

# ***Rise of Roman Catholicism***

## **REVIEW**

The Apostles have passed— **John** being the last.

John was banished to Patmos (Rev 1:9). One tradition says he returned to Ephesus & the only one of the apostles to have died naturally, ca 100AD.



Paul foretold the coming ***falling way*** (2 Thes 2:1-2) also called the ***apostasy*** (1 Tim 4:1-3).

# Steps to Roman Catholicism



- 1) Ruling *bishop to be over the elders*  
and revered as **Jesus Christ**.  
Encouraged *Ignatius of Antioch*,  
(*Epistle to Trallians* 3 & 13) c 105AD

*Clement of Alexandria* c 200AD,  
*Cyprian of Carthage*. c 259AD,  
*Apostolic Constitutions* c 390AD.



- 2) ***Clergy*** – ***Laymen*** *Distinction*  
mentioned by **Clement of Alexandria**  
(*Miscellanies* 3.12; 90.1 ) c 200AD  
and, *Apostolic Constitutions* c 390AD.

# Steps to Roman Catholicism



3) Infant baptism now advocated  
Encouraged by Ireneaus, c 185 AD  
(Against Heresies, Bk 2, Chp 22. 4)

Hippolytus of Rome c 215 AD,  
Origin of Alexandria, 244 AD;  
Cyprian of Carthage, c 253 AD.

John Chrysostom, 388 AD

Apostolic Constitutions, 390 AD

Council at Carthage, 418 AD LAW !

**Now according to the decrees of the Bishops at the  
Council of Carthage 418AD, if you deny infant  
baptism or original sin—you ARE ANATHEMA !**

# Steps to Roman Catholicism

## 4) Sprinkling / Pouring Substitutes for Baptism

**Cyprian:** 250AD. “*We think* the divine benefits can in no way be mutilated or weakened.. Nor ought anyone to be troubled when the sick persons seem *to be sprinkled or poured upon...* when it appears that the

*sprinkling of the water holds equally with the washing of salvation.”*

(Epistle 69)





# New Material

## Rise of Catholicism

# ***Steps to Roman Catholicism***



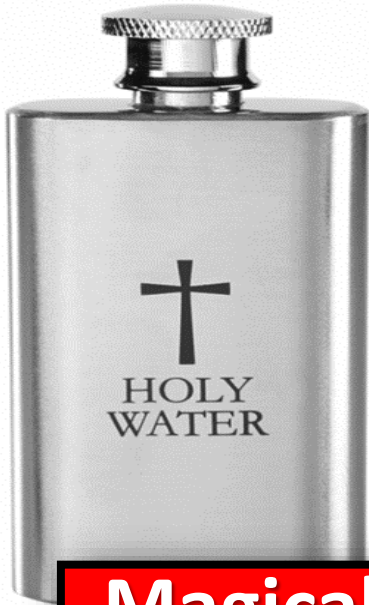
***5. Holy Water Baptism : Cyprian***  
250 AD; “Sacred Scripture warns:  
***Keep you from the strange water,***  
***and drink not from a fountain***  
***of strange water.”***

But found only in LXX [Prov 9:18]  
and deals with Prostitution !

“It is ***required***, then, that ***the water should first be***  
***cleansed and sanctified by the priest***, that it may  
***wash away by its baptism the sins of the man***  
***who is baptized; because the Lord says by Ezekiel***  
***the prophet”*** (Ezek 36:25-26) ***Epistle 69; chp1.***



# Steps to Roman Catholicism



## 6. HOLY WATER; *Apostolic Constitutions*

390 AD: “Let the bishop bless the water, or the oil. But if he be not there, let the presbyter bless it.”

Say thus: “O Lord... sanctify this water & this oil through Thy Christ.. and grant them a power to *restore health*..

**Magical ?**

“to *drive away diseases*, to *banish demons*, & to *disperse all snares* through Christ our hope, with whom glory, honor, and worship be to Thee, and to the Holy Ghost, forever. Amen.” (Sec. IV, XXIX)

**Did Apostles use *Holy Water* (2 Tim 3:16-17) ?**

# *Steps to Roman Catholicism*

## *7. Rise of Church Councils; First Council of Nicea 325 AD.*

*Emperor Constantine invited 1,800 Bishops.  
Held in Nicea of Bythinia. (NW Turkey)*

*Attempt to **unity belief** World -Wide  
as determined by **300\*** attending Bishops!*

*Resolve Arian Controversy: Was Jesus Created?*

*Develop first part of Nicæan Creed.*

*Establish uniform date for Easter.*

*Develop early cannon law.*

***This set a Precedent !***

**Not a parallel  
w/ Jerusalem  
Acts 15:6, 28**



# Steps to Roman Catholicism

## 8. Rise of National BISHOPS: oversee Nations!

Canon 6 **First Council of Nicea 325 AD.**

“Let the **ANCIENT CUSTOMS** in Egypt, Libya and Pentapolis prevail, that  
1. the **Bishop of Alexandria** have jurisdiction in all these.

