

## HARMFUL TO HAVE A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST???

On June 25, 2014 Pope Francis declared **that it is harmful to have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ outside the Catholic Church.** Many Catholic apologists have justified this statement over and over again with the same explanations that they always come up with. *“He didn’t really mean what he said but this is what he meant.”* The Catholic Church throughout the centuries have excused and justified many false doctrines with straw man debates. They talk in circles like a dog chasing their tail.

I would like for all who has come to this site to spend 3:06 of your time and listen to the translated speech in English to hear for yourself of what he said. Click on the address below and please listen. I will rebut this speech from God’s Word the final authority on all issues of doctrines and righteousness no matter what man may teach, preach or speak.

Here is the entirety of the speech in red italicized font:

“There is no do it yourself in the church, no freelancers. How many times did we hear Pope Benedict describe the church as a “we church”? Sometimes you may hear someone say, “I believe in God, in Jesus, but the church..... I don’t care.” How many times have we heard this? This is wrong. There are those who believe you can have a personal direct and immediate relationship with Jesus Christ outside the communion and mediation of the church. These temptations are dangerous and harmful. They are, in the words of the great Pope Paul VI, “absurd and dichotomies.” It’s true that journeying together is challenging, and sometimes it can be tiring: it may that some brother or sister (in the church) makes us face a problem, or scandalizes us. But the Lord has entrusted his message of salvation to humans, all of us, as witnesses; and in our brothers and sisters, with their gifts and limits, who come to us and make themselves known. This means belonging to the church. Remember being a Christian means belonging to the church. First name: Christian. Last name: Church member.”

First I want to give you the definition of three words that the pope had in his speech that are very, very important so you will follow my rebuttal of this false teaching of the pope. Then I will give you some false teachings of other Pope’s that teach this very same. It is very important to know the definitions of these words so we can truly decipher what this pope was teaching. The words are “*absurd*”, “*dichotomies*” and “*church*”. The definition of “*absurd*” is an adjective [Latin *absurdus*, from *ab* and *surdus*, deaf, insensible.] ***Opposed to manifest truth; inconsistent with reason or the plain dictates of common sense. An absurd man acts contrary to the clear dictates of reason or sound judgement. An absurd proposition contradicts obvious truth. An absurd practice or opinion is repugnant to the reason or common apprehension of men. It is absurd to say six and six make ten, or that plants will take root in stone.*** The definition of “*dichotomies*” is verb transitive: ***To cut into two parts; to divide into pairs.*** I will give you now the Biblical meaning, definition of the word “*church*”. First of all the word “*church*” found in the Bible **IS NOT** a structural building nor is it a certain denomination in the world. Did you understand that! Then what does the word “*church*” mean? Minions call a structural building of a certain denomination a “*church*”. The structural building where many meet to worship or hear the Word of God is misquoted by minions all over the world. They will say “*we are going to church today*”. No, you are going to a structural building today that was

built so you could meet to escape the elements of the weather and be comfortable to worship or hear the Word of God preached or taught. Let me ask you a question. If you took all the pews, pulpit, piano, choir loft, altar, communion railing, confessionals, chairs, baptismal and the cross out of the building would you call it a church? The answer is NO! Now let's do this, if you put the chairs, pews, pulpit, altar, piano, choir loft, communion railing, and confessionals outside in a field or on a lawn would you call it a church? The answer is NO! Let me show you what the biblical church is from the Final Authority the Word of God.

**Hebrews 10:25** "Not forsaking the **assembling** of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." The Greek word "assembly" means "from out of" and "a calling." Assembly literally means an "assembly of called out ones." This word was used among the Greeks of a body of citizens gathered to discuss the affairs of the State. In the Old Testament it used to gathering of Israel, summoned for a definite purpose. In the New Testament it has two applications. The whole company of the redeemed throughout the present era, the company of which Christ said in **Matthew 16:18** "I will build my church," which is further described as the church which is His Body. And the other is a company of consisting professed believers. **Ephesians 1:22 - 23, 4:12** "And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all. For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." **Colossians 3:15** "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful."

You must realize that the church building is not where God dwells. Where then does God dwell? The word *tabernacle* literally means, "to dwell with you." God said that He would (*tabernacle*) dwell with the Israelites in the structure called the Tabernacle during the time of the Old Testament. In the New Testament we read in **John 1:14** "And the Word was made flesh and (*tabernacled*) dwelt among us." Jesus Christ shed His blood and died on the cross and arose bodily from the dead to cleanse us of all our sins. And it is Him that can help cleanse (sanctify) our sinful ways to live a holy life. And now through the Lord Jesus Christ He can come and (*tabernacle*) dwell in the spirit of a person who has accepted Him as Lord and Savior.

