

**A Biblical Study of
The Catechism
of the Catholic Church:
Bible Answers to the Most
Frequently Asked Questions
about Catholic Beliefs and Practices**

Dr. Jonathan Carl

Downloadable resources and
helpful study videos freely available at:

www.TrustworthyWord.com/catholic

SHOULD WE
PRAY TO MARY
AND SAINTS?

Merriam-Webster's Definitions:

Necromancy - the practice of talking to the spirits of dead people

Medium - a person through whom other persons try to communicate with the spirits of the dead

“We can pray with
and to her. The
prayer of the Church
is sustained by the
prayer of Mary”
(CCC 2679)

The witnesses...especially those whom the Church recognizes as saints...constantly care for those whom have left on the earth. Their intercession is their most exalted service to God's plan. We can and should ask them to intercede for us and for the whole world.” (CCC 2683)

“it is a holy and
wholesome thought to
pray for the dead that
they may be loosed from
their sins’ she offers
suffrages for them”
(CCC 958)

“In prayer, the pilgrim Church is associated with that of the saints, whose intercession she asks”
(CCC 2692)

“it is a holy and
wholesome thought to
pray for the dead that
they may be loosed from
their sins’ she offers
suffrages for them”
(CCC 958)

“The Church encourages us to prepare ourselves for the house of death. ... to ask the Mother of God to intercede for us ‘at the hour of our death’ in the Hail Mary; and to entrust ourselves to St. Joseph, the patron of a happy death” (CCC 1014)

“the Church...sustains
the hope of believers
by proposing the saints
to them as models and
intercessors”

(CCC 828)

Deuteronomy 18:10–12 “There shall not be found among you...a medium or a necromancer or one who inquires of the dead, for whoever does these things is an abomination to the LORD. And because of these abominations the LORD your God is driving them out before you.” (ESV)

Leviticus 19:31 “Do not
turn to mediums or
necromancers; do not
seek them out, and so
make yourselves unclean
by them: I am the LORD
your God.” (ESV)

Isaiah 8:19 "And when they say to you, 'Inquire of the mediums and the necromancers who chirp and mutter,'" should not a people inquire of their God? Should they inquire of the dead on behalf of the living?" (ESV)

1 Samuel 28:15

“Then Samuel said to Saul, “Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up?””

Romans 8:26–27 “Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. [27] And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.” (ESV)

IS IT OK TO PRAY
TO ANGELS?

“the Church...invokes their [the angels] assistance in the funeral...’May the angels lead you into Paradise...she celebrates the memory of certain angels more particularly ? (St. Michael, St. Gabriel, St. Raphael, and the guardian angels” (CCC 335)

“Beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd leading him to life” (CCC 336)

“The Church venerates the angels who help her on her earthly pilgrimage and protect every human being.” (CCC 352)

The Bible does not mention Raphael or particular “guardian” angels assigned to each believe nor does it support praying to them for assistance as prayer is an act of worship and angels refuse worship.

Why does the book of Tobit
give so much attention to
angels compared with every
other book of the Bible?

Does that concern you
about its trustworthiness?

Should it?

Colossians 2:16–19

“Let no one disqualify
you, insisting on
asceticism and
worship of angels”

Romans 1:22–25 “they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.” (ESV)

Where does the Bible describe or prescribe praying to Mary, Saints, or Angels?

Why would we talk to angels when we have the Spirit of God within us, to whom we can speak at anytime? Is not the God the Holy Spirit more powerful than angels?

Is it not insulting to ignore the Holy Spirit (whose job is to intercede for us) and instead speak to created beings rather than the Creator?

Why does God give
so many warnings
about necromancy
and mediums like in
Isaiah 8:19?

Why was Saul's sin
“that he did not seek
guidance from the
Lord” directly so
serious?

(1 Chronicles 10:13–14)

When was prayer to
Mary, the saints,
and angels invented
by the Catholic
Church? Why?

**A Biblical Study of
The Catechism
of the Catholic Church:
Bible Answers to the Most
Frequently Asked Questions
about Catholic Beliefs and Practices**

Dr. Jonathan Carl

Downloadable resources and
helpful study videos freely available at:

www.TrustworthyWord.com/catholic