

**V#28** – And I will give him the morning star.

**V#29** – He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.



# THYATIRA

THE DARK AGES (**Middle Ages**) - 590-1517

**Defined as a historical period which emphasize the cultural and economic deterioration that supposedly occurred in Western Europe following the decline of the Roman Empire.**

**The label employs traditional light-versus-darkness imagery to contrast the “darkness” of the period with earlier and later periods of light.**

**The period is characterized by a relative scarcity of historical and other written records at least for some areas of Europe, rendering it obscure to historians.**



# THYATIRA

THE DARK AGES (Middle Ages) - 590-1517

## THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

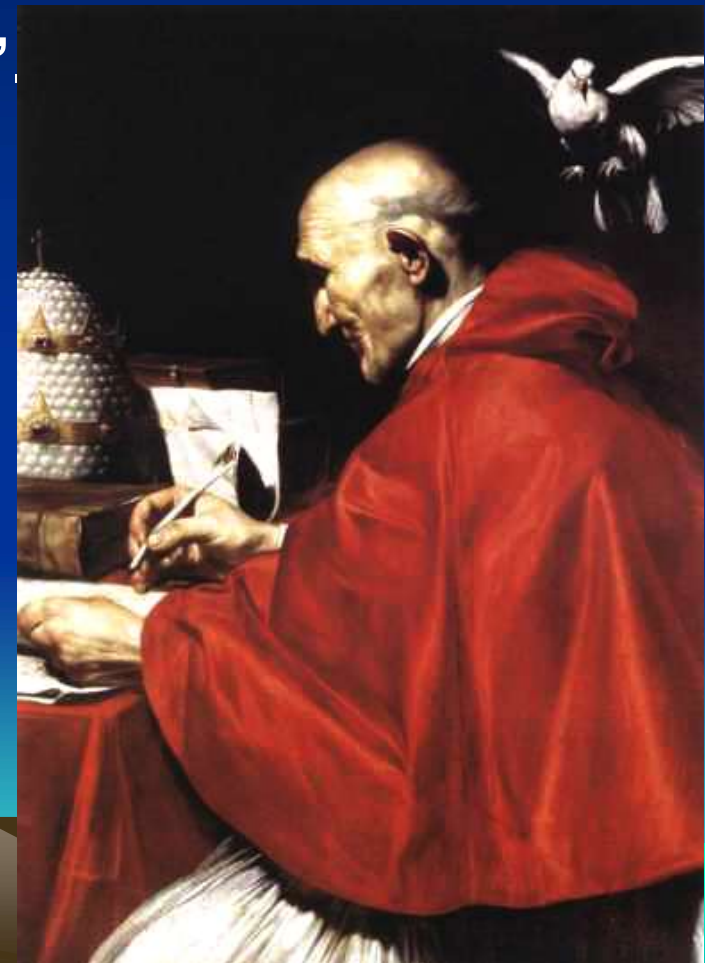
### 1. Study of the Papacy

The word “Pope” means “Father”.

At first it was applied to all Western Bishops.

About A.D. 500, it began to be restricted to the Bishop of Rome.

