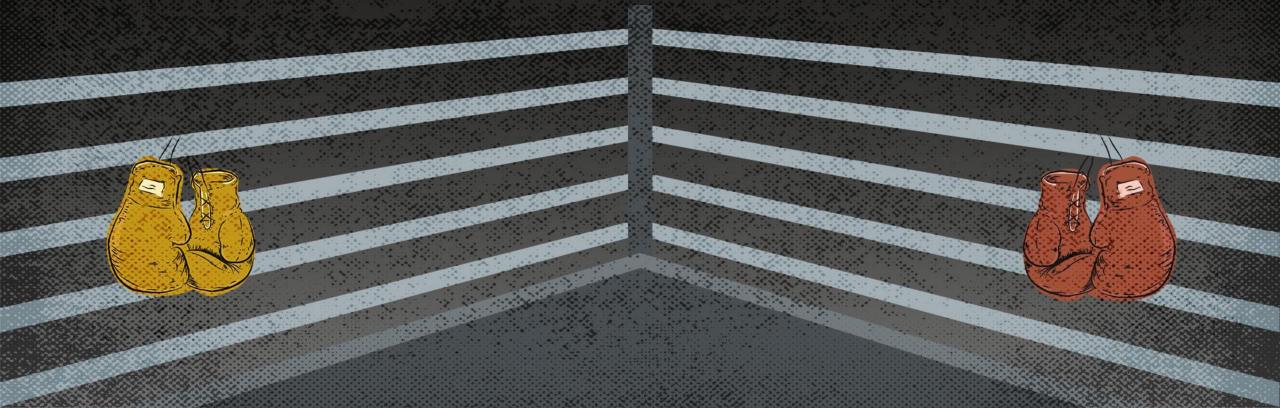
Roman Catholic Apologetics & Evangelism

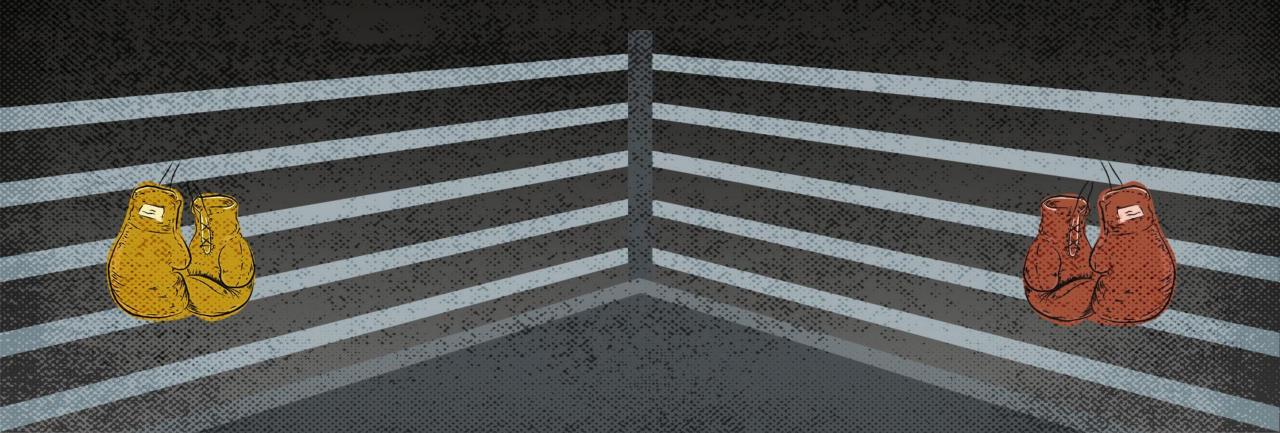


Week 1-2: Introduction & Authority



Goal:

Give you confidence that you have Biblical answers & teach you how to think and not necessarily what to think!

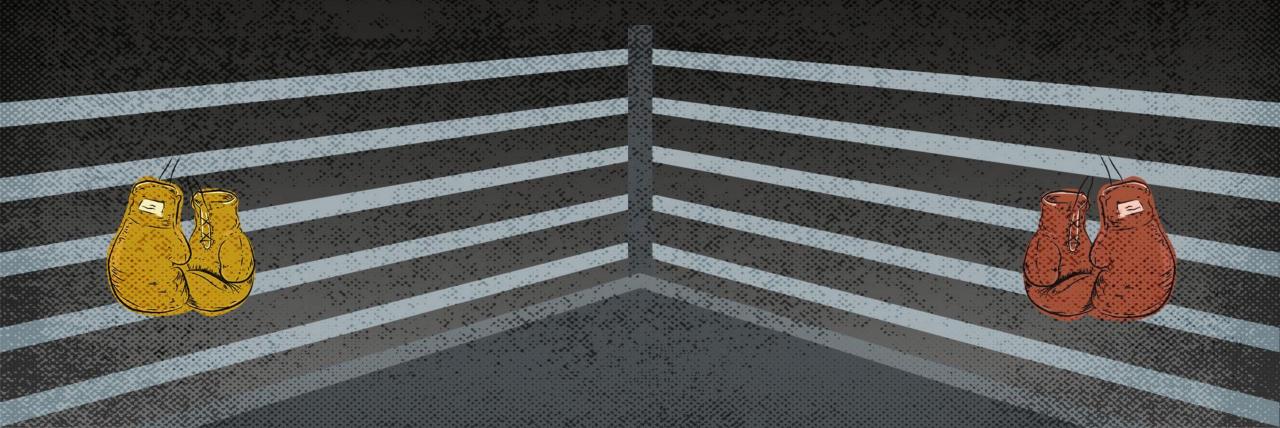


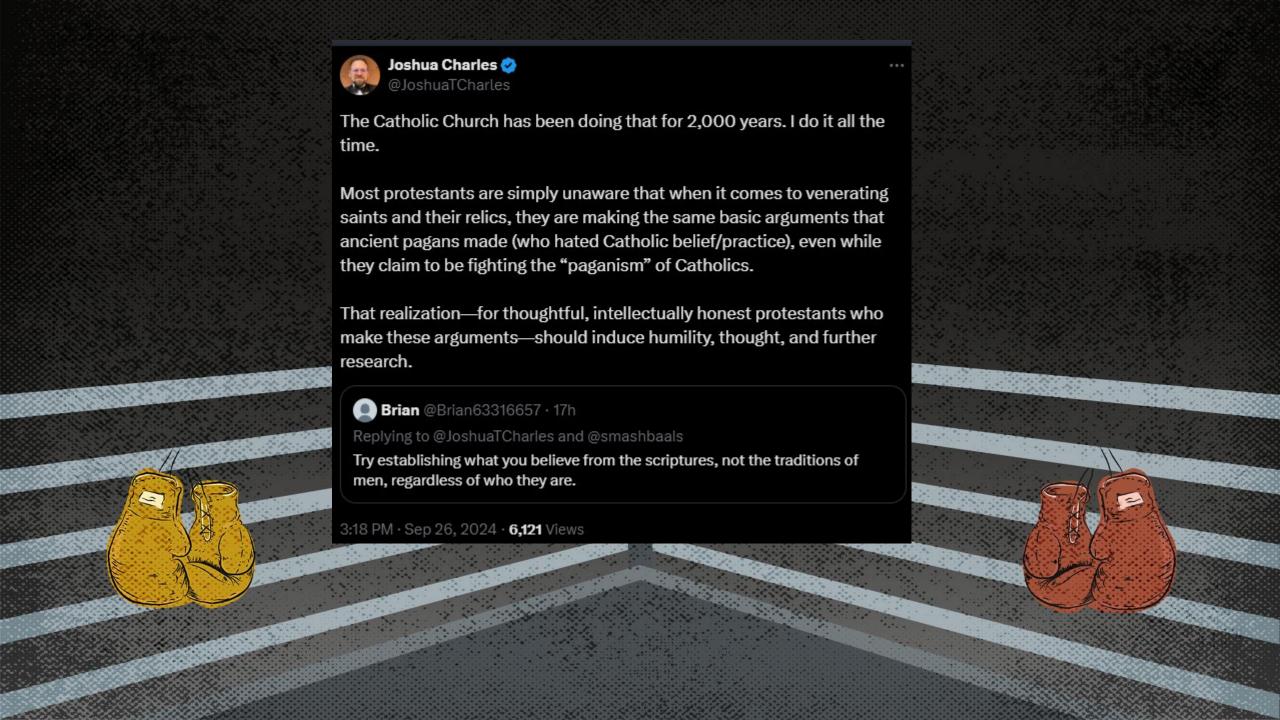


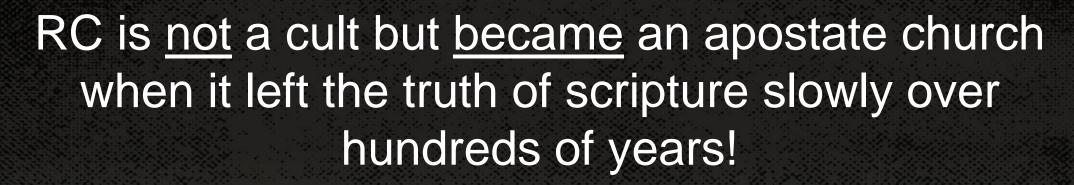
"We are the one true church of 2,000 years"



They want you to believe is that the current expression of the Roman church is the same as the church 50-100 years after Christ.



