

# CHAOS TO CLARITY

## Apologetics Conference



### A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF WORLD RELIGIONS CHRISTIANITY - CATHOLIC

#### **Christianity is...**

**...a faith centered belief around a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.**

- A belief there is a Godhead consisting of three parts: the father (God himself), the son (Jesus Christ) and the Holy Spirit.
- A belief there's only one God, and He created the heavens and the earth.
- A belief which revolves around the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.
- A belief that God sent his son Jesus, the Messiah, to save the world. That Jesus was crucified on a cross to offer the forgiveness of sins and was resurrected three days after his death.
- A belief that Jesus ascended to heaven and will return to earth again, this is what's known as the Second Coming.
- A belief that the 66 books of the Bible comprise the inerrant Word of God. As such, Christians read it, come to know God more deeply by it, stand for and live by its truth.

## **BEGINNINGS:**

### **Christianity**

Christianity originated in the life and teachings of Jesus of Nazareth, who was born circa 4 BC. in Roman-occupied Palestine, a Jewish province of the Roman Empire.

### **Roman Catholicism**

The Church marks her origins from when Jesus chose apostles and began his public ministry, continuing on after his passion and ascension under the leadership of the Apostle Peter and his successors.

## **FOUNDERS:**

### **Christianity**

Christianity is founded in the life and teachings of Jesus, and was established in Jerusalem and propagated throughout the Roman Empire in the 1st century AD by enthusiastic evangelists.

### **Roman Catholicism**

Jesus founded the Church, which recognizes the Apostle Peter as his representative on earth. As the original apostles established missionary churches, the concept of apostolic succession developed into a system of bishops tracing their origins back as custodians and defenders of the deposit of faith.

## **TRINITY:**

### **Christianity**

Christians are monotheists who believe that the one God has an internal relationship of three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Christians also believe in the existence of angels and demons.

### **Roman Catholicism**

Roman Catholics believe in one God in three persons: a Trinity of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. They also believe in angels as heavenly messengers, and they respect and revere the saints, especially Mary, the mother of Jesus.

## **BELIEFS:**

### **Christianity**

The Christian story of Jesus is sacred to Christians. The biblical stories of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection reveal God's plan for humanity, which includes salvation and eternal life

### **Roman Catholicism**

Roman Catholics hold the canon of Scriptures (both Old and New Testaments) and tradition to be sacred. The living transmission of divinely guided truth through Church teaching, through the Pope and Bishops, is held as authoritative.

# KEY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND NEWLIFE:

---

## **Catholic:**

Focus centered around the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church and the authority of the Pope.

## **NewLife:**

Focus centered around the inerrant Word of God.

---

## **Catholic:**

Structure based on hierarchy, with the Pope at its head, followed by cardinals, bishops, and priests.

## **NewLife:**

Structure based on the instructions found in the Word of God, with God as the head working through pastors, elders and members who have no ecclesiastical hierarchy.

---

## **Catholic:**

Worship services, known as Mass, follow a liturgical format that includes sacraments like the Eucharist.

## **NewLife:**

Worship services where God is the audience and people focus on Biblical teachings and personal relationship with God, without a set liturgy.

---

## **Catholic:**

Catholicism places a strong emphasis on tradition, including the veneration of saints and the Virgin Mary.

## **NewLife:**

Focuses more on the messages of the Bible and a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

---

## **Catholic:**

The Catholic Church teaches doctrines such as papal infallibility and the concept of purgatory.

## **NewLife:**

Teaches Biblical beliefs helping each person grow deeper in their relationship with Jesus.

---