**590-694** First Pope: Gregory I, consolidated Christendom after the fall of Rome in 476

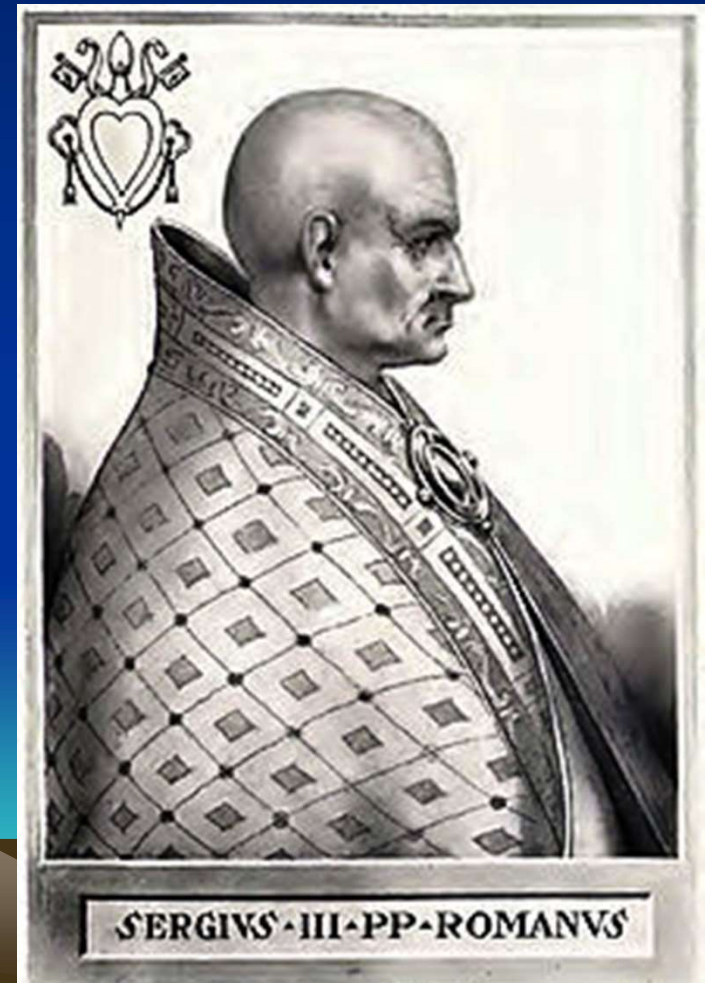


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THE DARK AGES (Middle Ages) - 590-1517

## THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

**904-911** Sergius III (evil):  
lived with a notorious harlot,  
Marozia, and they raised their  
illegitimate children to become  
popes and cardinals.



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THE DARK AGES (Middle Ages) - 590-1517

## THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

### 1033 - 1045 Benedict IX

He was made pope as a boy of 12.  
He committed murders and adultery  
In broad daylight and robbed graves  
Finally the people of Rome drove  
him out of the city.



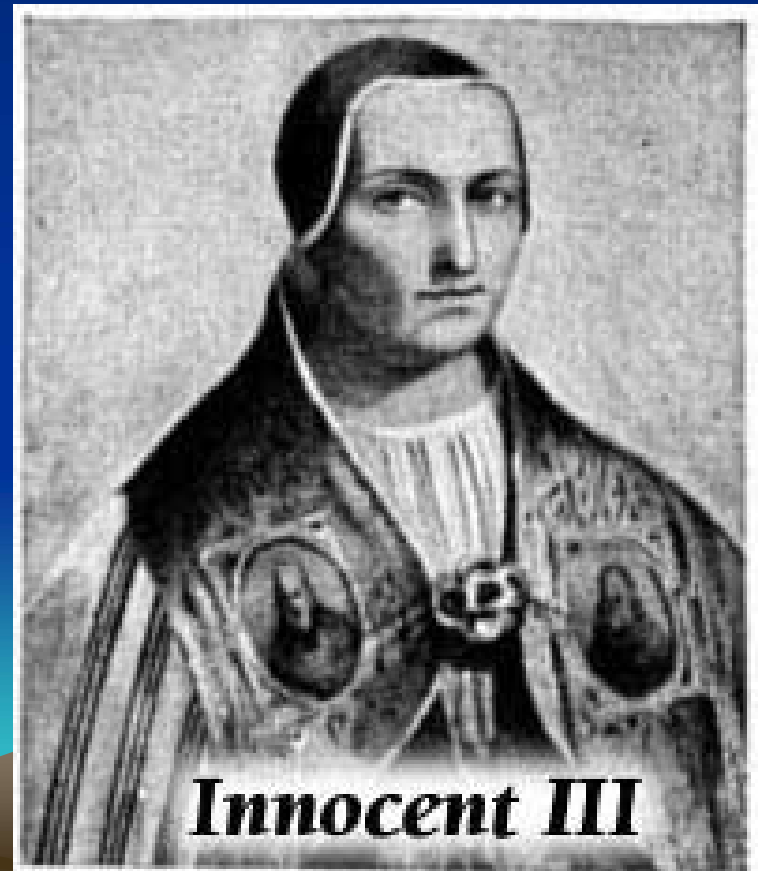
# THYATIRA

THE DARK AGES (Middle Ages) - 590-1517

## THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

**1198 - 1216** Innocent III

He was the most powerful of all Popes. He condemned England's Magna Carta and forbade Bible reading.



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THE DARK AGES (Middle Ages) - 590-1517

## THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

England's MAGNA CARTA issued 6-15-1215 (written in Latin.)