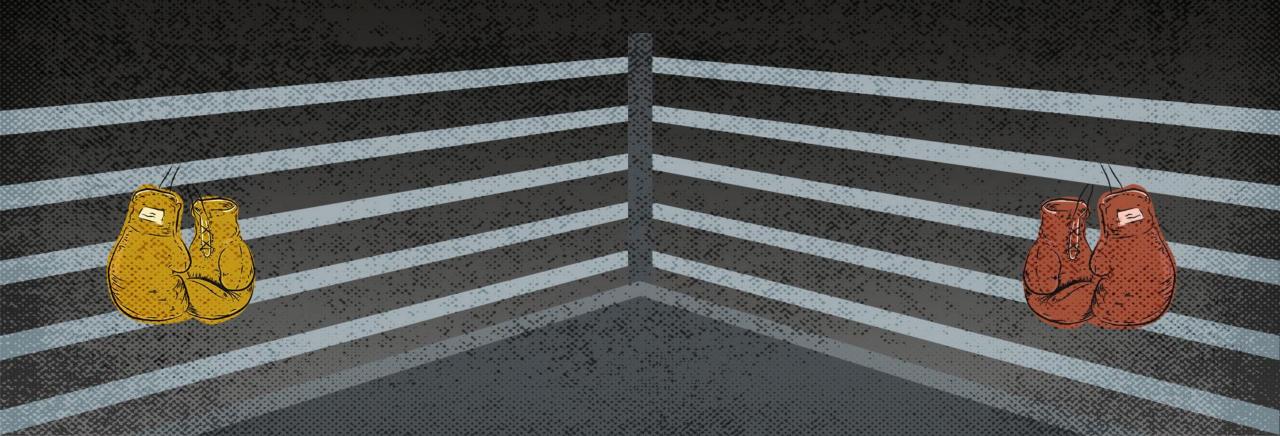








I want us to believe and appreciate that we are part of the catholic church but not the Catholic church located in Rome



The Apostles' Creed

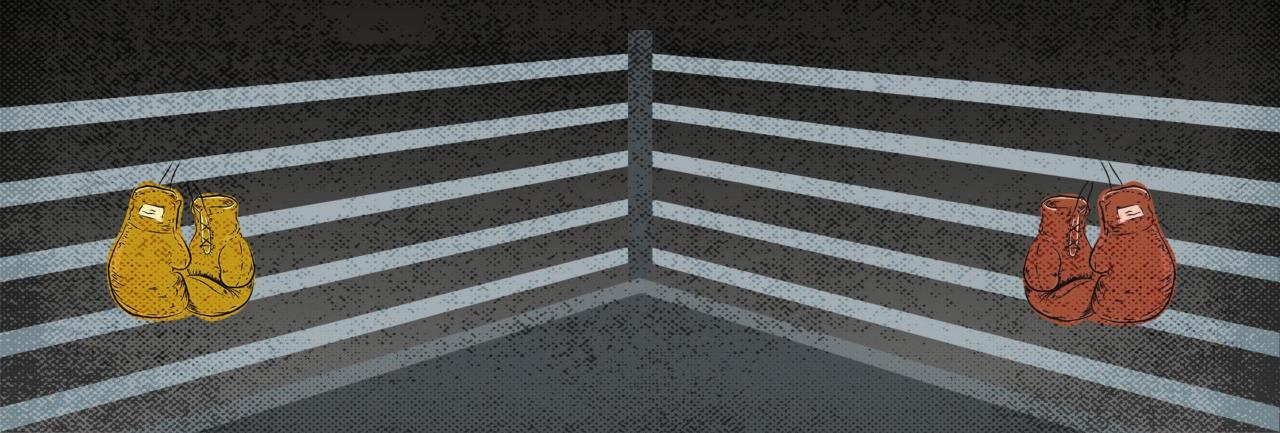
I believe in God the Father, Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; I believe a *holy catholic Church*, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.

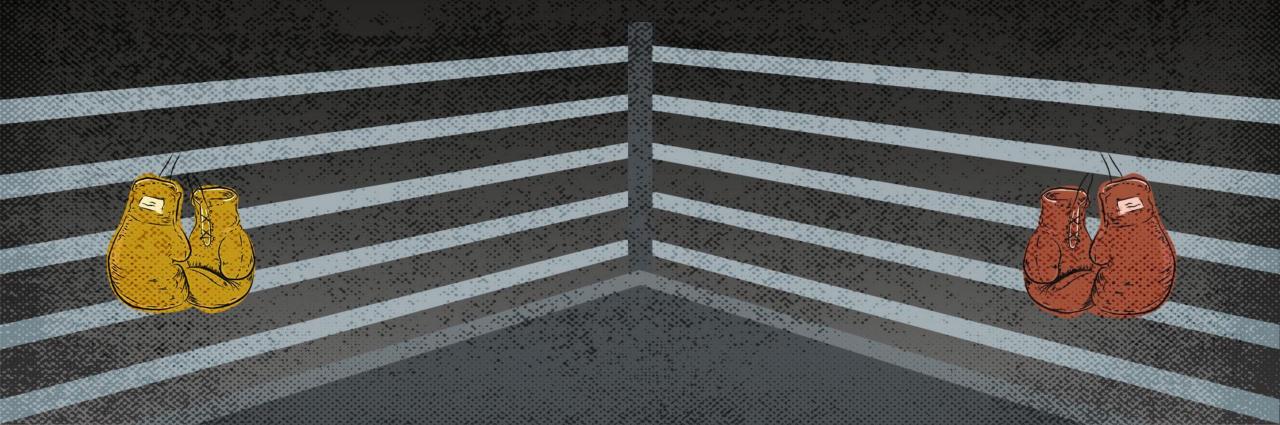
Amen.

Welcome to a Reformed Church: A Guide for Pilgrims

The beauty of evangelical Protestantism is that we believe there are true expressions of the "catholic church" in many places



Epistemology: Study of how we know what we know! What is our authority?



AUTHORITY

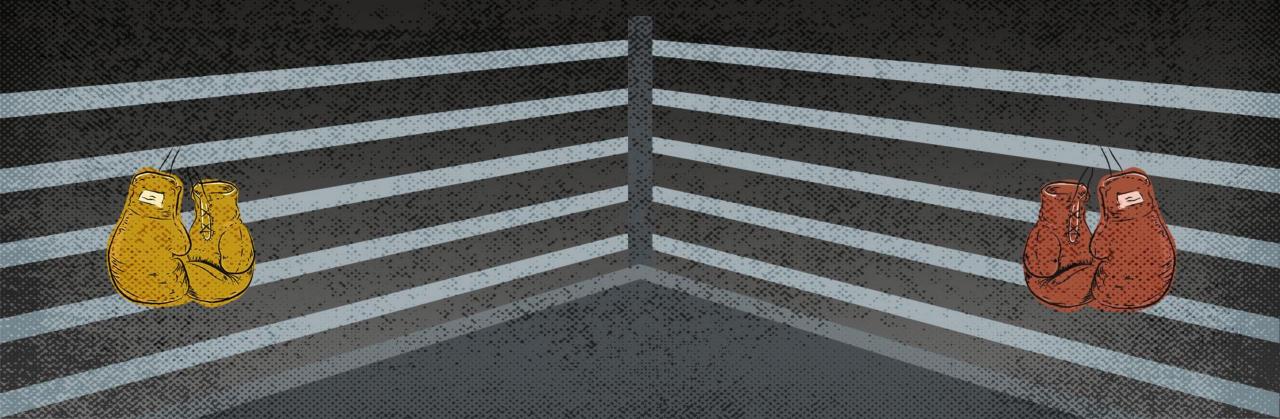






Sola Scriptura:

Scripture is the sole and sufficient <u>infallible</u> rule of faith for the Christian Church (James White; Roman Catholic Controversy)



Infallibility:

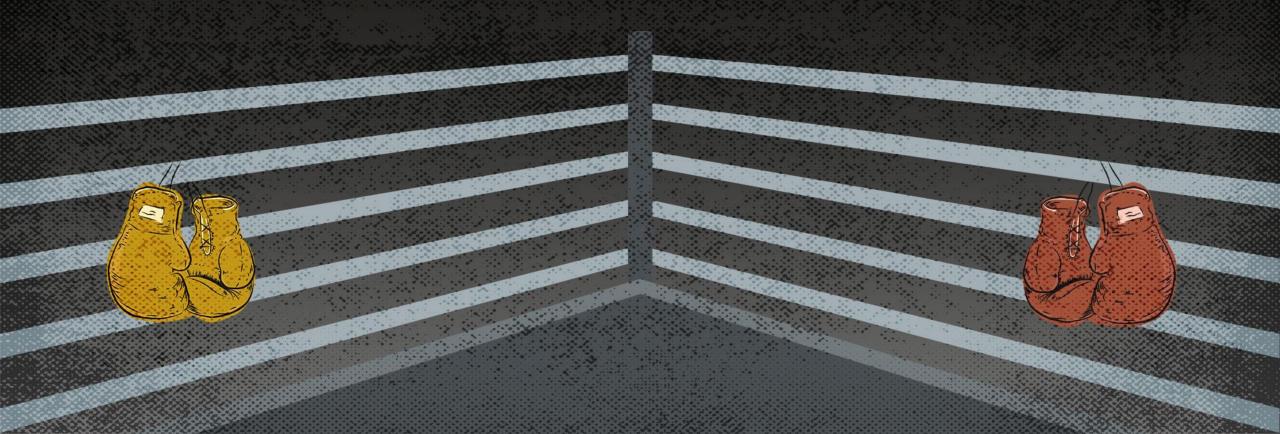
The characteristic of being incapable of failing to accomplish a predetermined purpose. In Protestant theology infallibility is usually associated with Scripture. The Bible will not fail in its ultimate purpose of revealing God and the way of salvation to humans. In Roman Catholic theology infallibility is also extended to the teaching of the church ("magisterium" or "dogma") under the authority of the pope as the chief teacher and earthly head of the body of Christ.

Pocket Dictionary of Theological Terms

16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16–17

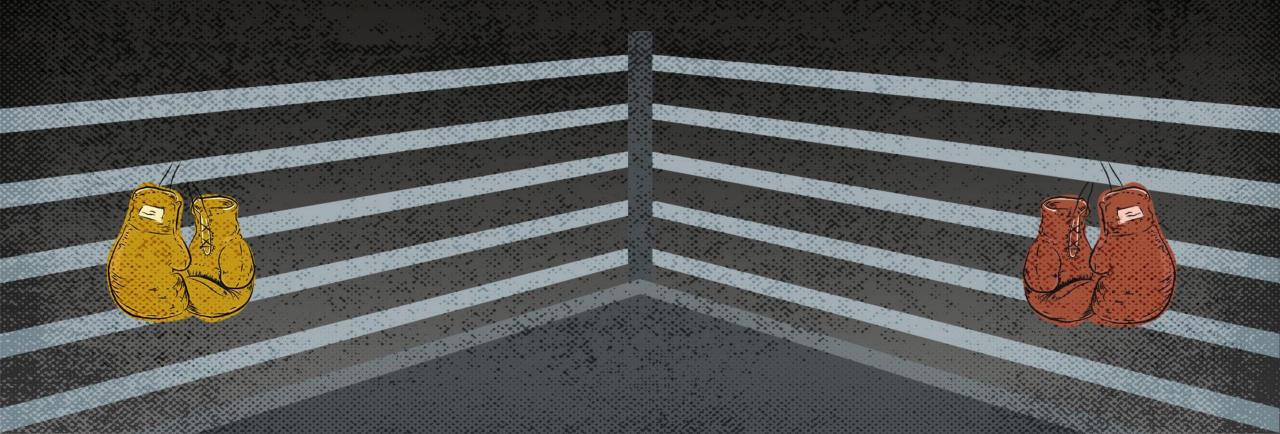
Sola Scriptura is Not a claim that the Bible contains all knowledge but rather that Scripture provides sufficient and clear knowledge for the ordinary believer to understand how they are saved and how to live a Christian life!!



