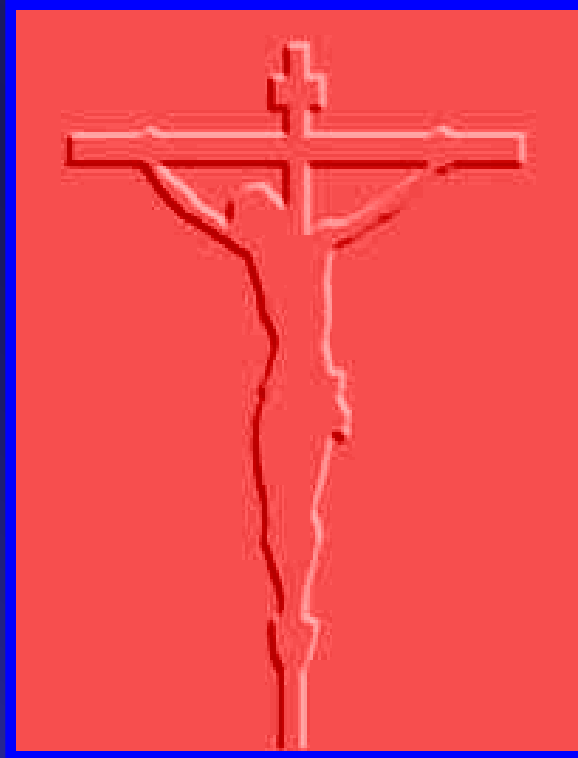


The Passion Behind The Passion

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The Passion behind *The Passion*



A thoroughly Catholic study of “The Peculiar Theology of Redemption”
Presented By: **Larry Douglas**

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Opening Prayer: **The Anima Christi**

**Soul of Christ, sanctify me
Body of Christ, save me
Blood of Christ, inebriate me
Water from Christ's side, wash me
Passion of Christ, strengthen me
O good Jesus, hear me
Within Thy wounds hide me
Suffer me not
to be separated from Thee
From the malicious enemy
defend me
In the hour of my death call me
And bid me come unto Thee
That I may praise Thee
with Thy saints
and with Thy angels
Forever and ever**

Amen



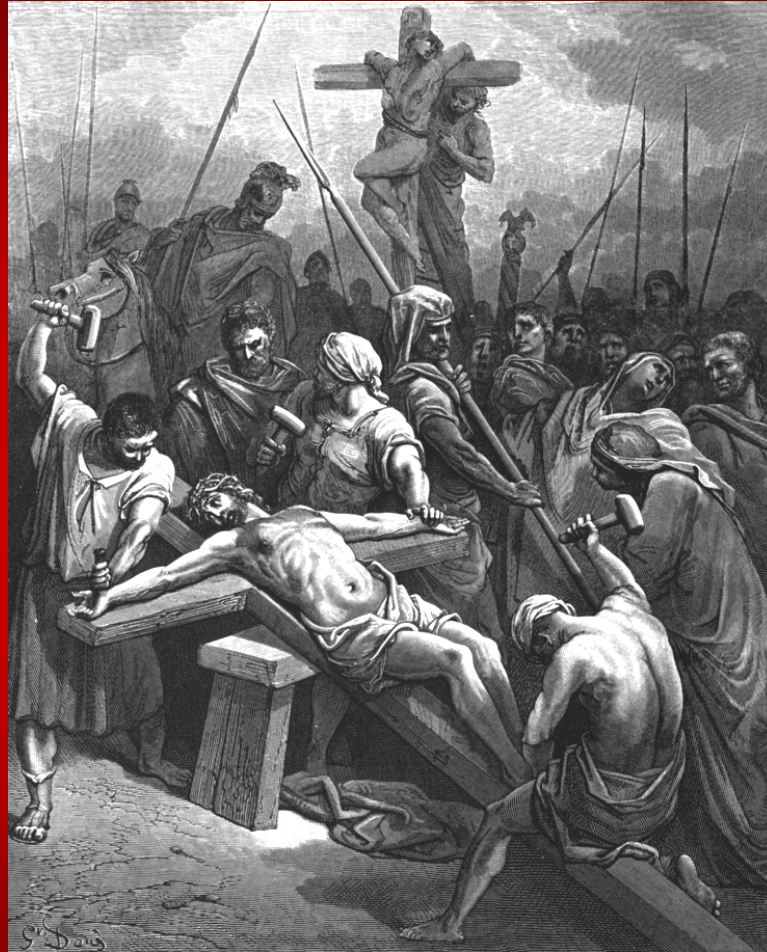
Definitions

❖ ***Mystery***: That which has not been completely and definitively explained by the Holy Catholic Church, usually due to a lack of Divine Revelation or the inability of the human mind to understand the concept.

❖ ***Heresy***: False teachings or erroneous beliefs, promoted by Catholics, in opposition to truthful, clearly defined Catholic teaching.

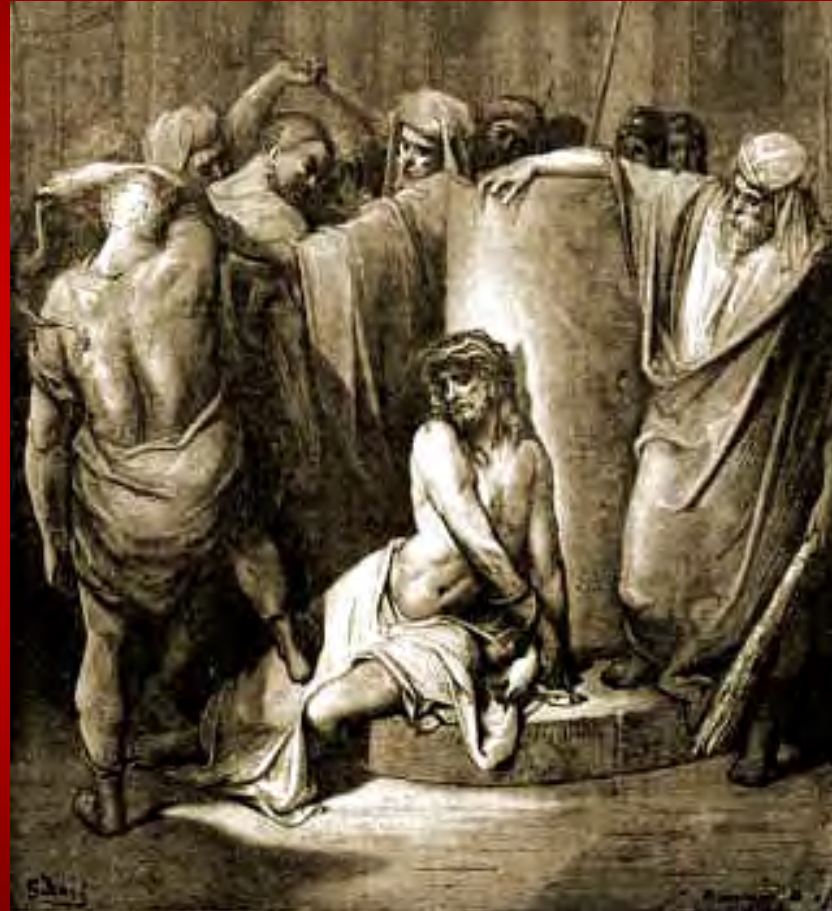
❖ ***Exegesis***: The process of inferring the likely cause, meaning or result of facts/events mentioned in the plain text of the Bible, when the Bible itself contains little or no relevant information.

***The Coming Of The Son of God To Die For Us, So Sins
Could Be Forgiven, Is History's Greatest Love Story***



***In That Singular Event, The Law, Free Will, Good, Evil, Faith,
Grace, And Most Importantly, God Himself Acted To Bring
About The Salvation Of The World.***

**It Happened In A Way That Most *Never Expected*
That *Billions Still Refuse To Accept*
And *Many More Do Not Fully Understand***



**It Happened For The *Benefit of Mankind* And For The *Glory of God*
*And It Was Good!***

**The “*Peculiar Theology Of Redemption*” Explains Why
As The Result Of Sin, We All Need A Redeemer**



**Because The *Task Of Overcoming Sin* Made It Necessary
For *God To Become One Of Us*, Our Story Became *His Story***

***United With Jesus Christ And His Church,
All Of Mankind Gained *The Means To
Overcome Satan, Sin, And Death****

**The Story Is A Long One,
And It's *Complicated*,
But When Your Study Is
Complete, You Should
Have *The Answer To The
Age-Old Question:***

***“How Can God's
Own Death, At Our
Hands, Pay A Debt
We Owe To Him?”***



You'll Probably Have A Few Questions.

Go Ahead. Ask Away!

Receive a prompt, personal, confidential answer via E-mail.



***A Safe, Secure, And Thoroughly Catholic Website
With A Host Of Resources, All Designed To
Enhance Your Faith. Try It!***

The Primeval Event ... Satan - Before He Fell



Ezekiel 28:12 And say to him: Thus saith the Lord God: Thou wast the seal of resemblance, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. Thou wast in the pleasures of the paradise of God: every precious stone was thy covering: the sardius, the topaz, and the jasper, the chrysolite, and the onyx, and the beryl, the sapphire, and the carbuncle, and the emerald: gold the work of thy beauty: and thy pipes were prepared in the day that thou wast created. Thou a cherub stretched out, and protecting, and I set thee in the holy mountain of God, thou hast walked in the midst of the stones of fire.

