

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

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# Genesis 3:16

- The new situation of shame requires us to analyze the entire text of Genesis 3
- Gen. 3:16: “Your desire shall be for your husband, but he will dominate you”
  - Future orientated
  - A fact that becomes clearer in the inner experience of historical man
  - A reduction of woman in comparison with man
    - Not to be interpreted as social inequality
    - To be interpreted as woman feeling the lack of full unity that was originally present in original innocence
  - Man is defined for the first time as husband
- This text indicates a fundamental loss of the original communion of persons as the ground for man’s happiness through the disinterested gift of self
  - The original conjugal union is deformed in the heart of man by concupiscence

# Opposition between the Sexes

- Man and woman are now set against each other because of his masculinity and her femininity
  - This is an estrangement from the body as the source of union
  - Each are now set against each other on the basis of the body and its sex
- This is not a total destruction or exclusion from the conjugal union willed by God, but indicates now that a new alternate direction is possible
  - This new direction is proper to the man of concupiscence
- The man and woman are now threatened by the insatiability of the union
- Sexual shame has its deeper meaning in the failure to satisfy the aspiration to realize in conjugal union the communion of persons

# Shame and Concupiscence

- Sexual shame introduces the threefold concupiscence
  - Concupiscence of the flesh, concupiscence of the eyes, pride of life (Cf. 1 John 2:16-17)
- Domination
  - Is the pride of life
  - A change in the structure of the communion of persons
  - Makes an object out of the person, an object concupiscible for the eyes

# Thank You for Watching

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