



“God loved  
us first.”

-1 Jn 4:19

# REVELATION

RE / VELA TION

to remove      the veil

# REVELATION

1. What?

God's showing Himself  
to us.

# REVELATION

## 2. Why?

Love.

God loved us first.



"It pleased God in His goodness and wisdom to reveal Himself and make known the mystery of His will that all men should have access to the Father through Christ in the Holy Spirit."

1Tim.2:4; Eph.1:9; Eph.2:18; 2Peter 1:4  
Dei Verbum, 2

# REVELATION

## 3. How?

# WAYS OF REVELATION

## 1. Natural

a. The Created World

b. The Human Person

## 2. Supernatural

a. "in via" — "on the way"

b. "in patria" — "in our homeland"

Ft. David Balas, O.Cist

# WAYS OF REVELATION

## 2. Supernatural

a. "in via" — "on the way"

i. General — "gens" — all people

ii. Special — specific/particular people

- Adam and Eve

- Patriarchs and Prophets

~ JESUS CHRIST

Ft. David Balas, O.Cist

JESUS CHRIST IS  
THE MEDIATOR  
&  
SUM TOTAL OF  
REVELATION"

Dei Verbum, 2



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~ The Continued participation of the  
CHURCH, esp. MAGISTERIUM

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ii. Special — specific/particular people

Sacred Scripture {

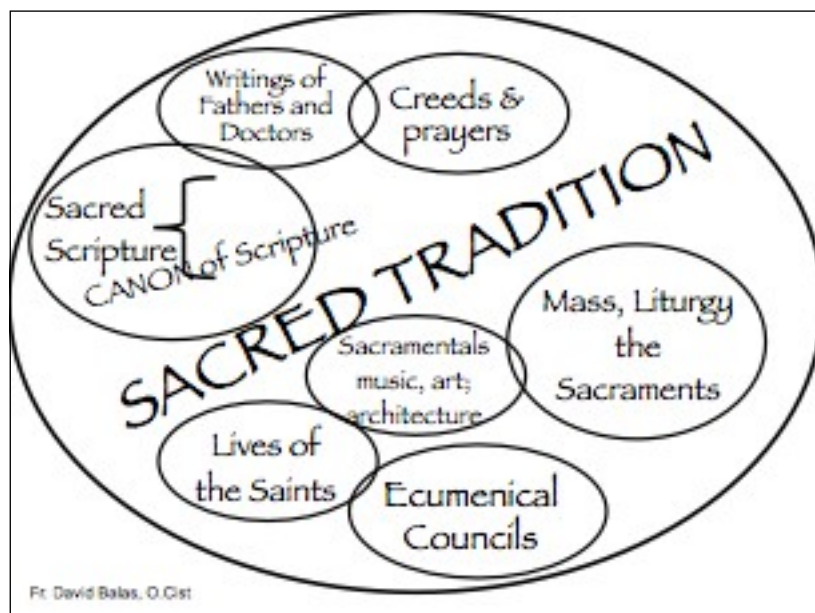
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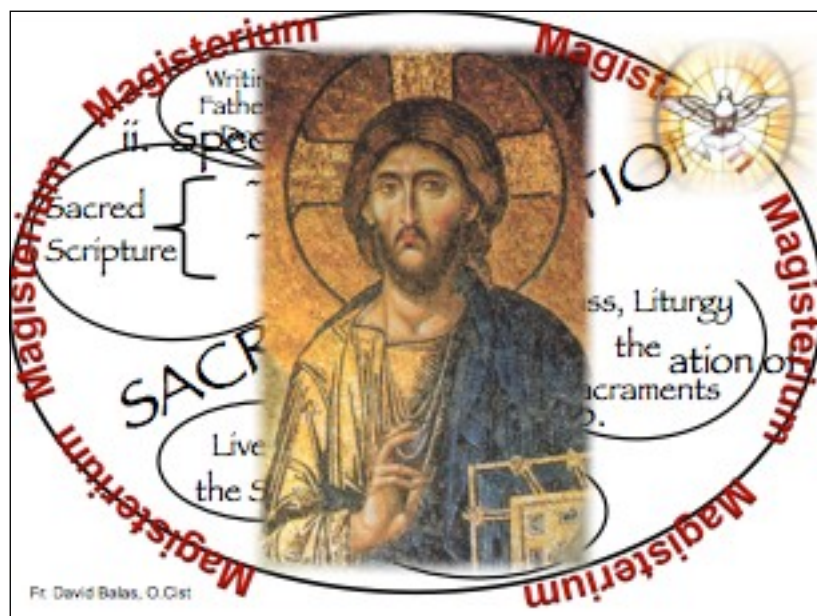
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- The Church does not draw her certainty about all revealed truths from the holy Scriptures alone. (DV 9)
- "sola Scriptura" – contradicts scripture!  
"There are also many other things that Jesus did, but if these were to be described individually, I do not think the whole world would contain the books that would be written." (Jn.21:25)
- "So then brethren, stand firm to the traditions that were given to you either by word of mouth or by letter." (2 Thes 2:15)
- "...maintain the traditions even as I have delivered them to you." (1 Cor 11:2)





## TRANSMISSION of DIVINE REVELATION

- Living transmission (DV 7)
  - Through the Life of the Church: Creed, Prayer Worship, Instruction in the Moral Life
- Sacrament of Holy Orders (DV 7 & 8)
  - a. Bishops
  - b. Acts 1:20 "Let us chose another to take his office –(episcopae)."

