The Rise of Mary and the European Union



The False Doctrine of Immaculate Conception

The Roman Catholic Church believes that Mary was conceived "immaculately" and she was therefore without sin. The doctrine was invented to explain how Jesus, who was sinless, did not inherit "original (or birth) sin" from his mother. The term does not refer to the virginal conception of Jesus. That Jesus was sinless is a clear biblical doctrine, but as he is eternally divine, the miracle of his incarnation in itself would have dealt with the problem of original sin, and the "Immaculate Conception" of Mary doctrine is -

" ... not to be required of any man, that it should be believed as an article of Faith..."

Incarnation

The taking of human form by Jesus the Eternal Word of God via the womb of Mary. Literally, "to make into flesh". This was a supernatural act of creation within Mary's womb by God's Holy Spirit. Matthew 1:18-21, Luke 1:25 & John 1:14

Virgin Birth or Virginal Conception

Refers to the birth of Jesus by Mary. Some confusion exists here in that some are under the impression that the term means that Jesus was born without rupturing Mary's hymen. There is nothing in scripture to suggest such a "miracle" took place or that Jesus was not born in the normal way. The term is best applied in the sense that Mary had never had sexual intercourse before or after the "virginal conception" of Jesus and that she abstained until after he was born. In many ways the term "virginal conception" is a perhaps a clearer way of describing the matter.

I. Mary - Her Ancestry & Family

We are not told anything about Mary's parentage in Scripture. We are told that her close relative, Elizabeth, wife of Zechariah and mother to John the Baptist was, like her husband, a descendant of Aaron, brother of Moses. Luke 1:5 Mary likewise may have been a descendant of Aaron.

The exact relationship between Mary and Elizabeth is not clear. The Greek word is "sungenis" meaning: "of the same birth" so at closest, they may have been sisters. However, were this to be the case, it seems more likely that the word "adelphe" might have been used. It is probably safest to say they were cousins.

Mary had a sister who was present at the foot of the cross John 19:25 It seems possible that her name was Salome, if we reconcile these people in John's list with the named persons present Mark's account. Mark 15:40

Traditions giving the names of Mary's parents and suggesting that she was conceived "immaculately" have no basis in Scripture

whatsoever.

II. Mary - Her Virginity

We are told that Mary was a virgin, pledged in marriage to Joseph. Luke 1:26-27.

This was to fulfil the prophecies that the seed of woman would crush the serpents head and that a virgin would conceive and bring forth a child called Emmanuel "God with us" Genesis 3:15 & Isaiah 7:14

She conceived Jesus through the creative power of the Holy Spirit of God. Luke 1:35

Jesus was their firstborn son. Luke 2: 6

After their marriage they refrained from sexual relations until after Jesus was born. Matthew 1:25

This tends to confirm that Mary's virginity, in the sense of never having had sexual intercourse - rather then the rupturing of her hymen during Jesus birth - ended when at last she and Joseph felt free to consummate their marriage as any normal couple would. Suggestions that Mary was without sexual desire and denied Joseph his conjugal rights, seem bizarre.

III. Mary - Her Other Children

Mary and Joseph had at least six more children after Jesus' birth, four sons and at least two daughters. We know that Joseph was still alive at the time when the family went to Jerusalem when Jesus was 12, which easily gives sufficient time for him to father these children. Luke 14:41-51

It is generally believed that Joseph was dead by the time Jesus began his ministry at the age of 30.

Mary and Jesus' brothers are referred to in Matthew 12:46-50 and equivalent passages in Mark 3:31-35 & Luke 8:19-21 and they are named as James, Joseph, Simon & Judas in Matthew 13: 53-58, Mark 6: 1-6. Reference is made to "all his sisters" and "his sisters" in each passage respectively. The reference in Matthew seems to imply at least three sisters, which could have been possible.

Much later, James and Judas (as Jude) were to write two of the Letters named after them, which became part of the New Testament.

Jude refers to himself as "a servant of Jesus Christ and a brother of James" Jude 1

James is referred to as "the Lord's brother" in Galatians 1:9 He was a leader of the early church at Jerusalem. Acts 12:17

All four men were called to be disciples of Jesus, and while it is possible that James and John, sons of Zebedee were his cousins (assuming Salome was their mother and sister to Mary) there is nothing to suggest that any of the others were.

Jesus' brothers appear to be named quite separately from his disciples in the Gospels. This separation is shown in Matthew 12:49 and proved conclusively in Acts 1:13 where James, Judas and Simon are named in the list of the Eleven remaining disciples and Mary and Jesus' brothers are mentioned additionally in Acts 1:14

One other argument against Jesus having brothers needs to be considered:

As Jesus was dying on the cross, he commissioned John, "the disciple whom Jesus loved", to care for her. John 19:25.

The Roman Catholic Church would argue that this demonstrates that Jesus was Mary's only son, and therefore it was necessary for her and John to "adopt" each other. This is a fair point, but let us consider the matter:

Under Jewish Law a widow (as Mary was believed to be by this time) she became the responsibility of her eldest son. Jesus was dying and wanted to ensure that his mother was cared for and so fulfill the Law in this respect as in all others. Matthew 5:17

Bearing in mind that John is the only man who, along with the women, stayed faithful in that darkest hour and the fact that none of his natural brothers were present - no doubt still in unbelief at this stage - to whom else could Jesus have possibly committed the care of his mother in such circumstances?

