

# BENEDICT XVI ANNOUNCES HIS TWO BASIC OBJECTIVES

ALSO: LIFE IN THE BRITISH UNION / NEW SOURCE OF DISEASES / ATTACK AGAINST VITAMIN C

**Barely into his papacy, Pope Benedict XVI has declared that, in order to fulfill his plans, he intends to travel a lot, as John Paul II did. It had been expected that he would remain in the Vatican and just write documents; but he intends to more energetically pursue his objectives. And what are they?**

**First, Benedict XVI has startled the Protestant world by announcing that he is ready to work with them in reuniting Catholicism with Protestantism!** Of course, this is not presented as a short-term goal; yet that is his intention. Immediately, he wants to begin talks with leaders of the Church of England.

By now, you are beginning to wonder what his second objective might be. Well, here it is:

**Second, Benedict XVI wants the world to “re-discover” the “religious meaning of Sunday”!**

**Have you been reading *Great Controversy* lately? Better get it out and start reading it again.**

*Here are two current British newspaper articles, with their titles for the articles:*

## VATICAN OFFERS TALKS ON REUNIFICATION

*The Guardian, Friday, May 13, 2005*—The Vatican yesterday surprised Anglican leaders by announcing it was ready to resume talks on unity despite the formidable barriers now separating the Church of England from Roman Catholicism.

A statement by the Vatican office that deals with other Christian faiths offered the first real evidence that Pope Benedict XVI is as keen as he has insisted to relaunch moves towards Christian reunification. Praising the way Anglican leaders dealt with the crisis over gay clergy, the Vatican said: “They have offered new hope that our dialogue can continue to make progress toward the full communion.”

Until yesterday, the Anglican leadership’s handling of the gay priests issue was seen as the reason for the deadlock between Rome and Canterbury. Talks were suspended in 2003 after the Episcopal Church in the U.S., which is part of the worldwide Anglican communion, agreed to the consecration of an openly gay bishop, Gene Robinson of New Hampshire.

The then pope, John Paul II, warned that the decision would cause “serious difficulties.” Yesterday’s move suggested that, despite his reputation as a doctrinal hardliner, his German successor, the former Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, was prepared to put such differences aside and stress the positive.

The statement declared that the work of the joint Anglican-Catholic committee on unity would resume.

It confirmed that a document due to be issued on the Virgin Mary, which was put off because of the crisis, would be presented next Monday in Seattle.

As the Vatican’s doctrinal overlord before his election, Pope Benedict was responsible for drafting documents that branded other Christian denominations “deficient” and homosexual acts “intrinsically disordered.”

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Rowan Williams, attended the inauguration of his papacy and met the Pope afterwards. But remarks Dr. Williams made during his visit to Rome last month gave the impression that he was not expecting early progress towards unity, which he likened to a journey through “a huge, mysterious, great landscape where we cannot see the final horizon.”

But he is the first pontiff since the Reformation to be chosen from the country that gave birth to the Reformation, and is painfully aware of the cost to Christianity of its continuing division.

Since being elected, Pope Benedict has stressed his concern for ecumenism. In his first sermon after being chosen to succeed Pope John Paul, he vowed to pursue “open and sincere” discussions with other Christian churches, saying he would work “tirelessly” for the full and visible unity of all Christians.

## POPE’S PLEA FOR RELIGIOUS SUNDAYS

*The Guardian, Monday, May 30, 2005*—Pope Benedict XVI, in his first trip outside Rome since being elected, was greeted by enthusiastic crowds in the southern Italian city of Bari yesterday.

At an outdoor mass attended by an estimated 200,000 people, he called for the rediscovery of the religious meaning of Sundays as an antidote to the “rampant consumerism and religious indifference” that was making the modern world a spiritual desert.

The 78-year-old pontiff also pledged to make Christian unity a priority. He reminded the congregation that the coastal city of Bari, which looks east across the Adriatic, was a symbol of the common ground that Orthodox and Catholic Christians share.

The Pope flew from Rome by helicopter for a three-and-a-half hour visit. Security was tight, with hundreds of police in the streets, city centre closed to traffic and coastal waters closed to private vessels.

Returning to Rome, the Pope’s helicopter swept low over the pilot’s home town of Duronia so that the Pope could bless residents gathered on a sports field, according to the Ansa news agency.

The Pope is due to travel to his native Germany in August to attend World Youth Day celebrations.

