

## "WHY I AM NOT NOR EVER COULD BE A ROMAN CATHOLIC series"

### Galatians 1:6

The largest visible church in the world is the one called the Catholic or Roman Catholic church. There are many who love the Lord and serve the Lord who have been or are Catholics today. Many organizations work freely with both Protestants and Catholics. As the years pass, the lines of distinction seem to blur. Before I start with my list of reasons let me assure you that I know and love some dear born again Roman Catholics. In fact, some of my closest spiritual advisors were baptized Roman Catholic priests (emphasis on were). Their names are: John Wycliffe, Jon Hus, John Calvin and Martin Luther

Some critical texts this study is built around are:

- **Galatians 1:6-10** I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel,<sup>7</sup> which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.<sup>8</sup> But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.<sup>9</sup> As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.<sup>10</sup> For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ.
- **1 Peter 2:24** who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.
- **2 Corinthians 11:3** But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

And even today I have met warm and loving folks who are born again but stay in the Roman church. How? It's like AIDS - AIDS is deadly killer. It strikes good and bad. Romanism is deadly so many good people are touched by it but it doesn't lessen the evil of the blasphemous doctrine of Romanism. Let me explain:

### The first Roman Catholic False Doctrine is the Mass

Now what does Rome teach on this vital subject? Listen to the creed of Pope Pius IV, which is a summary of the findings of Rome's Great Council of Trent: Article Five

"That in the most Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist there is truly, really and substantially the Body and Blood, together with the Soul and Divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ, and that there is made a conversion of the whole substance of the wine into the Blood; which conversion the Catholic Church calls Transubstantiation. I also confess that under each kind alone Christ is received whole and entire, and a true Sacrament."

I have a Mass Book here and in it the priest and congregation are instructed thus:

"After the words of Consecration, the priest, kneeling, adore the Sacred Host; rising, he elevates It—Look up at the Sacred Host with faith, piety and love, saying: 'My Lord and My God'—and then placing it in the coporal, again adores It."

The priest and the congregation[1] actually worship the little pancake god and call it “My Lord and My God.” No wonder I call it the mockery of the mass. Yes, and what a mockery of God, of Christ, of the Holy Ghost, and Calvary it all is!

Trent declares:

...in this divine sacrifice...is contained and immolated in an un-bloody manner the same Christ who once offered Himself in a bloody manner...this is truly propitiatory.... For the victim is one and the same...now offering [Himself] by the ministry of priests...not only for the sins...of the faithful who are living, but also for those departed in Christ but not yet fully purified (i.e., still suffering in purgatory for their sins). (P. 146)

If anyone says that in the mass a true and real sacrifice is not offered to God...[by] priests [who] offer His own body and blood...[or] that the sacrifice of the mass is...not a propitiatory one...let him be anathema (p. 149).

This blasphemous gospel necessarily alienates evangelicals because it contradicts the specific teaching of Scripture:

Nor yet that he should offer himself often [as Catholicism teaches]...but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself...we are sanctified by the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all...for by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified. ...Now...there is no more offering for sin. (Heb. 9-25-10:18, and many other verses). (Dave Hunt Newsletter)

The epistle to the Hebrews speaks of the once for all sacrifice of Christ on the cross, not a daily sacrifice on altars. It cannot be argued exegetically that the Mass is a real and true sacrifice of reconciliation and that Christ still sacrifices Himself daily by the hands of the priest (Council of Trent) as the Bible repeatedly affirms in the clearest and most positive terms that Christ's sacrifice on Calvary was complete in that one offering. And that it was never to be repeated is set forth in Hebrews, Chapters 7, 9 and 10. There we read: “Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the peoples: for this he did once, when he offered up himself” (7:27) “...by his own blood he entered in once, into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us: (9:12). “...And without shedding of blood is no remission...Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others; for then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world; but not once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself...So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation: (19:22-28). “By the which we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God; from henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool. For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified” (10:10-14).