By a careful connection of several scriptures we may be able to prove that John was Jesus' cousin.

Firstly, this depends on the identification of Salome with "Mary's sister". John 19:25; Mark 15:40

Secondly, it depends upon the identification of Salome with the "Mother of Zebedee's sons (James & John) Matthew 27:56; Mark 15:41

If John was indeed Jesus' cousin, it might explain the closeness of their relationship, and make him a natural choice for the care of his mother in the absence of his brothers, possibly in hiding for fear of their lives.

Therefore, the broad thrust of Scripture seems to suggest that Jesus did indeed have brothers and sisters.

In spite of this, the Roman Church insists that Mary is "Ever Virgin". It claims that the brothers and sisters were cousins, as suggested by Jerome (347-420), or children of Joseph by an earlier marriage - as suggested by Epiphanius (c370). The Greek for brothers and sisters is "adelphos" and "adelphe" and these terms *can* mean cousin or kinsman in Scripture, but the overall context suggests that they were literal brothers and sisters of Jesus, as put forward by Helvidius (c380)

The Scriptures do not make an issue of the matter of Mary's alleged ongoing virginity or otherwise. Actually, for the first 300 years or so of church history it was a non-issue, and had it been an important issue, the Scriptures would have spelt it out more clearly; but remember our principle:

> **"The Holy Scripture contain all things necessary to salvation: so that whatsoever is not read therein, nor may be proved thereby, is not to be required of any man, that it should be believed as an article of Faith, or thought requisite or necessary to Salvation....."**

Scripturally, there is no spiritual, theological or doctrinal reason whatsoever why Mary should have to remain a virgin after the birth of Jesus, unless the Mary of the Roman church is now a very different spiritual entity to the lovely woman we see in Scripture.

IV. Mary - Her Qualities

Mary is rightly called "blessed" and respected as an example of piety and obedience to the will of God by all Christian traditions. The Scriptures record that:

Mary was highly favored by God and the Lord was with her. Luke 1:28

She acknowledged of her need of salvation from sin by calling God as her Savior. Luke 1:47

She could not have been sinless or "immaculate" as the Roman Church suggests, since all (except Jesus) have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23. To suggest that Mary was sinless because she "full of grace" Luke 1:28 and Jesus was "full of grace" and truth John 1:14 not only contradicts the Romans 3:23 but ignores the more literal Greek translation for Mary as "having been favoured one" (kecaritomene) whilst Jesus is literally "full of grace" (caritos). God's love, grace and favor to human beings is entirely undeserved and does not depend upon any special virtues we possess - otherwise it would not be grace!

All generations will call her "blessed". Luke 1:48

She accepted of what many would have regarded as a scandalous pregnancy. " I am the Lord's servant" "May it be to me as you have said" Luke 1:38

She was devoted to her son, treasuring the things of Jesus in her heart even though she often misunderstood him. Luke 2:51

She accepted his public rebukes which pointed attention away from her and back to God. "For whoever does the will of my father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother" Matthew 12:46-50; Mark 3:31-35; Luke 8:19-21 "Blessed is the mother who gave you birth and nursed you". He replied, "blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it" Luke 11:27

She pointed to Jesus as the answer to people's needs: "Do whatever he tells you". John 2:1-5

She was warned of, and accepted, the predicted sorrow that would pierce her heart when watching Jesus die a cruel and barbaric death on a Roman cross. Luke 2:35; John 19:25

V. What Became of Mary?

As Jesus was dying on the cross, he commissioned John to care for her, making him Mary's son and her his mother. John then took Mary in to his own home. John 19:25.

After Jesus' death, resurrection and ascension, the Scriptures are silent except to include Mary and Jesus' brothers amongst the believers gathered in the upper room to choose a successor for Judas Iscariot, shortly before the Day of Pentecost. Acts 1:14

We can safely assume that Mary was one of the 120 believers present on the day of Pentecost and became a valued member of the early church, of which her son James (as we have seen) became a leader. Eventually she would have died and, along with all others who have died in the Christian faith over the centuries, awaits a glorious resurrection.

VI. Mary's "ASSUMPTION"

If Mary was "immaculate" it would follow that the decay of her body after death would be a terrible thing to happen to such "perfection" . Just as God did not allow Jesus, his Holy One, to see decay after death Acts 2:27 the story goes that Mary would not have been allowed to decay either. So arose the doctrine of her bodily assumption into heaven, perhaps in the same way as Enoch (Genesis 5:24), Elijah (2 Kings 2:11), the body of Moses (Jude 1:9) and Jesus himself (Luke 24:50).

Does such an "assumption" has scriptural the precedents cited, there is nothing in scripture to support such an event for Mary whatsoever.

VII. THE "CORONATION" OF THE "QUEEN OF HEAVEN"

If Jesus is King of Kings and Mary has been "assumed" into heaven to be with him, the logic goes that she is now "Queen of Heaven" seated at his right hand. The "woman" of Revelation 12 is "crowned" so at some point there must have been a "Coronation". Again we see the unfortunate consequence of confusing Mary with the Church:

The Scriptures state that it is Christian believers who are seated in heavenly places in Christ (Ephesians 2:6) and that it is we, as the Church, who shall reign with him. 2 Timothy 2:12; Revelation 20:6 and who will be given the crown of glory - 1 Peter 5:4

Therefore, if there is to be a "Queen of Heaven" it will be the Church as the "Bride of Christ". But, let as look at the "Queen of Heaven" title more closely.

