

Comparative Religion

CATHOLICISM

LAW, GRACE, SIN



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LAW

✓ CATHOLICS BELIEVE THE LAW SHOULD BE KEPT AND ONE SHOULD DO GOOD WORKS.
 ✓ "WE ARE STRICTLY OBLIGED TO OBEY THE COMMANDMENTS OF GOD." (p. 195, MY CATHOLIC FAITH)
 ✓ CATHOLICS NUMBER THE TEN COMMANDMENTS DIFFERENTLY – THEY SKIP NUMBER TWO AS A SEPARATE COMMAND AND SEPARATE NUMBER TEN INTO TWO PARTS – DO NOT COVET YOUR NEIGHBOR'S WIFE AND DO NOT COVET HIS HOUSE.

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LAW

THREE TYPES OF LAW:

1. NATURAL – Physical laws like gravity and inertia. People know innately what they should do.
2. REVEALED – Those laws that are revealed by God
3. ECCLESIASTICAL – Laws made by the church

➤ CATHOLICS BELIEVE THEY HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO CREATE, CHANGE AND ENFORCE LAWS.

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LAW

➤ CATHOLICS BELIEVE THAT IF YOU OBEY YOUR OWN CONSCIENCE THEN YOU WILL BE ALL RIGHT WITH GOD.

➤ CATHOLICS USED TO TEACH THAT THE REASON THAT THE "SABBATH" ON SUNDAY IS BECAUSE THEY CHANGED IT FROM SATURDAY TO SUNDAY. HOWEVER, MORE RECENTLY, THEY HAVE ADOPTED THE PROTESTANT EXPLANATIONS THAT IT IS THE DAY OF THE RESURRECTION, A PART OF THE OLD LAW, THE PRINCIPLE OF ONE DAY IN SEVEN.

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LAW

QUOTES re: THE SABBATH

“The *Catholic Press* of Sydney, Australia, is emphatic that Sunday observance is solely of Catholic origin.

‘Sunday is a Catholic institution, and its claims to observance can be defended only on Catholic principles...From beginning to end of Scripture there is not a single passage that warrants the transfer of weekly public worship from the last day of the week to the first.’ – August 25, 1900” (FROM SABBATH TO SUNDAY, p. 46)

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LAW

QUOTES re: THE SABBATH

- “*The Convert’s Catechism of Catholic Doctrine*, the work of the Reverend Peter Geiermann, C.S.R., received on January 25, 1910, the ‘apostolic blessing’ of Pope Pius X. On this subject of the change of the Sabbath, this catechism says:
‘Ques. – Which is the Sabbath Day?’

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LAW

QUOTES re: THE SABBATH

‘Ans. – Saturday is the Sabbath Day.
‘Ques. – Why do we observe Sunday instead of Saturday?
‘Ans. – We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church in the Council of Laodicea (A.D. 336), transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday.’ – Second edition, p. 50.” (FROM SABBATH TO SUNDAY, p. 44-45)

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LAW

QUOTES re: THE SABBATH

- AT A CATHOLIC CHURCH IN IOWA IN 1959, BISHOP ENRIGHT SAID, “...There is but one on the face of the earth – the Catholic church – that has power to make laws binding on the conscience, binding before God, binding under pain of hellfire. Take, for instance, the day we celebrate – Sunday. What right have Protestant churches to observe that day? None, whatever.”

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LAW

QUOTES re: THE SABBATH

- “You say it is to obey the commandment, ‘Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.’ But Sunday is not the Sabbath according to the Bible, and the record of time. ...I have repeatedly offered \$1,000 to anyone who will furnish any proof from the bible that Sunday is the day we are bound to keep, and no one has called for the money. ...”it was the holy Catholic church that changed the day of rest from Saturday to Sunday.” (Bishop Enright offers \$1,000; QUIET HOUR ECHOS, 7/59)

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LAW

- THE GENERAL VIEW OF THE CATHOLICS IS THAT A PERSON SHOULD OBEY THE LAW.
- THEIR VIEW OF THE LAW HAS SOME TWISTS THAT ARE DIFFERENT FROM OURS.
- PRIESTS CAN GRANT CERTAIN DISPENSATIONS THAT EXCUSE A PERSON FROM KEEPING A LAW – SUCH AS NECESSARY WORK ON SUNDAY AND HAVING TO MISS MASS BECAUSE OF IT

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QUESTION:
WHAT KIND OF LAWS ARE THERE IN THE BIBLE?

Answer:
Ceremonial, Physical, Spiritual,

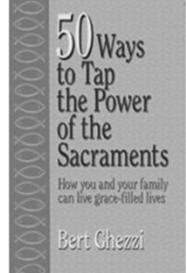
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GRACE

- IS BESTOWED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT
- DEFINITION: "It is a supernatural gift of God bestowed on us by the merits of Jesus Christ for our salvation."
- TWO TYPES OF GRACE:
 1. Sanctifying Grace – This confers on human souls new life
 2. Actual Grace – Supernatural help from God to enlighten, strengthen to avoid evil and do good. Obtained by good works through the sacraments.

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GRACE

- THE EFFECTS OF GRACE:
 1. IT MAKES A PERSON HOLY AND PLEASING TO GOD
 2. IT MAKES A PERSON AN ADOPTED CHILD OF GOD
 3. IT MAKES A PERSON A TEMPLE OF GOD

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GRACE

- THE CHIEF SACRAMENT TO RECEIVE GRACE IS THE EUCHARIST.
- ABIDING AND PERMANENT GRACE GAINED AT BAPTISM IS LOST THROUGH MORTAL SIN. PENANCE RESTORES THIS.
- BAPTISM PUTS GRACE INTO ONE'S LIFE, THEN ONE MUST GROW IN GRACE THROUGH GOOD WORKS
- GRACE IS LOST THROUGH SERIOUS SIN
- GRACE COMES FROM THE GREEK – 'CHARIS' MEANING FAVOR OR THANKS (SEE LUKE 2:52)

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QUESTION:
WHAT IS YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF GRACE?

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- ❖ **DEFINITION:** “Sin is any thought, word, desire, action or neglect forbidden by the law of God.” (A CATECHISM FOR ADULTS, p. 31)
- ❖ **There are TWO TYPES OF SIN:**
 1. **ORIGINAL** – Everyone inherits this sin from Adam and Eve. Immediately at birth you are separated from God. That is why infant baptism is important.
 2. **ACTUAL** – The kind of sin we commit ourselves. It is an offense against God. To sin is to despise God. Sin puts a blockage between the sinner and God – it separates them.

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- ❖ **ACTUAL SIN** has three dimensions
 1. **Venial** – Lesser sins like grumbling, vanity, impatience, lies that don’t hurt anyone, every day sins. Do not have to go to confession for these.
 2. **Serious** – Those sins that are not pre-meditated, but are the larger ones – theft, adultery, etc. But they do not become a way of life.
 3. **Mortal** – Serious sins with one’s full consent and the person becomes the sin –i.e., theft – becomes a thief.

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- ❖ **Any sin may be repented of.** Once it is confessed (serious or mortal), then a person may be restored to a good relationship with God. Eternal punishment is forgiven, however, a person may still have to spend time paying for temporal punishment in purgatory unless he earns enough merits through much service or is awarded an indulgence.

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QUESTION:
HOW MANY TYPES OF SIN ARE THERE IN THE BIBLE?

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THE END OF LECTURE

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