

The Baines Note: Marlowe's Blasphemies

That the Indians and many authors of antiquity have assuredly written above 16,000 years ago whereas Adam is proved to have lived within 6,000 years.

He affirmed that Moses was but a Juggler, & that one Heriot being Sir. W. Raleigh's man can do more than he.

That Moses made the Jews travel 40 years in the wilderness ere they came to the promised land to the intent that those who were privy to most of his subtilties might perish and so an everlasting superstition remain in the hearts of the people.

That the first beginning of Religion was only to keep men in awe.

That it was an easy matter for Moses being brought up in all the arts of the Egyptians to abuse the Jews being a rude and gross people.

That Christ was a bastard and his mother dishonest.

That he was the son of a carpenter, and that if the Jews among whom he was born did Crucify him, they best knew him and whence he came.

That Christ deserved better to die than Barrabas and that the Jews made a good choice, though Barrabas were both a thief and a murderer.

That if there be any god or any good Religion, then it is in the Papists because the service of God is performed with more Ceremonies, as Elevation of the mass, organs, singing men, Shaven Crownes etc. that all Protestants are hypocritical asses.

That if he were put to write a new Religion, he would undertake both a more excellent and admirable method, and that all the new testament is filthily written.

That the woman of Samaria and her sister were whores & that Christ knew them dishonestly.

That St. John the Evangelist was bedfellow to Christ and leaned always in his bosom, that he used him as the sinners of Sodom.

That all they that love not Tobacco and boys were fools.

That all the apostles were fishermen and base fellows neither of wit nor worth, that Paul only had wit, but he was a timorous fellow in bidding men to be subject to magistrates against his conscience.

That he had as good a right to coin as the Queen of England, and that he was acquainted with one Poole, a prisoner in Newgate who hath great Skill in mixture of metals and having learned some things of him he meant through help of a Cunning stamp maker to coin French Crowns, pistolets and English shillings.

That if Christ would have instituted the sacrament with more ceremonial reverence it would have been had in more admiration, that it would have much better being administered in a tobacco pipe.

That the Angel Gabriel was a bawd to the Holy Ghost, because he brought the salutation to Mary.

That one Rich Cholmley hath confessed he was persuaded by Marlowe's Reasons to become an Atheist.

These things, with many other shall by good & honest witness be approved to be his opinions and common speeches, and that this Marlowe doth not only hold them himself, but almost into every company he cometh, he persuades men to atheism willing them not to be afraid of bugbeares and hobgoblins and utterly scorning both God and ministers as I, Richard Baines will justify and approve both by mine oath and the testimony of many honest men, and almost all men with whom he hath conversed any time will testify the same, and as I think all men in Christianity ought to endeavor that the mouth of so dangerous a member may be stopped, he says likewise that he hath quoted a number of contrarieties out of the Scripture which he have given to some great men who in convenient time shall be named. When these things shall be called in question the witness shall be produced.

Richard Baines

Delivered to the Privy Council on May 29 1593