

## Roman Catholicism vs Fundamental Christianity

1. The Pope is the head and foundation of the visible Church. **CHRIST is the sole Head and Foundation of the visible Church.** (Ephesians 5:23)
2. A universal visible Hierarchy. **Local, autonomous New Testament Churches.** (Acts 13 : 1-3).
3. The Apostle Peter is the "Rock" on which the Church was built. **Christ, Himself is the Rock on which the Church is built.** (1 Corinthians 10:4)
4. The authority of the decrees and dogmatic assertions and affirmations of the Popes, the authority of tradition, and the voice of the Councils. **The Bible is the only Rule of Faith and Practice, and the New Testament is the only Law of Christianity.** (Matthew 15:6-9)
5. The worship of Mary, the Saints, Images and Relics. **The Holy Trinity is the one and only true object of worship.** (Acts 12:23; 17:24-29)
6. Conferred absolution by a human Priest. **The forgiveness of sins by God only.** (Psalm 103:3; Mark 2:7-11)
7. Confession in the ear of a Priest. **Confession of sin to God only.** (1 John 1:7-9)
8. Many mediators, namely, the Saints, Angels, the Virgin Mary. **Only one Mediator between God and man, the Lord Jesus Christ.** (1 Timothy 2:5-6)
9. The oft-repeated Sacrifice of the Mass. The **one, perfect, atoning, all-sufficient Sacrifice of Christ for sin.** (Hebrews 10:10-14)
10. The power of the Priests to turn wine and bread into the actual Body and Blood of Jesus. **The Lord's Supper is a symbol of the atoning death and everlasting love of the Lord Jesus.** (John 6:36; 1 Corinthians 11:24-25)
11. Regeneration by the "sacrament" of Baptism. **Regeneration by the power of the Holy Spirit.** (John 3:6-8)
12. Justification by good works. **Justification through faith in the all-sufficient Sacrifice of Jesus Christ.** (Ephesians 2:8-9)
13. The doing of penance and implicit faith in the Catholic Church. **Repentance and faith unto eternal life, wrought in the soul by the Holy Spirit.** (Titus 3:4-7; Gal 2:16)
14. The "holiness and sanctity of the Church (Catholic)", received by partaking of the "sacraments." **Sanctification in the Christian's life wrought by the power of the Holy Spirit.** (Romans 6:22-23)
15. The merits of the Saints, Martyrs and one's own good works. **The merits of Christ's atoning death.** (John 17:7; Romans 12:1-2)
16. The possibility of total apostasy. **The final preservation of believers.** (Ephesians 1:3-12)
17. The Church is a universal body of baptized persons under the "Holy Father" - the Pope. **The Church is comprised of believers in heaven and on earth, united in Christ.** (Ephesians 1:13-14; 1 Peter 1:3-5)
18. Unity based on an enforced outward conformity. **Unity based on spiritual affinity and oneness.** (John 17:11; Romans 16:16)
19. Holiness of life dependent on a union with the Catholic Church. **Holiness of life dependent on union with Christ by the Holy Spirit.** (1 Corinthians 1:2-3)

20. A Hierarchy composed of many Orders in the ministry. **Pastors and Deacons are the only necessary Church officers.** (Philippians 1:1; 1 Timothy 3:1-8)
21. An Apostolicity based on an unfounded assumption of a supposed succession of Bishops from the days of the Apostles to the present. **An Apostolicity based on possession and exhibition of the doctrine, the spirit, and the life of the Apostles, and conformity to Christ's teaching.** (1 Corinthians 4:16-17; Ephesians 5:1; Hebrews 6:12)
22. A Hierarchy which lords it over God's heritage. **The New Testament form of church government is democratic.** (1 Peter 5:1-3)
23. The Administratorship of the Pope, Bishops and Councils. **The administratorship of God the Holy Spirit over the Church.** (John 16:4-11)
24. Baptism by sprinkling or pouring. **Baptism by immersion, the only New Testament baptism.** (Acts 8:38-39)
25. The Baptism of Infants. **Believer's baptism.** (Acts 2:41-42; 8:36-38)
26. Baptism is an efficacious "sacrament" which actually washes away sin. **Baptism is an act of obedience and public witness of the believer's desire to be identified with the Lord Jesus Christ in His death, burial and resurrection.** (Romans 6:3-4)
27. Submission and conformity to a tyrannical ecclesiasticism. **Absolute personal and religious liberty.** (Acts 15:5-35; 1 Peter 5:1-3)
28. Purgatory and Prayers for the dead. **Heaven for the Saved and Hell for the unsaved.** (Luke 23:43; Matthew 25:46)
29. The intercession of Mary and the Saints. **The intercession of the Son of God and the Spirit of God.** (Romans 8:26-27 & 34)
30. The infallibility of the Pope. **The infallibility and inerrancy of the Word of God.** (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:19-21)
31. Christian union based on the supreme authority of the Roman Catholic Church, and her head the Pope. **Christian union based on the supreme authority of the Holy Scriptures.** (Ephesians 5:23-32)
32. The union of the Church with the State. **The complete separation of Church and the State.** (John 18:36; Mark 12:17; Matthew 17:24-27)
33. The multiplicity of holy days and feasts. **The glorious liberty of the children of God.** (Galatians 5:1)
34. An enforced celibate state (though marriage is a "sacrament")! **Marriage is honorable on the part of the Ministry.** (1 Timothy 3:1-13)
35. The doctrine of Indulgences. **Separation from all sin.** (Hebrews 12:14; 2 Corinthians 7:1)
36. The imparting of spiritual power and grace at Confirmation. **Regeneration and Sanctification is the work of the Holy Spirit.** (1 Corinthians 6:11; Titus 3:5)
37. The sacrament of "Extreme Unction." **Biblical Salvation sustains and comforts in the hour of death.** (Psalm 23:4; 2 Timothy 4:6-8; 1 Corinthians 15:55-57)