



SAVED TO SERVE

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G.C.12: POPE FRANCIS I MIRRORS KING FRANCIS I.
BIRTHPLACE OF JESUITISM IS DEATH-PLACE OF PROTESTANTISM

1. What is the title of chapter 12 of *The Great Controversy*? _____
2. What happened in Germany after the Protest of Spires and the Confession at Augsburg that marked the triumph of the Reformation? _____

The Protest of Spires and the Confession at Augsburg, which marked the triumph of the Reformation in Germany, were followed by years of conflict and darkness. Weakened by divisions among its supporters, and assailed by powerful foes, Protestantism seemed destined to be utterly destroyed. Thousands sealed their testimony with their blood. Civil war broke out; the Protestant cause was betrayed by one of its leading adherents; the noblest of the reformed princes fell into the hands of the emperor and were dragged as captives from town to town...Now he saw his armies wasted by battle, his treasures drained, his many kingdoms threatened by revolt, while everywhere the faith which he had vainly endeavored to suppress, was extending. Charles V had been battling against omnipotent power. God had said, "Let there be light," but the emperor had sought to keep the darkness unbroken. {GC 211.1}

3. Against who and against what was Charles V battling? _____
4. What happened to John the Baptist, Jesus Christ, and the apostles as they brought the light of the gospel by the union of Church and State? Matthew 14:3-12; Luke 23:12 and John 19:12; Acts 5:17-19,34-40; Acts 12:1-3 _____
5. What happened in Switzerland, after the Reformation was gaining souls to the truth? _____

In Switzerland, as in Germany, there came dark days for the Reformation. While many cantons accepted the reformed faith, others clung with blind persistence to the creed of Rome. Their persecution of those who desired to receive the truth finally gave rise to civil war. Zwingli and many who had united with him in reform fell on the bloody field of Cappel. Oecolampadius, overcome by these terrible disasters, soon after died. Rome was triumphant, and in many places seemed about to recover all that she had lost. But He whose counsels are from everlasting had not forsaken His cause or His people. His hand would bring deliverance for them. In other lands He had raised up laborers to carry forward the reform. {GC 211.2}

6. Note: The Swiss Guard, who guards the Pope, should be a constant reminder to us that the Papacy used the civil power and military of other nations to crush out the Protestant Reformation.

The Swiss constitution, as amended in 1874, forbade all military capitulations and recruitment of Swiss by foreign powers, although volunteering in foreign armies continued until prohibited outright in 1927. The Papal Swiss Guard remains an exception to this prohibition, reflecting the unique political status of the Vatican and the bodyguard-like role of the unit... A small force maintained by the Holy See, it is responsible for the safety of the Pope, including the security of the Apostolic Palace. The Swiss Guard serves as the de facto military of Vatican City. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swiss_Guards

Switzerland has a special relationship with the Vatican thanks to the role of the Swiss Guard in protecting the Pope. "Switzerland is proud of the presence of the Swiss Guard in Rome," said Schneider-Ammann. "We make a major contribution to the security of the Pope, not just symbolically but also factually." Schneider-Ammann was on hand in Rome for the annual ceremony in which new Swiss guards take an oath to protect the Pope. <http://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/papal-audience-pope-francis-welcomes-swiss-president-in-rome/42139540>

7. What will the saints encounter as they carry forward the light of the present truth? Revelation 12:17; Revelation 18:1-6 _____

"...even in free America, rulers and legislators, in order to secure public favor, will yield to the popular demand for a law enforcing Sunday observance. Liberty of conscience, which has cost so great a sacrifice, will no longer be respected. In the soon-coming conflict we shall see exemplified the prophet's words: "The dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." Revelation 12:17. {GC 592.3}

8. Who did God begin to work through to bring the light of truth to France? How did he come to the truth? _____

In France, before the name of Luther had been heard as a Reformer, the day had already begun to break. One of the first to catch the light was the aged Lefevre, a man of extensive learning, a professor in the University of Paris, and a sincere and zealous papist. In his researches into ancient literature his attention was directed to the Bible, and he introduced its study among his students. Lefevre was an enthusiastic adorer of the saints, and he had undertaken to prepare a history of the saints and martyrs as given in the legends of the church. This was a work which involved great labor; but he had already made considerable progress in it, when, thinking that he might obtain useful assistance from the Bible, he began its study with this object. Here indeed he found saints brought to view, but not such as figured in the Roman calendar. A flood of divine light broke in upon his mind. In amazement and disgust he turned away from his self-appointed task and devoted himself to the word of God. The precious truths which he there discovered he soon began to teach. {GC 212.1}

9. Note: The Lord supernaturally and providentially raised up Lefevre. He did not depend on missionaries traveling to France to witness to him. So it will be in these last days.

