

AN OPEN LETTER TO ALL CHRISTIANS

If *you* believe the Bible is the Inspired Word of God . . . you should be very interested in the following:

While teaching in the synagogue at Capharnaum, Jesus Christ said: “*Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man, and drink his blood, you shall not have life in you. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has life everlasting and I will raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He who eats my flesh, and drinks my blood, abides in me and I in him. As the living Father has sent me, and as I live because of the Father, so he who eats me, he also shall live because of me. This the bread that has come down from heaven; not as your fathers ate the manna, and died. He who eats this bread shall live forever.*” {St. John 6:54-59}

Christ repeated himself about eating his flesh and drinking his blood five times in a row (more than any other teaching in the Bible), to show the absolute necessity of it to have life everlasting. In none of those five times, did Christ say that it was only symbolism.

Proof?

Then the Bible says, “*Many of his disciples, therefore, when they heard this, said ‘This is a hard saying. Who can listen to it?’ ‘And, ‘From that time, many of his disciples turned back and no longer went with him.*” {St. John 6:61-67}

Now if Jesus didn’t really mean it, He would have called them back and told them not to leave Him because of a misunderstanding, and that He just meant it as symbolism. He didn’t however - He let them leave.

Then the Bible says, “*Jesus therefore turned to the Twelve, ‘Do you also wish to go away?’ Simon Peter therefore answered, ‘Lord, to who shall we go? Thou hast words of everlasting life, and we have to come to believe and to know that thou art the Christ, the Son of God.’*” {St. John 6:68-70}

Neither Peter or the other Apostles understood it any more than the ones who left, but they had enough Faith to believe Christ.

Then the Gospels have Christ making the same point at the Last Supper:

“*And while they were at supper, Jesus took bread, and blessed and broke, and gave it to His disciples, and said, ‘Take and eat; this is my body.’ And taking a cup, he gave thanks and gave it to*

them, saying, 'All of you drink of this; for this is my blood and of the new covenant. which is being shed for many unto the forgiveness of sins.' "

{St. Matthew 26:26-28} - {St. Mark 14:22-24}

Again, Christ did not say it was only symbolism.}

Christ even previewed that miracle of His changing bread into His Body, and wine into His Blood. At the wedding feast at Cana, He performed His first public miracle by changing water into wine. (Does anyone want to believe that Christ couldn't change bread into His Body and wine into His Blood?)

Everyone has a decision to make. Armed with these facts and Reason, one can be like the disciples who had little Faith and left, or you can believe like the Apostles who did have enough Faith, and did believe.

By the Law of Mutual Exclusiveness, either Christ actually meant His disciples had to eat His flesh and drink His blood to gain Eternal Life, or He didn't. There is no third option. It is time to ask yourself a question: Who should know what Jesus Christ meant when He said those words: His Apostles *WHO WERE THERE* - or someone else 15 to 20 centuries later who says: "I don't think he meant that." - and starts their own religion.

Then Christ told His Apostles, "*Do this in remembrance of me.*" {St. Luke 22:19} That was a command - not a suggestion. It is historical that the Apostles and every priest for almost 2000 years has done exactly what Christ commanded. Through the power delegated by Christ, priests change bread and wine into His Body and Blood for Holy Communion with the same words that Christ used at the Last Supper.

No one understands it any more now than when Christ first said it, but it is believed nonetheless by Faith. It is rather obvious that Christ did establish a religion for all time - the Catholic Church, and a worship service for all time - the Catholic Mass.

What is more logical?

- A) That all Christians for 15 centuries believed the right thing - and were even willing to die - and did die - for that belief, and which is still believed today by Catholics, or
- B) That Almighty God let all Christians believe the wrong thing until the 16th Century, and then finally give a different truth to someone with little Faith to believe Him to begin with?

If one wants to believe in a God that is that cruel, to withhold

the Truth for 15 to 20 centuries, then that is their choice. Catholics choose to believe that God is All-Good, and gave us the Truth 2000 years ago.

This has been prepared because many people have not been exposed to this history, reason, and logic - and it's is being offered for their consideration. Of course, since God gives everyone Free Will, one can choose to not believe Christ, refuse to consider history, and ignore reason and logic. Of course also, there will be negative consequences to that choice.

When one shows up on Judgement Day, the first question to have to answer to Christ may be: *“Did you believe in, follow, and practice the religion I founded, or any one of the 35,000 other Christian religions - all founded by false prophets?”*

The choice is yours.

There are many other theological reasons to believe this and other Truths, but one must have an open mind and do more research on what the Catholic Church actually believes and teaches - and why - or ask questions of a priest or a very knowledgeable, practicing Catholic.

Two other resources include:

Fr. John Hardon Archives - Catholic Questions and Answers
(Internet)

Catholic Apologetics - A Course In Religion - By John Laux
(Book)