

# WHAT CATHOLICS REALLY BELIEVE

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DR. RAY GUARENDI  
REV. KEVIN FETE

## DVD STUDY GUIDE & WORKBOOK

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Revised January 25, 2007-B

***Nineveh's Crossing***  
<http://www.NinevehsCrossing.com>

The DVD series and Study Guide & Workbook are dedicated to the late  
***Father Kevin Fete***  
***(1957-2006)***

a great pastor, friend, confessor, and defender of the Catholic faith.  
Fr. Fete died July 23, 2006 from metastasized cancer of the kidney  
while in the ministry of Little Flower parish in Canton, Ohio.



Dr. Ray Guarendi & Fr. Kevin Fete's *What Catholics Really Believe?* STUDY GUIDE.

Published and distributed by Nineveh's Crossing, LLC, Northville, Michigan, USA.

All Nineveh's Crossing Study Guides are available for free download from:  
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Scripture quotes taken from *The Catholic Study Bible, New American Bible*, Copyright 1990 Oxford University Press. All answers to questions are based, referenced, and occasionally quoted from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Second Edition, English translation, 1997, internally referenced as "CCC".

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## ERRATA

It is the desire of the author and publisher that this study guide be faithful to the magisterial teaching of the Catholic Church. Errors and corrections should be reported to: [StudyGuide@NinevehsCrossing.com](mailto:StudyGuide@NinevehsCrossing.com). Please note which study guide and on what page your comments refer.

Here is a list of errors-of-fact in the first release of the DVD series that will be corrected in the second.

Program 9: Mary Part 1 - Time 6:09

Fr. Fete off-handedly remarks that the story of Elizabeth is in Luke 2. It is in Luke 1 verses 39 and following.

Program 9: Mary Part 1 - Time 18:04

The on screen title is misspelled. It should be "CO-REDEMPTORIST."

Program 9: Mary Part 1 - Time 23:14

The on screen reference for the scripture should be John 19:27.

Program 11: St. Peter - Time 3:52

Dr. Ray asks Fr. Fete "Who did the Lord first appeared to after the Resurrection?" The question should have been phrased: "Who was the first Apostle to enter Jesus' tomb of Jesus after the resurrection?"

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## INTRODUCTION

This particular study guide was designed for use with Dr. Ray Guarendi & Fr. Kevin Fete's *What Catholics Really Believe* DVD series in a variety of religious educational settings. It is designed for use in schools of any level, discussion and Bible study groups, youth or adult social gatherings, and home schooling.

The questions are ordered by the title of each DVD program, and then by the Non-Catholic Objections to Catholicism in the order discussed on the DVD. Answers to the questions can be found by watching the DVD, studying the passages of the Bible and the Catechism of the Catholic Church as referenced below each question, and occasionally some independent research will be required, which with the Internet is very easy and productive. Places to check first on the Internet include the Catholic Encyclopedia, the Vatican website, Bible Search Engines, and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. The hardback edition of the Catechism includes a Glossary of terms and other helpful indexes such as a Bible cross reference.

Please send your suggestions to [StudyGuides@NinevehsCrossing.com](mailto:StudyGuides@NinevehsCrossing.com) or write to us at 43635 Cottisford Rd., Northville, MI 48167-8946. 1-877-606-1370

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## EPISODE 1 JESUS

### Objection to Catholicism

*A - Catholics do not give Jesus the titles he deserves.*

1. How does Fr. Kevin describe who Jesus is?

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2. What titles does Catholic teaching give to Jesus?  
(CCC 430-455)

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3. Who do Catholics confess that Jesus is?  
(CCC 422-429, Nicene Creed between CCC 184-185)

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### Objection to Catholicism

*B - The Catholic Church does not teach that to be "saved" a person has to be "born again" and have a "personal relationship" with Jesus Christ.*

4. Why do Catholics typically not refer to themselves as being "born again" or to Jesus as their "personal" savior?

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5. If we are going to call Jesus our friend what does Jesus require of us?  
(John 15:14-15)(CCC 2347)

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### Objection to Catholicism

C - *There are no "altar calls" during a Catholic Church service for people to accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior.*

6. What is an "altar call" in a Protestant service?  
(Research.)

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7. Do Catholics have altar calls?  
(CCC 1182, 1383)

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### Objection to Catholicism

D - *"I was raised in the Catholic Church and went to 12 years of Catholic School and never heard the name of Jesus once."*

8. How many times in a recent Mass did Dr. Ray count the name of Jesus as mentioned as Savior, Son of God, Lord, Redeemer, and Savior of the World?  
(CCC 790, 1345-1355. Study the Liturgy of the Eucharistic, which can be found in every issue of *The Magnificat*.)

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### Objection to Catholicism

E - *Catholics don't believe that Jesus rose from the dead because, in their churches, Jesus is still on the cross.*

9. Why do Catholics use crucifixes, and not empty crosses, in their churches; don't they believe that Jesus rose from the dead?  
(1 Corinthians 1:23)(CCC 272, 617, 638-658, 769, 1505, 1741)

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### Objection to Catholicism

*F - Catholics do not know with absolute certainty that they will go to heaven when they die. The Bible teaches us that we can know for sure.*

11. In each Bible passage that follows, what is the promise of salvation and what is the condition of that eternal salvation? Do any of these verses guarantee the absolute assurance of a person's entry into heaven?

(Matthew 25:31-46, Luke 21:17, 19, John 1:12, John 5:24, John 10:27-29, John 20:31, Acts 1:25, Hebrews 6:4-19, 2 Peter 3:21, 1 John 5:11-12)

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12. What do Catholics really believe about their assurance of salvation?  
(CCC 107, 112, 134, 679, 682, 1033, 2443-2449)

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13. What can the Catholic say about his relationship with Christ if he or she wants assurance, joy, and peace?  
(CCC 2012-2029)

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### Objection to Catholicism

*G - I've got to get out of the church that makes me feel guilty; I can't go on living wondering every four seconds if I've committed a serious sin or not, and wondering if I'm saved or not.*

14. What is good about guilt?  
(Research)(CCC 1954-1802)

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15. What is a covenant?  
(Research)

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## EPISODE 2

# BIBLE

### Objection to Catholicism

*A - The Catholic Church does not let Catholics read the Bible for themselves.*

1. What does Scripture say about itself?  
(2 Timothy 3:16-17)

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2. What does the Catholic Church teach about reading and studying the Bible?  
(CCC 133)

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3. While the Church encourages Christians to read the Bible and study it, what do they caution?  
(CCC 119, 2653)

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4. What evidence do Fr. Kevin and Dr. Ray provide that indicates that the Bible can be misinterpreted without the single infallible authority?

