

## WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT HOW GOD SAVES US

By Salvation, we mean that situation where we are forever saved by God from the power, penalty and presence of sin, and are therefore no longer under condemnation, but have passed from death to eternal life, and have the Spirit of Christ living in us.

It is referred to in various ways as: “saved”, “justified”, “born again”, “born from above”, and having “eternal life”.

Here is what the Bible say about how God saves us: (*Holy Scripture quotes are from "The New American Bible, 1987 Edition, with Apocrypha"*)

### **1. Is salvation through Christ or the church?**

But to those who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to those who believe in his name, (John 1:12)

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. (John 3:16)

Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever disobeys the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God remains upon him. (John 3:36).

Jesus said to him, I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. (John 14:6).

Whoever possesses the Son has life; whoever does not possess the Son of God does not have life. (1 John 5:12).

There is no salvation through anyone else, nor is there any other name under heaven given to the human race by which we are to be saved. (Acts 4:12).

### **2. Are we saved by doing good works or by putting our trust (faith) in Christ's finished work on the cross for us?**

For we consider that a person is justified by faith apart from works of the law. (Romans 3:28)

But when one does not work, yet believes in the one who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness. (Romans 4:5).

So also David declares the blessedness of the person to whom God credits righteousness apart from works: (Romans 4:6).

(yet) who know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified. (Galatians 2:16).

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God; it is not from works, so no one may boast. (Ephesians 2:8-9).

not because of any righteous deeds we had done but because of his mercy, he saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the holy Spirit, (Titus 3:5).

### **3. Where do good works come in?**

Indeed someone might say, You have faith and I have works. Demonstrate your faith to me without works, and I will demonstrate my faith to you from my works. (James 2:18).

So whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come. (2 Corinthians 5:17).

For we are his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them. (Ephesians 2:10)

### **4. In summary: What God wants every person to do:**

All have sinned and are deprived of the glory of God. (Romans 3:23)

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:23)

Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. (Matthew 11:28).

And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you and your household will be saved." (Acts 16:31)

Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and I will not reject anyone who comes to me, (John 6:37).

A Suggested Prayer:

*Lord Jesus, have mercy on me, a sinner. I believe that You alone can save me, not me or anyone else. I believe when you died on the cross, it was in order to save me. I accept You as my Savior and Lord. Thank you Jesus, Amen*

## WHAT THE CATHOLIC BIBLE SAYS ABOUT IDOLS AND IMAGES

Holy Scripture quotes are from the Challoner revision of the Douay–Rheims Bible, the Bible of choice of the more conservative English-speaking Catholics

### 1. The Bible says that Christ Alone is the only Mediator between God and man.

#### *According to Paul:*

1 Timothy 2:5-6 DRB

- (5) For there is one God: and one mediator of God and men, the man Christ Jesus:
- (6) Who gave himself a redemption for all, a testimony in due times.

#### *According to Peter:*

Acts 4:12 DRB

- (12) Neither is there salvation in any other. For there is no other name under heaven given to men, whereby we must be saved.

#### *According to the Book of Hebrews:*

Hebrews 4:15-16 DRB

- (15) For we have not a high priest who cannot have compassion on our infirmities: but one tempted in all things like as we are, without sin.
- (16) Let us go therefore with confidence to the throne of grace: that we may obtain mercy and find grace in seasonable aid.

#### *According to Jesus:*

John 14:6 DRB

- (6) Jesus saith to him: I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No man cometh to the Father, but by me.

