

Rome and the Pope Highlighted by Prophecy:

On February 28, 2013 Pope Benedict XVI resigned from his office. His resignation allows for many interpretations, leastwise provokes thought. Furthermore, a glaring bolt of lightning hit the cupola of St. Peter's dome, directly after the announcement of resignation.

Pope Benedict passes for a philosopher and thinker. Certainly his resignation was preceded by a question to God, resp. Jesus, and has also further reason than solely his state of health.

If papacy continues to exist, it is changed in consequence of Benedict's decision. This will be in accordance with God's plan.

Diverse prophecies are being discussed in the general context of his resignation. Especially the 12th-century prophecy by the Irish Bishop Malachias. He had taken down so-called 'oracle'-verses for 112 popes. It is interesting, that the verses always received a real interpretation, which means that the respective characterizations proved surprisingly accurate. In the series of these 112 popes, Benedict is described as the second last pope. Succeeding him, there shall only be one more pope, namely 'Peter the Roman'. During the latter's time, the destruction of Rome (the 'Seven-Hill-Town') will occur. He shall be murdered, or rather flee - among other places to Cologne. The cause is a revolution in Italy, with an insurgency against the clergy and a decline of bonos mores and faith.

To what degree Benedict's decision will affect the Baptist's Mission cannot be interpreted, yet. There is, however, the following hortatory message of John the Baptist (dated March 6, 1994) addressing Jerusalem and the Vatican:

"Jerusalem, Jerusalem,
over how many cities did you cast your shadow.
Discord and hate are your countenance, vanity and pride your intent.

You abused the words of your prophets.
You closed your heart to the Light of the Lord,
showed his commandment the door.

Despise did you your Son, disown and deride.
Even through the cross you did not recognize your sin.
Where to is your haughtiness leading you?

When the Lord will speak: "Go into this town again",
the walls will resound with my word.
My rebuke will ring in your ears, for I fear you not.
But do be afraid, Jerusalem,
for the trumpets of Jericho can be with you already today.

This is the new word of the prophets:

Jerusalem, Jerusalem,
do not show your countenance in Rome. Because if you sow discord, and
hate and murder enter this city, the Lord will destroy your visage.

Cast off your haughtiness, repent, and make even the ways for the Lord,
so that you may be pardoned.

O, you proud Rome, take off your purple garments.
Take in the word of Christ.
You are to lay His salvation over your lambs,
yet, you are driving them into a net of commandments.

The High Priests and Pharisees of Jerusalem, they are reborn in your palaces.

How shall the Lord guide you, when you banish him into laws and rituals.
Leave off, so that you will not become the new Jerusalem.

Be prepared when the Son of Man will return.

John the Baptist.”

This message is edited in the book *>John the Baptist<* by Hans Bernd Altinger (see side-bar).
He (the author) commented the message as follows:

The purport of these words of John reminds of the words of Jesus Lk 13:34,35:

“Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is forsaken.” Jer 22:5: “But if you will not heed these words, I swear by myself, says the Lord, that this house shall become a desolation.”

In unison with Jerusalem also the Vatican is reproved. Also here I see a parallel to the words of Jesus in Lk 11:42,

43; 46: “But woe to you, Pharisees! For you tithe mint and rue and herbs of all kinds, and neglect justice and the love of God; it is these you ought to have practiced, without neglecting the others. Woe to you Pharisees! For you love to have the seat of honor in the synagogues and to be greeted with respect in the market-places. – Woe also to you lawyers! For you load people with burdens hard to bear, and you yourselves do not lift a finger to ease them.”

Warning and appeal to Rome for reversion can in their whole impact only be understood, when one consults the prophecies of the past centuries on the fate of the Vatican and the office of pontiff. Many are maintaining the destruction of the Church and the expulsion of the pope. This occurrence, which will chime in the time of the antichrist, will be connected with the death of many people.

The warning: *“Leave off, so that you will not become the new Jerusalem”* may refer to the destruction in 70 AD, but also to the divided Jerusalem of today. An interpretation is close at hand, also if it can only be superficial and cursory. The words of John express something, however, that gives cause to deep consideration and interpretation. Why else should they have been spoken?

In this context the prophesy of Nostradamus century I, verse 52, is most interesting: *“The sickness of the Church, caused by the new king is the reason for the downfall of Northern and Southern Europe”*. With this a crisis of the Catholic Church and all of Christianity is referred to that will even deteriorate according to verse 53: *“Through other laws everything will become un-Christian.”*

In century II, verse 8, Nostradamus describes how the dogmas of the Catholic Church will be rejected. A time of renewal will ensue that will lead the Vatican back to the origins of Christianity. In verse 36, the French visionary talks of a great prophet whose letters and writings will be confiscated by a tyrant (antichrist). The Nostradamus expert M. Dimde analyses this statement in that way, that this great prophet will continually warn the Church to convert, and will achieve the renewal with his sermons and actions.