

Church History

Senior (Sr.) 7

That is their view; as they make the offering upon the altar they are performing again the sacrifice of Christ. As the apostle said, they crucify afresh the Lord Jesus, and then also the habit developed after the priest had said the word and the body and blood of Christ were supposed to be changed, to be actually there they would hold it up as they do in the Roman churches today and the people bow and adore and revere that which they believe to be the body and blood of Christ. It reduces Christianity to a magic and superstition rather than keeping it as the great spiritual religion which is actually taught in the New Testament. You remember when Luther was in Rome, as we mentioned last year, how disgusted he was at some of the priests in Rome who thought it was such a good joke on the people that, instead of saying in Latin which none of the people could understand that this becomes the body and blood of Christ, they would substitute the words in Latin, "Bread thou art and bread thou shalt remain. Wine thou art and wine thou shalt remain" and then they'd hold it up and all the people would bow and worship and they'd be laughing at them to think people worshipping when they hadn't changed it at all; they'd just left it bread and hadn't changed it into the body and blood of Christ. It shows the absurdities to which and yet it is a view which must be accepted by all the Romanists today.

Now I want to say a word about C, Monasticism during this period. That is, our period which we are looking at is the 400 year period, as you know. 800-1200 A. D. During this period it was a period when the papacy was at its lowest ebb, a period when Rome was the center of wickedness such as the world has rarely seen anywhere, but at this period in Burgundy, that is to say, in the area between France and Germany. In this area there was founded in 910 the Abbey of Cluny, and in this Abbey of Cluny two hundred monks gathered to study the Bible and to try to live a life that would be honoring to the Lord and from it went out an influence that spread through the world and that exerted a great influence for good. Now it