### 2. God clearly commands against making or honoring any idol.

#### *a. Regardless of form, appearance, or motive for making*

Exodus 20:4-5 DRB (Ten Commandments)

- (4) Thou shalt not make to thyself a graven thing, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, nor of those things that are in the waters under the earth.
- (5) Thou shalt not adore them, nor serve them: I am the Lord thy God, mighty, jealous, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me:

Deuteronomy 5:8-9 DRB (Ten Commandments Reviewed and Affirmed)

- (8) Thou shalt not make to thyself a graven thing, nor the likeness of any things, that are in heaven above, or that are in the earth beneath, or that abide in the waters under the earth.
- (9) Thou shalt not adore them, and thou shalt not serve them. For I am the Lord thy God, a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon their children unto the third and fourth generation, to them that hate me,

Deuteronomy 4:15-16 DRB

- (15) Keep therefore your souls carefully. You saw not any similitude in the day that the Lord God spoke to you in Horeb from the midst of the fire:
- (16) Lest perhaps being deceived you might make you a graven similitude, or image of male or female,

#### *b. God makes no exceptions, and does not qualify any exceptions:*

Leviticus 19:4 DRB

- (4) Turn ye not to idols: nor make to yourselves molten gods. I am the Lord your God.

Revelation 9:20 DRB

(20) And the rest of the men, who were not slain by these plagues, did not do penance from the works of their hands, that they should not adore devils and idols of gold and silver and brass and stone and wood, which neither can see nor hear nor walk:

**c. God considers the process of making an idol as mockery of God:**

Isaiah 44:14-20 DRB (*referring to the craftsman who makes idols*)

(14) He hath cut down cedars, taken the holm, and the oak that stood among the trees of the forest: he hath planted the pine tree, which the rain hath nourished.

(15) And it hath served men for fuel: he took thereof, and warmed himself: and he kindled it, and baked bread: but of the rest he made a god, and adored it: he made a graven thing, and bowed down before it.

(16) Part of it he burnt with fire, and with part of it he dressed his meat: he boiled pottage, and was filled, and was warmed, and said: Aha, I am warm, I have seen the fire.

(17) But the residue thereof he made a god, and a graven thing for himself: he boweth down before it, and adoreth it, and prayeth unto it, saying: Deliver me, for thou art my God.

(18) They have not known, nor understood: for their eyes are covered that they may not see, and that they may not understand with their heart.

(19) They do not consider in their mind, nor know, nor have the thought to say: I have burnt part of it in the fire, and I have baked bread upon the coals thereof: I have broiled flesh and have eaten, and of the residue thereof shall I make an idol? shall I fall down before the stock of a tree?

(20) Part thereof is ashes: his foolish heart adoreth it, and he will not save his soul, nor say: Perhaps there is a lie in my right hand.

**3. God explains why He will not tolerate idols:**

Isaiah 42:8 DRB

(8) I the Lord, this is my name: I will not give my glory to another, nor my praise to graven things.

Isaiah 48:11 DRB

(11) For my own sake, for my own sake will I do it, that I may not be blasphemed: and I will not give my glory to another.

**4. Peter himself forbid another human being from paying him any homage:**

Acts 10:25-26 DRB

(25) And it came to pass that when Peter was come in, Cornelius came to meet him and falling at his feet adored.

(26) But Peter lifted him up, saying: Arise: I myself also am a man.

**5. Angels themselves forbid John from paying them any homage:**

Revelation 19:9-10 DRB

(9) And he said to me: Write: Blessed are they that are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith to me: These words of God are true.

(10) And I fell down before his feet, to adore him. And he saith to me: See thou do it not. I am thy fellow servant and of thy brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Adore God. For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

Revelation 22:8-9 DRB

(8) And I, John, who have heard and seen these things. And, after I had heard and seen, I fell down to adore before the feet of the angel who shewed me the things.

(9) And he said to me: See thou do it not. For I am thy fellow servant, and of thy brethren the prophets and of them that keep the words of the prophecy of this book. Adore God.

## WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT MARY

First and foremost, we must state at the outset that Mary was the blessed, honorable, earthly mother of Christ's humanity and a model Christian. Let us also define worship as deep veneration, respect and honor. Some dictionary definitions are:

1. a. The reverent love and devotion accorded a deity, an idol, or a sacred object; b. The ceremonies, prayers, or other religious forms by which this love is expressed.
2. Ardent devotion; adoration.
3. To honor and love as a deity.
4. To regard with ardent or adoring esteem or devotion.

