



SAVED TO SERVE

Pastor Andrew Henriques

www.prophecyagain.com

THE GREAT CONTROVERSY, CHAPTER 15—THE BIBLE AND THE FRENCH REVOLUTION

1. What is the title of chapter 15 of *The Great Controversy*? _____

2. Note: Chapter 15 of *The Great Controversy* is showing us what happened to France as a country, when it rejected the principles of the Protestant Reformation, by accepting the policies of the Papacy. Additionally, this chapter is showing what is to come to every nation that accepts the policies of the Papacy and unite with her in the movement to end Protestantism. See **Revelation 13:11-17;14:9,10.**

“Atheists, infidels, and apostates oppose and denounce God's law; but the results of their influence prove that the well-being of man is bound up with his obedience of the divine statutes. Those who will not read the lesson from the book of God are bidden to read it in the history of nations.” {GC 285.3}

3. Note: France was not the first nation to experience that terrible ruin. Jerusalem suffered a similar fate. John the Baptist, Jesus Christ, and the apostles were sent by God to bring the light of truth to the Jews and the world. See Matthew 3:1-5; Matthew 4:12-17,23-25. Yet the leaders worked savagely to shut out the light of truth from the people and the world. See John 1:6-11; Luke 4:18-30; John 11:45-53. As a result of the Jews rejecting the light of God, the people suffered a terrible death-blow and the city was burnt down with fire in A.D. 70. See Matthew 23:37-39 and Matthew 24:1-3; Matthew 27:25.

4a. Where did the principles of the Protestant Reformation seek to enter during the sixteenth century? Which power worked aggressively to prevent its success? _____

In the sixteenth century the Reformation, presenting an open Bible to the people, had sought admission to all the countries of Europe. Some nations welcomed it with gladness, as a messenger of Heaven. In other lands the papacy succeeded to a great extent in preventing its entrance; and the light of Bible knowledge, with its elevating influences, was almost wholly excluded. In one country, though the light found entrance, it was not comprehended by the darkness. For centuries, truth and error struggled for the mastery. At last the evil triumphed, and the truth of Heaven was thrust out. "This is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light." John 3:19. The nation was left to reap the results of the course which she had chosen. **The restraint of God's Spirit was removed from a people that had despised the gift of His grace. Evil was permitted to come to maturity. And all the world saw the fruit of willful rejection of the light.** {GC 265.1}

4b. Revelation 13:2 and Jeremiah 13:23 states that the Papacy will never change. God gave us the mission of carrying the gospel to the whole world, then He will return. See Revelation 14:6-16 and Matthew 24:14. Therefore, we should expect the Papacy to do as she did during the 16th century.

5. Which entity today is currently working ferociously to persuade nations and religions to sign the declaration that the protest is over and that Protestant Reformation is over? _____

Pope Francis highlighted two major priorities of his papacy at the start of a two-day visit to Sweden: efforts to heal the 500-year-old rift between Catholics and Protestants and concern for the plight of migrants. <https://www.wsj.com/articles/pope-arrives-in-sweden-to-commemorate-lutheran-reformation-1477914190>

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>

6. Who was to be blamed primarily for the terrible outbreak of the French Revolution? _____

“The war against the Bible, carried forward for so many centuries in France, culminated in the scenes of the Revolution. That terrible outbreaking was but the legitimate result of Rome's suppression of the Scriptures. It presented the most striking illustration which the world has ever witnessed of the working out of the papal policy-- an illustration of the results to which for more than a thousand years the teaching of the Roman Church had been tending. {GC 265.2}

7a. Note: If the people of the nations would comprehend the above statement, they would not allow Popery to meddle in the affairs of their nations. Consider the fact that the Papacy is indeed meddling in the affairs of the nations.