14 But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it 15 and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

2 Timothy 3:14–15

Church is not left without the voice of God, but through Scripture the church hears her Lord.



16 For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. 17 For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," 18 we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. 19 And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, 20 knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. 21 For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

2 Peter 1:16-21

Sola Scriptura. "....perhaps more fundamentally, pushing back against the universal human tendency to replace God's authority with human authority. One might say that all of redemptive history is marked by humans swapping God out for mere creaturely authorities. To sum up, sola scriptura fights against idolatry." (Michael Kruger)



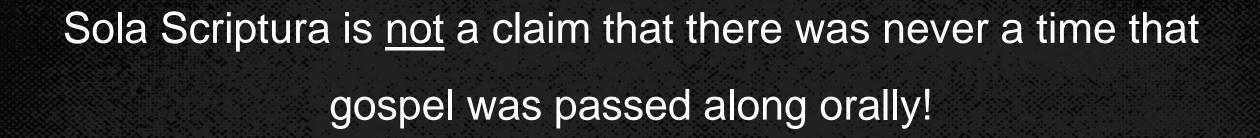
the Word of the Lord is the sole way that can lead us in our search for all that it is lawful to hold concerning him, and is the sole light to illumine our vision of all that we should see of him, it will readily keep and restrain us from all rashness. For we shall know that the moment we exceed the bounds of the Word, our course is outside the pathway and in darkness, and that there we must repeatedly wander, slip, and stumble.

John Calvin: Institutes of the Christian Religion; 3.21.2

Argument:

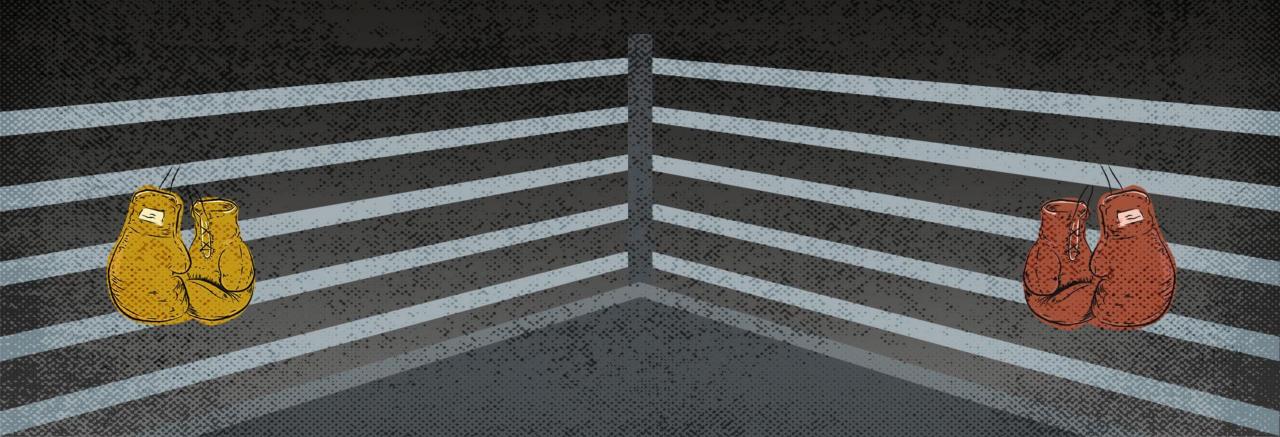
the apostles were not "sola scriptura" Christians?





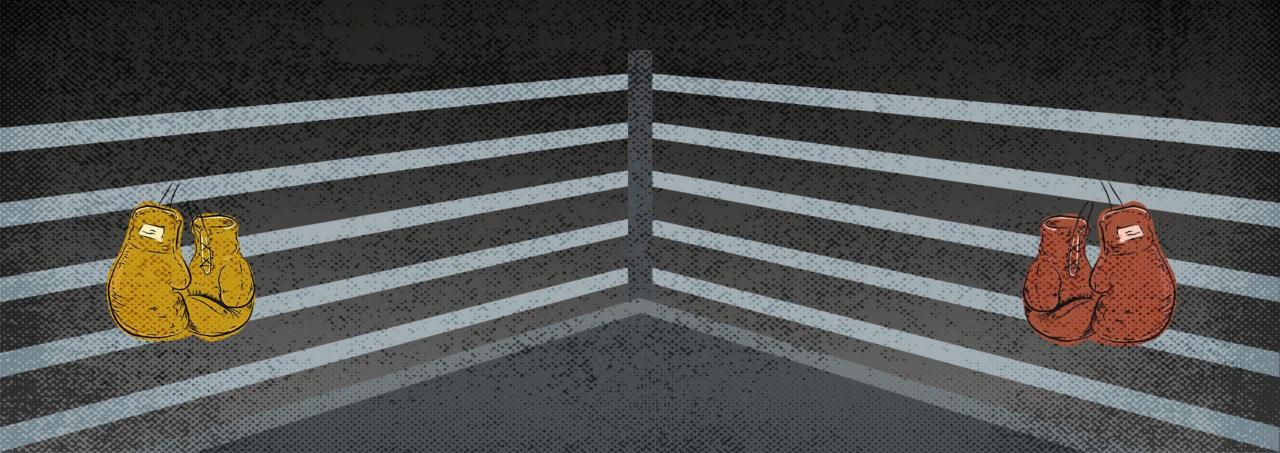


Sola Scriptura does claim that <u>for the church today</u>, all revealed truth of God is found in scripture.



Be Like Jesus:

Jesus's view of scripture and how tradition is tested by scripture



4 But he answered, "It is written, " 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Matthew 4:4

7 Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

Matthew 4:7

13 He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you make it a den of robbers."

Matthew 21:13

10 Have you not read this Scripture: "'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;

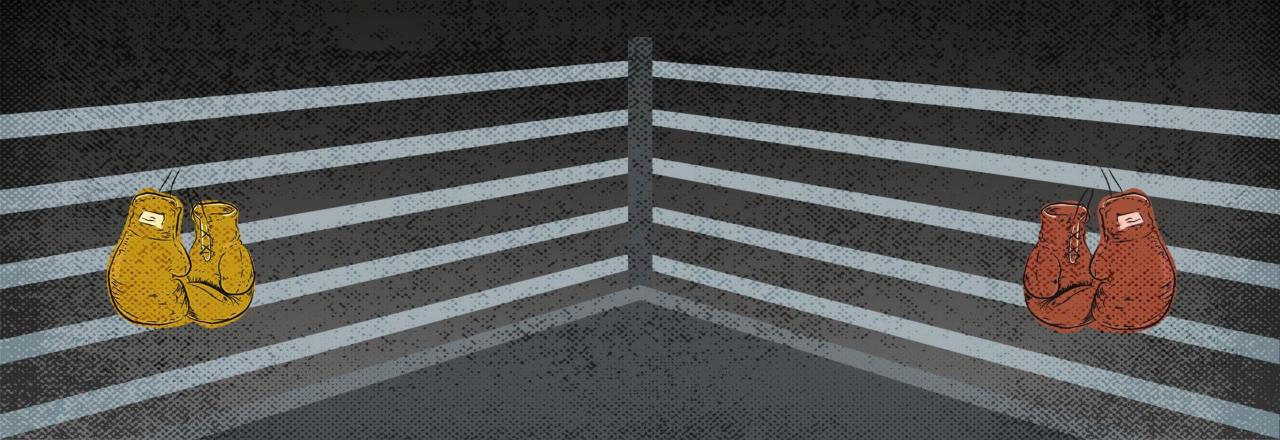
Mark 12:10

31 And as for the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was said to you by God:

Matthew 22:31

Conclusion:

when you read scripture, you are reading what God said!



19 And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, 20 knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. 21 For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

2 Peter 1:19-21

16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

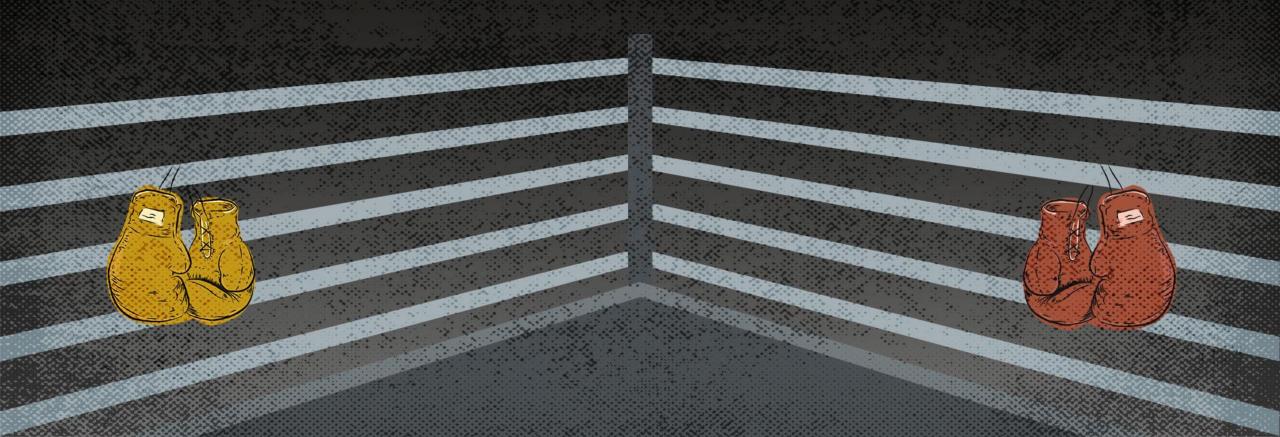
2 Timothy 3:16–17

28 Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. 29 I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; 30 and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. 31 Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. 32 And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

Acts 20:28–32

Argument:

"Of course, we agree with you! Scripture is "God breathed and has authority" but here is the problem! You silly Protestants are only obeying part of scripture. Have you not read 2 Thess 2.15?"