10. What did Lefevre do to evangelize his people? _____

Lefevre undertook the translation of the New Testament; and at the very time when Luther's German Bible was issuing from the press in Wittenberg, the French New Testament was published at Meaux. The bishop spared no labor or expense to circulate it in his parishes, and soon the peasants of Meaux were in possession of the Holy Scriptures. {GC 214.3}

At evening, instead of resorting to the wine-shops, they assembled in one another's homes to read God's word and join in prayer and praise. A great change was soon manifest in these communities. {GC 215.1}

The bishop of Meaux, forced to choose between the fire and recantation, accepted the easier path; but notwithstanding the leader's fall, his flock remained steadfast. Many witnessed for the truth amid the flames. {GC 215.2}

11. What was another reformer that God raised up in France? What was his previous experience? _____

Such was William Farel. The son of pious parents, and educated to accept with implicit faith the teachings of the church, he might, with the apostle Paul, have declared concerning himself: "After the most straitest sect of our religion I lived a Pharisee." Acts 26:5. A devoted Romanist, he burned with zeal to destroy all who should dare to oppose the church. "I would gnash my teeth like a furious wolf," he afterward said, referring to this period of his life, "when I heard anyone speaking against the pope." He had been untiring in his adoration of the saints, in company with Lefevre making the round of the churches of Paris, worshipping at the altars, and adorning with gifts the holy shrines. But these observances could not bring peace of soul. Conviction of sin fastened upon him, which all the acts of penance that he practiced failed to banish. As to a voice from heaven he listened to the Reformer's words: "Salvation is of grace." {GC 213.2}

12. Note: In the lives of these reformers we can see that they typify the believers who will join God's end-time movement when the messages of Revelation 18:1-4 are presented. They also represent the eleventh-hour workers.

Stand out of the way, Brethren. Do not interpose yourselves between God and His work. If you have no burden of the message yourselves, then prepare the way for those who have the burden of the message, **for there are many souls to come out of the ranks of the world, out of the churches--even the Catholic church--**whose zeal will far exceed that of those who have stood in rank and file to proclaim the truth heretofore. **For this reason the eleventh hour laborers will receive their penny.** These will see the battle coming and will give the trumpet a certain sound. **When the crisis is upon us, when the season of calamity shall come, they will come to the front, gird themselves with the whole armor of God, and exalt His law, adhere to the faith of Jesus, and maintain the cause of religious liberty which Reformers defended with toil and for which they sacrificed their lives.** {1888 378.2}

I am pained as I see so much prejudice and Phariseism. O that our ministering brethren would broaden, and not be so narrow and shortsighted. **Many souls will come from other denominational churches, and at the eleventh hour will obey all the truth, because they have not set themselves in array against heaven's light, but lived up to all the light they had: while those who have had great light, large privileges and opportunities, and have failed to live in the light and walk in the light, will drop out by the way.** Their light will shine less and less until their lamps will go out, for the want of the oil of grace in their vessels with their lamps. {1888 710.3} Consider what is being celebrated in Switzerland and what is to come.

The city is celebrating the 100th birthday of the imposing stone Reformation Wall in Geneva.... The monument features major figures of the Reformation in the 16th century – **John Calvin, William Farel, Théodore de Bèze and John Knox. The motto of Geneva, "Post Tenebras Lux" (After darkness, light), which belongs to Calvinist philosophy, is also engraved on the stone wall....**It is now a popular tourist site in the western Swiss city. **Every first Sunday of November, the Reformation is celebrated at the monument site.** https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/monument_geneva-reformation-wall-marks-centenary/43140002
See also Matthew 23:29-32.

