

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

TOB 16, General Audience of Jan. 30, 1980

Irradiation of Love

- All concepts (original happiness, beatification, original nakedness, spousal meaning of the body, etc) are rooted in Divine Love
 - Only Love creates what is good and enjoys the good is the mystery of creation as created by Love
- **Grace**, man is in a special state of spiritualization due to the irradiation of holiness by the Holy Spirit
 - “Adam, son of God”, Luke 3:38
- “Happiness is being rooted in love.” TOB 16.2, (p. 190)
 - Original happiness emerges from love and initiated love
 - Definition of “beginning” as “the original and beatifying immunity from shame as the result of love.” TOB 16:2, (p. 191)

Original Innocence

- Original innocence
 - A mystery belonging to the mystery of creation
 - Before knowledge of good and evil, man is outside of this knowledge
- Creation as gift in its deepest dimension is defined by grace
 - Grace is defined as participation in God's inner life and holiness (cf. TOB 16:3, p. 191)
 - Holiness is the inner source of original innocence and original justice
- The body is an eyewitness to original innocence
 - Naked without shame is evidence
 - Being naked with shame implies the concept of defilement
 - Fn 27: in the Ancient Near East, nakedness meant a loss of freedom, that one was a slave, prisoner or criminal; whereas the more clothing one wore meant the more dignity they possessed
- Original innocence belongs to the grace of the mystery of creation
 - This mystery includes reciprocal, disinterested gift of self, communion of persons, and spousal meaning

Historical Man

- Historical man is not separated from original innocence and knowledge of it
 - Through the experiences of guilt and sin historical man can come to knowledge
 - Shame is a point of departure for discovering this knowledge
- Original innocence
 - Excludes:
 - Shame of the body in the relation between male and female
 - The need of shame in man's heart and conscience
 - Refers to:
 - A state of the heart and conscience
 - Original righteousness

Beatification and Original Innocence

- Historical *a posteriori*:
 - Waldstein's definition in the index: "an account from what is later"
 - Philosophical meaning of *a posteriori*: knowledge obtained through experience
- Original innocence conditions the beatifying consciousness of the spousal meaning of the body
- Original innocence signifies a purity of heart and tranquil witness of conscience
- It is only through this witness of conscience that the consciousness of the spousal meaning of the body can become humanly beatifying

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