

# The Only Good Faith Is the Catholic Faith

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Beware of the salvation heretics who teach that non-Catholics can be of good faith and thus be saved by this so-called good faith. A few examples are as follows:

Apostate Garrigou-Lagrange, O.P., *Life Everlasting*: “Many Protestants, being today in good faith, can be reconciled to God by an act of contrition, particularly in danger of death.”<sup>1</sup>

Nominal *Catholic Encyclopedia*, Predestination, by apostate Joseph Pohle, 1907: “Since in reality only those reach heaven who die in the state of justification or sanctifying grace, all these and only these are numbered among the predestined, strictly so called. From this it follows that we must reckon among them also...the numerous predestined who, though outside the pale of the true Church of Christ, yet depart from this life in the state of grace as catechumens, Protestants in good faith, schismatics, Jews, Mohammedans, and pagans.”

Nominal *Catholic Encyclopedia*, “Toleration, Religious”, by apostate Joseph Pohle, 1912: “Justification through baptism or through good faith enlivened by the perfect love of God...may be found outside the Catholic Church... To all such, the Church does not close the gate of Heaven.”

Firstly, the salvation heretic Joseph Pohle is bold enough to teach that there is salvation outside the Catholic Church when he says, “though outside the pale of the true Church,” they can be saved. Most salvation heretics try to place by trickery and magic those who are outside the Catholic Church inside the Catholic Church so as to appear not to deny the salvation dogma.

Secondly, this salvation heretic teaches the heresy that there is remission of sins outside the Catholic Church when he says, “Justification...through good faith...may be found outside the Catholic Church.”<sup>2</sup>

Thirdly, the heresy that non-Catholics can be of good faith is refuted by the natural law and reason, the ordinary magisterium (the unanimous consensus of the Church Fathers), and the solemn magisterium (infallible papal decrees), all of which teach that the only good faith is the Catholic faith and thus only Catholics can have good faith and thus be of good faith.

## The natural law and reason

It is refuted by the natural law and reason because the natural law and reason says that there is only one God and hence there can only be one true faith.

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<sup>1</sup> Part 5, Chapter 32-The Number of the Elect.

<sup>2</sup> See in this book “**Error! Reference source not found.**,” p. 43.

## The ordinary magisterium

The Bible is part of the Catholic Church's ordinary magisterium. In many places the Bible teaches that the only good and thus true faith during the New Covenant era is the Catholic faith and thus all other faiths are bad and thus evil faiths: For example, the Church Father St. Paul says,

“One Lord, one faith, one baptism.” (Eph. 4:5)

The “one faith” during the New Covenant era is the Catholic faith and thus not the Protestant faith, not the faith of the schismatic Churches, not the Talmudic Jewish faith, not the Moslem faith, not the Buddhist faith, etc. Hence non-Catholics cannot have good faith. And other Church Fathers teach the same. For example,

St. Irenaeus of Lyons, *Against Heresies*, 2nd century: “The Catholic Church possesses one and the same faith throughout the whole world<sup>3</sup>... For she is the entrance to life; all others are thieves and robbers. On this account we are bound to avoid them, but to make choice of the things pertaining to the Church with the utmost diligence, and to lay hold of the tradition of the truth,<sup>4</sup>”

St. Cyprian: “For it has been delivered to us that there is one God and one Christ and one hope and one faith and one Church and one baptism ordained only in the one Church, from which unity whosoever will depart must needs be found with heretics... But if his Church is a garden enclosed and a fountain sealed, how can he who is not in the Church enter into the same garden or drink from its fountain?<sup>5</sup> ... He who does not hold this unity does not hold the law of God, does not hold the faith of the Father and the Son, does not hold life and salvation.<sup>6</sup>”

St. Augustine, *Faith and the Creed*, 393: “21. ... We believe also in the holy Church, that is, the Catholic Church. For heretics violate the faith itself by a false opinion about God... Consequently, ...heretics [do not] belong to the Catholic Church”

St. Gaudentius of Brescia, *De Lect. Evangel*, 4th century: “It is certain that all men of Noe's time perished except those in the Ark, which was a figure of the Church. Likewise, they cannot in any way now be saved who are aliens from the Apostolic faith and the Catholic Church.”

St. Fulgentius: “Most firmly hold and never doubt that not only pagans but also all Jews, all heretics, and all schismatics who finish this life outside of the Catholic Church, will go into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels<sup>7</sup>... So outside the Catholic Church, no one will receive the forgiveness of sins; and just as within the Catholic Church, ‘one believes with the heart and so is justified,’ so outside the same Church, unorthodox faith does not procure justification but punishment, and a wicked confession does not acquire salvation for the one who confesses but brings death.<sup>8</sup>”

## The solemn magisterium

Here are two out of many:

*The Athanasian Creed*, 4th century: “Whosoever willeth to be saved needs above all to hold the Catholic faith. Which faith except every one do keep whole and undefiled, he will without doubt perish everlastingly... This is the Catholic faith, which except a man believe faithfully and firmly he cannot be saved.”

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<sup>3</sup> b. 1, c. 10.

<sup>4</sup> b. 3, c. 4.

<sup>5</sup> *Letter 73*, to Pompey, 3rd century, 11.

<sup>6</sup> *Unity of the Catholic Church*, 251, c. 6.

<sup>7</sup> *To Peter on the Faith*, 6th century, 38.

<sup>8</sup> *On the Forgiveness of Sins*, 6th century, XXII, 1.

Pope St. Hormisdas, *Profession of Faith*, (added to the Epistle *Inter ea Quae*, to the Bishops of Spain), 517: “The first thing required for salvation is to keep the norm of correct faith and to deviate in no way from what the Fathers have established, because it is not possible to lay aside the words of our Lord Jesus Christ who said, ‘You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church.’ (Mt. 16:18) These words are proved true by their effects because in the Apostolic See, the Catholic religion has always been preserved immaculate. Desiring in no way to be separated from this hope and faith and following in all things what has been established by the Fathers, we anathematize all heretics.”<sup>9</sup>

### **Non-Catholics can have good will but not good faith**

Because non-Catholics do not have the Catholic faith, they have non-Catholic and thus false faiths and thus cannot be saved as such. However, even though non-Catholics do not have the Catholic faith and thus cannot be of good faith, they can have good will and thus be inclined to accept and believe in the Catholic faith. But they will not have a good faith and thus be of good faith until they believe in the Catholic faith and become Catholic. These are the other sheep that will hear Christ’s voice and thus abjure their false religions, believe in the Catholic faith, and enter the Catholic Church, and be saved.

*For the glory of God; in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Michael, St. Joseph, Ss. Joachim and Anne, St. John the Baptist, the other angels and saints; and for the salvation of men*

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<sup>9</sup>D. 171.