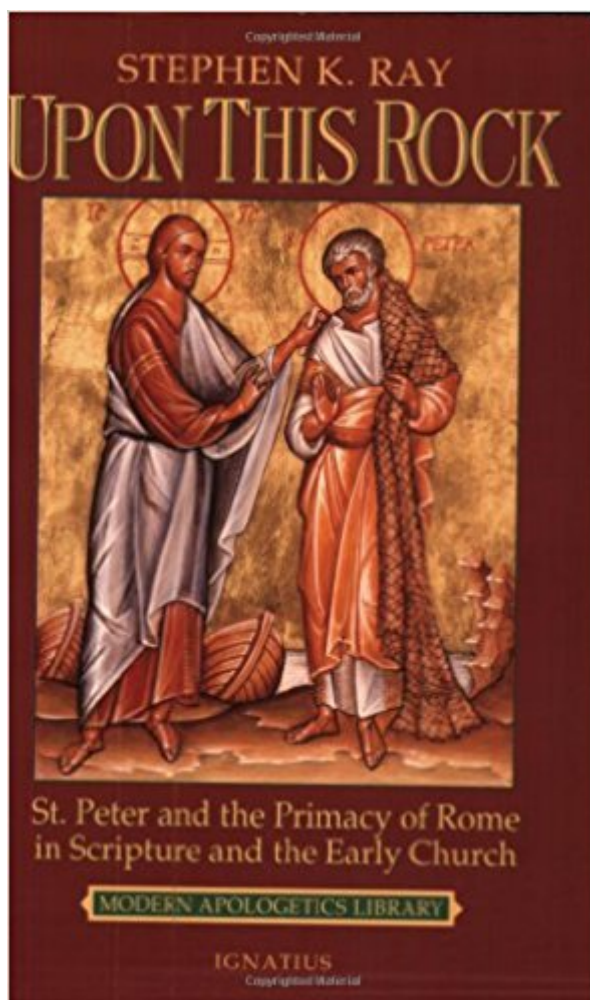


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Upon This Rock: St. Peter And The Primacy Of Rome In Scripture And The Early Church (Modern Apologetics Library)



Synopsis

Ray, a former Evangelical Protestant and Bible teacher, goes through the Scriptures and the first five centuries of the Church to demonstrate that the early Christians had a clear understanding of the primacy of Peter in the see of Rome. He tackles the tough issues in an attempt to expose how the opposition is misunderstanding the Scriptures and history. He uses many Protestant scholars and historians to support the Catholic position. This book contains the most complete compilation of Scriptural and Patristic quotations on the primacy of Peter and the Papal office of any book available. It has over 500 footnotes with supporting evidence from Catholic, Orthodox, Evangelical, and non-Christian authorities.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book defends Catholic teaching against the opposition, using current Church teaching on the Old Testament foundation for the primacy and succession of Peter. A rich documentation, a fine study. --Cardinal Christoph Schonborn
A veritable tour de force on behalf of the Petrine ministry, bringing together exegetes, the Fathers of the Church, the witness of history, and even Protestant scholars. The work is scholarly, objective, and accessible to all readers. Recommended wholeheartedly and unequivocally. --Fr. Peter Stravinskis

This book is not for the light reader. It is a serious book. I also don't know that it had to be set up to

be this way. It is like grad school that believes in weeding out the lesser students by making them work for it. Instead of incorporating the meat of the argument or narrative thread and background details into the book extensive FOOTNOTES dominate most every page, at least once the ENTIRE page is a continued footnote. This material is super interesting and insightful, but the formatting is beyond difficult to read for size, for chopping up the quotes, and just general readability. The organization moves from scripture to history to early church writings to demonstrate that only selective quoting can render the Pope a late invention of power hungry Catholic bishops. Extensive sources make this argument clear, extensive footnotes do not. Interesting but dry and heavy. A revised version of the material to incorporate rather than isolate the footnotes would earn 5 stars.