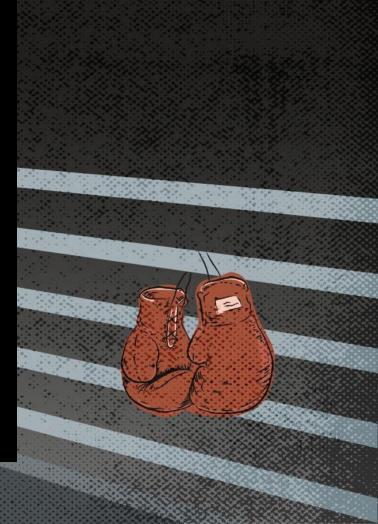


Follow

Found these details:

Scott Hahn, a former Presbyterian minister, converted to Catholicism after extensive study of early Christian history and theology. He came to believe that the early Church was always Catholic by recognizing several key elements of Catholicism in early Christian teachings and practices.

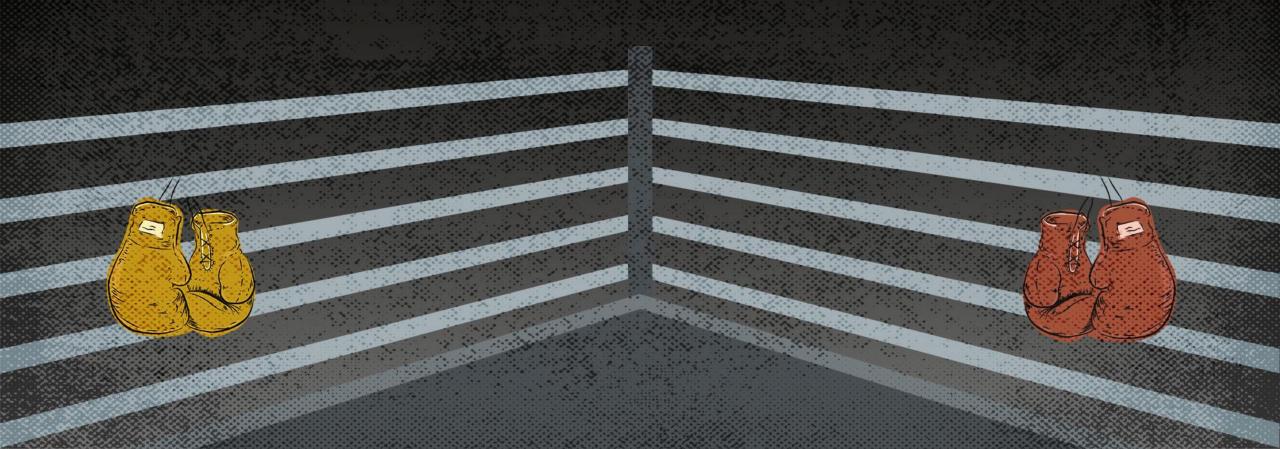
First, Hahn observed that the early Church relied not only on Scripture but also on oral tradition and the teaching authority of the Church. Verses like 2 Thessalonians 2:15 emphasize the importance of both written and oral tradition, which aligned with the Catholic Church's emphasis on Sacred Tradition alongside Scripture.



15 So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by our spoken word or by our letter.

2 Thessalonians 2:15

Assumption: what was oral and written differ in some way

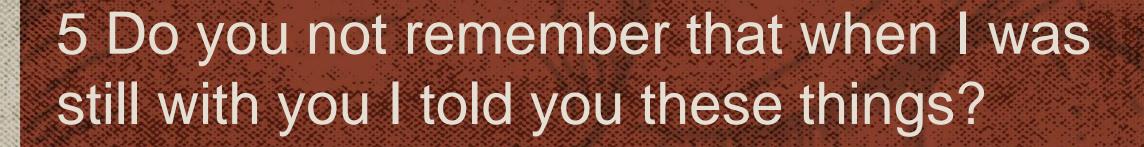


14 To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. 15 So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by our spoken word or by our letter.

2 Thessalonians 2:14–15

6 I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—7 not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. 8 But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. 9 As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.

Galatians 1:6–9



2 Thessalonians 2:5

6 Now we command you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from any brother who is walking in idleness and not in accord with the tradition that you received from us.

2 Thessalonians 3:6

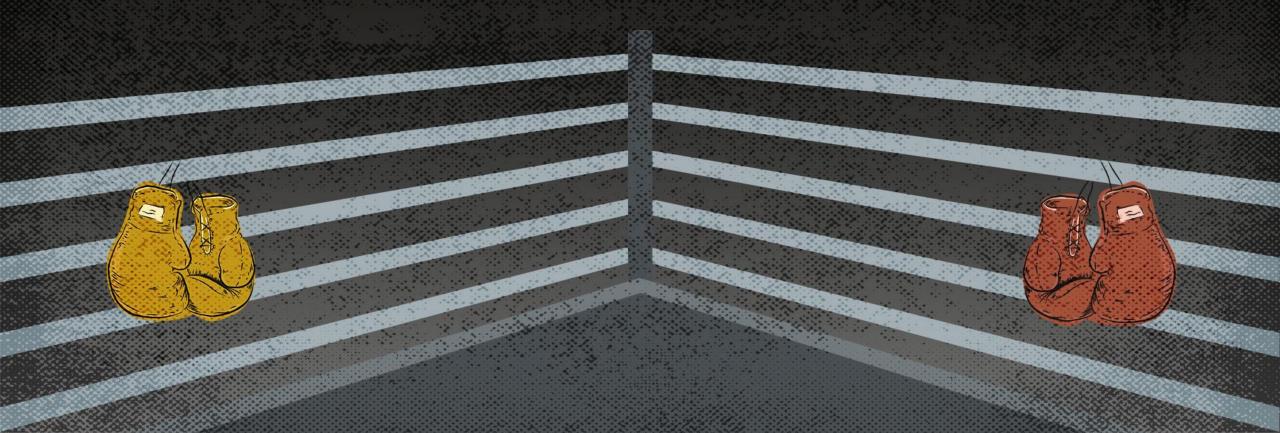
How did Jesus view and evaluate tradition?



1 Then Pharisees and scribes came to Jesus from Jerusalem and said, 2 "Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat." 3 He answered them, "And why do you break the commandment of God for the sake of your tradition? 4 For God commanded, 'Honor your father and your mother,' and, 'Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.' 5 But you say, 'If anyone tells his father or his mother, "What you would have gained from me is given to God," 6 he need not honor his father.' So for the sake of your tradition you have made void the word of God. 7 You hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy of you, when he said: 8 " 'This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; 9 in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.' "

Matthew 15:1-9

Any tradition, no matter its alleged origin must be tested against scripture



3 Categories of Tradition



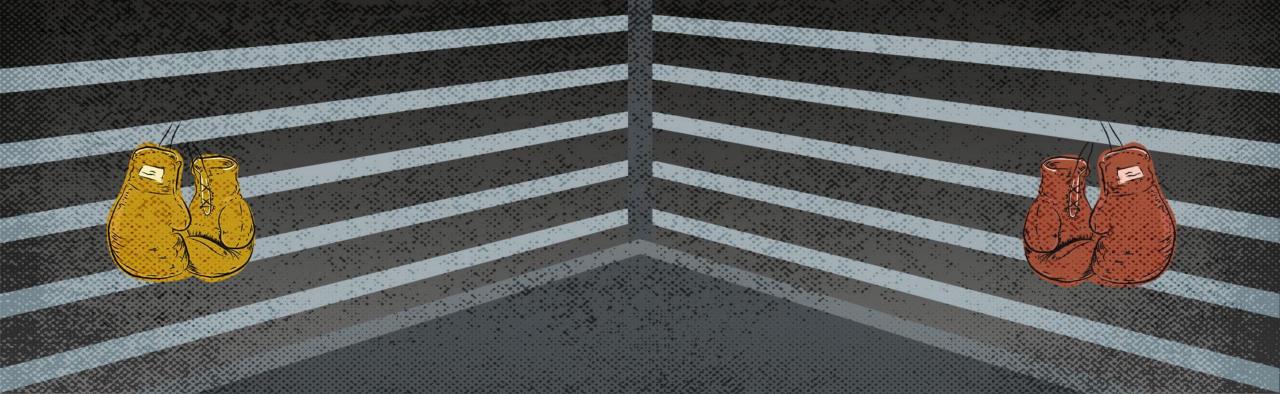
Tradition II: Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox; give equal authority to scripture and tradition

Dangers: Functionally denies the clarity of scripture & priesthood of all believers; Example: Filioque clause; & church councils; & exclusivity of their church (sola ecclesia)!



Tradition 0: (Solo Scriptura); Scripture alone and me and my Bible under a tree

Dangers: Functionally denies the catholicity of the church & Guidance of Holy Spirit in history, as well as the bias toward present thinking and events! Example: this is what it means to me Bible Studies

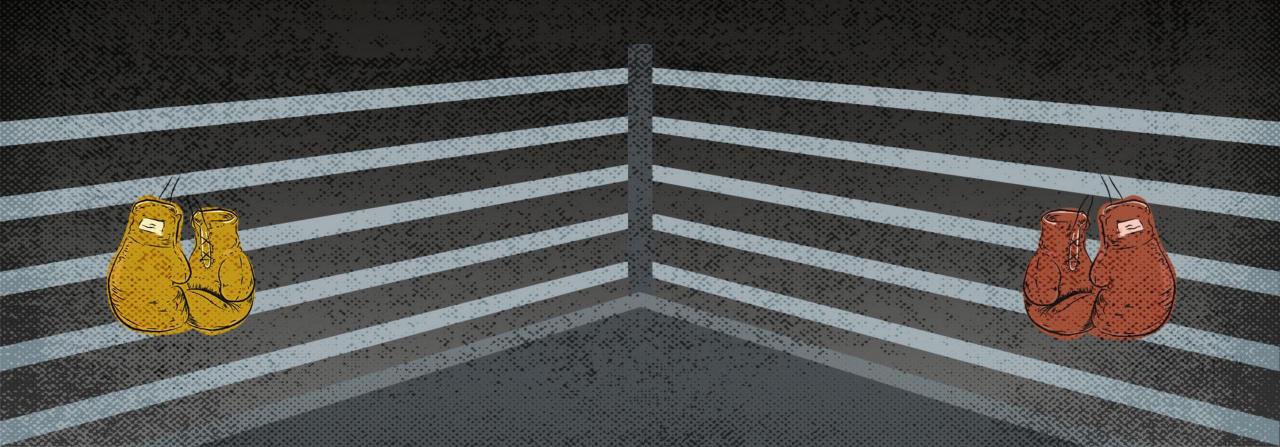


Tradition I (Sola Scriptura view): Tradition is important but must be under the authority of scripture. We want to know what those that came before us said and how they contributed to the church. However, their views are judged by scripture and not on the same plain. We can accept what agrees with scripture and reject what does not. (This is the balanced view & Jesus's view in Matthew 15 & Mark 7)



Conclusion:

On ?s of authority, RCs are not arguing with you but rather with Jesus, Peter, and Paul.



