

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

TOB 6, General Audience of Oct. 24, 1979

# General Conclusions from Previous Analyses

- Man is a person
- **Subjectivity** characterizes personhood
  - Distinguishing feature of subjectivity: **self-knowledge, self-consciousness, self-determination**
- That man is alone is the situation of **original solitude**
- The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil presents the choice to man to choose to do good or evil, this implies that man is capable of self-determination

# Covenant

- Man is subject to a covenant with God because he is a person
- Since man is a person, he is capable of self-determination
  - This means that man can choose between doing good and evil
  - This capacity places man in a covenant with God
- Man hence is in an unique relationship with God

# Experience of the Body

- Man's experience of his body informs him that he is alone, the subject of original solitude
  - The original solitude of man is the situation from which man's awareness of his body's uniqueness arises
  - Man's visible bodiliness manifests man's uniqueness amongst creation
- Man's body is not like the bodies of animalia, but distinct
- Man's awareness and consciousness of his uniqueness leads to his separation from the rest of animalia

# To Till the Earth

- Until man, no one tilled the earth
- Tilling is how man rules over the earth
- This experience of tilling is intrinsic to original solitude
- Only man can till, only man can work

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