

## **Thomas Aquinas, Father of the Inquisition, and the German Holocaust**

**Thomas Aquinas**, (1225 – 1274) was an early member of a group of Catholics who were formed to stop the spread of Protestantism. They were known as Dominicans after their founder Dominic. Aquinas became their chief spokesman and soon became the spokesman for the entire Roman Catholic Church. The Dominicans set up courts to try people accused of heresy. These courts were the center of what we call the Inquisition which persists to our very day. These courts tortured people until they confessed their sins. If they did not renounce their heretical beliefs, they were handed over to civil courts and executed.

Aquinas is considered by the Catholics as their greatest theologian. However if you compare what he taught compared to what Jesus taught he looks like the devil himself.

### **Aquinas and Mariolatry (Maria worship)**

Aquinas so loved the deceased mother of Jesus that he thought she gave salvation.

He taught that Mary's grace "suffices for the salvation of the world".

According to our Angelic Doctor, the Blessed Virgin Mary "was so full of grace that it overflows on to all mankind" and suffices for the salvation of the world. "It is necessary," he says, "that whosoever desires to obtain favors with God, should approach this mediatrix, approach her with a most devout heart because, since she is the Queen of Mercy, possessing everything in the kingdom of God's justice, she cannot refuse your petition.

<http://campus.udayton.edu/mary/meditations/thomasaquinas.html>

### **Aquinas and Christian Jihad**

When we read that Muslims who die fighting the infidels, go to paradise. It's a guarantee. We are horrified at this teaching. Thomas Aquinas in the 13th century said Catholic soldiers were given the same guarantee:

"Now according to the stipulations of the papal document the one who accepts the crusader's cross will not suffer punishment for his sins. Thus, he will escape punishment immediately, having achieved the full remission of sin"... even if he dies before he reaches the battle field.

<http://thomisme.org/images/stories/cessario/cessariocrusader-1992.pdf>

Aquinas' teaching on heretics leads directly to the same horrors inflicted on Jews by Germans in the Second World War

### **Aquinas and The Treatment of Heretics, 1229-1235**

Selection A from Conciliengeschichte, trans. by Brother Conrad Zimmermann, O.S.B. (Freiburg im Breisgau: B. Herder, 1886), V, 980-986; selection B from Original Sources of European History, edited by Edward P. Cheyney (Philadelphia: The University of Pennsylvania Press, 1902), III, 14-15; 17-18; selection C from Summa Theologica, trans. by Fathers of English Dominican Province (New York: Benziger Brothers, Inc., 1947), II, 1226-1227.

## A. REGULATIONS OF THE SYNOD OF TOULOUSE CONCERNING THE INQUISITION, 1229

1. BISHOPS must bind under oath when necessary in each parish, within and outside a city, a priest and two or more lay people of good reputation to diligently, faithfully, and often search out heretics in their parishes, individual suspicious houses, subterranean rooms and additions to houses, and other hiding places. If they discover a heretic, follower, patron, or protector of heretics, they must, taking precaution that they do not escape, quickly notify the bishop and mayor of the place or his bailiff so they will be duly punished (command of the episcopal inquisition according to the practice of the synods of Verona, Bourges, Narbonne, and the twelfth general synod).

2. Exempt abbots, who are not subject to episcopal jurisdiction, must act in the same way as the bishops.

3. The governors of the respective districts should order diligent search of country residences, houses, and forests for heretics and destroy their hiding places.

4. Whoever, allowing a heretic to stay on his property either for money or any other cause, if he confesses or is convicted, **loses his property forever** and his body is handed over to the civil authority for punishment.

5. He also is subject to legal punishment whose property, although **without his knowledge** but by negligence, has become an abode of heretics.

1. The house where a heretic is found **must be torn** down and the property must be confiscated.

2. The bailiff who lives in a suspicious place and is not diligent in searching for heretics **loses his office** and is not permitted to be employed either there or in any other place.

3. In order to prevent an innocent person from being punished or slanderously accused of heresy we command that no one shall be punished as a heretic or follower of heresy before he is so declared by a bishop or other clerical persons.

4. All are permitted to search for heretics in others' territories, and the bailiffs must help them. The king can, accordingly, search for heretics in the territory of the count of Toulouse, and the count of Toulouse in the king's land.

5. If one who is tainted with heresy voluntarily gives up the heresy he is not allowed to remain in the house where he formerly lived in case the house was under suspicion of heresy. He must be moved into a Catholic house which is free from suspicion. Besides, **he must wear two crosses on his coat**; the one on the right and the other on the left, and of a different color from his coat. Such persons cannot hold public office or be admitted to legal actions unless they are fully re-instated after due penance by the pope or his legate.