Satan's *Sin* ... And His *Sentence*

Isaiah 14:11-17 Thy pride is brought down to hell,
thy carcass is fallen down: under thee shall the moth be strewed,
and worms shall be thy covering.

How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer,
who didst rise in the morning?

How art thou fallen to the earth, that didst wound the nations?

And thou saidst in thy heart: I will ascend into heaven,
I will exalt my throne above the stars of God,

I will sit in the mountain of the covenant, in the sides of the north.

I will ascend above the height of the clouds,

I will be like the most High.

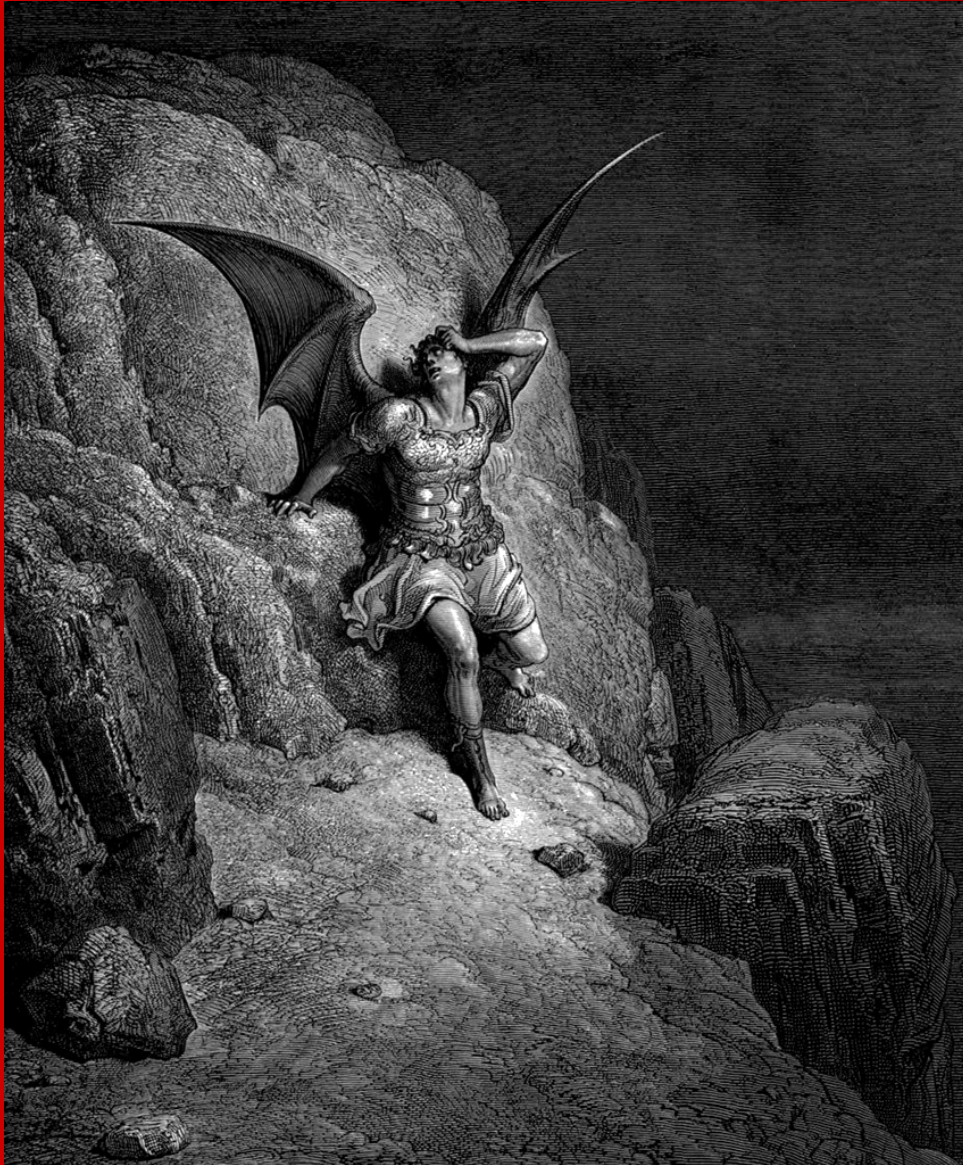
*But yet thou shalt be brought down to hell,
into the depth of the pit.*

The Fall of The Angels

Revelation 12:7 **And there was a great battle in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon, and the dragon fought, and his angels. And they prevailed not: neither was their place found any more in heaven. And that great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, who seduceth the whole world. *And he was cast unto the earth: and his angels were thrown down with him.***



There Is No *Redemption* Or *Second Chance* For Rebellious Angels



Angelic choices are made by a fully informed, supernatural intellect. Hence, a decision, once made, is irrevocable, eternally unchanging and wholly reflective of their fidelity (or lack of it) to God's rule. The dimension of *time* also likely applies differently to angels, who probably spend most of their existence in *eternity*. Can an *eternal mind change*?

Speculation About Satan



Ejected from Heaven and sentenced to an eternity in Hell (and possibly, eventual total destruction) Satan probably felt that he had nothing left to lose.

Cursing God, Satan vowed to take every single one of God's newly created human beings to Hell with him, if he could. With Satan's angelic powers, as well as his access to the Earth intact, the rest, as we say, is history!

Larceny In The Garden



From the Catechism:

391 Behind the disobedient choice of our first parents lurks a seductive voice, opposed to God, which makes them fall into death out of envy. Scripture and the Church's Tradition see in this being a fallen angel, called "Satan" or the "devil". The Church teaches that Satan was at first a good angel, made by God: "The devil and the other demons were indeed created naturally good by God, but they became evil by their own doing."

Willingly Swindled

Adam traded away everything that he owned, all the physical, temporal gifts he had been given by God.

Genesis 1:26 ***"... dominion over the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the air, and the beasts, and the whole earth, and every creeping creature that moveth upon the earth".***

This was Satan's price for imparting the "Knowledge of Good and Evil". It was a fool's bargain!



The Law of Sin And Death

You Sin ... You Die



So it was that Satan gained control over the whole world and certain dominion over man. The entire process was, in a *technical* sense, *legal* but it certainly wasn't *right*. God wasn't pleased, either. Here, we learn of Satan's destiny:

Genesis 3:15

I will put enmities between thee and the woman, and thy seed and her seed: she (he) shall crush thy head, and thou shalt lie in wait for her (his) heel.

2ndCorinthians 11:3 **But I fear lest, as the serpent seduced Eve by his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted and fall from the simplicity that is in Christ.**



The words "*subtilty*" and "*seduced*" hint at sins of the mind and the flesh, but the specific details of Adam's sin have never been revealed. We'll probably have to wait until *Judgment Day* to hear the rest of the story.

**By “Eating Of The Tree”
Mankind Became A Slave To Sin
Forced To Live Under The Cruel
And Evil Dominion Of Satan**

**Only A Holy, Powerful, And Very
Special Redeemer Could Save Us**

For a number of reasons, sending a Redeemer would not be easy, even for God. In fact, thousands of years would elapse before the exact time, place and circumstances for Messiah would arrive.



Galatians 4:4 – 5

But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent his Son, made of a woman, made under the law: That he might redeem them who were under the law: that we might receive the adoption of sons.

Complicating matters still further, only one person in the entire universe was qualified for the job.

**Only One
With *No Sin*
Could *Vanquish Evil***

**Only One
With *The Power Of Everlasting Life*
Could Overcome *Death***

**Only One
Who Is *Fully God And Fully Man*
Could *Heal The “Rift of Sin”*
That *Separated Man From His Creator***

Jesus Christ ... *The Lamb of God!*

Greater love than this no man has, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

True God

True Man

**Perfect
Victim**

**Willing
Sacrifice**

**Messiah
And Savior**

Heroic

Redeemer

Holy One

**King
of Kings**

**Lord
of Lords**

John 3:16 *For God so loved the world, as to give his only begotten Son: that whosoever believeth in him may not perish, but may have life everlasting.*

Sin ... Public Enemy *Number 1*

Anyone who is guilty of a serious, intentional, unconfessed, unrepented and unforgiven **offense** against **God** or **man** is likely to be **“living in sin”**



Anyone who freely chooses a course of action that they know is **gravely sinful**, commits a **mortal sin**, which is serious enough to result in spiritual **“death”**; effectively **“cutting off”** that person from God’s **sanctifying grace**.

Living In Sin

From Adam's "Fall" to Jesus' birth, all* of mankind "lived in sin"



*except for the
Blessed Virgin, Mary

Sometimes, *bad decisions* and *poor life choices* can make it *very difficult* to receive *absolution* for our sins

Here, Jesus empowers His Apostles (the first Bishops) to *carefully evaluate* both the sin and the sinner.

John 20:21 –23 **He (Jesus) said therefore to them again: Peace be to you. As the Father hath sent me, I also send you. When he had said this, he breathed on them; and he said to them: Receive ye the Holy Ghost.**

Whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven them: and whose sins you shall retain, they are retained.



