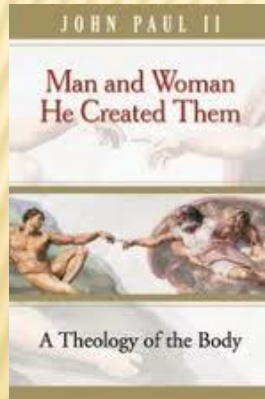


# THEOLOGY OF THE BODY



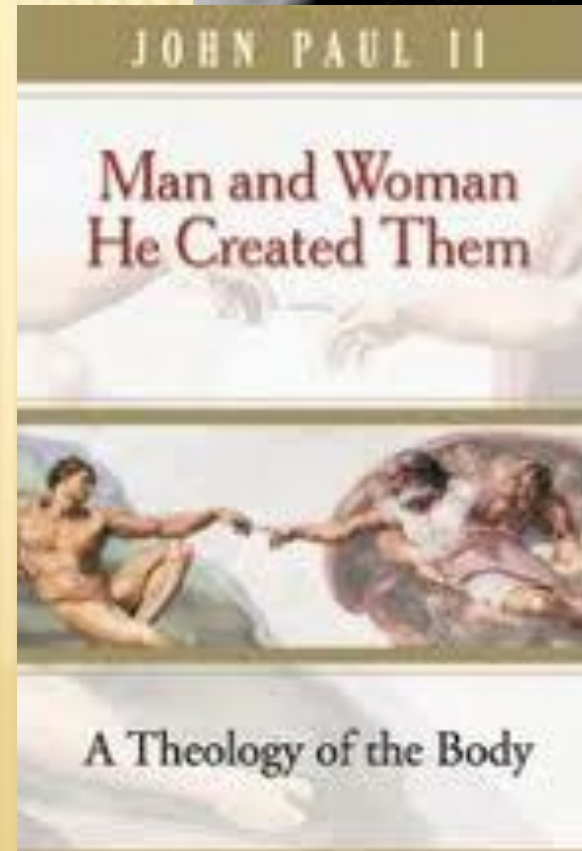
Who is God? Who is Man?

What is the purpose of life? How do we live it?



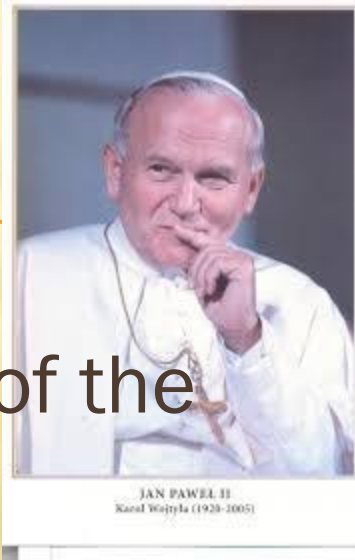
# INTRO TO TOB

- ✘ To understand life and living we must reflect on the **beginning** (O. Plan), **middle** (Historical or Fallen Man) and **end** of life (Resurrection of the Body).
- ✘ Know our deepest desire/fulfillment
- ✘ JP II “If we live according to the truth of our sexuality, we will fulfill the very meaning of our bodies and existence.”
- ✘ The key of TOB is contemplating the Incarnation of Christ...He is how we know our vocation and way of life!





# HISTORY OF JP II & THIS THEOLOGY



- ✗ Personalism, From World War to the war of the heart
- ✗ Dualism/Manichaeism- different forms of body & soul fragmentation
- ✗ *Love and Responsibility*
- ✗ *Theology of the Body*- 129 Audiences



# CHRIST'S WORDS

## APPEAL TO THE "BEGINNING"

- ✘ Jesus said in Mt 19:8 "...Because of the hardness of your heart Moses allowed you to divorce you wives, but from the beginning it was not so."
- ✘ Gen 1:27 "God created man in his image; in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them."



