

NORTHEAST HOUSTON COMMUNITY CHURCH
Catholicism Compared to What We Believe Pt5
Doctrine of Salvation, End-Times, Rapture
Scripture Text: 2 Corinthians 11:12–15
06/10/2018

2 Corinthians 11:12–15 (NKJV) 12 But what I do, I will also continue to do, that I may cut off the opportunity from those who desire an opportunity to be regarded just as we are in the things of which they boast. 13 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. 14 And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. 15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.

“We are not saved by the PLAN of salvation but the MAN of salvation”

CATHOLIC DOCTRINE OF SALVATION (CONT'D)

1. Not by faith alone

We covered this one quite extensively last week and the net is, grace through faith produces salvation and works are a demonstration of that faith.

James 2:24 (NKJV) ²⁴ You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only.

I ended the discussion quoting James again.

*James 2:18 (NKJV) ¹⁸ But someone will say, “You have faith, and I have works.” Show me your faith without your works, **and I will show you my faith by my works.***

And our quote of the week

“The work we do for Christ is not the cause of our salvation; the work we do for Christ is because of our salvation”

The second point they use is the following scripture. Implying that salvation comes through baptism. This may explain why they practice “infant baptism” so much.

2. He who believes and is baptized will be saved. (Mk 16:16)

Answer: My source for this reference was taken from Catholic.com /Magazine. I want you to notice that they only quote half of the verse. The full verse says:

*Mark 16:16 (NKJV) ¹⁶ **He who believes** and is baptized will be saved; **but he who does not believe will be condemned.***

Being baptized will not save anyone nor not being baptized will cause condemnation, salvation is based on our belief in the Lord Jesus Christ.

*Acts 16:31 (NKJV) ³¹ So they said, **“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, ...***

*Romans 1:16 (NKJV) ¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, **for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes,***

The third is like the one before it.

3. Unless you repent you will all likewise perish. (Lk 13:3.6)

Answer: Repentance is a true sign of conversion. A turning away from sin. Not an act that generates salvation. A person can repent, (say they are sorry) and still be unsaved. We truly repent because we are saved not that we are saved because we truly repent.

Here are those two points together

*Acts 2:38 (NKJV) 38 Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized **in the name of Jesus Christ** for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.*

Answer: Peter tells them to repent and be baptized **“in the name of Jesus Christ”**. When you do something in the name of something or someone you do so because you believe in that something or someone. Doing so is the evidence of your faith not the cause or the necessity of/for it.

Now the fourth.

4. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. (Jn 6:54)

Answer: All I am going to say about this is that it is obvious to me that Jesus is speaking metaphorically. The bread and the wine were symbols of the sacrificed body and blood of Jesus. (*Matt 26:26, Mark 14:22, Luke 22:19*)

5. The Catholic Church is necessary for salvation

They go on to say that, since the sacraments are the ordinary means through which Christ offers the grace necessary for salvation, and the Catholic Church that Christ established is the ordinary minister of those sacraments, it is appropriate to state that salvation comes through the Church. Since Jesus established the Catholic Church as necessary for salvation, those who knowingly and willingly reject him or his Church cannot be saved.

<https://www.catholic.com/magazine/print-edition/what-no-salvation-outside-the-church-means>

Answer: It is amazing at how many times I have to point out that Salvation is by GOD’S GRACE through FAITH not through any church or works. (*Eph 2:8-9*).

Acts 4:12 (NKJV) ¹² Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

DOCTRINE OF THE END-TIMES

Catholics believe in a “Post-Trib” doctrine meaning that all, believers and non-believers will go through the Great Tribulation.

The Roman Catholics believe that the doctrine of the “Rapture” is false.

They say:

“If one accepts Revelation as a literal scenario of the end times, there is only one reference to the second coming of Christ and that occurs after all the calamities and catastrophes occur (Rev. 19:11-16).”

Their belief is that the rapture will take place at the end of the world, and not until then.

Answer: They are conflating the time of the Rapture and the second coming of Christ to the earth.

1 Thessalonians 4:16–17 (NKJV) ¹⁶ ... And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

The rapture will be a meeting **in the air not ON THE EARTH**. Jesus will only come in the sky and take up His own. We will not be here to go through the Great Tribulation.

Isaiah was a prophet that spoke more about the **FIRST coming** of Jesus than any other.
Isaiah 7:14, Isaiah 53:3.

