

# **What You Need to Know About Roman Catholicism (con't)**

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## **I. Salvation**

### **A. The Catholic Church Teaches:**

1. Justification is a transformation of the soul in which original sin is removed and sanctifying grace infused (1987-1995)
2. Initial justification is by means of baptism (1262-1274)
3. Adults must prepare for justification through faith and good works (1247-1249)
4. The justified are in themselves beautiful and holy in God's sight (1992, 1999-2000)
5. Justification is furthered by sacraments and good works (1212, 1392, 2010)
6. Justification is lost through mortal sin. (1033, 1855, 1874)
7. Catholics guilty of mortal sin are justified again through the sacrament of penance (980, 1446)
8. Salvation from the eternal consequences of sin is a lifelong process (161-162, 1254-1255)
9. Salvation is attained by cooperating with grace through faith, good works, and participation in the sacraments (183, 1129, 1815, 2002)
10. Faith is belief in God and the firm acceptance of all that the Church proposes for belief (181-182, 1814)
11. Sanctifying grace is a quality of the soul, a supernatural disposition that perfects the soul (1999-2000)
12. The sacraments are necessary channels for the continual infusion of grace. They bestow grace in virtue of the rite performed (1127-1129)
13. Grace is merited by good works (2010, 2027)
14. Venial sins do not incur eternal punishment (1855, 1863)
15. Serious sins must be confessed to a priest (1456-1457)
16. The priest forgives sin as a judge (1442, 1461)
17. When the guilt of sin is forgiven, temporal punishment remains (1472 1473)
18. Acts of penance make satisfaction for the temporal punishment of sin (1434, 1459-1460)
19. Indulgences dispensed by the Church for acts of piety release sinners from temporal punishment (1471-1473)
20. Purgatory is necessary to atone for sin and cleanse the soul (1030-1031)
21. Poor souls suffering in purgatory can be helped by those alive on earth, offering up prayers, good works, and the sacrifice of the Mass (1032, 1371, 1479)
22. No one can know if he will attain to eternal life (1036, 2005)
23. Eternal life is a merited reward (1821, 2010)
24. The Roman Catholic Church is necessary for salvation (846)

### **B. The Bible Teaches:**

1. Justification is an act of God in which He declares a sinner to be righteous in His sight, having forgiven his sins and imputed to him God's own righteousness (Romans 3:21-4:8).
2. Justification is by faith alone (Romans 3:28).
3. God justifies ungodly sinners who believe (Romans 4:5). Good works are the result of salvation, not the cause (Ephesians 2:8-10).
4. The justified are in Christ holy and blameless before God (Ephesians 1:1-14).

5. Justification is the imputation of the perfect righteousness of God (2 Corinthians 5:21). In Christ the believer has been made complete (Colossians 2:10).
6. Justification cannot be lost. Those whom God justifies will be saved from the wrath of God (Romans 5:8-9).
7. There is no second justification. Those whom God justifies, He also glorifies (Romans 8:30).
8. Salvation from the eternal consequences of sin is an instantaneous and secure act of God coinciding with justification (Romans 5:9).
9. Salvation is attained by grace through faith apart from works (Ephesians 2:8-9. Good works are the result, not the cause, of salvation (Romans 10:8-17).
10. Saving faith is the entrusting of oneself to Christ as Lord and Savior (Romans 10:8-17).
11. Grace is the undeserved favor of God (Ephesians 1:7-8).
12. The child of God is the constant object of the Father's grace (Romans 5:1, 2).
13. Grace is a free gift (Romans 11:6).
14. Every sin is punished by eternal death (Romans 6:23).
15. Sin is to be confessed directly to God (Ezra 10:11).
16. No one can forgive sin but God alone (Mark 2:7).
17. When God forgives sin, He completely forgives (Colossians 2:13; Isaiah 43:25).
18. Jesus made perfect satisfaction for all sins (1 John 2:1, 2).
19. Jesus releases believers from their sins by His blood (Revelations 1:5).
20. Purgatory does not exist. Jesus made purification for sins on the cross (Hebrews 1:3).
21. Those who sleep in Christ need no help. To be absent from the body is to be at home with the Lord (2 Cor. 5:8).
22. The believer can know that he has eternal life by the Word of God (1 John 5:13).
23. Eternal life is the free gift of God (Romans 6:23).
24. There is salvation in no one but the Lord Jesus Christ, "for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

## II. The Mass

### A. The Catholic Church Teaches:

1. The Last Supper was a real sacrifice in which Christ's blood was poured out for our sins in the cup (610 – 611, 621, 1339)
2. The bread and wine become the real body and blood of Christ (1373-1377)
3. Christ's body and blood exist wholly and entirely in every fragment of consecrated bread and wine in every Roman Catholic church around the world (1374, 1377)
4. The consecrated bread and wine are heavenly food which help one to attain to eternal life (1392, 1405, 1419)
5. God desires that consecrated bread and wine be worshiped as divine (1378-1381)
6. Christ has ordained certain men to a ministerial priesthood to perpetuate the sacrifice of the cross (1142, 1547, 1577)
7. The Sacrifice of the Mass is the sacrifice of the cross (1085, 1365-1367). Only the manner in which it is offered is different (1397)
8. The sacrifice of the cross is perpetuated in the Sacrifice of the Mass (1323, 1382)
9. The Mass makes Christ present in His death and victimhood (1353, 1362, 1364, 1367, 1409)
10. At each Mass, the priest re-presents to the Father the sacrifice of Christ (1354, 1357)
11. The Mass is an unbloody sacrifice which atones for the sins of the living and the dead (1367, 1371, 1414)
12. Each sacrifice of the Mass appeases God's wrath against sin (1371, 1414)

13. The faithful receive the benefits of the cross in fullest measure through the Sacrifice of the Mass (1366, 1407)
14. The sacrificial work of redemption is continually carried out through the Sacrifice of the Mass (1364, 1405, 1846)
15. The Church is to continue the sacrifice of Christ for the salvation of the world (1323, 1405, 1407)

## **B. The Bible Teaches:**

1. The Last Supper was a Passover meal. Christ's blood was poured out for our sins at the cross (1 Ptr. 2:24)
2. The bread and wine are symbols of the body and blood of Christ (1 Cor. 11:23-25)
3. Christ is boldly present in heaven (Hebrews 10:12, 13)
4. The bread and wine are symbols which help one to remember Christ (Like 22:19)
5. God forbids the worship of any object, even those intended to represent Him (Exodus 20:4, 5; Isaiah 42:8)
6. Christ has ordained every believer to a holy and royal priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices, the praise of lips, and lives yielded to God (1 Ptr. 2:5-10; Hebrews 13:15; Romans 12:1)
7. The sacrifice of the cross is a historical event. It occurred once, approximately 2000 years ago, outside Jerusalem (Mark 15: 21-41)
8. The sacrifice of the cross is finished (John 19:30)
9. Christ cannot be made present in His death and victimhood, for He has risen and is "alive forevermore" (Revelations 1:17, 18; Romans 6:9, 10)
10. Christ presented the sacrifice of Himself to the Father "once at the consummation of the ages" (Hebrews 9:24-28)
11. Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins (Leviticus 17:11; Hebrews 9:22)
12. The once-for-all sacrifice of the cross fully appeased God's wrath against sin (Hebrews 10:12-18)
13. Believers receive the benefits of the cross in fullest measure in Christ through faith (Ephesians 1:3-14)
14. The sacrificial work of redemption was finished when Christ gave His life on the cross (Ephesians 1:7; Hebrews 1:3)
15. The church is to proclaim the Lord's death for the salvation of the world (1 Cor. 11:26)