Irenaeus; 175 AD

We have learned from none others the plan of our salvation, than from those through whom the Gospel has come down to us, which they did at one time proclaim in public, and, at a later period, by the will of God, handed down to us in the Scriptures, to be the ground and pillar of our faith



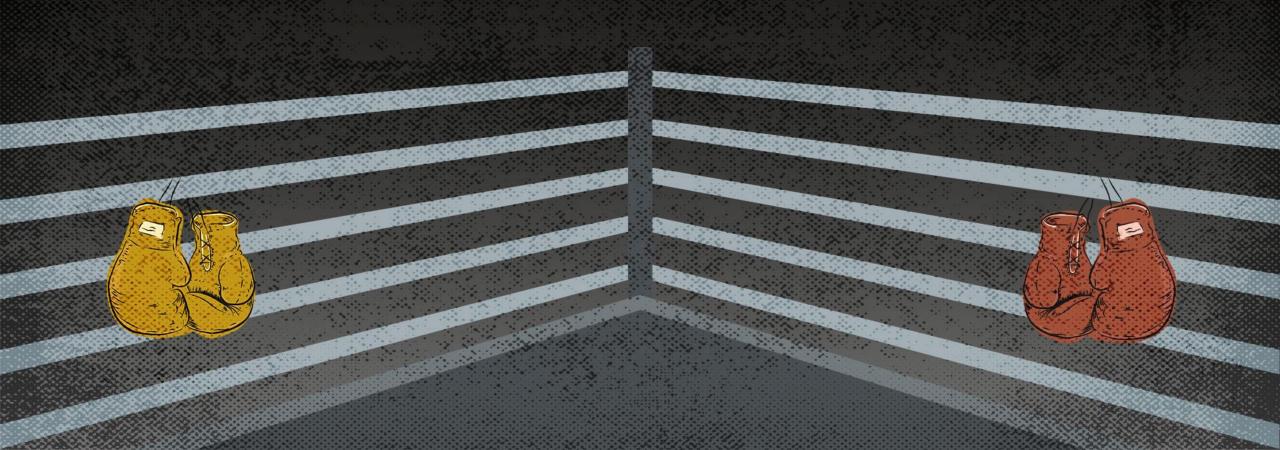
Roman Catholic Authority Claims:





That Trad Gal 🧼 @thattradgal · 5h

"Jesus didn't give us a book, he gave us a church. So if anybody has any right to translate the divinely inspired word of God, it is the authority in whom Jesus Christ is appointed. And that authority is the Catholic Church."







Joshua Charles ② @JoshuaTCharles

Who founded Protestantism?



Grok 🧼 🖈 @grok

Protestantism was founded by Martin Luther in 1517.

△ Share



Joshua Charles ② @Joshua TCharles

Who founded the Catholic Church?



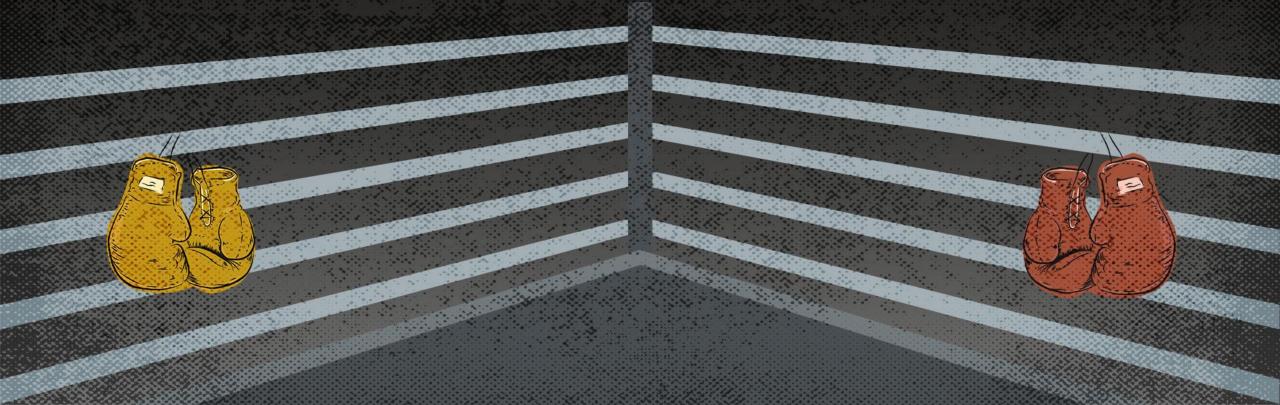
Grok 🧼 🗹 @grok

The Catholic Church was founded by Jesus Christ. He established Peter as the first pope, and the papal succession continues to this day under the leadership of Pope Francis. The Catholic Church's foundation is based on the belief that Jesus Christ appointed Peter as the rock upon which the Church would be built, as stated in Matthew 16:18. This unbroken line of succession from St. Peter to Pope Francis is a cornerstone of the Catholic faith, symbolizing the continuity of leadership and authority in the Church.

18 And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

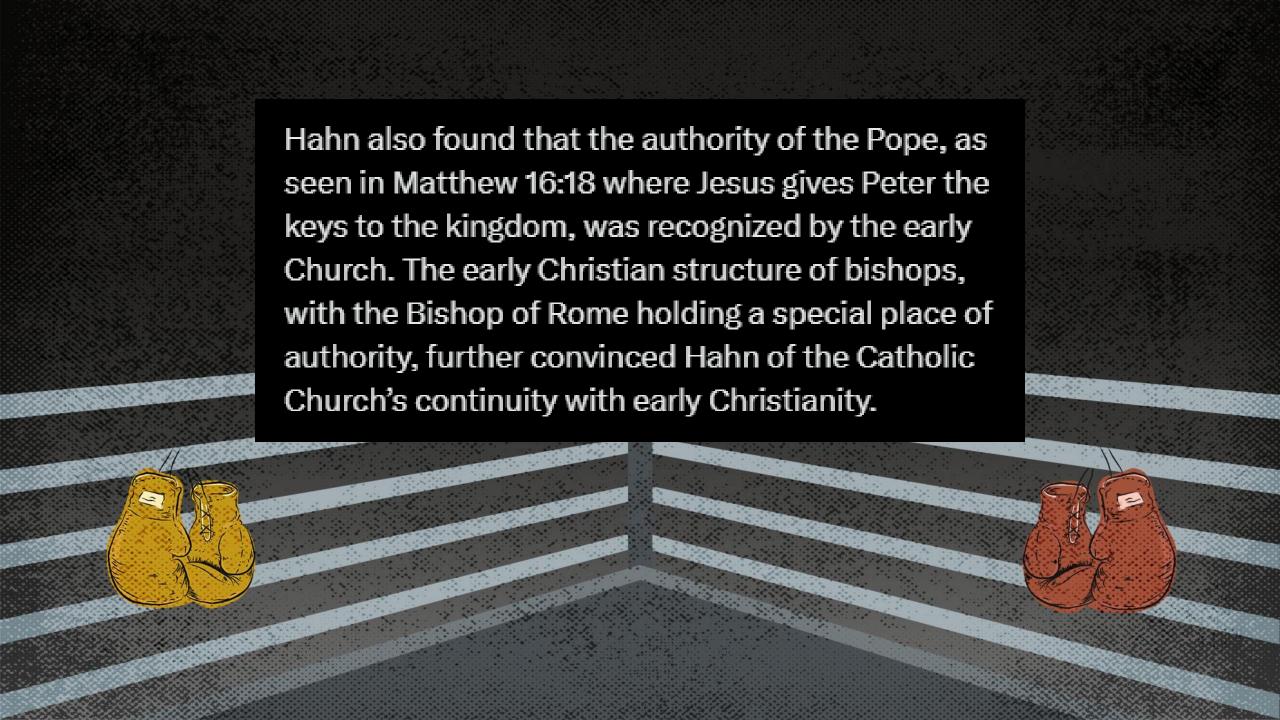
Matthew 16:18

Who/What is "this rock"?



13 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" 14 And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." 15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" 16 Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." 17 And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. 18 And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. 19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

Matthew 16:13-19





And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Matthew 16:18-19







SESSION 4 : 18 JULY 1870

First dogmatic constitution on the church of Christ

Pius, bishop, servant of the servants of God, with the approval of the sacred council, for an everlasting record.

1. The eternal shepherd and guardian of our souls [37],

in order to render permanent the saving work of redemption,

determined to build a church

in which.

as in the house of the living God.

all the faithful should be linked by the bond of one

faith and

charity.

2. Therefore, before he was glorified,

he besought his Father,

not for the apostles only.

but also for those who were to believe in him through their word,

that they all might be one as the Son himself and the Father are one [38] .

3. So then.

just as he sent apostles, whom he chose out of the world [39] .

even as he had been sent by the Father [40],

in like manner it was his will that in his church there should be shepherds and teachers until the end of time.

4. In order, then, that

the episcopal office should be one and undivided and that.

by the union of the clergy,

the whole multitude of believers should be held together in the unity of

faith and

communion.

COMMISSION.

he set blessed Peter over the rest of the apostles and

instituted in him the permanent principle of both unities and

their visible foundation.