7b. What was one of the things that the Papacy did that led to the French Revolution? _____

“Rome had ground down the people under her iron heel; and now the masses, degraded and brutalized, in their recoil from her tyranny, cast off all restraint. Enraged at the glittering cheat to which they had so long paid homage, they rejected truth and falsehood together; and mistaking license for liberty, the slaves of vice exulted in their imagined freedom... Unhappy France reaped in blood the harvest she had sown. {GC 281.3; 282.2}

The Jesuits alone flourished in the decaying nation, **and ruled with dreadful tyranny over churches and schools, the prisons and the galleys.** {GC 279.2}

7c. The Bible says that Protestant America will form an image to the first beast, which is the Papacy. See Revelation 13:11-17. Therefore, in the United States, among its leaders, we should see the spirit and actions of tyranny displayed.

7d. According to *The Washington Post*, "There are now multiple reports that President Trump fired FBI Director James B. Comey in part because Comey didn't provide him assurances of loyalty. The Washington Post has reported Trump "had long questioned Comey's loyalty and judgment." CNN's Jake Tapper reported that a source close to Comey told him Comey's lack of 'any assurance of personal loyalty' was one of two main reasons Comey was fired. And now the New York Times is reporting that Trump asked for a loyalty pledge during a dinner about a week after Trump was inaugurated. As they ate, the president and Mr. Comey made small talk about the election and the crowd sizes at Mr. Trump's rallies. The president then turned the conversation to whether Mr. Comey would pledge his loyalty to him. Mr. Comey declined to make that pledge. Instead, Mr. Comey has recounted to others, he told Mr. Trump that he would always be honest with him, but that he was not 'reliable' in the conventional political sense. Trump would have known what Comey's answer would be if he had taken the time to understand the oath taken by FBI officers — and members of the military for that matter. Those oaths are taken to the Constitution and not the president for a very specific reason. Right there on its website, the FBI says the bureau and its officials must only swear an oath to the Constitution — not even a president. **The reason? Because the latter 'too easily leads to tyranny.'**"¹
www.washingtonpost.com/amhtml/news/the-fix/wp/2017/05/12/reports-say-trump-sought-a-loyalty-pledge-from-comey-the-fbi-says-this-too-easily-leads

7e. Note: Yet President Trump claims that he promotes religious liberty. "Trump signs executive order to 'vigorously promote religious liberty' <http://www.cnn.com/2017/05/03/politics/trump-religious-liberty-executive-order/>

7f. Note: Take another look at the Papacy's tyrannical actions and compare them with the actions of President Trump.

"A striking illustration of the tyrannical character of this advocate of infallibility was given in his treatment of the German emperor, Henry IV. For presuming to disregard the pope's authority, this monarch was declared to be excommunicated and dethroned. {GC 57.3}

7g. What happened to one of the popes due to his tyrannical actions? _____

In The Netherlands the papal tyranny very early called forth resolute protest. Seven hundred years before Luther's time the **Roman pontiff was thus fearlessly impeached by two bishops**, who, having been sent on an embassy to Rome, had learned the true character of the "holy see"... {GC 237.1}

7h. Read the following regarding president Donald Trump due to his tyrannical actions.

"Can Donald Trump be impeached over the Russia and Comey scandals?" <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/05/17/can-donald-trump-impeached-russia-comey-scandals/>

"When Donald Trump fired the official in charge of investigating him, pundits and historians accused him of acting like a tyrant. Is that accusation justified?" <http://www.cbc.ca/player/play/943981123641>

"Trump Impeachment Talk Grows From Conspiracy Theory To Mainstream" <http://www.npr.org/2017/05/17/528743744/the-president-the-comey-memo-and-the-elephant-in-the-room-impeachment>

"Historian Douglas Brinkley said Tuesday that President Donald Trump 'behaved like a tyrant' in his firing of FBI Director James Comey and likened it to President Richard Nixon's firing of the special Watergate prosecutor in 1973." <http://www.newsmax.com/Politics/douglas-brinkley-trump-tyrant-firing/2017/05/09/id/789165/>

"By firing James Comey, Trump has put impeachment on the table" <https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2017/5/10/15611522/comey-trump-obstruction-justice-impeachment>

7h. Martin Luther exposed the tyranny of the beast, the Papacy. True protestants must expose the tyranny of the beast and its image, Apostate Protestant America.