The title is in fact Scriptural, but reserved for the pagan and demonic "Queen of Heaven" who was an Old Testament fertility goddess, variously called Ishtar by the Assyrians and Babylonians and Ashtoreth by the Phoenicians and Canaanites. Devotion to this goddess in condemned as idolatry in Jeremiah 7:18 and 44:17-25

A DIFFERENT SPIRITUAL ENTITY ? (Statue of Mary - Malta)

The thought mentioned earlier that the Roman Church's "Mary" is a completely different spiritual entity to the Mary of Scripture begins to come into sharper focus here. Making Mary an "immaculate perpetual virgin" would make her perfectly qualified to be a "Christianized" version of the pagan fertility goddesses worshipped by the Greeks and Romans such as Artemis (Diana) of the Ephesians or Venus. The devotees of such "goddesses" could transfer their allegiance to Mary without ever being truly converted to Jesus Christ.

Sadly, when the Roman Empire legalized Christianity, its corrupt Spirit contaminated the Church with such idolatry and paganism. The debates of Jerome, Epiphanius and Helvidius at the end of the 4th century follow all too closely after the "conversion" of the pagan Emperor Constantine in 312 AD and the consequent creation of the Roman Church.



VIII. "Mary - MOTHER OF GOD?"

In 431 AD the Roman Church declared Mary to be the "Mother of God" or "Theotokos" - God Bearer.

Such a title is not to be found in Scripture and the concept is completely pagan. Logically, how can the eternal God who is without beginning or end have a "mother"?!

Whilst Reformed Christians will ackowledge that Mary as the mother of Jesus who was God incarnate, the term "Mother of God" is at best misleading and at worst blasphemous. The Scriptures teach that God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, are equally eternal. Jesus as the eternal Word of God has no beginning and no end, but became a man through Mary.

Any doctrine that somehow places Mary before God will lead very quickly to idolatry.

IX. "Mary - SPOUSE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT?"

Another unscriptural title. To suggest that Mary and the Holy Spirit somehow had a "spousal union" really is blasphemous. Indeed, the tragedy here is that when Mohammed, the founder of Islam encountered this corrupted form of Christianity in C7th he rightly rejected it, but in doing so never found the real thing.

Mohammed affirmed the virgin birth of Jesus in an understanding very close to the true Christian one, but it is clear from Qur'anic verses that Mohammed thought the Christian Trinity comprised three Gods: The Father, Mary and their son Jesus.

Such a thought of God somehow having physical union with Mary to produce a son was so abhorrent that Mohammed rightly rejected it, as do all Christians.

Sadly, his understanding of the Trinity was also flawed as a direct result. Whilst rightly rejecting the notion of three gods, he rejected the true Trinity as well. Muslims today still understand the "sonship" of Jesus and the Trinity in these flawed terms and reject them, not realising that Jesus' sonship to God is a spiritual thing denoting him to be one with God, and the true doctrine of the Trinity affirms the oneness and unity of God.

Had the Roman Church translated the Bible into Arabic and had Mohammed had access to it, he might have become one of the great Christian reformers, with a true understanding of the Trinity and Jesus as the "Son" and Word of God. Instead he founded Islam as a religion at odds with Christianity and created one of the deepest and most dangerous divisions in humanity - all because of corrupt Roman Catholics and their dirty doctrines.

X. "Mary - THE SECOND EVE?"

While Jesus is clearly presented in Scripture as the second Adam, reversing the curse of death which Adam brought in to the world, 1 Corinthians 15:22, the Roman church makes Mary the Second Eve and claims that it was she who bruised the serpent's head. Genesis 3: 15

Needless to say there is no scriptural justification for this whatsoever. It was "the seed of woman" ie Christ, who alone who triumphed over Satan through his death and resurrection. Colossians 2:15; 1 John 3:8

Any authority Mary might have had to crush Satan's head would have been part of the general authority given to all Christian believers. Jesus gave his followers authority to "trample on "snakes" and "scorpions" and to overcome all the power of the enemy" Luke 10:19. The apostle Paul wrote: "the God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet" Romans 16:20.

NOTE: Our feet, but it is God in Christ who does the crushing!

XI. THE APPEARANCES (OR APPARITIONS) OF "MARY"

With "Mary" in heaven, she could then "appear" in the same sort of way that Moses and Elijah appeared to Jesus at his Transfiguration. Various alleged "appearances" have occurred over the centuries, further reinforcing the cult of Mary in the Roman Church. The subsequent shrines that arise further turn attention away from Christ and onto Mary, often adding even more deception with her alleged "messages".

The Bishop of Rome, John Paul II, a supreme devotee of Mary who has made pilgrimage to most of these shrines, is reported to have prayed, "Turn again our sight to the Mother of the Redeemer of this world, the woman of John's Revelation secret, the woman clothed with the sun."

Contrast this with the command of Scripture:

Hebrews 12:2	**Let us fix our eyes upon Jesus, the author and perfector of our faith.**

If we develop the thought that such events surround a real spiritual manifestation, and if we reject Rome's view of Mary, how can such manifestations be explained?

Again, the answer lies in the thought that Rome's Mary is a different spiritual entity, masquerading as the true Mary. We know that Satan, the "Father of Lies" can transform himself into, as masquerade as, an angel of light, particularly if this suits his purpose in deceiving folks and turning their sight from Jesus. 2 Corinthians 11:14 & John 8:44

Now we know that idols in themselves have no power whatsoever, but when folks start worshipping them, Satan and his demon spirits, who simply love to be on the receiving end of religious worship, take advantage of the situation.

