

## **Protestants biggest problem with Catholics –**

### **“Irreconcilable differences”**

Martin Luther called this sola scriptura and sola fide

(faith alone and scripture alone)

1. Salvation by works (sacraments) and maybe you'll get to heaven.
  2. Apocrypha - 14 added books in the Catholic Bible
  3. The Popes infallibility and authority over scripture. The Magisterium includes church hierarchy of bishops and cardinals.
  4. The requirement of church membership and traditions (catechism) for salvation
  5. Transubstantiation – eucharist literal body and blood (not communion)
  6. Confession to a priest instead of going to Jesus directly
  7. Praying to saints and Mary (or praying “through” them)
  8. Penance – religious penalty to pay for sins
  9. Indulgences – paying money to get out of purgatory
  10. Purgatory – a holding place between heaven and hell
  11. Priesthood of all believers - Protestants see the church as having a horizontal structure with all believers being equal in position with Christ.
  12. Differentiate Justification and Sanctification – immediately righteous with God at the point of salvation and a progressive holy life as we become sanctified. Catholics believe that “justification” of salvation is a daily progress with no guarantee of ever accomplishing it fully without a life of good works.
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These are such “BIG DEALS” that many reformers, aprox 300, were killed, executed and martyred for taking a stand and committing “heresy” by speaking out publicly against the catholic church around 1500 ad.