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### Objection to Catholicism

*B - The Catholic Church thinks it is above the authority of the Bible*

5. Can the Church teach anything that is contrary to Scripture?  
(CCC 86, 101-141)

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### Objection to Catholicism

*C - The Catholic Church doesn't let its members interpret the Bible.*

6. What Scriptures imply that the Church and its councils, and not individuals, should be the final arbitrators of how Scripture should be interpreted?  
(Matthew 16:19, John 16:12-13, Acts 15, 2 Peter 1:19-21)

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7. What does the Catholic Church teach about the interpretation of Scripture?  
(CCC 106-119)

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8. How does Jesus give explicit authority to the Apostles to teach?  
(Luke 10:16, Matthew 16:18-19)

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### Objection to Catholicism

*D - Throughout Church history Christians relied only on the Bible for doctrine, not on the Church.*

9. When and by whom was the Canon of Sacred Scripture first determined and affirmed?  
(Research)

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10. What is the model for how a Church council should operate?  
(Acts 15)

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11. Explain how Acts 15 and the story of what happened in the Jerusalem Council demonstrates that Church teaching does not come from the Bible alone.

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12. Explain how Genesis 17:1-14 and the result of the Jerusalem Council (Acts 15) demonstrate that doctrine does not come from the Bible alone.

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### Objection to Catholicism

*E - The Catholics have added a lot of traditions that are not in the Bible. They have added things to Christianity like barnacles on the hull of a ship that need to be scraped off.*

13. In Mark 7:5-7 Jesus draws a distinction between the traditions of men and what else? What is it that Jesus is most concerned with?

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14. What is the difference between the traditions of men and Sacred Traditions of God?  
(CCC 74-100)

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15. List several traditions that all Christians accept that are not in the Bible.

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16. How does the Bible explicitly state that we should accept Sacred Traditions in addition to written traditions?  
(John 21:25, 2 Thessalonians 2:15)

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### Objection to Catholicism

*F - Catholicism has changed what the Bible teaches.*

17. Does the Catholic Church teach anything that is contrary to Scripture?  
(CCC 78-87)

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18. The Church claims that it has not declared any doctrine that was not believed as true during the time of the Apostles; but what has it changed to keep Christianity relevant to the modern day?  
(CCC 53, 66-67, 69, 73, 76)

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## EPISODE 3

# SCRIPTURE & TRADITION

### Objection to Catholicism

*A - Catholicism is not based on the Bible because many Catholics who have attended Mass for most of their lives are not familiar with Scripture.*

1. If Catholics attended only Sunday Mass, how long would it take them to hear the core or the essence of the whole Bible?  

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2. If Catholics attended Sunday Mass AND daily Mass, how long before they would hear the core or the essence of the whole Bible?  

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3. What could some of the reasons be that Catholics are unaware of the Scripture that they are exposed to in the Mass throughout their lives?  

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### Objection to Catholicism

*B - Catholics have changed the Bible and, in fact, have added seven books to the Old Testament, along with other non-inspired sections known as the Apocrypha.*

4. How long after the beginning the Church (at Pentecost) were the first New Testament Scriptures written, and what were they?  

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5. When was the New Testament canon of Scripture first collected together and declared inspired and inerrant?  

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6. When did the Catholic Church proclaim the canon of Scripture to be closed?  

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7. How many books in the Catholic Bible vs. the Protestant Bible?  

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8. The books included in the Catholic Old Testament that are not in the Protestant Old Testament are called the *Apocrypha* by many Protestants. What do Catholics call these books?

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9. According to Dr. Ray, in what years did various councils and popes authenticate the canon of Scripture that included these seven books?

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10. When does the Church find it necessary to define a teaching as doctrine?

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11. When the Holy Spirit inspired the Church to declare what books were in the Bible, did the Holy Spirit get the canon of the New Testament right and the Old Testament wrong? Why or why not?

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### Objection to Catholicism

*C - The only traditions that should be part of Christian doctrine are those explained in the Bible. Catholics have doctrines that are based on traditions that are not in the Bible.*

12. There are two kinds of traditions in Catholic understanding. What are they, and in regards to the Holy Spirit's involvement, how are they different?

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13. What traditions not explained in the Bible do Protestants believe?

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14. Quote three writings from the Early Church Fathers who write about the importance of Sacred Tradition in order to understand Christianity.

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15. What New Testament Bible passages support the importance traditions played in passing down a correct understanding of Christianity?

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16. What New Testament Bible passages refer to Old Testament traditions that are not found in the Old Testament?

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17. Who protects the truth and authenticity of the Church's teachings and the Bible's interpretation?

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### Objection to Catholicism

*D - The Catholic Church has changed many of its teachings and beliefs just like Protestants from one denomination to another have changed beliefs.*

18. In what way has Catholic doctrine, law, practice or devotions changed over the centuries?

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19. What are some ways for anyone to discover if distinctly Catholic or distinctly Protestant doctrine was taught in the first century of the Church?

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20. Since the pope is infallible in certain situations, does he have the authority to change a doctrine that has been taught by the Church in previous years?

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EPISODE 4  
EUCCHARIST I

THE LOGICAL AND EARLY CHURCH EVIDENCE

Objection to Catholicism

*A - Catholics cannot really believe that the bread and wine taken in communion are truly the body of Jesus Christ; our physical senses tell us that it's flour and wine.*

1. Physical objects that appear solid are mostly composed of what?

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2. Describe the motion of physical objects that appear to be still?

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3. How fast are parts of the atoms in a still object actually moving?

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4. Do our physical senses give us an accurate or an inaccurate understanding of an object's actual nature?