Dr. Loraine Boettner, in his classic book “Roman Catholicism”, asks the reader to “Notice that throughout these verses occurs the statement ‘once for all’, which has in it the idea of completeness, or finality, and which precludes repetition. Christ’s work on the cross was

perfect and decisive. It constituted one historic event, which need never be repeated, and which in fact cannot be repeated. The language is perfectly clear: 'He offered one sacrifice for sins for ever' (10:12). Paul says that 'Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more' (**Romans 6:9**); and the writer of the Epistle to the Hebrews says that 'By one offering he had perfected for ever them that are sanctified' (10:14)... We are told that Christ has sat down as token that His work is finished. Depend upon it, He never descends from that exalted place to be a further sacrifice upon Rome's altars or on any other; for of such sacrifice there is no need.... Thank God that we can look back to what our Lord did on Calvary and know that He completed the sacrifice for sins once for all, and that our salvation is not dependent on the whim or arbitrary decree of any priest or church. Any pretense at a continuous offering for sin is worse than vain, for it is a denial of the efficacy of the atoning sacrifice of Christ on Calvary.

So first, I am not Roman Catholic because of the anti-Christian blasphemy of mass. Don't partake of it if you know Christ!

### **The Second False Roman Catholic Teaching is the Doctrine of MARY**

In **Matthew 6:7** "And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words."

#### **The Fifteen Promises of Mary to Christians Who Recite the Rosary:**

1. Whoever shall faithfully serve me by the recitation of the rosary shall receive signal graces.
2. I promise my special protection (does she possess omnipresence? Omniscience? Omnipotence?) and the greatest graces to all those who shall recite the rosary.
3. The rosary shall be a powerful armor against hell (is not the Word of God our defense?); it will destroy vice, decrease sin, and defeat heresies.
4. It will cause virtue and good works to flourish; it will obtain for souls the abundant mercy of God; it will withdraw the hearts of men from the love of the world and its vanities, and will life them to the desire of eternal things. Oh, that souls would sanctify themselves by this means (In **Jn. 17:17** it is by the word of God).
5. The soul, which recommends itself to me by the recitation of the rosary, shall not perish. (I thought only Jesus could give everlasting life. Has Mary also become a perfect sacrifice for sin with omnipotent power?)
6. Whoever shall recite the rosary devoutly, applying himself to the consideration of its sacred mysteries shall never be conquered by misfortune. God will not chastise him in His justice, he shall not perish by an unprovided death; if he be just he shall remain in the grace of God, and become worthy of eternal life.
7. Whoever shall have a true devotion for the rosary shall not die without the sacraments of the Church.
8. Those who are faithful to recite the rosary shall have during their life and at their death the light of God and the plentitude of His graces; at the moment of death they shall participate in the merits of the saints in paradise.

9. I shall deliver from purgatory those who have been devoted to the rosary. (Where in the Bible is any mention of purgatory?)
10. The faithful children of the rosary shall merit a high degree of glory in heaven.
11. You shall obtain all you ask of me by the recitation of the rosary.
12. All those who propagate the holy rosary shall be aided by me in their necessities.
13. I have obtained from my Divine Son that all the advocates of the rosary shall have for intercessors the entire celestial court during their life and at the hour of death.
14. All who recite the rosary are my son, and brothers of my only son Jesus Christ.
15. Devotion of my rosary is a great sign of predestination.

(Given to St. Dominic and Blessed Alan),

Imprimatur: Patrick J. Hayes, D.D., and Archbishop of New York.)

“Grace be unto you from God the Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ” is what the Scriptures say. But listen to how the Council of Trent continues:

Mary is co-redemptrix of the human race...because with Christ she ransomed mankind from the power of Satan. Jesus redeemed us with the blood of His body, Mary with the agonies of her heart...The church and the saints greet her thus: “You, O Mary, together with Jesus Christ, redeemed us.”...God has ordained that no grace will be granted to us except through Mary...No one will be saved or obtain mercy except through you, O Heavenly Lady. ...No one will enter heaven without passing through Mary as one would pass through a door. ...O Mary, our salvation is in your hands, etc.