But, other prophets spoke of His **Second coming** mentioning that He actually comes in contact with the earth.

Job 19:25 (NKJV) ²⁵ For I know that my Redeemer lives, And He shall stand at last on the earth;

Zechariah 14: 4 (NKJV) ... And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, ...

Acts 1:11 (NKJV) ... ¹¹ who also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.”

Commentary: “in like manner.” Christ one day will return to earth (to the Mt. of Olives), in the same way He ascended (with clouds), to set up His kingdom! (John MacArthur)

Jesus ascended from the Mt of Olives and will return to the EARTH at the Mt of Olives.

THEIR MILLENNIAL DOCTRINE

The Catholic Church is “amillennial,” meaning that it believes that Christ’s second coming and the last judgment will happen at the same time.

Definition: Amillennialism - Amillennialism is the name given to the belief that there will not be a literal 1000-year reign of Christ. The people who hold to this belief are called amillennialists.

<http://legatus.org/do-catholics-believe-in-the-rapture/>

They believe that the millennial kingdom is a literal 1000-year reign. They believe that Christ will return **after Christians**, not Christ Himself, have established the kingdom on this earth

<https://www.gotquestions.org/amillennialism.html>

The Litmus Test DOCTRINE OF JESUS

Catholics believe that Jesus is God incarnate, “true God and true man” (or both fully divine and fully human). Jesus, having become fully human, suffered our pain and temptations, but did not sin.^[75] As true God, he defeated death and rose to life again. According to the New Testament, “God raised him from the dead,”^[76] he ascended to heaven, is “seated at the right hand of the Father”^[77] and will return again^[78] to fulfil the rest of Messianic prophecy, including the resurrection of the dead, the Last Judgment and final establishment of the Kingdom of God.

¹ MacArthur, J., Jr. (Ed.). (1997). [*The MacArthur Study Bible*](#) (electronic ed., p. 1633). Nashville, TN: Word Pub.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Catholic_theology#Jesus_Christ_as_savior

This doctrine is very much like the foundational belief of most Christians. The difference occurs in the practice of the Eucharist. Roman Catholics believe that the bread and wine brought to the altar are changed, or transubstantiated, through the power of the Holy Spirit into the true body, blood, soul and divinity of Christ. The Church *now says* that they do not purport to *re-sacrifice* Jesus in the Mass, but rather to *re-present* (i.e., make present)^[62] his sacrifice "in an unbloody manner

I do not agree with the proliferation of statues depicting Jesus on the cross. Jesus is no longer on the cross and graven images are forbidden. Man-made images include Mary, many saints and other figures that are included in parts of their worship.

Definition - Graven - an object of worship carved usually from wood or stone. I think we can safely extend the definition to those images that are cast.

Deuteronomy 27:15 (NKJV) ¹⁵ *'Cursed is the one who makes a carved or molded image, an abomination to the LORD, the work of the hands of the craftsman, and sets it up in secret.'* "And all the people shall answer and say, 'Amen!'"

Deuteronomy 4:15–16 (NKJV) ¹⁵ *"Take careful heed to yourselves, ..., "*¹⁶ *lest you act corruptly and make for yourselves a carved image in the form of any figure: the likeness of male or female,*

It is the job of Satan to deceive us. It began back in Genesis.

Genesis 3:13 (NKJV) ¹³ *And the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."*

And he will continue to try and do so till the very end. *Mark 13:22–23 (too many verses to list)*

What is the Christians antidote to his deception? Knowledge of the Word of God as Jesus used when tempted by Satan.

Luke 4:4 (NKJV) ⁴ *But Jesus answered him, saying, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.'* "

Message Scriptures: **2 Corinthians 11:12–15**, *Revelation 12:9, James 2:24, James 2:18, Mark 16:16, Lk 13:3.6, Acts 2:38, Jn 6:54, Matt 26:26, Mark 14:22, Luke 22:19, Eph 2:8-9, Acts 4:12, Rev. 19:11-16, 1 Thessalonians 4:16–17, Isaiah 7:14, Isaiah 53:3, Job 19:25, Zechariah 14:3–4, Acts 1:10–11, Deuteronomy 4:15–16 , Deuteronomy 27:15, Genesis 3:13, Mark 13:22–23, Luke 4:4*

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