13. How did William Farel evangelize France? _____

During the first years of his exile, his [Farel's] efforts were especially directed to spreading the gospel in his native country. He spent considerable time in preaching among his countrymen near the frontier, where with tireless vigilance he watched the conflict and aided by his words of encouragement and counsel. With the assistance of other exiles, the writings of the German Reformers were translated into the French language and, together with the French Bible, were printed in large quantities. By colporteurs these works were sold extensively in France. **They were furnished to the colporteurs at a low price, and thus the profits of the work enabled them to continue it.** {GC 231.1}

14. What did the priests say regarding Farel's work? _____

Farel entered upon his work in Switzerland in the humble guise of a schoolmaster... There were some who believed, but the priests came forward to stop the work, and the superstitious country people were roused to oppose it. **"That cannot be the gospel of Christ," urged the priest, "seeing the preaching of it does not bring peace, but war."** {GC 231.2}

15. Note: See Matthew 10:34 and the following statement.

Religious distortions, yes. For example, all religions have fundamentalist groups. All of them, we do too. And they destroy, starting from their fundamentalism. But these are small religious groups that have distorted and have "sickened" their religion, and as a result they fight, they wage war, or they cause division in communities, which is a form of war. But these are the fundamentalist groups we have in all religions. **There is always a small group...** <http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/full-text-of-pope-francis-in-flight-presser-from-poland-70432/>

16. What was said of Louise de Berquin? _____

Louis de Berquin was of noble birth. A brave and courtly knight, he was devoted to study, polished in manners, and of blameless morals... But, like so many others, providentially guided to the Bible, he was amazed to find there, "not the doctrines of Rome, but the doctrines of Luther." {GC 215.3}

"Berquin would have been a second Luther, had he found in Francis I a second elector." "He is worse than Luther," cried the papists. More dreaded he was indeed by the Romanists of France. {GC 216.1}

From the writings of these doctors, Berquin drew twelve propositions which he publicly declared to be "opposed to the Bible, and heretical;" and he appealed to the king to act as judge in the controversy. {GC 216.3}

Note: See Philippians 4:22.

17. What incident led to the martyrdom of Louise? _____

"Just at that time an image of the Virgin at the corner of one of the streets, was mutilated." There was great excitement in the city. ... "These are the fruits of the doctrines of Berquin," they cried. "All is about to be overthrown--religion, the laws, the throne itself--by this Lutheran conspiracy." Again Berquin was apprehended. The king withdrew from Paris, and the monks were thus left free to work their will. The Reformer was tried and condemned to die, and lest Francis should even yet interpose to save him, the sentence was executed on the very day it was pronounced. At noon Berquin was conducted to the place of death... The martyr's thoughts were far from that scene of tumult; he was conscious only of the presence of his Lord. {GC 217.2}

18. What zealous but ill-judged movement brought ruin to the friend of the Reformation? _____

The French Reformers, eager to see their country keeping pace with Germany and Switzerland, determined to strike a bold blow against the superstitions of Rome, that should arouse the whole nation. Accordingly placards attacking the mass were in one night posted all over France. Instead of advancing the reform, this zealous but ill-judged movement brought ruin, not only upon its propagators, but upon the friends of the reformed faith throughout France. It gave the Romanists what they had long desired--a pretext for demanding the utter destruction of the heretics as agitators dangerous to the stability of the throne and the peace of the nation. {GC 224.3}

The monarch [Francis I] was filled with horror... Then his rage found utterance in the terrible words: "Let all be seized without distinction who are suspected of Lutheresy. I will exterminate them all. The die was cast. The king had determined to throw himself fully on the side of Rome. {GC 225.1}

"As true, messieurs, as I am your king," he said, "if I knew one of my own limbs spotted or infected with this detestable rottenness, I would give it you to cut off... And further, if I saw one of my children defiled by it, I would not spare him. . . . I would deliver him up myself, and would sacrifice him to God." Tears choked his utterance, and the whole assembly wept, with one accord exclaiming: "We will live and die for the Catholic religion!" {GC 228.3}

Note: See Ecclesiastes 7:17.

