

Divine Revelation

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Diaconal Ordination

- ▶ Receive the Gospel, whose herald you have become.
- ▶ **Believe** what you read,
- ▶ **Teach** what you believe, and
- ▶ **Practice** what you teach.



Catholic Teaching

- ▶ Divine Revelation:
- ▶ Sacred Scripture
- ▶ Apostolic Tradition
- ▶ The Teaching Authority of the Church
- ▶ CCC 82 – DV 9



Sola Scriptura is a teaching of the Protestant Reformation.

How do we know God?

- ▶ The knowledge of God is *inherent* in man. (Romans 1:19)
- ▶ The knowledge of God is *known* from creation. (Romans 1:20)
- ▶ The knowledge of God is *revealed* through his word. (John 1:1-4) (Romans 10:17)
- ▶ The knowledge of God is the *gift* of faith. (Matthew 16:17)
- ▶ The knowledge of God is revealed in *Jesus*. (John 1:18)
- ▶ The Knowledge of God is made known to men in every age through the *Church*. (Jn 16:13; 1 Tim 3:15)

Dei Verbum

- ▶ Prologue -
- ▶ This synod wishes to set forth the true doctrine on Divine Revelation and its transmission . For it wants the whole world to hear the summons to salvation, so that through hearing it may **believe**, through belief it may **hope**, and through hope it may come to **love**.

Dei Verbum

- ▶ "All that the inspired authors or sacred writers affirm should be regarded as affirmed by the Holy Spirit. We must acknowledge that the books of Scripture firmly, faithfully, and without error teach that truth which God, for the sake of our salvation, wished to see confided to the Sacred Scriptures."
- ▶ Dei Verbum 11
- ▶ CCC - 107

Is The Bible True?

- ▶ Historical Truth
- ▶ Geographical Truth
- ▶ Character/Relational Truth
- ▶ Scientific Truth
- ▶ Proverbial Truth
- ▶ Symbolic Truth
- ▶ Moral Truth
- ▶ Religious Truth



The Bible

- ▶ 73 books – Catholic
- ▶ 66 books – Protestant
- ▶ 46/39 Old Testament
- ▶ 27 New Testament
- ▶ 40 authors – 1000 years
- ▶ Hebrew, Greek, Aramaic
- ▶ God's Revelation
- ▶ History of salvation/world
- ▶ Family heirloom – Israel's history is our history



Common Ground

- ▶ We read and believe the same Bible.
- ▶ We believe that Scripture is the inspired Word of God.
- ▶ We believe that the Bible is free from error (infallible) when interpreted correctly.



Revelation and the Church

- ▶ The New Testament did not start the church; the church started the New Testament. The Church did not come out of the New Testament; the NT came out of the Church.
- ▶ The canon of the NT was not organized as the 27 books that we now know until after 393 A.D. (Hippo 393/Carthage 397)
- ▶ Jesus never wrote or instructed his disciples to write.
- ▶ Only 3 of the apostles wrote - John, Matthew and Peter.

Are we the People of the Book?

Unlike Islam Christianity is NOT a written religion.

Jesus taught verbally and he trained his disciples to do the same.

By the time the Faith had spread to Damascus and then to the rest of Asia Minor, Greece and Rome, there was still nothing written down under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.



Oral - Written

- ▶ The gospels are NOT complete & exhaustive accounts of Jesus' life and teaching.
- ▶ Sufficiently succinct to be easily memorized.
- ▶ Read in church and for religious instruction.



What is Sacred Tradition?

- ▶ Sacred or Apostolic Tradition consist of the teachings that the apostles passed on orally through their preaching (kerygma).
- ▶ "What you have heard from me before many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also." (2 Timothy 2:2)*
- ▶ Paul instructed Timothy to pass on the oral teachings (Tradition) that he had received from the apostle.

Sacred Tradition

- ▶ 2 John 12, 13
- ▶ 3 John 13, 14
- ▶ John 21:25 *
- ▶ 1 Thes. 2:13
- ▶ 2 Thes. 2:15 *
- ▶ There can be no contradiction between Holy Scripture and Sacred Tradition.



Divine Revelation

- ▶ "It is clear that Sacred Scripture, Sacred Tradition and the Teaching Authority of the Church, in accord with God's most wise design, are so linked and joined together that one cannot stand without the others, and that all together and each in its own way under the action of the Holy Spirit contribute effectively to the salvation of souls."
- ▶ Dei Verbum 10

The Jesus of the Gospels -The Good News

- ▶ **Stage One:** Jesus dwelt among us and proclaimed the Good News of Salvation and promised to send the Holy Spirit which the apostles received on Pentecost.
- ▶ **Stage Two:** The Apostles taught and preached the Good News (Kerygma)
- ▶ **Stage Three:** Letters were written to the Churches and shared among the faithful.
- ▶ **Stage Four:** The "sayings" of Jesus were written down (*Q* comes from the German "quelle" meaning "source.") and later the four gospels were written and both were circulated among the Churches.

The Gospels

- ▶ The gospel writers remembered what they had seen and heard about Jesus and considered what others had heard and written about him. They each then molded all of this into the unique stories we now know as gospels. Their stories were composed in light of the resurrection and they were influenced by the author's particular circumstances and the cultural, economic and political situations of their audiences.

The Good News Continues

- ▶ **Stage Five:** The Church Fathers taught, preached and wrote – Didache, Apostle's Creed, Nicene Creed. The Church continued to reflect.
- ▶ **Stage Six:** The New Testament was collected and published as the 27 books that we have today – Hippo 393A.D., Carthage 397 A.D.
- ▶ **Stage Seven:** The Church teaches and proclaims the Good News until the end of time, always studying, interpreting and applying the apostolic teachings to the issues of the day.

Deuterocanonical (Apocryphal) OT Books

- ▶ Judith
- ▶ Tobit
- ▶ Baruch
- ▶ 1 Maccabees
- ▶ 2 Maccabees
- ▶ Ecclesiastcus (Sirach)
- ▶ Wisdom of Solomon



The New Testament Canon Criteria for Inclusion:

- ▶ **Ancient** – scared authority at or near the time of Jesus.
- ▶ **Apostolic** – written by an Apostle or the disciple of an Apostle.
- ▶ **Catholic** – wide-spread acceptance
- ▶ **Orthodox** – teaching was consistent with what was handed down by the apostles and that the Church believed from the very beginning

Scripture Interpretation (Exegesis/Hermeneutics)

- ▶ Historical implications (historical critical)
- ▶ People to whom a particular text was written (cultural implications)
- ▶ Context in which written (narrative analysis- immediate & canonical)
- ▶ Literary devices (forms/genre)
- ▶ Scholarly Exegesis
- ▶ Research findings (history/archeological)



The Senses of Scripture

- ▶ The Literal Sense
- ▶ The Spiritual Sense:
 - ▶ The Allegorical Sense
 - ▶ The Moral Sense
 - ▶ The Anagogical Sense



The Historical-Critical Method

- ▶ Science – theories are proven through experimentation and repeatability.
- ▶ Historical Analysis – events of the past can never be repeated.
- ▶ How far back in time can an unbroken tradition (belief) be traced?
- ▶ What are the collaborating surviving sources and how reliable are they?
- ▶ The Jesus of faith & the historical Jesus.

The Bible

testamentum – covenant – sacred family bond

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ <u>Old Testament - 46 books:</u> ▶ Pentateuch ▶ Historical Books ▶ Wisdom Books ▶ Prophets | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ <u>New Testament - 27 books:</u> ▶ Gospels ▶ Pauline Corpus ▶ Catholic Epistles ▶ Other Writings |
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