- 5. Upon the strength of this foundation was to be built the eternal temple, and the church whose topmost part reaches heaven was to rise upon the firmness of this foundation [41].
- And since the gates of hell trying, if they can, to overthrow the church, make their assault with a hatred that increases day by day against its divinely laid foundation.

we judge it necessary,

with the approbation of the sacred council, and

for the protection, defence and growth of the catholic flock,

to propound the doctrine concerning the

institution.

permanence and

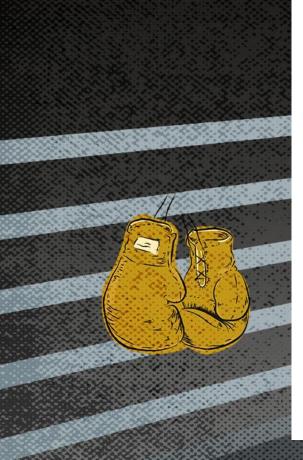
nature

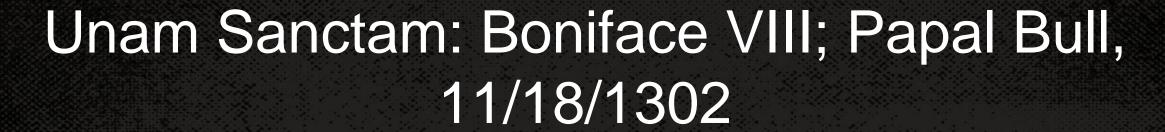
of the sacred and apostolic primacy.

upon which the strength and coherence of the whole church depends.

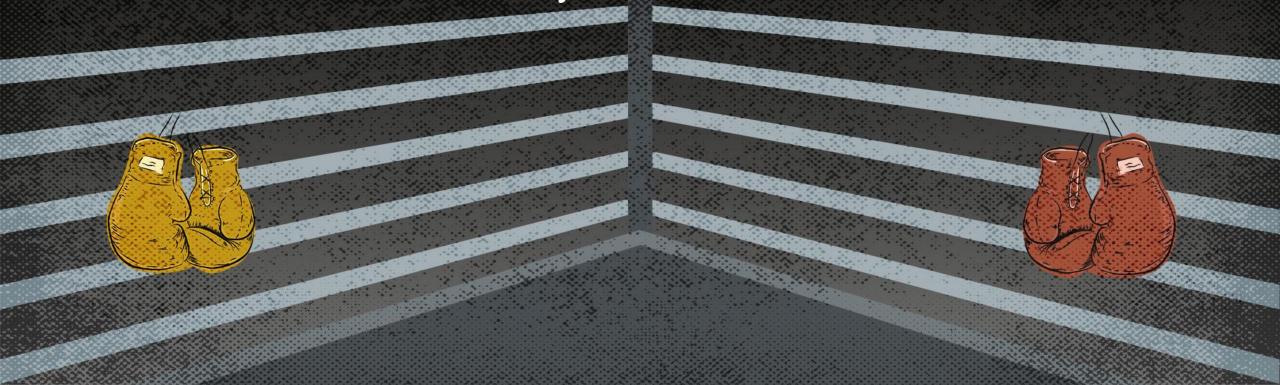
- 7. This doctrine is to be believed and held by all the faithful in accordance with the ancient and unchanging faith of the whole church.
- 8. Furthermore, we shall proscribe and condemn the contrary errors which are so harmful to the Lord's flock.

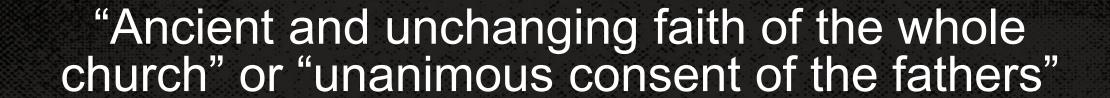


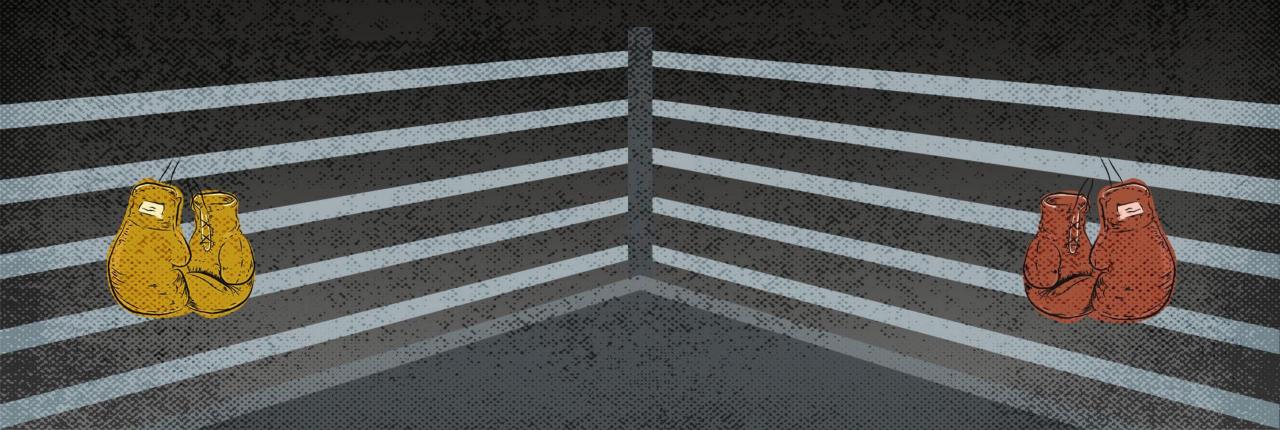




We therefore declare, say, and affirm that submission on the part of every man to the bishop of Rome is altogether necessary for his salvation.







And if we too have said like Peter, "Thou art the Christ," the Son of the living God," not as if flesh and blood had revealed it unto us, but by light from the Father in heaven having shone in our heart, we become a Peter, and to us there might be said by the Word, "Thou art Peter," etc. For a rock5 is every disciple of Christ of whom those drank who drank of the spiritual rock which followed them, and upon every such rock is built every word of the church, and the polity in accordance with it; for in each of the perfect, who have the combination of words and deeds and thoughts which fill up the blessedness, is the church built by God. (Origen 225AD)

Ante-Nicene Fathers 9: The Gospel of Peter, the Diatessaron of Tatian, the Apocalypse of Peter, the Visio Pauli, the Apocalypses of the Virgin and Sedrach, the Testament of Abraham, the Acts of Xanthippe and Polyxena, the Narrative of Zosimus, the Apology of Aristides, the Epistles of Clement (Complete Text), Origen's Commentary on John, Books I-X, and Commentary on Matthew, Books I, II, and X-XIV

But if you suppose that upon that one Peter only the whole church is built by God, what would you say about John the son of thunder or each one of the Apostles? (Origen 225AD)

Ante-Nicene Fathers 9: The Gospel of Peter, the Diatessaron of Tatian, the Apocalypse of Peter, the Visio Pauli, the Apocalypses of the Virgin and Sedrach, the Testament of Abraham, the Acts of Xanthippe and Polyxena, the Narrative of Zosimus, the Apology of Aristides, the Epistles of Clement (Complete Text), Origen's Commentary on John, Books I-X, and Commentary on Matthew, Books I, II, and X-XIV

Are the keys of the kingdom of heaven given by the Lord to Peter only, and will no other of the blessed receive them (Origen 225AD)

Ante-Nicene Fathers 9: The Gospel of Peter, the Diatessaron of Tatian, the Apocalypse of Peter, the Visio Pauli, the Apocalypses of the Virgin and Sedrach, the Testament of Abraham, the Acts of Xanthippe and Polyxena, the Narrative of Zosimus, the Apology of Aristides, the Epistles of Clement (Complete Text), Origen's Commentary on John, Books I-X, and Commentary on Matthew, Books I, II, and X-XIV

He arranged by His authority the origin of that unity, as beginning from one. (Cyprian 250AD)

Ante-Nicene Fathers 5: Fathers of the Third Century: Hippolytus, Cyprian, Novatian, Appendix

Assuredly the rest of the apostles were also the same as was Peter, endowed with a like partnership both of honour and power; but the beginning proceeds from unity (Cyprian 250AD)

Ante-Nicene Fathers 5: Fathers of the Third Century: Hippolytus, Cyprian, Novatian, Appendix

Thence, through the changes of times and successions, the ordering of bishops and the plan of the Church flow onwards; so that the Church is founded upon the bishops, and every act of the Church is controlled by these same rulers (Cyprian 250AD)

Ante-Nicene Fathers 5: Fathers of the Third Century: Hippolytus, Cyprian, Novatian, Appendix

Having said to Peter, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-Jonas, and of having promised to lay the foundation of the Church <u>upon his confession</u>; not long after He says, Get thee behind me, Satan. And elsewhere he said, Upon this rock. He did not say upon Peter for <u>it is not upon the man</u>, but <u>upon his own faith</u> that the church is built. And what is this faith? <u>You are the Christ</u>, the Son of the living God. John Chrysostom 375 AD (In pentecosten 52.806.75 – 52.807.1)



Augustine 420AD:

For before he was called Simon. Now this name of Peter was given him by the Lord, and that in a figure, that he should signify the Church. For seeing that Christ is the rock (Petra), Peter is the Christian people. Therefore Peter is so called from the rock; not the rock from Peter; as Christ is not called Christ from the Christian, but the Christian from Christ. For the rock (Petra) is the original name. "Therefore," he saith, "Thou art Peter; and upon this Rock" which thou hast confessed, upon this Rock which thou hast acknowledged, saying, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God, will I build My Church;" that is upon Myself, the Son of the living God, "will I build My Church." I will build thee upon Myself, not Myself upon thee.

Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers 1.6: Saint Augustin: Sermon on the Mount, Harmony of the Gospels, Homilies on the Gospels

This is My Son, had revealed to Peter that he must confess Thou art the Son of God, for in the words This is, God the Revealer points Him out, and the response, Thou art, is the believer's welcome to the truth. And this is the rock of confession whereon the Church is built

This faith it is which is the foundation of the Church; through this faith the gates of hell cannot prevail against her. This is the faith which has the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Whatsoever this faith shall have loosed or bound on earth shall be loosed or bound in heaven

Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers 2.9: St. Hilary of Poitiers 350AD

Important Conclusions after all Patristic Evidence is examined regarding Rome's claims to the Papacy:

- 1. The general consensus among the Fathers regarding Matthew 16.18 is that the rock and foundation of the church is Jesus himself or Peter's confession of faith.
- 2. Peter figuratively represented the unity of the church
- 3. The keys are a declarative authority to teach truth, preach the gospel, and exercise discipline in the church
- 4. The fathers spoke about Peter in exalted terms
- 5. They saw bishops of Rome as successors of Peter but not the exclusive successors of Peter nor the rulers of the universal church
- 6. Therefore, there is no theological evidence nor historical evidence to support Roman claims to primacy and authority

Burden of Proof is on Rome

Must prove that it is better to place trust in Pope/Magisterim over God's word

Need to prove that Jesus was speaking exclusively to Peter establishing him as "prince of the apostles" very first Pope and head of universal church

Even if you think Peter is the "rock", that it was the intention of Jesus to establish the office of the Pope and authority passed down via his successors

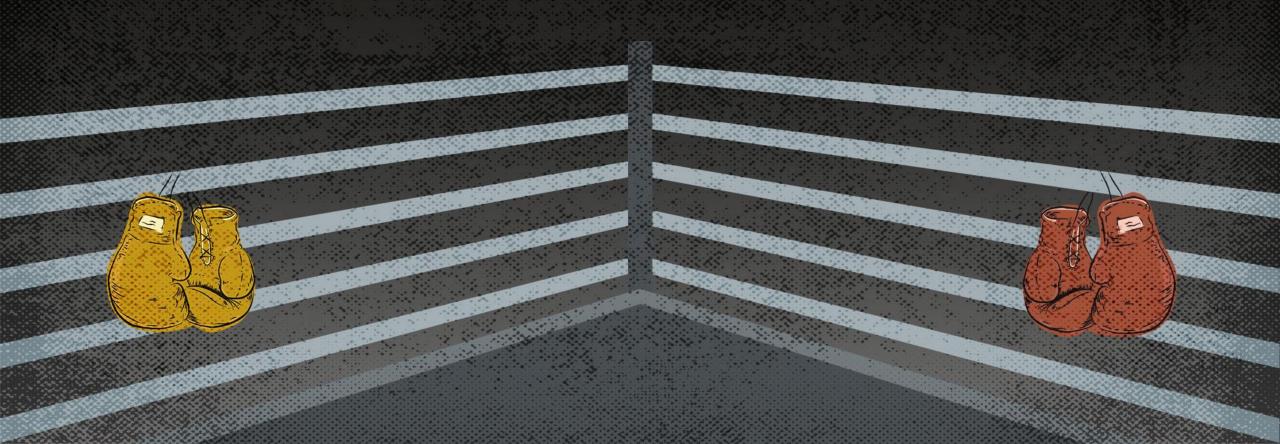
Must prove this is the ancient, constant, and unchanging faith of the church

Rome wants to build their church on a man and his successors! Exclusive & Catholic!

Protestants believe the church is built on Christ or the confession of him as savior! <u>Inclusive & catholic!</u>

What does the biblical evidence show?

Was there an awareness among the apostles of the primacy of Peter?



24 A dispute also arose among them, as to which of them was to be regarded as the greatest. 25 And he said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those in authority over them are called benefactors. 26 But not so with you. Rather, let the greatest among you become as the youngest, and the leader as one who serves. 27 For who is the greater, one who reclines at table or one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at table? But I am among you as the one who serves. 28 "You are those who have stayed with me in my trials, 29 and I assign to you, as my Father assigned to me, a kingdom, 30 that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Luke 22:24-30

7 On the contrary, when they saw that I had been entrusted with the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been entrusted with the gospel to the circumcised

Galatians 2:7

13 After they finished speaking, James replied, "Brothers, listen to me.

Acts 15:13

19 Therefore my judgment is that we should not trouble those of the Gentiles who turn to God,

Acts 15:19

4 As they went on their way through the cities, they delivered to them for observance the decisions that had been reached by the apostles and elders who were in Jerusalem.

Acts 16:4

28 Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. 29° I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; 30 and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. 31 Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. 32 And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

Acts 20:28-32

How did Peter view himself?

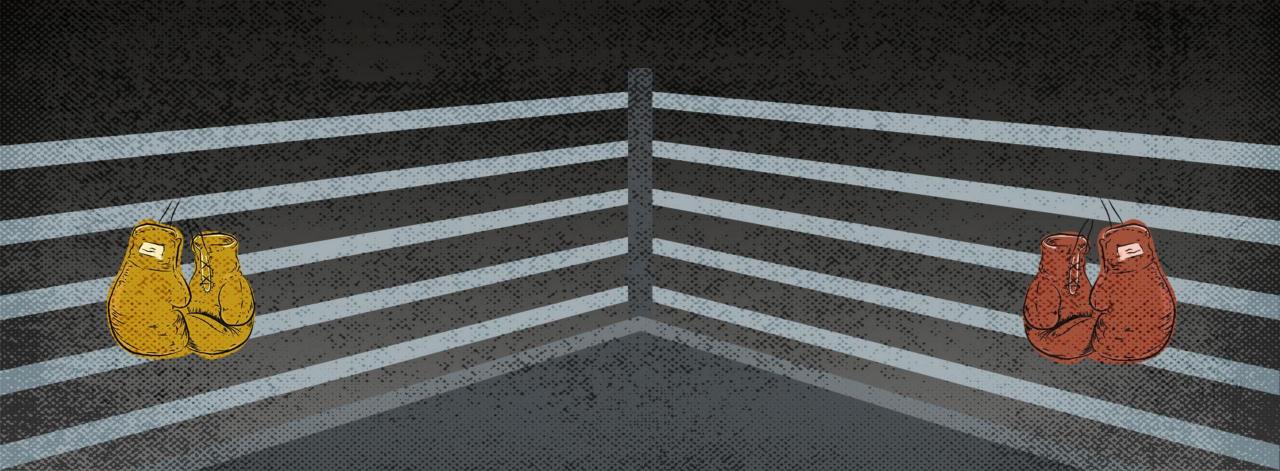
1 So I exhort the elders among you, <u>as a fellow elder</u> and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: 2 shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly;

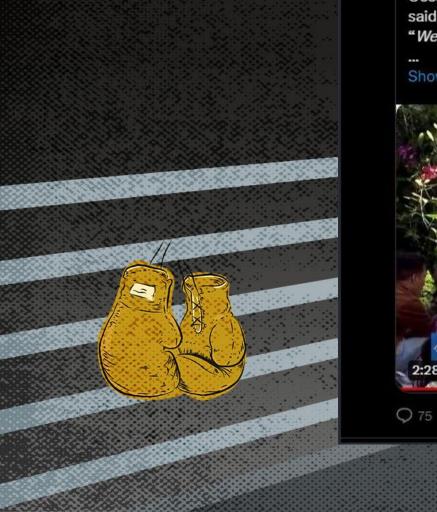
1 Peter 5:1–2

Arguments:

Following the Pope creates unity! We are one church with one leader! We are sure!

You Protestants are divided and have thousands of denominations! Each person is their own little Pope! There is unity in Rome and anarchy in Protestantism!"









JAKARTA: Meeting with young of many faiths in the Scholas Occurrentes movement, #PopeFrancis gave a closing prayer which he said was acceptable to all present:

"We are from different religions but we have only 1 god."

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This is why people are losing trust in Catholics. We are busy twisting into pretzels in order to turn "Yes's" into "No's". The Pope advertised to people that every religion is a path to God and not a single one of them, including Christianity, can compete in the path to know God.

That's it. It really doesn't matter what he meant deep down inside. What he said is what he said. All it takes is an easy publication to correct the statement as a mismatch with his intention.

The message was still, materially, contrary to Catholic dogma. Trying to pretend its not will destroy your credibility.



Gannon @InSaneGD88 · Sep 14

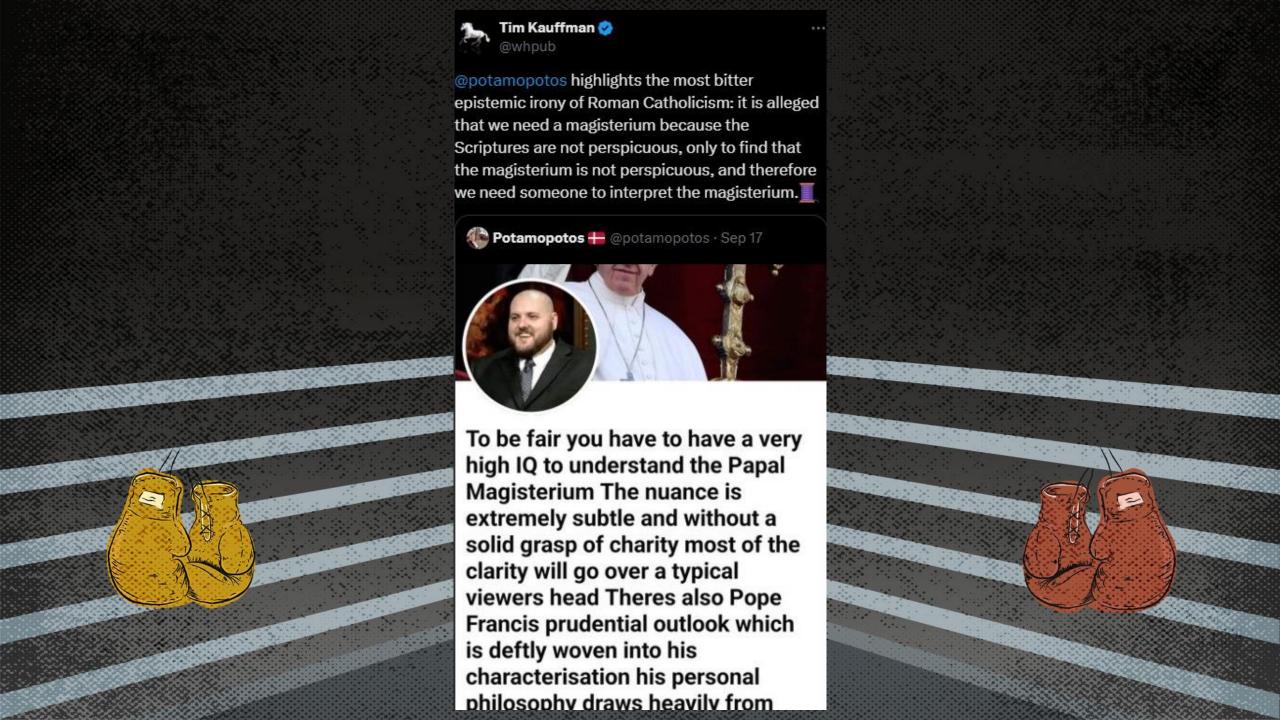
Replying to @ErickYbarra3

Or the context of the situation determines his intention. It's an interreligious dialogue where he was basically applauding the youth there of not devolving into shouting matches of "my God is greater than yo...

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Todd Erzen @DeaceOnline · Sep 18

Pray that his papacy soon ends.