This book shows how reasonable is the papacy. Non Catholics actually do believe in the papacy. It's just that they don't believe it is the bishop of Rome, but rather themselves. They reject the papacy because the pope is their competition. They reject the pope because giving the "true" interpretation of Scripture is their job, not the pope. That is why they contradict themselves. They say "don't let anyone tell you what Scripture means but read it for yourselves and the Holy Ghost will tell you." Then then turn around and write endless Bible commentaries on what Scripture means. Why? After all, they just said "don't let anyone tell you what Scripture means" and then proceed to do exactly that! Millions of Bible commentaries are published. And if God Himself, the Holy Ghost will tell you, then wouldn't you prefer The Holy Ghost to tell you Himself instead of buying some man's interpretation? See how inconsistent they are. The fact is that nowhere will you find in Scripture that the Holy Ghost will give each person private lessons. I find that a visible infallible Church headed by an infallible Pope is just what Christ established. Otherwise it is billions of single people each with their Bible and the claim that "the Holy Ghost told me" and all those who make this claim absolutely sure that they "have the Spirit" while all those who contradict them also are certain that they in turn "have the Spirit". After 500 years you would think it would finally dawn on these people that God would never have imagined such a nightmare confusion, that instead He would have left us Christians with a more certain way. For if the very Church He founded, the "pillar and ground of truth" is not able to give you the correct interpretation of Scripture, then why trust in some private man like Luther or Calvin or James MacAuthor etc etc? But you say you actually don't but rather do let The Holy Ghost tell you. But again, if God Himself will tell you the correct interpretation of Scripture, then tell me why you read Luther or Calvin or anyone else?

I may be biased in my opinion, but Steve does a fine job detailing how the current Catholic Church

is the same "single" church established by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Thank you Steve for your thorough review of the many misconceptions prevalent these days. To know the Catholic faith is to love the Catholic faith.

Saw author at our church and wanted to get his book. It contains much information and back up notes, also easy to follow.

This book "Upon This Rock" is a must read for all Christians! It has writings from Jesus' Apostles and their disciples, the original preserved writings from the time of The Ascension of our Lord through the first 5 centuries of Christianity, which was the Catholic Church, "The One True Church", before there was even a bible. My dearly beloved Protestant friends, as Fr. Arnold Damen says, "You have read a great deal against the Catholic Church, now read something in favor of it. You can never pass an impartial sentence if you do not hear both sides of the question." Father Arnold Damen said, "If the Catholic Church has been once the true Church of God, as is admitted by all, then she is the true Church yet, and shall be the true Church of God until the end of time, for Christ has promised that the gates of hell shall not prevail against the Church. He says that He has built it upon a rock, and that the gates of hell shall never prevail against it". "Now, my dear people, if the Catholic Church has fallen into error, then the gates of hell have prevailed against her; and, if the gates of hell have prevailed against her, then Christ has not kept His promise, then He has deceived us, and if He has deceived us, then He is an imposter! If He be an imposter, then He is not God, and if He be not God, then all Christianity is a cheat and an imposition". If you read this book, whether you are a Catholic, Protestant, or someone just wanting to learn about the history of Christianity, this book will blow you away! You cannot dispute the documented history and the overwhelming evidence and actual writings that Stephen Ray has put together for all of us to learn what Jesus commanded regarding His Church. May God Bless you all!

An excellent survey of early Christian doctrine, with a full exposition into the Jewishness of Catholic teaching. Does it matter what Church a Christian belongs to? Absolutely! This book explains in detail how Jesus himself founded the hierarchy of the Catholic Church and gave unique authority to the office of Peter until he returns. Excellent book.

A very thought provoking work. The author does a good job showing that the Papacy can be traced right back to the Apostle Peter in the first century. Ray also explains the Biblical text in both the Old

Testament and New Testament to help support the Roman Catholic beliefs.

Amazing book. Ray really digs deep into Church history, but uses a simplistic tone for anyone to understand.

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