

Roman Catholicism

I. Church History

NT church is simple arrangement

- Worship: Ac.2:42; Ep.5:19
- Work: Ac.2:...37, 42, 44-45
- Organization: Ph.1:1
- Doctrine: 1 Tim.4:13-16
 - Determined by word of God alone

‘There was far more extensive and continuous use of Scriptures in the public service of the early Church than there is among us’ – Catholic Dictionary, 509

NT predicted apostasy

- Acts 20:28-31, dissatisfied with God's authority
- 2 Th.2:3-7, structure of church
- 2 Th.2:4, perversion of true worship
- 1 Tim.4:1, doctrinal errors
 - Dark Ages (5th-6th Century): Ignorance
 - Renaissance: revival of art, literature, learning in Europe

I. Church History

II. NT Is Supreme Authority
In Religious Matters

Roman Catholics believe Bible is book from God

What Bible claims for itself –

1. Jesus promises all truth to apostles –

John 14-16

Lk.12:11-12

Ac.20:20,27

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What Bible claims for itself –

1. Jesus promises all truth to apostles -
2. Apostles wrote everything we need to please God. Ep.3:3-5
 - Paul had no advantage over others in information. Ep.3
 - Scripture is the rule. 1 Co.14:37
 - Scripture is the only rule. 1 Co.4:6
 - Scripture will judge us. Jn.12:48

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What do NT writers claim?

1. **Luke** (1:3-4): certainty
2. **John** (20:30-31): believe
3. **Paul** (Ep.3:3-4): understand
4. **Peter** (2 Pt.1:16-21): proof
5. **Jude** (3): contend

Roman Catholic response

‘Were it not for the authority of the Catholic Church, I would not believe the scriptures to be the inspired Word of God... The Church did not come from the scriptures. The scriptures came from the Church’ – Eric Beevers

The facts

1. If Bible is inspired, and claims to be perfect and complete, how can we deny it?
2. If Bible is NOT what it claims to be, it is not Word of God.
3. Revelation of divine truth . . .

How revelation happened

IN MEN

Miracles
confirm Word

(Mk.16:20;
Hb.2:1-4)

SPOKEN

Ac.20:20,27

2 Th.2:15; Ep.3:3-5; 1 Co.13

IN BOOK

Written
Miracles

No
revelations

WRITTEN

2 T.3; Lk.10:26

Characters

1. Paul of Thebes (hermit)
2. Jovinian
3. Gregory the Great
4. Wyclif
5. Tyndale
6. 1414
7. Archbishop Berthold of Germany
8. Sorbonne (France)