



# The Gospel Catholic



II Timothy 2:9

*The Sole purpose of this publication is to promote God's message of Salvation through faith alone in the death, burial and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. Additional free literature is available upon request.*

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## *We Were Religious, But LOST!*

**By Mr. and Mrs. John Rutilli**

I was raised a Roman Catholic and I attended Catholic schools. I was taught that by attending Mass, confessing my sins to a priest, praying to Mary and the "Saints", saying the rosary, etc. I might gain merits worthy of obtaining "grace". As a Roman Catholic, however, I always felt an emptiness that could never be satisfied. I hoped that by saying prayers to the "Saints" and making Novenas, and going to Mass, this emptiness could be filled, but it was to no avail. I was the same person going to church and coming out; there was no change in my heart and life.

I had a fear of death, sickness, purgatory (a place taught to Catholics where one goes after death to suffer for his sins). This place does not exist in God's Word. Hebrews 1:1-3 tells us that Christ purged our sins. God's Word teaches us that it's Heaven with Christ or Hell without Him. We must make the choice. But at this time I did not know what God's Word taught, and my sins were weighing me down. I was Hell-bound and I did not know it. I tried looking into the Bible, but could not understand it. My condition could best be described in 1 Corinthians 2:14: "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness unto him;..." I was outside of Christ and could not understand the things of God.

I met a Roman Catholic boy, and we fell in love and were married. We both held the same religious beliefs. We thought that salvation was in the Roman Catholic Church, and that water baptism makes one a Christian.

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**“We Were Religious, But Lost!” continued from page 1** We had two beautiful children given to us and God in His great wisdom took them back. Our marriage and home became very unhappy at this time due to the fact that we did not know Christ and have Him in our home. All during our marriage I prayed to St. Jude (the saint for the hopeless cases), not realizing that I was hopelessly lost and headed for hell. I also prayed to St. Dymphna (the saint for nervous cases), and I would light candles to Mary. Still, I did not find the peace I needed, and there was no change in my life. I kept on searching, however, Jeremiah 29:13 says: “And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.”

I told my husband that I must find God. He couldn't understand why I couldn't find Him in the Mass. Finally our marriage came to a head and my husband left me. Now both my children and my husband were gone. It was as though my world had ended. But thank God the Lord sent me a Christian friend. Prior to my husband's leaving he had repaired the car of a Christian couple. When I returned their car, I noticed the Bible in it. It was a silent witness to me. This lady was different from anyone I had known. She was peaceful and serene. So when my husband left I called her and she came and brought her Bible with her. At first I couldn't understand the spiritual things she was reading from the Bible. You see, as Roman Catholics, we were never encouraged to read our Bibles. Then she tuned into a Christian radio program which I loved immediately. Two days later she invited me to attend a prayer meeting at her church. At first I hesitated about going, but then I agreed to go. I didn't know what church it was, but it was different from any service that I had ever attended. The people were happy, friendly and sang with much joy. I felt so lost because of my sins and I asked to speak with the pastor. I told the pastor of my lost condition, and he showed me from God's Word that as a sinner I must repent of my sins, ask Jesus to cleanse me from them in His precious blood, and place all of my trust in Jesus Christ and in Him alone for my salvation. I prayed with him and accepted Jesus Christ into my heart as my all-sufficient Savior and Lord.

A new life began for me. I was born into the family of God. I had Christ's peace in my heart at last and was set free from the penalty of my sins. John 8:32 says, “Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.” Thank God I no longer had to place my trust in the Mass, Mary and the “saints”, confession to a man, saying rosaries, and all the rest of the confusion found in the Roman Catholic system. My Catholic friend, you too can be set free. Search the Scriptures. Place your faith and trust in Jesus Christ and in Him alone. Turn from the traditions of men and the confusions of the Roman Catholic system. **Continued on Page 3**



**“We Were Religious, But Lost!” continued from page 2** I know that my Savior lives with me, and that I have an eternal home with Christ. My desire now is to witness for my Savior, and to be used as His instrument in winning others to Him. ---Mrs. Lee Rutilli



After my wife’s conversion, I returned home. Our home was different, and my wife was different. She told me that she had accepted Jesus Christ as her Savior and Lord. I couldn’t understand what she meant. I told her that the Catholic Church with its Mass was the **ONLY TRUE CHURCH**, and that salvation was only found in the Catholic Church. She told me that Christ was missing from our home because we never knew Him personally. The following Sunday, I said that I would go to church with her if she would go to Mass with me. As I frequented these two churches and listened to the preaching, I began to see the difference. I saw that the Catholic Church presented the word of man instead of the Word of God. The Lord began to deal with my heart.

