

Grace Alone Cannot Save Anyone

November 2007

November 14, 2007

From: GD

To: RJMI

Dear RJMI,

A Christian fundamentalist heretic who left the Catholic Church and became pastor of his own church showed me in the KJV of the bible Romans 11:6, "And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then it is no more grace: otherwise work is no more work" (Romans 11:6-kjv). On the other hand he showed me in my douay-rheims bible the same verse and chapter:

"And if by **grace**, it is not now by works: otherwise **grace** is no more **grace**." (Romans 11:6- DRB)

I just recently came back to the Church in April and got confirmed. I have been searching through erroneous sects and heretical faiths and just recently stumbled on to your website. Maybe, just maybe, it was the grace of God. Anyway, how can I refute this devilish heretic that preaches this false doctrine? And another thing, look at the Catholic 10 commandments, why was it changed according to them?

Thank You and God Bless,

November 16, 2007

St. Gertrude

Dear GD,

Protestants and other heretics notoriously take Bible verses out of context to fit their heresies. To do so, they must ignore a multitude of other Bible verses and even contradict common sense.

On the heresy of salvation by grace alone

Protestants heretically interpret Romans 11:6 to mean that men can be saved by grace alone: "Even so then at this present time also, there is a remnant saved according to the election of grace. And if by grace, it is not now by works: otherwise grace is no more grace." (Rom. 11:5-6) Protestants who do not believe works are necessary for salvation and who use this verse to defend this heresy must also, to be consistent, say that neither is

faith necessary for salvation because Romans 11:6 does not mention faith or believe in Jesus but only grace as being necessary for salvation. Hence by taking this verse out of context, Protestants condemn their belief that faith and belief in Jesus is necessary for salvation.

In Romans 11:6 St. Paul teaches that men cannot do or even think anything good at all without God first giving His grace to men. But once this grace is given, men must then cooperate with it by good works in order to be saved. And even when men cooperate with God's grace and have good thoughts and do good works, as they must to be saved, it is God who rewards them with sanctifying grace, without which they cannot be saved no matter how many good thoughts they have and good works they do. Hence the saving of man is primarily attributed to God's grace without which men cannot be saved. But this does not deny that men must also do good works to be saved. St. Paul was refuting the Pelagian-type heretics, who today are known as humanists, who heretically believe that men can do and think good things without the necessity of God's grace working in them. A Catholic commentary on Romans 11:6 mentions this:

Catholic Commentary on Rom. 11:6: “‘It is not now by works’... If salvation were to come by works, done by nature, without faith and grace, salvation would not be a grace or favour, but a debt; but such dead works are indeed of no value in the sight of God towards salvation. It is not the same with regard to works done with, and by God's grace; for to such works as these, he has promised eternal salvation.”

Protestants who read their bibles take Romans 11:6 out of context willfully because a great multitude of Bible verses teach that men need not only grace to be saved but also faith and not only faith but also good works, which means they must obey all of God's commandments to be saved. For instance, Jesus says, *“If thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.”* (Mt. 19:17) Clearly, then, Jesus does not teach that grace or faith alone can save men but that men must also cooperate with His grace and live by the faith they profess by obeying all of God's commandments to be saved. Teaching exactly what Christ taught, St. Paul tells Catholics that to be saved it is not enough to hear and believe in the law but they must also obey the law: *“For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified.”* (Rom. 2:13) Hence St. Paul teaches that men must obey the law, all of God's commandments, to be saved. Jesus says that not all who believe in Him will be saved:

“Not every one that saith to me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven: but he that doth the will of my Father who is in heaven, he shall enter into the kingdom of heaven. Many will say to me in that day: Lord, Lord, have not we prophesied in thy name, and cast out devils in thy name, and done many miracles in thy name? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, you that work iniquity.” (Mt. 7:21-23)

Catholic Commentary on Mt. 7: “Ver. 21. Here Jesus Christ shews that it is not sufficient to believe in him and hear his words, but that in order to salvation, we must join works with faith; for in this shall we be examined at the last day. Without faith they could not cry out, Lord, Lord. (Romans 10.) But the strongest faith without the works of justice will not be available to salvation. (1 Corinthians 13.) Many who have the lord continually in their mouths, but care little about putting on the Lord, or penetrating themselves with his true spirit, will find their presumption, and the false consciences they have made to themselves, woefully disappointed.”

