

ANSWERING BASIC QUESTIONS OF FAITH "FROM ZERO TO THE EUCHARIST"



- Why listen to Mary the Mother of Jesus? - 9.
To gear up ones grace towards Heaven.
- Why recognize the Body of Jesus in the Living Eucharist? - 8.
- Why feed on the Eucharist? - 7.
- Why confess oneself with a Catholic Priest? - 6.
When God sees our hearts all the same?
- Why go to Church? - 5.
Rather than pray at home.
- Why be Catholic? - 4.
Respecting Orthodox, Protestants, and Jehovah's W., etc.
- Why be Christian? - 3.
Respecting Jews, Buddhists, Muslims, etc.
- Why and How to trust the S. Scripture? - 2. 2
- Why and How to believe in God? - 1.
- Why is there Suffering? - 0. ↑

EVERY LAST THURSDAY
of EACH MONTH at 6.30 pm
BEGINNING THURSDAY 27th OF MARCH
OUR LADY OF THE HOLY ROSARY CATHOLIC CHURCH
8594 EAST MAIN ST. HOUMA LA.
vocations@poorfriars.net

Catechesis No. 2 **WHY & HOW TO BELIEVE THE SACRED SCRIPTURE ?**

Thursday May 29th 2014

In these evenings, we'll read and try to explain some passages of the

- **Word of God (AT, NT)**
- **Teaching of the Catholic Church (from the Fathers to Contemporaneity)**
- **Personal experiences ...**

Introduction:

- **Why?..** "If you don't believe in the scriptures, how can you believe My Words?" (Cf. Jn 5,47)..
.. and what Scriptures are truly his words?
- Example of the lights turned off in Church or on the streets..
- And... **How to believe in them?...** Cf. theory of the treasure map or the street signs..

Word of God

The Old Testament

Why believe in the Scriptures? (According to the Old Testament?)

1. "Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light for my path!" (Ps 119,105).
2. "You Lord are my lamp, you cast away darkness" (Is 55,6-7).

Which are the fruits for those who believe in the Sacred Scriptures? (According to the Ancient Testament?)

3. "Yet just as from the heavens the rain and snow come down and do not return there till they have watered the earth, making it fertile and fruitful, giving seed to the one who sows and bread to the one who eats, so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; It shall not return to me empty, but shall do what pleases me, achieving the end for which I sent it." (Is 55,10-11).

How to believe in the Scriptures? (According to the Old Testament?) - Prophecies -

4. "Should you say to yourselves, "How can we recognize that a word is one the Lord has not spoken?", if a prophet speaks in the name of the Lord but the word does not come true, it is a word the Lord did not speak. The prophet has spoken it presumptuously; do not fear him!" (Dt 18, 21-22).
5. "If there – instead - arises in your midst a prophet or a dreamer who promises you a sign or wonder, saying, 'Let us go after other gods' whom you have not known 'and let us serve them', and the sign or wonder foretold to you comes to pass, do not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer; for the Lord, your God, is testing you to know whether you really love the Lord, your God, with all your heart and soul!" (Dt 13, 2-4).
6. "Therefore: "You shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and make you come up out of them, my people!" (Ez 37,13). – Cf. Jesus makes Lazarus Rise from the death (Jn 11,14.43-44); as also the son of the widow of Nain (cf Lk 7, 11-17) and also the daughter of Jairus (cf. Mk 5,35-43)...

