

Evangelizing the Most Neglected Mission Field

ProclaimingTheGospel.org

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Why Do Catholics Need to be Evangelized?

By the authority of God's Word, they worship and trust another Jesus and believe a false gospel which has them on the wide road to destruction (Mat. 7:15; 2 Cor. 11:4).

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Catholics Embrace Some Doctrines of the Bible

Common Truth

The Bible

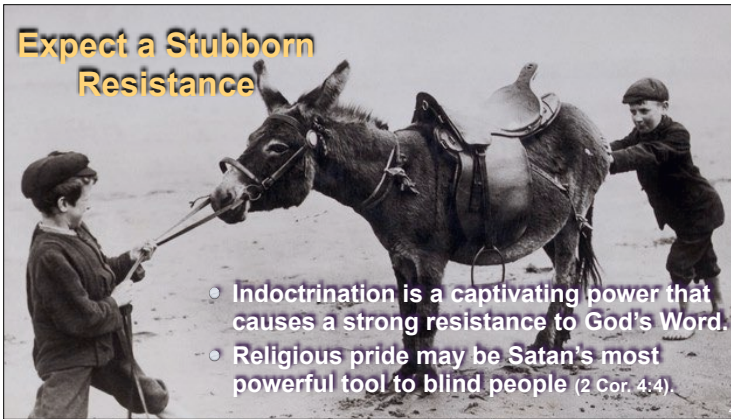
RC Traditions

The Gospel is according to Scripture alone
(1 Cor. 15:1-4)

Many of these traditions nullify and oppose the Gospel
(Mark 7:13)

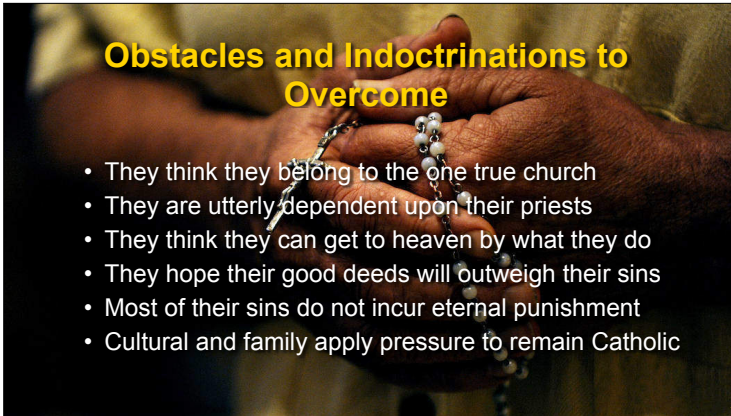
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Expect a Stubborn Resistance



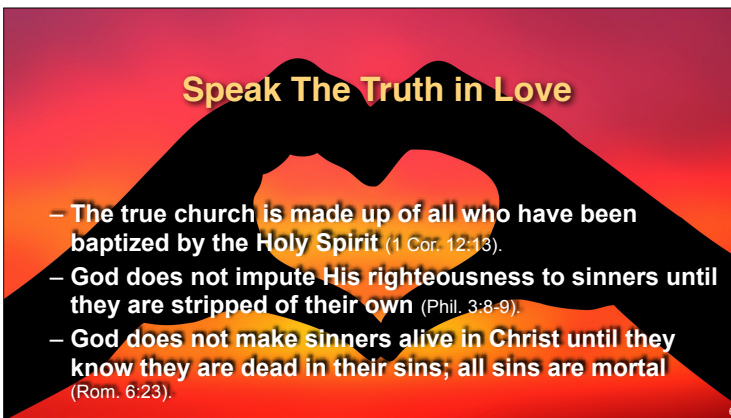
- Indoctrination is a captivating power that causes a strong resistance to God's Word.
- Religious pride may be Satan's most powerful tool to blind people (2 Cor. 4:4).

Obstacles and Indoctrinations to Overcome



- They think they belong to the one true church
- They are utterly dependent upon their priests
- They think they can get to heaven by what they do
- They hope their good deeds will outweigh their sins
- Most of their sins do not incur eternal punishment
- Cultural and family apply pressure to remain Catholic

Speak The Truth in Love



- The true church is made up of all who have been baptized by the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 12:13).
- God does not impute His righteousness to sinners until they are stripped of their own (Phil. 3:8-9).
- God does not make sinners alive in Christ until they know they are dead in their sins; all sins are mortal (Rom. 6:23).

How Can We Witness to Catholics Effectively?

1. Establish the Supreme Authority of God's Word
2. Declare the Sufficiency of Jesus
3. Get the Gospel Right
4. Define the Substitutionary Atonement of Christ
5. Teach Antithetically
6. Pray

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Ask "What is Your Supreme Authority For Truth?"

popes and priests
religious traditions
church history or church fathers
human reasoning or experience
Google
The Bible

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Catholics Have Three Equal Authorities

Magisterium (Bishops)

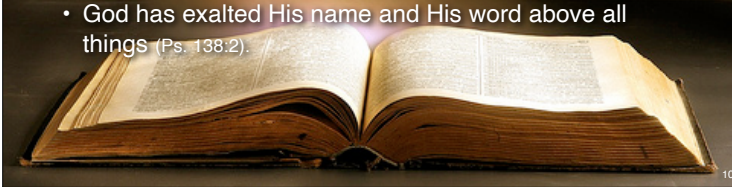
Tradition

Scripture

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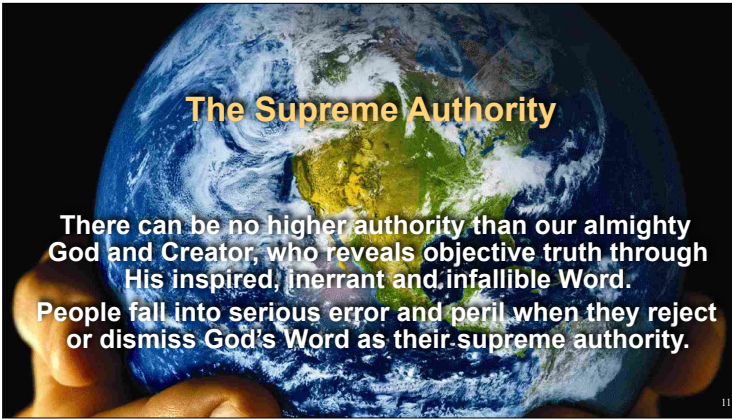
1. Establish the Supreme Authority of God's Word

- "All Scripture is inspired by God and beneficial for teaching, for rebuke, **for correction**, for training in righteousness" (2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Pet. 1:21).
- God has exalted His name and His word above all things (Ps. 138:2).



The Supreme Authority

There can be no higher authority than our almighty God and Creator, who reveals objective truth through His inspired, inerrant and infallible Word. People fall into serious error and peril when they reject or dismiss God's Word as their supreme authority.



Scripture is the Authority Over All Men

The Bereans **examined the Scriptures** daily to test the veracity of an apostle's teachings (Acts 17:11).



Scripture Has Authority Over Religious Tradition

Jesus rebuked the apostate Jews saying “In vain do they worship Me, teachings as doctrines the precepts of men... You are experts at setting aside the commandment of God **in order to keep your tradition... thus invalidating the word of God.**”
(Mark 7:7-9,13)

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Exhort Catholics to Abide in God's Word

- It is perfect, true, inerrant, infallible, eternal, and has authority over men and tradition.
- It saves, frees, guides, reproves, trains, corrects, converts, sanctifies and equips for every good work.
- It brings conviction, gives wisdom, produces faith, refutes error, and as a sword, can slay the devil's lies.

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2. Declare the Sufficiency of Jesus

- He died once for all sin for all time; there are no more offerings for sin (Heb. 10:10, 12, 18).
- He is able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him (Heb. 7:25).
- He accomplished every thing necessary to save sinners and then cried out in victory “It is finished” (John 19:30).

