

Bible Doctrine	Catholic Doctrine	Key Scriptures
THE MASS (EUCHARIST)		
<p>Jesus instruct His followers to take bread & wine as a remembrance of Him. <i>It is therefore a symbolic act.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Center of catholic experience & all catholics are required to attend each week • Teach that the bread & wine are more than symbolic. It is claimed that the priest actually transforms the bread into the body of Christ. A miraculous change take place; the wafer is no longer bread and has become the actual body of Jesus Christ. It is to be worshipped and adored as divine. • This is called transubstantiation. This teaching is based on the teachings of Aristotle (concept of matter); everything consists of two parts (1) accidents (2) substance. Accidents are outwards appearances of matter, whereas substance is inner essence. This idea has long been discarded by modern science, yet the church still clings to it, and takes it even further - claiming that the inner essence can change while the outward appearance remains the same. • Transubstantiation is the foundation upon 	<p>Hebrews 10:10-18</p> <p>10 By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once <i>for all</i>. 11 And every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. 12 But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, 13 from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool. 14 For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.</p>

which the Mass rests. The claim is that the priest must change the bread so that Christ can be offered as a real sacrifice; an offering for the living and the dead.

- It is asserted that the Eucharist is not a different sacrifice to that which Christ made on Calvary; it the same sacrifice. *Hebrews 10:18 states that there is no more offering for sin because Christ has paid the price once and for all)*
- It is claimed that the motivation behind The Mass is to remind us that God is constantly reconciling men to Himself, allowing us to personally come into that moment and be reconciled with God, again and again and again.
- It is asserted that the Mass actually takes away sin.
- *The priest therefore has more power than Christ because unless the priest converts the bread, there can be no sacrifice for sin. This is a counterfeit of the Levitical High Priest who made an offering for sin in the Old Testament and who stood between God and Man as a mediator, and who*

	<i>was responsible to make a sacrifice on behalf of men.</i>	
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THE VENERATION OF SAINTS & SACRED OBJECTS (SUCH AS STATUES)

<p>The creation of what the Bible calls graven images, and the worship of idols is forbidden in the Bible</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Because God is a jealous God and will not share His glory with anyone or anything else • There is only one God • No one has seen God, therefore it is impossible to represent His image through that of a statue • It is an insult to God to represent an omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent God who is a spirit and is not confined to a human or any other form. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various “saints” are prayed to and their power invoked to help people with specific problems. • Though part of the Ten Commandments in the Catholic Bible, it regularly omits this commandment from Catechisms. Furthermore, in some Catholic publications, this commandment is completely removed, yet still come up with ten (by splitting the last commandment into two (1) you shall not covet your neighbour’s wife (2) you shall not covet your neighbour’s goods).) • <i>The reason is because of money. Millions are made from the sale of idols to Catholics, and the more idols one has (saints), the more money will be made.</i> 	<p>Exodus 20:4-5</p> <p>4 “You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; 5 you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me,</p>
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MARY