With these in mind, consider what the Catholic Bible says about her. Scripture quotes are from the "The New American Bible" (NAB) which is the latest official Roman Catholic translation of the Bible and is endorsed by the Pope:

### **1. Mary describes herself as needing God as her Savior, just like the rest of humanity:**

Luke 1:47 NAB

"And Mary said: 'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God My Savior.'"

Romans 3:23 NAB

"All have sinned and are deprived of the glory of God."

### **2. Mary lived a normal married life after the birth of Christ including the birth of other siblings of Jesus:**

Matthew 1:23-25 NAB

"Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means 'God with us.' When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home. He had no relations with her until she bore a son, and he named him Jesus."

Matthew 13:55-56 NAB

"Is he not the carpenter's son? Is not his mother named Mary and his brothers James, Joseph, Simon, and Judas? Are not his sisters all with us?"

Galatians 1:19 NAB

But I did not see any other of the apostles, only James the brother of the Lord.

John 7:3-5 NAB

So his brothers said to him, Leave here and go to Judea, so that your disciples also may see the works you are doing. (4) No one works in secret if he wants to be known publicly. If you do these things, manifest yourself to the world. (5) For his brothers did not believe in him.

### **3. Jesus publicly showed that while he deeply loved and respected Mary, He did not endorse any special treatment or veneration of His mother:**

Matthew 12:46-50 NAB

While he was still speaking to the crowds, his mother and his brothers appeared outside, wishing to speak with him. (47) (Someone told him, Your mother and your brothers are standing outside, asking to speak with you.) (48) But he said in reply to the one who told him, Who is my mother? Who are my brothers? (49) And stretching out his hand toward his disciples, he said, Here are my mother and my brothers. (50) For whoever does the will of my heavenly Father is my brother, and sister, and mother.

Luke 11:27-28 NAB

While he was speaking, a woman from the crowd called out and said to him, Blessed is the womb that carried you and the breasts at which you nursed. (28) He replied, Rather, blessed are those who hear the word of God and observe it.

John 2:3-4 NAB

When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, They have no wine. (4) (And) Jesus said to her, Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come.

**4. The last time Mary is ever mentioned in the Bible, she was *praying with the disciples, and not being prayed to by the disciples:***

Acts 1:13-14 NAB

When they entered the city they went to the upper room where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. (14) All these devoted themselves with one accord to prayer, together with some women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

**5. The whole New Testament is unanimous in clearly indicating that Jesus Christ alone is the only mediator between God and us and the only way to God who does not need any assistance or co-mediator.**

1 John 2:1-2 NAB

My children, I am writing this to you so that you may not commit sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous one. (2) He is expiation for our sins, and not for our sins only but for those of the whole world.

1 Timothy 2:5 NAB

“For there is one God. There is also One mediator between God and the human race, Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself as ransom for all.”

John 14:6 NAB

Jesus said: “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”

John 5:39-40 NAB

You search the scriptures, because you think you have eternal life through them; even they testify on my behalf. (40) But you do not want to come to me to have life.

Acts 4:12 NAB

“There is no salvation through anyone else, nor is there any other Name under heaven given to the human race by which we are to be saved.”

**6. Even in the Old Testament, God shows that He does not tolerate anyone else being worshipped besides God.**

Psalms 148:13 NAB

“Praise the name of the Lord, for His Name alone is exalted.”

Isaiah 48:11 NAB

For my sake, for my own sake, I do this; why should I suffer profanation? My glory I will not give to another.

Isaiah 42:8 NAB

“I am the Lord, this is My Name; My glory I give to no other, nor My praise to idols.”

## WHAT THE CATHOLIC BIBLE SAYS ABOUT PRIESTS AND THE MASS

Review: The blessings of taking up this lesson series:

1. We learn how to share the gospel in a loving but biblically accurate way to those who hold to the traditional religion.
2. By being made to review our most basic beliefs, it affirms what you already know is true.
3. This also serves as a good *survey* of what we believe and a reminder of *why* we believe it.