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5. How do Dr. Guarendi and Dr. Richard's explanation of the laws of physics and our observations of a physical object apply to our understanding of the nature of The Eucharist?

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6. If our physical senses are incapable of accurately describing a natural object, by what can we accurately describe a supernatural object?

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7. The elementary, fundamental substance of physical objects are atoms and their particles; what does the Church claim is the elementary, fundamental substance of the Eucharist?

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Objection to Catholicism

*B - Jesus was not God because he did not look like God. He looked just like man.*

8. If we could have looked through a microscope at the embryo of Jesus Christ in Mary's womb, would our senses have perceived God or just a human cell reproducing? Why?

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9. When Jesus was a man did people generally see a man, or did they recognize God? Why?

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10. What prevents humans from recognizing God in any form, such as Jesus the Man, or Jesus in the Eucharist?

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11. If we cannot use our senses to determine if something is God or not, what can we use? Why?

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12. What is wrong with using natural law to explain the super natural?

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Objection to Catholicism

*C - The Eucharist is just a memorial or symbolic meal. That it is the real body and blood of Christ, is something made up by the Catholic Church over the centuries.*

13. Explain how John 6 refutes this objection?

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14. How do the writings of the Early Church Fathers refute this objection?  
(Research the writings of St. John Chrysostom, Ignatius of Antioch, Irenaeus, Justin Martyr, and St. Augustine)

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15. When Christ says "I will be with you always, even until the end of the world," why do Catholics believe this promise to be the literal physical presence of Jesus and not the Holy Spirit?

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16. One of the objections against the early Christians was that during their worship services they were practicing cannibalism. How does this historical fact reinforce the Early Church belief in the true presence?

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17. Explain how John 1:1 ("In the beginning was the Word...") and John 1:14 ("And The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us...") reflects the Catholic Mass and the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

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Objection to Catholicism

*D - Catholics just pick and choose the writings of the Early Church Fathers in an attempt to prove that the early Christians believed in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. There were other writers who said it was only symbolic.*

18. What is the best way to refute this objection?

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19. What did Luther say about the true presence of the Eucharist?

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20. What symbol in the catacombs and ancient churches reinforced the early Church's belief in the true presence of Christ in the Eucharist?

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EPISODE 5  
EUCCHARIST II  
SCRIPTURAL EVIDENCE

REVIEW of EPISODE 4 - EUCCHARIST I

Objection to Catholicism

*A - The Catholic Church invented this crazy idea that Jesus' body and blood are really present in the Eucharist. It's really nuts to think that a priest can pray over a wafer and turn it miraculously into Jesus Christ.*

1. If the Catholic claim that Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist is true, who is the only person that could be responsible for the miracle of it?

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2. Explain logically why the nearly 2,000-year duration of the claim actually lends credibility to it.

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3. For approximately how many years after Christ was on Earth was there a universal acceptance that the consecrated host and wine were the true body and blood of Christ?

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4. According to Dr. Ray, 75 years after Luther died, how many different interpretations of Christ's words "this is my body" existed?  
(Matthew 26:26, Mark 14:21-23, Luke 22:18-20)

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5. How early in the writings of the Early Church Fathers, and in what context, can you find the concept of transubstantiation?  
(Research: Justin Martyr's First Apology, Section 66:5) (The answer to this question is implied but not given in Dr. Ray and Fr. Kevin's dialogue.)

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6. According to Fr. Fete, to reject the true presence of Christ in the Eucharist in the Early Church, was to reject what else?  
(Luke 10:16)

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7. When someone claims that there were Early Church Fathers who claimed that communion was simply symbolic or just a memorial meal, what two-word defense is effective?

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8. Did Luther reject or defend the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist?

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## NEW MATERIAL - EPISODE 5 - EUCHARIST II

### Objection to Catholicism

*B - The concept of the true presence of Christ in the Eucharist is not in the Bible.*

9. While non-Catholic Christians will reject evidence from explicit Catholic sources, what kind of evidence do they say they accept?

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10. With respect to the consecration of the Eucharist, what is the significance of the Bible's mentioning Melchizedek?  
(Psalm 110:4)

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11. What was the function of the Old Testament priest?

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12. How did Christ's actions and words at the Last Supper parallel the Old Testament priestly sacrifice for people's sins?

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13. Although Christ lifts up the bread at the Last Supper what does he say the bread is?

(Matthew 26:26, Mark 14:22-23, Luke 22:19-20, 1 Corinthians 11:23-25)

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14. When Christ prays over the bread and wine at the last supper, what words does he use that can be implied to mean that the bread and wine are only symbolic of his body and blood?
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15. What did St. Augustine say Jesus held in his hands at the Last Supper?
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16. At the Last Supper to what everlasting Old Testament concept did Jesus relate the cup of wine?

(Matthew 26:28, Mark 14:24)

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17. What Old Testament object of sacrifice did the blood of Christ represent?

(2 Chronicles 29:22, Revelation 7:15, Revelation 12:11)

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18. Jesus' words and actions at the Last Supper revisited the Jewish Passover meal. What did those that celebrated the Passover meal have to eat -- completely?
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19. Explain the significance of the following Scripture in terms of the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist and the Jewish community?

My name will be great among the gentiles, from the rising to the setting of the sun. In every place, incense and pure offerings will be brought to my name. (Malachi 1:11)

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20. According to Dr. Ray, on a daily basis how many Catholic masses are offered from the rising to the setting of the sun, in every place, around the world?

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21. In John 6:52-66, how many times does Jesus say or allude to his body or blood as being true food?

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22. In John 6:52-66, how many times does Jesus say or allude to his body or blood as being symbolic?

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23. Fr. Kevin makes the point that John 6:66 is the only place in the Gospels where a group of believers walked away from Jesus and did not follow him again. What was Jesus teaching that was too hard for them to believe?

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24. In terms of what Matthew, Mark, and Luke wrote about the bread and wine being the body and blood of Christ (Matthew 26:26, Mark 14:22-23, Luke 22:19-20) what is significant about when John wrote his Gospel and why?