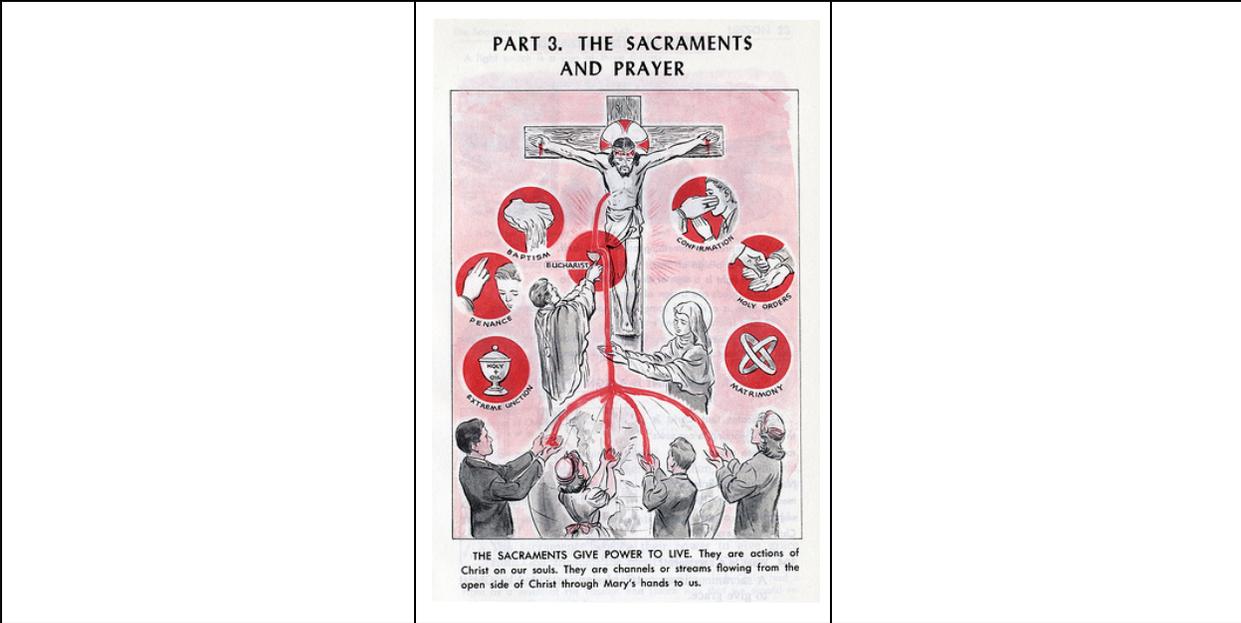
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is only one mediator/redeemer/saviour • There is no other 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100 years preceding the Second Vatican Council have been called the Marian 	<p>All have sinned and come short of the glory of god</p>
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<p>name by which man can be saved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is only one king of king and lord of lords - Jesus • God is male • The Patriarchs were males • Angels are males • There is no feminine deity or feminine counterpart to God 	<p>Century. During the period the Catholic Church developed many new doctrines concerning Mary, and never in Catholic history has anything like this been seen.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most significant was Pope Pius' the 9th proclamation of the Immaculate Conception (issued in 1854). Most Catholics do not even understand this doctrine, let alone that it contradicts Scripture) Most Catholics believe that this doctrine has to do with the supernatural impregnation of Mary by the Holy Spirit but in fact has nothing to do with this. The real teaching is that Mary, when she was young (conceived in her mother's womb), did not possess the stain of original sin - she was already saved in the womb before she was born). It is asserted that Mary was always sinless throughout her life, and at the time Christ was born. • <i>This teachings contradicts the Bible on two points (1) only Jesus is sinless and has the power to save us (2) Nowhere in the Bible is it taught that</i> 	<p>Luke 1:46-55</p> <p>The Song of Mary</p> <p>46 And Mary said:</p> <p>“My soul magnifies the Lord,</p> <p>47 And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior.</p> <p>48 For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant;</p> <p>For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed.</p> <p>49 For He who is mighty has done great things for me, And holy <i>is</i> His name.</p> <p>50 And His mercy <i>is</i> on those who fear Him</p> <p>From generation to</p>
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	<p><i>Mary was sinless. Quite the opposite; all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>It also lays the foundation for the even bigger blasphemous teaching that because Mary was allegedly without original sin, she is now also the co-redeemer alongside Christ (and even a faster way to reach heaven - because her Son has a soft spot for his mother!)</i> • <i>In Luke 1 Mary herself said that she needs a saviour! (Luke 1:47)</i> • <i>The proclamation by the Pope that Mary never sinned raised another question; if she never sinned, did she ever die? If she died, did her body decay in the grave (death & decay comes as a result of sin). In 1950 Pope Pius the 12th proclaimed that God took Mary bodily into heaven (The Assumption of Mary / the Immaculate Assumption)</i> • <i>The doctrines of Mary are regarded in Catholicism as DIVINE LAW and Catholics may not reject them. An Anathema (curse) is pronounced over anyone who does so).</i> • <i>Catholic priests openly</i> 	<p>generation.</p> <p>51 He has shown strength with His arm;</p> <p>He has scattered <i>the</i> proud in the imagination of their hearts.</p> <p>52 He has put down the mighty from <i>their</i> thrones,</p> <p>And exalted <i>the</i> lowly.</p> <p>53 He has filled <i>the</i> hungry with good things,</p> <p>And <i>the</i> rich He has sent away empty.</p> <p>54 He has helped His servant Israel,</p> <p>In remembrance of <i>His</i> mercy,</p> <p>55 As He spoke to our fathers,</p>
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	<p>admit that the teachings about Mary have no foundation in Scripture. It is stated that the doctrine of the assumption has its origins in the “piety of the people down over the centuries” rather than biblical doctrine.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● When people’s opinions, traditions, or popular sentiment become doctrine, distortion of truth becomes inevitable.● The Biblical accounts of Mary present her as a humble, faithful servant of God but Catholic tradition has confused her position with that of Christ himself.● Mary frequently “appears” to Catholics in the uncharacteristic role of promoting herself! (apparitions).● In many so called “appearances” throughout the world, Mary asserts that more and more statues of herself must be erected through the world, and that this is the only way in which the future of humanity can be secured and world chaos averted.● In 1917 she “appeared” in Fatima and there declared that “God wishes to establish in the world	<p>To Abraham and to his seed forever.”</p> <p>It is clear that even Mary points to Jesus as Lord and Saviour and never to herself.</p> <p>She also asserts that God is her saviour, Why would she need a saviour if she herself was without original sin?</p>
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	<p>devotion to my immaculate heart. My immaculate heart will be your refuge and the way to lead you to God.”) More and more shrines have been devoted to Mary, portraying her so-called immaculate heart. Some Catholics even claim that Mary has a better understanding of their motives than Jesus does; she is the mediator for them (between them and Christ).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● It is claimed that Mary created balance by introducing a feminine aspect to God that is missing in Christianity (both Christianity and Judaism are very patriarchal)● The Catholic Church teaches that Mary is the Mediator of all grace. Mary (not Jesus) is the final dispenser of all grace in Roman Catholicism); and from which the grace of the seven sacraments flows.● It is also asserted that the seven sacraments also dispense grace to the people.	
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CATHOLIC SALVATION