Analyzing *Sinful* Lifestyles

Couple “A”



Lives together, permanently, under one “roof” as “man and wife” (sexually active – not as brother and sister) without benefit of the Sacrament of Marriage. *Under the laws of the Church, absolution for sins may not (typically) be granted.*

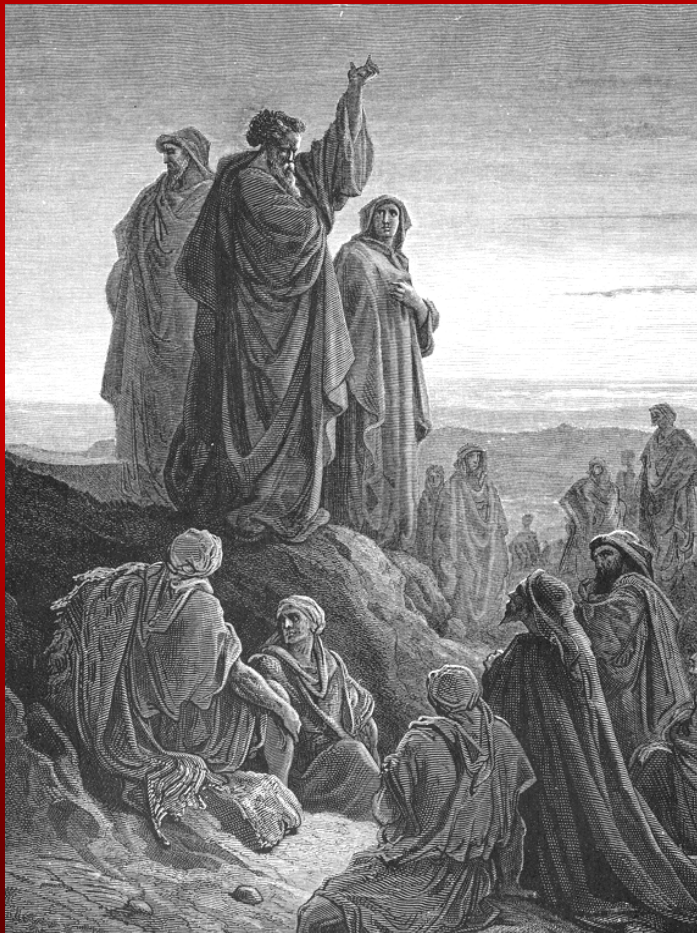
Couple “B”



Maintains their own separate residences, but occasionally lives together, under one “roof” as “man and wife” (sexually active – not as brother and sister) without benefit of the Sacrament of Marriage. *Under the laws of the Church, absolution for sins may (typically) be granted.*

Why Is **Absolution** Available In **One Case, But Not The Other**?

St. Peter tells us in Acts 3:19 ... Be penitent, therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out.



If Our Sins Are To Be Forgiven
Two Conditions Must Be Met

- ✓ We must be sorry (contrition)
- ✓ We must have a firm intention and a real possibility of amendment (repentance/conversion)

A Closer Look At “Couple A”

Choosing to live together without benefit of marriage in order to engage in an active sexual relationship, “Couple A” is “locked-in” to a sinful lifestyle that offers practically no chance for repentance or conversion, making absolution virtually impossible.



Even with contrition and a firm intention to change, considering the couple’s shared dwelling and living habits, shared social activities and finances, as well as the obvious sexual issues; it is unlikely that this couple could avoid committing the same sins, all over again, perhaps only minutes or hours after going to Confession.

One partner *moving out* could help resolve the sin issue, or certainly, they could *get married*. Short of this, “Couple A” will likely remain in serious sin ... a very dangerous situation for their eternal souls.

While It’s Always Important To Avoid Sin, It Is Absolutely Critical To Avoid Sinful Life Choices Of A Permanent Nature

A Closer Look At “Couple B”

Choosing to engage in a sexual relationship without benefit of marriage, while occasionally “shacking-up” is *definitely sinful behavior*. But, unlike “Couple A”, this couple has not made their arrangement *permanent*. The temporary nature of their situation makes a big difference, when it comes to the possibility of *absolution*.



Living apart, and being able to retire to their own separate dwellings, to deal with their own personal faults, *free from the pressures of permanent cohabitation*, affords this couple a real chance at repentance and conversion. Assuming true contrition and a firm purpose of amendment, there’s virtually no reason these people cannot receive absolution, after making a good confession.

This in no way minimizes their bad behavior, or the substantial personal and spiritual risks they run, by persisting in it.

Absolution Is Available If Amendment Is Reasonably Possible

What About Same-Sex Couples?

The same rules apply to same-sex couples too, with one very important exception:

No matter what civil law may decree, the Sacrament of Marriage applies only to the very special union between a man and a woman.

Divinely constituted as such, Marriage is a state in life that is holy and Blessed by God.

Any type of sexual “intercourse” outside of Marriage is sinful. Since same sex Sacramental Marriage is never possible, same-sex “intercourse” is always sinful.

Cohabiting same-sex couples face the same types of “absolution problems” that unmarried male/female cohabiting couples do.

[Questions/Issues/Disputes?](#)

[Ask A Priest!](#)

A “*Last-Chance*” For *Lost Souls*

Old age, illness, or infirmity often make it impractical to persist in a sinful lifestyle.

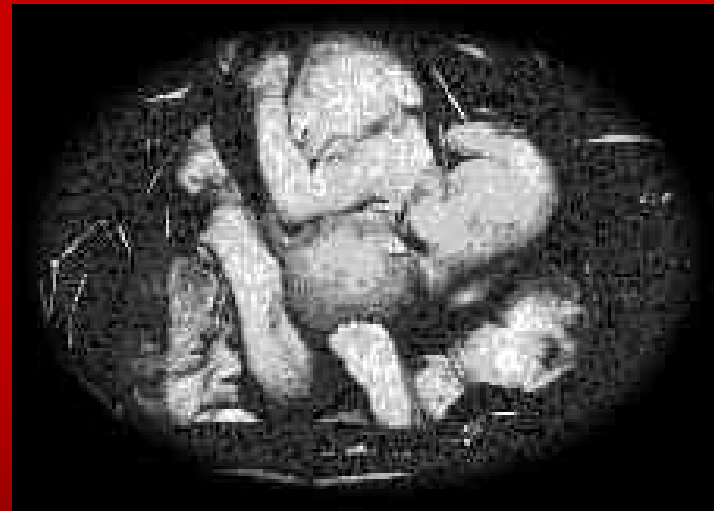
The end of a “relationship” or the imminent death of a “life partner” may provide a “window of opportunity” for repentance and conversion.

Absolution is available in these cases, as God is always willing to forgive. Don't forget, many saints were once “hypocrites” too!



Just Because It's *Legal* Doesn't Mean It's *Right!*

In Nazi Germany during the 1930's and 1940's it was "legal" to murder anyone considered "undesirable" or of the "wrong" ethnic background, religion, or political party.



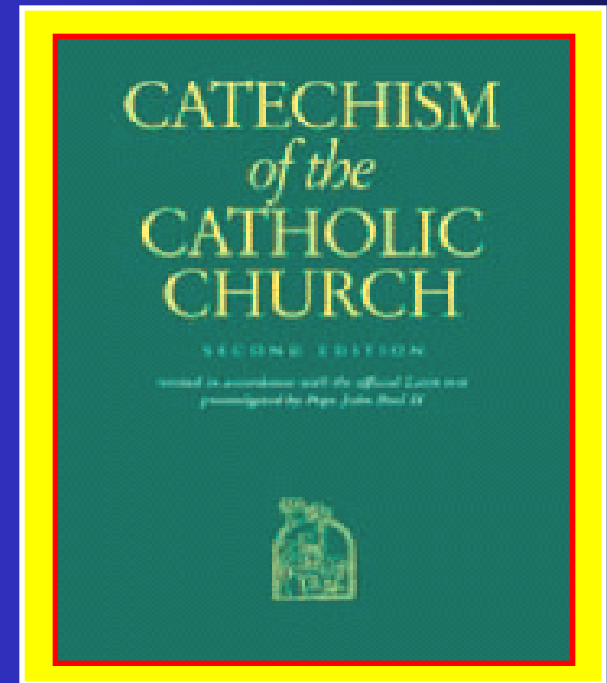
**Today, in much of the United States of America,
"The Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave"
it's "legal" to murder pre-born babies, the sick, and the aged.**

***We're All Expected To Know
And Do What's Right,
According To God's Law***

***When Civil Governments
Pass Laws That Encourage
Or Condone Mortally Sinful
Behavior, We Have A Duty
To Stand In Opposition To
Those Laws.***



**The Catechism Is The
Reference Text For
Virtually All Catholic
Teachings**



**When In Doubt
*Check It Out!***

Free Will Means We All Have A Choice

**Perish Along With Satan And All Those Who Prefer Evil
Or ... Enjoy Everlasting Life In Our Lord Jesus Christ**

Ezekiel 28:18 – 19

**... therefore I will bring forth
a fire from the midst of thee,
to devour thee, and I will make
thee as ashes upon the earth
in the sight of all that see
thee. All that shall see thee
among the nations, shall be
astonished at thee: thou art
brought to nothing, and thou
shall never be any more.**