11. Whoever has involuntarily returned to the Church, through fear of death or for any other reason, **must be imprisoned** by the bishop so he can perform his penance or not be able to seduce others.

Whoever retains his property must, by order of the prelate, provide for his own necessities. If he possesses nothing, then the prelate must provide for him.

12. **All members of a parish shall vow to the bishop under oath** that they will preserve the Catholic faith and **will persecute heretics** according to their power. This oath must be renewed every two years.

13. Males and females who have attained the use of reason must confess their sins to a priest three times a year, or with their priest's permission to another priest. They must perform the imposed penances humbly and according to their strength and receive the holy sacrament of the Eucharist three times a year. **Whoever does not do this is under suspicion of being a heretic.**

14. Lay people are not permitted to possess the books of the Old and New Testament, only the Psalter, Breviary, or the Little Office of the Blessed Virgin, and these books not in the vernacular language.

15. Whoever is accused of heresy or is only suspected of heresy is not permitted to practice his profession as a doctor. When a sick person has received Holy Communion from his priest he must be careful that no heretic or one suspected of heresy visit him, for terrible things have already happened

hrough such visits. . . .

17. No prelate, baron or other superiors shall entrust the office of bailiff or steward to any heretic or follower of heresy, nor keep in his service one who has been condemned or **suspected of** heresy.

### **Aquinas and Death for Heretics**

Aquinas said heretics must be killed and their property taken.

“They deserve not only to be separated from the Church by excommunication, but also to be severed from the world by death...the Church, and furthermore delivers him to the secular tribunal to be exterminated thereby from the world by death.

<https://santitafarella.wordpress.com/2014/11/16/thomas-aquinas-on-exterminating-heretics/>

A heretics would be anyone who denied the Virgin birth, the trinity, the Catholic understanding of the nature of God, Jews, Hindus Muslims, any other brands of Catholicism including the Greek Orthodox, Protestants and anyone practicing witchcraft.

### **Aquinas and Witchcraft**

“ Some have estimated that as many as nine million people were tortured and executed for witchcraft, over three centuries, and that eighty-five percent of them were women”

<http://markmason.net/ch9ex1.htm>. Many were killed by Protestants as well as Catholics, and King James the most popular translator of the Bible into English.

### **Aquinas and Rulers**

Aquinas taught that rulers were God’ ministers. Jesus said Satan is the god of world and sets up rulers everywhere he wishes.

“The kings are God's representatives in their territories. But the church, represented by the popes, is above the kings in matters of doctrine and morality. As a consequence, the kings and other worldly rulers are obliged to adapt their laws to the Catholic Church’s doctrines and ethics. For example, the worldly authorities have to execute persons whom the church has sentenced to death for heresy and they have to fight and subdue groups of heretics such as the Albigenses and Waldensians to restore the unity of the church.” Aquinas taught that whole communities of heretics were to be exterminated (Genocide). [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas\\_Aquinas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Aquinas)

### **Aquinas and Slavery**

Following Aristotle's concept of slavery, Aquinas justifies this institution on the grounds of natural law. Heinz-Dietrich Wendland (1962): Sklaverei und Christentum. In: Die Religion in Geschichte und Gegenwart, Third Edition, Tübingen (Germany), Vol. VI, col. 103  
[https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas\\_Aquinas](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Aquinas)

### **Aquinas and the Soul**

There is no such thing as a soul. God breathed breath into the first man and he became a living being (translated soul).

Aquinas wrote: “A human is a single material substance, but still should be understood as having an immaterial soul, which continues after bodily death.”

Jesus taught that all sleep in the land of death after dying. A place where there is no consciousness, until the Last Day.

**Aquinas and War**

Jesus taught his followers to be gentle as lambs and doves and do good to enemies. Aquinas approved of war following Augustine of Hippo's JUST WAR conditions. Aquinas also appealed to John the Baptist and Paul for his proof texts. He does not appeal to Jesus who said, "turn the other cheek and pray for enemies". Aquinas took it even further saying it is the duty of Bishops and priest to fight.

**Aquinas and Scientists**

The Dominicans opposed Science and scientists were often accused of heresy.

When Giordano Bruno and Galileo Galilei taught the earth revolved around the sun, the Dominicans branded them as heretics. In 1600 Bruno was stripped naked and burned alive. Galileo was forced to recant his teaching. He died under house arrest.

[http://depts.washington.edu/hrome/Authors/pev42/BrunoandGalileoinRome/pub\\_zbarticle\\_view\\_printable.html](http://depts.washington.edu/hrome/Authors/pev42/BrunoandGalileoinRome/pub_zbarticle_view_printable.html)

**Aquinas and the Holocaust**

If you read Aquinas' rules about heretics this is exactly what the Germans did to the Jews during the Holocaust. It's as if the Germans were reading right out of the pages of Aquinas.