Evolution in regards Science or Creation according to the Bible:

7. "For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them!" (Ex 20,11).
8. "God looked at everything he had made, and found it very good. Evening came, and morning followed- the sixth day". (Gen 1,1-30)
9. "Like a drop of water from the sea and a grain of sand, so are these few years among the days of eternity!" (Sir 18,10).
10. "But grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory now and to the day of eternity. Amen!" (2Pt 3,18).
11. "His gaze spans all the ages" (Sir 39.20)

- The Bible clearly states that man has appeared on the earth after 6 days (Cf. Gen 1,1-31) but also some scientific affirmations say after 5-6 geological eras; therefore couldn't they clearly be connected given that both the Wisdom books and also the Apostle St. Peter (the first Pope) speak objectively of the day of Eternity (Eons)? (cf. Sir 18,10; 2Pt 3,18) and therefore a possible 'creatio' in 6 eternities?... as also the Scripture says that God spans his gaze from one Eternity to the next? (cf. Sir 39,20)... (open question)...

The New Testament

Why believe in the Scriptures? (According to the New Testament?)

12. "But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe my words?" (Jn 5,47).
13. "In truth, in truth, I say to you, whoever keeps my word will never see death." (Jn 8, 51).
14. "But these are written that you may (come to) believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name" (Jn 20,31)

What's the fruit and goal for those who believe in the Sacred Scriptures? (According to the NT?)

15. "The word of God, which is now at work in you who Believe." (1Ts 2, 13)... Therefore if the life of a man or a woman doesn't change after having believed in God and in the Sacred Scriptures, it could mean that in the depths of their heart they don't really believe.
16. "But the one who peers into the perfect law of freedom and perseveres, and is not a hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, such a one will find his joy in what he does." (cf. Jm 1,25).

How to believe in the Scriptures? (According to the NT.?) - Prophecies -

17. "Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke!" (Lk 24,25).
18. "When he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they came to believe the scripture and the words Jesus had spoken." (Jn 2,22).
19. "From now on I am telling you (about the betrayal of Judas) before it happens, so that when it happens you may believe that I AM." (the Verb, or rather God, the Living Word) (Jn 13,19).

The End of the Universe and the world according to the Bible (NT.?)

20. *In truth I tell you: until heaven and earth pass away, not one dot or the smallest stroke of a letter will pass from the law, until all things have taken place.*" (cf. Mt 5,18).
21. "And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the world!" (cf. Mt 28,19-20).
22. "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away!" (Mt 24,35).
23. "Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more." (Rev 21,1).
24. "The day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a mighty roar and the elements will be dissolved by fire, and the earth and everything it contains will be burned up. Since everything is to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought [you] to be, conducting yourselves in holiness and devotion, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved in flames and the elements melted by fire. But according to his promise we await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you await these things, be eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace." (2Pt 3,10-14).

- Also the most recent scientific theories affirm that the actual world will disappear because of the huge growth of the sun; now, how could the Sacred Scripture declare that so long ago, even though in those ages these scientific discoveries didn't even exist? Who knew that the actual earth would finish like that if not God alone who created it?... likewise for the end of heaven and earth, of which Jesus spoke to us of?... in the Greek Hellenic mentality back then spoke of the eternal universe (about the eternal return), and instead Jesus said that heaven and earth (the Universe) would pass away, unlike his Words, of that would remain forever (cf. Mt 5,18). (an open question)..

In regards to the 6 days of Creation and Evolution:

25. "But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like one day." (2Pt3,8)
26. "But grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory now and to the (ἡμέραν) day of eternity (αἰῶνος = Aeon)". (2Pt3,18)

Some points about the historic Credibility of the Sacred Scriptures (N.T.)

27. "Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of [his] disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may [come to] believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name!" (Cf. Jn 20,30-31).