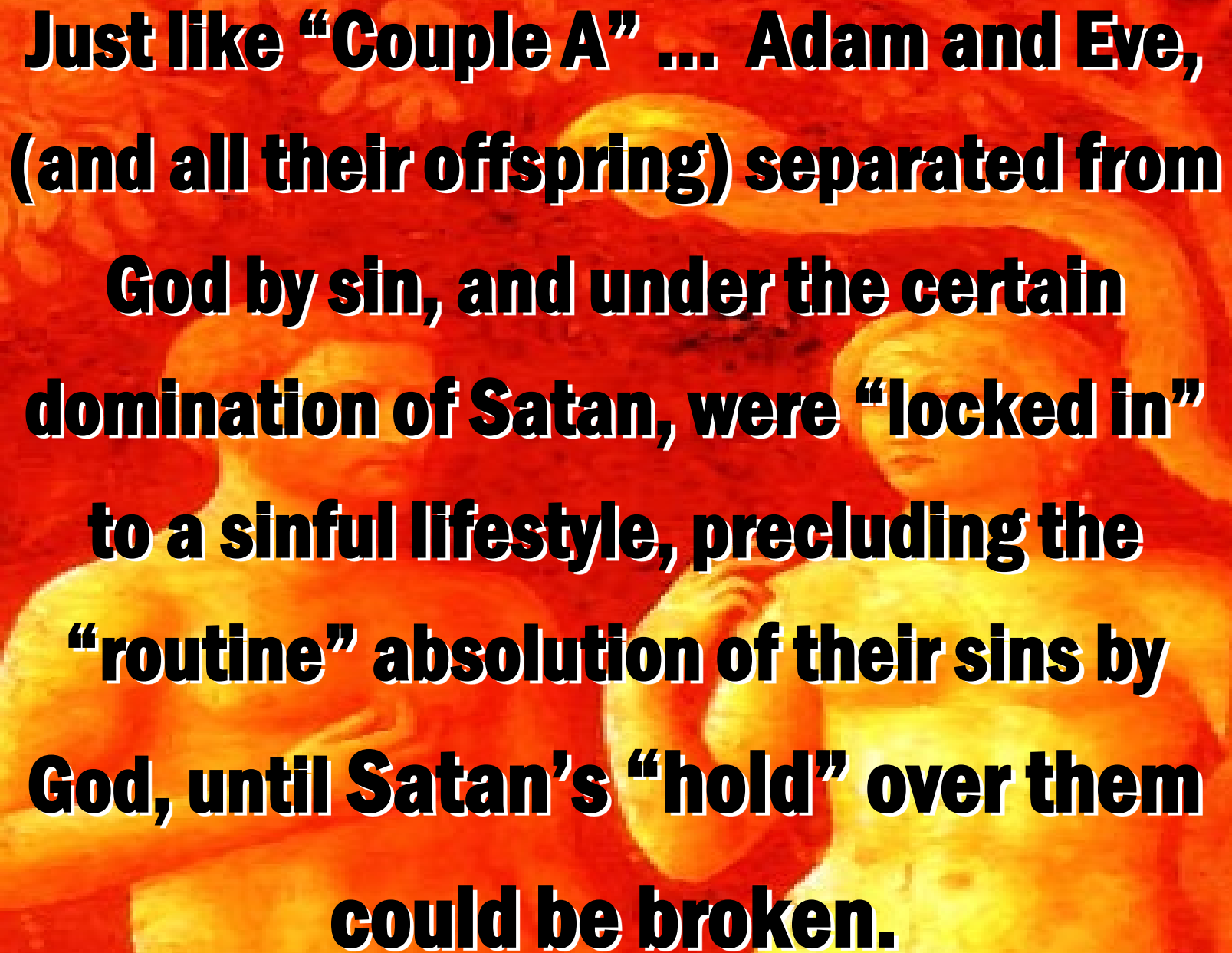


The Bottom Line On Sin

Sin causes us to become *separated* from God, *in spite* of His great love for us.



It's critically *important* for everyone (young and old) to receive good, comprehensive, and *continuous* faith education. When a person comes to truly *know* and *love* God, it becomes *easier* to *accept* and put into *practice*, *all* the *teachings* of His *Church*.



**Just like “Couple A” ... Adam and Eve,
(and all their offspring) separated from
God by sin, and under the certain
domination of Satan, were “locked in”
to a sinful lifestyle, precluding the
“routine” absolution of their sins by
God, until Satan’s “hold” over them
could be broken.**

**When a Catholic, in
the spirit of contrition
and repentance,
makes a *good
confession* of all
known sins to a Priest
God, through His Church, His
Sacrament and His Priest,
freely distributes the fruits of
Christ's life, death and
resurrection, absolving the
individual of sin and restoring
spiritual life and *grace*
to the soul.**



To Make A Good Confession

We Must:

1. Be CONTRITE - Sorrow for sins must truly exist.
 - a) sorrow for offending God (*best*)
 - b) sorrow because we want to avoid hell (*ok*)
 - c) a combination of the two (*typical*)
2. Be REPENTANT - A firm purpose of amendment must exist. We must fully intend to resist temptation, to sin no more, and to avoid the people, places, and things, that lead us into sin.
3. Be CONSCIENTIOUS - All known mortal sins must be confessed. Because just one mortal sin cuts us off from God's sanctifying grace, deliberately holding back even one makes our confession void and our absolution incomplete and ineffective.

The Wages Of Sin Is Death



**But the grace of God is life everlasting
in Christ Jesus, our Lord.**

Romans 6:23

GRACE!

Grace - The Unmerited Favor Of God Comes In Two Varieties:

Actual Grace: Enlightens, guides and empowers us to conform our human will to God's divine will.

Sanctifying Grace: Literally, the living Presence of the Holy Spirit dwelling within a human soul; transforms us, making us holy and acceptable to God.

Actual Grace Abounds Throughout All of Human History



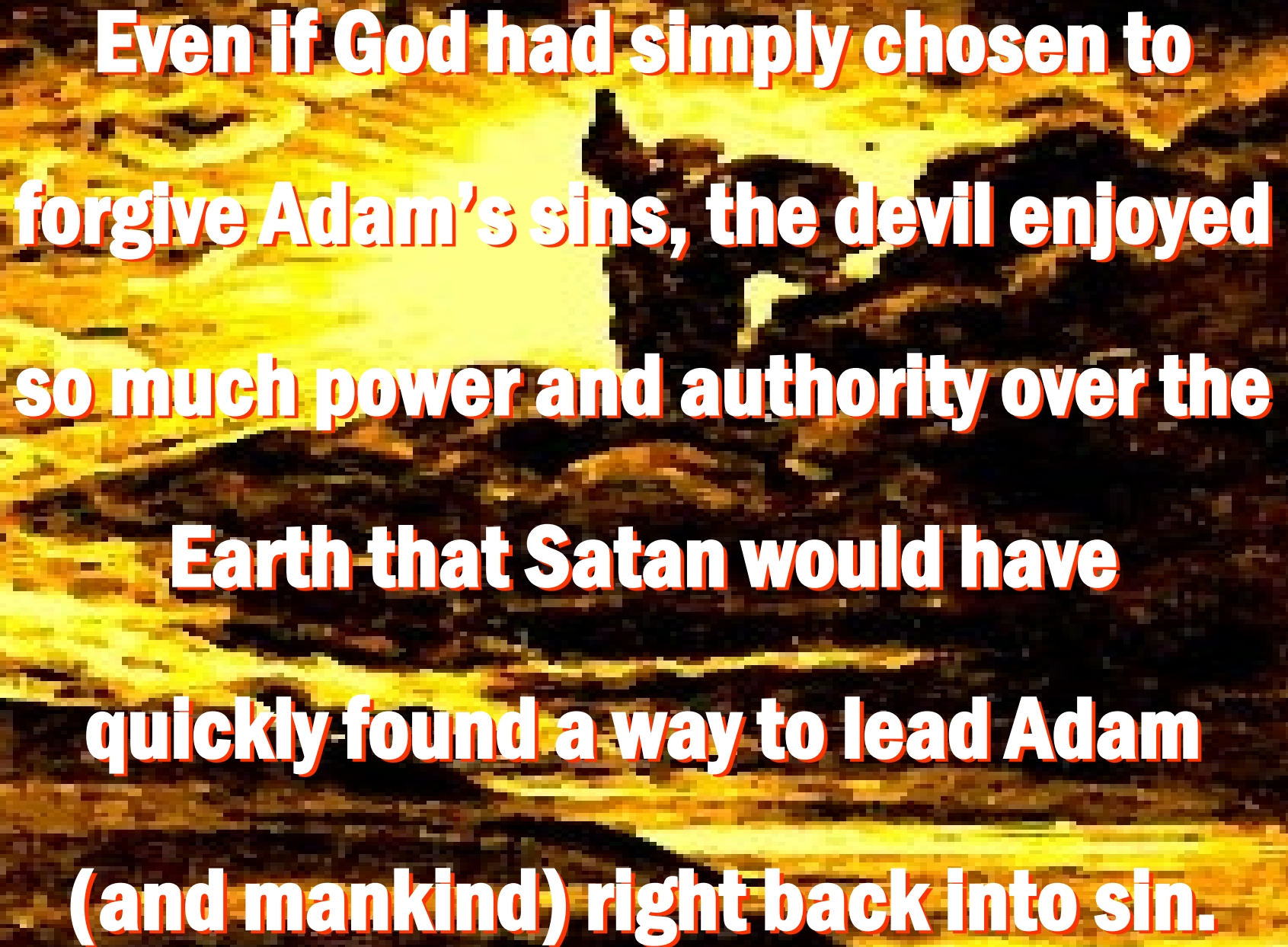
By The *Grace* of God - David *Slew* Goliath

But ... Until Jesus Redeemed Us By His Death On The Cross, All Of Mankind* Lacked The *Sanctifying Grace* Necessary To Enter Heaven



Mankind continues to be born in a “spiritually dead” condition today, as were Abraham, Moses, and all the people, Prophets, and Apostles of old (*except the Blessed Virgin, Mary).