19. What did Francis I declare in order to crush out the Reformation? _____

Francis I had gloried in being a leader in the great movement for the revival of learning which marked the opening of the sixteenth century. He had delighted to gather at his court men of letters from every country... But, inspired with zeal to stamp out heresy, this patron of learning issued an edict declaring printing abolished all over France! Francis I presents one among the many examples on record showing that intellectual culture is not a safeguard against religious intolerance and persecution. {GC 227.2}

"The means of communication have their own temptations, they can be tempted by slander, and therefore used to slander people, to smear them, this above all in the world of politics," he said. "They can be used as means of defamation..." "No-one has a right to do this. It is a sin and it is hurtful," he said. <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-pope-media-idUSKBN13W1TU>

Pope Francis: freedom of expression has limits <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/jan/15/pope-francis-limits-to-freedom-of-expression>

"Pope Francis: religion should not be confined to 'personal conscience'" The orderly development of "a civil, pluralistic society requires" that the "authentic spirit of religion" not be "confined" to "personal conscience" but that its significant role in the construction of society is recognized, said Pope Francis in his remarks to the Italian president. http://en.radiovaticana.va/news/2015/04/18/pope_religion_should_not_be_confined_to_personal_conscience/1137800

20. What did the Lord use to lead John Calvin to study the Bible diligently? _____

While still engaged in these fruitless struggles, Calvin, chancing one day to visit one of the public squares, witnessed there the burning of a heretic. He was filled with wonder at the expression of peace which rested upon the martyr's countenance. Amid the tortures of that dreadful death, and under the more terrible condemnation of the church, he

manifested a faith and courage which the young student painfully contrasted with his own despair and darkness, while living in strictest obedience to the church. Upon the Bible, he knew, the heretics rested their faith. He determined to study it, and discover, if he could, the secret of their joy. {GC 220.4}

21. Note: This should remind of Saul's conversion which began after the stoning of Stephen. See Acts 7.

22. Note: The Papacy publicly is against the death penalty. It may remind people of the past when the Reformers were publicly executed for the truth of Jesus and for exposing the abominations of popery. Additionally, the Papacy is portraying to the world that she has changed.

Catholics join voices with others to oppose executions... The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development issued a statement April 13, recalling Pope Francis' address to Congress in 2015 asking for the death penalty to be abolished. <http://www.arkansas-catholic.org/news/article/5113/Catholics-join-voices-with-others-to-oppose-executions>

Pope Calls For End To Death Penalty In Speech To Congress http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/pope-death-penalty-congress-speech_us_5603fe17e4b00310edfa26d7

23. What did John Calvin think was the best way to build up the churches? What did Farel tell him? _____

Farel was confident that he had found in Calvin one whom he could unite with himself in this work. In the name of God he solemnly adjured the young evangelist to remain and labor here. Calvin drew back in alarm. Timid and peace-loving, he shrank from contact with the bold, independent, and even violent spirit of the Genevise. The feebleness of his health, together with his studious habits, led him to seek retirement. Believing that by his pen he could best serve the cause of reform, he desired to find a quiet retreat for study, and there, through the press, instruct and build up the churches. But Farel's solemn admonition came to him as a call from Heaven, and he dared not refuse. It seemed to him, he said, "that the hand of God was stretched down from heaven, that it lay hold of him, and fixed him irrevocably to the place he was so impatient to leave."-- {GC 233.3}

24. How did the home churches that John Calvin establish yield? _____

Calvin was still a youth, of gentle, unpretentious bearing. His work began with the people at their homes. Surrounded by the members of the household, he read the Bible and opened the truths of salvation. Those who heard the message carried the good news to others, and soon the teacher passed beyond the city to the outlying towns and hamlets. To both the castle and the cabin he found entrance, and he went forward, laying the foundation of churches that were to yield fearless witnesses for the truth. {GC 221.4}

25. What did the Papacy establish to combat the fearless witnesses for the truth? _____

"Throughout Christendom, Protestantism was menaced by formidable foes. The first triumphs of the Reformation past, Rome summoned new forces, hoping to accomplish its destruction. **At this time the order of the Jesuits was created,** the most cruel, unscrupulous, and powerful of all the champions of popery. **Cut off from earthly ties and human interests, dead to the claims of natural affection,** reason and conscience wholly silenced, they knew no rule, no tie, but that of their order, and no duty but to extend its power...**Vowed to perpetual poverty and humility, it was their studied aim to secure wealth and power, to be devoted to the overthrow of Protestantism, and the re-establishment of the papal supremacy.** {GC 234.2}