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25. Non-Catholics might quote John 6:63 as evidence that Christ was speaking symbolically and not literally about the bread and wine being his true body and blood. Why is this not likely a good interpretation, and how does this verse reinforce Catholic understanding of the Eucharist's reality?

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26. In the Eucharistic consecration what does the "EPIKLESIS" prayer do, and why is it significant in relation to John 6:63?

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27. In Luke 22:19 Christ says during the Last Supper, "Do this in remembrance of me." Non-Catholics believe that the word "remembrance" here means to remember *symbolically*. But what does "remembrance", or "ANEMNESIS" in Greek, really mean? Why does this mean the opposite of "symbolic?" (1 Corinthians 11:23-24, 25)

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28. Some non-Catholics interpret 1 Corinthians 11:27-30 -- which includes Paul's admonition about not discerning the *body* of Christ -- as referencing the *body* of *believers* and not the real flesh of Christ? Why does Fr. Kevin say this makes no sense?

(1 Corinthians 11:27-30)

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29. In Luke 24 Jesus appears to Cleopas and another disciple on the road to Emmaus. During their walk Jesus explains the Old Testament prophecies about the Messiah. But the disciples do not recognize Jesus until when? What does Jesus do that suddenly opens their eyes with understanding?  
(Luke 24:13-35)

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30. Explain how John 1:1, 14 and Luke 24:30-31 can be related and apply to the true presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

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## EPISODE 6 BAPTISM

### Objection to Catholicism

*A - Baptism is not necessary for salvation. Catholics misunderstand Scripture. We are saved entirely by faith in Jesus Christ.*

1. List the 11 different ways by which the Bible says we are saved.

(John 3:16) \_\_\_\_\_

(Acts 2:38) \_\_\_\_\_

(John 3:5) \_\_\_\_\_

(2 Corinthians 3:6) \_\_\_\_\_

(Romans 10:9) \_\_\_\_\_

(1 Timothy 2:4) \_\_\_\_\_

(James 2:24) \_\_\_\_\_

(Acts 15:11) \_\_\_\_\_

(Romans 5:9) \_\_\_\_\_

(2 Peter 1:1) \_\_\_\_\_

(Ephesians 2:16) \_\_\_\_\_

2. Explain how Baptism and Marriage are similar in terms of the ceremonies being symbolic and/or have a real effect.

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3. What words does Jesus use to describe how we are to be baptized?  
(Matthew 28:18)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. List four different ways non-Catholic Christians say we should be baptized.

A. \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

C. \_\_\_\_\_

D. \_\_\_\_\_

5. Write out the Bible verses that link baptism, salvation and sin?

John 3:5 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

John 3:22 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Romans 6:3-4 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Mark 16:15-16 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Acts 22:12-13, 16 \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

1 Peter 3:18-22 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Acts 2:37-39 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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6. Many non-Catholic Christians interpret the word "water" in John 3:5 to refer to the water associated with physical birth. But, how does John 3:22 suggest that the water in John 3:5 refers to baptism?

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7. When a casket is brought into a Catholic Church for a funeral, it is sprinkled with Holy Water. What is said at this moment, and what is its significance?

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8. What Evangelical-Protestant theologian wrote that "baptism was the universally accepted rite of admission" into the Early Church?

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### Objection to Catholicism

*B - There is no Scripture passage that says infants should be baptized.*

9. How does Acts 2:37-39 reinforce Catholic teaching that infants should be baptized?

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10. How does Matthew 19:13-15 (a) remind us of non-Catholic Christians who do not want children to be baptized, and (b) reinforce the Catholic Church's teaching that Christ wanted children baptized?

(a) \_\_\_\_\_

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(b) \_\_\_\_\_

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11. Explain how the circumcision of Jewish male infants on the 8th day (as explained in the Old Testament), parallels and gives support to the New Testament Church's instruction that infants should be baptized?

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12. What does St. Paul say that connects circumcision to baptism?  
(Colossians 2:11)

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13. Explain the logical inconsistency of people who say that "faith is a gift from God, we can't earn it" and then claim that children cannot be baptized because they have not made a personal commitment to Jesus Christ.

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14. Quote the Early Church Father Origen about infant baptism. When did he write this?  
(Research)

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15. The Early Church Father Iranaeus wrote: "Jesus came to save all...infants and children and boys and youths and old men." To what Apostles was Iranaeus a disciple?

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Objection to Catholicism

*C - Catholics believe that because they had water poured on them when they were two-weeks old that later in life they can do whatever they please and still be a Christian.*

16. In Catholic baptism, what role does faith play in a person's salvation?  
(c.f. Mark 16:15-16).

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17. What role does obedience to Christ play in our salvation, after baptism?

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Objection to Catholicism

*D - Catholics are alone in believing that baptism is necessary for salvation. No other Christian Church believes that.*

18. What other Christian Church with roots to the first century of the Church believe exactly the same as Catholics about baptism, and how does this prove that the Catholic doctrine of baptism is the same as what the Apostles taught?

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## EPISODE 7

# MORALITY

### Objection to Catholicism

*A - The Catholic Church teaches that you can get to heaven by just doing good works, and you don't have to have faith in Jesus Christ.*

1. What do the Gospels teach us about salvation and the relationship between faith and works?

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2. What does the Catechism of the Catholic Church teach about our ability to do good works?  
(CCC 2007-2008)

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### Objection to Catholicism

*B - The Catholic Church teaches that there are different degrees of sin. There is no such thing in the Bible. Sin is sin.*

3. In John 19:10-11 who is Jesus speaking about and what does he say that suggests some sins are greater than others?

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4. Explain how the different levels of respect that spouses have toward one another is comparable to different levels of sins we commit against God.

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5. In 1 John 5:16-17, the Apostle John says there is sin that is deadly, and that there is sin that is not deadly. Study this passage. What does John say you should do if you see a Christian committing a deadly sin?

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6. According to 1 John 5:16-17 what is implied that you should you do if you see someone committing a non-deadly sin?

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7. What names does the Catholic Church give to (a) deadly sins, and to (b) non-deadly sins?

a. Deadly sins are called \_\_\_\_\_ sins.

b. Non-deadly sins are called \_\_\_\_\_ sins.  
(CCC 1854-1855)

8. In the first three centuries what three sins of the church were understood to be so grievous that any one of them would remove salvation from an individual if the person did not repent?