--- There are also the following Roman, Hebrew and Greek authors who testify the historic death of Jesus: C. P. TACITUS, a Roman Senator (55 †117 A.D.), in the *Annals* XV, 44, affirms: "Nero invented some as guilty and inflicted the most refined tortures on a group hated for their abominations, called Christians by the populace. Christus, from whom the name had its origin, suffered the extreme penalty during the reign of Tiberius at the hands of one of our procurators, Pontius Pilatus"; G. FLAVIUS, Historic of a Hebrew background (about 37 †100 A.D.), in *Antiquities of the Jews*, book 18, chapter 3, testified: "Now around this time there was Jesus, a wise man, if it be lawful to call him a man; for he was a doer of extraordinary works, a teacher of men who receive the truth with pleasure. He drew over to him both many of the Jews and Gentiles. He was [the] Christ. And when Pilate, at the suggestion of the notable men amongst us, had condemned him to the cross, those that loved him at the first did not forsake him; for he appeared to them alive again on the third day; as the divine prophets had foretold these and thousands other wonderful things concerning him. And the tribe of Christians, so named from him, are not extinct at this day."; LUCIAN OF SAMOSATA, Author and Greek rhetorician from Syria (about 120 † after the 180), in

The death of Peregrine, 11-13, transl. of H.W. Fowler, said: "The Christians, [...] worship a man to this day, the distinguished personage who introduced their novel rites, and was crucified on that account. [...] and then it was taught to them by their original lawgiver that they are all brothers from the moment of their conversion, and [for this reason] they deny the Greek gods, and worship the wise crucified one, and living according to his laws."

Faith is fundamentally to take up a walk of life pleasing to God, but how am I therefore to believe?

28. "Without faith it is impossible to please him, for anyone who approaches God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him!" (Heb 11,6)
29. "How can they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone to preach?" (Rm 10,14)

From the teachings of the Catholic Church

The Patristic age

All the theories about Immortality, come – according to some of the Fathers – from the S. Scriptures

30. "And whatever both philosophers and poets have said concerning the immortality of the soul, or punishments after death, or contemplation of things heavenly, or doctrines of the like kind, they have received such suggestions from the prophets as have enabled them to understand and interpret these things." (ST. JUSTIN, First Apology, 44).

-- "This topic of the 'Greek theft of the barbarian philosophy', that is the plagiarism towards the Hebrews from which the philosophers took their principles, that will return extensively into the Stromata where Clement listed all those philosophical doctrines that in his regards result as "stolen" from the Hebrews (Cf. Stromata V,14,89-VI,4,38)" (A. SABETTA, Dossier: Faith and reason. Historic Analysis and perspective for the present time. Faculty of Theology PUL - the cycle, course 10511. A.Y. 2012-13, pg. 27)

Ignorance on the Scriptures is a profound canyon and ignorance of Christ

31. "Ignorance on the Scriptures is a great abyss and deep precipice" (St. JOHN Chrysostom, in: VINCENZO LOPASSO, Lectio Divina. Itinerary of Spiritual life, pg. "x" / cf. - <http://ilblogdidon-vincenzolopasso.blogspot.it/2010/09/lectio-divina-un-itinerario-di-vita.html>).
32. "I fulfill my duty obeying the command of Christ: "Scrutinize the Scriptures..." (cf. Jn 5,39), and: "Search and you will find"(Mt 7,7), to avoid somebody telling me as to the Jews: "You are misled because you do not know the Scriptures or the Power of God." (Mt 22,29). Those who don't know the Scriptures don't know the Power of God, nor his Wisdom. To Ignore the Scriptures, means to ignore Christ" (ST. JEROME – Office of Read. 30th Week).
33. "All of you who search for the many words of men, try to understand the only Word of God" (cf. ST. AUGUSTINE, Discourse 118, 1).

Shepherds must make the scriptures believable through their behavior

34. Augustine says to the pastors: "Make that he (the pastor) believes in the Scripture which says: "He scourges every son he acknowledges" (Heb 12,6). Therefore he shall be either prepared to be scourged, or renounce being accepted (by the Lord)." (cf. ST. AUGUSTINE, Discourse on Pastors, 46, 10-11; CCL 41, 536-538).