**1 Corinthians 3:16, 17** "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." **Acts 7:48** "Howbeit the most High dwelleth not in temples made with hands; as saith the prophet." **Acts 17:24** "God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands." **2 Corinthians 6:16** "And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? For ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people." Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you." **Romans 8:9** "But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his." These verses must really make us realize the Lord lives in us and not in a building made with hands. **1 Corinthians 6:19 - 20** "What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price. Therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." **The church is a Body of Born Again Believers, which is called the Body of Christ. 1 Corinthians 12:12, 13, 27** "For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one

body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. **Now ye are the body of Christ** (True Born Again Believers), **and members in particular.**” **Ephesians 1:22 - 23, 4:12** “And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to **the church, Which is his body** (True Born Again Believers), the fulness of him that filleth all in all. For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ (True Born Again Believers):” **Hebrews 12:2** “Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.” I believe the Scriptures teach that “the church which is His body” is the entire company of believers in Christ.

**Hebrews 10:25** “**Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together**, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.” The first part of this verse is telling us that the Body of Christ (True Born Again Believers) needs to meet with each other. In the New Testament they gave this example. **Acts 4:31** “And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were **assembled together**; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.” **Acts 12:12** “And when he had considered the thing, he came to the house of Mary the mother of John, whose surname was Mark; where many were **gathered together** praying.” **Acts 20:7, 8** “And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples **came together** to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight. And there were many lights in the upper chamber, where **they were gathered together.**” **Acts 14:27** “And when they were come, and had gathered the church (assembly) together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles.” Today we have a meeting place and it is a building which we call it a church, when really we should call it an assembly place, because the believers are the Body of Christ the church. The word church has been used as a term for reverence because it has been misinterpreted by religious people, and religious organizations for the use of where God dwells. **True Born Again Believers are the church the body of Christ.**

The local (church) Body of True Born Again Believers or the assembly of called out ones the Body of Christ have some commands and commissions by God. The local body of True Born Again Believers functions as a living body. It is the living body of Christ not an religious organization, company, religious denomination, or social club. Christ expresses His life through the members. All members are needed and must function and function together. The local assembly of called out ones meet together at their meeting place and they're goal is to worship the Lord in spirit and truth and to hear the word of God preached to help edify and encourage their faith in Christ and to preach the Gospel to the lost. **John 4:23, 24** “*But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.*” **Romans 10:17** “*So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*” **But the primary goal of the local (church) body of believers is that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is preached that lost souls be saved, and to express the life of Jesus Christ here on earth.** All of these verses will describe the primary purpose of the local of assembly of called out ones. **Matthew 28:19 - 20** “*Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.*” **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 Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. **Romans 10:14 - 17** "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report? So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." The great example of the first (local church) local assembly of called out ones the body of Christ is in **Acts 2:41 - 47** "Then they that gladly received his word (the preaching of God's Word) were baptized: (baptism) and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. (salvation of lost souls) And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine (All that Christ is and what He did) and fellowship, (the building up or encouraging each other) and in breaking of bread, (the Lords supper) and in prayers. And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. And all that believed were together, and had all things common; And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, (giving) as every man had need. And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, Praising God, (worshipping) and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." **Colossians 3:16** "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."*

This is exactly what the word "church" means in my Biblical explanation and not what the Pope is meaning in his speech about the Church and Church membership. The Pope is meaning in his speech is that it is a fact, and an article of faith, that Jesus Christ founded only one Church – the Holy Catholic Church. To it (the Holy Roman Catholic Church) alone He gave His Mission, Power and Authority. Our Holy Mother the Catholic Church is the Mystic Ark outside of which there is no salvation. The Catholic Faith is our most precious treasure. It is not just the Faith of our fathers, it (The Catholic Church) is the one true Faith given to us by Our Lord Jesus Christ Himself. The Pope is meaning, saying and teaching anything outside of the Roman Catholic Church you cannot have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Then the Pope goes no to say "that these temptations are dangerous and harmful," to pursue such a thing; and, if you do, it is "absurd" meaning that you reject manifested truth giving by the Roman Catholic Church and that you are committing dichotomy meaning you are parting from the Roman Catholic Church trying to have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, because you cannot have one accept through the Roman Catholic Church. It is an infallible dogma that there is no salvation outside of the Catholic Church. This infallible truth has been taught throughout the Church's history and is very aptly stated by **Pope Eugene VI in Cantate Domino in 1441**: "The most Holy Roman Church firmly believes, professes and preaches that none of those existing outside the Catholic Church, not only pagans, but also Jews and heretics and schismatics, can have a share in life eternal; but that they will go into the eternal fire which was prepared for the devil and his angels, unless before death they are joined with Her; and that so important is the unity of this Ecclesiastical Body that only those remaining within this unity can profit by the sacraments of the Church unto salvation, and they alone can receive an eternal recompense for their fasts, their almsgivings, their other works of Christian piety and the duties of a Christian soldier. No one, let his almsgiving be as great as it may, no one, even if he pour out his blood for the Name

