



Introduction: When *Sola Scriptura* is Not Enough

In a world filled with spiritual uncertainties, many Protestant brothers and sisters sincerely seek God, read the Scriptures, and pray fervently. However, even amid such devotion, certain questions silently emerge that Protestantism—with its principle of *Sola Scriptura* and its rejection of Tradition and the Magisterium—cannot answer in a coherent, unifying, or universal way. Why are there more than 40,000 denominations? What did Jesus mean when He gave the keys to Peter? How is authority passed on? Why do we celebrate the Eucharist? What happens to sins after Baptism?

This article is an invitation to dialogue, reflection, and discernment. It is addressed to Catholics seeking to deepen their faith and to Protestants sincerely desiring to find the answers their souls long for. It is not an attack, but a proposal for an encounter based on the fullness of Truth—truth that Christ entrusted to His Church: the Catholic Church.

1. Where is the Unity that Christ Prayed For?

“That they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you” (John 17:21)

Jesus’ priestly prayer reveals His deepest desire: the unity of His disciples. Yet Protestantism has produced an unprecedented doctrinal fragmentation. Since Luther, tens of thousands of different interpretations of the same Gospel have arisen.

The question they cannot answer:

If all Christians have the Holy Spirit and read the same Bible, why are there so many contradictory doctrines?

The Catholic answer:

Unity cannot depend on individual interpretations but must come from a visible, living authority that maintains communion. That authority is the Pope, successor of Peter, to whom Jesus promised:



“You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church... I will give you the keys of the Kingdom” (Matthew 16:18-19).

The Catholic Church, with her Magisterium, guarantees doctrinal fidelity. Visible unity is not a luxury—it is a commandment of Christ.

2. Who Has Authority to Interpret the Bible?

“How can I understand it unless someone explains it to me?” (Acts 8:31)

Philip encounters the Ethiopian reading the prophet Isaiah. He had the Scripture, but he didn't understand it until a minister of the Church explained it to him. This passage reveals a profound truth: the Bible is not self-interpreting, and not everyone has the same gift of teaching.

The question they cannot answer:

Who has the final word when there are conflicting interpretations of the same verse?

The Catholic answer:

The Magisterium of the Church, guided by the Holy Spirit, is the only authentic interpreter of the Word of God. Without this principle, every believer becomes his own pope. Vatican II reaffirms that Sacred Scripture, Tradition, and the Magisterium form an inseparable tripod.

3. Where Was the True Church Before the Reformation?

“I am with you always, to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:20)

The Reformers of the 16th century claimed that the Church had become corrupt and needed to be restored. But in doing so, they implicitly denied Christ's promises.



The question they cannot answer:

| *Did Christ lie when He promised His Church would prevail?*

The Catholic answer:

The Church founded by Christ never ceased to exist, despite the sins of her members. The wheat and the weeds grow together, but the Church remains faithful in her doctrine, sacraments, and apostolic succession. That historical and theological continuity is found only in the Catholic Church.

4. What Do We Do with Sin After Baptism?

“If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them” (John 20:23)

For many Protestants, the forgiveness of sins is linked exclusively to personal faith. But after Baptism, when the Christian falls, how is he reconciled with God?

The question they cannot answer:

| *Without sacramental confession, how can I be certain my sins are forgiven?*

The Catholic answer:

Christ instituted the Sacrament of Reconciliation and gave His apostles the power to forgive sins. Confession is not a human invention—it is a channel of grace established by Jesus Himself. It is the visible assurance of invisible forgiveness.

5. What Did Jesus Mean by “This Is My Body”?

“Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life” (John 6:54)



Most Protestant churches deny the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist, reducing His words to symbols or metaphors. Yet Jesus was explicit and radical in His Eucharistic teaching.

The question they cannot answer:

If Jesus was speaking symbolically, why did so many disciples abandon Him because of those words?

The Catholic answer:

The Church has always believed in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist: Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. This faith has never changed. St. Ignatius of Antioch (107 A.D.) already warned against those who denied that the Eucharist is “the flesh of our Savior Jesus Christ.”

6. Why Do We Celebrate on Sunday?

“The Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath” (Mark 2:28)

Many Protestant groups, such as Seventh-day Adventists, question the legitimacy of Sunday as the Lord’s Day, appealing to the Mosaic law of the Sabbath.

The question they cannot answer:

If we follow the Bible “literally,” why don’t we keep Saturday as the Jews did?

The Catholic answer:

From the apostles onward, the Church celebrated the Lord’s Day on Sunday, the day of the Resurrection. This apostolic practice has canonical value and shows that the Church has authority to organize liturgical life. Sunday is a sign of the New Creation—not a transgression of the Law.



7. How Do We Know Which Bible is the Right One?

“All Scripture is inspired by God” (2 Timothy 3:16)

Protestantism removed 7 books from the Old Testament, known as the “deuterocanonical” books, without a solid theological reason. Luther also questioned James, Hebrews, and Revelation.

The question they cannot answer:

By what authority was the biblical canon decided, and who determined it?

The Catholic answer:

It was the Catholic Church, at the Councils of Hippo (393) and Carthage (397), that discerned and identified the books inspired by the Holy Spirit. The Bible did not create the Church; the Church compiled, preserved, and transmitted the Bible. To separate the Bible from the Church is a fundamental error.

Practical Guide for Catholic Discernment

- 1. Listen with humility:** If you’re Catholic, get to know your faith. If you’re Protestant, dare to question your inheritance sincerely. God loves those who seek the Truth.
- 2. Research seriously:** Read the Church Fathers. Learn what the early Christians believed before denominations existed. St. Justin Martyr, St. Irenaeus, St. Augustine—they all sound unmistakably Catholic.
- 3. Study history:** Can it be that all Christians lived in “error” for 1500 years, and only with Luther was the truth “rediscovered”?
- 4. Pray with faith:** Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you “into all truth” (John 16:13)—not into personal interpretation, but into the fullness of faith.



5. Approach the sacraments: If you're Catholic, live the sacraments deeply. If you're Protestant, visit a parish, talk to a priest, and get to know the faith from the inside.

Conclusion: Fullness is Found in the Catholic Church

Not all doctrines are equal, nor do all paths lead to the same truth. There is one Truth with a capital "T"—and that Truth is a Person: Jesus Christ. He did not leave His Church to chance, nor did He build it on opinions. He built it on Peter, with visible doctrinal authority that has endured for centuries.

The Catholic Church does not have all the answers because she is more intelligent, but because she is the Bride of Christ, guided by the Holy Spirit, and rooted in the living Tradition.

"The Church is the pillar and foundation of the truth" (1 Timothy 3:15)

If you are seeking answers that Protestantism cannot give, I invite you to take a fresh look at the Catholic Church—not as a human institution, but as what it truly is: the living Body of Christ on earth.

Come and see.

The Truth will set you free.

And the Truth lives in His Church.