“Since the like is customary  
2. for the **Bishop of Rome**.

3. “Likewise in **Antioch** and the other provinces, let the churches retain their privileges”

“Since **custom & ancient tradition** have prevailed that

4. the **Bishop of Jerusalem** should be honored, let

him, saving its due dignity to the

Metropolis, have the next place of honor.” (Canon 7)



# Steps to Roman Catholicism

**8. Rome's Bishop** becomes Prominent  
above 4 other declining major cities.

**RISE OF ROME**

**Constantinople**

**Decline of Antioch**

**Decline of Alexandria**

**Jerusalem**

**This takes place over 500 years**

*The Roman Empire*  
AFTER THE BIRTH OF JESUS

ROMAN PROVINCE

SENATORIAL PROVINCE

# *Steps to Roman Catholicism*

## 9. Denial of a Universal Pope

Roman Patriarch **Gregory** the Great 590-604 AD.

**"Pope is a Profane Title !**

*"None of my predecessors has consented to bear this profane title, for when a Patriarch adopts for himself the title of 'universal' the title of Patriarch suffers discredit.*

No Christian, then, has the desire to adopt a title that would cause discredit to his brethren."





# *Steps to Roman Catholicism*

## **9. Denial** of a Universal Pope, *cont*

Roman Patriarch **Gregory** the Great 590-604 AD,  
regarding Bishop John of Constantinople.

In a letter to the Emperor Mauricus Augustus,  
he says : *"I confidently affirm that whoever  
calls himself Universal [Bishop] is..  
The precursor of Antichrist".*

*Gergory I, Epistles Bk 7, Letter 33.*

This unequivocally proves that  
there was NO Universal head  
of the church before this.





# Steps to Roman Catholicism

## 9. Denial of a Universal Pope, cont

Roman Patriarch **Gregory** the Great 590-604 AD.

To John, Bishop of Constantinople: “The prelates [*Bishops*] of **this** Apostolic See\* [*Rome’s seat of authority*] had the honor offered them of being called universal by the venerable Council of Chalcedon [451AD].. But yet not one of them has ever wished to be called by such a title, or seized upon this ill-advised name, lest if, in virtue of the rank of the pontificate, [*Bishop*] he took to himself the glory of singularity, [*Universal*] **he might seem to have denied it to all his brethren.**” *Book 5; Epistle 18.* \*Same is true in Antioch. *Bk 5, Ep 39*

# *Steps to Roman Catholicism*

## 10. **Boniface III** Claims Title Universal Pope

607AD Boniface III sought & obtained a decree from *Emperor Phocas* which restated that “*the See of Blessed Peter the Apostle should be the head of all the Churches*”. This ensured that the title of “Universal Bishop” belonged exclusively to the *Bishop of Rome*, and effectively ended the attempt by Patriarch Cyriacus of Constantinople to establish himself as “Universal Bishop”.

The Roman Bishop is now *Decreed Universal Church Head* by the Usurper Emperor Phocas.

# ***Problems With Catholicism***

(Mt 16:18) Peter ***Isn't*** the Church Foundation

Look at the language of the text...