The ancient pagan "mother earth" fertility goddesses have been worshipped for thousands of years in different forms and under different names and no doubt, the spirits behind them have put in guest appearances over the years in order to lock people in to the deception. If the Roman Church's "Mary" is a Christianization of one of these ancient demons, it should not surprise us in the least that they pop up from time to time in her guise.

XII. "Mary - CO-REDEMPTRIX AND MEDIATRIX?"

The alleged presence of "Mary" in heaven puts her in an ideal position to "intercede" or "mediate" with Jesus on behalf of Christians who might not otherwise "get through" to him and so not be saved. In effect, in order to come to Jesus, you have to come to Mary first, so she becomes both co-Redemptrix and mediatrix. This encourages "prayer" to Mary and turns our sight away from God, Father, Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

This concept totally contradicts the Scriptures:

1 Timothy 2:5	"For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Jesus Christ"
Acts 4:11-12	"It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth....Salvation is found in no-one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved".
Romans 8:26-27	"... the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will".
Romans 8:34	"Jesus Christ, who died - more than that, who was raised to life - is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us".
Ephesians 2:18	"For through him (Jesus) we both (Jews and Gentiles) have access to the Father by one (Holy) Spirit".
Hebrews 4:14-16	"Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way as we are-yet was without sin. let us approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need".
Hebrews 7:25	"Therefore he (Jesus) is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them".

Our access to God the Father through Jesus by the Holy Spirit is total, due to the once and for all sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. Hebrews 10:12

There is no role for Mary or indeed any other "saint" here and the only conceivable reason anyone might even think of going via Mary is if they are not soundly converted to Christ and "born again" with the Holy Spirit living inside them.

ARTICLE 22 - Of Purgatory
" The Roman Doctrine concerning Purgatory, Pardons, Worshipping and Adoration, as well of Images as of Relics, and also invocation of Saints, is a fond thing vainly invented, and is grounded upon no warranty of Scripture, but rather repugnant to the Word of God"

The very symbol of the EU is itself a Deception

OFFICIAL DESCRIPTION

HERALDIC:	*On a field azure a circle of twelve mullets or, their points not touching.*
SYMBOLIC:	*Against the background of blue sky, twelve golden stars form a circle, representing the union of the peoples of Europe. The number of stars is invariable, twelve being the symbol of perfection and entirety. Azure represents the sea, sky and all the planet, whilst Gold is the colour of enlightenment.*

The 12 stars represent the union of the peoples of Europe under an alleged symbol of perfection and entirety! Later, when the deception is exposed, we will see that this has a double meaning.

Most people are under the impression that the 12 EU stars represented the 12 nations of the European Community/Union (EC/EU) as it had between 1986 and 1996: 12 stars = 12 states. This misunderstanding has even been reflected in Britain's coinage.



"European" 50p Coin 1992/93

Produced by the British Royal Mint to "celebrate" the United Kingdom's six month Presidency in 1992 and completion of the Single European Market on 1 January 1993, this 50p coin had 12 stars, each representing an EC/EU member's Capital City. The design demonstrates that they too had misunderstood the symbolism. Happily, the coin is no longer in circulation.



"European" 50p Coin 1998

Also produced by the Royal Mint, this time to "celebrate" 25 years of the United Kingdom's membership of the EEC/EC/EU since joining in 1973. The 12 stars are shown in a "starburst" design, so the EU circle of stars is again heavily disguised. Britain has a wonderful heritage in its coinage, which makes the prospect of its loss and replacement with Euros bearing the alien 12-stars of the EU even more disturbing.

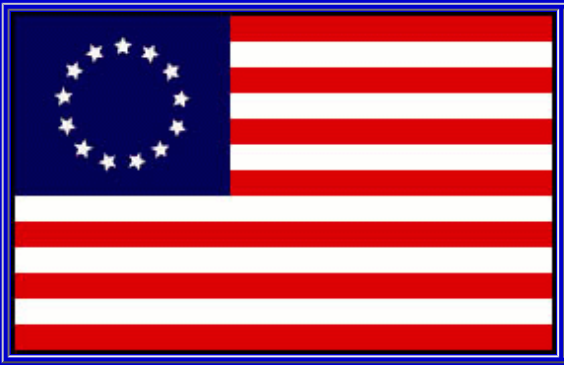
These misunderstandings arose from the widespread awareness that each star on the US "Stars and Stripes" represents one of the United States of America. It is believed that these symbols were derived from George Washington's ancestral coat of arms in Britain, thus retaining a link with the mother-country.

The Washington Coat of Arms

Whilst some heraldic purists would dispute the connection between the Washington ancestral arms and the "Stars and Stripes" of the United States of America, the similarity is easy to see how the connection arose.



Those who know the history of the US flag will recall that one of the earliest designs, the Betsy Ross version, had a circle of 13 stars and 13 stripes, each representing the original 13 British-American colonies.



The "Betsy Ross" US Flag

George Washington visited Betsy Ross in 1776 and sketched out the design, from which she then sewed this flag. While the circle of thirteen stars represented American independence from British rule, the EU circle of twelve stars represents Britain's subjugation to foreign rule for the first time in nearly 1000 years

The similarity to the EU flag is so striking that some are even under the impression that the EU flag now has 15 stars, on the basis that the number of EU states has been 15 since 1996.



