

# REFORMATION CHART

	Rome	Confessional Protestant
<b>Free Will and Election</b>	Free will is essential to salvation. Humans cannot be righteous without the exercise of free will in cooperation with grace. It is presumptuous to say with certainty that one is elect.	<p>(Lutheran) God foreknows everything, but election applies only to believers. God hardens those who resist the Spirit.</p> <hr/> <p>(Reformed) God foreknows and predestines everything. In Christ, the elect are chosen for salvation but the reprobate are passed over. The grace of election is irresistible and produces true faith that trusts God's promises in Christ.</p>
<b>Baptism</b>	Provides initial justification and regeneration. By its act, grace necessarily operates on the sinner.	<p>(Lutheran) The Holy Spirit is so related to baptism that it necessarily works forgiveness of sins, regeneration, and salvation to believers.</p> <hr/> <p>(Reformed) A sacrament (sign and seal) of inclusion in the covenant of grace whereby God promises salvation to those who believe.</p>
<b>Eucharist</b>	By "transubstantiation" the elements become the body and blood of Christ. The transubstantiated victim is ritually and memorially sacrificed to turn away divine wrath for sin.	<p>(Lutheran) At consecration the body and blood of Christ is in, with, and under the elements. Both believers and unbelievers receive the body and blood of Christ.</p> <hr/> <p>(Reformed) Christ is bodily at the right hand of the Father but, by the work of the Holy Spirit, truly and really communicates himself to believers through the Supper so that they receive the body and blood of Christ through faith.</p>
<b>Mary</b>	Was redeemed at her sinless (immaculate) conception, was without sin and was assumed bodily, without death, into heaven where she reigns as queen of heaven, a recipient of prayer and adoration, interceding on behalf of believers.	Mary was blessed above all women, bore the God-Man in her womb, but was not conceived immaculately, nor assumed into heaven at death. Christ is our only priest and Mediator.
<b>Saints</b>	Intermediaries whose righteousness is stored in a treasury of merit accessible to sinners through the church and the proper recipients of prayer.	Fellow believers and valuable examples but neither intermediaries nor contributors to a treasury of merit.
<b>Eschatology</b>	At death, the elect enter a state of purification (purgatory) before glorification. Therefore, prayers on their behalf are proper.	At death, believers go to be with their Savior. Glorification is immediate, but they with believers and unbelievers on earth wait for the resurrection and judgment.

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