

Hebrews 10:10-14 - "... we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ **once for all**. And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: But this man, after he had offered **one sacrifice for sins for ever**, sat down on the right hand of God; From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool. **For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.**"

Christ chooses to dwell **in the hearts of true believers** through the Holy Spirit. He does not want to or need to dwell in pieces of bread:

Romans 5:5 - "And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad **in our hearts by the Holy Ghost**" - not in our stomachs by the 'holy' eucharist!

Catholics who say that the sacrifice of the mass is the same sacrifice at Calvary are ignorant of what God says in the Bible. If the mass was the same sacrifice, there would be a literal body, a literal wooden cross, literal nails AND LITERAL BLOOD - because God is quite clear about the need for *blood* atonement:

Leviticus 17:11- "For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for **it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.**"

I now know I was guilty of idolatry (in ignorance, but guilty all the same) when I looked at the eucharist as the literal body and blood of Jesus because the Bible says that the Lord is a jealous God who will not have any other gods before Him (Exodus 20:3-5). And take heed dear reader: the apostle Paul said that behind every idol there is a demon (see 1 Corinthians 10:19-20). That is why it is so hard for Catholics to believe they've been deceived about the eucharist and transubstantiation.

The claim of Catholic writers like Alan Schreck, that "we receive him [Jesus] into our bodies and spirits through a very basic human act, eating" is based on a lack of knowledge about what it means to receive Jesus. True Christians receive Jesus into their hearts and lives through a ONE-TIME process, at the point of being converted to Christ, by being born from above (see John 3:3), when they become sealed by the Holy Spirit:

Ephesians 1:13 - "In whom ye also trusted, **after that ye heard the word of truth**, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, **ye were sealed with that holy Spirit** of promise"

Note the scriptural process for conversion to Christ that everyone who becomes saved must undergo:

1. you heard the word of truth - the gospel of salvation
2. after you heard it - you believed
3. then you were sealed by the Holy Spirit

In this verse (Eph 1:13) outlining the salvation process, no mention is made of the need to eat or drink anything, in fact the Bible says:

Romans 14:17 - "**For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink**; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost."

The main reason why the Catholic church leadership will never admit that they are wrong about transubstantiation is because they have been using the eucharist for centuries as a device to keep people, both kings and common folk, thinking that they need this special 'consecrated' wafer for salvation and that they need the Catholic church in order to get the wafer. Like your typical Catholic, I believed almost everything the Catholic church told me when I was growing up because I assumed, like most Catholics, that the church leadership knew the truth. Whenever they are questioned about their false doctrines, they come up with what appear, on the surface, to be reasonable sounding explanations for things, especially when they say things like 'it is a mystery' or 'we just believe by faith' which are statements that are difficult to argue with unless you know the Bible and you are enlightened by the Holy Spirit.

By looking at the Holy Bible, taking verses in context and comparing verses with similar passages in other parts of the Bible, we can know the truth about God's salvation plan. If a person is involved in practices contrary to the Gospel of the finished work of Christ at Calvary and is teaching others to do likewise, they are under the curse of God for preaching what the apostle Paul calls *another gospel*: "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, **let him be accursed.**" [Gal 1:8].

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Transubstantiation & The Sacrifice Of The Mass

Some Catholics may not be familiar with the word 'transubstantiation' but they may know it as 'the consecration of the host' or 'the sacrament of the most Holy Eucharist'. The 'host' is really just a wafer or cracker made of unleavened bread. It is also called the 'Holy Eucharist' and the 'communion wafer'. What does the Catholic church officially teach regarding transubstantiation? According to the Catholic church, in Canon 1 of the Council of Trent:

"If anyone denies that in the sacrament of the most Holy Eucharist [i.e. the wafer] is contained truly, really and substantially the body and blood together with the soul and divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ, but says that He is in it only as in a sign or figure or force, let him be anathema", where anathema means damned and put to death.

In other words, transubstantiation is a supposed miracle that a Catholic priest performs during the 'mass' whereby he calls Jesus out of heaven and turns him into a cup full of wafers, with each wafer being an exact duplicate of the body, blood, soul and divinity of Jesus Christ even though each one still looks like a wafer and tastes like a wafer. If anyone says the wafer is still a wafer, he is damned and should be put to death according to the Catholic church. The Catholic church has NEVER reversed Canon 1 of the Council of Trent. It still stands to this day. They just don't put people to death anymore for denying transubstantiation - as far as I know.

This miracle that nobody can see or verify is not a teaching of the Bible. When Jesus healed someone they were visibly healed. When he walked on water you could see him walk on water. When he raised the dead, people literally came back to life. When he changed water to wine it *visibly* changed. When he fed thousands of people there was a lot of food left over for all to see. Even when he saved a soul, you could see the fruits of repentance in the person's life.

