

Roman Catholic "Saints"

The New Testament is completely silent with regard to the practice of the Roman Catholic Church. There was an article in "The Baton Rouge Advocate," Sept. 20, 1997. It was titled "**Sainthood not easily achieved.**" It was from "The Boston Globe" and primarily about "Mother" Teresa, but it also contained (from "Knight-Ridder Tribune/T.TSO") the following summation:

STEPS TO BECOMING A SAINT:

Procedure for canonization, or sainthood, observed by the Roman Catholic Church since the 17th century.

INVESTIGATION: Church commission considers candidate's life, works and any miracles to determine worthiness.

BEATIFICATION:

To qualify:

1. Candidate must have lived a life of heroic virtue.
2. One authenticated miracle occurred due to candidate's acts.

Result:

Candidate declared "blessed" by pope.

CANONIZATION:

To qualify:

Two authenticated miracles occurred due to candidate's acts.

Result:

1. Candidate said to be holy and in Heaven.
2. Given title of "saint" by pope.

SOURCES: *World Book Encyclopedia, Catholic Encyclopedia.*

None of this is found in the New Testament. It is all diametrically opposed to New Testament principles. It is all of man's doing. Let's get back to the New Testament. If one is a Christian, then he is a saint (one set apart from sin unto God to do God's will). As soon as one becomes a Christian, he becomes one of God's saints. Let's not use such language as: "Well I'm no saint, but I am a Christian."