Sanctifying Grace is (normally) obtained through **Baptism** into the Church. It is maintained and increased by fervently practicing our faith and by attending **Mass** and receiving the **Sacraments**; especially **Reconciliation** and **Holy Communion**.



Even if God had simply chosen to forgive Adam's sins, the devil enjoyed so much power and authority over the Earth that Satan would have quickly found a way to lead Adam (and mankind) right back into sin.

In His Infinite Wisdom, God Knew That Satan Would First, Have To Be Cast Out.

Then, sins could be forgiven and grace could be restored.



That's Why Both A Redeemer And An Incorruptible Church Are Necessary For Our Salvation.

Breaking The "Cycle" Of Sin And Death



The only way the "cycle" could be broken was if, somehow, a man could be born without sin. Satan, death and hell would have no power or authority over that man.

Our Redeemer Would Need A Sinless Human Mother



Luke 1:26-28 And in the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God into a city of Galilee, called Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David: and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel being come in, said unto her: **Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women.**

**Conceived
By The Power of the Holy Spirit,
Jesus Had No Sinful Human Father**



**Luke 1:35 And the angel answering, said to her:
The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee
and the power of the Most High shall overshadow thee.
And therefore also the Holy which shall be born of thee
shall be called the Son of God.**



To Accomplish His Mission, Jesus Had To Live A Totally Sinless Life

Perfectly Accomplishing The Will Of His Father



Even Unto Death On The Cross

Jesus Knows

Jesus knows that we have a hard time figuring out what God wants us to do, so He left us His Church, to be our guide.

Jesus knows that we have a hard time resisting temptation and avoiding sin, (due to our fallen human nature) so He left us the Mass and the Sacraments, in the care of the Church, to be applied to our needs.

Jesus knows that life is an ordeal, in part, because He personally lived it, so He has granted us a rich reward: eternal life and perfect happiness in the Kingdom of Heaven, if only we choose to accept His sacrifice and live a life that is obedient to God's will.



The Deposit Of Faith

The sum total of all Divine Revelation and Truth, as defined by the Holy Catholic Church, gained via three legitimate sources:

- ❖ ***Sacred and Apostolic Tradition*** – truths handed down by the Apostles, and/or revealed through the workings of the Holy Spirit in the everyday life of the Church.
- ❖ ***Sacred Scripture*** – The Holy Bible, including all (46 Old Testament and 27 New Testament) Canonical Books.
- ❖ ***Magisterium*** – the God given teaching authority and divinely ordained teaching “office” of the Catholic Church.

Biblical Prophecy



Luke 24:44-45 **And he said to them: These are the words which I spoke to you while I was yet with you, that all things must needs be fulfilled which are written in the Law of Moses and in the Prophets and in the Psalms, concerning me. *Then he opened their understanding, that they might understand the Scriptures.***

The Holy Bible And Sacred Tradition



From The Catechism ...

81 *Sacred Scripture* is the speech of God as it is put down in writing under the breath of the Holy Spirit ...

82 ... the Church, to whom the transmission and interpretation of Revelation is entrusted, "does not derive her certainty about all revealed truths from the holy Scriptures alone. **Both *Scripture* and *Tradition* must be accepted and honored with equal sentiments of devotion and reverence.**"



Why Catholics Venerate The Blessed Virgin Mary



View from the Mount of Olives ... modern day Jerusalem

The 4th Commandment: “Honor Your Father *And* Your Mother”

Matthew 5:17

Do not think that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets. I am *not* come to destroy, *but to fulfill.*



Since Mary is truly Jesus' mother (and His first, best, most constant disciple) it is right and just for Mary to receive, from Jesus and from His Church, all the honors that He deems suitable for her.

Luke 1:46-50 And Mary said: My soul doth magnify the Lord. And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior. Because he hath regarded the humility of his handmaid: for behold from henceforth



all generations shall call me blessed. Because he that is mighty hath done great things to me: and holy is his name. And his mercy is from generation unto generations, to them that fear him.

Mary – The “Woman” of Prophecy



Genesis 3:15

**I will put
enmities
between thee
and the *woman*
and thy seed and
her seed: she
shall crush thy
head, and thou
shalt lie in wait
for her heel.**

Mary - “Queen Mother” In The Tradition Of The House Of David And Jesus The Eternal King



1Kings 2:19-20

Then (the queen) Bathsheba came to (her son) king Solomon.

And the king arose to meet her, and bowed to her, and sat down upon his throne: and a throne was set for (her) the king's mother, and she sat on his right hand. And she said to him: I desire one small petition of thee.

And the king said to her: My mother ask, for I must not turn away thy face.

Mary - The “Virgin” Of Isaiah



Isaiah 7:14

Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign. Behold *a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son* and his name shall be called Emmanuel.

Mary - The Blessed Mother Who Would Be Pierced By A “Sword”

Luke 2:34-35 And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother: Behold this child is set for the fall and for the resurrection of many in Israel and for a sign which shall be contradicted. *And thy own soul a sword shall pierce*, that, out of many hearts thoughts may be revealed.



Mary - The “Woman” Of Cana



John 2:1-5 **And the third day, there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee: and the mother of Jesus was there. And Jesus also was invited, and his disciples, to the marriage. And the wine failing, the mother of Jesus saith to him: They have no wine. And Jesus saith to her: *Woman, what is that to me and to thee? My hour is not yet come. His mother saith to the waiters: Whatsoever he shall say to you, do ye.***

The “Woman” Of The Cross

John 19:25-27

Now there stood by the cross of Jesus, his mother and his mother's sister, Mary of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalen. When Jesus therefore had seen his mother and the disciple standing whom he loved, he saith to his mother: *Woman*, behold thy son. After that, he saith to the disciple: Behold thy mother. And from that hour, the disciple took her to his own.



Mary ... Ark of the New Covenant



When Her Earthly Life Was Completed ...



The “Ark” Was Taken Up To Heaven

Revelation 11:19 And the temple of God was opened in heaven: and the ark of his testament was seen in his temple. And there were lightnings and voices and an earthquake and great hail.

The “Woman” Of Revelation

***Revelation
12:1*** And a
great sign
appeared in
heaven:

**A woman
clothed with
the sun, and
the moon
under her feet,
and on her
head a crown
of twelve
stars.**

**Witness Mary's coronation as
*Queen of Heaven***



Queen Of Heaven

Mother Of The Church

Noble Associate of Christ



40. Hence the revered Mother of God, from all eternity joined in a hidden way with Jesus Christ in one and the same decree of predestination, immaculate in her conception, a most perfect virgin in her divine motherhood, the noble associate of the divine Redeemer who has won a complete triumph over sin and its consequences, finally obtained, as the supreme culmination of her privileges, that she should be preserved free from the corruption of the tomb and that, like her own Son, having overcome death, she might be taken up body and soul to the glory of heaven where, as Queen, she sits in splendor at the right hand of her Son, the immortal King of the Ages.

Official Catholic Church Source Document:
Munificentissimus Deus

The Queen Holds A Place Of Honor



Second Only To The King

There's Something About Mary

Mary is the preeminent, non-divine human being.

Mary is the Mother of the Catholic Church and the patron saint of every deacon, priest, bishop and pope.

*Mary had authority over the Son of God for much of His life here on earth. She continues to cooperate with **Jesus**, the **New Adam**, in His work of redemption, today.*

*Mary lived a totally sin-free existence on earth, just like her divine son, Jesus. The **New Eve**, she is the mother of all, who thanks to Christ's sacrifice, are "spiritually" alive today.*



Good News From Jesus!




**All the faithful
will receive the
same type of
heavenly
rewards that
Mary now
enjoys.**

Revelation 2:26 **He That Shall Overcome ...**




**and keep my words unto the end,
I will give him power over the nations.**

Revelation 3:5 **He That Shall Overcome ...**



shall thus be clothed in white garments: and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life. And I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels.

Revelation 3:12 **He That Shall Overcome ...**



I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God: and he shall go out no more. And I will write upon him the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God, and my new name.

Revelation 3:21 **He That Shall Overcome ...**



**I will give to sit with me in my throne:
as I also have overcome and am set down
with my Father in his throne.**

Revelation 21:7 **He That Shall Overcome ...**



shall possess these things. And I will be his God: and he shall be my son.

John 16:33 These things I have spoken to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you shall have distress.



**But have confidence.
*I have overcome the world.***



**Why Was It
Necessary
For The
Only
Begotten
Son Of God
To Redeem
Us?**

Why Did He Have To Suffer?



Why Did He Have To Die?

Why Couldn't Someone *Else* Redeem Us?



Why Couldn't God Arrange For Some *Other* Redeemer To Be Born Without Sin And To “Cast Out” Satan For Us?

Jesus Had A Three-Fold Mission

The background image is a reproduction of Leonardo da Vinci's 'The Last Supper'. It depicts Jesus Christ seated at the center of a long table with twelve apostles. Jesus is holding a white cloth, and the apostles are shown in various states of shock and confusion. The setting is a room with a large arched window in the background.

To Destroy Satan's Power Over Mankind And The World

**To Forgive Sins, Restore Sanctifying Grace And
Open The Gates Of Heaven**


To Inaugurate The Kingdom Of God On The Earth

No mere man could accomplish all this!

