



## I. ORIGIN OF ROMAN CATHOLICISM by [John T Polk II](#)

All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.

### I. ORIGIN OF ROMAN CATHOLICISM

#### **1. The Elements of Idolatry are Condemned Throughout the Bible!**

- a) Use no image of "nature" **Deuteronomy 4:14-20**
- b) Stone to death all who use them **Deuteronomy 17:1-7**
- c) Jerusalem destroyed because of their idolatry **Jeremiah 32:26-37**  
**(2 Kings 23:27)**
- d) Israelites exchanged God for "nature" in wilderness **Acts 7:35-43**
- e) Thessalonians turned from idols to God through the Gospel  
**1 Thessalonians 1:6-10**
- f) Corinthians were warned against idolatry
  - 1) "Flee" from it **1 Corinthians 10:1-14** (specifically,  
**verses 7, 14**)
  - 2) It is demon worship **1 Corinthians 10:20-21**
- g. Use effort to avoid idolatry **1 John 5:21**

#### **h. The RCC Applies Christian Terms and Concepts to Idolatrous Practices, Incorporating What Is Already Condemned:**

**Acts 14:8-18:** And in Lystra a certain man without strength in his feet was sitting, a cripple from his mother's womb, who had never walked. **9** This man heard Paul speaking. Paul, observing him intently and seeing that he had faith to be healed, **10** said with a loud voice, "Stand up straight on your feet!" And he leaped and walked. **11** Now when the people saw what Paul had done, they raised their voices, saying in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have come down to us in the likeness of men!" **12** And Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul, Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. **13** Then the priest of Zeus, whose temple was in front of their city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates, intending to sacrifice with the multitudes. **14** But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard this, they tore their clothes and ran in among the multitude, crying out **15** and saying, "Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men with the same nature as you, and preach to you that you should turn from these useless things to the living God, who made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and all things that are in them, **16** who in bygone generations allowed all nations to walk in their own ways. **17** Nevertheless He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good, gave us rain from heaven and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness." **18** And with these sayings they could scarcely restrain the multitudes from sacrificing to them.

- 1) The miraculous healing of the lame man proved a "god" was visiting them, but which one and through whom was the misguided guess. **Acts 14:11-12**
- 2) The "priest of Zeus" intended to continue his idolatrous sacrifices to the "god" of Paul and Barnabas. **Acts 14:13**
- 3) The apostles, "Paul and Barnabas," rushed to stop this, lest idolatrous sacrifices would be confused with God's sacrifice of Jesus Christ. **Acts 14:14-15**
- 4) The apostles preached in **Acts 14:15-17** that:
  - i. NO HUMAN is "deity" and worthy of sacrifices directed to him;
  - ii. such sacrifices are "useless"/empty before the living God;
  - iii. there is only ONE Creator who also controls living on Earth;
  - iv. in history, God may SEEM to not be in control of human affairs, but in reality, He is responsible for all of our blessings of food and happiness.

***5) Wherever the RCC apostasy has gone, it has incorporated idolatrous practices into the practice of Christianity, and/or used Bible terms for existing idolatrous practices!***

## ***2. The Elements of Apostasy are Condemned in the New Testament!***

- a) Jesus condemned the **attitude** of apostasy - **Matthew 20:20-28**
  - 1) Who is "greatest" by being "over" is Gentile-thinking!
  - 2) Such should never characterize Jesus' disciples!
  - 3) There is NO "hierarchy" in the church of Christ!
- b) Paul condemned the **re-structuring** of apostasy - **Acts 20:26-32**
  - 1) Ephesian apostasy did not occur while Paul preach "the whole counsel of God."
  - 2) Apostasy occurs when Elders permit/preach/promote "perverse things."
  - 3) Apostasy is the drawing away of disciples from Jesus' apostolic teaching. **2 Peter 3:1-2**
  - 4) When disciples have been "drawn away," into what are they "drawn?"
  - 5) The only remedy is a return to the "word of His grace."
- c) Paul condemned the **human laws** of apostasy - **1 Timothy 4:1-6**
  - 1) It takes "lies," "doctrines of demons," and a seared conscience to change God's requirements and add "laws" to what God has said!
  - 2) Marriage and eating meats are choices, not restrictions, and must remain so by the authority of God.
  - 3) If "every creature of God is good," that certainly includes a wife and meats!
  - 4) No one has any authority from God to change what He has said must be done, or left undone (open) for personal decision (ex: **1 Corinthians 7 & 10**).
- d. Paul condemned the **willfulness** of apostasy - **2 Thessalonians 2:1-12**
  - 1) Christians must not change faith and authorized practices by thinking that God has changed or added any Scripture that

- previously wasn't in our Bibles! (***There are no left out Scriptures or missing books of the Bible! Jude 3***)
- 2) Because the expression "son of perdition" is only used elsewhere of Judas Iscariot (**John 17:12**), Paul's use here describes anyone who betrays the doctrinal stance of the church of Christ! To identify a specific "antichrist" with this passage is unnecessary, for this person represents all who arrogate for themselves the authority of "God," like "antichrist" represents all who would oppose Jesus Christ and His church! There is not just one "man of sin," just as there is not just one "antichrist."
  - 3) "The falling away," then "the man of sin" must happen before "the day of Christ" but not necessarily in immediate succession. Obviously there has been "the falling away" for even in the 1st century, in addition to the "mystery of lawlessness" (before the destruction of Jerusalem, **Matthew 24:12**), there were "false Christs" (**Mark 13:6**), false Scriptures (**Luke 1:1; 2 Thessalonians 2:2**), and "many antichrists" (**1 John 2:18**) in circulation. "The day of Christ" would happen sometime after religious turmoil reached its zenith in "the man of sin," the exact time only in the mind of God (**Matthew 24:36; Acts 17:31**). Such religious confusion and men of sin exist today, so the "day of Christ" is a distinct possibility anytime!
  - 4) Apostasy is always led by those who do not have a "love of the truth" and have an ego that deigns to think more highly of themselves than they ought to think, and make rules for others thus making it harder for people to be saved than God intended!
- e. ***The Roman Catholic Church is the church of Apostasy***, for it is based upon the very things that God condemned!