambush** just as many bourgeois interests.

Communist Manifesto, Chapter I (emphasis added).

³⁹ There are some photos of the Marxist clenched fist salute here: <https://abcnews.go.com/News/history-clenched-fist/story?id=39006994>

because they are disciples of Satan and Marx. Later in this article, we will see that expectation is fulfilled.

2. Like Satan, Marx was fundamentally rebellious and anti-authority.

Like Satan, Marx was fundamentally a rebel and disobedient. Like Satan, Marx was filled with revolutionary defiance against God. In one poetic way in which Marx phrased his own “*non serviam*” (in imitation of Satan), he declared that if God should bring down Marx’s own throne and bring Marx’s “walls and towers down”, he will nonetheless continue forever his defiant struggle against God, to raise them up again.⁴⁰

Marx strongly promoted not only rebellion against God but also against all civil governments and all authority. Here is one way Marx declared support for *every* revolution.

Communists everywhere support every revolutionary movement against the existing social and political order of things. ... The Communists disdain to conceal their views and aims. They openly declare that their ends can be attained only by the ***forcible overthrow of all existing social conditions***.⁴¹

As we see, Satan and Marx foment rebellion wherever they can. Satan – and Marx after him – are founders of the (so-called) “women’s liberation” movement because this is a

⁴⁰ Here is the longer quote from Marx:
So, a god has snatched from me my all
In the curse and rack of destiny.
All his worlds are gone beyond recall!
Nothing but revenge is left to me! [...]
I shall build my throne high overhead,
Cold, tremendous shall its summit be.
For its bulwark—superstitious dread,
For its Marshall—blackest agony. [...]
And the **Almighty**’s lightning shall rebound
From that massive iron giant.
If he bring my walls and towers down,
Eternity shall raise them up, defiant.

Volume one of Marx’s collected works, pp. 563–64, as quoted here:

<https://www.lifesitenews.com/blogs/a-little-known-side-of-karl-marx-his-poetry-and-his-diabolism>
(emphasis added).

Karl Marx also declared: “I wish to avenge myself against the One who rules above.” Quoted here: https://www.azquotes.com/author/9564-Karl_Marx?p=2

⁴¹ *The Communist Manifesto*, by Karl Marx and Frederick Engels, published in 1848
(emphasis added).

type of rebellion against the order God created. We see them enlist women to further their evil, revolutionary goals. Thus, Satan enlisted Eve into his rebellion in order to more easily succeed in getting Adam to likewise rebel. *Genesis*, 3:5.

Similarly, Marx used Satan's strategy of corrupting the women so they would rebel and thus Marx could more easily enlist the larger number of men to thereby also rebel. Marx saw the importance of a "feminine ferment" (as he phrased it), *i.e.*, women being in a state of agitation and disorder (as *Webster's Dictionary* defines it)⁴², in order to succeed in his plan of "***forcible overthrow of all existing social conditions***"⁴³ (as Marx described his own goal). Here are Marx's words about the importance of stirring up women:

"[G]reat progress was evident in the last Congress of the American 'Labour Union' in that among other things, it treated working women with complete equality. While in this respect the English, and still more the gallant French, are burdened with a spirit of narrow-mindedness. ***Anybody who knows anything of history knows that great social changes are impossible without the feminine ferment.*** Social progress can be measured exactly by the social position of the fair sex (the ugly ones included) [sic]."⁴⁴

Notice Marx is saying that the communists need to stir up women otherwise the Marxist revolution will fail. Marx is saying that overthrow of all of society is his goal and that ***stirring up women is one of the tools*** he is using. Thus, it is clear that it is not the promotion of women but rather the promotion of revolution, that motivates Marx.

That is why the communists and socialists consider the (so-called) "feminist cause" to be crucial to fomenting revolution in society. Here is one way that the Marxists connect feminism to their broader goal of revolution:

Women's issues have never been viewed theoretically as only the concern of women, but were a concern of all revolutionary leaders, male and female.⁴⁵

The Catholic Church (and sound reasoning, as well as common sense) recognize how crucial virtuous women are for a stable, virtuous society. Thus, the Church and civil

⁴² *Ferment* – n. "A state of unrest : agitation" : "a process of active, often disorderly, development". *Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary*.

⁴³ *The Communist Manifesto*, by Karl Marx and Frederick Engels, published in 1848 (emphasis added).

⁴⁴ Karl Marx, *Selected Letters: The Personal Correspondence 1844-1877* as quoted https://feminists-against-feminism.tumblr.com/feminism_is_marxian (emphasis added; parenthetical words in the original).

⁴⁵ <https://socialistworker.org/2013/01/31/marxism-feminism-and-womens-liberation>

society must safeguard women from feminism and other corruption not only for women's sake but also because this safeguards society.

In 1917, Pope Benedict XV emphasized this truth, *viz.*, that women do tremendous good or evil for civilization. Here are his words:

It is in fact amazing what the woman can do for the good of the human race, or for its ruin; if she should leave the common – [*i.e.*, traditional] – road, both the civil and domestic orders are easily upset.

With the decline in religion, cultured women have lost their piety, also their sense of shame; many, in order to take up occupations ill-befitting their sex, took to imitating men; others abandoned the duties of the house-wife, for which they were fashioned, to cast themselves recklessly into the current of life.⁴⁶

So, it is revealing that Satan, Marx, and the Catholic Church all recognize feminism for what it is: a crucial element of Satan's (and Marx's) plan to destroy society and cause a rebellion against God, although Satan and the Marxists *desire* this destruction and the Church (and good men) oppose it.

To be continued next month



Catholic Candle's 2022 Catholic calendar

The *Catholic Candle's* 2022 Traditional Catholic calendar is available here. It is free to download and freely distributable. https://catholiccandle.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/calendar_2022.pdf

To make this calendar into a hanging calendar, follow these instructions and use the picture at this link: <https://catholiccandle.neocities.org/#gsc.tab=0>

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⁴⁶ Pope Benedict XV, Encyclical *Natalis trecentesimi*, (Woman in the Modern World), December, 27 1917 (bracketed word added to show the context).

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