

Questions About When and Where Catholic Church United with Governments to Form Protestant Churches

By Pastor Ed Anderson

I understand that the Roman Catholic Church spiritually fornicated with paganism. But did I hear you correct - the prophecy said it would unite with political world governments and birth Protestant churches? Where and when did this happen?

Answer:

That's a great and thoughtful question — and it's one that reaches into the heart of both **prophecy and history**.

Let's break it down clearly:

Did the Prophecy Say Rome Would Unite with Political Powers and Give Birth to Protestant Churches?

Yes — but let's clarify what that means and how it happened.

Prophetic Foundation: Revelation 17, Daniel 7, and 2 Thessalonians 2

- **Revelation 17** speaks of a *woman* (symbolizing a church) riding a *beast* (symbolizing political power). This woman is “**Babylon the Great... the mother of harlots**” (v.5), meaning she has **spiritual daughters** — churches that came from her.
- **Daniel 7** and **2 Thessalonians 2** describe a **religio-political power** that arises from Rome, speaks great things, persecutes saints, and tries to **change God's laws and times** (Dan. 7:25).
- This power is historically identified by Protestant reformers and the Adventist movement as the **Roman Catholic system**, not the people, but the *system* of apostate religion that fused **paganism with Christianity** and **church with state**.

Historical Fulfillment: Church + State Alliance & the Protestant Reformation

Rome's Spiritual Union with Political Power

- Starting in the 4th century (under Constantine), the **Christian church united with the Roman Empire**.
- Pagan practices were absorbed to appease the masses (Sunday worship, saints, relics, image veneration, etc.).

- The **bishop of Rome became politically powerful**, and the Papacy was born.
- This led to **persecution of those who opposed** — the Dark Ages.

Prophecy fulfilled: The church riding the beast (state), enforcing false worship, and persecuting the faithful.

How the Protestant Daughters Came From Her

- In the 1500s, God raised **Protestant Reformers** (Luther, Calvin, Zwingli, etc.).
- They protested Rome's errors (indulgences, papal authority, tradition over Scripture).
- But **many of these churches kept some of Rome's teachings**, such as:
 - **Sunday sacredness** (instead of the 7th-day Sabbath)
 - **Immortal soul**
 - **Eternal hellfire**
 - **Baptism of infants**
- Thus, they **broke from the mother but retained her DNA** — these are the “daughters” of Babylon in prophecy.

Prophecy fulfilled: Protestant churches (the daughters) came out of the Roman Church (the mother), yet often **retained her spiritual errors**.

Has the Roman Church United Again with World Governments?

Yes — and we're seeing it increasingly today:

- The **Vatican is a recognized political state** with diplomatic ties to nearly every nation.
- Pope Francis is a major **voice in global political matters** (climate, economics, interfaith unity).
- **Laudato Si'** (his encyclical) calls for **Sunday rest laws** for the planet — echoing prophetic concerns.
- Rome continues to **influence Protestant and world religious leaders**, creating the **image of the beast** (Rev. 13).

Prophecy in progress: Rome is again riding the political beast, aiming for **global spiritual authority**.

Final Thoughts

So yes — **Rome first fused with the state, then birthed Protestant daughters**, and now is **reuniting with political powers worldwide**. Revelation's message is that God is **calling His people out of all compromised systems**, including both **Mother and Daughters** (Rev. 18:4).

What Do We Do?

- Test all things by the **Word of God** — not by tradition or emotion.
- Follow **truth wherever it leads**, even when it's uncomfortable.
- Accept God's invitation to **worship Him "in spirit and truth" (John 4:24)**.