Why did Pope Benedict decide to 'stand down'? Serious 'food for thought' by Shaun Willcock of "Bible Based Ministries"

The announcement by Pope Benedict on 11 February 2013 of his intention to 'stand down' from office at the end of the month certainly caught virtually everyone, apart from his brother, by surprise. Declining health (physically and mentally) was cited as the reason but is that really the full story?

Various theories and speculations have been put forward since the Pope's announcement and one that keeps reappearing concerns supposed 'prophecies' given many centuries ago by 'St Malachy' (an Irish Roman Catholic Bishop of Armagh who lived from 1094 until 1148).

My good brother in the Lord, Shaun Willcock, of 'Bible Based Ministries' has written a very interesting article on this whole subject and it can be viewed on

http://www.biblebasedministries.co.uk/2013/02/20/the-ratzinger-abandons-his-ship/

One point I would make to those who read Shaun's article. Many good brothers in the Lord (such as many known personally to me) hold to differing views of 'End-Times' and as you will read Shaun holds to one particular view that may differ from what 'YOU' believe. So, if you read Shaun's article please do not take offence – his article is not an attack upon your credibility as a Christian but is rather his attempt to 'interpret' current events according to his personal understanding of God's Word.

Cecil Andrews - 'Take Heed' Ministries - 21 February 2013