Infant baptism is not Biblical; only adult baptism.

Confirmation is not Biblical.

Confession to a priest (who has the power to forgive sin) is not Biblical.

The Sacrament of Last Rites is not Biblical.

Nowhere does the Bible teach the concept of Purgatory. We cannot earn our way into heaven (it is God's free gift of salvation by faith in Christ alone that grants us access to God and heaven); neither can we be granted access to heaven through the prayers of our loved ones, or a priest, or anyone else for that matter. Each person must account to God for their own sins and the decision they make for or against Christ. Only Christ can

God created Adam & Eve with divine light (grace). This grace was lost when they disobeyed God in the Garden of Eden, and the gates of heaven slammed shut. Christ restored this gate through His death on the cross of Calvary. Once again, the gates of heaven swung open; Christ had done his part, now man must cooperate by doing his. But what is man's part? Central to the many things man must do to be saved are the seven Sacraments.

1. **Baptism** is the first sacrament received. It cleanses all sin, brings rebirth into the life of grace, and makes the infant a member of the Roman Catholic Church. Parents must ensure that their newly born infant is baptised as soon as possible.

Ephesians 2:8-9

8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.

Hebrews 10:10-18

10 By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once *for all*. 11 And every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take

authorise entry into heaven or hell. Neither can we pay for our sins because Christ has already done so. All that remains is for us to receive the price that He has already paid for us through repentance. Purgatory implies that Christ was not able to pay the full price for our sins.

None of the requirements put forth by the catholic church for salvation are taught in the bible.

Man cannot attain heaven through self-righteousness (good works), mortification, payment of money (indulgences), prayers of others, absolution of sin by a priest, infant baptism, time spent in purgatory, or by any other religious rituals. Man is totally incapable of saving himself [person in quicksand scenario]. It is only through the perfect sinless sacrifice of Christ that we can be saved. He alone is our Saviour and forgives our sins, because of the perfect sacrifice He has made once and for all.

Many Catholics will also claim that the gospel is all about loving one another, but love is only a fruit and this fruit cannot possibly emanate from religious ritual; it can only originate from the life of the Holy Spirit because God is Love.

2. **Confirmation** grants special strength from the Holy Spirit to avoid temptation and to defend the Catholic faith.
3. **The sacrament of Matrimony** provides help for couple for married life.
4. The Catholic remains in the life of grace unless he commits a mortal sin, such as immorality, drunkenness, of failing to attend mass each Sunday. These mortal sins are punishable by eternal separation from God. Mortal sins must be confessed to a priest. In the **Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)**, the priest grants absolution as he recites the formula "Through the ministry of the Church, may God give you pardon and peace, and I absolve you from your sins, in the name of the father, and of the son, and of the holy spirit. Amen".
5. The priest receives the power to absolve sin and celebrate the Mass through the **Sacrament of Holy Orders**.
6. **Last Rites (The Last Sacraments)** prepare the soul for the

away sins. ¹² But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, ¹³ from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool. ¹⁴ For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.

