

The Word of God and the Word Made Flesh

Year of the Eucharist and St. Joseph 2021

I. In the Beginning God Created – Genesis 1:1-2:2

- 1) Creation from Nothing
- 2) Creation as bring order to chaos by separating opposites.
 - a. Light from Dark.
 - b. Waters above firmament from waters below firmament.
 - c. Water from dry land.
- 3) God creates a space then fills it with life.
 - a. Day 1: Day and Night = Day 4: stars, sun, and moon
 - b. Day 2: the heavens & sea = Day 5: birds and fish
 - c. Day 3: land and plants = day 6: beasts of the earth and creeping things
- 4) God creates by speaking, “Let there be light.”
- 5) The Holy Trinity is present at creation, but only implicitly, as Creator, Spirit, and Word.
- 6) Six days of creation with a wedding on the seventh day.

II. In the Beginning was the Word – John 1:1-18

- 1) “Word” is from the Greek *logos*, which means word, teaching, or reason.
- 2) “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.” (Jn 1:14) *Verbum caro factum est*.
 - a. Jesus Christ is the Word of God. As a word reveals what a person is thinking, so Jesus, the Word of God, reveals God to us.

III. Comparison Between John 1 and Genesis 1

Genesis 1	John 1
“In the beginning”	“In the beginning”
God creates through speaking.	“the Word was with God...all things were made through him.”
Light – verse 3	Light – verse 4
Darkness – verse 4	Darkness – verse 4
Living creatures – verse 21 Breath of life – verse 30	In him was life – verse 4
Seven days	Seven days – verses 29, 35, 43, and 2:1
Wedding of Adam and Eve on seventh day	Wedding Feast at Cana on seventh day

IV. It Shall Not Return to Me Empty – Isaiah 55:1-11

- 1) The Word of God accomplishes what it was sent out for, which is:
 - a. to give food and drink that satisfy – verses 1-2
 - b. to establish a new covenant – verse 3
 - c. draw all people to God – verses 4-5
 - d. bring pardon to sinners – verse 7

Matthew 4:1-4, “Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And he fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was hungry. And the tempter came and said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.’ But he answered, ‘It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.’”

V. The Word of God in the Sacred Bible – CCC 101-104

- 1) “Throughout all the words of Sacred Scripture, God speaks only one single Word, his one Utterance in whom he expresses himself completely.”
 - a. Every word of the Bible is Jesus speaking to us, so we can find Jesus in every word of the Bible.
- 2) We can always find more in the Bible, because God is still speaking to us through it. The Bible can never be exhausted.
- 3) The Bible is inspired by God.
 - a. God is the primary author of the Bible.
 - b. He speaks through the human authors, using their experiences and perspectives, to reveal the truth.
 - c. The Bible is a work of God and of humans, like Jesus Christ is both God and human.
 - d. We must read the Bible according to the sense in which it was intended.

Homework

Other New Testament passages that reference the Word of God:

Hebrews 4:11-13 * Luke 11:27-28 * Matthew 7:24-27 * James 1:16-25 * John 15:1-11 * 1 Peter 1:22-25

Next: Breaking Open the Nicene Creed on May 20 at 6:30 PM.