"The second class consisted of [Luther's] writings exposing the corruptions and abuses of the papacy. *To revoke these works would strengthen the tyranny of Rome* and open a wider door to many and great impieties." {GC 158.3}

7i. Note: When the National Sunday Law is enforced, the spirit of tyranny will be found not only among the presidents and the civil leaders of nations, but also among the religious leaders and the population. See Revelation 13:11-17 and the following statements.

"When our nation shall so abjure the principles of its government as to enact a Sunday law, Protestantism will in this act join hands with popery; **it will be nothing else than giving life to the tyranny** which has long been eagerly watching its opportunity to spring again into active despotism. {5T 711.4}

"Let the restraints now imposed by secular governments be removed and Rome be reinstated in her former power, **and there would speedily be a revival of her tyranny and persecution.**" {GC 564.2}

8. Note: The passage of Scripture that shows us the suppression and the destruction of the Bible by the Papacy in different countries, especially in the country of France, is Revelation 11:2-13.

9. What do the 42 months and the 1260 days of Revelation 11:2,3 mean? What happened at the end? _____

The periods here mentioned—"forty and two months," and "a thousand two hundred and threescore days"—are the same, alike representing the time in which the church of Christ was to suffer oppression from Rome. The 1260 years of papal supremacy began in A.D. 538, and would therefore terminate in 1798. At that time a French army entered Rome and made the pope a prisoner, and he died in exile. Though a new pope was soon afterward elected, the papal hierarchy has never since been able to wield the power which it before possessed. {GC 266.3}

10. What do the two witnesses represent that prophesied in sackcloth, Revelation 11:4-6? _____

Concerning the two witnesses the prophet declares further: "These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth." "Thy word," said the psalmist, "is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Revelation 11:4; Psalm 119:105. The two witnesses represent the Scriptures of the Old and the New Testament. Both are important testimonies to the origin and perpetuity of the law of God. Both are witnesses also to the plan of salvation. The types, sacrifices, and prophecies of the Old Testament point forward to a Saviour to come. The Gospels and Epistles of the New Testament tell of a Saviour who has come in the exact manner foretold by type and prophecy. {GC 267.1}

11. Who arose and made open, avowed war upon the word of God? Revelation 11:7,8 _____

In many of the nations of Europe the powers that ruled in church and state had for centuries **been controlled by Satan through the medium of the papacy. But here is brought to view a new manifestation of satanic power.** It had been Rome's policy, under a profession of reverence for the Bible, to keep it locked up in an unknown tongue and hidden away from the people. Under her rule the witnesses prophesied "clothed in sackcloth." **But another power --the beast from the bottomless pit--was to arise to make open, avowed war upon the word of God.** {GC 268.3}

12. Note: The nation that is called "the great city" in Revelation 11:7 is France. During the time period of 1798, France was only nation that manifested the characteristics of Egypt and Sodom.

According to the words of the prophet, then, a little before the year 1798 some power of satanic origin and character would rise to make war upon the Bible. **And in the land where the testimony of God's two witnesses should thus be silenced, there would be manifest the atheism of the Pharaoh and the licentiousness of Sodom.** {GC 269.3}

This prophecy has received a most exact and striking fulfillment in the history of France. During the Revolution, in 1793, "the world for the first time heard an assembly of men, born and educated in civilization, and assuming the right to govern one of the finest of the European nations, **uplift their united voice to deny the most solemn truth which man's soul receives, and renounce unanimously the belief and worship of a Deity."**--Sir Walter Scott, Life of Napoleon, vol. 1, ch. 17. **"France is the only nation in the world concerning which the authentic record survives, that as a nation she lifted her hand in open rebellion against the Author of the universe.** Plenty of blasphemers, plenty of infidels, there have been, and still continue to be, in England, Germany, Spain, and elsewhere; **but France stands apart in the world's history as the single state which, by the decree of her Legislative Assembly, pronounced that there was no God,** and of which the entire population of the capital, and a vast majority elsewhere, women as well as men, danced and sang with joy in accepting the announcement."--Blackwood's Magazine, November, 1870. {GC 269.4}