THE EU FLAG IS: "Forever 12" Stars



The original creation of the European Council's flag in 1955 and the following chronology:

Year	Event
1949	The Council of Europe was formed in the aftermath of the Second World War
1955	**The Council of Europe creates for itself what is now also the EU flag, as a focus for European unity**
1957	European Economic Community (or "Common Market") founded by the Treaty of Rome: Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg & The Netherlands - **"The Six"**

1967	European Community formed by a merger of the EEC, Euratom (founded 1957) and The European Coal & Steel Community (founded 1951)
1973	Britain joined the EC, together with Ireland and Denmark making **"The Nine"** (Norway wisely opted to stay out)
1981	Greece joined, making **"The Ten"**
1986	Portugal & Spain joined making the **"The Twelve"**
1986	**EC adopts (with permission) the Council of Europe Flag as its own. 12 Stars & 12 States.**
1992	Maastricht Treaty
1993	Maastricht Treaty Ratified. European Single Market completed. The EC becomes the EU
1995	Austria, Finland and Sweden join the EU making **"The Fifteen"**
2004	Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia & Slovenia join the EU making **"The Twenty Five" on 1 May 2004**
	Still only 12 stars

We were all fooled by the coincidental and apparent equivalence of 12 stars and 12 states during the 10 years following the flag's adoption by the EC in 1986, the analogy with the US flag and to some extent the Royal Mint's 50p coins.

It is only since 1995 when the previous batch of 3 members joined the EU that folks have started asking, "Why not 15 stars? "Why forever 12?" The question becomes even more noticeable now that the number of states is more than double the number of stars.

XIII. WHY "FOREVER 12" ?

There are a number of theories as to why the number 12 was chosen and why this could be a symbol of "perfection and entirety".

12	**hours on a clock**	**12**	**apostles**
12	**months of the year**	**12**	**patriarchs and tribes of Israel**
12	**signs of the zodiac**	**12**	**members of a jury**

The Book of Revelation in the Bible speaks of 12 x 12000 = 144,000 as a *symbol* of the *complete* number of people who will witness for Jesus Christ to the World Government and also links to the 12 Patriarchs of the Old Testament and the 12 Apostles in the New Testament. The Biblical symbolism of 12 stars may well indeed represent Old Testament Israel and New Testament Church, but that this is not the EU's intent.

XIV. EU DECEPTIONS EXPOSED

Revelation 12:1
"A great and wondrous sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head"

The EU flag's symbolism is actually based on the Roman Church's interpretation that the symbolic "woman" in the verse above is the Virgin Mary. This interpretation is reflected in that Church's statues and images of Mary, but not as a symbol of Israel or the Christian Church. Within the Roman Church's doctrines, the Virgin Mary is also a symbol of "perfection and entirety" and so we see at last the hidden double meaning.

When the Council of Europe first adopted the flag in 1955, it is believed that it chose from a number of designs by a Strasbourg artist, Arsene Heitz, a devotee of the Virgin Mary. One of these designs was inspired by the above verse, based on this alleged imagery of the Virgin Mary, with her supposed crown of 12 stars and traditional blue mantle represented by the EU flag's background.

Council of Europe Secretary-General, Leon Marchal, another supreme devotee of the Virgin Mary, is reported to have been the one who suggested the adoption of the 12 star flag design for this very reason. Jacques Delors, former President of the European Commission, and a devout member of the Roman Church reportedly used his position vigorously to promote the EU symbol in more

recent years.

The design was adopted on 25 October 1955 and on 11 December 1955 the Council of Europe stained glass window, which incorporates the symbolism, was unveiled in Strasbourg cathedral. This event "coinciding" with the Roman Church's Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary. Marchal is reported to have said at the time:

> ***"It's wonderful that we have got back to the Introit of the new Mass of the Assumption. It's the corona stellarum duodecim*** **(crown of 12 stars)** ***of the Woman of the Apocalypse".***

Those countries where the Reformed Biblical tradition survived the Roman Church's bloody attempts to stamp it out, the Marian doctrines of that Church are at best an unfortunate but contentious barrier to unity and at worst, blasphemous and idolatrous.

For EU-realist members of the Roman Church the use of what they regard as a sacred symbol for the EU-Super state might also be deemed a misuse and a deceit that might lead Catholics to believe the EU is a Marian and so a basically Christian institution.

In these days of reconciliation Christians tend to "agree to disagree" on the things that divide us and concentrate on the things that unite us. So, if the Roman Church wishes to venerate Mary as some kind of 4th Century Christianization of the Roman "goddess" Venus, they are free to do so but at the expense of true Christianity.

People of goodwill in both Reformed and Roman traditions of the Church, and those of other religious convictions or none, should feel uneasy about having a sectarian symbol deceptively imposed upon Europe, where only a minority of the population claim to allegiance to the Roman Church.

The EU flag is offensive in four ways:

1. a symbol of an alien economic and political power seeking to subjugate Britain and the free nations of Europe.

2. for non-Catholics, as a deceitfully imposed sectarian religious symbol.

3. for Catholics, a misuse of their "sacred" symbol.

4. the rise of the Great Whore of Babylon.