(a) \_\_\_\_\_

(b) \_\_\_\_\_

(c) \_\_\_\_\_

9. In the first three centuries, if you sinned in one of these ways, (a) how did you find forgiveness for the sin, and (b) why was the process so public?

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10. When we sin, describe why our sin is against the Church at large, and not just between God and us, nor just between us and an individual?  
(CCC 1440)

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11. To fool ourselves into thinking that everything is okay and to assure ourselves that we are saved, (a) what do we tend to do with the Gospel and the teachings of Christ and the Church? (b) Why is this dangerous?  
(Matthew 5:17)

(a) \_\_\_\_\_

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(b) \_\_\_\_\_

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12. How would you compare the Old Testament moral law with the moral law that Christ asked of his followers? Give at least one example.  
(Matthew 5: 21-22, 27-28)

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13. At the beginning of every Mass we ask God to forgive us for our sins in what five different ways?

A. \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

C. \_\_\_\_\_

D. \_\_\_\_\_

E. \_\_\_\_\_

14. What three conditions must exist together for a sin to be mortal or deadly?  
(CCC 1857-1860)

(1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

(3) \_\_\_\_\_

### Objection to Catholicism

*C - The Catholic Church, over the centuries, has changed its teachings about what is sin. For instance, it uses the annulment process as a loophole for divorce, which Christ taught could lead to adultery if one of the parties remarries.*

15. How has Catholic teaching about what is a sin changed over the centuries?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

16. Under what circumstances or situations does the Catholic Church recently allow divorce?  
(CCC 2382-2384)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

17. Over the last 200 years have some non-Catholic Christian churches changed their teachings on divorce and abortion? If so, in what ways?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

18. In terms of determining right vs. wrong, what is the difference between a democracy or a republic and the Catholic Church?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

19. In 1968, when Pope Paul VI issued his encyclical letter OF HUMAN LIFE (Humanae Vitae), what did he not know, and what later did scientists discover, which provided significant evidence that the Holy Spirit has protected the Church in its purpose to teach infallible truth?

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20. For each of the following, describe in your own words what these Scriptures tell us about the importance and or consequence of moral obedience.

(Matthew 5:22) \_\_\_\_\_

(Matthew 6:15) \_\_\_\_\_

(Matthew 12:36) \_\_\_\_\_

(2 Timothy 4:7) \_\_\_\_\_

(2 Peter 1:10) \_\_\_\_\_

(Matthew 7:21) \_\_\_\_\_

(James 2:14, 17, 24) \_\_\_\_\_

21. Moral obedience has two sides. It means we must:

(a) abstain from \_\_\_\_\_,

(b) and we have the obligation to \_\_\_\_\_.

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EPISODE 8  
**CONFESSION**  
THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Objection to Catholicism

*A - Why should I come to a priest to have my sins forgiven? I can go straight to God.*

1. If a person goes to God with a contrite heart and asks Him to forgive their sins, God will forgive them. But having done so, what does the person not expressly hear from God?

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2. Conversely, if a person goes through the rite or reconciliation and confesses their sins to a priest, under what condition would their sins not be forgiven?

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Objection to Catholicism

*B - God doesn't give men the power to forgive sins. Only God can forgive sins.*

3. Quote a verse from the Bible where Jesus gives the Apostles the power to forgive sin.  
(John 20:23, Matthew 16:19)

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4. What two religious rituals, other than confession, do some non-Catholic Christians require be performed by a minister? Why must these rituals be performed by a minister?

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5. When we sin, (a) whom else do we sin against other than God and ourselves? And (b) who represents that other entity from which we need to seek forgiveness?

(a) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(b) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. In Matthew 9:6-8, although it is Christ who does the healing and proclaims that the lame man's sins are forgiven, the author ends this passage with the words "[the people] were in awe and glorified God who had given such authority to men". In terms of confession, what is the significance that Matthew wrote this passage decades after the resurrection of Christ?

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

7. In a broad sense, does Jesus ever say we should forgive the sins of others? If so, in what context is his direction?

(Matthew 5:12)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. According to Jesus, if we do not forgive the sins of others what consequence can we expect?

(Matthew 6:14)

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\_\_\_\_\_

9. What does Jesus say when he passes on his authority to forgive sins to the Apostles? Can you quote it?  
(John 20:21-23)

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10. In John 20:21-23 Jesus breathes on the Apostles. What is the other place in the Bible that this happened, and what was the context?  
(Genesis 1:2)

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### Objection to Catholicism

*C - Jesus only gave power to forgive sins to his Apostles, no one else.*

11. What other prophecies of Christ to his Apostles could also have been interpreted as applying only to the first generation, but doesn't make a whole lot of sense until we understand it until Christ returns?  
(Matthew 28:18, John 16:13 -- c.f. James 5:16)

a. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

12. What Early Church Fathers, in the first 300 years, understood that confession and penance were necessary parts of a Christian's life?

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

d. \_\_\_\_\_

### Objection to Catholicism

*D - The Catholic Church teaches that to be forgiven you don't have to be sorry for your sins; you only have to go through the mechanics of confession.*

13. Even if the priest cannot tell if you are sincere in saying you are sorry for your sins, what part does sincerity of heart play in a valid confession?

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14. When should a priest not forgive the sins of someone who confesses?

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15. What does the term "MEDINOLA" mean, and how is it significant if the priest is to absolve you from your sins?

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16. *Confession* is not just so you can recite your sins, but a place where you can profess what?

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17. What is the purpose of *penance*?

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18. What does the term *reconciliation* mean? In confession with whom are we being reconciled?

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19. How does the Sacrament of Reconciliation help prevent sin?

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20. There are two reasons we may be motivated to avoid sin. Both are valid, but one is greater than the other. What are they?

The best reason. \_\_\_\_\_

The lesser reason. \_\_\_\_\_

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## EPISODE 9 MARY I

### Objection to Catholicism

*A - Catholics worship Mary by praying to her.*

1. Why do non-Catholics think that Catholics worship Mary?

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2. How do Catholics define "prayer" differently from many non-Catholics?