Jesus, then, speaks of men who not only profess belief in His name but also cast out devils and do miracles in His name. Yet Jesus says they are workers of iniquity who will end up in hell, which implies they have mortally violated one or more of God's commandments and will die unrepentant. So we see that God judges men not only according to their faith but also according to their works. Jesus says, "*Behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to render to every man according to his works.*" (Apoc. 22:12)

Echoing Christ's teachings, St. Paul tells Catholics that they must work out their salvation: "*My dearly beloved... with fear and trembling work out your salvation.*" (Phili. 2:12) If one were guaranteed salvation simply by grace alone or by also professing belief in Jesus without the necessity of doing anything else, then there would be no need to WORK out one's salvation to be saved and certainly no need to tremble for fear of damnation since his salvation would be guaranteed. St. Paul acknowledges that even though he is Catholic and preaches the gospel to others, he may nevertheless be cast away and end up in hell: "*But I chastise my body, and bring it into subjection: lest perhaps, when I have preached to others, I myself should become a castaway.*" (1 Cor. 9:27) St. Paul teaches that even though a Catholic can have a strong enough faith in Christ to move mountains, this will not save him unless he also has true charity:

"And if I should have prophecy and should know all mysteries, and all knowledge, and if I should have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing." (1 Cor. 13:2)

Catholic Commentary, 1 Cor. 13: "Ver. 2-3. These prove that faith without good works, and especially charity for God and our neighbour, cannot avail to eternal life; faith and charity are both essentially necessary."

And St. John tells us that true charity consists in obeying all of God's commandments:

"And this is charity, that we walk according to his commandments:" (2 Jn. 1:6) "He who saith that he knoweth him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But he that keepeth his word, in him in very deed the charity of God is perfected; and by this we know that we are in him." (1 Jn. 2:4-5)

These few Bible verses out of very many prove that Protestants have taken Romans 11:6 out of context to justify not having to obey all of God's commandments. Their rebellion and lies against the Catholic God and His Catholic gospel make them akin to witches: "*Because it is like the sin of witchcraft, to rebel: and like the crime of idolatry, to refuse to obey.*" (1 Ki. 15:23) Indeed, Protestants refuse to obey God! They teach that men can disobey God's commandments and be saved as long as they believe in Jesus. And Protestants who do not read their Bibles and trust what their ministers teach them are guilty also for culpable ignorance, for lack of due diligence in learning about what they profess to believe in. And they are also guilty for not detecting the obvious lies contained in their false religions that contradict reason and common sense. Hence each and every Protestant, no matter what his age and no matter where he lives, is a damnable heretic who is outside the Catholic Church and on the broad road to hell. In short, Protestants are big liars just as Jesus said: "*I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them that are evil, and thou hast tried them, who say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars:*" (Apoc. 2:2) Therefore Jesus says that even though Protestants call themselves Christians (apostles), they are instead liars and hence not true Christians. He also says they are antichrists for preaching a false Christ

instead of the true Christ, who is the Catholic Christ: *“And every spirit that dissolveth Jesus, is not of God: and this is Antichrist, of whom you have heard that he cometh, and he is now already in the world.”* (1 Jn. 4:3) St. Paul teaches that because of their lying interpretations of the gospel, they pervert the true gospel and preach another one, a false one: *“There are some that trouble you [such as Protestants], and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach a gospel to you besides that which we have preached to you, let him be anathema.”* (Gal. 1:7-8) Gee, I wonder who these men are who pervert the Catholic gospel by presenting another gospel, a false gospel. St. Peter also teaches that Protestants are anathema, cursed, because they lie by wresting the scriptures unto their damnation: *“As also in all his epistles [St. Paul’s], speaking in them of these things; in which are certain things hard to be understood, which the unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, to their own destruction.”* (2 Pt. 3:16)

To conclude, you will always find that in order to defend their heresies Protestants take Bible verses out of context or mistranslate them or remove verses and books altogether.

See my books *One Church, Infallibility, and Mediation* and *Persecution of Rick Gonzalez*.

On the Ten Commandments

I think you are referring to the Seventh Day Adventists who changed the order of the Ten Commandments instead of accepting the order handed down by the Catholic Church through the apostles and early Church Fathers. That is just another act of rebellion in which their founder, acting like a pope, declared a different order of the commandments. It is they who changed the order of the Ten Commandments and did so by the tradition of men.

I will be glad to answer any questions you may have and will be praying and sacrificing for your conversion into the true Catholic Church so that you may have a hope to attain eternal salvation. May Christ the King through Mary the Queen grant you all the graces and other helps you need to enter the true Catholic Church and then to be a good Catholic by working out your salvation in fear and trembling and in love of the Catholic God so that you may attain eternal salvation.

Soli Deo Gloria

Richard Joseph Michael Ibranyi
To Jesus through Mary

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