

Published by the  
Council of the Protestant Truth Society (PTS)

in association with the following Protestant organisations

Association of the Continuing Church Trust  
British Council of Protestant Christian Churches  
Christian Watch  
Church Society  
Protestant Alliance  
Protestant Reformation Society  
Spirit of '88  
Trinitarian Bible Society  
United Protestant Council



Head Office  
Protestant Truth Society  
184 Fleet Street, LONDON EC4 2HJ

020 7405 4960  
[www.protestant-truth.org](http://www.protestant-truth.org)

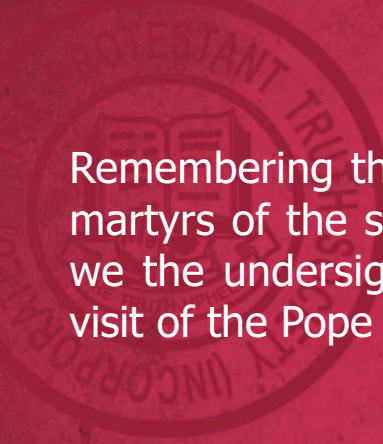
Media Contacts:  
Duncan Boyd 07984 882413    Jeremy Brooks 07745 524729

Registered Charity 248505

# SHOULD WE WELCOME THE POPE?

A Joint Protest against  
the 2010 Papal Visit to  
the United Kingdom





Remembering the testimony of the Protestant martyrs of the sixteenth century Reformation, we the undersigned protest against the state visit of the Pope to the United Kingdom.

The Pope claims to be the supreme head of the universal church and that all governments should be subject to him. There is only one head of the universal church – the Lord Jesus Christ. No man can claim that title. In the United Kingdom the Monarch is the Supreme Governor of the Church of England and is pledged to defend the Church of Scotland. She is bound by oath to uphold the Protestant Reformed religion established by law. She is the head of state and, together with the British Parliament, we accept no other temporal authority.

We reject the Pope's pretensions to power over governments and churches. The Pope does not owe his present status as monarch of the Vatican City State to God but to a treaty with Mussolini. We reject his blasphemous claim to infallibility. God alone is infallible. The recent scandalous revelations over child abuse demonstrate the corruption of the papacy.

Thanking God for the great outburst of spiritual light that shone during the Protestant Reformation, we declare:

- The Bible, the inspired Word of God, is our supreme rule and contains no shred of evidence for the false and idolatrous doctrines of the Roman Church.
- There is only one mediator between God and men – the man Christ Jesus. The Pope cannot mediate between man and God. Neither Mary nor the 'Saints' can make intercession for us. Jesus Christ is our only advocate with God the Father.
- At Calvary Jesus Christ died for the sins of all those who put their trust in Him. That sacrifice was made once for all and can never be repeated. The so-called sacrifice of the mass is, as the Articles of the Church of England make plain, a blasphemous fable and a dangerous deceit.
- Repentant sinners find forgiveness by grace alone through faith alone in Jesus Christ alone. God alone can absolve our sins and the confessional is a useless fraud.
- The Roman doctrine of purgatory has no biblical foundation. There are only two possible destinations for men and women after death – heaven or hell.

The Papal visit is a betrayal of our Protestant Constitution and of the gospel that sustains it. Christ promised – *'He that believeth on me hath everlasting life'* (John 6:47). He alone is King of kings.

*'For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God'* Ephesians 2:8

*Fidei Defensor*