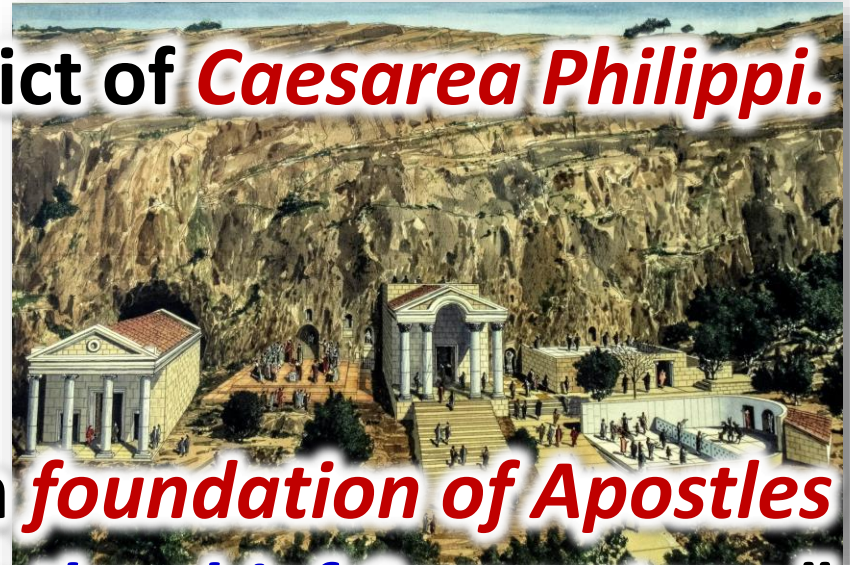
***Are Peter***, Grk Petros; Strong's' ***Piece*** of a rock. 

***Upon this Rock***, Grk Petra; Strong's' ***Mass*** of Rock.

(Mat 16:13) They're in district of ***Caesarea Philippi***.

***The mass of Rock*** is Peter's ***confession of Christ*** v.16-17

(Eph 2:20) "Church built on ***foundation of Apostles*** and ***prophets, Jesus.. being the chief Cornerstone.***"



# ***Problems With Catholicism***

**Mt 16:19 Keys were to *Open* the Kingdom**

**Not to make random laws on doctrine & practice.**

***(Isa 22:22) Keys* were for opening & shutting**

***(Acts 2:14-36) Peter* opened the doors of the Kingdom by his preaching on Pentecost**



***(Mat 18:1, 18) The Power of Binding & Losing* was given to all apostles, Spirit-inspired speech. Mt 10:20**



# ***Problems With Catholicism***

## **Peter Wasn't the First *Pope* !**

1. **Jesus** didn't call Peter a "Pope."  
(Lk 22:24-26) None rules, servant is greatest.
2. **Peter** didn't call Peter a "Pope."  
But an **Apostle** (1 Pet 1:1) & **Elder** (1 Pet 5:1)
3. **Paul** didn't call Peter a "Pope."  
"Not **inferior** to most eminent apostles"  
(2 Cor 11:5; 12:11). Any of them not just Peter!
4. **Peter** was married. (1 Cor 9:4) Wife.. Like Cephas

# ***Problems With Catholicism***

**Catholic Religion Isn't in *Bible* !**

**(1 Peter 4:11) Whoever speaks, let him speak,  
as it were, *the utterances of God*.**

***You can't find:***

**Popes**

**Monks**

**Cardinals**

**Archbishops**

**Monasteries**

**Monarchical Bishop**

**Sprinkling for baptism**

***You can't find:***

**Holy Water**

**Priestly celibacy**

**Mother Superior**

**Transubstantiation**

**Pray to Mary: Mediatrix\***

**Tradition is law (Mat 15:9)**

**Pray to dead Saints (statues)**

# ***What Should be Our Attitude ?***

1. Have a **loving disposition**. (Mat 22:39)  
“**Love** your neighbor as yourself.”
2. Display **kind actions**. (Gal 6:10)  
“Let us **do good** to all men...”
3. Check **facts**. (1 Thes 5:21) “**Examine** all things..  
(Prov 14:33) “Wisdom lies in heart of the one who has understanding.” *I check original docs\**
4. Go the **Bible** (2 Tim 3:16-17) “**All scripture** is inspired by God...” And use it rightly (2 Tim 2:15).
5. Answer **Gently** (1 Pet 3:15; 1 Cor 8:2a) **Be humble**
6. Pray and Leave the **Results to God** (1 Cor 3:6)





# The Restoration *Principle*

Isa 8:20 ***"To the law and to the testimony!"***  
If they do not speak according to this word,  
it is because there is no light in them." NKJV

Jer 6:16 "Stand in the ways and see , ***and ask for the old paths, where the good way is,*** and walk in it. Then you will find rest for your souls. But they said, 'We will not walk in it.'" NKJV

1 Peter 4:11 "If anyone speaks, let him ***speak as the oracles of God.***" NKJV

**Speak Where the Bible Speaks**



The background of the slide is a close-up, abstract image of flames. The colors range from deep red and orange to bright yellow and white at the tips of the flames, creating a sense of intense heat and movement.

# **Next Week The Inquisition and Reformation**