France presented also the characteristics which especially distinguished Sodom. During the Revolution there was manifest a state of moral debasement and corruption similar to that which brought destruction upon the cities of the plain. And the historian presents together the atheism and the licentiousness of France, as given in the prophecy: **"Intimately connected with these laws affecting religion, was that which reduced the union of marriage--the most sacred engagement which human beings can form, and the permanence of which leads most strongly to the consolidation of society--to the state of a mere civil contract of a transitory character, which any two persons might engage in and cast loose at pleasure. . . . Sophie Arnoult, an actress famous for the witty things she said, described the republican marriage as 'the sacrament of adultery.'"--**Scott, vol. 1, ch. 17. {GC 270.1}

13a. Note: The bottomless pit will be closed after the second coming of Jesus Christ. See Revelation 20:1-12. Even though the French Revolution came to an end in the time period of 1797, the characteristics of this power is alive and prevalent today.

13b. Note: The majority of the nations have legalized same-sex unions recently and the United States (where end-time prophecies are focused) did legalize sodomy on June 26, 2015. The legalization of sodomy is also legalizing atheism.

13c. The spirit and actions of sodomy have been found, unfortunately, among God's professed people throughout the ages; they are even seen today among the remnant. See 2 Kings 23:5-7; 1 Kings 14:23,24; compare these scriptures: 1 Samuel 2:12,22 and Judges 19:16-22.

14. How did God's witnesses and human messengers proclaim the truth in France? What does that mean? Revelation 11:3 _____

"They shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and three-score days, clothed in sackcloth." During the greater part of this period, God's witnesses remained in a state of obscurity. The papal power sought to hide from the people the word of truth, and set before them false witnesses to contradict its testimony. When the Bible was proscribed by religious and secular authority; when its testimony was perverted, and every effort made that men and demons could invent to turn the minds of the people from it; **when those who dared proclaim its sacred truths were hunted, betrayed, tortured, buried in dungeon cells, martyred for their faith, or compelled to flee to mountain fastnesses, and to dens and caves of the earth--then the faithful witnesses prophesied in sackcloth.** {GC 267.1}

15. What warning is given in Revelation 11:5,6 and Revelation 22:18,19 _____

16. Who was crucified and persecuted after France manifested the characteristics of Egypt and Sodom? Revelation 11:8 _____

"Where also our Lord was crucified." This specification of the prophecy was also fulfilled by France. In no land had the spirit of enmity against Christ been more strikingly displayed. **In no country had the truth encountered more bitter and cruel opposition.** In the persecution which France had visited upon the confessors of the gospel, **she had crucified Christ in the person of His disciples.** {GC 271.1}

17a. Which massacre was compared to the French Revolution? Who persuaded the leaders of France to carry out such barbaric acts against the Protestants?

The same master spirit that urged on the St. Bartholomew Massacre led also in the scenes of the Revolution. Jesus Christ was declared to be an impostor, and the rallying cry of the French infidels was, "Crush the Wretch," meaning Christ. {GC 273.1}

But blackest in the black catalogue of crime, most horrible among the fiendish deeds of all the dreadful centuries, was the St. Bartholomew Massacre. The world still recalls with shuddering horror the scenes of that most cowardly and cruel onslaught. **The king of France, urged on by Romish priests and prelates, lent his sanction to the dreadful work.** A bell, tolling at dead of night, was a signal for the slaughter. **Protestants by thousands, sleeping quietly in their homes, trusting to the plighted honor of their king, were dragged forth without a warning and murdered in cold blood.** {GC 272.1}

A medal was struck to commemorate the massacre, and in the Vatican may still be seen three frescoes of Vasari, describing the attack upon the admiral, the king in council plotting the massacre, and the massacre itself. **Gregory sent Charles the Golden Rose;** and four months after the massacre, . . . he listened complacently to the sermon of a **French priest, . . . who spoke of 'that day so full of happiness and joy, when the most holy father received the news, and went in solemn state to render thanks to God and St. Louis.'**--Henry White, The Massacre of St. Bartholomew, ch. 14, par. 34. {GC 272.3}

