



## Introduction: The Battle for Truth

In a world where personal interpretation of the Bible has become the norm, many Christians unknowingly fall into a deadly trap: believing that Scripture alone is sufficient, without the guidance of Tradition and the Magisterium of the Church. This idea, known as *Sola Scriptura*, is not only theologically flawed but, as we will see, a tool the devil has used from the beginning to confuse and divide.

Satan himself tempted Christ in the wilderness by quoting Scripture (Mt 4:1-11), but with a twisted interpretation. Today, many Protestant groups repeat this same error, ripping verses out of context to justify doctrines contrary to the Faith. How can we recognize and resist these manipulations?

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## I. The Devil as the First Protestant: When the Bible is Used for Evil

### A. The Temptations of Christ: A Model of Manipulation

In the Gospel of Matthew (4:1-11), Satan quotes Psalm 91:11-12 to urge Jesus to throw Himself down from the temple:

*"If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written: 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'"*

But Christ responds with wisdom: *"Again, it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'"* (Dt 6:16).

**Key Lesson:** The devil uses the Bible but strips it of its full meaning. The same is done by those who promote *Sola Scriptura*—they take isolated verses, ignoring Tradition and apostolic teaching.

### B. The Protestant Reformation and the Birth of "Sola Scriptura"

Martin Luther, in rejecting the authority of the Church, declared that the Bible was the sole source of revelation (*Sola Scriptura*). But this principle is self-contradictory: **nowhere does the Bible say it is the only authority!** In fact, St. Paul writes:

*"So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught*



*by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter.*" (2 Thess 2:15).

*Sola Scriptura* is, at its core, a **human invention** that opens the door to thousands of contradictory interpretations, leading to division and error.

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## II. How Modern Protestants Repeat the Devil's Error

Today, many Evangelical sects and Protestant groups employ the same tactic:

1. **Quoting "Faith Alone Saves" (Eph 2:8-9) to deny works** → Yet James 2:24 clearly states: *"You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone."*
2. **Denying the Eucharist based on a literal reading of John 6** → While Christ affirms: *"My flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink."* (Jn 6:55), they reduce it to a "symbol."
3. **Rejecting the Papacy by misusing Mt 16:18** → Christ explicitly builds His Church upon Peter, yet they deny apostolic succession.

**The problem is not the Bible but private interpretation** (2 Pet 1:20). Without the Church, everyone invents their own doctrine.

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## III. Practical Guide: How to Defend the Faith Against Distortions

### 1. Know the Bible, but in Communion with the Church

- Scripture must be read within Tradition.
- Use the Catechism and magisterial documents to understand difficult passages.

### 2. Recognize Heretics' Favorite Verses

- Romans 3:28 (*"justified by faith"*) → But James balances it.
- John 14:6 (*"No one comes to the Father except through me"*) → This does not deny the mediation of saints.

### 3. Learn to Respond with Charity and Firmness

- When someone misquotes the Bible, respond like Jesus: *"It is also written..."*



- Example: If they say, *"We don't need to confess to priests,"* remind them of John 20:23 (*"If you forgive the sins of any..."*).

#### 4. Live the Faith in Fullness

- The best defense is an active sacramental life (Eucharist, Confession).
  - The Rosary and devotion to Mary protect against deception.
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### Conclusion: The Truth Will Set You Free

Jesus warned: *"See that no one leads you astray."* (Mt 24:4). The devil still uses the Bible to confuse, but **Christ gave us His Church as the pillar and foundation of truth** (1 Tim 3:15).

Let us not fall into the trap of *Sola Scriptura*. Let us embrace **living Tradition**, the **authority of the Magisterium**, and the **communion of saints**. Only then will we remain in the Truth that saves.

*"So that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes." (Eph 4:14).*

#### Final Prayer:

*"Lord, grant us discernment to love Your Word, but also humility to submit to Your Church. May the Holy Spirit guide us into all truth and deliver us from the enemy's snares. Amen."*

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This article not only exposes a theological error but provides concrete tools for living a solid faith. **Share this truth, defend the Faith, and never let the devil win the battle for God's Word.**