

DEI VERBUM READING GUIDE

Revelation

The document is the official Roman Catholic statement on the role of the Bible in the Church. The position given in the document is that of the Roman Catholic Church but reflects a commonly held Christian understanding that is shared by the Eastern Orthodox and by most Protestants.

It should be read slowly, reflecting on how the Bible relates to a person's daily life and the life of the Christian community.

QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF

1. Why do we call the Bible the "Word of God"?

CHAPTER 1

2. What is revelation?
3. How is God communicated to humans?
4. What is the purpose of God's communication?
5. How do the words and deeds of revelation relate to one another?
6. Why is Jesus called the definitive revelation?
7. What does it mean to give the "obedience of faith" to God, giving a "full submission of intellect and will"? How is this compatible with the dignity of our freedom and the need to use our intellects?

CHAPTER 2

8. How is revelation handed on?
9. How does the written text of the New Testament relate to the teaching of bishops?
10. What is the Sacred Tradition?
11. What is the role of the Holy Spirit in receiving revelation?
12. How does the Catholic Church see the relationship between Scripture and Tradition?
13. How does the teaching office of the Church play a role in the interpretation of the Scriptures?

CHAPTER 3

14. What is inspiration? How does the Bible have God as its author?
15. What was the process by which the books of the Bible were composed? In other words, when Matthew sat down to write his Gospel, how did he go about it?
16. In what way is the Bible without error?
17. How is meaning communicated in the Scripture? In other words, how does the interpretation of Scripture happen?
18. How does the interpretation of Scripture include things beyond the text itself?

CHAPTER 4

19. What is the value of the Old Testament?
20. Why is it called the Old Testament?
21. How is the Old Testament related to the New Testament?

CHAPTER 5

22. Why are the Gospels important?
23. How did they come to be written?

CHAPTER 6

24. What is the role of the Scriptures in the Church?
25. Why should the Scriptures be read by all members of the Church?
26. Why should prayer accompany the reading of Scripture?