From The Catechism: **"Jesus was handed over according to the definite (*and mysterious*) plan of God"**



599 Jesus' violent death was not the result of chance in an unfortunate coincidence of circumstances, but is part of the *mystery* of God's plan, as St. Peter explains to the Jews of Jerusalem in his first sermon on Pentecost: "This Jesus [was] delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God."³⁹³ This Biblical language does not mean that those who handed him over were merely passive players in a scenario written in advance by God.³⁹⁴

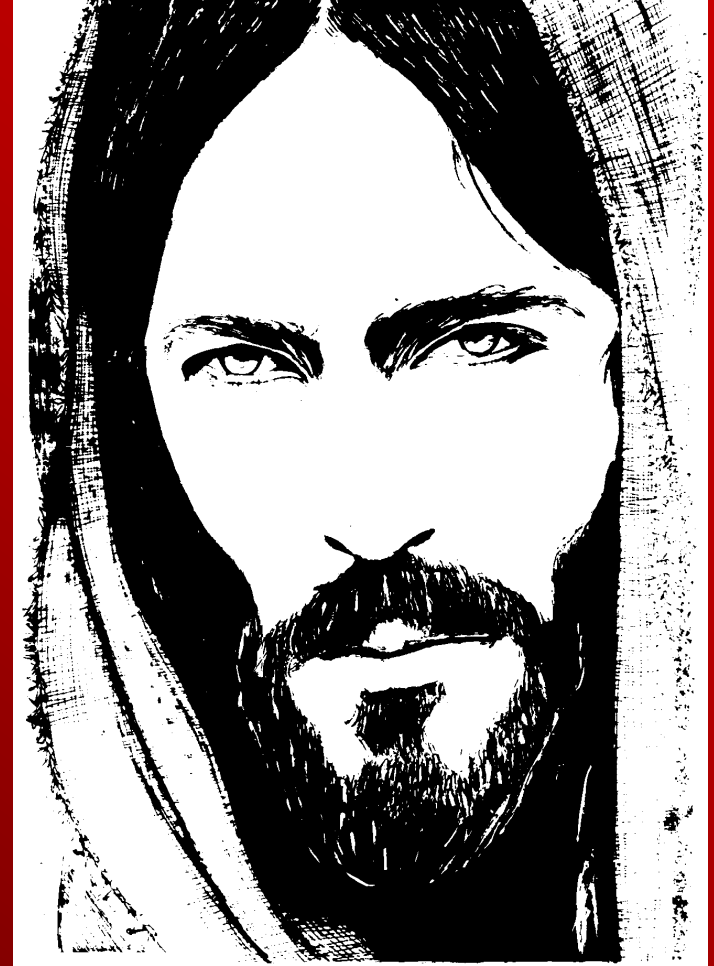


From The Catechism: “For the sake of accomplishing his plan of salvation, God permitted the acts that flowed from their blindness.”

600 To God, all moments of time are present in their immediacy. When therefore he establishes his eternal plan of "predestination", he includes in it each person's free response to his grace: "In this city, in fact, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place."³⁹⁵

Attempting To Resolve God's Greatest Mystery

616 ... No man, not even the holiest, was ever able to take on himself the sins of all men and offer himself as a sacrifice for all. The existence in Christ of the divine person of the Son, who at once surpasses and embraces all human persons, and constitutes himself as the Head of all mankind, makes possible his redemptive sacrifice for all.



St. Augustine of Hippo (354-430)



“Christ demonstrated justice by His death, He promised power by His resurrection. What could be more just than to go as far as the death of the cross, for the sake of justice? What greater act of power than to rise from the dead, and ascend to heaven with the very flesh in which He was slain?”

“First, justice conquered the devil, then power; *justice, because Christ had no sin and was most unjustly put to death by the devil*; power, because He lived again after death, never to die thereafter.”

St. Anselm of Canterbury (1033-1109)

One of the great philosophers and theologians of the middle ages. Archbishop and Scholar. Canonized in 1492 by Pope Alexander IV. Declared a Doctor of the Church by Pope Clement XI in 1720.



Saint Anselm is the most important Christian theologian in the West between Saint Augustine and Saint Thomas Aquinas.

One of his two great accomplishments is:
“Cur Deus Homo” (Why God Became Man)

In which he undertakes to show that Divine Love *responding* to human rebelliousness *requires* that God should *become* a man.



On God's Justice And The Law

Justice to man is regulated by God's law, so that, according to the requirements of law, the measure of award (satisfaction) is determined by God.

Man naturally owes honor, obedience and allegiance to God in all things, so with what could man pay for his sin against God?

Man alone, possesses nothing that can satisfy his debt to God for sin. - St. Anselm



On Sin And Death

For, as death came upon the human race by the disobedience of man, it was fitting that by man's obedience, life should be restored.

And, as sin, the cause of our condemnation, had its origin from a woman, so ought the author of our righteousness and salvation to be born of a woman.

- St. Anselm



On Vanquishing Satan

And so also was it proper that the devil, who, being man's tempter, had conquered him in eating of the tree, should be vanquished by man in the suffering of the tree which man bore.

- St. Anselm



Why Only God *Should* Redeem Us

... if any other being should rescue man from eternal death, man would rightly be adjudged as the servant of that being.

Now if this be so, he would in no wise be restored to that dignity which would have been his had he never sinned.

For he, who was to be through eternity, only the servant of God, and an equal with the holy angels, would now be the servant of a being who was not God, and whom the angels did not serve. - St. Anselm



Why Only God Could Redeem Us

Nothing can be more severe or difficult for man to do for God's honor, than to suffer death voluntarily when not bound by obligation.

Man cannot give himself to God in any way more truly than by surrendering himself to death for God's honor. As no sin could be found in Christ, he certainly was not liable to die.

Can anyone fail to see how the sacrifice of the fully divine and fully human Jesus would vastly exceed and transcend any purely human effort? - St. Anselm



Why Was Suffering Necessary?

**If man sinned with ease, is it not fitting for him
to atone with difficulty?**

**And if he was overcome by the devil in the easiest manner
possible, so as to dishonor God by sinning against him, is
it not right that man, in making satisfaction for his sin,
should honor God by conquering the devil with the
greatest possible difficulty?**

**Is it not proper that, since man has departed from God as
far as possible in his sin, he should make to God the
greatest possible satisfaction? – St. Anselm**



The Logical Conclusion

God demanded that man should conquer the devil, so that he who had offended by sin should atone by holiness.

As God owed nothing to the devil but punishment, so man must only make amends by conquering the devil as man had already been conquered by him.

Whatever was demanded of man, he owed to God and not to the devil. - St. Anselm



Redemption Reflections

Many other things also,
if we carefully examine them,
give a certain
indescribable beauty
to our redemption,
as thus procured.

- St. Anselm

St. Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274)



“The passion of Christ was of such value that it sufficed to expiate (atone) for all the sins of the whole world, *even of a hundred thousand worlds.*”

“Propitiation”

Jesus is our “propitiation”

**because He freely, heroically, and lovingly
became the sacrificial victim for our sins.**

**His sinless, perfect, infinitely valuable sacrifice,
as one of us, and on our behalf,
appeased (turned away) God’s righteous anger,
and restored God’s eternal favor, obtaining
good will, forgiveness, and peace* for all men.**

*This outcome was proclaimed in the Gospel of Luke, Chapter 2, verses 8 - 14

Destroying Satan's Power

Satan, “The Prince Of This World”
(John 12:31) bore the ultimate responsibility for unlawfully putting Jesus to death.

Willingly assisted by Rome, Pilate, Herod, the Chief Priests, Pharisees, Judas and others, Satan's fate was sealed the moment Christ died.

By deliberately taking the life of “He who had no sin” Satan broke God's Law of Sin and Death, forfeiting all that he had gained from Adam's fall.





Christ Shed His Blood So Sins Could Be Forgiven

Leviticus 17:11 Because the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you, that you may make atonement with it upon the altar for your souls, and the blood may be for an expiation of the soul.

Matthew 26:28 For this is my blood of the new testament, which shall be shed for many unto remission of sins.

1Peter 1:18-19 Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things ... but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb unspotted and undefiled, foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world...

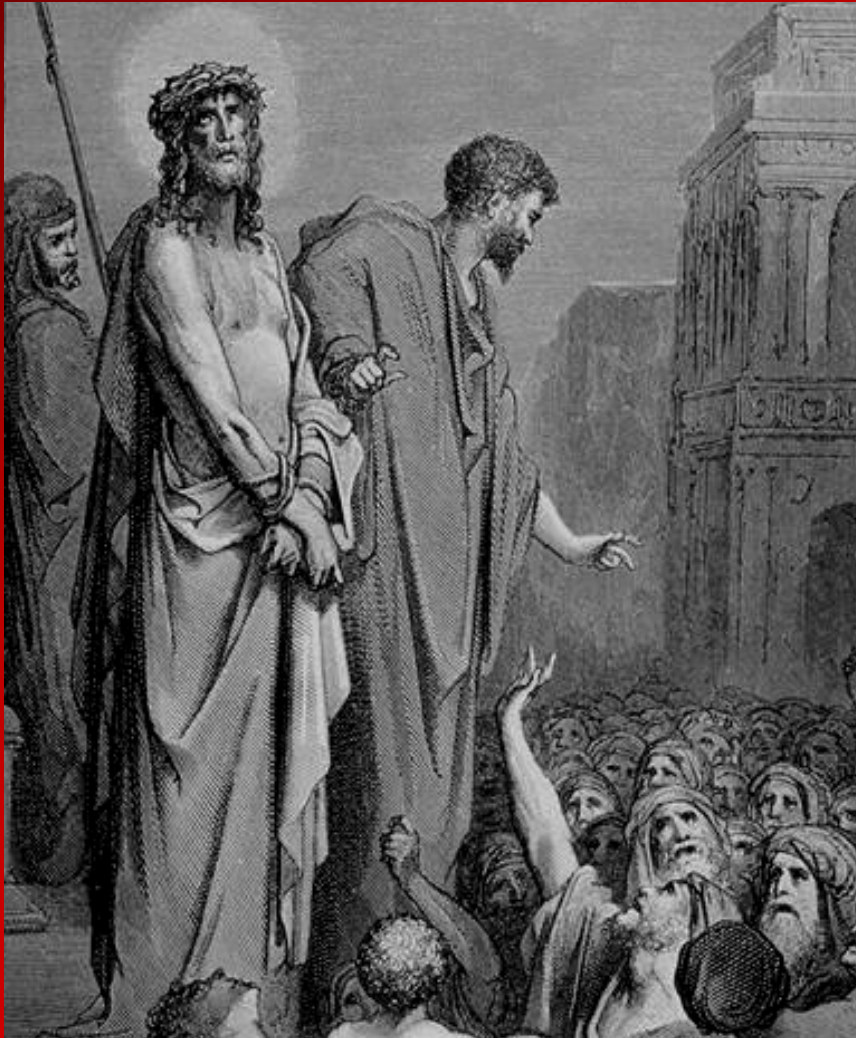
The Church And Its' Members Are The Visible Signs Of The Kingdom Of God