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Catholicism Denies the Sufficiency of Jesus

1. to His finished work they **add** the Mass
2. to His Word they **add** tradition
3. to His Headship they **add** a pope
4. to His unique role as sinless Mediator they **add** Mary
5. to His high priestly office they **add** the confessional
6. to His infinite merit they **add** their own
7. to His purifying blood they **add** purgatory
8. to His righteousness they **add** their own (filthy rags)

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A Different Jesus

Biblical Jesus provides...

- 📖 eternal life
- 📖 complete forgiveness
- 📖 permanent right standing with God
- 📖 peace and assurance

Catholic Jesus provides...

- ✦ conditional life
- ✦ partial forgiveness, residual sin remains
- ✦ continuous striving to gain God's acceptance
- ✦ uncertainty, fear, doubt and a false hope

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3. Get the Gospel Right

- **It is eternal** – the same message for every generation (Rev. 14:6).
- **It is exclusive** – all other faiths and religions are false (John 14:6).
- **It is according to Scripture alone** - no other source (2 Tim. 3:15, 1 Cor. 15:1-4).
- **It has divine power** - to save those who believe it (Rom. 1:16).
- **It is of grace** – those who add anything to it stand condemned (Gal. 1:6-9; Rom. 11:6).

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Catholics Have A False and Fatal Gospel

- ❖ It is by baptism (1256) *plus: faith*
- ❖ sacraments (1129)
- ❖ the Mass (1405)
- ❖ purgatory (1030)
- ❖ indulgences (1498)
- ❖ good works (2016)
- ❖ law keeping (2068)

"If any man is preaching to you a gospel contrary to what you received, he is to be accursed!" (Gal. 1:9)

Grace and Works Are Mutually Exclusive in Justification

You can DO nothing to save yourself.

Any attempt to do so nullifies justifying grace and insults Jesus and His all-sufficient work.

Hell

What Jesus has DONE to save sinners gives all the glory to God and His saving grace. All boasting is in Jesus Christ and His righteousness.

Heaven

Four Key Parts of the Gospel

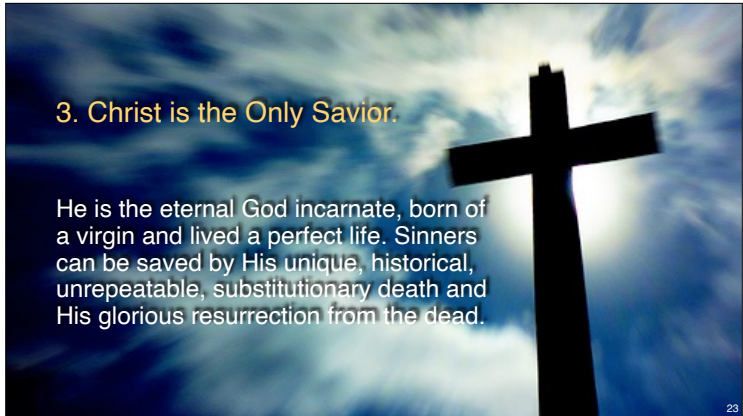
1. **God is holy and creator of everything.** He requires perfect obedience. "Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne" (Psalm 89:14).
2. **Man is guilty.** "There is none righteous, not even one" (Rom. 3:10). "The wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23).



Catholics Have A Different View of Sin

- Rome declares venial sins “do not cause death, only temporal punishment” (CCC, para. 1863).
- This is a “safety net” for Catholics that embraces Satan’s first lie “You surely shall not die” (Gen. 3:4).
- Scripture declares all sins are mortal (Ez. 18:4; Rom. 6:23)

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3. Christ is the Only Savior.

He is the eternal God incarnate, born of a virgin and lived a perfect life. Sinners can be saved by His unique, historical, unrepeatable, substitutionary death and His glorious resurrection from the dead.

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4. Sinners Must Repent and Believe the Gospel

- Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation (2 Cor. 7:10).
- Repentance for forgiveness of sins must be proclaimed in Christ’s name (Luke 24:47).
- Everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins (Acts 10:43).

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4. Define the Substitutionary Atonement of Christ (2 Cor. 5:21)

“He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed” (Isaiah 53:5).

“Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous” (1 Pet. 3:15)

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We must tell Catholics...

they must read God's Word
they have broken God's Law
they are condemned by God's justice
they deserve God's wrath
they need God's mercy
their only hope - substitutionary atonement of God's Son

5. Teach Antithetically

The apostles contrasted the impact of
believing God's truth instead of Satan Lies

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through
faith, and this **not** from yourselves, it is the gift of God,
not by works, so that no one can boast” (Eph. 2:8-9).

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6. Pray

- for the **salvation** of those blinded by religious deception (Rom. 10:1)
- for **words** to be given to fearlessly make known the Gospel (Eph. 6:19)
- for God to **open doors and hearts** for us to proclaim Christ clearly (Col. 4:2-4)
- for **wisdom** and to make the most of every opportunity (Col. 4:5-6)

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"Catholicism is a false system. It is not the church of Christ, it is the church of anti-Christ. If you follow Catholic theology you'll go to hell. I am not saying that to be unkind but to be truthful. Being truthful is the only way to be kind. People need to come out of that system. It is a system that exalts Mary and it is a system of paganism mingled with pseudo Christianity."
(KCBT Radio, 10/27/03)

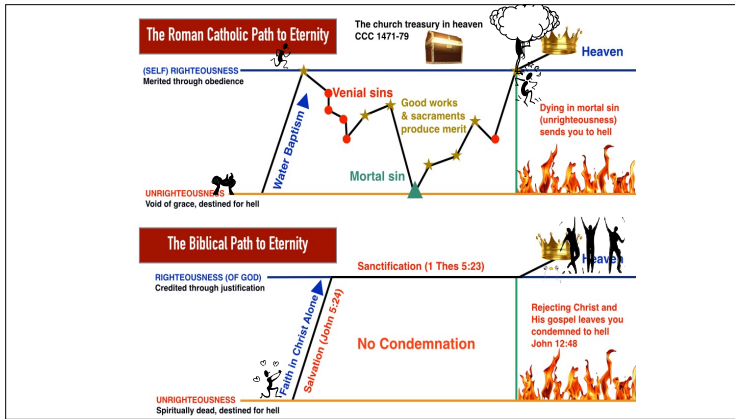
John MacArthur

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Remember The Nature of Deception

People do not know they are deceived until they are confronted with the truth.
As truth bearers, we need to lovingly confront Catholics, in their deception.

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Questions to Ask Catholics

- What are you trusting to get to heaven?
- When and how were you born again?
- Where will you spend eternity?
- Are you relying on what Christ has *done* or what you are *doing*?
- Why did Jesus have to die?
- Is purgatory necessary to purge your sins?
- Why do priests continue on an altar what Jesus finished on the cross?

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Important Contrasts

- The Bible is what God says
- Catholicism is what *man says* God says
- Christianity is a *relationship* with God through His Son, the only mediator
- Catholicism is a *religion* that offers a false hope of becoming right with God

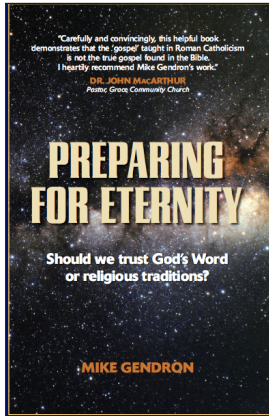
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Catholic Statements

"I was born a Catholic and I will die a Catholic."

Biblical Response: According to God's Word you were born a sinner and will die a sinner unless you are born again (Ps. 51:5; John 3:3)

- Purgatory is a purifying fire where Catholics must go to expiate their sins. This purification frees one from the "temporal punishment" of sin (CCC para. 1474). Priests cannot tell
- Biblical Response: The dogma of purgatory denies the sufficiency of Jesus Christ. The only purification for sins is the precious blood of our Savior (1 John 1:7).



This book does two things!

It equips you to be better equipped to effectively communicate the Gospel to Catholics.

It forces Catholics to make a decision - "Should I trust Christ and His Word or the teachings and traditions of my religion."

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