# Life in the British Union

**“FUTURE BECOMES CLEARER FOR CHURCHES TOGETHER** - Last weekend, 22-24 April, **some sixty representatives of the member churches of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland [CTBI]** met in Swansea for their biannual *Churches Representatives Meeting*. The main item on the agenda was the restructuring of CTBI which has become necessary as the larger member churches reduce their budgets in line with falling membership. After many hours of discussion, it became clear that the preferred model for the future of Inter-church relations in the United Kingdom is a devolved structure, with most activity taking place in each of the four nations of England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland.

**“Representing the Seventh-day Adventist Church at the meeting** was Pastor John Surridge, who also led the evening worship service on Saturday. ‘As we have a presence in each of the four nations, **this new [ecumenical] structure would suit us quite well.**’ he said. **‘We have a great deal that we can offer to the other churches** in terms of expertise and program resources, **and we can also gain a lot from them.** Already many of our churches meet in buildings owned by other denominations and for this we are very grateful. It may be that interacting with church leaders at the four-nations level **will lead to even greater cooperation and understanding.**”—*British Union Newsletter, May 4, 2005.*

**“SEC YOUTH RALLY FULLY BOOKED - CONCERT PLACES STILL AVAILABLE** - By midnight on Wednesday 5 January, all 2,500 seats for the morning and afternoon services at **this Sabbath's South England Conference Wembley Conference Centre youth Rally Day** were booked. SEC Youth director Pastor Japhet De Oliveira has asked that no young people should turn up on the day hoping to get tickets, unless they have made personal arrangements with the SEC Youth Department. Wembley security staff **will not allow non-ticket-holders access** and, as Japhet puts it, **‘will further assist you to leave the premises’** . . . The **concert** will start at 7.00 p.m. sharp. Book in advance to avoid the long queue.”—*British Union Newsletter, January 5, 2005.*

**“THE WINNERS’ TAKE TOURNAMENT TITLE** - The winners did, indeed, win. In something of a self-fulfilling prophecy, a football team calling themselves *‘The Winners’* won the **11th International [Adventist] Football Tournament held at Newbold College** last weekend. The winning team, a group of Croats and Serbs originally from Belgrade, beat Marienhoehe College, Germany, 3-1 in the championship match on Sunday evening to capture the title of the two-day event. Their goalie, Vlastimir Stevic, 37, was named the tournament’s most valuable goalie and stopped a penalty kick in the championship game.

**“There were over 100 players competing on 16**

**teams. More than 70 came from outside the Newbold community** for this, the college’s annual tournament. ‘There was quite a lot of interest [in Newbold programmes], especially in the School of English,’ Marketing Manager Kay Choudary said. **‘It’s wonderful to see people interested in Christian education. Last year three people enrolled as a result of this event.’**

“Stevic, whose team often plays together at Battersea Park in London, said his team plans to come back next year. ‘It’s the atmosphere of the place,’ he said. ‘It’s well organized. The people are friendly. Very fair and friendly. We’re aging, but we’ll try again [next year].’

“Final results: 1-The Winners. 2-Marienhoehe College. 3-Balkan Union\*. 4-Plovdiv. 5-Balkan Express\*. 6-Inter\*. 7-Poland. 8-Korea\*. 9-Stuttgart. 10-Portugal. 11-Stars. 12-Roma. 13-Newbold Studs\*. 14-Brasil. 15-Geldern. 16-Newbold Lions\*. (\*Teams with members from Newbold [College] community.)”—*British Union Newsletter, May 6, 2005.*

**“COMING EVENTS - SONGWRITERS IN MINISTRY CHARITY GOSPEL CONCERT.** 6:00-8:30 p.m. on Saturday 15 January 2005 at the Greenwich Seventh-day Adventist Church. **Featuring talented UK gospel songwriters and singers, poets, mime artistes [sic.],** food and fellowship. For tickets, reservations, or if you want to participate, contact Charmayne at 0207-366-4392.