Holy Scripture quotes are from the Roman Catholic Bible called the “The New American Bible” (NAB). This Bible is the latest official Roman Catholic translation of the Bible and endorsed by the Pope.

The Catholic Encyclopedia states:

*"In the celebration of the Holy Mass, the bread and wine are changed into the body and blood of Christ. It is called transubstantiation, for in the Sacrament of the Eucharist the substance of bread and wine do not remain, but the entire substance of bread is changed into the body of Christ, and the entire substance of wine is changed into his blood, the species or outward semblance of bread and wine alone remaining."* (Vol. 4, pg. 277, Article: "Consecration")

### **1. The Catholic Bible says that Jesus made a sacrifice that was once and for all so there is no need to sacrifice over and over again.**

Hebrews 10:10-12 NAB

- (10) ... we have been consecrated through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.
- (11) Every priest stands daily at his ministry, offering frequently those same sacrifices that can never take away sins.
- (12) But this one offered one sacrifice for sins, and took his seat forever at the right hand of God;

### **2. The Catholic Bible says that Jesus became the only worthy Priest, replacing all other priests, because He became the ultimate sacrifice once and for all, and no human can ever take his place or duplicate what He did.**

Hebrews 9:25-26 NAB “Not that he (Jesus) might offer himself repeatedly, as the high priest enters each year into the sanctuary with blood that is not his own; if that were so, he would have had to suffer repeatedly from the foundation of the world. But now once and for all he has appeared at the end of the ages to take away sin by his sacrifice.”

Hebrews 10:18-20 NAB “Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer offering for sin. Therefore, brothers, since through the blood of Jesus we have the confidence of entrance into the sanctuary by the new and living way he opened for us the veil,”

### **3. The Catholic Bible says that Jesus became the only worthy Priest, replacing all other priests, and to find forgiveness and grace we can approach God directly rather than another human being.**

Hebrews 4:14-16 NAB

- (14) Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession.
- (15) For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has similarly been tested in every way, yet without sin.

(16) So let us confidently approach the throne of grace to receive mercy and to find grace for timely help.

#### **4. The Catholic Bible makes it clear that God alone can forgive sin.**

Mark 2:5-11 NAB

(5) When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, Child, your sins are forgiven.

(6) Now some of the scribes were sitting there asking themselves,

(7) Why does this man speak that way? He is blaspheming. Who but God alone can forgive sins?

(8) Jesus immediately knew in his mind what they were thinking to themselves, so he said, Why are you thinking such things in your hearts?

(9) Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, pick up your mat and walk'?

(10) But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority to forgive sins on earth--

(11) He said to the paralytic, I say to you, rise, pick up your mat, and go home.

#### **5. What does Jesus say about Tradition?**

Mark 7:5-13 NAB-A

(5) So the Pharisees and scribes questioned him, Why do your disciples not follow the tradition of the elders but instead eat a meal with unclean hands?

(6) He responded, Well did Isaiah prophesy about you hypocrites, as it is written: 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me;

(7) In vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines human precepts.'

(8) You disregard God's commandment but cling to human tradition.

(9) He went on to say, How well you have set aside the commandment of God in order to uphold your tradition!

(10) For Moses said, 'Honor your father and your mother,' and 'Whoever curses father or mother shall die.'

(11) Yet you say, 'If a person says to father or mother, Any support you might have had from me is qorban' (meaning, dedicated to God),

(12) you allow him to do nothing more for his father or mother.

(13) You nullify the word of God in favor of your tradition that you have handed on. And you do many such things.

#### **6. Is the Bible enough?**

Revelation 22:18-19 NAB-A

(18) I warn everyone who hears the prophetic words in this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book,

(19) and if anyone takes away from the words in this prophetic book, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city described in this book.

## WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT PURGATORY

Review: The blessings of taking up this lesson series:

1. We learn how to share the gospel in a loving but biblically accurate way to those who hold to the traditional religion.
2. By being made to review our most basic beliefs, it affirms what you already know is true.
3. This also serves as a good survey of *what* we believe and a reminder of *why* we believe it.

Holy Scripture quotes are from the Roman Catholic Bible called the “The New American Bible” (NAB). This Bible is the latest official Roman Catholic translation of the Bible and endorsed by the Pope.

The Catholic Church teaches that a Christian's soul must burn in purgatory after death until all of their sins have been purged. To speed up the purging process, money may be paid to a priest so he can pray and have special masses for an earlier release.

### **1. The Bible says that money cannot be used to redeem a person from his eternal destiny**

Psalms 49:7-9 NAB "(7) One cannot redeem oneself, pay to God a ransom. (8) Too high the price to redeem a life; one would never have enough (9) to stay alive forever and never see the pit.”

Acts 8:20 NAB "... May your money perish with you, because you thought that you could buy the gift of God with money."

### **2. The Bible speaks plainly of only 2 places available after physical death – With the Lord Jesus Christ, and the other in eternal fire and punishment**

2 Corinthians 5:8 NAB Yet we are courageous, and we would rather leave the body and go home to the Lord.

Philippians 1:23-24 NAB I am caught between the two. I long to depart this life and be with Christ, (for) that is far better. (24) Yet that I remain (in) the flesh is more necessary for your benefit.

Matthew 25:46 NAB And these will go off to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.

2 Thessalonians 1:9 NAB These will pay the penalty of eternal ruin, separated from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his power,

Revelation 20:9-10 NAB They invaded the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the holy ones and the beloved city. But fire came down from heaven and consumed them. (10) The Devil who had led them astray was thrown into the pool of fire and sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet were. There they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

Rev. 20:15 NAB Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the pool of fire.

### 3. The Bible records that the thief on the cross went directly to Paradise to be with Christ

Luke 23:39-43 NAB-A Now one of the criminals hanging there reviled Jesus, saying, Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us. (40) The other, however, rebuking him, said in reply, Have you no fear of God, for you are subject to the same condemnation? (41) And indeed, we have been condemned justly, for the sentence we received corresponds to our crimes, but this man has done nothing criminal. (42) Then he said, Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom. (43) He replied to him, Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.

#### Footnotes:

##### 1. *The origin of the belief in purgatory*

This belief began during the reign of Pope Gregory around 593AD. The Dogma of faith concerning purgatory was issued by the Council of Florence in 1439. But the Apocrypha books were not added to the Catholic scriptures until the Council of Trent in 1645. This was based on only one passage, in \*2 Maccabees 12:39-46 NAB, which unfortunately contradicts the rest of the Bible, as seen above.

##### 2. *Reasons why the Apocrypha are not part considered part of the Bible:*

- (1) They were not regarded as God's words by the Jewish people from whom they originated;
- (2) They were not considered to be Scripture by Jesus or the New Testament authors;
- (3) They contain teachings inconsistent with the rest of the Bible.
- (4) They do not claim for themselves the same kind of authority as the Old Testament writings;
- (5) All inspired scriptures were written by Old Testament Prophets, which the writers of the Apocrypha are not nor claim to be. (2 Peter 3:2; Ephesians 2:20)

They have value for historical and linguistic research, and contain a number of helpful stories about the courage and faith of Jews during the period after the Old Testament, but they have never been part of the Old Testament canon, and cannot be thought of as part of the Bible.