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## MAGISTERIUM

- Living Teaching Office of the Church.
- Guardian and interpreter of both Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition. (DV 10, CCC 85)
- Serves, protects, expounds, interprets, hands on to each generation faithfully all that God has revealed to His People. (DV 10)
- The Magisterium can tell us: "This is what God meant. This is what it means for you." (CCC 88-90)

## TRADITION

- 1. Inscription of Revelation (gospel) on the hearts of disciples and on the parchment
- 2. Speaking of the Holy Spirit throughout the whole age of the Church
- 3. The Conciliar activity of the Church
- 4. The Liturgical tradition and whole of tradition of the Church's life (Ratzinger, God's Word, 87)

## SACRED SCRIPTURE

"Living Word"

– God speaks to each generation.



## INSPIRATION

- Scriptures were written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit – spiritual influence
- “in spiro” – breath, influence, movement of Holy Spirit upon the human author’s faculties and powers (DV II)

## INSPIRATION

- Human authors used their own style, language and various literary genre to write what the Holy Spirit wanted written for the sake of our salvation.
- God is the primary author but the human authors are true authors as well. (DV II)

## INTERPRETATION

- Entrusted to the Church
- “attention must be paid to literary forms” in order to come to the meaning of the text  
(DV 12 citing St. Augustine)
- Intention of the Author (CCC 106)
- Scripture needs to be properly interpreted and understood in context of whole Deposit of Faith: “analogy of faith” (DV 12)



## INTERPRETATION

• exegesis - to draw out -

1. "content and unity of the Sacred Scripture"
2. "within the living Tradition of the Church"
3. "analogy of faith" -- "rule of faith"

Only the Holy Spirit can reveal the meaning of His Word.

"Hermeneutic of continuity..."

Pope Benedict XVI's Christmas message to the Roman Curia, of December 22, 2005

CCC 114

## SACRED SCRIPTURE

### Six Characteristics

- 1) Authorship -- God is their primary author yet man is a true author as well.
- 2) Inspiration\* -- Human authors wrote under the influence and guidance of the Holy Spirit.



St. Luke  
Simone Martini  
1335

CCC 101ff

In composing the sacred books, God chose men and while employed by Him they made use of their powers and abilities, so that with Him acting in them and through them, they, as true authors, consigned to writing everything and only those things which He wanted.

Dei Verbum, 11

## SACRED SCRIPTURE

\*Living Word\* – God speaks to each generation.

### Six Characteristics

- 3) Historicity --While the Bible is not intended to be a history book, it does contain God's actions in history. [chariot wheels]
- 4) Permanence --Word of God put down in writing once for all time. His Word is now in an unchangeable form.

CCC.101ff

## SACRED SCRIPTURE

### Six Characteristics (CCC.101ff)

- 5) Canoncity --The Church declared those books contained in the Old and New Testament to have been inspired.
- 6) Inerrancy\*--firmly, faithfully and without error teach that truth which God, for the sake of our salvation wished to see confided to the Sacred Scripture. (DV II)

CCC.101ff

Those divinely revealed realities which are contained and presented in Sacred Scripture have been committed to writing under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. For holy mother Church, relying on the belief of the Apostles (see John 20:31; 2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Peter 1:19-20, 3:15-16), holds that the books of both the Old and New Testaments in their entirety, with all their parts, are sacred and canonical because written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, they have God as their author and have been handed on as such to the Church herself.

# SENSES OF SCRIPTURE

## 2 Senses: Literal & Spiritual

- Literal: meaning conveyed by the words. "All other senses are based on the literal."
- Spiritual: the text and the realities and event can be signs:
  - Allegorical (Christic/Ecclesial) Sense
  - Moral Sense (Living in imitation of Christ)
  - Anagogical Sense (Leading towards Heaven)

CCC 115-117



- Literal
- Spiritual:
  - ~Allegorical (Christic /Ecclesial) Sense
  - ~Moral Sense (Living in imitation of Christ)
  - ~Anagogical Sense (Leading towards Heaven)

Parable of the Good Samaritan  
EG Doménico Fetti  
1623



"God loved  
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-1 Jn 4:19



## SOURCE & SOURCES of Revelation

- Christ is the Source: "No one has seen God except the One who has come down from Heaven." (Jn.6:46)
- HE is the FULL & COMPLETE Revelation
  - a. Nothing more to say. He is the LAST WORD!\*
  - \*But, Sister, what about all those private revelations? Read CCC 671
  - b. But lots to unpack (Development of Doctrine)
    - 1. Organic Growth – acorn seed becomes the full oak (DV 8)
  - c. Scripture & Tradition
    - 1. Single Sacred Deposit of the Word of God (DV 10)



"In His gracious goodness God has seen to it that what he had revealed for the salvation of all nations would abide perpetually in its full integrity and be handed on to all generations".

Dei Verbum, 7

Scripture is the speech of God as it is put down in writing under the breath of the Holy Spirit.

And Tradition transmits in its entirety the Word of God

which has been entrusted to the apostles by Christ the Lord and the Holy Spirit.

(Dei Verbum 9)

## SENSES OF SCRIPTURE

Littera gesta docet, quid credas allegoria  
Moralis quid agas, quo tendas anagogia

The Letter speaks of deeds; Allegory to faith;  
The Moral how to act; Anagogy our destiny.

CCC 118



"It pleased God in His  
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