

## 2) Great Apostasy Brief on the Hellenization of Christianity

By Richard Joseph Michael Ibranyi

The word “Hellenism” means to adopt Greek customs. In a religious sense, it means to adopt the pagan customs of Greek culture and thus to adopt their philosophies and mythologies. It is also applied to pagan Roman customs, which are similar. In the broader sense, it applies to any cultures philosophies and mythologies. The Hellenization of Christianity, then, is the mixing of Christianity with the glorification of philosophy or mythology. Mythology includes the glorification of false gods, idols, or pagan religions. Christianity is Hellenized by using philosophy or mythology to edify or enlighten oneself or others on faith or morals. It does so in the following ways:

- a) By presenting philosophy or mythology as a true religion or a religion in which one can be saved;
- b) By presenting philosophy or mythology as necessary or useful to live a moral and virtuous life
- c) By using philosophy as a source of revelation on faith or morals
- d) By loving or at least liking philosophy or mythology

Christianity was first Hellenized by the anti-Church Fathers and then by the scholastics and other humanists. A humanist is a Hellenizer. The scholasticism of the Hellenizing anti-Church Fathers flourished from the mid-2nd century to the beginning of the 4th century. From the 4th century to the 11th century the glorification of philosophy and mythology went underground and thus was never totally eradicated. During this period, some nominal Catholics continued to glorify philosophy or mythology but it never made steady progress. When it became manifest, it was put down quickly. Hence during this period of time, nominal Catholics glorified philosophy or mythology in secret or semi-secret among the few who shared their apostate beliefs.

From the time that Satan was unchained in 1033, in the 11th century, scholasticism, which consists of the glorification of philosophy or mythology, began to make steady progress among nominal Catholics and hence the Hellenization of Christianity began to make steady progress.

This is nothing new with God’s chosen people. Most of the Jews Hellenized Judaism (the true religion at that time) in the time of the Machabees when only a very few Jews remained faithful, the Machabees and those who followed them:

“And setting nought by the honours of their fathers, they esteemed the Grecian glories for the best. For the sake of which they incurred a dangerous contention and followed earnestly their ordinances; and in all things, they coveted to be like them who were their enemies and murderers. For acting wickedly against the laws of God doth not pass unpunished: but this the time following will declare.” (2 Mac. 4:15-17)

And it is the apostate Jews and their apostate Judaism that are the main orchestrators of the Great Apostasy:

*Judaism and the Vatican*, by Vince Poncins, 1967: “In reality, under the guise of ecumenical unity, religious reconciliation and other plausible pretexts, its object is the demolition of the bastion of traditional Catholicism, which is described by Joshua Jehouda as ‘the decrepit fortress of Christian obscurantism’. According to Jehouda, ...three important stages have been accomplished in the work of the destruction of traditional Christianity; and they are: The Renaissance; The Reformation; The Revolution of 1789.” (p. 1, c. 3, p. 35.)

*For the glory of God; in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Michael, St. Joseph, Ss. Joachim and Anne, St. John the Baptist, the other angels and saints; and for the salvation of men*

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**Mary’s Little Remnant**

302 East Joffre St.

Truth or Consequences, New Mexico 87901-2878, USA

Website: [www.JohnTheBaptist.us](http://www.JohnTheBaptist.us)