*of Christ, can be saved, unless he remain within the bosom and the unity of the Catholic Church."*

**(Pope Innocent III, Fourth Lateran Council, 1215.)** *"There is but one universal ["Catholic" means universal] Church of the faithful, outside which NO ONE at all is saved."*

**Pope Boniface VIII, the Bull, Unam Sanctum, 1302** *"We declare, say, define, and pronounce that it is absolutely necessary for the salvation of every human creature to be subject to the Roman Pontiff." (. "These infallible declarations of the Popes are part of what was once commonly referred to as the dogma, Extra Ecclesiam Nulla Salus -- Outside the Church there is no salvation." "Dogmas are revealed truths by God through the Church's Magisterium. Truth cannot change. This dogma is key, because without it, there would be no need to evangelize. This dogma embraces everything that is of absolute necessity for salvation and which can only be found in the one True Church of Jesus Christ, The Catholic Church: the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the Sacraments and Priesthood to administer them." "Do away with this one dogma and the Church has no claim to universal authority over all men on behalf of Jesus Christ." "The dogma Extra Ecclesiam Nulla Salus cannot change..."*

**See Catechism of the Catholic "Church", copyright 1994, U.S. Catholic Conference, Inc.-Liberia Editrice Vaticana, page 225, article #846.** *"Outside the Church there is no salvation' is a solemnly declared dogma which has always been believed and taught by the Church. Were this not so, it could never have been defined ex cathedra in the first place, for no Pope can declare something to be true unless it has always been true, if only recognized implicitly, such as the Immaculate Conception." The official position of the Roman Catholic religion remains that there is no salvation outside the "church" of Rome. "How are we to understand [the] affirmation [that] outside the Church there is no salvation, often repeated by the Church Fathers? Re-formulated positively, it means that all salvation comes from Christ the Head through the Church which is his Body: Basing itself on Scripture and Traditions the Council teaches that the Church, a pilgrim now on earth, is NECESSARY for salvation."*

**Pope Pelagius II (A.D. 578 – 590):** *"Consider the fact that whoever has not been in the peace and unity of the Church cannot have the Lord. ...Although given over to flames and fires, they burn, or, thrown to wild beasts, they lay down their lives, there will not be (for them) that crown of faith but the punishment of faithlessness. ...Such a one can be slain, he cannot be crowned. [If] slain outside the Church, he cannot attain the rewards of the Church."* (Denzinger 246-247)

**Pope Saint Gregory the Great (A.D. 590 – 604):** *"Now the holy Church universal proclaims that God cannot be truly worshipped saving within herself, asserting that all they that are without her shall never be saved."* (Moralia)

**Pope Innocent III (A.D. 1198 – 1216):** *"With our hearts we believe and with our lips we confess but one Church, not that of the heretics, but the Holy Roman Catholic and Apostolic Church, outside which we believe that no one is saved."* (Denzinger 423)

**Pope Leo XII (A.D. 1823 – 1829):** *"We profess that there is no salvation outside the Church. ...For the Church is the pillar and ground of the truth. With reference to those words Augustine says: 'If any man be outside the Church he will be excluded from the number of sons, and will not have God for Father since he has not the Church for mother.'" (Encyclical, Ubi Primum)*

**Pope Gregory XVI (A.D. 1831 – 1846):** *"It is not possible to worship God truly except in Her; all who are outside Her will not be saved."* (Encyclical, Summo Jugiter)

**Pope Pius IX (A.D. 1846 – 1878):** *"It must be held by faith that outside the Apostolic Roman Church, no one can be saved; that this is the only ark of salvation; that he who shall not have entered therein will perish in the flood."* (Denzinger 1647)

**Pope Leo XIII (A.D. 1878 – 1903):** *“This is our last lesson to you; receive it, engrave it in your minds, all of you: by God’s commandment salvation is to be found nowhere but in the Church.”*  
(Encyclical, *Annum Ingressi Sumus*)

*“He scatters and gathers not who gathers not with the Church and with Jesus Christ, and all who fight not jointly with Him and with the Church are in very truth contending against God.”*  
(Encyclical, *Sapientiae Christianae*)