This is not the gospel; it is blasphemy! Yet such are the beliefs of Pope John Paul II, whose theology Fournier says he “does not question” (p. 204). Fournier declares that Mary was kept from sin, which denies the gospel that “all have sinned” and that Christ died for all mankind. If God could keep Mary, then he could have kept Eve and all human beings from sin, thus eliminating the need for Christ to die.

...Protestants would continue to affirm Catholic Christology. Again terribly false! Catholicism’s Christology is heretical. (Hunt Newsletter)

- It denies Christ’s exclusive role as mediator between God and man, making Mary “co-mediatrix”,
- It denies the exclusivity of His redemptive work, making Mary “co-redemptrix” (Vatican II credits Mary with a perpetual “salvific role; she continues to obtain by her constant intercession the graces we need for eternal salvation”); and
- It denies the sufficiency of His redemptive work, declaring that the redeemed must, in addition to Christ’s suffering for them upon the cross, suffer for their own sins here and/or in purgatory, etc. A great deal more heresy is involved in Catholic Christology, such as presenting Him as perpetually an infant or child subject to His mother, but lack of space prevents further detail. The “Christ” of Roman Catholicism

is just as false as its “Mary” - as much “another Jesus” as that of Mormonism or any other cult. Let’s admit it!

Jesus Christ plainly taught that Mary was on the same plane with all other Christians who would do the will of God.

In **Mark 3:31-35**, we read:

“There came then his brethren and his mother, and, standing without, sent unto him, calling him. And the multitude sat about him, and they said unto him, Behold, they mother and thy brethren without seek for thee. And he answered them, saying, Who is my mother, or my brethren? And he looked round about on them which sat about him, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren! For whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother.”

Do not avoid the truth here on the authority of Jesus Christ, “Whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother.” And when one heard Jesus and cried out, “Blessed is the womb that bare thee, and the paps which thou hast sucked,” Jesus answered, “Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it” (**Luke 11:27, 28**). There is no hint in the Bible that New Testament Christians ever regarded Mary as more than another good woman. She had no authority among the apostles. No one was taught to pray to her, to do her homage, to adore her, or to partake of the unscriptural worship, which Catholics do, but call it by other names. Thus the Roman Church has brought a plague upon itself by adding the commandments of men and traditions of men to the commands of God.

### **Third, Roman Catholicism is False and Anti-Christian Because it has Perverted the Bible and Substituted Tradition**

Since the Bible clearly teaches that now there is to be no more sacrifice for sins, and since the Old Testament priesthood has been succeeded by one priest, Jesus Christ, who has offered one sacrifice forever, then there is no teaching of a priesthood to offer sacrifices in the New Testament. There are elders, preachers. Some of these elders had official positions as pastors or supervisors of local congregations. It is true that in the spiritual sense, all Christians are to be “kings and priests unto God” (**I Pet. 2:9; Rev. 5:10**). But there was no official priestly work done by anyone as an officer of a church, as an elder or bishop in Bible times. It was not even specified that an elder or bishop should even be present when people took the Lord’s Supper. It had no official significance. It was a simple little object lesson, a ceremony of remembrance. And there is not a single hint anywhere that the Lord’s Supper had any saving power. It was not a sacrifice. It was never called that in the Bible. That is a false doctrine, manufactured by the Church of Rome, which contradicts the Bible, adds to the Bible, and so brings the plagues of the Bible upon the Roman Church.

I have not room here to discuss all the innovations, all the strange and unscriptural doctrines and practices which have been invented by Roman Catholic hierarchy. In the Bible there was no pope and no papal authority, no papal infallibility. There were no prayers to Mary, no doctrine of Mary’s Immaculate Conception nor of her body’s ascension to Heaven. There was no penance, no indulgences, no confessions to priests, and no orders of monks or nuns. All of this is manufactured, not only without the Bible but contrary to the plain teachings of the Word of God.

### **Fourth, Roman Catholicism is False and Anti-Christian Because The Bible Plainly Forbids Making Any Image For Worship and Bowing Down to Any limage.**

In **Exodus 20:4** and 5 the Scripture says:

“Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me.”