The Medieval era

What's the fruit and the aim of those who Believe in the Sacred Scriptures? (According to some of the Middle Ages)

35. "The outcome or the fruit of reading Holy Scripture is by no means negligible: it is the fullness of eternal happiness! For these are the books which tell us of eternal life, which were written not only that we might believe but also that we might possess Everlasting Life, in which we'll see, love and all of our desires will be totally satisfied... The Scripture has to be taught and heard (and practiced) In order to achieve this" (ST. BONAVENTURE – cf. Off. Of Read. Mon. Vth week O.T.).

Faith is necessary to penetrate the Sacred Scriptures

36. "It's impossible for one to penetrate and know the Sacred Scriptures if one first not have Faith, which is the lamp, the door and the foundation of the entire S. Scripture. Faith, indeed, is the foundation from where all of our supernatural knowledge comes from". (Cf. ST. BONAVENTURE, Off. of Read., Mon. Vth week O.T.).

Inerrancy of the Sacred Scripture..

37. "Our faith rests upon the revelation made to the apostles and prophets who wrote the canonical books, and not on other revelations [...]. Hence Augustine says (Epis. ad Hieron. xix, 1): "Only those books of Scripture which are called canonical have I learned to hold in such honor as to believe their authors have not erred in any way in writing them. But other authors I so read as not to deem everything in their works to be true [...] - whatever may have been their holiness and learning - !" (cf. ST. THOMAS Aquinas, S. Th. I, q I a. 8).

The Modern age

The Case of Galileo, error of the interpretations and Inerrancy of the Sacred Scriptures..

(--- In regards to Galileo, error of the interpreters / authors and inerrancy of the sacred scriptures, see more ahead in John Paul II, in the post-modern age, where Galileo Galilei is mentioned).

Inerrancy of the Sacred Scripture..

38. "The complete books of the old and the new Testament with all their parts, .. are to be received as sacred and canonical. These books the Church holds to be sacred and canonical not because she (the Church) subsequently approved them by her authority after they had been composed by unaided human skill, nor simply because they

contain revelation without error, but because, being written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, they have God as their Author, and were as such committed to the Church." (1st VATICAN COUNCIL, Session III, II).

39. "But it is absolutely wrong and forbidden, either to narrow inspiration to certain parts only of Holy Scripture, or to admit that the sacred writer has erred. For the system of those who, in order to rid themselves of these difficulties, do not hesitate to concede that divine inspiration regards the things of faith and morals, and nothing beyond, because (as they wrongly think) in a question of the truth or falsehood of a passage, we should consider not so much what God has said as the reason and purpose which He had in mind in saying it—this system cannot be tolerated. For all the books which the Church receives as sacred and canonical, are written wholly and entirely, with all their parts, at the dictation of the Holy Spirit; and so far is it from being possible that any error can co-exist with inspiration,... as it is impossible that God Himself, the supreme Truth, can utter that which is not true." (LEO XIIITH, Encyclical Providentissimus Deus, No. 20).

Bible, Theology and Science..

40. "Most desirable is it, and most essential, that the whole teaching of Theology should be pervaded and animated by the use of the divine Word of God.. the Sacred Books hold such an eminent position among the sources of revelation that without their assiduous study and use, Theology cannot be placed on its true footing, or treated as its dignity demands.. nevertheless the judicious and instructed theologian will by no means pass by that method of doctrinal demonstration which draws its proof from the authority of the Bible; "for (Theology) does not receive her first principles from any other science, but immediately from God by revelation. And, therefore, she does not receive of other sciences as from a superior, but uses them as her inferiors or handmaids." (POPE LEO XIIITH, Encyclical Providentissimus Deus, No. 16, year 1893).

Postmodern (or Contemporary) age

Several scientific theories on Evolution, only one Scriptural theory how man has appeared on the earth..