The Study of Mary is to explain the Roman/Reformed contention and to demonstrate the Reformed view that the "woman" of Revelation 12:1 is really a symbol of Israel and/or the Christian Church, and not the Virgin Mary at all,.

Items which were deemed to be idols or idolatrous symbols, were destroyed at the Reformation over 450 years ago, including the idolatrous Marian Shrine at Walsingham in Norfolk, and later during the Puritan era 350 years ago. Given this "cleansing" one may be willing to give British politicians the benefit of the doubt and favor the "cooked-up" theory arising from genuine ignorance of the symbol, rather than a "conspiracy" one in adopting the EU flag.

The EU now seeks deceitfully to "unite" Europe under a contentious, sectarian religious symbol that has found its way into every corner of our lives, including our car number plates, driving licenses and virtually ever where you look!

On the European mainland where the Reformation was often brutally suppressed, the Roman Church's symbols were never purged and the Marian symbolism of the 12 stars remains obvious to those familiar with it:

> ***"No-one can deny that under these symbols catholics recognize the presence of the infinitely merciful Queen of Peace in Christ"*** **(Mediatric et Reigne 1973)**

> ***"....henceforth it should not be difficult for us to discover in the folds of the Europeans' flag the smile and affection of Our Mother, the Queen of Europe...."*** **(Javier Paredes, Professor of Contemporary History at the University of Alcala in Spain - ZENIT News Agency)**

Professor Paredes reportedly stated that "neither the stars nor the blue of the flag are particularly religious symbols, thus respecting the conscience of all Europeans, regardless of their beliefs" but the Marian connection is further confirmed in an EU-phile European

Movement publication: "Europe's Star Choice: Forever 12?" published in 1994 by Europa UK (now out of print: ISBN 0 9523677 0 X).

This booklet refers both to the "co-incidence" of the EU flag's ratification with the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and also, the recognition by the Roman Church of the link to Saint Catherine-Labore whose 1876 vision in the Rue du Bac, Paris, saw the same symbol of a crown of 12 stars being carried around the world on a banner representing Peace, Joy and Happiness. Arsene Heitz is said to have drawn his inspiration from this vision.

"Peace, Joy and Happiness" - try telling that to Britain's farmers and fisherman who have been brought to their knees by the common agricultural and fisheries policies of the EU, or the "Metric Martyrs" taken to court and fined for selling bananas by the pound instead of kilograms!

The Bible of peace, joy and love are functions of the Holy Spirit, not the Virgin Mary nor the EU! (Romans 5:5 & Galatians 5:22).

In spite of the evidence, some would still argue that the Marian symbolism is merely a co-incidence and that the EU flag was chosen as a non-sectarian, neutral symbol that all the peoples of Europe can identify with and accept. Any suggestion otherwise is relegated to the realms of fallacious conspiracy theories. But, can this be dismissed so lightly?



Photo of Mary with 12 star crown set within EU circle of stars. The blue of her mantle matches that of the flag.



Original Photo Malta 1984

XV. EUROPE DEDICATED TO "QUEEN" MARY

The Roman Church decreed in 1309 that Europe be consecrated to Mary and placed under her patronage.

The shrine of "Our Lady of Europa" in Gibraltar was instituted at this consecration.

"Our Lady of Europa" Gibraltar 20p Coin - 1988

Another offering by the British Royal Mint. This time Mary is minus her EU crown of stars, but is clearly enthroned as "Queen" of Europe. Note that Queen Elizabeth II has been stripped of her usual designations DG REG FD: By the Grace of God - Queen - Defender of the Faith. Have these titles been deleted as incompatible with Mary's rule?



The present Bishop of Rome, John Paul II, refers to England as "Mary's Dowry" that is, hers by right.

Ever since the Reformation the Roman Church has tried unsuccessfully to bring Britain back into its fold and restore to Mary "her dowry".

For centuries the British have fought off threats of military invasion from the Spanish, French and Germans, all predominately "Roman" countries. And yet within the span of the last 15 years we now unwittingly display the EU's symbol of Mary everywhere and our successive Governments hand over our Sovereignty and Independence without a shot being fired.

We love our freedoms, so many of which arose from:

Magna Carta in 1215 which guaranteed the freedom of the English church

The C16th Reformation and Queen Elizabeth I's declaration the she would "not make windows into men's souls" in matters of religious conscience (unlike the Continental Inquisitors)

The English Civil War of the 1640s

The 1688/89 "Glorious Revolution" and associated Bill of Rights

Our "Mother of Parliaments" at Westminster is the model for the greatest democracies in the free English-speaking world. Britons of both Reformed and Roman traditions (or none) have fought and died alongside each other to defend these freedoms. Perhaps the fervent desire of Gibraltar (as mentioned above) to remain British in spite of being predominately Catholic bears witness to the freedoms that arose from the Reformed tradition.

By contrast, the main "Roman" nations of Europe (not to mention Latin America) have spawned some of the most evil militarist, communist or fascist dictatorships over the past 100 years. This is not to say that the Roman Church intentionally caused these things to happen, but that its hierarchical and authoritarian form of church government tended to create the cultural context for such regimes to prosper.

The European Commission, the so-called "Government of Europe" is completely un-elected. Indeed, there are some who believe they can demonstrate a direct link between Hitler's Nazi blueprint for Europe and that of the EU.

The following books are informative in this and other respects.