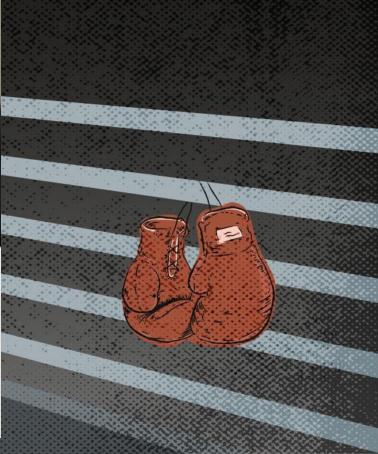
👊 LifeSite Catholic 🥝 🔟 @LSNCatholic · Sep 18

Diversity in religious identities is 'a gift from God,' Pope Francis (@Pontifex) told a group of young people on Tuesday, echoing his controversial comments from Singapore and appearing to contradict Catholic Tradition.

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LIFE SITE

POPE FRANCIS DOUBLES DOWN, **SAYS 'DIVERSITY** OF RELIGIOUS **IDENTITIES IS A** GIFT OF GOD'







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Let me guess. This is also my fault now if I talk about it on a podcast...



JUST IN: #PopeFrancis names Maurizio Chiodi among long list of new consulters to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

Chiodi has argued that homosexual acts can sometimes be morally good & and also that artificial contraception can sometimes be good in marriage.

Pubblicariose: Immediata

6 Rinunce e nomine (continuazione)

Nomina di Consultori del Dicastero per la Dottrina della Fede

Il Santo Padre ha nominate Consultori del Dicastoro per la Dottrina della Fedel'Eccellentosamo Monsignore Autonio Stagliano, Presidente della Pontificia Accademia di Tenlogia; i Reverendi Mensignori: Giovanni Ancona, Professore Ordinario presso la Facoltà di Teologia della Pontificia Università Urbaniana a Roma; Giarsono Canobbio, Direttore Scientifico dell'Accodemia Catolica di Bescia; Carlo Bell'Osso, Segretario del Pontificio bnitato di Archeologia Cristiana a Roma: Basilio Petrà, Professore Emerito presso la Facoltà Tanlogica dell'Italia Centrale a Firenza; Brune Fabio Pighin, Professore Emerito presso la Facoltà di Dienta Canonico "San Pio X" a Venezia; i Reverendi Secordoti: Mario Stefano Autonelli, Rettore del Postificio Seminario Limbardo dei Sunti Andreogio e Carlo a Romo; Pasquale Bas. Direttore dell'Inttuto Teologico Leoniano ad-Assepti: Mauritio Chiedi, Professore Ordinario presso il Proteficio Istitato Teologico "Giovatni Paclo II^{*} per le Scarnes del Mattimunio e della Famiglia a Rome, Massimo Del Perro, Professoro Ordinario presso la Facoltà di Diritto Canonco della Portificia Università della Santa Croce a Rome. Aristide Funugalli, Professore Ordinario presso la Facoltà Tanlogica dell'Italia Settentrionale -Sezione Parallela del Sominatio Arcivencevilo di Milano a Venegono Inferiore: Federica Giantoli, Professore Straondinario presso la Facoltà Róblica del Pontificio Istituto Biblico a Roma, Pier Davido Guenai, Presidente dell'Associazione Teologica Italiana per lo Studio della Monde, Franco Manai. Professore Ordinario presso la Facoltà Teologica dell'Italia Settentrionale - Sezione Parallela del iemannio Arcivescovile di Milano a Venegono Inferiore; Massimo Regini, Dicetture dell'Issistato Teologico Marchigiano ad Astensu, il Eccentrilosimo Padre Raffacle Talmelli, Superimo Generale dei Sovri del Paracitte; i Reverendi Padri: Denis Chardonness, O.C.D., Professore Ordinario presser la Poetificia l'acoltà di Teologica e il Poetificio Istituto di Spiritualità "Teressamun" a Roma; Armando. Generese, M.S.C., Professore Ordinario presso la Facoltà di Trologia della Protificia Università Urbaniana a Roma; Juan Manuel Granudos Rojas, S.I., Professore Ordenano presso la Escultà Biblica del Pontificio Intitato Biblico a Roma: Dominie Sundaruraj Irudayaraj, S.I., Professore Stracedinario pessoo la Facoltà Biblica del Poetificio Istituto Biblico a Roma, le Revennde Saore Giuveppins Daniela Del Gaudio, S.F.L., Directore dell'Osservatorio per le apparizioni e i fenomeni mistici che riguardano la Vergine Maria nel mendo, e Benedotta Rossi, delle Missionarie di Maria, Professore Associato presso la Facolta Biblica del Pontificio latitato Biblico a Roma: i Chiavasimi















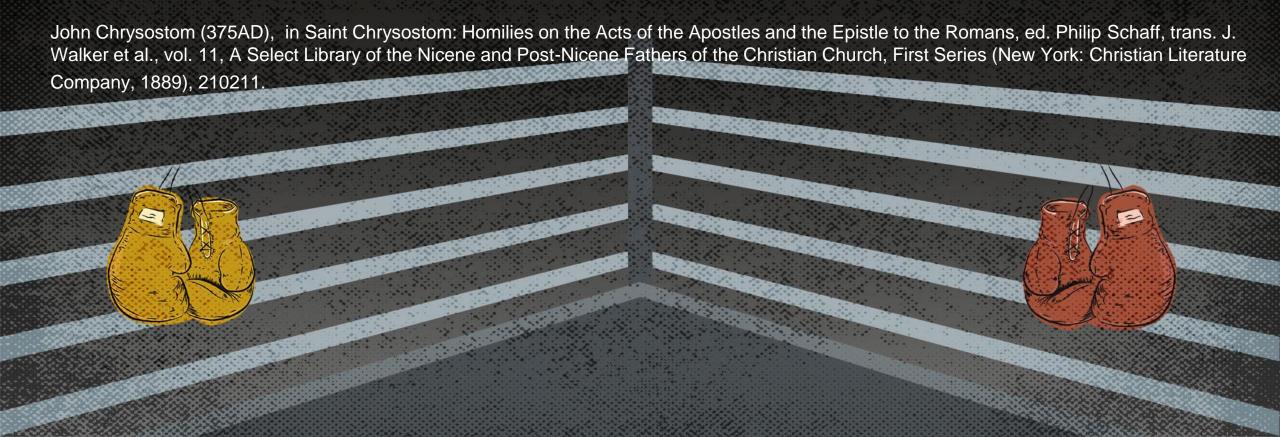


- 1) Infallible, unchanging, God breathed Scripture; or
- 2) Rome's claim to unity and certainty but really the shifting sands of tradition and who is interpreting this tradition



I wish to become a Christian, but I know not whom to join: there is much fighting and faction among you, much confusion: which doctrine am I to choose?

but if we bid you believe the Scriptures, and these are simple and true, the decision is easy for you. If any agree with the Scriptures, he is the Christian; if any fight against them, he is far from this rule



"If custom is to be taken in proof of what is right, then it is certainly competent for me to put forward on my side the custom which obtains here. If they reject this, we are clearly not bound to follow them. Therefore let God-inspired Scripture decide between us; and on whichever side be found doctrines in harmony with the word of God, in favour of that side will be cast the vote of truth.

Basil of Caesarea (370AD), in St. Basil: Letters and Select Works, ed. Philip Schaff and Henry Wace, trans. Blomfield Jackson, vol. 8, A Select Library of the Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers of the Christian Church, Second Series (New York: Christian Literature Company, 1895), 229.



what more can I teach you, than what we read in the Apostle? For holy Scripture setteth a rule to our teaching, that we dare not "be wise more than it behoveth to be wise;" but be wise, as himself saith, "unto soberness, according as unto each God hath allotted the measure of faith."²

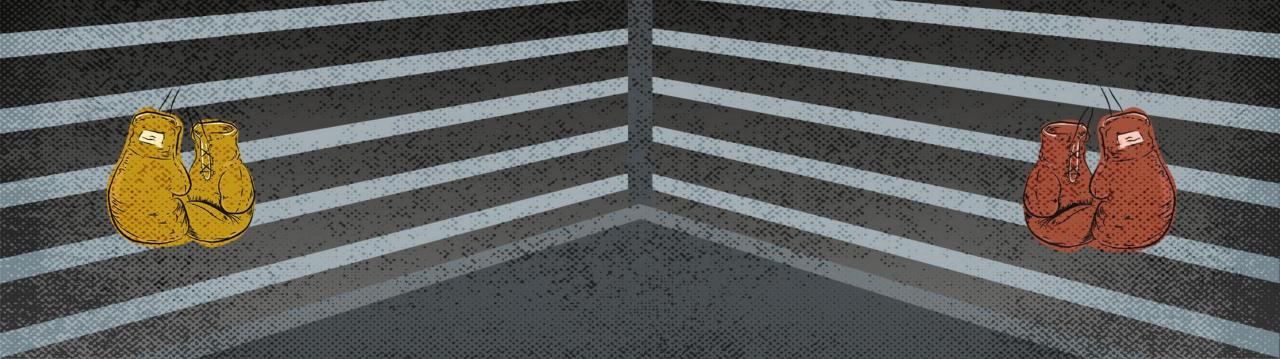
Be it not therefore for me to teach you any other thing, save to expound to you the words of the Teacher, and to treat of them as the Lord shall have given to me

Augustine of Hippo (375AD), in St. Augustin: On the Holy Trinity, Doctrinal Treatises, Moral Treatises, ed. Philip Schaff, trans. C. L. Cornish, vol. 3, A Select Library of the Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers of the Christian Church, First Series (Buffalo, NY: Christian Literature Company, 1887), 442.



Furthermore, whether concerning Christ, or concerning His Church, or any other matter whatsoever which is connected with your faith and life, to say nothing of ourselves, who are by no means to be compared with him who said, "Though we," at any rate, as he went on to say, "Though an angel from heaven preach any other gospel unto you than that which" ye have received in the lawful and evangelical Scripture, "let him be accursed"

Augustine of Hippo, in St. Augustin: The Writings against the Manichaeans and against the Donatists, ed. Philip Schaff, trans. J. R. King, vol. 4, A Select Library of the Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers of the Christian Church, First Series (Buffalo, NY: Christian Literature Company, 1887), 599.



When we investigate scripture and history, we see that sola scriptura is both biblical and historical which makes it <u>catholic!</u>