Do priests deliberately deceive people about this supposed miracle of transubstantiation? Probably not in most cases. They are just doing what they were taught by the Catholic church. Likewise, I blindly believed that the communion wafer was 'the body of Christ', even though the Bible clearly states that the term 'body of Christ' refers to the world-wide

collective group of true born-again Bible-believing Christians and not to a round piece of unleavened bread:

1 Corinthians 12:25-27 - "That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another. And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it. Now **ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.**"

The idea of transubstantiation comes from the following verse and related verses in the Bible:

John 6:53 - "Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you."

Most Catholic teachers who quote John 6:53 above to justify the teaching of transubstantiation, fail to quote or explain John 6:63:

"It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: **the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.**"

Jesus said what he said in verse 63 specifically to clarify the fact that he was speaking in spiritual terms because "the flesh profiteth nothing", obviously meaning that what really matters to God is our spiritual condition, not our physical condition. If the doctrine of eating Christ's flesh and drinking his blood is interpreted literally, it profits nothing. Very often the reason why people did not like Christ's sayings is because they usually misunderstood them. They interpreted them literally when he was speaking figuratively:

Matthew 13:34-35 - "All these things spake Jesus unto the multitude in parables; and without a parable spake he not unto them: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world."

Here are some of the many cases of symbolism that Jesus used in referring to himself:

John 6:35 - "And Jesus said unto them, **I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.**"

Was Jesus really a loaf of bread? No. But he is the provider of spiritual food. Applying a literal interpretation to John 6:35, we should be able to eat a communion wafer and never get hungry again.

John 8:12 - "Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, **I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.**"

Was Jesus a light or a candle or the sun that our earth revolves around? No. But he provides spiritual light to the world *through the holy scriptures*:

Psalms 119:130 - "The entrance of **thy words giveth light**; it giveth understanding unto the simple."

John 10:7 - "Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, **I am the door of the sheep.**"

Was Jesus a physical door? No. But following him, and only him, gains us entrance into heaven.

John 10:11 - "**I am the good shepherd**: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep."

Was Jesus a sheep herder? No. He was a carpenter's son. But he watches over his spiritual flock. Is his flock made up of literal sheep. I don't think so.

John 15:1 - "**I am the true vine**, and my Father is the husbandman."

Was Jesus an actual grapevine? No. But we get our spiritual nourishment from him just as a cluster of grapes gets its nourishment from the vine it is attached to. **Christians are nourished by diligently studying the Bible**, not by eating a wafer or by literally eating Jesus Christ as confirmed here:

Matthew 4:4 - "But he answered and said, It is written, **Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.**"

John 6:68 - "Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast **the words of eternal life.**"

In referring to eating his body and drinking his blood, Jesus was simply saying that we must have an appetite for him and for the things of God if we are to be fit for heaven. Only God can give us that appetite by putting His Spirit in us as mentioned many places in the Bible including here:

Ezekiel 36:26-27 - "A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, **and cause you to walk in my statutes**, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them."

No scriptural reason can be found for anyone to drink Jesus' blood but there are scriptural commands AGAINST such things:

Leviticus 19:26 - "**Ye shall not eat any thing with the blood**: neither shall ye use enchantment, nor observe times."

Acts 15:20 - "But that we write unto them, that they **abstain from pollutions of idols, and from fornication, and from things strangled, and from blood.**"

As to what Paul said about the body and blood of Christ, we have only to look at 1 Corinthians 11:24-25:

"And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do **in remembrance of me**. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, **in remembrance of me.**"

Jesus had to be speaking in symbolic terms above, because:

A. He was still standing there amidst his disciples and he was not changed into bread or wine after he spoke these two verses AND

B. He said "do this **in remembrance of me**" AND

C. There is no scriptural reason to eat the literal body and blood of Christ. Salvation was purchased by Christ at Calvary and is granted to a person as a free gift when they believe, by faith from God, that they are a hopelessly lost sinner who needs to be saved from the wrath of God (eternity in Hell) and that Jesus alone can save them, because he paid the complete penalty for sin when he died, was buried, and rose again after three days as testified by over 500 eyewitnesses. See Ephesians 2:8-9, Titus 3:5, Romans 3:20, Galatians 2:16 and Hebrews chapters 8, 9, and 10!

According to the Bible, there is absolutely no need for the sacrifice of the mass. The death of Christ at Calvary was sufficient payment for sin in God's sight:

Hebrews 9:28 - "So Christ was **once** offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation."

Christ only needed to be offered up **once** to pay for the sins of those He came to save. The Catholic Church is actually mocking the finished work of Christ to even have an ordinance referred to as 'the sacrifice of the mass'. Hebrews 10:10-14 is quite clear about the fact that there is no need at all for any more sacrifices, including replays of what happened at Calvary: