

St. Patrick: The Patron Saint of Ireland who saved the heathen Irish from paganism and led them to become loyal subjects of the blessed virgin...

WHO REALLY WAS ST. PATRICK?

Matthew 23:27-33 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness. ²⁸

Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity. ²⁹Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because ye build the tombs of the prophets, and garnish the sepulchres of the righteous, ³⁰And say, If we had been in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets. ³¹ Wherefore ye be witnesses unto yourselves, that ye are the children of them which killed the prophets. ³²Fill ye up then the measure of your fathers. ³³Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?

I. Roman Fables

- A. Everyone who wears green on St. Patrick's Day usually is clueless about the man.
- B. The Roman Catholic Church says that Patrick studied in a monastery of Lerins (Southeast on the coast of France)
- C. Rome says that Pope Celestine I sent Patrick to Ireland to make everyone loyal Subjects to the Holy Mother Church
- D. According to Rome, the only strife was between the English and Irish clergy
- E. Roman legends
 - 1. He charmed all the snakes to go into the sea and drown
 - 2. He used a 3-leaf shamrock to illustrate the trinity.
 - a. Ironic that a 4-leaf clover/shamrock brings "good luck"
 - b. Fourth Deity – Could this be Mary?? Mariolatry?
- F. Observance of St. Patrick's Day began in 1845
 - 1. Wearing of green
 - 2. Shamrocks
 - 3. Parades
 - 4. Commercialism

II. Historical Facts

- a. True Christianity in Wales antedated Patrick by 300 years
- b. Patrick's birth is not certain
 - i. Between 377-387 A.D.
 - ii. Original name was Succat Patricus or Padraig
 - iii. Born in Armoric Brittany, near Gaul
- c. When he was 16, while working on his father's farm, he was seized by pirates and sold into Ireland to a petty chief for 6 years.
- d. Padraig had a Christian home with strong Christian influence even among some Irish

e. Escaped at age 21, but later received a call from God to go back to Ireland as a missionary.

f. Reported to have baptized by immersion 12,000 people and started 365 churches from his home church in Britain

g. At this time, during his ministry, the Roman Catholic Church was in an embryonic stage

i. The Bishop at Rome did not have universal authority

ii. There is no record that Padraig was sent by the Bishop (soon to be Pope)

iii. Leo II (440-461) did not once mention Padraig or St. Patrick in any of his 140 letters

h. Padraig baptized only professing believers as evidenced by his epistles (letters)

i. Never mentioned sprinkling

ii. Never mentioned infant baptism

i. Padraig placed Bishops in each church and ordained 3,000 presbyters or elders¹

j. Padraig only used the Bible, no other authority²

k. Padraig believed and preached "Baptist doctrines"³

i. The vicarious sacrifice of Jesus Christ

ii. The gift of eternal life

iii. The imputation of righteousness

iv. A symbolic communion

v. The new birth

l. Padraig was very bold

i. Would often confront the Druids

ii. Would go out into the woods and pound war beat on a big drum to assemble people.

iii. Would preach from a tree stump on the subject of hell-fire and judgment to come.

m. Roman Bishop sent a shrewd man (Paladius) to encourage the aged Padraig and the Irish church to be devoted to the Roman Catholic Church and her traditions

i. Paladius met with much resistance

ii. Paladius left in disgust to go to North Britain where he died of a fever⁴

n. Padraig died in 493 A.D. according to Ussher

o. There are no examples of Padraig's priestly confessions, or extreme unction, Mariolatry, purgatory, the Mass, or papal authority in any of his letters.

p. Many Irish churches considered the Romish heresies to be part of the spirit of the Anti-Christ.

q. In the decade of 590 A.D. Rome sought to bring many from the British and Irish churches under its control:

i. Celebrate Easter

ii. Baptismal regeneration

iii. Unionize in missionary endeavors

r. Most of the churches refused! ⁵

III. HOLY FAITH

A. Remember the testimonies; the bold Padraig and his converts were despised by the Roman hierarchy.

a. The Roman Catholic leaders would have gladly stoned him.

b. Needed to pull Ireland under the shadow of the crucifix.

c. Canonized "St. Patrick" and rewrote history.

d. Today they "Garnish Patrick's sepulcher!" with the strategy of "compromise and conquer."

B. The Roman Catholic Church desires to rule the world and seeks by ecumenism to bring all into the unity of the Roman faith

C. **Rev. 17 & 18:4** tells us to "*come out of her my people, that you be not partakes of her sin, and that ye receive not of her plagues*"

D. We must not allow our landmarks to be removed (Proverbs 22:28, 23:10)

E. We must earnestly contend for the faith (Jude 3)

Conclusion: For all practical purposes, we can be sure the Brother Padraig was an old-fashioned New Testament Baptist.

The tentacles of Rome have enslaved most of Ireland; but, not all wear green.

Many wear orange today out of protest. Where will you stand? Be kind, have a smile; but never say that our forefathers bled, died and preached in vain. Never say, "**What does it matter?**"

1. Ancient British & Irish Churches, p. 282; and Universal Knowledge (Vol. ii) p.28

2. Ancient British & Irish Churches, p. 159.

3. Ancient British & Irish Churches, pp. 315-316,318,322; and Neanders Church History (Vol. II) p.123; and Cathcarts History of St. Patrick

4. Ancient British & Irish Churches, pp. 176-177.

5. History of Baptists (Thomas Armitage, Vol I) p. 229.