And any honest reader knows that that Scripture forbids using an image in worship, bowing down to it, praying before it, and serving it. And yet the Catholic Church not only has images, but also encourages people to pray to images, to the crucifix, to images of Mary, to images of saints. Here Roman tradition violates the Bible, and the commandments of men take the place of the commandments of God. That is sin.

### **The Fifth Reason I am not Roman Catholic is Because of the False Doctrine of the Sacraments.**

The Basic Catechism of Christian Doctrine calls the sacraments “the chief means of our salvation.”

The first of the 7 sacraments is baptism, which is performed upon 98% of Catholics as infants. It is declared in Canon 849 to be the means “by which men and women are freed from their sins, are reborn as children of God....” The Basic Catechism declares that baptism “is necessary for salvation...cleanses us from original sin, makes us Christians....” Another sacrament is the Mass, which the Catechism declares to be “one and the same Sacrifice with that of the Cross, inasmuch as Christ...continues to offer himself...on the altar, through the ministry of his priests.” Canon 904 states that “the work of redemption is continually accomplished in the mystery of the Eucharistic Sacrifice,” thus denying Christ’s triumphant “It is finished!”

What a particular Catholic[2] may believe is not the issue, but rather the official teaching of Roman Catholicism. That is found in The Canons and Decrees of the Council of Trent (1545-1564) and Vatican II (1962-1965). Trent denied every Reformation doctrine, from Sola Scripture to salvation by grace through faith alone. It pronounced 125 anathemas (eternal damnation) upon anyone believing what evangelicals believe and preach today. “No one can know with the certainty of faith...that he has obtained the grace of God [anathema to all who claim they know]” (Trent, 6th Ses., Chap. IX). “If anyone says that the sacraments of the new law are not NECESSARY FOR SALVATION...but that without them...men obtain from God through faith alone the grace of justification...LET HIM BE ANATHEMA” (Trent, 7th Ses., Canon 4).

Vatican II far from making changes, reaffirmed Trent: “This sacred council...proposes again the decrees of...the Council of Trent” (Vol. 1, p. 412). As for the “sacraments of the new law,” which Trent said were “necessary for salvation,” Vatican II declared: “For it is the liturgy through which, especially in the divine SACRIFICE of the Eucharist, the WORK OF OUR REDEMPTION IS ACCOMPLISHED” (Vol. 1, p. 1).

### **Sixth, Because of the Horrible Lie of Purgatory.**

Here are a few more quotes[3] from Vatican II, which prove conclusively that Roman Catholicism is a counterfeit gospel: “Sins must be expiated...through the sorrows, miseries and trials of this life...otherwise...in the next life through fire and torments...[because] our souls need to be purified...in purgatory the souls of those who died in the charity of God and

truly repentant but who had not made satisfaction with adequate penance for their sins and omissions are cleansed after death with punishments designed to purge away their debt” (Vol. 1, pp. 63-4).

The Bible declares: “When he [Christ] had by himself PURGED our sins (**Heb. 1:3**)...By his own blood he entered in ONCE into the holy place, HAVING OBTAINED ETERNAL REDEMPTION for us (9:12)...without the shedding of blood is no remission [of sin] (9:22 - suffering in purgatory won’t do it!)...now where remission of these is there is NO MORE OFFERING (SACRIFICE) for sin (10:18)...we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ ONCE FOR ALL (10:10)...for by ONE OFFERING he hath perfected FOR EVER them that are sanctified” (10:14). Catholicism denies this Biblical Gospel!

Although Rome teaches that one must be “purged” by suffering for one’s own sins, it offers “indulgences” to reduce or eliminate that suffering. “Indulgences” can thus discharge what Christ’s death could not. Vatican II has 20 complex rules concerning when and how an indulgence may be obtained. For example: “The faithful who use with devotion an object of piety (crucifix, cross, rosary, scapular or medal) after it has been duly blessed by any priest, can gain a partial indulgence. But if this object of piety is blessed by the Pope or any bishop, the faithful who use it with devotion can also gain a plenary [full] indulgence on the feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul, provided they also make a profession of faith using any APPROVED FORMULA” (Vol. 1, pp. 77-8). “The Church...commands that the usage of indulgences...should be kept...and it CONDEMNS WITH ANATHEMA those who say that indulgences are useless or that the Church does not have the power to grant them...[for] the task of WINNING SALVATION” (Vol. 1, pp. 71, 74).

