

Press Release

**World Day of Peace 2010:
“Tintinnabulations of Words Drown Out the Church’s Failure”**

“I am the greatest sheep protector of all time,” said the wolf after donning a sheepskin. Pope Joseph Ratzinger’s statement to the effect that the Church has always advocated climate protection is just about as credible as the wolf’s.

This is the conclusion reached by *The Free Christians for the Christ of the Sermon on the Mount of All Cultures Worldwide* after studying Pope Joseph Ratzinger’s message for the World Day of Peace 2010. The title of this message may well read: “If You Want to Cultivate Peace, Protect Creation,” but Matthias Holzbauer, environmental spokesperson for the *Free Christians*, commented to this: “With a great deal of tintinnabulation, the pope is trying to drown out the failure of his own Church in questions that concern the climate and the environment.”

“Particularly telltale,” continued Holzbauer, “is the fact that in his entire message, not once did the word ‘animals’ pass over the Pope’s lips. Anyone who talks about ‘responsibility toward creation’ and does not utter a single word about factory farming and animal experimentation, who calls for a ‘change in lifestyle,’ but, in face of the impending climate disaster, remains silent regarding the need to limit the consumption of meat, which is extremely damaging to the environment, has, with this alone, revealed how lacking in credibility his statements are.”

It also doesn’t help that the incumbent pope continually quotes himself and his predecessors, in an effort to awaken the impression that the Church has always championed environmental protection. The opposite is the case: “Right from the beginning, the priest-men in the Church have betrayed the teaching of Jesus, who loved nature and the animals, turning it into its opposite. The disdain of today’s civilization for nature is not lastly the legacy of a theology that placed human beings above everything, that degraded nature into a mere object and, until today, denies that animals have a soul.” This is one of the reasons why the *Free Christians* in Germany have filed a suit against the two mainstream churches (Catholic and Protestant Lutheran) maintaining that: They should no longer be allowed to call themselves “Christian.”

Right up to the present time, the Church has tried to ridicule people who gave warning of an impending climate disaster. And even in his present message, the former head of the Vatican Inquisition authorities couldn’t refrain from taking potshots at a deeper understanding of nature, by expressing the Church’s “misgivings” regarding “biocentrism,” because “such notions eliminate the

difference of identity and worth between the human person and other living things. In the name of a supposedly egalitarian vision of the ‘dignity’ of all living creatures, such notions end up abolishing the distinctiveness and superior role of human beings. They also open the way to a new pantheism tinged with neo-paganism ...”

It is precisely the denial of the dignity of all living beings that ultimately has led to the Church’s disastrous disdain for nature and its brutal persecution. Holzbauer stated: “Just a few centuries ago, the Church had burned at the stake men and women, who viewed nature as being vivified by the Spirit of God. A Joseph Ratzinger can’t change the way he is – no matter which skin he drapes around himself.”

For more information:

Quotes taken from:

http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/messages/peace/documents/hf_ben-xvi_mes_20091208_xliiii-world-day-peace_en.html