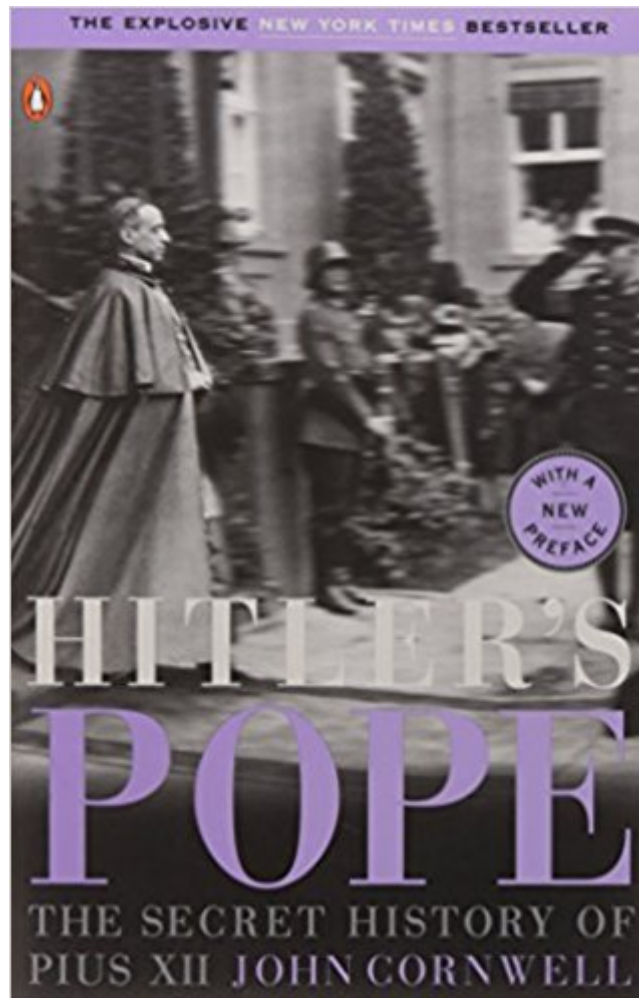




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# Hitler's Pope: The Secret History Of Pius XII



## Synopsis

The "explosive" (The New York Times) bestseller "now with a new introduction by the author" When Hitler Met the Pope, the shocking story of Pope Pius XII that "redefined the history of the twentieth century" (The Washington Post) was originally published, it sparked a firestorm of controversy both inside and outside the Catholic Church. Now, award-winning journalist John Cornwell has revisited this seminal work of history with a new introduction that both answers his critics and reaffirms his overall thesis that Pius XII, now scheduled to be canonized by the Vatican, weakened the Catholic Church with his endorsement of Hitler and sealed the fate of the Jews in Europe.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This devastating account of the ecclesiastical career of Eugenio Pacelli (1876-1958), who became Pope Pius XII in 1939, is all the more powerful because British historian John Cornwell maintains throughout a measured though strongly critical tone. After World War II, murmurs of Pacelli's callous indifference to the plight of Europe's Jews began to be heard. A noted commentator on Catholic issues, Cornwell began research for this book believing that "if his full story were told, Pius XII's pontificate would be exonerated." Instead, he emerged from the Vatican archives in a state of "moral shock," concluding that Pacelli displayed anti-Semitic tendencies early on and that his drive to promote papal absolutism inexorably led him to collaboration with fascist leaders. Cornwell convincingly depicts Cardinal Secretary of State Pacelli pursuing Vatican diplomatic goals that crippled Germany's large Catholic political party, which might otherwise have stymied Hitler's worst

excesses. The author's condemnation has special force because he portrays the admittedly eccentric Pacelli not as a monster but as a symptom of a historic wrong turn in the Catholic Church. He meticulously builds his case for the painful conclusion that "Pacelli's failure to respond to the enormity of the Holocaust was more than a personal failure, it was a failure of the papal office itself and the prevailing culture of Catholicism." --Wendy Smith --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Relying on exclusive access to Vatican and Jesuit archives, an award-winning Roman Catholic journalist argues that through a 1933 Concordat with Hitler, Pope Pius XII facilitated the dictator's rise and, ultimately, the Holocaust. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

As a baptized, confirmed, and graduated Catholic, all under the watchful eyes of the Pontiff, it saddens me to read about the dark history of Pius XII. This book should be studied carefully. Truth is not afraid of attacks, and darkness is always expelled by the light...Read this book carefully and with an open mind. The most disturbing aspect of this story is not that Pius XII stood back as a bystander, but that he actively participated in the approval, torture, and death of millions of Jews...Remember, Jesus was a Jew and was called "Rabbi" by Jews first then Gentiles. Pius XII chose to abandon the instructions of our Rabbi and the new commandment to love your neighbor as yourself...Finally, I thank John Cornwell for his bravery and for giving to us something to read, pray, and think about... a book and topic truly worthy of our study. For further reading I highly recommend the author Avro Manhattan. END

Although Cornwell does implicate Pacelli (Pius XII) in the Holocaust, he is otherwise infatuated with this Pope and cannot see how strongly this cleric opposed democracy and freedom. He describes the secular drive for human rights simply as "anti-clericalism" which suggests bias against nonbelievers. He never really deals with Pius' abhorrence of secular democracy and does not discuss how this Pope was implicated in actions such as inciting of Catholics throughout the world to join Hitler's invasion of the Soviet Union that eventually caused the deaths of millions of atheists and other non-Catholics by the regimes of three Catholic dictators, Nazi Germany, Franco's Spain and the Ustasha of Croatia. He also avoids discussing how Pius led this Church to lobby strongly for a preemptive nuclear attack on Russia by the US with both A- and H-bombs that would have caused some 50 million deaths or how he was planning to convert the Russian people to

Catholicism. By leaving out this material, the author fails show why there is still so much bitterness toward Pius in the secular and non-Catholic communities.

Hitler's Pope: the condition was excellent; the content damning.

Great historical information on the lies of the Vatican leading the world to a one world religion. Happening today!! Different tactics but same Whore of Revelation 17!

Read for a book club w a lot of good discussion exchanged. Very interesting.

good history

Very good

As a Recovering Catholic, all I can say is that the Vatican has been corrupt since its inception. The infallibility of the pope, eh....maybe on Catholic Canon, but not much else..that was granted in 1870 or so. It wasn't there from the beginning. And the current pope weighing in on Global Warming what part of Canon Law does that come under. Other books also have described the evil wrong doings of this 'church'. During WWII it was the major source of black market goods in Europe. This book shines only a small light on the corruption that is oozing out of this organization. Now that whistle blowers are spilling the secrets the pope has them arrested, Jesus would forgiven them on the spot! So much for living like Jesus. It must have been a difficult decision by the author whether to publish or not. It was well researched, not poorly as some of the catholic apologists and fans proclaim. Way to go John

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