**Pope Saint Pius X (A.D. 1903 – 1914):** *“It is our duty to recall to everyone great and small, as the Holy Pontiff Gregory did in ages past, the absolute necessity which is ours, to have recourse to this Church to effect our eternal salvation.”* (Encyclical, *Jucunda Sane*)

**Pope Benedict XV (A.D. 1914 – 1922):** *“Such is the nature of the Catholic faith that it does not admit of more or less, but must be held as a whole, or as a whole rejected: This is the Catholic faith, which unless a man believe faithfully and firmly, he cannot be saved.”* (Encyclical, *Ad Beatissimi Apostolorum*)

**Pope Pius XI (A.D. 1922 – 1939):** *“The Catholic Church alone is keeping the true worship. This is the font of truth, this is the house of faith, this is the temple of God; if any man enter not here, or if any man go forth from it, he is a stranger to the hope of life and salvation....Furthermore, in this one Church of Christ, no man can be or remain who does not accept, recognize and obey the authority and supremacy of Peter and his legitimate successors.”*  
(Encyclical, *Mortalium Animos*)

**Pope Pius XII (A.D. 1939 – 1958):** *“By divine mandate the interpreter and guardian of the Scriptures, and the depository of Sacred Tradition living within her, the Church alone is the entrance to salvation: She alone, by herself, and under the protection and guidance of the Holy Spirit, is the source of truth.”* (Allocution to the Gregorian, October 17, 1953)

#### **Extraordinary Magisterium**

Then, as though to set this constant teaching of the Fathers, Doctors and Popes “in concrete,” so to speak, we have the following definitions from the Solemn Magisterium of the Church:  
**Pope Innocent III and Lateran Council IV (A.D. 1215):** *“One indeed is the universal Church of the faithful outside which no one at all is saved...”*

**Pope Boniface VIII in his Papal Bull Unam Sanctam (A.D. 1302):** *“We declare, say, define, and pronounce that it is absolutely necessary for the salvation of every human creature to be subject to the Roman Pontiff.”*

**Pope Eugene IV and the Council of Florence (A.D. 1438 – 1445):** *“[The most Holy Roman Church] firmly believes, professes, and proclaims that those not living within the Catholic Church, not only pagans, but also Jews and heretics and schismatics cannot become participants in eternal life, but will depart into everlasting fire which was prepared for the devil and his angels’ (Matt. 25:41), unless before the end of life the same have been added to the flock; and that the unity of the ecclesiastical body is so strong that only to those remaining in it are the sacraments of the Church of benefit for salvation, and do fastings, almsgiving, and other functions of piety and exercises of Christian service produce eternal reward, and that no one, whatever almsgiving he has practiced, even if he has shed blood for the name of Christ, can be saved, unless he has remained in the bosom and unity of the Catholic Church.”*

Now it is true, that the last five Pope’s have changed some of the wording that is sometimes obscure in fully understanding about this issue being saved outside the Roman Catholic Church. But there is a division in the Catholic Church about being saved outside the Catholic Church. The Ecumenical Council reveals this teaching accepting other faiths outside the

Catholic Church. And the confusion in the Catholic Church continues, if only they would abrogate all outside teachings of the Scripture and make the Word of God the Final Authority and to stop being superfluous with the meaning of the Scriptures they would come to know the truth and set them free from all their ambiguous teachings.

Let us look at some Scripture about receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as your own personal Savior and not needing to belong to a certain denomination to be saved. There is no Scripture found that says you can't be saved outside the Catholic Church. Nowhere to be found.

**John 3:14 – 18** “*And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. 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. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.*” **John 1:12, 13** “*But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.*” **John 3:36** “*He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.*” **John 5:24** “*Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.*” **John 6:47** “*Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.*” **John 10:28, 29** “*And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.*” My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.” **John 11:25, 26a** “*Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.*” **Romans 3:19 – 28** “*Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin. But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; **Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe:** for there is no difference: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; **Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:** Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: **that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.** Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith. **Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.**” **Romans 5:1, 2** “*Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.*” **Romans 10:9 – 13** “*That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, **thou shalt be saved.** For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the scripture saith, **Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.** For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. **For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord****

*shall be saved.”*

Now tell me where did the Scripture say that anyone had to belong to the Roman Catholic Church to be saved?? NOWHERE!!! The Pope's teaching is fallible making him fallible. The Pope is not the Vicar of Christ on this planet. Why? Because Christ would never teach such a thing making the Pope fallible and a false teacher. Do not follow this man's teaching because it says in **1John 5:9 – 13** *“If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son. **He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son.** And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.”* The Pope and the whole Catholic Magisterium has lied to the fullest degree about how someone can be saved. If they have taught this lie what else have they lied about???