

St. Croix Avis.

75TH YEAR.

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August, 27th 1919.

Open Letter to Mr. Joseph W. Daily.

Sir:-

For the benefit of the community at large, who may be misinformed by your open letter to me in to-day's "Avis", I am herewith reprinting the tract which has caused your displeasure.

"WHEN ROMAN CATHOLICS READ THE BIBLE."

The members of the Roman Catholic Church have been taught so many things which the Bible does not teach that when they read the Bible they are surprised to find the many doctrines in their religion that are not in the Bible at all.

Lest they should discover the great fraud that has been practised upon them by their priests and teachers, the Bible has been kept from them as far as possible, and they have been taught that it is not necessary for any but the priests to read it. But because some would read it, the Catholic Church published a Bible which is full of errors, and has many of the words. In it there are also some book notes which explain away the true meaning which were not inspired and are not a part of the Bible.

When Roman Catholics read the Bible. They will find that the word "pope" does not occur in the Bible.

They will find that the Bible forbids the followers of Christ to call any man "Father." The word pope means Father.

And call no man your father upon the earth; for one is your Father which is in heaven. Matthew: 23 1-2.

They will find that there are no priests appointed by Jesus Christ, nor by any one else since Jesus came.

They will find that there is no statement nor hint in the Bible that Mary, the mother of Jesus, was more holy than any other woman who loved and obeyed God. Jesus reproved one who voiced such an idea.

And it came to pass, as he spake these things, a certain woman of the company lifted her voice, and said unto him, Blessed is the womb that bare thee, and the paps which thou hast sucked. But he said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it. Luke 11: 27, 28.

All generations shall call Mary blessed because to her was given the divine favor of being the mother of the Saviour.

And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favored, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women.

For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden; for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. Luke 1: 28, 48.

Yet when Roman Catholics read the Bible they will find that she was no nearer to God than any other woman who kept his word.

While he yet talked to the people, behold, his mother and his brethren stood without, desiring to speak with him.

Then one said unto him, Behold thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to speak with thee.

But he answered and said unto him that told him, Who is my mother? and who are my brethren?

And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren!

For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother. Matthew 12: 46-50

They will find that the Bible forbids the worship of any one or any thing, or the bowing down to any one or anything, except God and Jesus Christ whom He hath sent, who is one with God. The Bible forbids the worship of saints, images, pictures and relics.

Thou shalt have no other Gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them. Exodus 20: 3-5.

They will find that there is no direction

concerning secrecy, nor need of it, in the religion of Jesus Christ. His life had in it nothing to hide, nothing to shut up in convent or monastery walls.

In secret have I said nothing. John 18: 20.

They will find that there is no command in the Bible to make confession of one's private sins to any man. The Bible says nothing about God appointing a certain class of men to hear confessions and forgive sins, but He tells us to confess our sins to the Lord, and that He will forgive them.

I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord: and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sins. Psalms 32: 5.

Confess your fault one to another. James 5: 16.

Debate thy cause with thy neighbor himself; and discover not a secret to another. Proverbs 25: 9.

They will find that there is no mention of purgatory in the Bible. The blood of Jesus Christ is all-sufficient for pardon and cleansing.

The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. 1. John 1: 7.

When believers in Christ die, they go to be with him.

Having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better. Philippians 1: 23.

Those who reject Jesus Christ are all lost, and perish in their sins.

And these shall go away into everlasting punishment; but the righteous into life eternal. Matthew 25: 46.

They will find that indulgences, sold by the priests to the people, are not mentioned in the Bible, and are a device of the devil.

My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. 1 John 2: 1, 2.

They will find that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is free, without money and without price, and that the money which is demanded by their priests for various pretended services, such as "praying" persons "out of purgatory," and saying "masses" for the dead, is paid in direct violation of the teachings of God's word.

Freely ye have received, freely give: Matthew 10: 8.

They will find that they are not saved by anything they can do.

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