

Baptize All Nations

Episode 13: The New Evangelization Gives Us the Cure

Welcome to the final episode of Baptize All Nations. I'm your host, Michael Miller. The cure for what ails the Church today is for everybody to strive for personal holiness.

In episode five, we talked about the loss of millions of souls since the mid 1960's, due to what people called the spirit of Vatican II.

People saw the insides of their churches change, they saw the Mass change, they heard different things being preached, they saw the sisters and brothers in the religious orders take off their habits, and they saw the hierarchy support these things.

The big buzzword was “renewal” and people said that the stodgy old Catholic Church had finally emerged into the modern era. But the result of these changes has been the a catastrophic loss of an untold number of souls.

Now many people who call themselves Catholic disagree with the Church on important doctrinal teachings and they don't see anything wrong with it.

We're not just talking about things that happened fifty years ago.

We're talking about now, about how today there's a false impression of what it means to be a Catholic.

This is a situation that's specifically addressed by the new evangelization. So in addressing the problem, the question must be asked, “Who's responsible for this massive loss of faith?” and “How can we fix it?”

The loss of faith started from the people who allowed the abuses and confusion to become institutionalized – the bishops.

Right now, bishops and priests – for the most part – are the ones who suffer from damaged faith or its loss altogether.

Is this a shocking indictment?

You bet it is. It's a very shocking situation but we mention it with all due respect.

It's the bishops of the past who initialized liturgical experimentations that were not called for by the pope or the Second Vatican Council, and it's the bishops today who allow liturgical abuse to be the norm in most parishes.

It's the bishops who allowed poor formation of seminarians and allowed men with little to no spiritual, philosophical, or theological formation to be ordained to the priesthood.

It's the bishops that allowed the sodomite invasion of seminaries, chanceries, parishes, schools, and religious orders all over the United States.

Even today many bishops protect the homosexual culture that has embedded itself into the American

Catholic bureaucracy.

It's the bishops who seem to be content with the fact that 76% of Catholics don't even attend Mass on Sunday.

It's the bishops who focus on politically-correct social justice platforms, rather than address the moral rot that affects many Catholics.

It's the bishops who have the authority to allow or disallow things to be done, preached, and taught.

They alone have the mandate from Christ to keep watch over the flock and they have largely failed their charge.

But since it's been the example of bishops who've lost the faith themselves, that have for the most part brought us to where we are in the American Church today, they're also a part of the solution.

The Church Herself proscribes the solution which is also the life-blood of the new evangelization – personal holiness and example.

But since we can't force the bishops, or anybody really, to be holy or to give a good example, we have to first do it ourselves.

The other thing we have to do, is pray and do penance for our bishops.

Laypeople can't be under the delusion that reform is up to the priests and bishops, that its up to them to save the Church.

It's up to all of us.

But we don't need more websites, more social justice, more motivational movies, more guitar masses, more “implementation”, more synods, more press conferences, more “eucharistic ministers”, or more talk! We need more saints.

It's the restoration of personal holiness and the example that flows from it... that will restore the faith in the hearts of millions of Catholics.

Even if the church buildings are restored to their former beauty, and the priests preach doctrine from the pulpits, if the schools teach the faith to the children, and the Mass be exercised with an outward reverence that caused people to weep, it still wouldn't be good enough.

We had many of these things before the Second Vatican Council and the people still abandoned these outward trappings.

Yes, these things help but they become a farce when the people of God don't internalize the Mass, or apply Catholic doctrine to their daily lives in a meaningful way

Personal holiness and evangelization is the vocation of every Catholic.

The new evangelization has to begin with our own conversion first.

We have to make our own souls the kingdom of God so that Christ will reign in us and through us to

the world.

But the thing is, we have to choose to follow our vocation as an evangelist.

If we don't then God will send somebody else because not even Satan can thwart God's plan.

But if we don't participate in God's plan then we won't go to heaven.

We can work for the realization of God's kingdom in our hearts and the hearts of others in this life and enjoy that kingdom in eternity.

Or we will be inactive here and suffer for it in hell.

St. Peter of Alcantara, a Franciscan and the spiritual director of Saint Teresa of Avila, has advice that, if you take only one thing away from this series, let it be this.

“Truly, matters in the world are in a bad state; but if you and I begin in earnest to reform ourselves, a really good beginning will have been made.”

I'm Michael Miller. Thanks for watching Baptize All Nations. God bless.