

# COMPARING THE APOSTATE ROMAN CHURCH AND MESSIAH YESHUA'S TRUE CHURCH p.3

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*The Gospel according to Rome: Comparing Catholic Tradition and the Word of God* by James G. McCarthy

## APOSTATE CHURCH OF ROME

**IMAGES OF JESUS, MARY, SAINTS, ANGELS**  
Such images are forbidden by God and idolatrous

**RC SAINTS, MYSTICS, STIGMATISTS**  
experience demonic phenomena; demonic visions;  
demonic attacks and oppression

“Dark night of the soul” - a spiritual condition of loneliness and desolation due to demonic oppression but misinterpreted as a purgation of the soul (spiritual cleansing) that brings purity and union with God; same experience also reported in other spiritual traditions (Islamic, Buddhist, Hindu)\*

Stigmata - bleeding wounds resembling crucifixion wounds; stigmata match unbiblical icons showing wounds in the palms of the hand instead of in the wrists; unbiblical belief that stigmatists' suffering atones for the sins of others\*\*

**UNBIBLICAL DOCTRINE OF PURGATORY**  
unbiblical belief that a person must atone for sins not forgiven by the rite of confession and penance; unbiblical belief that the living can offer Masses, prayers, alms, etc to reduce time in purgatory for the dead\*\*\*

**PRAYERS TO DEAD (Mary, Saints)**  
Directing prayer to anyone other than God is idolatry and leads a person away from a personal relationship with God through Yeshua as the ONLY mediator interceding for believers

**ROSARY & OTHER REPETITIOUS PRAYERS**  
The Rosary given by demonic apparition who claims all Yeshua's unique attributes; central to Marian devotion is false believe the path to Jesus is through Mary (another Jesus, another Mary)

**RELICS - A PAGAN CUSTOM AND PRACTICE**

\* Wikipedia; *The Catholic Encyclopedia*

\*\* *They Bore the Wounds of Christ: The Mystery of the Sacred Stigmata*, Michael Freze, p. 12 stigmatists as victim souls who share in the sufferings of Christ to redeem sinners

\*\*\* *The Catholic Encyclopedia*, “Purgatory”

## TRUE CHURCH OF MESSIAH YESHUA

**IMAGES FORBIDDEN 2ND COMMANDMENT**  
(Ex 20:3-5; Isa 42:8)

**ALL BELIEVERS ARE CALLED SAINTS**  
(Psa 34:9; Dan 7:27; Rom 16:15; 1 Cor. 1:2; Eph 1:1; Phil 1:1; 4:22; Col 1:2; Jude 3; Rev. 14:12)

**GOD NEVER ABANDONS THOSE WHO PUT THEIR TRUST IN HIM** and follow His Word (Pslam 1:2,3; Hebrews 13:5,6; Phil. 4:7-9)

Atonement ONLY through Yeshua's substitutionary sacrifice for the atonement of sin, a complete and finished work; no human being can atone for sin by suffering, for one's own sins or those of others

Greek word *stigma* means “mark”, stigmata (plural) - no crucifixion marks in believers in the NT; Greek letter, *stigma*, represents the #6, the number of the Beast

**HEAVEN AND HELL ONLY**  
No Biblical basis for purgatory (Luke 16:19-31; 23:43; 2 Cor 5:8); 2 Maccabees 12:39-46 is not the inspired Word of God and is not about the existence of purgatory when examined in its proper context

**PRAYER ONLY TO GOD**  
Yeshua taught His disciples to pray to Father God (Matt 6:9; 1 Pet 3:12); God forbids communication with the dead (Deut 18:10-12).

Throughout the Word of God, all prayer is directed to God, never to any spiritual leader/person who has died.

Yeshua is at the right hand of God the Father and is the ONLY intercessor and mediator between humanity and God (Heb 7:25; 1 Tim 2:5). Yeshua said “do not use meaningless repetition”(Mat 6:7)

**DEAD BODIES/CONTACT WITH DEAD THE MOST UNCLEAN THING IN THE WORD OF GOD**  
(Num 19:13)