From the Catechism of the Catholic Church:

766 The Church is born primarily of Christ's total self-giving for our salvation, anticipated in the institution of the Eucharist and fulfilled on the cross. "The origin and growth of the Church are symbolized by the blood and water which flowed from the open side of the crucified Jesus." **"For it was from the side of Christ as he slept the sleep of death upon the cross that there came forth the 'wondrous sacrament' of the whole Church."** *As Eve was formed from the sleeping Adam's side, so the Church was born from the pierced heart of Christ hanging dead on the cross.*

Jesus Fully Accomplished His Heroic Three-Fold Mission

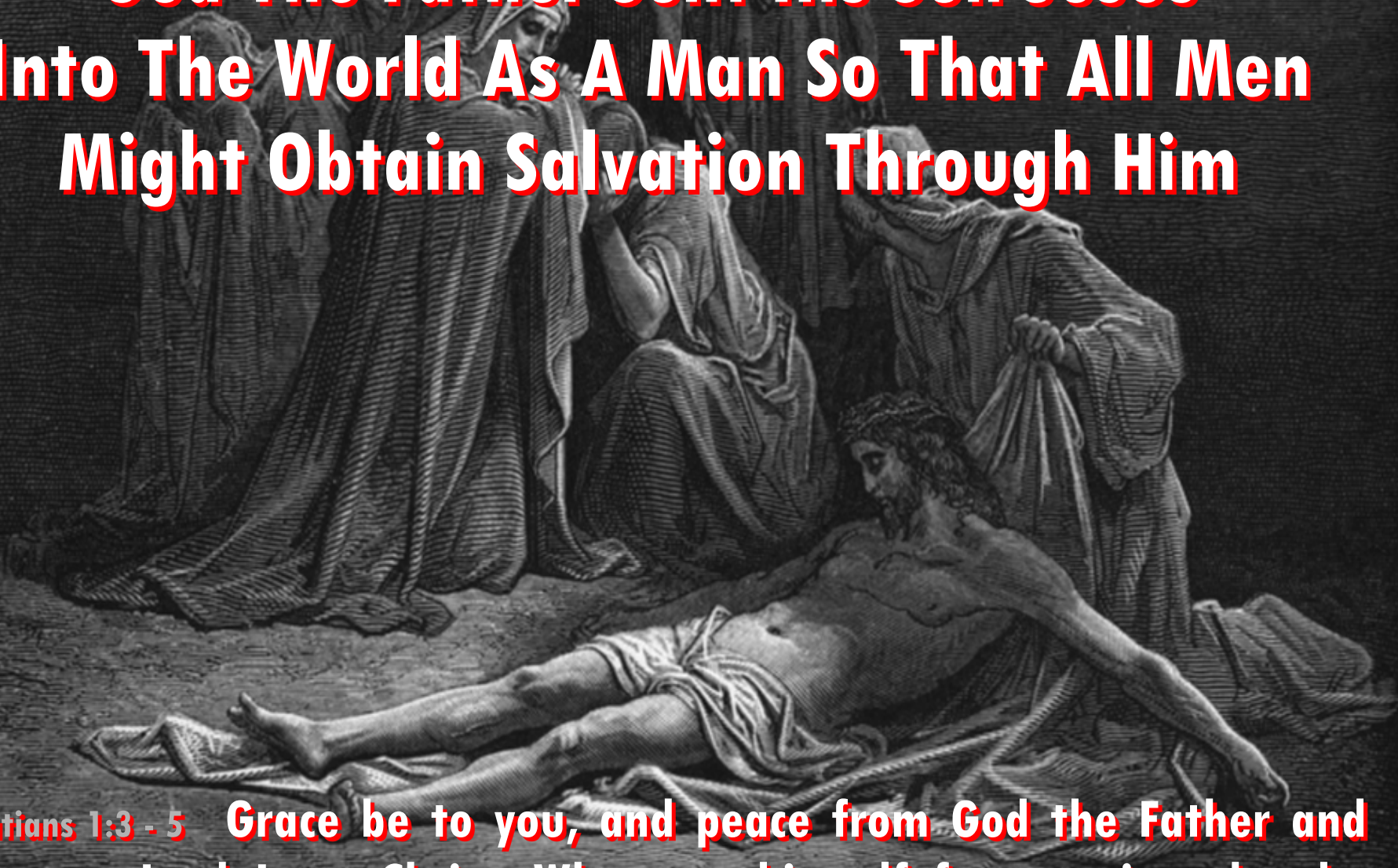


**He Destroyed Satan's Power
By Voluntarily Laying Down
His Own Life**

**He Shed His Blood For The
Forgiveness Of Sins, Enabled
The Restoration Of
Sanctifying Grace And
Opened The Gates Of Heaven**

**He Established His Church,
Inaugurating The Earthly
Kingdom Of God**

**God The Father Sent His Son Jesus
Into The World As A Man So That All Men
Might Obtain Salvation Through Him**



Galatians 1:3 - 5 Grace be to you, and peace from God the Father and from our Lord Jesus Christ, Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present wicked world, according to the will of God and our Father: To whom is glory for ever and ever ... Amen.

His Father Was Pleased With Everything Jesus Accomplished *“In The Flesh”*

Philippians 2:9 - 11 For which cause,
God also hath exalted him and
hath given him a name which is
above all names: That in the
name of Jesus every knee
should bow, of those that are in
heaven, on earth, and under the
earth: And that every tongue
should confess that the Lord
Jesus Christ is in the glory of
God the Father.



His Resurrection Was The Proof



**Over 500 witnesses
(1st Corinthians 15:6)
saw the risen Christ
and many of them chose
to die rather than deny
what they had seen.**

**Acts 10:39 And we are
witnesses of all things
that He did in the land of
the Jews and in
Jerusalem: whom they
killed, hanging Him upon
a tree. *Him God raised
up the third day ...***

Jesus, *The New Adam* Succeeded Where The *First Adam* Failed

Jesus, True Man, Accomplished The Will
Of His Divine Father In All Things

Jesus, True God, Paid An Infinite Price
To Redeem Mankind

His Father Was Pleased, So He Bestowed On Jesus
All Authority Over Heaven And Earth, Death And Hell

By God's Power And Justice
We Were Rescued From Slavery To Sin

By God's Mercy, Through His Church, We Receive Grace And
Absolution From Sin, And We Hope To Obtain Eternal Life

Today, *A Sinless Man* Reigns In Heaven, Seated At The Right Hand Of God The Father

From The Catechism:

464 The unique and altogether singular event of the Incarnation of the Son of God does not mean that Jesus Christ is part God and part man, nor does it imply that he is the result of a confused mixture of the divine and the human. He became truly man while remaining truly God.

Jesus Christ is true God and true man.



Understanding Redemption In *Ten Simple Steps*



**Sin Separated
Man From God
In A Way
That Man Alone
Would Never Be Able
To Overcome**

-I-

Understanding Redemption In *Ten Simple Steps*



**Because
God The Father Loves Us,
He Sent His
Only Begotten Son
To Save Us**

-II-

Understanding Redemption In *Ten Simple Steps*



**Because God The Son
Loves His Father
And Also Loves Us, He
Heroically Volunteered To
Be Born A Man, And To
Suffer And Die For Us, So
That Sins Could Be Forgiven**

-III-

Understanding Redemption In *Ten Simple Steps*



**The Powerful Love
Of The Father And The Son
Is Manifest In
God The Holy Spirit,
Who Proceeds From
The Father And The Son**

-IV-

Understanding Redemption In *Ten Simple Steps*



**By The Power Of The Holy
Spirit, And With The
Cooperation Of The Blessed
Virgin Mary, The Divine Son
Of God Became The Man,
Jesus, Complete With
A Human Soul**

-V-

Understanding Redemption In *Ten Simple Steps*



Jesus

**Perfectly Accomplished
His Earthly Mission,
Ending Satan's Dominion,
And Constituting Himself
As The Sinless "Head"
Of All Mankind**

-VI-

Understanding Redemption In *Ten Simple Steps*



**In Christ, Absolution For
Sins And Sanctifying Grace
Became Available To All,
Restoring Man To The
Dignity For Which
He Was Created**

-VII-

Understanding Redemption In *Ten Simple Steps*



**Jesus Established His
Church And Left It Behind
On Earth To Provide
Generations Yet To Come
With The Grace, Guidance,
and Forgiveness Necessary
For Their Own Salvation**

-VIII-

Understanding Redemption In *Ten Simple Steps*



**We Hope To Obtain
Personal Salvation And
Eternal Life Through Faith
In Jesus Christ And By Our
Participation In The Work,
Worship, And Sacraments
Of The Holy Catholic Church**

-IX-

Understanding Redemption In *Ten Simple Steps*



**It Is The Will Of The One
True God, The Father,
Son, And Holy Spirit,
That All Men Be Saved
And That None Perish**

-X-

How Could God's Own Death, At Our Hands, Pay A Debt We Owe To Him? *—part 1 of 10*

- There is something about sin that is totally incompatible with God's Holy nature, and which separates the sinner from God.
- God knew that man would fail and sin, even before He created the world. Knowing this, He still chose to create mankind.
- God loves us enough to allow us the freedom to choose. This is called *free will*. The combination of free will, a physical body, and an eternal soul, makes man unique in all God's creation.
- Man freely and intentionally sinned, causing an immediate loss of God's sanctifying grace, which resulted in (among other things) physical death and spiritual corruption.