“Great Charter”. Required King John to proclaim certain rights to respect legal procedures...implicitly Support the writ of Habeus Corpus, allowing appeal against unlawful imprisonment. The first document forced onto an English king by a group of his subjects (the Barons) in an attempt to limit his powers by law and protect their privileges.

“Golden Bull of 1222” (edict) issued by King Andrew II of Hungary.  
Right of Resistance



# THYATIRA

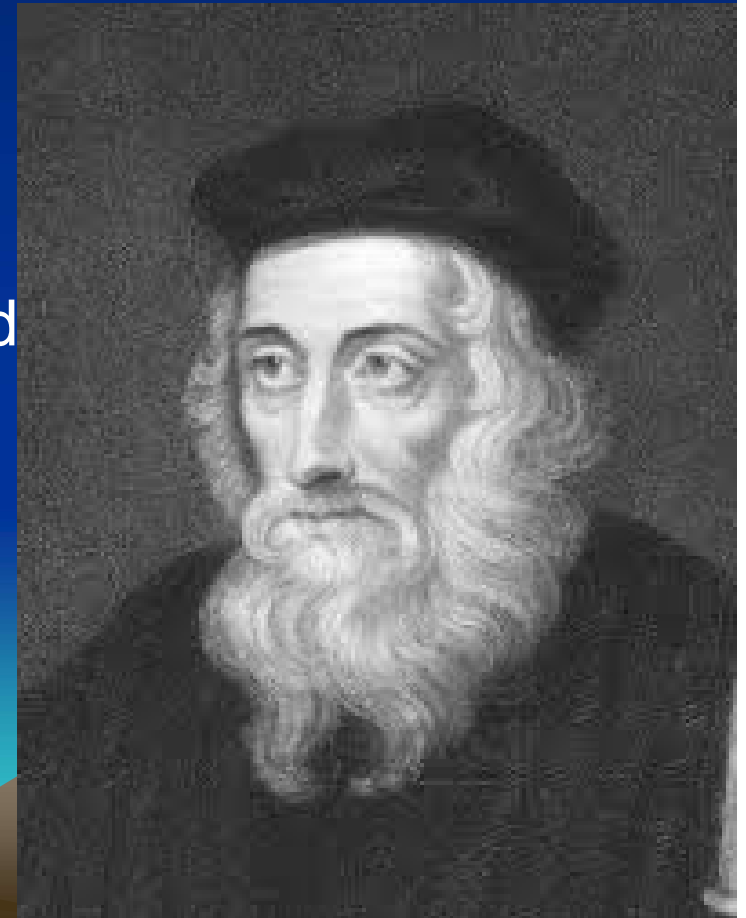
THE DARK AGES (Middle Ages) - 590-1517

## Some Champions during this period

### 1320 - 1384 John Wycliffe:

John Wycliffe was an English Scholastic philosopher, theologian, lay preacher, translator, reformer and university teacher at Oxford in England. He was an influential dissident in the Roman Catholic Church during the 14th century.