*\*(39) On the following day, since the task had now become urgent, Judas and his men went to gather up the bodies of the slain and bury them with their kinsmen in their ancestral tombs. (40) But under the tunic of each of the dead they found amulets sacred to the idols of Jamnia, which the law forbids the Jews to wear. So it was clear to all that this was why these men had been slain. (41) They all therefore praised the ways of the Lord, the just judge who brings to light the things that are hidden. (42) Turning to supplication, they prayed that the sinful deed might be fully blotted out. The noble Judas warned the soldiers to keep themselves free from sin, for they had seen with their own eyes what had happened because of the sin of those who had fallen. (43) He then took up a collection among all his soldiers, amounting to two thousand silver drachmas, which he sent to Jerusalem to provide for an expiatory sacrifice. In doing this he acted in a very excellent and noble way, inasmuch as he had the resurrection of the dead in view; (44) for if he were not expecting the fallen to rise again, it would have been useless and foolish to pray for them in death. (45) But if he did this with a view to the splendid reward that awaits those who had gone to rest in godliness, it was a holy and pious thought. (46) Thus he made atonement for the dead that they might be freed from this sin.*

## WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT THE PAPACY

Review: The blessings of taking up this lesson series:

1. We learn how to share the gospel in a loving but biblically accurate way to those who hold to the traditional religion.
2. By being made to review our most basic beliefs, it affirms what you already know is true.
3. This also serves as a good survey of *what* we believe and a reminder of *why* we believe it.

Holy Scripture quotes are from the “The New American Bible” (NAB). This Bible is the latest official Roman Catholic translation of the Bible and endorsed by the Pope.

### 1. Not one Pope was a witness to the resurrection.

After Judas Iscariot hanged himself the Apostles sought a successor for Judas. The Apostle Peter said: “Therefore, it is necessary that one of the men who accompanied us the whole time the Lord Jesus came and went among us, (22) beginning from the baptism of John until the day on which he was taken up from us, become with us a witness to his resurrection..” (Acts 1:21-22 NAB).

### 2. Jesus is the rock, not Peter.

The New Testament was written in Greek which is a very precise language. Jesus said to Peter after Peter confessed his faith to Jesus that Jesus was the Christ (Messiah):

(Matthew 16:18 NAB) “And so I say to you, you are Peter (*Petros*), and upon this rock (*Petra* - faith in Jesus as the Messiah) I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it.”

*Petros*: masculine gender Greek noun meaning stone.

*Petra*: feminine gender Greek noun meaning massive rock formation.

Therefore Jesus is the rock, not Peter! Jesus and the fact that he was the Christ (Messiah) made the rock (*petra*) foundation on which the church is built! The word “*petra*” was also used in Matthew 7:24-25 (NAB) to describe where a wise man builds his house.

In 1 Peter 2:5-8, Peter himself speaks of believers as stones and of Jesus as a rock. In Ephesians 2:19-21, Jesus is the corner stone, the foundation. The church, therefore, is built, not on Peter or his successors, but on Jesus Christ Himself - the Rock.

Paul in 1 Corinthians 3:11 NAB said “for no one can lay a foundation other than the one that is there, namely, Jesus Christ”. Paul says Jesus Christ is the foundation, the Rock. It is on that Rock the church is built.

**3. The Bible never says that Peter was the earthly head of the church and the first Pope.**

Holy Scripture unmistakably teaches that “Christ is the head of the church” (Ephesians 5:23 NAB) “For the husband is head of his wife just as Christ is head of the church, he himself the savior of the body”.

Peter himself spoke against being lords over God's flock in 1 Peter 5:3 NAB “Do not lord it over those assigned to you, but be examples to the flock.”

**4. The Pope or any other human, cannot be infallible and their words be used as equal to Scripture. Decisions in the early Christian Church were made democratically after reflection on Holy Scripture by the apostles and church elders. (Read Acts 15 through 16:4 NAB).**

Jesus Christ is our High Priest (Heb. 3:1; 4:14-15; 5:5; 8:1; 9:11), and all true Christians make up a spiritual priesthood (1 Pet. 2:5). Jesus Christ has sanctified all Christians who believe on Him (Heb. 10:10-11), so all Popes, priests and similar human mediators today are unnecessary and unscriptural. We have direct access to God the Father through Jesus Christ!