How Could God's Own Death, At Our Hands, Pay A Debt We Owe To Him? *—part 2 of 10*

- The way in which man chose to sin placed him under the domination of Satan, severely complicating matters, and making man a slave to evil, both in his earthly existence, and later, after physical death, for an eternity, in hell.
- According to God's justice (and according to the *mystery* of His eternal plan) only a man born without sin could successfully rescue *mankind* from his *decrepit state*.
- Ever since Adam sinned, all of his descendants have inherited (been born in a state of) "*original sin*". So, to this day, all men are born spiritually "dead" and lacking God's grace*.

*except for the Blessed Virgin, Mary and her divine son, Jesus.

How Could God's Own Death, At Our Hands, Pay A Debt We Owe To Him? *—part 3 of 10*

- Without divine intervention, all of mankind would truly be eternally “lost” to sin, death, Satan, and hell.
- Because God loves us and created us to spend eternity with Him in Heaven, He created a woman (The Blessed Virgin, Mary) whom He specially “graced” and preserved from the “stain” of original sin, so she could, in turn, become the mother of the one man who could never be “defiled” by sin of any kind.
- Because God loves us, (and according to His *mysterious*, eternal plan) He chose to send His own divine son, who we know as Jesus Christ, to be born a man, and to be our Redeemer.

How Could God's Own Death, At Our Hands, Pay A Debt We Owe To Him? *—part 4 of 10*

- Jesus volunteered to be our Redeemer because He is obedient to His Father's will and because He loves us.
- Through the power of the Holy Spirit and with the cooperation of the Virgin Mary, Jesus took on flesh, complete with a human soul, and lived a fully human existence in all things, except sin.
 - Because Jesus is truly God, sin is not compatible with His divine nature. Because He is truly man, Jesus was tempted and tested by the same evil that affects all men. Jesus successfully resisted all temptation and lived a perfect, sin-free existence.
- In His perfect, impeccable humanity, Jesus constituted Himself as the new “head” of all mankind ... *the New Adam.*

How Could God's Own Death, At Our Hands, Pay A Debt We Owe To Him? *—part 5 of 10*

- Because Jesus came to vanquish evil, the Devil and his minions did everything they could to destroy Him, beginning with the Slaughter Of The Innocents, at the hands of King Herod, shortly after Jesus was born. (See Matthew 2: 1-18)
- In truth, no one could take the life of the fully human, fully divine and totally sinless Jesus, unless He permitted it. Since death is the result of sin, one without sin is not liable to die.
- Jesus willingly came into the world to be our sacrifice for sin. Only *“in the fullness of time”* ... and exactly as *predestined* by God the Father, would Jesus' eternal destiny come to pass.

How Could God's Own Death, At Our Hands, Pay A Debt We Owe To Him? *—part 6 of 10*

- **That “eternal destiny” is Christ’s perfect human existence, His Passion and death on the Cross, and His glorious Resurrection.**
 - **Through His life, Jesus fulfilled every Messianic Biblical prophecy and revealed many mysteries of God to mankind.**
 - **Jesus demonstrated, for all people and for all generations, exactly how a man could live a life that is totally obedient to the divine will of our Father in Heaven.**
 - **Jesus inaugurated the Kingdom of God on the earth, and demonstrated the supernatural love that God has for mankind ... and the love that all men should have for one another.**

How Could God's Own Death, At Our Hands, Pay A Debt We Owe To Him? *—part 7 of 10*

- **Through His Passion and death, Jesus saved mankind.**
 - ✓ **When Satan and his evil minions willfully and unjustly put Jesus to death, (no one has the right to kill a sinless man, let alone the only begotten Son of God) God's justice demanded that Satan forfeit all the authority he had over the world and over mankind. Subsequently, all power and authority was awarded to Jesus.**
 - ✓ **By choosing, for the benefit of mankind and for the glory of God, to become the new “head” of all mankind, to suffer, and to heroically lay down His life, Jesus made forgiveness for sins available to all, and secured God's eternal favor for all of mankind.**
 - ✓ **Jesus established His Church ... the Holy Catholic Church , as the “ordinary” means for all men to obtain the “fruits” of His singular, holy and eternal sacrifice, and hopefully, to gain eternal life.**

How Could God's Own Death, At Our Hands, Pay A Debt We Owe To Him? *—part 8 of 10*

- **We know all this is true, because Jesus is a real, well documented, historical person, and because God doesn't lie.**
- **Jesus fulfilled every Messianic Bible prophecy, to the letter. No one else has done so, or ever will.**
- **Jesus demonstrated the power of God by His perfect, sinless, earthly existence, by His (truly) charismatic personality, and by His miracles. No one else has done so, or ever will.**
- **Jesus demonstrated His divinity and His mastery over death by His glorious Resurrection. No one else ever rose from the dead by His own power. No one else ever will.**

How Could God's Own Death, At Our Hands, Pay A Debt We Owe To Him? *—part 9 of 10*

- **The only sure way we can receive forgiveness for sins, strive to attain holiness, and hope to gain eternal life, is through grace, faith in Jesus, and active participation in His Church.***
- **One should not expect to have a valid “relationship” with God, unless one is also truly united with His Church.***
- **The miraculous growth and continued existence of Christ's Church, in spite of all the evils that remain in the world, and in spite of the terrible sins of all those who flock to the Church for healing and forgiveness, testify to the awesome power, infinite love, and tender mercies of God.**

***Fortunately, God is not bound by His own laws, and may make exceptions.**

**How Could God's Own Death, At Our Hands,
Pay A Debt We Owe To Him? *—part 10 of 10***

**We will all be judged someday,
by Jesus, Himself.**

**Let us pray that His mercy
exceeds His justice!**

**Because
He Is Man,
The Grace
Jesus
Obtained
For Us
Accrues To
The Benefit
Of All
Mankind**



**Because
He is God,
The Power
And
Efficacy
Of That
Grace Is
Infinite
And
Eternal**

You'll Probably Have A Few Questions.

Go Ahead. Ask Away!

Receive a prompt, personal, confidential answer via E-mail.




***A Safe, Secure, And Thoroughly Catholic Website
With A Host Of Resources, All Designed To
Enhance Your Faith. Try It!***

Prayer To Saint Michael



Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; may God rebuke him, we humbly pray. O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who wander through the world for ruin of souls.

Amen.



**May the
Father and the
Son and the
Holy Spirit
Bless you and
keep you and
grant you
peace.**

**May the
Blessed Virgin
Mary and all
the Angels and
Saints never
fail to
intercede for
you.**

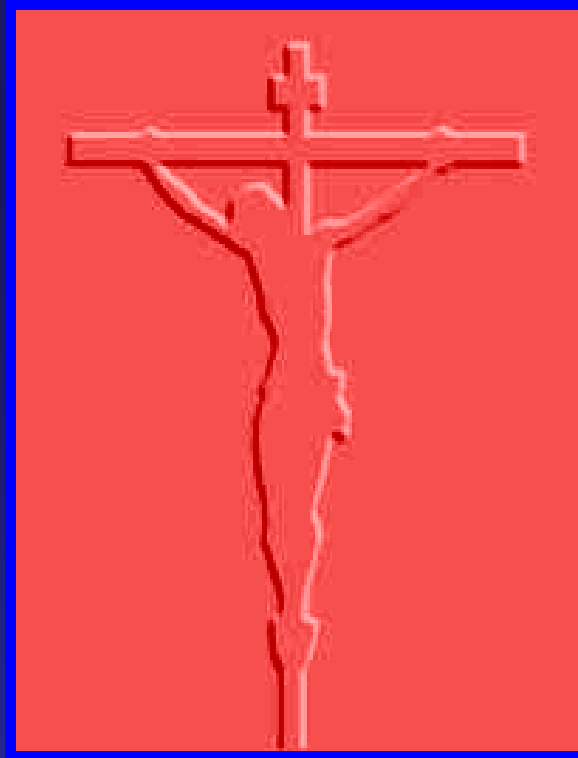
**May the Grace of God lead you, and all those
whom you love, to Heavenly glory.**

And thank you for studying with me! – Larry Douglas

The Passion Behind The Passion

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