A month later, an evangelist came to the church we were attending. Through his preaching, the Lord brought conviction to my heart, and I really began to search the Scriptures. At first I wouldn’t trust a Protestant Bible because I believed it was different and had been changed, so I used the Catholic version. I prayed each time I read its pages, and the more I read, the more the Lord revealed His truths to my heart. I realized that I had been taught falsehood for 42 years.

On New Year’s Eve of 1971 my wife was preparing to leave for watch night service at the church. I hesitated at first about going, but because it was my birthday, and the Lord was continuing to deal with me, I went. Through this joyful service, and seeing all the happy Christian people around me, and my wife being so happy in Christ, I too wanted this joy. I accepted Jesus into my heart as my personal Savior and Lord. I was born-again that night!

As I continued in the word of God, the Lord revealed many truths to me and confirmed my faith in Him. I saw through the Scriptures that Christ made one perfect sacrifice for our sins, and that it is no longer necessary for a priest to make sacrifice on the altar (Hebrews 10:11). I accepted the truths in God’s Word like Ephesians 2:8,9 “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.”



I’ve put my faith and trust in Jesus Christ who alone can transform the sinner. I’m no longer trusting in the Mass, Communion, sacraments, prayers of intercession to Mary and the “saints”, belief in purgatory, as none of these things can change the heart of any sinner. The Bible teaches that all who trust in these things are under the wrath of God.

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**“We Were Religious, But Lost!”** The Lord has changed my heart and life, and has given me a real burden for souls. My wife and I have left the false system of Roman Catholicism forever. Now the Lord has blessed us with a tract ministry in Cowtown, New Jersey. We give out His Word and witness to all we meet about our wonderful Savior and His saving grace. We show Roman Catholics the truth of God’s Word and tell them how they can be saved without merit, charge, without the help of a priest, sacraments, rituals, confirmation, rosary, holy water, Mass, or purgatory. Pray for us. ---John Rutilli

ACTS 1:8—“BUT YE SHALL RECEIVE POWER AFTER THAT THE HOLY GHOST IS COME UPON YOU: AND YE SHALL BE WITNESSES UNTO ME BOTH IN JERUSALEM, AND IN ALL SAMARIA, AND UNTO THE UTTERMOST PART OF THE EARTH.”



## **MIXED MARRIAGES**

**WHY SHOULD CHRISTIANS NOT DATE  
OR MARRY ROMAN CATHOLICS OR  
OTHER UNSAVED PERSONS**

(1) God forbids marriage between His people and the unconverted. Witness His commands to His chosen people in the Old Testament: Genesis 24:3— *...thou shalt not take a wife unto my son of the daughters of the Canaanites...* Genesis 28:1— ... “*Thou shalt not take a wife of the daughters of Canaan.*” Deuteronomy 7:3,4— “*Neither shalt thou make marriages with them; thy daughter thou shalt not give unto his son, nor his daughter shalt thou take unto thy son. For they will turn away thy son from following me, that they may serve other gods: so will the anger of the LORD be kindled against you, and destroy thee suddenly.*” Joshua 23:11-13 “*Take good heed therefore unto yourselves, that ye love the LORD your God. Else if ye do in any wise go back, and cleave unto the remnant of these nations, even these that remain among you, and shall make marriages with them, and go in unto them, and they to you: Know for a certainty that the LORD your God will no more drive out any of these nations from before you; but they shall be snares and traps unto you, and scourges in your sides, and thorns in your eyes, until ye perish from off this good land which the LORD your God hath given you.*”

(2) God requires separation of the saved ones, the people of God, **unto Himself**. Exodus 33:16— “*For wherein shall it be known here that I and thy people have found grace in thy sight? is it not in that thou goest with us? so shall we be separated, I and thy people, from all the people that are upon the face of the earth.*”

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**“Mixed Marriages” Cont. from Page 4** Leviticus 20:26—” *And ye shall be holy unto me: for I the Lord am holy, and have severed you from other people, that ye should be mine.*” Judges 2:2— “ *And ye shall make no league with the inhabitants of this land; ye shall throw down their altars: but ye have not obeyed my voice: why have ye done this?*” Ezra 10:11— “*Now therefore make confession unto the Lord God of your fathers, and do his pleasure: and separate yourselves from the people of the land, and from the strange wives.*” Deuteronomy 22:10 pictures the principle of separation in commandments against unequal yoke in plowing the fields, and the following verses evidence it in the sowing of seed in the vineyard, and in prohibition against wearing woolen and linen together. Finally, the principle of separation in the unequal yoke of marriage or complicity with compromise is set forth in 2 Corinthians 6:14-18. Amos 3:3 asks the question: “*Can two walk together except they be agreed?*” The obvious answer is “NO”! 1 John 5:21 commands separation from idols. Revelation 21:8 plainly says that all idolators shall have their part in the lake of fire. The same is said of other unbelievers in this verse. No child of God should be yoked together with a child of the devil. No matter how nice, sweet, loving, kind, considerate that person may be, he is still a child of the devil if he is unsaved.