Indulgences are dispensed from a “treasury...[entrusted by Christ] to the blessed Peter...and his successors...Christ’s Vicars on earth... [to] distribute to the faithful FOR THEIR SALVATION” (Vol. 1, p. 70). “This treasury includes the prayers and good works of the blessed Virgin Mary...[plus] the prayers and good works of all saints [who] ATTAINED THEIR OWN SALVATION and at the same time cooperated in SAVING THEIR BROTHERS” (Vol. 1, p. 66). “Those who believe in [Christ] have always...carried their crosses to MAKE EXPIATION for their own sins and the sins of others.” (Vol. 1, p. 65). “From the most ancient times in the church good works were also offered to God for the SALVATION OF SINNERS...” (Vol. 1, p. 68).

**Gal. 1:6-10:** Roman Catholicism has added far more to the Gospel than the Judaizers, whom Paul cursed. He was concerned for the Galatians’ salvation. What about the 900 million Roman Catholics? Paul told the Ephesian elders: “by the space of three years I ceased not to WARN every one night and day with tears” (**Acts 20:31**). Can we be less concerned for souls and truth!

### **Finally the Last Reason I Cannot Be A Roman Catholic is Because of the Close Association With Paganism.**

Did you know that many of the key elements of Romanism are directly taken from the pagan religions of the ancient world? The robes, beads, candles and statues are all part of paganism and idolatry. Even more shocking is the Mass. Even most Roman Catholics would be shocked to learn where the Mass originated. The proposal of the Lord’s Supper as a sacrifice was first made by a Benedictine monk, Radbertus, in the ninth century and was the subject of many fierce verbal battles by the bishops until Pope Innocent III declared it an official Roman doctrine in 1215 AD.

As we examine the very principles found in this bloodless sacrifice of the Mass as it is in the church of Rome today we can trace them back through the labyrinth of paganism to the fountain of idolatry, ancient Babylon.

Rome's most blasphemous and massive religious fraud originated in Chaldean idol worship and will continue until the time of the end when, according to Revelation 17 and 18, amid the wonder and admiration of the world, Rome will be judged with violence and be thrown down and shall be found no more at all, for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her. This brutal, bloody, and blasphemous harlot is none other than the universal false church, the wicked wife of Satan!

God[4] had no sooner begun the blessed work in preparing for himself a people than the Devil did likewise. In fact, the first baby to be born on this earth later became Satan's original convert! See **Genesis 4:8** this is where religion starts. As **I John 3:12** explains Cain was the tool of Satan. We shall now consider the historical, current, and future activities of this perverted prostitute.

### **The False Bride of Satan**

The harlot viewed historically: Satan's church began officially at the tower of Babel in **Genesis 11:1-9** this is the beginning of organized religion, nearly 24 centuries BC. Here, in the fertile plain of Shinar, probably very close to the original Garden of Eden, the first spade of dirt was turned for the purpose of Devil-worship.

- The first full-time minister of Satan was Nimrod, Noah's wicked and apostate grandson (**Gen. 10:8-10**). Secular history and tradition tell us that Nimrod married a woman who was as evil and demonic as himself. Her name was Semerimus. Knowing God's promise of a future Savior (**Gen. 3:15**), Semerimus brazenly claimed that Tammuz, her first son, fulfilled this prophecy.
  - Semerimus thereupon instituted a religious system, which made both her and her son the objects of divine worship. She herself became the first high priestess. Thus began the mother-child cult which later spread all over the world.
1. From Babylon it spread to Phoenicia under the name of Ashteroth and Tammuz.
  2. From Phoenicia it traveled to Pergamos in Asia Minor. This is the reason for John's admonition to the church of Pergamos in the book of Revelation: "I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is..." (**Rev. 2:13**).
    - In Egypt the mother-child cult was known as Isis and Horus.
    - In Greece it became Aphrodite and Eros.
    - In Rome this pair was worshiped as Venus and Cupid. Dr. J. Dwight Pentecost writes, "Several years ago I visited an archeological museum in Mexico City. A recent find had just been put on display which Mexican archeologists had authenticated as belonging to the period about 200 years before Christ. The object was the center of religious worship among some of the early Indians in Mexico. To my amazement, it was an image of a mother with a child in her arms. This Babylonian religion spread abroad to become the religion of the world...."[5]

### **The Evil False Teaching of the Queen of Heaven**

What was the teaching of Semerimus' Satanic church? That Semerimus herself was the way to God. She actually adopted the title "Queen of Heaven."

