

We Believe: The Catholic Faith Re-Presented
Session 2: Divine Revelation

1. *Dei Verbum, Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation* (Second Vatican Council, 1965)

2. How do we know about God?
 - a. Human reason (Romans 1:18-21)

 - b. Divine revelation (Private and public)

3. Three sources of revelation
 - a. Sacred Tradition
 - i. Matthew 28:16-20

 - ii. 2 Thessalonians 2:1-2, 11-15

 - b. Magisterium (The teaching office of the Catholic Church)
 - i. Acts 15:1-21 (Council of Jerusalem)

 - ii. 2 Peter 1:12-21

We Believe: The Catholic Faith Re-Presented
Session 2: Divine Revelation

iii. Council of Chalcedon (451A.D.): “This is the faith of the fathers, this is the faith of the Apostles. So we all believe, thus the orthodox believe. Anathema to him who does not thus believe. ***Peter has spoken thus through Leo.*** So taught the Apostles.”

c. Sacred Scripture

i. 2 Timothy 3:14-17

ii. *Dei Verbum* 11: “For holy mother Church, relying on the belief of the Apostles, 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 and have been handed on as such to the Church herself. 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.”

4. Where did the Bible come from?

We Believe: The Catholic Faith Re-Presented
Session 2: Divine Revelation

- a. Authorship

 - b. Development of canon

 - c. Criteria for canonicity:
 - i. Orthodox teaching

 - ii. Universal acceptance

 - iii. Liturgical use

 - iv. Apostolic origin

 - d. Deuterocanonical books
5. Praying with Scripture: “And let them remember that prayer should accompany the reading of Sacred Scripture, so that God and man may talk together; for ‘we speak to Him when we pray; we hear Him when we read the divine saying.’” (*Dei Verbum* 26 quoting Saint Ambrose)