Many name the Name of Christ without being truly converted to Christ. They call themselves Christians when they are not Christians at all. A Christian is a converted person, a saved person; one who has turned from sin, works, merit, false doctrines, idols and put all his faith, trust and hope in Jesus Christ...the Christ of the Bible... as his only, personal and all-sufficient Savior and Lord. No saved person should marry an agnostic, atheist, Buddhist, Shintoist, Muslim, unsaved Jew, Christian Scientist, Jehovah’s Witness, Roman Catholic or other unconverted Protestant, or any kind of person who has not truly been converted, from the heart, to the Christ of the Bible and evidenced it by a changed life. He should not even marry a “backslidden” Christian. Christ demands and deserves our complete devotion and dedication to Himself (Romans 12:1-2, Colossians 3:1-17). How can He have this if our spouse is pulling the other way? In the case of a Roman Catholic who says he believes in Jesus Christ and is sure he is a Christian, it is an easy matter to prove the contrary. Simply show him the wafer (host) used in the communion of the Roman Catholic Mass. Ask him if he believes that when it has been consecrated by the priest at the altar it is literally the body and blood of Jesus Christ. As a Roman Catholic, he must say yes. This is the central doctrine of the Roman church— the doctrine of transubstantiation— that the substance of a cake or cracker made with flour and water and baked thin and crisp becomes the absolute, literal, full and complete body and blood of Jesus Christ— eyes, teeth, nose, fingers, ears, liver, feet, toenails, skin, blood, hair, organs of Jesus Christ. They also believe that every Roman Catholic swallows and receives into his stomach the literal body and blood of Jesus Christ. This is the worst form of idolatry. Jesus said, “If any mans says here is Christ, or there, believe it not” (Matthew 24:23).

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## *Dear Friends and Supporters,*

Thank you so much for taking the time to read this edition of The Gospel Catholic. We have been blessed in these last few months in several areas. Let me share some details and give you a brief update.

**Tracts** I had set a prayer goal of printing 125,000 tracts in 2014. As of the end of February, we have printed 15,000 various tracts. We have reprinted the tract "Roman Catholicism VS. Fundamental Christianity" in English and now we have printed it in Spanish and Portuguese. We were able to supply 1,000 to a Spanish-speaking church in SC as well as ship 1,000 to Brazil. We have also reprinted the English and Spanish versions of "Who Was St. Patrick?" and now

have 5,000 available. If you would like some, please email or call as soon as possible.

St. Patrick's Day is right around the corner and we would love to distribute these.

**Tract project** We have been raising money for sending an additional 50,000 tracts to Mexico. We sent 55,000 tracts last year to Mexico and I want to send another shipment as soon as possible. Please pray as we are currently \$1,205 short of the next shipment. I am so burdened to send as many tracts as possible to other countries and Mexico truly has a need. Every minute, 3 dear souls in Mexico die lost and go to hell. Please pray that we can send these tracts.


**When Two Curses Collide** Some of you may remember a pamphlet that we have used in times past, "John 12:48". Bro. Joel Bense, a friend of The Conversion Center, has written another pamphlet called "When Two Curses Collide". He has printed a number of these, at his own expense and is offering them to you if you request them. For your copy, please write End Time Messages at P.O. Box 2962 Summerville, SC. 29484. He also has some copies of his initial writing "John 12:48" still available.

**Personal** Thank you so much for your prayers for us in these past months. Rachel's Dad continues to receive treatment for his cancer. There have been complications and this has taken a real toll on the whole family. My mother has suffered a couple of health setbacks and I will likely need to spend more time caring for my parents than in times past. Dad, as many of you know is Chairman of the Board for The Conversion Center and is legally blind. My parents contribution to the work here is invaluable. You can see from the Picture that our kids are growing. Katie just turned 3 last week and Stephen will have turned 6 by the time you receive this. Patricia is 10 months and is starting to crawl at will so the fun will begin. Your prayers for us as a family is much appreciated.

