

more detail on Predestination from the Dylantic creed

**Predestination (the belief that people's fate is pre-determined) is heresy, as it contradicts the gift of free will given by God**  
(Deuteronomy 30:19; 1 Timothy 2:4; Ezekiel 18:23).  
**Calvinist theology, which supports this view, is also condemned**  
(Romans 9:16-18; 2 Peter 3:9; 1 Timothy 2:4).

### Judas and Divine Sovereignty

We believe that **Judas Iscariot**, though he freely chose to betray Jesus, was part of God's sovereign plan of salvation. Judas' betrayal was a grave act of evil, born from his own sinful desires and actions, but God, in His infinite wisdom and power, used this **evil choice** to bring about the **greater good** of Christ's sacrifice for the salvation of humanity (Matthew 26:24; Acts 2:23; Acts 4:27-28).

While Judas' actions were his own, and he bore full responsibility for them, we acknowledge that God's sovereignty extends over all things, even the evil choices of mankind. In the case of Judas, God's **sovereign will** was not determined by Judas' actions but worked through them, ultimately fulfilling the Scriptures and ensuring that Jesus would be crucified, taking upon Himself the sins of the world (Romans 8:28; Genesis 50:20).

Though Judas chose to act in opposition to God's will, God is not the author of sin. Rather, God in His sovereignty allowed Judas' choices to unfold, ensuring that **the ultimate good** would come from them. This affirms that **God's plan** will always prevail, even through human sin and failure (Romans 11:33-36).

Thus, while Judas is fully accountable for his betrayal, we trust that God, in His **sovereignty**, works through all circumstances, even evil, to accomplish His divine will and bring about **the redemption** of mankind.

### 9. The Papacy: Apostolic Succession and Its Termination

**We believe in the Holy Orthodox and Protestant Church,**

**the apostolic faith established by Jesus Christ through Saint Peter and his legitimate successors—until the corruption of the office at the Second Vatican Council.**

### Valid Papal Lineage (Up to Vatican II)

- **St. Peter (1–64 AD) – The Rock, first Bishop of Rome, foundation of the Church.**
- **St. Linus (64–76) – Early faithful successor.**
- **St. Clement I (88–99) – Author of respected epistles; upheld apostolic order.**
- **St. Leo I (440–461) – Defender of orthodoxy and Christ's divinity.**
- **St. Gregory I (590–604) – Reformer and liturgical standardizer.**
- **Pope Nicholas I (858–867) – Strengthened papal moral authority.**
- **Pope Gregory VII (1073–1085) – Battled simony, enforced clerical purity.**

### Major Corruptions & Ruptures

- **Great Schism (1054) – Marked a mutual break; East preserved true tradition, West began drifting.**
- **Pope Leo X (1513–1521) – Authorized indulgence sales, sparking the Protestant Reformation.**
- **Pope Pius IX (1846–1878) – Declared papal infallibility, centralizing power in an unbiblical doctrine.**

### Final Valid Popes (Contested, but retained)

- **Pope Leo XIII (1878–1903) – Taught moral order, but operated under rising ultramontanistism.**
- **Pope Pius XII (1939–1958) – Spiritually sincere, though his wartime silence was troubling.**
- **Pope John XXIII (1958–1963) – Last *arguably valid* pope; opened Vatican II, which initiated the collapse.**

### Invalid Papacy Post–Vatican II

**We affirm the doctrine of Apostolic Corruption: The Holy Spirit departed from Rome after the Second Vatican Council (1962–1965) due to heretical**

compromises, such as equating Allah with Yahweh and permitting doctrinal relativism.

All papal claimants after John XXIII are considered invalid:

- Pope Paul VI – Implemented Vatican II's destructive reforms.
- Pope John Paul I – Brief, but part of the corrupted structure.
- Pope John Paul II – Kissing the Qur'an; deep interfaith compromise.
- Pope Benedict XVI – Despite traditional leanings, upheld Vatican II theology.
- Pope Francis – Publicly affirmed homosexuality, pagan rituals; chief figure of the "Great Shattering."

- Pope Leo XIV – Not recognized; papacy is no longer a valid office.

**Conclusion: The End of the Roman Papacy**

The true papal succession ended with or shortly after Pope John XXIII. Since then, the papacy has lost all divine legitimacy. Apostolic authority now continues only through:

- The Orthodox Church (especially the Patriarch of Constantinople),
- Biblically faithful Protestant churches,
- And the Dylantic Church, which preserves truth against apostasy.