**“DROP IT LYK ITZ HOTT [sic.] - CHISWICK YOUTH REVIVAL.** Saturday 22 January to Saturday 12 February. **Great music, sensational speakers, all the latest singers, etc.** Held at the Chiswick Church.”—*British Union Newsletter, January 5, 2005.*

**LETTER FROM ENGLAND**—“Now then, I am originally from Belfast, Northern Ireland, and my family moved to the South of England when I was 12 years old. We worship at home now. The reasons being that, at one church, they said the three angels’ message was ‘not for preaching,’ but was only to be studied privately if a person requested it, and many things along that line. I went to another church and they kept the 12 days of Christmas and had tree with **lights and decorations on the sanctuary walls and around the pulpit** had Christmas post box and had a Christmas dinner—**all this in the main sanctuary of the church!** I was utterly devastated that they could do these things in God’s sanctuary, and wrote to the board, but never received a response and was seen as a trouble maker. Also the ABC press here advertizes things for Christmas gifts, **including games about television soaps**—amazing. **They were having mime, etc. during the divine service,** and on another occasion **a visiting pastor preached about ‘Mother God,’** so we came away from it.”—*Britain.*

# A New Source of Deadly U.S. Diseases

A sharp upswing in the spread of new diseases has occurred. This brief article will clarify the problem.

A century ago, when legal immigrants arrived in America, they were checked at the border of entry and those with diseases were sent back to Europe.

Unfortunately, illegal aliens stop at no medical checkpoint. If a border patrol sentry catches a healthy illegal alien, he might be sent back home. But if he is sick, we will hospitalize him for a time and then release him on the streets. This is because of our federal law, EMTALA (*Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act*), which mandates free treatment.

Unfortunately, diseases that our nation had earlier heavily reduced or eliminated are now resurging. This includes **tuberculosis**. It is now lethal to about 60% of those infected, thanks to the new **multidrug resistant tuberculosis** (MDR-TB), which is endemic in Mexico. This *mycobacterium tuberculosis* is resistant to at least two major TB drugs.

While ordinary TB is eliminated in six months with four drugs (that cost a total of about \$2000), MDR-TB takes 24 months with many expensive drugs with toxic side effects—and costs around \$250,000 per person.

Each illegal alien with MDR-TB coughs and infects numerous people who will not show symptoms immediately. But later, they too will come down with this deadly disease.

Tuberculosis was virtually absent in Virginia until 2002, when it increased by 17%. Prince William County, not far from Washington, D.C., has had a rise of 188%. Public health officials found it was due to immigrants. In 2001, the Indiana School of Medicine studied an outbreak of MDR-TB and traced it to illegal aliens from Mexico.

The health department in Queens, New York, attributed 81% of new TB cases in 2001 to immigrants. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) officially ascribes 42% of all new tuberculosis cases to “foreign born.” The CDC says they have up to eight times higher incidence of the disease.

According to reports, virulent tuberculosis outbreaks are afflicting schoolteachers and children in Michigan, and adults and children in Texas. They caught it at school from coughing children of illegal aliens.

In Minnesota, policemen suddenly came down with MDR-TB. They caught it in their patrol cars when the illegal aliens they arrested coughed in their faces. This drug-resistant form of tuberculosis is spreading across the nation.

Then there is **chagas** (kissing bug) **disease**. The *redwiid* insect carries parasites which prefer to in-

fect the lips and face of humans. That infection is caused by the *Trypanosoma-Cruzi* protozoan, which annually infects 18 million people in Latin America and causes 50,000 deaths.

This disease has now invaded America’s blood supply. Chagas affects blood transfusions and transplanted organs. Hundreds of blood recipients may be silently infected. Ten to 20 years after becoming initially infected, as many as 30% will die when their hearts or intestines, which have become enlarged and weakened by chagas disease, burst. In 2001, two of the three people who received chagas-infected organ transplants, died.

Then there is **leprosy**. You may have thought it was not in America; but it is here now. Leprosy (Hansen’s disease) was so rare in America that in 40 years only 900 people were afflicted. Suddenly, in the past three years, America has more than 7,000 cases of leprosy. It is no endemic to our northeastern states! There are leprosy clinics in New York City. Illegal aliens and other immigrants brought it from India, Brazil, the Caribbean, and Mexico.

**Dengue fever** was extremely rare in America, though common in Ecuador, Peru, Vietnam, Thailand, Bangladesh, Malaysia, and Mexico. Recently, a virulent outbreak of dengue fever occurred in Webb County, Texas. Though dengue is usually not fatal, one strain of it, **Hemorrhagic fever**, is extremely lethal.

**Polio** was eradicated from America. But it has now reappeared in illegal immigrants. Intestinal parasites were mostly obliterated. Our excellent sanitation and safe food supplies made them disappear. But careful investigation reveals that illegal aliens are the new source.

**Malaria** was gone. But, now, it is re-emerging in Texas and other states. After biting infected persons, the disease is transmitted, by the insect, to other people.

