

ROMAN CATHOLICISM

In the Light of Scripture

by

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CHAPTER THIRTY-SIX

HISTORICAL CHARTS

THE WORD “CHRISTIAN” is used in so many different ways, sometimes including one group and sometimes another, that a note is in order here to explain the connotation of the term in the following charts.

Some use it to designate church affiliation, whether Catholic or Protestant. Some would include the Roman Catholic church but not the Greek Orthodox churches. Others again would restrict the term to Protestant organizations.

The word “Protestant” is also loosely used. Of recent years there have been many within the Protestant group who have followed what is commonly called liberal theology, or the modernist movement (see Introduction). No longer protesting against unscriptural doctrines and practices, these liberal groups are fulfilling some of the prophetic utterances of the Bible, which say that in the last days there will arise within the church errors, which, working like leaven, will leaven the whole lump. *

* See Luke 18:8; Matthew 24:11, 12, 21-28, 37-42; Acts 20:29, 30; I Corinthians 11:19; II Thessalonians 2:3-9; I Timothy 4:1-3; II Timothy 3:1-5, 12, 13; 4:3, 4; II Pet 3:3, 4; I John 2:18; Jude 17, 18; Matthew 13:33.

In these two charts we are using the term “Christian Church” in its limited sense, to designate only those churches which accept the Old and New Testaments in their entirety as the Divine Revelation, and the only final authority of faith and practice.

The points of belief common to both the Christian and Roman Catholic churches have already been set forth in the Introduction of this book, so it is not necessary to repeat them here.

The following charts concentrate rather on the points of difference, so that the reader may be able to bring them into one inclusive picture. Obviously limitation of space precludes the possibility of giving fine detail, for this method of presentation is panoramic and not telescopic.

HISTORICAL CHART OF THE CHRISTIAN AND CATHOLIC CHURCHES

The Birth of Christ

His Death on the Cross, and descent into Hades

His Resurrection and Ascension

E	The Coming of the Holy Spirit
A	The Christian Church established
R	
L	
Y	Persecution
C	A.D. 313 Emperor Constantine proclaims Christian Freedom of Worship
H	324 Church flourishes
U	325 First General Church Council
R	421 First Worship of Mary
C	593 Doctrine of Purgatory introduced
H	600 Use of Latin in Worship introduced
D	787 Worship of Images and relics introduced
A	788 Worship of Mary
R	819 First observance of Feast of the Assumption
K	1074 Priests forbidden to marry
A	1075 Compulsory divorce of wives married to Priests
G	1100 Payment for Masses introduced
E	1115 Confession made an Article of Faith
S	1190 Sale of Indulgences
R	1215 Transubstantiation made an Article of Faith
E	1226 Elevation of the Host introduced
F	1229 The Laity forbidden to read the Scriptures
O	1303 Roman Catholic Church proclaimed as the Only True Church, in Which alone salvation can be found
R	1415 Declaration that only Priests might say Masses
M	1439 The Seven Sacraments and Doctrine of Purgatory made Articles of faith
A	1546 Tradition given Equal Authority with the Scriptures
T	1562 The Mass declared to be a Propitiatory Offering, Confirmation of worship of saints
I	1634 Canonization Procedure promulgated
O	1854 Promulgation of the Doctrine of the Immaculate Conception
N	1864 Declaration of Temporal Authority of the Pope
	1870 Declaration of Papal Infallibility
	1950 Assumption of Mary made an Article of Faith

**CHART OF DIFFERENCES BETWEEN DOCTRINES IN
THE CHRISTIAN AND ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHES**

SUBJECT	CHRISTIAN CHURCH	ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Foundation	Christ, the Rock	Peter, the stone
Headship	Jesus Christ	The Pope, as Christ's Representative
Mediator	Jesus Christ alone	Also Mary, Saints, Priests
Salvation	By grace, through faith. The Holy Spirit's work, Freely	By grace, through accumulating Merit, Use of Money, Observances of Rites
Worship	According to the Scriptures. Spiritual	Ceremonial, carnal
Teaching authority	The Scriptures, by the Holy Spirit	The Pope, by the Church
Aim	To Save men, and build them up	To bring men into the Church. To accumulate wealth and power

Objects of worship	God alone	Also The Host, Mary, Saints, Images and Relics
Dynamic	Love	Fear and superstition
Mystery	None	Secret Organizations
Leadership	Pastors and Teachers	Priests indispensable
Teaching subjects	The undiluted Gospel of Christ	Metaphysical, derived from heathen religions. Mixed
Result	Peace and Satisfaction	No certainty. Anxiety
Ultimate issue	To be with Christ	Purgatorial fires for an indeterminate time

~ end of chapter 36 ~

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