17b. **“Pope Francis Reminds Emmanuel Macron of France’s ‘Christian Tradition’”** In a telegram congratulating the new French president, Emmanuel Macron, for his investiture, **Pope Francis took the occasion to remind the lapsed Catholic president of his country’s “Christian tradition.” Often referred to as the “eldest daughter of the Church,”** France became Christian in 496 AD, when the Frankish King Clovis was baptized by Saint Remigius in the Cathedral of Reims. **Ever since the French Revolution, however, with its deep-set anti-Catholicism, France has been immersed in its own version of secularism—or laïcité—that often borders on contempt for the faith rather than just a healthy separation of spheres.**

Emmanuel Macron himself has been referred to as a **“zombie Catholic”** by his biographer Marc Endeweld, meaning that, while not actively practicing his faith, Macron has been affected by its profound mark on culture and has assimilated certain aspects of the Christian message... **The “zombie” dimension would suggest that the Christian faith is latent but could under the right circumstances come back to life again...** **“May France continue to foster, in Europe and throughout the world, the search for peace and the common good,** respect for life and the defense of the dignity of every person and of all peoples,” Pope Francis wrote in his telegram to Macron. <http://www.breitbart.com/national-security/2017/05/16/pope-francis-reminds-emmanuel-macron-of-frances-christian-tradition/>

17c. **And for what purpose is this limitation sought to be put upon natural rights?** A quotation from the recent hearing on the Sunday bills before the Massachusetts legislature will explain. **A speaker in behalf of the [Sunday] bills said: “When we speak of natural rights it must be with limitations. Natural rights of the individual in the community are subordinate to the common good. Sabbath laws [Sunday Laws] have been proved to be for the common good.”** {April 21, 1898 ATJ, AMS 243.7}

17d. In his address, the Holy Father reminded leaders that Europe’s soul is Christian, and that the only true way to build **“authentically ‘lay’ societies, free of ideological conflicts,” is for Europe to maintain her vital connection to her Christian roots.** <https://aleteia.org/2017/03/24/pope-francis-recalls-christian-origins-of-eus-commitment-to-human-rights/>

18a. What did France worship as a manifestation of her legalizing atheism and immorality? _____

After France had renounced the worship of the living God, “the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity,” it was only a little time till she descended to degrading idolatry, by the worship of the Goddess of Reason, in the person of a profligate woman. And this in the representative assembly of the nation, and by its highest civil and legislative authorities! Says the historian: “One of the ceremonies of this insane time stands unrivaled for absurdity combined with impiety. The doors of the Convention were thrown open to a band of musicians, preceded by whom, the members of the municipal body entered in solemn procession, singing a hymn in praise of liberty, and escorting, as the object of their future worship, a veiled female, **whom they termed the Goddess of Reason.** {GC 275.1}

18b. Note: The Goddess of Reason, The Statue of Liberty represents freedom from God’s Law.

“Statue of Liberty Celebrates 130th Anniversary of Arrival in NYC... On June 17, 1885 -- 130 years ago -- the Statue of Liberty arrived in New York harbor. **A gift of friendship from France to commemorate the ideals shared by French and American governments,** the statue arrived in New York harbor in more than 300 pieces, according to the National Parks Service.” <http://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/Statue-of-Liberty-130-Arrival-Birthday-Anniversary-Lady-France-USA-307892021.html>

18c. Note: Putting reason above the scriptures is spiritualism.