Europe's Full Circle	**by Rodney Atkinson (Forward by Lord Stoddart of Swindon)**
The Principality and Power of Europe	**by Adrian Hilton - link to Adrian's own site which features his book (Forward by the late Lord Tonypandy of Rhondda - George Thomas)**

Others, such as Vladimir Bukovsky the former Soviet dissident, see parallels between the former Soviet Communist power structures and the EU's "governmental" bodies such as its Commission and its parody of a "Parliament" where the average debate lasts 90 seconds.

Extreme views perhaps, but whatever the possible connections with the evil Communist regimes of Eastern Europe or the Nazi version of "European Union" one parallel with the latter that comes to mind in relation to the EU flag is the totalitarian imposition of yellow stars upon people and their property.

It is clear that the EU Flag design is based "co-incidentally" on the Marian imagery of the Roman Church.

As such it is an alien imposition on the Reformed countries of Europe and constitutionally, is not a suitable symbol to be displayed in Britain where the Reformed Faith is established by Law and defended by her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II under her Coronation Oath.

Roman Catholics have been led to believe that the EU is part of the re-Christianizing of Europe.

COINCIDENCE OF EUROPEAN FLAG

December 8th is a very special day for Europe: in 1955, on that day, the European Ministers' delegates officially adopted the European flag designed by Arsene Heitz, who today is an octogenarian artist in Strasbourg. Perhaps, not by coincidence, December 8th is the Feast of The Immaculate Conception of Mary our co-redeemer.

The decision was taken following the 1950 European Council's (one of the predecessors of today's European Union) convocation of a competition to design the flag of the newborn European Community. Among many other artists, Heitz presented several designs, and one was chosen: 12 stars on a blue

introit of the new Mass of Mary's Assumption!"

The European Union's flag's 12 stars were inspired by the halo of 12 stars that appear around the Madonna in Catholic pictures of her. A former secretary general of the Council of Europe, Leon Marchal, affirmed that the stars are those of "the woman of the Apocalypse." Enthusiastically he explained, "It's wonderful that we have gotten back to the Introit of the new Mass of the Assumption. It's the corona stellarum duodecim (the crown of the twelve stars) of the woman of the Apocalypse." This is a reference to the woman in Revelation 12 who appears with a crown

the European Union."

Artist reveals Virgin Mary was inspiration for design

Recently Heitz revealed to a French magazine the reason for his inspiration. At that time he was reading the history of the Blessed Virgin's apparitions in Paris' Rue du Bac, known today as the Virgin of the Miraculous Medal. According to the artist, he thought of the 12 stars in a circle on a blue background, exactly the way it is



background.

Its Catholic origins

The original idea for the blue European flag has a Roman Catholic origin. Paul G.M. Levi, professor at the Roman Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium) was a Jew but became a Roman Catholic. In 1949 he became director of the Cultural department of the Board of Europe. Six years later he came up (according to the leading German Newspaper Die Welt) with the concept of the European flag. Levi, fascinated by the holy virgin with the stars around her head, proposed to the Secretary General of Board of Europe, Earl Benvenuti, to choose the symbol of Mary. When the members of parliament agreed, Levi said: “How on earth is it possible? We just rediscovered the

of 12 stars. The Catholic Church has always claimed that she represents the Virgin Mary, “the mother of God.”

The EU, which now has 15 member countries, has confirmed that the number of stars will always stay at 12, which indicates that the stars do not represent countries. I quote from a leaflet, “Building Europe Together,” which was given to visitors to EU headquarters in Brussels: “The European flag (is) a shared flag, blue with 12 gold stars symbolizing completeness. The number will remain 12 no matter how many countries there are in





represented in traditional iconography of this image of the Immaculate Conception. In the beginning, Heitz saw it as a flight of fancy, among the many that run through an artist's imagination; but the idea caught his attention, to the point that it became the subject of his meditation.

According to Javier Paredes, Professor of Contemporary History at the University of Alcala in Spain, in statements sent to ZENIT [Vatican-based news agency], "Heitz listens to God in his interior; in other words, he prays with his heart and his head. He says he is profoundly religious and devoted to the Virgin, to whom he never misses praying a daily Rosary, together with his wife. Because of this, he believes the inspiration came not only from his artistic talents, but from the silent voices that Heaven always speaks to men of good will, among whom Heitz can undoubtedly be numbered. He is an

were not 12 members in that Council, nor in the European Community."

"However, in Heitz's soul the words of the Apocalypse were very present: 'A great sign appeared in the Heavens: a Woman clothed with the sun and with the moon at her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.' And, perhaps without realizing it, the delegates of the European Ministers officially adopted the design proposed by Heitz on the feast of Our Lady: December 8, 1955," explained Prof. Paredes. "That's a lot of coincidences, so henceforth it should not be difficult for us to discover in the folds of the Europeans' flag the smile and affection of Our Mother, the Queen of Europe, ready to lend a hand in that



On September 2, 1958 Archbishop Montini of Milan (the later Pope Pius XII) released on the mountain Serenissima a 20-meter high statue of Mary and called it "Our Beloved Lady, Ruler of Europe". Pope Pius XII called Mary " Mother of all Nations" and called on March 3, 1953 for a reunion of nations. Bishop Dr. Graber said on September 9, 1978: " I've asked for a Marian European International…We pray and ask in silence that the western world one day will be as it was: an IMPERIUM MARIANUM.

great challenge that St. Peter's successor has proposed to us: to re-Christianize the Old Continent with the example of our lives and the testimony of our words."

