

**Comparative Religion I**

**CATHOLICISM**

---

**GOD, THE BIBLE, TRADITION**




© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

1

**Comparative Religion I**

**CATHOLICISM**

---

**CATHOLIC TEACHING ABOUT GOD**




**THE TRINITY IN A PAINTING**

© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

2

**Comparative Religion I**

**CATHOLICISM**

---

**CATHOLIC TEACHING ABOUT GOD**




**ANOTHER PAINTING DEPICTING THE TRINITY**

© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

3

**Comparative Religion I**

**CATHOLICISM**

---

**CATHOLIC TEACHING ABOUT GOD**




**NOT THIS TRINITY IRISH DANCE TROUPE**

© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

4

**Comparative Religion I**

**CATHOLICISM**

---

**CATHOLIC TEACHING ABOUT GOD**




**PERHAPS THIS IS WHY MUSLIMS THINK MARY IS ONE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE TRINITY!**

© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

5

**Comparative Religion I**

**CATHOLICISM**

---

**CATHOLIC TEACHING ABOUT GOD**

God is a trinity. God is spirit, self-existing

1. God the Father – is Creator, Initiator, One Who begets
2. Jesus Christ – the Son, Redeemer, Enactor of Plans
3. Holy Spirit – Expression of God's love, Sanctifier, Paraclete

Three distinct persons possessing one Divine nature.

© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

6

**Comparative Religion I**  
**CATHOLICISM**  
**CATHOLIC TEACHING ABOUT GOD**  
**EXPLANATION OF THE TRINITY**  
 “The Father is always in the Son and the Holy Spirit; The Son is always in the Father and the Spirit; and the Spirit is always in the Father and the Son.” (CATHOLICISM, p. 337)

TRINITY SYMBOL 

© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

7

**Comparative Religion I**  
**CATHOLICISM**  
**CATHOLIC TEACHING ABOUT GOD**

- Catholics are very secure in the Trinity.
- Three persons, but one nature
- Doctrine of Trinity was official in 451 A.D.
- How Catholics explain the Trinity

<b>WHO</b>	<b>WHAT</b>
1. Father	God
2. Son	God
3. Holy Spirit	God

© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

8

**Comparative Religion I**  
**CATHOLICISM**  
**CATHOLIC TEACHING ABOUT GOD**

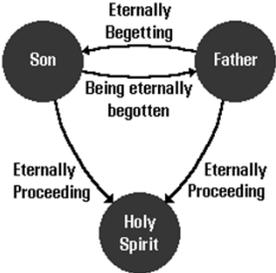
**CATHOLIC TEACHING:** “The Father begets the Son, the Son proceeds from the Father, and the Holy Spirit proceeds from both of them.”

**ATHANASIAN CREED** – The Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God, but three distinct persons.

© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

9

**Comparative Religion I**  
**CATHOLICISM**  
**CATHOLIC TEACHING ABOUT GOD**



© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

10

**Comparative Religion I**  
**CATHOLICISM**  
**CATHOLIC TEACHING ABOUT GOD**  
**PROOF OF GOD:**

- Order and harmony in universe
- Creation
- Testimony of our consciences

© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

11

**Comparative Religion I**  
**CATHOLICISM**  
**CATHOLIC TEACHING ABOUT GOD**  
**SCRIPTURAL BACKING FOR CATHOLICS**

- Matthew 28:19 – 3 names together
- Isaiah 6:2 – “holy, holy, holy..”
- Revelation 4:8 – Again, 3 “holy’s”
- Acts 5 – equates God and Holy Spirit
- I John 5:7 – was not used in early days
- Fire, Water, Oil and a Dove are used to symbolize the Holy Spirit

© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

12

 **Comparative Religion I**  
**CATHOLICISM**  
**CATHOLIC TEACHING ABOUT GOD**  
**QUESTION:**  
**HOW WOULD YOU DISPROVE THE TRINITY?**

- John 1:1-4 – no mention of the Holy Spirit
- Matthew 1:18 – Holy Spirit would be Christ's Father
- John 10:30 – I and My Father are one
- Joel 2:28-29 – Holy Spirit is poured out
- Luke 24:49; II Tim 1:6-7 – The Power of God

© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

13

 **Comparative Religion I**  
**CATHOLICISM**  
**CATHOLIC TEACHING ABOUT GOD**  
**HOW WOULD YOU DISPROVE THE TRINITY?**  
**(continued)**

- Matthew 12:31-32 – Blasphemy against the Spirit
- John 4:24 – God is Spirit
- I Corinthians 11:3; I John 1:3 – They are not all equal
- Paul NEVER mentions the trinity in his official greetings in his epistles.

© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

14

 **Comparative Religion I**  
**CATHOLICISM**  
**CATHOLIC BIBLES**

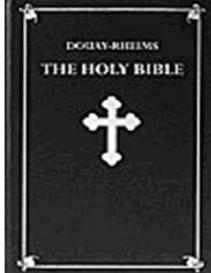
- Catholics claim they believe strongly in the Bible.
- They say it will develop the love of Christ if it is read.
- Catholics have their list of approved translations
- The Vulgate is the Latin translation of the Bible
- The Douay-Rheims version (1609) was translated from Latin into English
- However, the priests are the ones who may interpret the meaning of the Scriptures.

© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

15

 **Comparative Religion I**  
**CATHOLICISM**  
**CATHOLIC BIBLES**

DOUAY-RHEIMS  
 VERSION –  
 A TRANSLATION  
 FROM LATIN TO  
 ENGLISH



© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

16

 **Comparative Religion I**  
**CATHOLICISM**  
**CATHOLIC BIBLES**

**OFFICIAL TEACHING REGARDING THE BIBLE:**

“Sacred Scripture, or the Bible, is the word of God written by men under the inspiration of the Holy Ghost, and contained in the books of the Old and the New Testament. Inspiration is the act by which God moves and directs the sacred writers faithfully to commit to writing all those things and only those things that He wishes them to write. The sacred writers act as free instruments of God, who is the principal author of Sacred Scriptures.” (PRIMER ON ROMAN CATHOLICISM FOR PROTESTANTS, p. 109)

© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

17

 **Comparative Religion I**  
**CATHOLICISM**  
**CATHOLIC BIBLES**



© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

18

 **Comparative Religion I**  
**CATHOLICISM**  
**CATHOLIC BIBLES**

- Catholic Bibles always have an “Imprimatur” showing approval of the Catholic Church.
- Catholics of ordinary education should not read Protestant versions
- Catholics believe in the authority of the Bible AND Tradition. They are of equal status.
- The Bible is God’s revelation to us.
- The New Testament gives a better understanding of God’s Word
- Catholic Bibles contain the “Apocrypha” an additional 7 books plus additions to Esther and Daniel

© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

19

 **Comparative Religion I**  
**CATHOLICISM**  
**CATHOLIC BIBLES**



© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

20

 **Comparative Religion I**  
**CATHOLICISM**  
**CATHOLIC BIBLES**

The "Nihil Obstat" and "Imprimatur" are official declarations by a local Catholic diocese that a certain book does not explicitly reject the Catholic Church's teachings.

*Nihil Obstat* is Latin for "Nothing stands in the way [of printing]," and it is issued by the diocesan Censur.

*Imprimatur* is Latin for "Let it be printed," and it is issued by the local bishop.

It is important to realize that the "Nihil Obstat" and "Imprimatur" do NOT mean that a book bearing these labels is inerrant, inspired, or divine.

© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

21

 **Comparative Religion I**  
**CATHOLICISM**  
**CATHOLIC BIBLES**

**THE APOCRYPHA: 1546 AD Officially approved**  
**The additional books:**

- Tobit
- Judith
- Wisdom
- Ecclesiasticus
- Baruch
- I Maccabees
- II Maccabees

© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

22

 **Comparative Religion I**  
**CATHOLICISM**  
**CATHOLIC BIBLES**

**THE APOCRYPHA: Was never quoted by Jesus or the Apostles. It was added over 700 years after the original text of the bible was written. Many of these are fiction with some historical events.**

© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

23

 **Comparative Religion I**  
**CATHOLICISM**  
**CATHOLIC BIBLES**

- **Book of Judith** – She lives a life of deception and lying. Calls Nebuchadnezzar the king of the Assyrians and says he reigned in Nineveh. (Chaldean)
- **Book of Tobit** – An angel claims that the angel is a human being. (Angels are created beings not human)
- **Book of Baruch** – Claims to be the one in Jeremiah yet quotes the book of Daniel (written many years later)

© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

24

**Comparative Religion I**

**CATHOLICISM**

**CATHOLIC BIBLES**

The Apocrypha is useful to Catholics as It helps to prove some of their doctrines Such as doing good deeds for the dead. "....He made atonement for the dead..." (II Maccabees 12:46)

© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

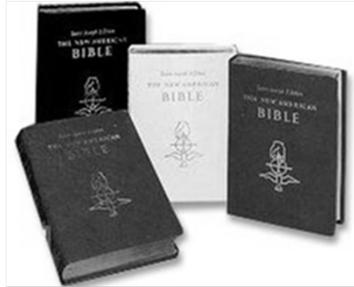
25

**Comparative Religion I**

**CATHOLICISM**

**CATHOLIC BIBLES**

CATHOLIC APPROVED BIBLES –  
DOUAY-RHEIMS  
CONFRATERNITY  
KNOX  
JERUSALEM  
NEW AMERICAN



© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

26

**Comparative Religion I**

**CATHOLICISM**

**CATHOLIC BIBLES**

QUESTION (S):  
DOES IT MATTER WHAT BIBLE YOU USE? WHO WAS TO PRESERVE THE TEXT OF THE SCRIPTURES?

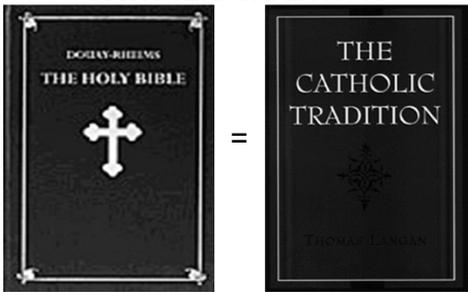
© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

27

**Comparative Religion I**

**CATHOLICISM**

**CATHOLIC TRADITION**



© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

28

**Comparative Religion I**

**CATHOLICISM**

**CATHOLIC TRADITION**



80. "Sacred Tradition and Sacred Scripture, then, are bound closely together, and communicate one with the other. For both of them, flowing out from the same divine well-spring, come together in some fashion to form one thing, and move towards the same goal." Each of them makes present and fruitful in the Church the mystery of Christ, who promised to remain with his own "always, to the close of the age". (NEWMAN CATHOLIC CLUB)

© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

29

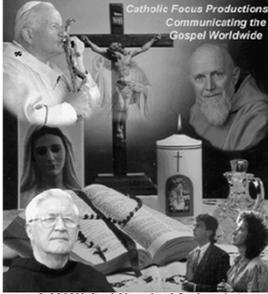
**Comparative Religion I**

**CATHOLICISM**

**CATHOLIC TRADITION**



TRADITION SANCTIONS THE USE OF CROSSES, ROSARY BEADS, CANDLES, AND OTHER ITEMS



© 2003 United Church of God, an International Association

30

**Comparative Religion I**

**CATHOLICISM**

---

**CATHOLIC TRADITION**



- Catholics believe that the sayings and teachings of the “fathers” and other Catholic scholars and clergy that form “tradition” are equal with the Bible in authority.
- Traditions are the authoritative teaching of the church concerning the teachings of Jesus Christ.
- Tradition is a living force in the church.

© 2003United Church of God, an International Association

31

**Comparative Religion I**

**CATHOLICISM**

---

**CATHOLIC TRADITION**  
**SACRAMENTALS**

Our Lady tells us to be protected from all evil, we must wear the following sacramentals around our necks: a rosary, a crucifix, the St. Benedict medal, the Miraculous Medal, and the scapular. We have all of these sacramentals in a packet we call "Heaven's Personal Protection Packet." This packet is available for a donation of \$5.00 and is listed in the sacramental section of the order form.

© 2003United Church of God, an International Association

32

**Comparative Religion I**

**CATHOLICISM**

---

**CATHOLIC TRADITION**






© 2003United Church of God, an International Association

33

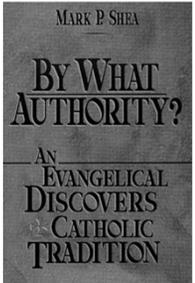
**Comparative Religion I**

**CATHOLICISM**

---

**CATHOLIC TRADITION**






© 2003United Church of God, an International Association

34

**Comparative Religion I**

**CATHOLICISM**

---

**CATHOLIC TRADITION**

**QUESTION (S):**  
**IS IT ALL RIGHT TO FOLLOW TRADITION? WHEN IS IT RIGHT AND WHEN IS IT WRONG?**

© 2003United Church of God, an International Association

35

**Comparative Religion I**

**CATHOLICISM**

---

**GOD, THE BIBLE, TRADITION**



**THE END**

© 2003United Church of God, an International Association

36