“Ye shall be as gods,” he declares, “knowing good and evil.” Genesis 3:5. Spiritualism teaches “that man is the creature of progression; that it is his destiny from his birth to progress, even to eternity, toward the Godhead.” And again: “Each mind will judge itself and not another.” “The judgment will be right, because it is the judgment of self. . . . The throne is within you.” Said a spiritualistic teacher, as the “spiritual consciousness” awoke within him: “My fellow men, all were unfallen demigods.” And another declares: “Any just and perfect being is Christ.” {GC 554.1}

19a. What did the leaders of France say gave rise to the worship of Reason? By implication, who did they call fanatics? _____

Said the orator who introduced the worship of Reason: **“Legislators! Fanaticism has given way to reason.** Its bleared eyes could not endure the brilliancy of the light. This day an immense concourse has assembled beneath those gothic vaults, which, for the first time, re-echoed the truth. **There the French have celebrated the only true worship,—that of Liberty, that of Reason.** There we have formed wishes for the prosperity of the arms of the Republic. **There we have abandoned inanimate idols for Reason, for that animated image, the masterpiece of nature.**”—M. A. Thiers, History of the French Revolution, vol. 2, pp. 370, 371. {GC 275.3}

19b. What argument did Popery use to get France to slaughter the Protestants? _____

Rome was not slow to inflame their jealous fears. Said the pope to the regent of France in 1525: **“This mania [Protestantism] will not only confound and destroy religion, but all principalities, nobility, laws, orders, and ranks besides.”** A few years later a papal nuncio warned the king: **“Sire, be not deceived. The Protestants will upset all civil as well as religious order. . . . The throne is in as much danger as the altar. . . . The introduction of a new religion must necessarily introduce a new government.”** And theologians appealed to the prejudices of the people by declaring that the Protestant doctrine **“entices men away to novelties and folly; it robs the king of the devoted affection of his subjects, and devastates both church and state.”** Thus Rome succeeded in arraying France against the Reformation. **“It was to uphold the throne, preserve the nobles, and maintain the laws, that the sword of persecution was first unsheathed in France.”** {GC 277.2}

19c. Who do Pope Francis and his allies call fanatics and what do they call fanaticism? _____

Following his first visit to the Middle East as pope last month, **the pontiff criticized fundamentalism in Christianity, Islam and Judaism** as a form of violence. **“A fundamentalist group, even if it kills no one, even it strikes no one, is violent.** The mental structure of fundamentalism is violence in the name of God.”

“Pope Francis Criticizes Fundamentalists Who Believe They Possess ‘Absolute Truth’ <http://www.christianheadlines.com/blog/pope-francis-criticizes-fundamentalists-who-believe-they-possess-absolute-truth.html>

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/>

19d. When we reach the standard that the Lord would have us reach, **worldlings will regard Seventh-day Adventists as odd, singular, strait-laced extremists.** "We are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men." {FE 289.1}

20a. After what event did France perform the public burning of the Bible?

"The goddess, after being embraced by the president, was mounted on a magnificent car, and conducted, amid an immense crowd, to the cathedral of Notre Dame, to take the place of the Deity. There she was elevated on the high altar, and received the adoration of all present." **This was followed, not long afterward, by the public burning of the Bible.** {GC 276.2}

21. Whose policies led to the French Revolution? How did Popery do it?

It was popery that had begun the work which atheism was completing. The policy of Rome had wrought out those conditions, social, political, and religious, that were hurrying France on to ruin. Writers, in referring to the horrors of the Revolution, say that these excesses are to be charged upon the throne and the church. In strict justice they are to be charged upon the church. {GC 276.4}

24a. What were some of the conditions when the Revolution broke out in France?

But under the domination of Rome the people had lost the Saviour's blessed lessons of self-sacrifice and unselfish love. They had been led away from the practice of self-denial for the good of others. **The rich had found no rebuke for their oppression of the poor, the poor no help for their servitude and degradation.** The selfishness of the wealthy and powerful grew more and more apparent and oppressive. **For centuries the greed and profligacy of the noble resulted in grinding extortion toward the peasant. The rich wronged the poor, and the poor hated the rich.** {GC 279.3}

