

through prayer and through the sacraments of the Roman Church. Their basic doctrine of salvation depends upon the use of the sacraments, and one's own good deeds. This is opposed to the evangelical system revealed in the Bible.

There are at least three things wrong with Rome's system of salvation: First, it makes salvation conditional on merit; secondly, it affirms that normally salvation is possible only through the good offices of the priestly order of the Roman Church and its sacraments; and thirdly, it encourages prayer to Mary and the saints.

In fact, the essential error of Rome is that it sets up a human institution, the papacy, with all its limitations, as a substitute for the Divine Gospel given to the Church. In place of the Gospel of full salvation through faith alone in Jesus Christ, it thrusts before the believer a whole round of ceremonies of which the New Testament says nothing. Instead of personal trust in the Saviour, its people are taught to regard obedience to the words of the priests as the indispensable condition of salvation.

Protestantism rests on the foundation of the authority of the Scriptures and justification by faith alone. Protestants exalt faith in Christ; Rome exalts obedience to herself as an infallible church. Thus she obscures the essential truth of Christianity, and constitutes herself a rival to Jesus Christ, and varies His doctrine of salvation.

Pray for your Roman Catholic friends that they may come to know and embrace the free and glorious Gospel of the blessed God.

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