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3. If Catholics do not worship Mary what word better describes how they think of her, and what does that word mean?

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4. What two categories of people does the Bible command us to honor?  
(Exodus 20:12)

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5. How well did Jesus follow the commandment referenced above?

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6. How is "praying to Mary" the same thing as asking a relative or close friend to pray for us?

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### Objection to Catholicism

*B - Catholics get carried away and elevate Mary to a position equal to Jesus, creating a "cult of Mary" that is not Scriptural.*

7. What two Biblical personages began the "cult of Mary" by proclaiming her blessed and favored of God?

(Luke 1:28-30,42)

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8. What person in the Bible makes the proclamation: "Hail, Mary, full of grace"?

(Luke 1:28-30)

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9. What person in the Bible makes the proclamation about Mary: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb"?

(Luke 1:42)

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10. What does the Greek word "THEOTOKS" mean and why did the Church decide to start calling Mary the "Mother of God"? Were those two titles meant to elevate Mary? If not, then why were the titles given to Mary?
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11. To deny that Mary is the mother of God is to deny what other basic tenant of Christianity?
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12. Is it possible that some individual Catholics get carried away to the point that they really do worship Mary?
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13. In what circumstance, situation, or way does the Catholic Church teach us that Mary should be worshiped?
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### Objection to Catholicism

*C - Catholics have statues and idols of Mary. The Bible says you shall have no graven images.*

14. What does the term "graven images" mean and how does that commandment differ from the making of "true images"?

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15. Why do some Catholics kneel before images of Mary and the saints? Are they praying to the statue or the picture?

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16. When a person shows you a picture of their child or grandchild, and maybe even kisses the picture, is the person worshipping the picture? What is the person doing?

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### Objection to Catholicism

*D - The saints are dead. Scripture says we are not supposed to conjure up the dead.*

17. Why are the names of the authors of the four Gospels in the titles of the Gospels? Why aren't the books titled the Gospels of Jesus Christ?

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18. Where in the Bible does it say that the Apostles, Mary, or the saints are dead?

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19. Did Jesus conjure up the dead spirits of Elijah and Moses at his transfiguration? If not, how would you explain what was going on?  
(Matthew 17:1-6, Mark 9:1-8, Luke 9:28-36, 2 Peter 1:16-18, John 1:14)

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### Objection to Catholicism

*E - Catholics call Mary blessed, and the Bible doesn't say we should call her that.*

20. List those who Jesus says should be referred to as blessed?  
(Matthew 5)

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21. What has just happened when Mary says that future generations will call her blessed?  
(Luke 1:48b)

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### Objection to Catholicism

*F - The Church is about to declare Mary the co-redeemer, the **Mediat**rix of all graces, the equal of Jesus.*

22. What does the word "Co-Redeemer" or "Co-Redemptorist" mean when used in this manner? Does it mean she is equal with Jesus?  
(The on-screen title at 18:04 of this program is misspelled; it should be "Co-Redemptorist")

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23. In what ways is Mary our heroine? What did she do, and what does she do yet today that we should practice in our lives?

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Objection to Catholicism

*G - Catholics call Mary their Mother. That is not Scriptural.*

22. What are the situations in Scripture that imply that Mary is our Mother?  
(Luke 19:27, Revelations 12:17)

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23. How does Mary refer to God in her Luke 1:39ff prophecy?

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## EPISODE 10

# MARY II

### Objection to Catholicism

*A - We should not pray to Mary or the saints because they can't hear us and there's nothing in Scripture that indicates we should pray to her or the saints.*

1. What two categories of people does the phrase "communion of saints" refer to in the Apostle's Creed?

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2. Describe the Scriptural evidence of saints in heaven praying for and being aware of us?  
(Revelations 5:8, Luke 15:7, Hebrews 12:1)

Luke 15:7 - \_\_\_\_\_

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Hebrews 12:1 - \_\_\_\_\_

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Revelations 5:8 - \_\_\_\_\_

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3. What two Early Church Fathers taught that saints in heaven pray for us?

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### Objection to Catholicism

*B - There is only ONE mediator between God and man and that is Jesus Christ.*

4. How does praying to Mary or any of the saints in heaven preserve the belief that Jesus Christ is the only mediator between God and us? Describe what Mary is and is not when we pray to her.

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5. How is asking a friend to pray for us the same as asking a saint in heaven to pray for us?

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Objection to Catholicism

C - Catholics make too big a deal out of Mary. There is very little about Mary in the Bible.

6. Draw parallels between the Old Testament's *Ark of the Covenant* and Mary as *Ark of the New Covenant*, as described in 2 Samuel 6:9 & Luke 1:43?

Ark vs. Mary	2 Samuel 6	Luke 1
What was inside the Ark and inside Mary?	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
Where in Israel was the Ark taken by David, and where did Mary go?	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
How long was the Ark in Obededom's house, and how long was Mary in Elizabeth's house?	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
How similar was David's behavior and John the Baptist's behavior when the Ark or Mary arrived?	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

7. How does John, writing in Revelations, compare the Ark and Mary? Begin with Revelations 11:19 and continue through Revelations 12:18.

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### Objection to Catholicism

*D - Mary was just a vehicle that God used to bring Jesus to Earth. She does not otherwise play a significant role in God's plan of salvation.*

8. How did the Early Church Father Irenaeus compare Eve and Mary?

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9. What is the common title given by Moses to Eve in Genesis 3:15, and what is the common title given to Mary by Jesus in John 2:4, John 19:26, and then multiple times by John in Revelations chapter 12.

Moses calls Eve \_\_\_\_\_

Jesus calls Mary \_\_\_\_\_

John refers to Mary as \_\_\_\_\_

10. What were Mary's last words as recorded in Scripture, and to whom was she referring?  
(John 2:5)

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11. To whom does Mary point as the person to obey?  
(John 2:5)

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12. Of the 300 plus instances of angels appearing to humans in Scripture, which one does an angel address with esteemed favor and unique honor?

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### Objection to Catholicism

*E - Mary could not have been a virgin all her life, because the Bible clearly says that Jesus had brothers and sisters.*

13. In Mark 6:3 and Luke 8:19-20 the terms for "brother" and "sister" could be translated into contemporary English how -- thus indicating that Jesus had no blood brothers or sisters from Mary?

