All Christian religious institutions have teachings that either confirm or deny them as a true Christian church. For instance, the Mormons (i.e. the Church of the Latter Day Saints or the LDS) believe that God the Father and Jesus are two of many gods (see the King Follett sermon that Joseph Smith preached in 1844), and actually, the Father and the Son are two lesser gods, but the Bible declares there is no greater God than the Lord (Isaiah 44:6; John 17:1f.). Jehovah’s Witnesses teach that Jesus is the angel Michael who came to Earth as a human being to save us. The Scriptures, though, teach that Jesus is God the Son, not an angel nor any other created being (John 1:1-3, 14, 18; 3:16, 18; Acts 13:33). Mormonism and Jehovah’s Witnesses then, are not Christian churches, but Christian cults masquerading as Christian churches. Even though there are many good people in both cults, and even though they do a lot of good for people by their good works, they are deceived about their ‘Jesus’ and they will be very upset on Judgment Day when Jesus sends them to the Lake of Fire. Will He do this because they’re bad people? No.

It’s not how many good deeds we do for others or how much we sacrifice for others, or how good a person we are, or even how many prayers we say. God is very clear as to what it takes to enter into the Kingdom of His Son, Jesus Christ, and to have eternal life—we must be Born Again, the Lord’s Way. Jesus expressly says, Except you be Born Again you shall not enter into, nor even see the Kingdom of God (John 3:3, 5). Only by being Born Again can we begin to really know the true Jesus and become like Him (Rom. 8:29; Col. 3:10). It’s the Holy Spirit that causes the New Birth, which is the foundation for salvation. The New Birth is a spiritual reality that transforms us into the Image of Jesus when a person decides to ask Jesus to forgive him for his sins AND experiences the Holy Spirit entering his soul. A baby is not able to ask Jesus to forgive him of his sins and come into his soul, but Catholics have been led to believe that they are in the Kingdom of Jesus because they were sprinkled at birth (or affirmed a creed). When asked, a priest might tell you that you were Born Again when you were sprinkled as an infant, and that you will be in Heaven as you continue to be part of the Roman Catholic Church. Nowhere in the New Testament, though, are any infants sprinkled and said to be Born Again because of it.

There are many good works that Catholics do, but Catholic teaching on salvation takes the Church out of being a Christian church to being a Christian cult. No amount of good works causes anyone to be Born Again. No amount of good works or sprinkling can change our Adamic nature to Jesus’ nature.

The Roman Church also teaches that Mary was sinless and that she was taken to Heaven (without dying), and that she is the conduit the Holy Spirit uses to extend grace to Catholics. Also, prayers and veneration are due her for her, too, along with her Son, saved mankind. Nowhere in the New Testament, though, does it say that Mary was sinless, or that she was taken to Heaven without dying, or that she is the vehicle through which God’s grace comes to us, or that we should venerate her and pray to her or that she is the Mediatrix and prays for Catholics. These Catholic teachings directly oppose the Holy Scriptures. Ask your priest and you’ll see that Catholicism has no Scriptures to support these teachings about their Mary.

The Roman Church says their traditions (teachings) are equal to the Word of God, but nowhere does the Bible say that. God says, “Whatever I command you, you must be careful to observe it. You must not add to it nor take away from it” (Dt. 12:32). Jesus said that at the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established (Mt. 18:16; cf. Dt. 17:6; 19:15; 2nd Cor. 13:1, etc.). Rome says that the Pope, the Creeds and the Church Fathers can overturn Scripture. This is heresy or false teaching.

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1 Catechism of the Catholic Church, Image, Doubleday Publishing; English version, 1994, p. 31, point 82.
Roman teachings about salvation and Mary are actually pagan traditions that the Catholic Church took into itself and ‘baptized’ in the Name of Jesus. They nullify God’s Word and Jesus Christ, and as such, Rome falls into the same category that Jesus placed the Pharisees in. They, too, taught as the commandments of God their traditions that nullified God’s Word, and Jesus was not pleased with them, calling them hypocrites and telling us not to follow them nor their teachings (Mt. 15:1-9, 14; 16:11-12; 23:1f).

In October 2020 Pope Francis revealed just how far off Rome’s teachings about Jesus and Mary can be by saying that same-sex couples should have civil unions or be allowed ‘to marry.’ Many Catholics are rightfully appalled, as God tells us through Paul that homosexuality and lesbianism are wicked and evil:

“For the wrath of God is revealed from Heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the Truth in unrighteousness…For since the Creation of the universe God’s invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made…so that they are without excuse, because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God…Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the Glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man…Therefore, God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, who exchanged the Truth of God for the lie, and worshiped…the creature rather than the Creator…For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the punishment of their sin…God gave them over to a debased mind…who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same, but also approve of those who practice them.” (Rom. 1:18-32)

Does not Paul speak of Pope Francis here, approving of those who practice homosexuality and lesbianism? It’s one thing to befriend a sinner, whether a homosexual or a thief. It’s quite another to tell them what they are doing is alright. Pope Francis doesn’t seem to know the difference, and yet, as Pope or the Vicar of Christ, he is speaking to Catholics ‘as Jesus Christ Himself.’

Jesus is not happy with the Catholic Church. They have made their own rules about Jesus and Mary and many other things that are not of God (cf. Daniel 7:25). The Apostle John speaks of Catholicism when he says that he heard God’s voice in Heaven saying: “Come out of her. My people! Lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues.” (Revelation 18:4)

You must choose who you are going to follow—the Pope or Jesus. These are three examples of Catholic teachings that disqualify Rome from being a Christian church. If you continue as a Catholic it will cost you your eternal life. Most Catholics can expect the same decision on Judgment Day that Mormons and Jehovah’s Witnesses will hear.² What can a Catholic do? Ask Jesus to forgive you of all your sins and to be Born Again (see John 3:1f.) and filled with His Spirit (Acts Two). Tell Jesus that you renounce your allegiance to the Roman Church (Rev. 17:9; 18:4), and wait upon Him until you encounter the risen Savior yourself by His Spirit. Then you will know that you are part of His Kingdom and be filled with Joy, you will be able to walk out your faith in Him the way He wants you to (1st Corinthians 11:1; Hebrews 13:8; 1st John 2:6).³ With the New Birth comes a daily spiritual relationship with the Lord of Life and He will direct you as you grow in Him, just as a newborn baby grows by being loved and fed by his parents. After all, Jesus is the Good Shepherd and He will take good care of you (John 10:1f.).

² Read Alexander Hislop’s, The Two Babylons at http://seedofabraham.net/The-Two-Babylons.pdf to further see what’s wrong with Catholicism. Contact me at my website above if you have any questions.