

Le Nouvel Esprit:
A Video Series on the Theology of
the Body

TOB 18, General Audience of Feb 13, 1980

Theological Approach

- Gen. 2:25 “naked without shame” reveals the synthetic character of original innocence
 - This synthetic character is the theology of original innocence and original justice through objectivization by metaphysics and metaphysical anthropology
 - John Paul II wants to contrast this approach by taking into account subjectivity in his analyses
 - This approach “seems closer to the original text” of Scripture
- Meaning of synthetic
 - Immanuel Kant, Critique of Pure Reason, Introduction, IV, second edition
 - “Either the predicate B belongs to the subject A, as somewhat which is contained (though covertly) in the conception A; *or the predicate B lies completely out of the conception A, although it stands in connection with it.* In the first instance, I term the judgment analytical, in the second *synthetical*... the former add in the predicate nothing to the conception of the subject, but only analyze it into its constituent conceptions, which were thought already in the subject...; *the latter add to our conceptions of the subject a predicate which was not contained in it, and which no analysis could ever have discovered therein.*”

Spiritualization

- The degree and measure of spiritualization in original innocence is different from original sin
 - This implies that there is another
 - Composition of inner forces
 - Body-soul relation
 - Inner proportion between sensitivity, spirituality and affectivity
 - Degree of inner sensibility for the Holy Spirit's gifts
- Fn 29, teachings about the first parents
 - Council of Trent, de fide: when Adam sinned he lost his original holiness and justice
 - The first parents enjoyed
 - Integral nature
 - Immunity from concupiscence, ignorance, pain, death
 - Unique happiness
 - These gifts were gratuitous and preternatural
 - Preternatural: “beyond what is normal or natural.” Oxford Dictionary

Ethos of the Body

- Matt. 19:4 “Have you not read” is a command to return to the depth of the mystery of creation
 - Goal is to understand the link between original innocence and historical man
- Method is historical a posteriori: to reach the original meaning of the body and grasp the link between it and original innocence through the experience of historical man
 - Goal is to link this to the ethics of the body
- Original innocence implies that the spousal meaning of the body is conditioned ethically and constitutes a future ethics

Concluding Remarks

- God always creates man as male and female, they are always such, TOB 18.4, p. 200
- Gen. 2:24 revealed that man and woman are created for marriage
- Before husband and wife, man and woman came from the mystery of creation first as brother and sister in the same humanity
- The cessation of the reciprocal disinterested gift of self leads to
 - The recognition of being naked
 - The introduction of same within lived experience
- “Original innocence manifests and at the same time constitutes the perfect ethos of the gift.” TOB 18.5 (p. 201)

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