41. "And to tell the truth, rather than speaking about the theory of evolution, it is more accurate to speak of the theories of evolution. The use of the plural is required here—in part because of the diversity of explanations regarding the mechanism of evolution, and in part because of the diversity of philosophies involved. [...] As a result, the theories of evolution which, because of the philosophies which inspire them, regard the spirit either as emerging from the forces of living matter, or as a simple epiphenomenon of that matter, are incompatible with the truth about man. They are therefore unable to serve as the basis for the dignity of the human person. [...] To set us on guard against the grave temptations which face us, our Lord cites the great words of Deuteronomy: "Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." (Deut 8:3; Mt 4:4)" (JOHN PAUL II Message to the participants in the Plenary of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences, Vatican City, 22nd October 1996).

--- Considering that there are several scientific theories regarding the apparition of man on the earth, as for example, the fixism, catastrophism, evolutionism and etc.. and all are science, so then, someone could say, which of them should we believe?, since all of them be presented as possible scientific truths? Isn't the unique Scriptural Theory more credible, where it is said that we've been created by God in six days, or rather (how here to follow in this handout we're going to demonstrate) in 6 pretty long historic times? .. as we'll see here marked out of the Scriptures and of the Magisterium?.. that is 1 day of Genesis can be also a historic time or one eternity? (since the Lord indeed spans his gaze from one eternity to the next?.. always according to the scriptures?)¹.

The 6 days of Creation as 6 historic periods

42. "(Question): Can one take the word yòm (day) in the denomination and distinction of the six days in which the first chapter of Genesis speaks of in the improper sense of a certain space of time? (Answer): Yes!". (PONTIFICAL BIBLICAL COMMISSION, On the historic character of the first three chapters of Genesis, 30.6.1909, in Enc. Bibl. No. 331).
43. "The Church Fathers considered the six or seven days of the creation text as a prophecy of the world's history, of mankind. The seven days represented to them seven periods of history, later also interpreted as seven millennia. With Christ we would have entered into the last one, that is in the sixth period of history, after which then would follow the great Sabbath of God". (BENEDICT XVITH, General Audience, 10th March 2010).

Evolution and Creation of the human body and soul..

44. "The Teaching Authority of the Church does not forbid that, in conformity with the present state of human sciences and sacred theology, research and discussions, on the part of men experienced in both fields, take place with regard to the doctrine of evolution, in as far as it inquires into the origin of the human body as coming from pre-existent and living matter - for the Catholic faith obliges us to hold that souls are immediately created by God. However, this must be done in such a way that the reasons for both opinions, that is, those favorable and those unfavorable to evolution, be weighed and judged with the necessary seriousness, moderation and measure, and provided that all are prepared to submit to the judgment of the Church, to whom Christ has given the mission of interpreting authentically the Sacred Scriptures and of defending the dogmas of faith. Some however, rashly transgress this liberty of discussion, when they act as if the origin of the human body from pre-existing and living matter were already completely certain and proved by the facts which have been discovered up to now and by reasoning on those facts, and as if there were nothing in the sources of divine revelation which demands the greatest moderation and caution in this question." (POPE PIUS XII, Enc. Humani Generis 36, 12/08/1950)

¹ On the factor of Biblical Creation and Scientific Evolution see also the period of the Old Testament in this file.

Another answer to the first 3 chapters of Genesis, if they were an allegory without any objective or historic reality or not..

45. (Question): "...Can one teach that the three aforesaid chapters of Genesis do not contain the narrative of things which actually happened, a narrative which corresponds to objective reality and historic truth; and whether we may teach that these chapters contain fables derived from mythologies and cosmologies belonging to older nations,... or that they contain allegories and symbols destitute of any foundation in objective reality but presented under the garb of history for the purpose of inculcating religious and philosophical truth; or, finally, that they contain legends partly historical and partly fictitious, freely handled for the instruction and edification of souls? Answer: NO to both parts." (PONTIFICAL BIBLICAL COMMISSION, On the Historical Character of the First Three Chapters of Genesis, 30.6.1909, in Enc. Bibl. No. 325).

The case of Galileo, and errors of the interpreters – and inerrancy of the Sacred Scripture..