**He was first to translate the entire Bible into English.**





# THYATIRA

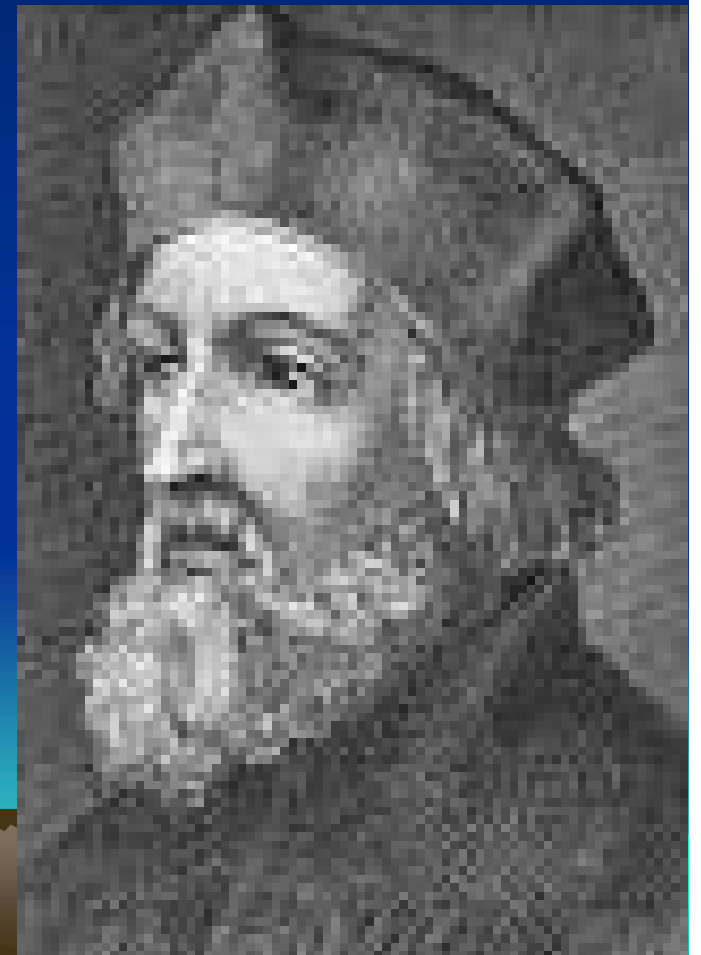
THE DARK AGES (Middle Ages) - 590-1517

## Some Champions during this period

### 1369 - 1415 John Huss:

A fearless preacher who honored the Bible above the church.

**He was burned at the stake by the pope.**



# THYATIRA

THE DARK AGES (Middle Ages) - 590-1517

## Some Champions during this period

### 1484 - 1536 William Tyndale:

He was an English scholar who became a leading figure in Protestant reform in the years leading up to his execution. He is well known for his translation of the Bible into English.

**In 1525 He printed the first copy of the New Testament in English ever produced.**



# THYATIRA

THE DARK AGES (Middle Ages) - 590-1517

## Some Champions during this period

### 1466 - 1536 Erasmus:

Desiderius Erasmus of Rotterdam was one of Europe's most famous and influential scholars. A man of great intellect who rose from meager beginnings to become one of Europe's greatest thinkers, he defined the humanist movement in Northern Europe. **His translation to Greek of the New Testament brought on a theological revolution**



# DARK AGES (590-1517)

## ISLAM ISLAM ISLAM



**570AD – June 8, 632AD** Prophet Muhammad

Born in Mecca, Saudi Arabia...

Died in Medina, Saudi Arabia...

Full name: **Abū l-Qāsim Muḥammad ibn ‘Abd Allāh ibn ‘Abd al-Muṭṭalib ibn Hāshim**

By age 35, Muhammad had become a very respected figure in Mecca and had taken ‘Alī into his household. When he was asked, according to Islamic tradition, to arbitrate a dispute concerning which tribe should place the holy black stone in the corner of the newly built [Ka‘bah](#), Muhammad resolved the conflict by putting his cloak on the ground with the stone in the middle and having a representative of each tribe lift a corner of it until the stone reached the appropriate height to be set in the wall. His reputation stemmed, in part, from his deep religiosity and attention to prayer. He often would leave the city and retire to the desert for prayer and meditation. Moreover, before the advent of his [prophecy](#), he received visions that he described as being like “the breaking of the light of dawn.” It was during one of these periods of retreat, when he was 40 years old and meditating in a cave called al-Ḥirā’ in the Mountain of Light (Jabal al-Nūr) near Mecca, that Muhammad experienced the presence of the [archangel Gabriel](#) and the process of the Qur’ānic revelation began

# DARK AGES (590-1517)

## ISLAM ISLAM ISLAM

### Prophet Muhammad



### The advent of the revelation and the Meccan period

In the month of Ramadan, in the year 610, Gabriel, in the form of a man, appeared to Muhammad, asked him to “recite” (*iqra*’), then overwhelmed him with a very strong embrace. Muhammad told the stranger that he was not a reciter. But the angel repeated his demand and embrace three times, before the verses of the Qur’ān, beginning with “Recite in the Name of thy Lord who created,” were revealed. Although the command *iqra*’ is sometimes translated as “read,” “recite” is a more appropriate translation because, according to traditional Islamic sources, the Prophet was *ummī* (“unlettered”), meaning that his soul was unsullied by human knowledge and virginal before it received the divine Word. Many Western scholars and some modern Muslim commentators have provided other connotations for the word *ummī*, but “unlettered” has been the traditionally accepted meaning.

**END  
OF  
SESSION**





*"Unless I am convinced  
by proofs from Scriptures  
or by plain and clear  
reasons and arguments,  
I can and will not retract,  
for it is neither safe nor  
wise to do anything against  
conscience. Here I stand.  
I can do no other. God  
help me. Amen!"*

*Martin Luther  
(1483-1547)*