Acts 16:25-31

²⁵ But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶ Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed. ²⁷ And the keeper of the prison,

	<p>passage through death. The family calls the priest to (1) administer confession (2) anointing of the sick (3) holy communion. The condition of the soul at the moment of death will determine the eternal destiny of the Catholic. Those who die out of grace will spend eternity in hell, while those who die in a state of grace will go to heaven. But most must first suffer in purgatory. There the person pays for past confessed sins, as well as unrepented venial sins (like minor lying or anger - which the church considers less serious). This burden is carried by the family who are alive, by realizing that they can shorten the time in purgatory of their deceased loved ones, by offering up their own good works and sufferings. The Mass is regarded as a particularly effective offering. Money is offered in exchange for a Mass for their deceased relatives. Many Catholics are confused about this doctrine. The concept of purgatory implies that we can either earn our way into heaven or</p>	<p>awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, supposing the prisoners had fled, drew his sword and was about to kill himself. ²⁸ But Paul called with a loud voice, saying, "Do yourself no harm, for we are all here."</p> <p>²⁹ Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰ And he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"</p> <p>³¹ So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household."</p>
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be granted access to heaven through the prayers of others.

7. What the Catholic Church teaches about the way to get to heaven [Book: Catechism for Adults by Rev William J Cogan]

- **Are you automatically saved by the death of Christ?** “No, because His death merely makes it possible for you to be saved (Philippians 2:12)
- **What is necessary to be saved? 8 requirements** (1) faith (2) infant baptism (3) membership of the roman catholic church (4) ten commandments (5) sacraments (6) prayer (7) good works (8) remaining in grace until death
- Catholics do not have an assurance of salvation. They are constantly trying to merit salvation, even to the point of mortifying themselves to atone for sin.

DESPITE CLEAR BIBLICAL TEACHINGS TO THE CONTRARY, ERRONEOUS CATHOLIC PRACTICES CONTINUE

The sacrifice of the Mass continues	Despite Christ's last words on the cross "It is finished" (John 19:30)
Statues are treated as sacred	Though the Ten Commandments forbid the making or bowing down to idols (Exodus 20:4-5)
Mary is proclaimed mediator of all grace	Despite the New Testament teaching that there is one mediator between God and man; Christ Jesus (1 Timothy 2:5)
The people are taught they must work for salvation	Though the Scriptures clearly teach that salvation is by grace, through faith, and not of ourselves (lest anyone should boast), but as a gift from God (Ephesians 2:8)

VATICAN II COUNCIL DID NOT CHANGE FUNDAMENTAL CATHOLIC DOCTRINE

- No doctrinal changes
- But the position of the church to non-christian religions DID change
 - Affirmed that people of all religions form one community
 - That the Catholic church respects the spiritual, moral, and cultural values of:
 - Hinduism
 - Buddhism (who do not believe in god or a soul)
 - Islam
 - Dialogue and collaboration with these was encouraged
 - Catholic publishers have produced numerous books designed to enrich Catholic spirituality, with Eastern religion. Examples are:
 - A Taste of Water (Christianity Through Taoist-Buddhist Eyes) (co-authored by a Priest and a Nun)
 - Love Meets Wisdom (A Christian Experience of Buddhism by Aloysius Pieris, S.J. (a Jesuit priest)
 - Buddhist Emptiness and Christian Trinity (which shows how Buddhist/Christian dialogue has gone beyond mutual understanding, to mutual transformation.
 - Pope John Paul II took the initiative to unite the world's religions through a prayer summit in Assisi, Italy, in 1986. Catholics, Protestants, Orthodox, Jews, Buddhist, Hindus, Muslims, American Medicine Men, the Buddhist Dalai Lama (who is regarded as a living deity), Animists from Africa, all standing side by side to petition God to give mankind peace. 160 spiritual leaders from various religions

standing side by side. This conference treated all religions as equally valid, an endorsement without precedent in the history of Christianity.

But the Bible states clearly that only ONE PERSON TOOK OUR SINS AWAY - JESUS CHRIST. Not Buddha, Mohammed, Shiva, etc. These other religions do not have a saviour who takes away the sins of the world.; they simply have a form of godliness but deny the power of the one and only Saviour of the world - Jesus Christ.

Why has Catholicism departed from Biblical Christianity? Because it has elevated tradition (the teachings of the Catholic Church), to the teachings of Scripture, and even above it. The New Testament describes Christianity as the faith which was delivered once and for all, through Christ and the Apostles. But the Catholic church has continued to add new doctrines to the church through the traditions of men.

- The belief that the nature of the bread changed at the Mass, was not added to official doctrine until the Fourth Lateran Council in 1215 AD. This was the first time the church sanctioned the theory of Transubstantiation.
- Purgatory was declared doctrine in 1274 AD.
- The Immaculate Conception (of Mary), in 1854 AD.
- Papal Infallibility in 1870 AD.
- The Assumption of Mary (into heaven without experiencing physical death), as Christ did, in 1950 AD.
- The declaration on non-christian religions, October 28, 1965 AD.