Pan-European movement

The Pan-European movement of Otto Habsburg wants a conservative and Roman Catholic Europe. In his book, *The Social Order of Tomorrow, he writes:*

"Now we do possess a European symbol which belongs to all nations equally. This is the crown of the Holy Roman Empire, which embodies the tradition of Charlemagne, the ruler of a united occident... the Crown represents not merely the sovereignty of the monarch, but also the ties between authority and the people. True, it is the monarch who is crowned, but in this sacred act he

artist who, virtually at the end of his life and at the zenith of his career, can proclaim with the guarantee of authenticity that he recalls that moment, that he is interested in very few but very important things, that he regards himself as a man who loves the whole world, but especially the Blessed Virgin, who is our Mother."

Professor Paredes admits that "neither the stars nor the blue of the flag are particularly religious symbols, thus respecting the conscience of all Europeans, regardless of their beliefs."

Indeed, he recalls that "when Paul M.G. Levy, first director of the Press and Information Service of the European Council had to explain to the Members of the Economic Community the meaning of the design, he interpreted the number of 12 stars as a 'figure of plentitude,' given that in the 50s there



appears as the representative of the whole people. It should therefore be considered whether the European head of state, as the protector of European law and justice, should not also become the guardian of a symbol which, more than any other, represents the sovereignty of the European community."

Dr. Habsburg wants to see Europe have an elected head of state — a man elected for life. This influence of both Charlemagne and the Habsburgs hangs4



The European flag/Marian symbol appears on every license plate in the EU



HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE 2004

Can the Antichrist and the False Prophet be far behind?

The European flag/ Marian symbol appears on every banknote in Europe. The EU's two euro coin issued by the Vatican shows a portrait of Pope John Paul II and 12 stars.

heavily over the new federal Europe. The crown of Charlemagne, the first person to attempt to revive the Roman Empire in 800 AD, is an inspiration to those who promote the breaking down of nation states, and a Charlemagne prize has been established for those who work hardest for European unity. One who did was former President Clinton, who in June 2000, was the first American president to receive the Charlemagne prize for his work in promoting European unity. He received the prize at the cathedral in Aachen, Germany, where the first Holy Roman Emperor lies buried. Clinton called for an enlargement of the EU to even take in Russia..

Two major prophecies indicate

that the Holy Roman Empire will be the dominant force on earth at the time of the Second Coming of Jesus. We are witnessing a rebirth of the Holy Roman Empire right now.

It's important that we understand the difference between the Roman Empire and the Holy Roman Empire. The Roman Empire ruled the world from about 200 BC to approximately 300 AD. It was in power during the time of Jesus. That's the reason there were Roman soldiers in Israel at the time of the crucifixion.

The Holy Roman Empire wasn't even born until 800 AD. At that time, Pope Leo III placed the crown on the head of Charlemagne pronouncing him Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire. This union of church and state has ruled Europe off and on since then. The prophecies say the Holy Roman Empire will experience one more brief time of power immediately before the Battle of Armageddon.

The first prophecy concerning the Holy Roman Empire is found in Daniel 2:31-45. In the image depicting all the world empires that will rule from the time of Babylon to the Second Coming, the Roman Empire is portrayed by the legs of iron. The Holy Roman Empire is symbolized by the feet of iron mingled with clay. The clay represents the religious element of the Holy Roman Empire.

Another prophecy about the Holy Roman Empire is given in the New Testament in Revelation 17. There a woman is riding a seven-headed, ten-horned beast. The chapter explains that the woman is a city that exercises power over peoples, multitudes, nations and tongues. It also tells us that the city will sit on seven hills. Rome is the City of Seven Hills and is the headquarters for the Roman Catholic Church, which presides over its members in virtually every nation on earth. The beast sym-

bolizes the political power with which Catholicism will be in alliance.

Both of these prophecies conclude with a union of ten kings fighting against Jesus at His Second Coming. In Daniel 2, the ten toes of the image represent the ten kings. Verse 44 states, "And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed..."

In Revelation 17:12-14, we are told, "And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast. These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful."



Daniel 2



Revelation 7

Both of these prophecies foretell an alliance between the political forces of the day and Roman Catholicism. In the Daniel 2 prophecy, the iron symbolizes the political forces, and the clay symbolizes Catholicism. In Revelation 17, the beast symbolizes the political forces, and the woman symbolizes Catholicism.

Being revived now

For over 50 years now, an effort to create a United States of Europe has been in progress. From 1957 to the present, great strides have been made toward the unification of Europe. All economic barriers have been abolished. A person can raise crops in one state and sell them in another just like we can do in the United States. All border checks between states have been eliminated. You can move your residence from one state to another freely without governmental permission.

This unification endeavor will reach full fruition in 2004. Several major milestones will be reached by Europe this year. pean Union, bringing the total to 25 with a combined population of 455 million. (The U.S. has a population of 280 million.) A European president will be elected this year for the first time. The adoption of a European constitution is planned. A European military is being formed. Europe now has its own currency—the euro. The euro is already beginning to challenge the U.S. dollar for prominence in world currency markets.

The Antichrist and the False Prophet

Two men have always ruled the Holy man Empire—a political leader and a spiritual leader. This will be true once again in the last revival of this empire. Prophecy refers to these two endtime rulers as the Antichrist and the False Prophet.

As we watch the dramatic developments of European unification this year, we can't help but wonder—can the Antichrist and the False