46. "The geocentric representation of the world (that is of the earth or of the world at the center of the universe) was commonly accepted in the culture of the time as if it was fully in agreement with the teachings of the Bible, in which some expressions, that were taken literally seemed to affirm the geocentrism. So the problem posed for the theologians of that time was the compatibility of Heliocentrism (the model in which the Earth and planets revolve around a relatively stationary sun) with the Scripture. Like so the new science forced theologians with its new methods and the liberty of research they expected, to question themselves on their criteria of interpretation of the Scriptures. Most of them didn't know how to do it. Paradoxically, Galileo, who was a sincere believer, was on that matter more perspicacious than his opponents, the theologians. He writes to Benedetto Castelli, "Although the Scripture cannot err, may nevertheless sometimes err some of its interpreters and exponents, in various ways" (JOHN PAUL II, Discourse to the participants in the Plenary Session of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences, Vatican city, Saturday, 31st October 1992).

Inerrancy of the Sacred Scriptures ..

47. "In the First Vatican Council (says Pius XIIth) declared: The Books of the Scripture.. contain revelation without any errors.. having been written by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, they have God for their author and were delivered as such to the Church" (Session III, Chap. 2; Enc. Bibl. No. 62). When, subsequently, some Catholic writers, in spite of this solemn definition of Catholic doctrine, by which such divine authority is claimed for the "entire books with all their parts" as to secure freedom from any error whatsoever, ventured to restrict the truth of Sacred Scripture solely to matters of faith and morals, and to regard other matters, whether in the domain of physical science or history, as "obiter dicta" and - as they contended - in no wise connection with faith.. Leo XIII.. justly and rightly condemned these errors!" (Cf. PIUS XIIth [1943], Encyclical *Divinu Affilante Spiritu*, No.1).
48. "For holy mother Church, relying on the belief of the Apostles (see John 20:31; 2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Peter 1:19-20, 3:15-16), holds that the books of both the Old and New Testaments in their entirety, with all their parts, are sacred and canonical because written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, they have God as their author.. In composing the sacred books, God chose men and while employed by Him they made use of their powers and abilities, so that with Him acting in them and through them, they, as true authors, consigned to writing everything and only those things which He wanted.. the books of Scripture must be acknowledged as teaching solidly, faithfully and without error that truth which God wanted put into sacred writings for the sake of salvation" (IIND VATICAN COUNCIL, Dogm. Const. *Dei Verbum*, No. 11).
49. "God is the Author of Sacred Scripture because he inspired its human authors; he acts in them and by means of them. He thus gives assurance that their writings teach without error his saving truth" (CCC 136).

Bible and Science ..

50. "How can a cleric teach others the way of salvation if through neglect of meditation on God's word he fails to teach himself? What confidence can he have that, when ministering to others; he is really "a leader of the blind, a light to them that are in darkness, an instructor of the foolish, having the form of knowledge and of truth in the law" (Rm II, 19 -), if he is unwilling to study the said Law and thus shuts the door on any divine illumination on it? Alas! Many of God's ministers, through never looking at their Bible, perish themselves and allow many others to perish also. "The children have asked for bread, and there was none to break it unto them" (Lam. 4:4); and "With desolation is all the land made desolate, for there is none who take it to heart" (Jer. 12:11). .. it is from the Bible that we gather confirmations and illustrations of any particular doctrine we wish to defend. (POPE BENEDICT XVth [1920], Encyclical *Spiritus Paraclitus*, par. 47-48).
51. "Therefore if methodical investigation within every branch of learning is carried out in a genuinely scientific manner and in accord with moral norms, it never truly conflicts with faith... Consequently, we cannot but deplore certain habits of mind, which are also sometimes found among Christians, which do not sufficiently attend to the rightful independence of science and which, from the arguments and controversies they spark, lead many minds to conclude that faith and science are mutually opposed." (IIND VATICAN COUNCIL., Pastor. Const. *Gaudium et Spes* No. 36).