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14. What is St. Augustine's argument that Mary had pledged herself to perpetual virginity even before Gabriel came to her as told in Luke 1?

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15. What did Martin Luther claim about Mary's perpetual virginity?

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16. How did John Calvin describe the intellect of those who claimed Mary had sons and daughters other than Jesus?

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17. In Matthew 1:25 it says that Joseph had no relations with Mary until she bore a son. Provide a good argument for why the word "until" does not mean Mary must have had relations with Joseph after Jesus was born.

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### Objection to Catholicism

*F - Catholics may claim that they do not worship Mary, but what they do with Mary takes away from Christ's importance.*

18. What pictorial evidence in religious art is there that Mary is always pointing to Jesus?

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19. What logical argument indicates that admiration of a created artwork reflects the greatness of the artist?

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20. Is it possible that some Catholics get carried away and elevate Mary to equal Jesus? Does their err distort what the Church teaches about Mary?

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21. How does Mary's "greatness" compare to the greatness of Jesus Christ?

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22. If Christ perfectly followed the commandment to honor his father and mother, how should we follow his example?

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23. What two Christian Churches still adhere to the Scriptural invitation to call Mary "Blessed?"  
(Luke 1:48)

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## EPISODE 11

# ST. PETER

### Objection to Catholicism

*A - In the New Testament Church Peter wasn't any more important than any of the other Apostles.*

1. How many times is the Apostles Peter mentioned by name in the New Testament and how many times is the next most often mentioned Apostle?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Who is the first Apostle called by Jesus as an Apostle, and who is his brother that was called at the same time?  
(Matthew 4:18, Mark 1:16, Luke 5, John 1:42)  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. From whose boat did Christ preach to the crowds?  
(Luke 5:3)  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. When the Apostles are listed by name as a group who is always listed first?  
(Matthew 17:1, Mark 3:16, Luke 6:14, John 21:2, Acts 1:13)  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Who is the only Apostles to have his name changed by Jesus to show a difference in the person's status? What was his old name and what was his new name?  
(John 1:42, Matthew 16:18)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Who is the only Apostle to have walked on water, and how many times does this Apostles jump out of a boat as recorded in the Gospels?  
(Matt 14:29, John 21)  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. Who is the only Apostle given the keys to the Kingdom by Jesus, and what do the keys represent?  
(Matthew 16:16-19, Isaiah 22:22, Revelations 3:7)

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8. When Christ was arrested, all of the Apostles, except John, disappear from the narrative accounts except one -- who the Gospel writers follow and describe in some detail his denial of Christ and his repentance. Who is it, and why do you think all four Gospel accounts include detail about it?  
(Matthew 26:69-75, Mark 14:66-72, Luke 22:31-34, 22:54-65, John 18:15-18, 18:25-27)

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9. When Mary of Magdala found the empty tomb, whom did she first tell?  
(John 20:2)

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10. Although he was not the first Apostle to arrive, who first enters the empty tomb of Jesus, and who was with him?  
(John 20:6)

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11. Jesus only asked one Apostle to feed the lambs and sheep of the Early Church. Who did Jesus ask, how many times, and where did it occur?  
(John 21:15ff)

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12. Who led the Apostles in selecting a successor to Judas, and who was elected?  
(Acts 1:15f)

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13. Who is the first Apostle to preach as an evangelist and lead about 3,000 into the Church? As part of what event did this happen?  
(Acts 2:14-41)

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14. Who was the only Apostle given the vision that Gentiles should be admitted into the Church? Describe the vision.

(Acts 10)

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15. What Apostle was the first to perform a healing, and whom did he heal?

(Acts 3:7)

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16. Who determined the course of the Jerusalem council, and how?

(Acts 15:7-11)

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#### Objection to Catholicism

*B - The rock upon which Jesus established the Church is Peter's faith not on Peter.*

17. Does Jesus give the power to "bind and loose" to "faith" or to "Peter?"

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18. What is the logical argument that Peter's authority to bind and loose was passed down to successors and did not stop with Peter?

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19. Explain what other situation points directly to Peter as the one person in authority after Christ's resurrection?

(John 21:15ff)

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20. In Galatians 5:11-14, Paul makes a point of confronting Peter. What does Paul call Peter in that passage that reinforces what Catholics say is happening in Matthew 16:18-19?

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21. What is the significant difference between Christ passing on authority to the Apostles in Matthew 16:18-19 and 18:18-19? To whom is Jesus addressing his words in these two passages?

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22. What is going on in the two other Biblical passages that use the concept of a "key" as a sign of authority?  
(Isaiah 22:22, Revelations 3:7)

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Objection to Catholicism

*C - Peter denied Christ three times, how could Jesus trust Peter to lead the Church?*

23. In John 21:15-19 what happens between Jesus and Peter that reinforces Peter's call to lead the Church, even after Peter's denial?

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24. In John 21:15-19 what are synonyms for the words "feed" and "tend" that suggest Peter was do lead the Church?

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Objection to Catholicism

*D - Popes cannot lead the Church because they are not perfect. Only Christ was perfect.*

25. Why is Peter's human weakness evidence that the Church was established by Christ and not man?

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26. What or who protects the Church from making doctrinal errors of faith and morals?

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27. Because Peter was fallible as a human, where did he mess up in terms of establishing authoritative doctrine?

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## EPISODE 12

# THE PAPACY

### Objection to Catholicism

*A - Peter is equal with the other Apostles; the Bible doesn't give him special treatment.*

1. Other than Peter, whom in the Bible had his name changed by God, and what was the change's significance?

(Genesis 17:5)

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2. What is the importance of a name; what does it communicate?

(Genesis 2:19)

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### Objection to Catholicism

*B - Even if Peter was in charge of the Church while he was alive, there was not a successor.*

3. Why, logically, is it important for Peter and the others to have successors?
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4. What event reveals that the Apostles believed they needed successors?

(Acts 1:26)

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5. Who was it that declared successors were needed?