24b. **The burden of supporting both the church and the state fell upon the middle and lower classes, who were heavily taxed by the civil authorities and by the clergy...The courts of justice would always listen to a noble as against a peasant;** bribes were notoriously accepted by the judges; and the merest caprice of the aristocracy had the force of law, by virtue of this system of universal corruption... **And the men who thus impoverished their fellow subjects were themselves exempt from taxation, and entitled by law or custom to all the appointments of the state. The privileged classes numbered a hundred and fifty thousand, and for their gratification millions were condemned to hopeless and degrading lives.**" {GC 279.4}

24c. The court was given up to luxury and profligacy. **There was little confidence existing between the people and the rulers. Suspicion fastened upon all the measures of the government as designing and selfish.** For more than half a century before the time of the Revolution the throne was occupied by Louis XV, who, even in those evil times, was distinguished as an indolent, frivolous, and sensual monarch. With a depraved and cruel aristocracy and an impoverished and ignorant lower class, the state financially embarrassed and the people exasperated, it needed no prophet's eye to foresee a terrible impending outbreak. To the warnings of his counselors the king was accustomed to reply: **"Try to make things go on as long as I am likely to live; after my death it may be as it will."** It was in vain that the necessity of reform was urged. **He saw the evils, but had neither the courage nor the power to meet them. The doom awaiting France was but too truly pictured in his indolent and selfish answer, "After me, the deluge!"** {GC 280.1}

24d. **And to add to the general misery, the nation became involved in a prolonged and devastating war with the great powers of Europe.** "The country was nearly bankrupt, **the armies were clamoring for arrears of pay,** the Parisians were starving, the provinces were laid waste by brigands, and civilization was almost extinguished in anarchy and license." {GC 283.1}

24e. **By working upon the jealousy of the kings and the ruling classes, Rome had influenced them to keep the people in bondage, well knowing that the state would thus be weakened, and purposing by this means to fasten both rulers and people in her thrall. With farsighted policy she perceived that in order to enslave men effectually, the shackles must be bound upon their souls;** that the surest way to prevent them from escaping their bondage was to render them incapable of freedom. **A thousandfold more terrible than the physical suffering which resulted from her policy, was the moral degradation.** Deprived of the Bible, and abandoned to the teachings of bigotry and selfishness, the people were shrouded in ignorance and superstition, **and sunken in vice, so that they were wholly unfitted for self-government.** {GC 281.1}

"On Gay Priests, Pope Francis Asks, 'Who Am I to Judge?'" <http://www.nytimes.com/2013/07/30/world/europe/pope-francis-gay-priests.html>

"Pope to church: Be more accepting of divorced Catholics, gays and lesbians" <http://www.cnn.com/2016/04/08/europe/vatican-pope-family/>

24f. **At the same time anarchy is seeking to sweep away all law, not only divine, but human.** The centralizing of wealth and power; the vast combinations for the enriching of the few at the expense of the many; the combinations of the poorer classes for the defense of their interests and claims; the spirit of unrest, of riot and bloodshed; **the world-wide dissemination of the same teachings that led to the French Revolution--all are tending to involve the whole world in a struggle similar to that which convulsed France.** {Ed 228.2}

25. Who was and is still responsible for infidelity and crimes in the world, and for people rejecting God and the Bible? _____

Rome had misrepresented the character of God and perverted His requirements, and now men rejected both the Bible and its Author. She had required a blind faith in her dogmas, under the pretended sanction of the Scriptures. In the reaction, Voltaire and his associates cast aside God's word altogether and spread everywhere the poison of infidelity. Rome had ground down the people under her iron heel; and now the masses, degraded and brutalized, in their recoil from her tyranny, cast off all restraint. Enraged at the glittering cheat to which they had so long paid homage, they rejected truth and falsehood together; and mistaking license for liberty, the slaves of vice exulted in their imagined freedom. {GC 281.3} But in the Revolution the law of God was openly set aside by the National Council. And in the Reign of Terror which followed, the working of cause and effect could be seen by all. {GC 285.4}