End of times, end of the world..

52. "We do not know the time for the consummation of the earth and of humanity, nor do we know how the universe will be transformed. As deformed by sin, the shape of this world will pass away; but we are taught that God is preparing a new dwelling place and a new earth where justice will abide, and whose blessedness will answer and surpass all the longings for peace which spring up in the human heart. Then, with death overcome, the sons of God will be raised up in Christ, and what was sown in weakness and corruption will be invested with incorruptibility [...] but the expectation of a new earth must not weaken but rather stimulate our concern for cultivating this one. For here grows the body of a new human family, a body which even now is able to give some kind of foreshadowing of the new age. Hence, while earthly progress must be carefully

distinguished from the growth of Christ's kingdom, to the extent that the former can contribute to the better ordering of human society, it is of vital concern to the Kingdom of God." (IIND VATICAN COUNCIL, GS, No. 39).

53. "Go, therefore, make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you. And behold I am with you all days even to the consummation of the world' (Mt 28,18-20)The Church has received this solemn mandate of Christ to proclaim the saving truth from the apostles and must carry it out to the very ends of the earth (cf. Act 1,8) [...] and till the end of times!". (cf. IIND VATICAN COUNCIL, LG, No. 17.18).
54. "Already the final age of the world has come upon us (cf. 1 Cor 10,11; SLC pg. 402c) and the renovation of the world is irrevocably decreed and is already anticipated in some kind of a real way; for the Church already on this earth is signed with a sanctity which is real although imperfect. However, until there shall be new heavens and a new earth in which justice dwells (cf. 2 Pt 3,13) the pilgrim Church in her sacraments and institutions, which pertain to this present time, has the appearance of this world which is passing" (IIND VATICANO CONCILIO, LG, n. 48).
55. "The Word of God makes us think of the last days, of the final time, the end of the world, of the time of the final coming of our Lord Jesus Christ [...]. The Church helps us think of the end of this world, because the world and it's facade will disappear!". (POPE FRANCIS, *Morning Meditation in the Chapel of the Domus Sanctae Marthae, Faith is never a private act.* Thursday, 11. 28. 2013, in: ROMAN OBSERVER, daily Ed., Year CLIII, No. 274, Wedn. 11/29/2013).

PERSONAL EXPERIENCES

"The little story of the little book of the Gospel, where it was written in pen "your Word is a lamp for my steps and a light on my way".

"The story of the girl who dreamt that she had the Bible in her hands and a giant shield that the devil couldn't penetrate."

"The story of an Italian woman in France who dreamt of a library and all its books that transformed into liquid excrements.. all except the Bible that was the only book remaining intact".

IN CONCLUSION:

- Without the Bible we could never understand the mystery of true life with its most profound sense..
- Therefore, it's true that the Bible is more soteriological (salvific) than scientific, but it's also partly scientific; that is, from within itself there's enough to give a very certain credibility!!!

IN BRIEF:

- Somebody said: *If you can lift up the world with a lever, with a Bible one can lift up all mankind on its way up to heaven and up to the Beatific (and glorious – cf. 1Cor 15,43; Phil 3,21) Immortality! Indeed the Sacred Scripture says: "And after this corruptible body clothes itself with incorruptibility and this mortal body clothes itself with immortality, then the word of the Scripture shall come true" (cf. 1Cor 15,54).* (Friar V.V.)
- Therefore, "Sine Biblia sine Gloria" ! (friar G.M.G.)

NB. In regards to all the passages that we didn't read nor explain, if you're interested in having a deeper knowledge of the topic, according to God and the Church and experience ... you can make an appointment with us at the end of the teaching or through e-mail, and we'll come to your house as far as it's possible. We only have to coordinate and unite some people, who thirst for truth!. You find the e-mail on: www.poorfriars.net – with Christian love "Little Friars of Jesus and Mary".