(Acts 1:15, 21-22)

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Objection to Catholicism

*C - There is no reason to obey a man who has never been married and lives 6,000 miles away.*

6. What are the four marks of the Church?  
(CCC 750)

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7. For each of the four marks of the Church, what is one logical reason why there must be only one head, or leader?

One: \_\_\_\_\_

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Holy: \_\_\_\_\_

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Catholic (universal): \_\_\_\_\_

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(EXTRA CREDIT: Research the meaning of the word "Catholic.")

Apostolic: \_\_\_\_\_

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8. Under what psychological condition could the Holy Spirit give different doctrinal directions to different groups?

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9. What position in the Church has the authority to ordain a priest or a bishop?  
(CCC 1538)

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Objection to Catholicism

*D - The pope can't be infallible because some of the popes were bad men, and they did and said things that were wrong.*

10. List two things Peter said that were wrong, but were not doctrinal proclamations.  
(Matthew 26:70, Galatians 2:11-14)

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11. What did Jesus promise the Church about the truthfulness of its teachings?  
(Matthew 16:18, John 16:13)

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12. What are the limits of the pope's infallibility?  
(CCC 92)

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13. Which popes proclaimed a doctrine that was later deemed wrong?

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14. In terms of evil popes with authority, what is the logical significance of Matthew 23:1-3 where Jesus describes people in authority whose lives are bad examples.

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15. What does the term "Ex Cathedra" mean, and what are some church buildings called that come from this term?

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Objection to Catholicism

*E - Over the centuries the Church, through its popes, have changed and reversed doctrines.*

16. What doctrines of the Church were changed or reversed by the pope?

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17. Do popes or councils come up with most doctrines?

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18. What Christian doctrines were decided at the Council of Nicaea in 325 A.D.?

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19. What council declared that the pope could make an infallible proclamations only about faith and morals?

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Objection to Catholicism

*F - The papacy was a Medieval invention.*

20. What Early Church Fathers articulated the preeminence of the Bishop of Rome, and in what years did they write?

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## EPISODE 13

# PURGATORY

### Objection to Catholicism

*A - Catholics concoct all kinds of stuff, and this Purgatory thing is something the Catholic Church made up over the centuries.*

1. Because nothing with the stain of sin shall stand before a holy God, what is the purpose of Purgatory, or purgation?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Describe how Luke 12:3 relates to our sins and the end of our lives.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What is revealed to those in Purgatory that will likely cause psychological pain, if not physical pain as well?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What two things is Purgatory NOT?  
A. \_\_\_\_\_  
B. \_\_\_\_\_
5. What do the souls in Purgatory anticipate that could bring both pain and joy simultaneously?  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Some people argue that if Jesus' death and resurrection really had defeated sin and brought forgiveness to the whole human race, then there would be peace and an absence of all conflict in the world. What basic concept of the human condition does that argument misunderstand, and how does Purgatory help resolve the misunderstanding?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. If Purgatory is not necessarily a physical place or time, what is it?

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Objection to Catholicism

*B - Purgatory is not in the Bible.*

8. What Christian doctrines, other than Purgatory, are not explicitly explained in Scripture but are accepted by most Christians and were formulated by a Church council?

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9. From what two paradoxical attributes of God does Purgatory arise:

A. God is a god of \_\_\_\_\_.

B. God is a god of \_\_\_\_\_.

10. What did Jews of the Old Testament understand about atoning for the dead, and how does this relate to Purgatory?  
(2 Maccabees 12:45-46)

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11. Describe in your own words how Paul's description in 1 Corinthians 3:12-15 of the judgment relates to the concept of Purgatory and not to hell.

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12. EXTRA CREDIT (not covered on DVD) In 1 Corinthians 3:12-15 the word "fire" is used several times. What is the Greek root of "fire" and how does it relate to the term "Purgatory?" What other English terms are etymologically related?

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13. After Jesus died and before he ascended to heaven, the *Apostles Creed* says he descended to the dead (hell). What are other Biblical terms for where Jesus went, and how may that place relate to Purgatory?

(1 Peter 3:19)

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14. Before Death and Hades can be cast into the lake of fire and eternal punishment, what does Revelation 20:11-15 say will occurred, and how does it possibly relate to Purgatory?

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15. Why does Fr. Fete believe that Lazarus was in Purgatory before Christ brought him back to life?

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16. How do Christ's words in Matthew 12:32 relate, possibly, to Purgatory?

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#### Objection to Catholicism

*C - Purgatory was invented by the Catholic Church centuries after the Early Church.*

17. What evidence is there in the Roman catacombs that Purgatory is an Early Christian Church concept?

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18. The Jewish *Mourner's Kaddish*, or *Prayer for the Dead* does not mention the dead but only the greatness of God, yet what was and still is its purpose in Orthodox Judaism? How long should it be prayed by the children after a parent dies?

(Research. Be aware, some "less than Orthodox" Jews may not teach the same thing.)

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19. What Early Church Fathers believed in Purgatory and praying for the dead?

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Objection to Catholicism

*D - Indulgences are the corrupt idea invented by the Catholic Church that buying an Indulgence, could get a relative or friend out of hell.*

20. What are the two consequences of sin?

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21. What is an Indulgence?

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22. For what kind of punishment can indulgences not be obtained?  
(CCC 1471-1473)

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Objection to Catholicism

*E - No modern day Protestant theologian believes in Purgatory.*

23. How did Protestant theologian C. S. Lewis understand the importance of praying for the dead and Purgatory?

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Objection to Catholicism

*F - Jesus promised the one thief who died on a cross next to him: "Today you will be with me in paradise." That proves that there is no Purgatory, because the thief went straight to heaven.*

24. Human Beings live in a temporal world bounded by time and space. When we enter eternity what will be eliminated and how will its absence affect our perception of Purgatory? Hint: What time is it?

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Objection to Catholicism

*G - The Scripture that says: "To be absent from the body is to be present with Christ," destroys the whole concept of Purgatory.*

25. You won't find the above quote in the Bible. What does Paul actually say and mean in 2 Corinthians 5: 6, 8?

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This is the end of the Study Guide and Workbook

for

***What Catholics Really Believe Instructional DVD Series***

Please send your suggestions to:

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