

APOLOGETICS MADE EASY

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Questions about the Bible

I'm very excited to help explain Catholic beliefs on issues that have troubled our protestant brothers and sisters. Our primary resource will be the Bible. The Bible is the best source for explaining and supporting the Catholic position on authority, apostolic succession, salvation, Mary, the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, the communion of saints and so on. The Bible is a Catholic book! The Catholic Church is the only true Bible church!

Some basic preliminary issues: Where did the Bible come from and how do we know it's authentic and that we can rely on it?

The Bible did not come floating down on a cloud as Jesus ascended into heaven after his resurrection. There were numerous writings circulating in the early Christian community. It was the Catholic Church which determined which writings were sufficiently inspired, authentic and accurate and should be included in the Bible. These decisions were made at Church Councils in the late 4th Century. There would not be a Bible without the Catholic Church. One cannot accept the Bible as authoritative without acknowledging the validity of the authority claimed by the Catholic Church.

Did Jesus ever say that there would be a book that would tell Christians all they needed to know and would be the exclusive source of authority for Christians? No. There is nothing in the Bible indicating that it is the sole source of authority for followers of Jesus. On the contrary, Jesus clearly delegated his authority to his disciples, saying, "Whoever listens to you listens to me. Whoever rejects you rejects me." Luke 10:16; Matthew 10:40.