The Bible and Catholicism

The Pope and priests say "call me father." But Jesus said in the Bible "All ye are brethren. And <u>call no man your father upon</u> <u>the earth;</u> for one is your father, which is in heaven." (Matt 23:8-9)

The Pope and priests say "Pray to Mary, pray to Saint Peter, Pray to Saint Jude." But Jesus said in the Bible "*After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven Hallowed be thy name*" (Matt 6:9).

The Pope and priests say "bow and pray before these statues and images." But God said in the Bible "*Thou shalt not make* unto thee <u>any graven image</u>, or any likeness of any thing...

Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God" (Exod 20:4-5)

The Pope and Priests say that "Mother Mary can intercede for you." But Jesus said in the Bible "I am the way the truth and the life: no man cometh to the father, but by me" (John 14:6) And the Bible says, "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; who gave himself a ransom for all." (ITim2:5-6)

The Pope and Priests say that they can get your sins forgiven and can save you from sin's penalty. But the Bible says "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. ... For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord, shall be saved." (Rom 10:9,13)

You could be converted from the Sacramental system of Catholicism and eternally saved from your sin debt by calling on Jesus Christ today. "Except ye be converted ... Ye cannot enter the kingdom of heaven." (Matt 18:3)

The Catholic word "Penance" is found nowhere in Holy Scripture. It is an errant translation found in the Catholic's Latin Vulgate 52 times. Penance is a Catholic addition to the faith. All fifty-two times when the Holy Bible says, "Repent", the Roman Catholic Church said it meant "Do Penance."

Roman Catholics take out "repentance" and add "penance", they take out "mystery" and make it "sacrament" they take out "presbyters" and make them "priests." It isn't any wonder they took Bible translators and their Bibles, and burnt them at the stake! They had all the vulgar translation they needed in their corrupt Latin Vulgate.

Baptists make every effort to systematically capture every thing the Bible says in its teachings about how to attain eternal life. Catholics make tradition and errant Church Fathers dictate their doctrines of penance, sacraments, and priest-craft.

Salvation is clear in the Bible. John 3:16 says, For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

God loved, and God gave, and if you believe what he did for you, you can be saved and have (present tense) everlasting life, and know it for certain

John 3:17 and 18 says man is condemned and God's son came so you can be SAVED.

In verse 36 there are only two kinds of people in this world, those with eternal life, and those who don't have it. Which are you?

God wrote out what you need to believe about his Only Begotten Son in what we call *The Roman's Road*.

First, Romans 3:10, 23

As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:... For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

The Holy Bible says ALL have sinned, ALL come short. Romans 5:8 says: *But God commendeth his love toward us, in* that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

He died in our place. Verse 12 tells how the world got like this:

Wherefore, as by one man (Adam) sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

We are not sinners because we sin, we sin because we are sinners. Now look at verse 18: Therefore as by the offence of one (Adam) judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one (Jesus Christ) the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.

Adam brought us into condemnation, and only one man, the sinless Only Begotten Son of God, can bring us out. Look here at Romans 6:23.

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Eternal death looms over us because of sin, but God, because he loves us, offers a gift. A gift has a giver and a receiver. The receiver does not pay for the gift, does not purchase the gift, and does not work for the gift; that's why its a gift. The giver has purchased the gift at a great price, all the receiver has to do is accept the gift, no strings attached.

But the gift may be turned down. One could say to the giver, "I'll not accept this gift from you." The thing about salvation is, there is a formal method for accepting and receiving God's gift of eternal life

Would you like to receive a free gift today? Not what I give to you but what God is offering in these Scriptures, ETERANL LIFE!

Religions tell us we must work, be good, do penance, attend church, build karma, or change our life to deserve salvation and eternal life, but look in Romans 10:9-13 what God says you

must do to receive his gift:

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. (Roman 10:9-10)

You could pray right now and accept God's gift! That verse states that if you believe what he is offering, absolutely free, and you want to accept it from him, absolutely no strings attached, that is all it takes to receive eternal life. You don't deserve it, you can't deserve it. You are condemned already without it and someday "the wrath of God" will abide on you. There is no priest that can give absolution, there is no good deed you could do, there is no church that could give this to you, and WITHOUT God's free gift you get...

And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire. (Rev 20:14-15)

.... OR you could accept God's gift of Eternal Life, and be saved from that eternal punishment for sin:

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. (Rom 10:13)

If you would like to receive that free gift you could call upon him with this prayer:

LORD God, I want to receive your gift of eternal life. I don't want to pay my own sin debt. You said in your Holy Bible your Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ, already paid my debt. I want to accept him as my Saviour and be forgiven of my sin. In Jesus' name Amen

Call on Him today, call on us tomorrow By Dr. Ed Rice, Pastor, GSBaptist Chuch see www.GSBaptistChurch.com