

# Denominational Doctrines – Part 5

## Catholic Doctrines

### Introduction:

- A. As we get to doctrines or specific groups will only notice 3 or 4 basic doctrines of each group.
- B. This lesson will involve 4 basic doctrines of Catholicism

### Discussion:

#### I. The Scriptures.

- A. The Catholic doctrine that church tradition and Papal authority are on par with the Bible.
  - 1. The faith was once for all delivered to the saints in the first century. (Jude 3).
  - 2. The Scriptures are sufficient (2 Tim. 3:15, 16).
- B. The Catholic doctrine that only the church can interpret the scriptures.
  - 1. Based on a perversion of 2 Pet. 1:20.
  - 2. Context shows that “no private interpretation” was not the prophet’s own interpretation (v. 21)

#### II. The Papacy.

- A. The doctrine that Peter was the first Pope.
  - 1. Peter was a “fellow” elder, not the head elder (1 Pet. 5:1).
  - 2. Peter was married, popes cannot be married (1 Cor. 9:5)
- B. The doctrine that Peter founded the church at Rome and the church was built upon him.
  - 1. Paul longed to go to Rome to impart some spiritual gift (Rom. 1:10, 11).
    - a. Only the Apostles could impart spiritual gifts. (Acts 8:12-18)
    - b. If Peter had founded the church, he would have already done this.
    - c. If any apostle had founded the church at Rome they would have had spiritual gifts.
  - 2. Church built up Christ and all the apostles (Eph. 2:20-22).
- C. First pope was not until 6<sup>th</sup> century.

#### III. The Priesthood.

- A. The doctrine that the sinner accesses God through the priest.
  - 1. Jesus is our High Priest and mediator in heaven (1 Tim. 2:5; Heb. 4:14-16)
  - 2. Each Christian is a priest on earth (1 Pet. 2:5, 9; Rev. 1:5, 6).
- B. The practice of calling the priest “Father.” (Matt. 23:9, 10).
- C. The doctrine that the priest can absolve sins.
  - 1. Only God can forgive sins (Mark 2:6-12)
  - 2. Jesus is our advocate with the Father to forgive sins (1 John 1:9; 2:1)

#### IV. The Worship.

- A. The practice of praying to saints and angels.
  - 1. Angel worship is forbidden in Scriptures (Col. 2:18).
  - 2. New Testaments knows nothing of praying to either.
- B. The practice of worshipping Mary.
  - 1. Catholic teach that Mary “is immaculate, the Mother of God, spouse of the Holy Spirit, Propitiary of the world and the Gate of Heaven.”
    - a. Bible does not call her by such names.
    - b. Bible tells of worshipping the Babe, not the mother.
  - 2. Catholics teach that Mary was a perpetual virgin.
    - a. Only a virgin until she brought forth here first born. (Matt. 1:25).
    - b. Mary had other children (Matt. 13:55-56; Gal. 1:19).

### Conclusion:

- A. Many other Doctrines the Catholics teach, but these are enough to show the fallacy of Catholicism.