**Kawasaki disease** is another new disease. In children, it produces red eyes, “strawberry tongue,” fever, and acute inflammation of coronary arteries. Many experience heart attacks and sudden death.

**Hepatitis A, B, and C** are resurging. An outbreak of hepatitis A in 2003, near Pittsburgh, infected 3000, due to infected Mexico-grown scallions and illegal kitchen workers. Asians number 4% of Americans; but over 50% are hepatitis B cases.

—The data which I used in preparing this article, included bibliographies totaling over 60 articles, research studies, and health department bulletins. References could have been provided for every sentence. This problem is no little matter, but constitutes a health crisis in America of major proportions. —vf

## The Attack against Vitamin C Continues

The medical establishment seems to fear vitamin C. Could it be that it is too efficient at getting people well, without drugs, physicians, and hospitalization? It is not good for business.

Well, be it as it may, the attack against this invaluable aid to humanity—which has continued for decades—is intensifying at the present time.

In June 1949, when polio was at its peak, Dr. Frederick Klenner, a North Carolina clinical researcher, reported that a massive intravenous dose of vitamin C (up to 20,000 mg) had cured 60 of his patients of polio! Although the findings were published in a medical journal, they were quickly ignored. No money was to be made for the pharmaceutical industry; so why be concerned about such a substance?

When Dr. Thomas Levy, a U.S. cardiologist, recently came across the Klenner rebuff, he was astounded. “To know that polio had been easily cured, yet so many people continued to die or survive to be permanently crippled by it, was difficult to accept” (*Levy, Curing the Incurable*).

Researching further into the matter, Levy discovered that high doses of vitamin C can combat bacteria, toxins, and severe viral infections—including avian flu, SARS, hepatitis, herpes, and on and on.

Over the years, sincere researchers have tried to bring the astounding truth about vitamin C’s healing ability to light; but nothing is done about it. It is not used by the healing profession. Vitamin C is one of the best researched substances in the world, with over 24,000 papers and articles. Yet virtually all the evidence has been dismissed. Not one nutritional class is required in any U.S. medical school. The AMA accreditation agencies make sure of that.

In the 1950s, the chemist Linus Pauling, a double Nobel prize winner, dared to promote the use of megadoses of vitamin C; but his research was ridiculed.

The antivitamin C attack has recently taken a new turn. It is being blamed for the formation of kidney stones. And a study in the journal, *Science*, in 2001 charged that even 200-mg doses of it “facilitated the production of DNA-damaging agents associated with a variety of cancers.” Immediately, the cry was heard that vitamin C causes cancer.

Our own Food and Drug Administration says

that 30 mg of C is all a person needs each day. In contrast, Britain’s Food Standards Agency recommends taking 1,000 mg daily. But the European Parliament is about to enact legislation forbidding any member nation of the EU to standardize doses at no more than 100 mg. Although 1,000-mg vitamin C tablets are the most purchased vitamin in Britain, the new law will stop that.

Unlike humans, most animals make vitamin C in their bodies. The wild goat makes around 13,000 mg daily, rising to 100,000 mg when faced with life-threatening infectious or toxic stress.

Apart from causing diarrhea (if too much is taken), megadoses of vitamin C are not toxic. A series of studies published in leading research journals have shown that, far from causing cancer, vitamin C is a safe supplement for chronic cancer patients. Other studies reveal that it does not produce kidney stones.

The problem is not that people take too much vitamin C, but that they do not take enough.

A new book is about to be published, which will claim that vitamin C deficiency is a primary cause of cardiovascular disease! The attack continues.

You might want to try taking larger amounts of vitamin C for a few weeks, and see if it helps you—especially if you have a chronic or acute health problem. Take two or three 1,000-mg tablets of vitamin C each day.

If you have a cold, take three 1,000 doses a day. If you have the flu, take up to 20,000 mg a day.

Research has shown that shingles (a painful post-viral condition) can be essentially eliminated by an injection of 3,000 mg of vitamin C. Follow that with four 1,000-mg tablets orally for three days.

In my book, *The Natural Remedies Encyclopedia*, I frequently say to take vitamin C “to bowel tolerance.” The chapter on vitamins explains what that means.

You can never take too much vitamin C; for if you begin doing so, you will experience a little, brief diarrhea—and the excess will be kicked out through the bowel. When that happens, you know that, for that day’s needs, you have taken all that you need. We can be thankful that our kind heavenly Father gave us vitamins and minerals. We need to make use of them more than we do. —vf