**Support** The support for The Conversion Center has picked up some in the last two months. The support for us has picked up and we are currently at 43%. We are grateful for the notes, prayers, and support that we receive so faithfully from so many of you. Please pray for increased support for the work. We have so many doors of opportunity,

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**“Mixed Marriage” Continued from page 5** And yet at every mass the priest tells the people that Christ is actually present and gives Him to the communicants to swallow! What blasphemy! Also, every Roman Catholic must believe that the new birth is water baptism. Child of God, don’t date a Roman Catholic. Witness, yes. Date, NO! If God is calling two people together, He will call them in agreement, in common love for the true Christ, for the Bible, for fellowship in a true, Christ-centered, Bible-teaching, missionary, evangelistic, fundamental church for family worship true to the Bible. Any other union is not of God, and will result in compromise and unhappiness. “Delight thyself also in the Lord, and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart” (Psalms 37:4). If God calls you to marry, praise the Lord! If God calls you to remain single, praise the Lord! The only place of happiness is in His perfect will... If you are already married to an unsaved person, live all out for Jesus. Don’t compromise any more. Pray and witness for the conversion of your spouse.



**“Letter from the Director” continued from page 6**...especially regarding tracts that we would love to walk through, but we are limited at this point for lack of funds.

**Travel** Thank you for praying for me as I travel. This year already I have been to MA, NH, and MN. I will be speaking in MI, MD, PA and OH in the next month. I have been trying to make the trips fit over weekends so I can be home more both for the sake of my work here at the office and for my family. So far, Rachel and the kids are planning to take 4 trips with me this year. If you would like me to come speak in your church, school or conference, please let me know. I would be glad to help you.

**Projects** We are currently working on reprinting the tract you read in the front of this edition of “The Gospel Catholic”. The Rutillis were wonderful Christians and faithful in their home church. They even had a tract ministry that reached many thousands of people. Please pray for God to bless this tract as we prepare it for the future.

I am going to try to spend more time in the future getting our material translated into other languages. I have been burdened, in part due to the work of Dr. Stephen Zeinner with Bearing Precious Seed Global, to try to reach people in other parts of the world. In the United States, we tend to get self-centered and forget how many people need the Lord in other lands. The world has just over 1 billion Roman Catholics, over 970 million of those live outside of the United States. Please pray with us for God’s Word to get to those who need it.

**Closing** Thank you for taking the time to read this edition of “The Gospel Catholic”. We value your prayers more than you probably realize. We read on a weekly basis of the changes in the Roman Catholic Church and are sobered to see the affects of worshipping man and not having your foundation on the Lord Jesus Christ. One of the more famous verses in the New Testament is so applicable when Jesus said, “Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.” (John 14:6) Please pray for our work and various projects and let’s remember “Jesus saves, keeps, and satisfies”.

Yours for the Kingdom,

Mark T. Reno

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# The Gospel of Grace

## God's Word, the Bible, Tells We Need To Be Saved

"For the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." *Matthew 18:11*

"For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." *Romans 3:23*

"Except a man be born again he cannot see the Kingdom of God." *John 3:3*

## Even Religious Works Cannot Bring Salvation

"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us." *Titus 3:5*

"...not of works, lest any man should boast." *Ephesians 2:9*

"all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags." *Isaiah 64:6*

"This is the work of God that ye believe on Him whom He hath sent." *John 6:29*

## Jesus Christ – God Himself – Has Provided Everything For Our Salvation

"Who (Jesus) His own self bare our sins in His own body on the tree..." *1 Peter 2:24*

"I am the Way, the Truth and the Life; no man cometh unto the Father but by Me." *John 14:6*

## We Must Accept Christ To Be Saved

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever Believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." *John 3:16*

"He that believeth on Him is not condemned, but he that believeth not is condemned already because he hath not believed...." *John 3:18*

"...and him that cometh to Me, I will in no wise cast out." *John 6:37*

## We Are Saved By Faith Alone

"Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law." *Romans 3:28*

"Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ...for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified. *Galatians 2:16*.

# "For by Grace are ye Saved through Faith"

**HAVE YOU....**Been converted to the Lord Jesus Christ? Is He your personal and all-sufficient Savior? If not, you are invited to trust Him NOW. Then unite with a Christ-centered, Bible teaching, Missionary-minded, Separated, Fundamental and Protestant, New Testament Christian Church.

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## THE CONVERSION CENTER, INC.

A Bible-believing Nonprofit Faith Mission

**THE GOSPEL CATHOLIC** – the Official Quarterly Publication of the Conversion Center, Inc. will be mailed to you free and postage paid upon request. Free tract samples and a list of available publications will also be mailed upon request.

**HAVE YOU....**asked your church to include **The Conversion Center, Inc.** in its missionary program?

**HAVE YOU....**remembered **The Conversion Center, Inc.** in your Will?

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