1. That she alone could administer salvation to the sinner through various sacraments, such as the sprinkling of holy water.

2. That her son Tammuz was tragically slain by a wild boar during a hunting trip.
3. That he was, however, resurrected from the dead forty days later. Thus, each year afterward the temple virgins of this cult would enter a forty-day fast as a memorial to Tammuz' death and resurrection.
4. After the forty-day fast, a joyful feast {Easter} called Ishtar took place. At this feast colored eggs were exchanged and eaten as a symbol of the resurrection. An evergreen tree was displayed and a Yule log was burned. Finally hot cakes marked with the letter T (to remind everybody of Tammuz) were baked and eaten!

### **The Queen of Heaven in the Old Testament**

About 2000 BC God called Abraham away from all this (see **Joshua 24:2, 3**) and led him into the Promised Land. But by the ninth century B. C. Israel had returned to this devil worship under the influence of wicked Jezebel (see **1 Kings 16:30-33**). At this time the cult was worshiped under the name of Baal.

- Both Ezekiel and Jeremiah warned against this hellish thing. "Then he brought me to the door of the gate of the Lord's house which was toward the north; and behold, there sat women weeping for Tammuz" (**Ezek. 8:14**).
- "The children gather wood, and the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead their dough, to make cakes to the queen of heaven...to burn incense to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto her..." (**Jer. 7:18; 44:25**).
- By the time of Christ this cult had so influenced Roman life that the Caesars were not only crowned as emperors of Rome but also bore the title Pontifex Maximus, meaning, "high priest." They were high priests of the Babylonian satanic church!
- During the year A. D. 306 a very powerful enemy army threatened a Roman emperor named Constantine. Realizing that his uneasy troops needed confidence, Constantine claimed to have seen a vision on the eve of the battle. He saw a large blue flag with a red cross on it and heard a mighty voice, which said In hoc signo vinces -- "in this sign conquer." He thereupon marched his troops into a shallow river, claimed them to be officially baptized, and ordered the sign of the cross painted on all his weapons. Thus inspired, he led his troops to victory and subsequently made Christianity the state religion of Rome.
- The Roman priests of Tammuz soon discovered that they could easily make the transition into Christianity (with certain changes) and thereupon carried their traditions forward without interruption by promoting the Madonna-Child worship concept, the holy water sacrament, etc. For years the Roman Catholic popes have worn their well-known "fisherman ring." This symbol can be traced back to the Philistines, who worshiped the fish god Dagon (1 Sam. 5) along with Tammuz.

Thus for nearly 300 years the Devil had desperately attempted to destroy the church from outside by his terrible persecutions. But with the advent of Constantine he changed his tactics, walking the aisle, applying for membership, and joining the church! To this very day he holds his church letter! The corrupted church was already flourishing in Christ's day, and the Savior delivered a scathing attack against some of its very deacons and elders! See Matthew 23.

### **Thus Seven Biblical Reasons I can't Ever Be in the Roman Catholic Church.**

1. The lie of The Mass

2. The lie of the role of Mary
  3. The lie of Tradition over Scripture
  4. The lie of Veneration (worship) of images
  5. The lie of the false Sacraments
  6. The lie of Purgatory
  7. The lie to Paganism
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[1] Quoting Dr. Ian Paisley, *Why I am a Protestant*.

[2] Dave Hunt newsletter

[3] Dave Hunt newsletter,

[4] *Wilmington's Guide to the Bible*.

[5] J. Dwight Pentecost, *Prophecy for Today*, p. 133.