To give them greater power, a bull was issued re-establishing the inquisition. Notwithstanding the general abhorrence with which it was regarded, even in Catholic countries, this terrible tribunal was again set up by popish rulers, and atrocities too terrible to bear the light of day were repeated in its secret dungeons. {GC 235.2}

26. Note: The effect gospel work that John Calvin did, especially in Geneva, led to the Papacy establishing the Jesuit Order and to re-establish the Inquisition. Geneva was the place where John Calvin was effective in carrying forward the Protestant Reformation and Geneva is the place where the death of Protestantism officially and publicly began.

500th Reformation anniversary events launched in Geneva with massive truck unveiled...**A series of events to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation started in Geneva with the unveiling of a truck in "the city of peace" and the "city of [Jean] Calvin," in a tack that aims to use the past to propel ways to influence the present.**...By unveiling the engaging Reformation truck in a Geneva city park, events marking the 500-year anniversary of the Reformation were launched Nov. 4. The Reformation truck will travel from Geneva to 67 Reformation cities in 19 countries and was unveiled at the international launch. **The ecumenical spirit of the commemoration of half a millennium since the Reformation had begun at the beginning of the week in Lund, Sweden.** <http://www.ecumenicalnews.com/article/500th-reformation-anniversary-events-launched-in-geneva-with-massive-truck-unveiled/54449.htm>

27. Note: Germany and Sweden are also places where Pope Francis will celebrate the death of Protestantism on October 31, 2017.

It will follow a European roadmap linking 68 towns and cities with a Reformation connection in 19 countries before arriving at Wittenberg on May 20, 2017 for the start of a four-month World Reformation Exhibition, "Gates of Freedom". Here churches, organizations, groups and artists will present their perspectives on the Reformation. **On Oct. 31, 2017 there is an official ceremony planned for Wittenberg.** However, the focus will be on a "decentralised" commemoration, said Bedford-Strohm, **with services in the various regional churches in Germany.** <http://ecumenicalnews.com/article/500th-reformation-anniversary-will-be-ecumenical-and-include-pope-francis/44650.htm>

At the end of this month, God willing, I will go to Lund, in Sweden, and together with the Lutheran World Federation, we will remember, after five centuries, beginning of Luther's reform and thank the Lord for fifty years of official dialogue between Lutherans and Catholics. An essential part of this commemoration will turn our gaze towards the future, with a view to a common Christian witness in the world today, which so thirsts for God and His mercy. http://en.radiovaticana.va/news/2016/10/13/pope_to_lutheran_pilgrims_seek_unity_through_charity/1264815

28. Note: What was said about Geneva and Sweden? _____

Protestantism was not overthrown. Not to the favor or arms of princes was it to owe its strength. The smallest countries, the humblest and least powerful nations, became its strongholds. It was little Geneva in the midst of mighty foes plotting her destruction; it was Holland on her sandbanks by the northern sea, wrestling against the tyranny of Spain, then the greatest and most opulent of kingdoms; it was bleak, sterile Sweden, that gained victories for the Reformation. {GC 235.3}

29. What was John Calvin busy doing and teaching while there was religious controversy? _____

For nearly thirty years Calvin labored at Geneva, first to establish there a church adhering to the morality of the Bible, and then for the advancement of the Reformation throughout Europe. His course as a public leader was not faultless, nor were his doctrines free from error. {GC 236.1} Persons of all classes gladly listened to the gospel. There was no public preaching, but in the home of the chief magistrate, in his own lodgings, and sometimes in a public garden, Calvin opened the words of eternal life to those who desired to listen...Little companies, leaving the city by different routes, found their way hither. In this retired spot the Bible was read aloud and explained...From this little church several faithful evangelists were sent out. {GC 224.1} While the halls of the universities were filled with the clamor of theological disputation, Calvin was making his way from house to house, opening the Bible to the people, and speaking to them of Christ and Him crucified. {GC 222.1}