Vatican II made it clear that the Catholic Church would continue to rely on tradition.

“It is not from Sacred Scripture alone that the Church draws her certainty about everything which has been revealed. Both Sacred Tradition and Sacred Scripture are to be accepted and venerated with the same sense of loyalty and reverence.”

Simply put, the Catholic Church claims there is no conflict between its teachings and traditions, and the Scriptures. But that is not true. This conflict between tradition and scripture was at the heart of the Reformation in the Middle Ages. The leaders of the Reformation were at the time all Catholic Priests and Theologians.

Catholic theologian **John Wycliffe** was one of the first. His trouble started when he began to teach that the Bible is the only source of truth. Rome silenced him. Forty four years after his death, they exhumed his bones and burned them because of his departure from Catholic authority.

In 1415, Catholic Priest and Theologian of the University of Prague, **John Huss**, was burned at the stake. His only crime was that he also had made the Holy Scriptures his only rule in matters of religion, and faith.

After sixteen years as a priest, Swiss Reformer, **Huldrych Zwingli** broke with the Catholic Church when he could no longer put tradition on the same level as the Holy Scriptures.

John Calvin was studying for the priesthood when he experience a spiritual conversion. He left the church shortly thereafter.

Martin Luther was an Augustinian priest and Professor of Theology at the Catholic University of Wittenburg. He objected to representatives of the Pope selling pardons from purgatory, in order to finance the building of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome (Vatican City.) Luther made a list of 95 reasons why this was wrong, and nailed it to the church door at Wittenburg. Luther's writing helped form the three guiding principles of the sixteenth century call for reform.

1. Only the Bible is authoritative for salvation
2. Only by faith are we saved
3. Only through Christ are we saved (every believer has direct access to Christ); not via a priest

When asked to recant, Luther responded:

"My conscience is captive to the Word of God."

He narrowly escaped with his life.

These men were all Catholics whose attempts to reform their church, and return it to biblical Christianity, were met with vigorous opposition from their superiors. The problem is therefore an old one.

Jesus too clashed with the religious leaders of His day - over tradition. In Mark 7 we see that the Pharisees and Scribes questioned Jesus, saying "why do you and the disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders?" Jesus rebuked them for elevating the traditions of the Rabbis to the same level as Holy Scripture. He accused them as teaching as doctrine the precepts of men. One could not obey the traditions of the elders without disobeying the written word of God. Jesus chose to obey God rather than men. Many Catholics today are making that same choice.

Catholic doctrines have perverted and changed the Word of God. On a strictly theological basis alone, one cannot uphold the doctrinal teachings of the Catholic Church, which are in direct opposition to the doctrines of the Bible.

Catholicism:

- De-emphasises Jesus
- Elevates Mary to prominence, held up to be a perpetual virgin, and sinless even as Christ is

- Claims that there are saints who are now in heaven who were much holier and better than us, who can now pray to god on our behalf

THE CATHOLIC WAY OF SALVATION PUTS FORTH A FALSE HOPE (OF SALVATION). IT IS NOT THE GOSPEL OF SALVATION OF GRACE THROUGH FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST ALONE AS PUT FORTH IN THE NEW TESTAMENT. INSTEAD, IT PROMOTES ANOTHER FORM OF SALVATION WHICH IS PRIMARILY THROUGH SELF-EFFORT (GOOD WORKS), AND THE VENERATION OF IDOLS, PRAYER TO DEAD "SAINTS", AND MARY - THE "CO-REDEEMER" ALONGSIDE CHRIST - NOTHING LESS THAN A FALSE CHRIST WHO CLAIMS ALL THE ATTRIBUTES OF CHRIST, AND EVEN DECLARED TO BE A FASTER WAY IN WHICH WE CAN REACH HEAVEN.

2 Corinthians 11:4 warns of those who preach another Jesus, promote a different spirit, and teach a different gospel.

MANY CATHOLICS WHO TAKE TIME TO STUDY THE BIBLE ARE OFTEN SURPRISED AT WHAT THEY LEARN, THAT THEY CANNOT EARN GRACE OR SALVATION. THIS IS BECAUSE THEY HAVE LEARNED WHAT THEY THINK REPRESENTS THE GOSPEL, IN CATHOLIC PUBLICATIONS OTHER THAN THE BIBLE.