Record Few Americans Believe Bible Is Literal Word of God...24% believe Bible is literal word of God, the lowest in Gallup's 40-year trend...View of Bible as secular stories and history at 26%, up from 21% in 2014...Over the past three decades, Americans' view of the Bible as the literal word of God has been declining, while their view that the Bible is a collection of fables, myths and history recorded by man has been increasing. The shift is most pronounced among young adults, indicating the trend is likely to accelerate in the years ahead. Americans in all age groups still largely accept the Bible as a holy document, but most of these downplay God's direct role in it. That could mean people are more willing than in the past to believe it is open to interpretation -- if man, not God, wrote the Bible, more can be questioned. And that, in turn, may have consequences for where Americans come down on a number of morally tinged issues. The country may already be seeing this in growing public acceptance of a variety of behaviors that were once largely frowned on from a Christian perspective -- ranging from gay marriage and premarital sex to out-of-wedlock births and physician-assisted suicide. http://www.gallup.com/poll/210704/record-few-americans-believe-bible-literal-word-god.aspx?g_source=Social+Issues&g_medium=newsfeed&g_campaign=tiles

26. What was another end-result of Rome's policies in France? _____

But the outworking of all this was widely different from what Rome had purposed. Instead of holding the masses in a blind submission to her dogmas, her work resulted in making them infidels and revolutionists. Romanism they despised as priestcraft. They beheld the clergy as a party to their oppression. The only god they knew was the god of Rome; her teaching was their only religion. They regarded her greed and cruelty as the legitimate fruit of the Bible, and they would have none of it. {GC 281.2}

27a. Describe the scenes of the Reign of Terror? _____

The war against the Bible inaugurated an era which stands in the world's history as the Reign of Terror. {GC 282.2} **All too well the people had learned the lessons of cruelty and torture which Rome had so diligently taught. A day of retribution at last had come... Unsparring Rome now felt the deadly power of those whom she had trained to delight in deeds of blood...The scaffolds ran red with the blood of the priests. {GC 283.2}**

King, clergy, and nobles were compelled to submit to the atrocities of an excited and maddened people. Their thirst for vengeance was only stimulated by the execution of the king; and those who had decreed his death soon followed him to the scaffold. A general slaughter of all suspected of hostility to the Revolution was determined.{GC 283.1}

No mercy was shown to sex or age. The number of young lads and of girls of seventeen who were murdered by that execrable government, is to be reckoned by hundreds. Babies torn from the breast were tossed from pike to pike along the Jacobin ranks." In the short space of ten years, multitudes of human beings perished. All this was as Satan would have it. This was what for ages he had been working to secure. {GC 284.1}

27b. What does the prophecy say regarding the Papacy and her allies? Revelation 17:16-18; Revelation 18:4-8,19-24 _____

28. What does Revelation 11:10 say _____

"And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another; because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth." Infidel France had silenced the reproving voice of God's two witnesses. The word of truth lay dead in her streets, and those who hated the restrictions and requirements of God's law were jubilant. Men publicly defied the King of heaven. Like the sinners of old, they cried: "How doth God know? and is there knowledge in the Most High?" Psalm 73:11. {GC 274.2}

29. What does Revelation 11:11 say _____

God's faithful witnesses, slain by the blasphemous power that "ascendeth out of the bottomless pit," were not long to remain silent. "After three days and a half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them." Revelation 11:11. **It was in 1793 that the decrees which abolished the Christian religion and set aside the Bible passed the French Assembly. Three years and a half later a resolution rescinding these decrees, thus granting toleration to the Scriptures, was adopted by the same body.** The world stood aghast at the enormity of guilt which had resulted from a rejection of the Sacred Oracles, and men recognized the necessity of faith in God and His word as the foundation of virtue and morality. {GC 287.1}

30. What does Revelation 11:12 say _____

Concerning the two witnesses the prophet declares further: "And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them." Revelation 11:12. **Since France made war upon God's two witnesses, they have been honored as never before. In 1804 the British and Foreign Bible Society was organized.** This was followed by similar organizations, with numerous branches, upon the continent of Europe. **In 1816 the American Bible Society was founded. When the British Society was formed, the Bible had been printed and circulated in fifty tongues. It has since been translated into many hundreds of languages and dialects.** {GC 287.2}