

Elements of Roman Catholicism that Cannot Be Proven from Scripture

A. Certain Elements of What Rome Believes about the Transmission of Divine Revelation Cannot Be Proven from Scripture.

1. That Roman Catholic Church tradition is equally as authoritative as Scripture cannot be proven from Scripture.
2. That the pope and the bishops in communion with him are the sole interpreters of Scripture cannot be proven from Scripture.
3. That the pope can make statements ex cathedra that are infallible cannot be proven from Scripture.
4. The assertion of the Roman Catholic Church that its Magisterium can propose dogmas which oblige “the Christian people to an irrevocable adherence of faith” cannot be proven from Scripture.

B. Elements Necessary to Support the Papacy Cannot Be Proven from Scripture.

1. Apostolic Succession cannot be proven from Scripture.
2. The existence of Monarchical Bishops cannot be proven from Scripture.
3. That Peter was ever a Monarchical Bishop cannot be proven from Scripture.
4. That Peter ever arrived in Rome cannot be proven from Scripture.
5. That Peter has always been the most important Apostle cannot be proven from Scripture.
6. The office of Pope cannot be proven from Scripture.
7. That Jesus promised He would build His Church upon Peter cannot be proven from Scripture.
8. That Peter is the head of the church cannot be proven from Scripture.
9. That Peter was ever a Pope cannot be proven from Scripture.

C. Elements Necessary to Support the Contention that Roman Catholicism is the Only True Church Cannot Be Proven from Scripture.

1. The primacy of the church at Rome cannot be proven from Scripture.
2. That the Roman Catholic Church is the only true expression of Christ's universal Church cannot be proven from Scripture.

D. Certain Elements of the Roman Catholic Liturgy Cannot Be Proven from Scripture.

1. The existence of sacraments (which by definition impart grace) cannot be proven from Scripture.
2. That water baptism imparts regeneration cannot be proven from Scripture.
3. That the Eucharist is a propitious sacrifice of the Body and Blood of Christ cannot be proven from Scripture.
4. The existence of a separate category of canonized saints cannot be proven from Scripture.
5. The function of a liturgical priest who offers an unbloody sacrifice, forgives sins, and serves as a necessary mediator between man and God cannot be proven from Scripture.
 - a. The Book of Hebrews demonstrates that there is only one legitimate priest, Jesus, who offered one sufficient sacrifice for all time that does not need to be repeated.
6. That believers need to confess their sins to a priest cannot be proven from Scripture.
7. That there is any such thing as an indulgence which can be obtained from a pope cannot be proven from Scripture.
8. That there is a distinction between venial sins and mortal sins cannot be proven from Scripture.
9. That the Catholic church has the authority to issue anathemas against those who disagree with her on the smallest point cannot be proven from Scripture.
 - a. (There are 151 anathemas directed against those who disagree with various teachings of the Catholic Church as found in the canons of the Council of Trent.)

10. That good works can dispense grace cannot be proven from Scripture.
11. That there exists any such thing as a “[treasury of merit](#)” cannot be proven from Scripture.

E. Certain Elements of Roman Catholic Belief about Mary Cannot Be Proven from Scripture.

1. That Mary was conceived in an [immaculate conception](#) freeing her from any stain of original sin cannot be proven from Scripture.
2. That Mary was and is a [perpetual virgin](#) cannot be proven from Scripture.
3. That Mary was [assumed up bodily into heaven](#), obviating any need for a resurrection, is a dogma that cannot be proven from Scripture.
4. The belief that Mary is the mother of God is, at best, misleading. She was the mother of Jesus, God become human flesh is true. She is certainly not the mother of God the Father.
5. That Mary is the mother of the Church cannot be proven from Scripture.
6. That Mary is a mediatrix cannot be proven from Scripture.
7. That Mary is a co-redemptrix cannot be proven from Scripture.
8. That Mary is the Queen up in heaven cannot be proven from Scripture.
9. That Mary offers prayers to her Son Jesus in heaven which He is obligated to answer cannot be proven from Scripture.
10. That it is appropriate to pray to Mary cannot be proven from Scripture.

Comments: The claims above are undocumented. A separate version will include both documentation from Roman Catholic sources along with a Biblical refutation of the claims, where possible. There are certain instances in which, if a claim of truth is made, and one cannot find that truth anywhere in Scripture, that fact stands as a refutation of the claim.

Authored by James T. Bartsch

[WordExplain](#)

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Email contact: jbartsch@wordexplain.com