# MAN'S "ORIGINAL EXPERIENCE": O. SOLITUDE, O. UNITY, O. NAKEDNESS

Gen 2:18 "It is not good that the man should be alone;  
I want to make him a helper similar to himself."

Gen 2:25 "Now both were naked...but they did not feel  
shame."

✘ "...seeing and knowing each other in **all the peace and tranquility of the interior gaze**, they  
"communicate"...communion of persons in which they  
become a mutual gift for each other, through femininity  
and masculinity."(TOB 13:1)



- ✘ Solitude
- ✘ Unity and Indissolubility
- ✘ Image and likeness of God
- ✘ Being as Gift
- ✘ Spousal Meaning of the Body
- ✘ Original Innocence



# MAN IN THE DIMENSION OF GIFT

- ✘ **Body as Gift:** “The body, which expresses femininity ‘for’ masculinity and, vice versa...a witness to creation as a fundamental gift, and therefore a witness to Love as the source from which this same giving springs.”(TOB 14:4)
- ✘ “Man is the only creature in the visible world that God willed ‘for its own sake,’ adding that this man cannot ‘fully find himself except through a sincere gift of self’ (Gaudium et Spes 24:3)”(TOB 15:1)



# KNOWLEDGE AND PROCREATION



- ✘ Gen4:1 “Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, ‘I have gotten a man with the help of the Lord.’”
- ✘ “Procreation brings it about that ‘the man and the woman (his wife)’ know each other reciprocally in the ‘third,’ originated by both.”(TOB 21:4)



# HISTORICAL/FALLEN MAN



- ✘ Gen 3:1-5 "...the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.'"

“By casting doubt in his heart on the deepest meaning of the gift, that is, on love as the specific motive of creation and of the original covenant, man turns his back on God-Love, on the ‘Father.’ He in some sense casts him from his heart.”(TOB 26:4)



- ✘ Taking vs. receiving
- ✘ Shame, fear, guilt, mistrust
- ✘ Rupture of relationship between: God and man, man and woman, soul and body
- ✘
- ✘ What image of God are we projecting?



# SLIDE ON SHAME MAYBE?

- ✗ “Shame has...a dual significance: it means flight, the endeavor to conceal sexual values so that they do not obscure the values of the person as such, but it also means the longing to inspire or experience love.” (LR 182)...(may be a key in to b)
- ✗ Use vs. Love
- ✗ Fragmented way of seeing
- ✗ Fragmented relationships:
  - + W/God and with man and woman



# CHRIST APPEALS TO THE HEART



- ✘ Mt 5:27-28 “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I say to you: Whoever looks at a woman to desire her (in a reductive way) has already committed adultery with her in his heart.”
- ✘ Heart accused or called?
- ✘ “Should we fear the severity of these words or rather have confidence in their salvific content, in their power?”(TOB 43:7)
- ✘ He wants your heart!
- ✘ Life of offense!





# LIFE IN THE SPIRIT: PURITY OF HEART



- ✘ Ethos of redemption: life according to the Spirit
  - + Freedom from the dominance of concupiscence
- ✘ Unlike the Pharisees, outward acts with unconverted hearts/souls
- ✘ harmony of body and soul
- ✘ Law written on hearts



# ALL CREATION GROANS WITH BIRTH-PAINS...ROM 8?–HOPE

- ✘ Romans 8:23 “We ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for...the redemption of our bodies...”
- ✘ Struggle with concupiscence. Battle & Mastery.
- ✘ Man finds himself in tension between here and the cosmos.
- ✘ “Already but not yet”.





# CHRIST APPEALS TO THE RESURRECTION

- ✘ Mt 22:30 “In the resurrection they take neither wife nor husband, but are like angels in heaven”
- ✘ (JPII)“...the rediscovery of a new, perfect intersubjectivity of all..the definitive fulfillment of the ‘spousal’ meaning of the body.”(TOB 68:4)
- ✘ “Eschatological virginity”-union with God and saints
- ✘ Divinization of the body



# CONTINENCE FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD

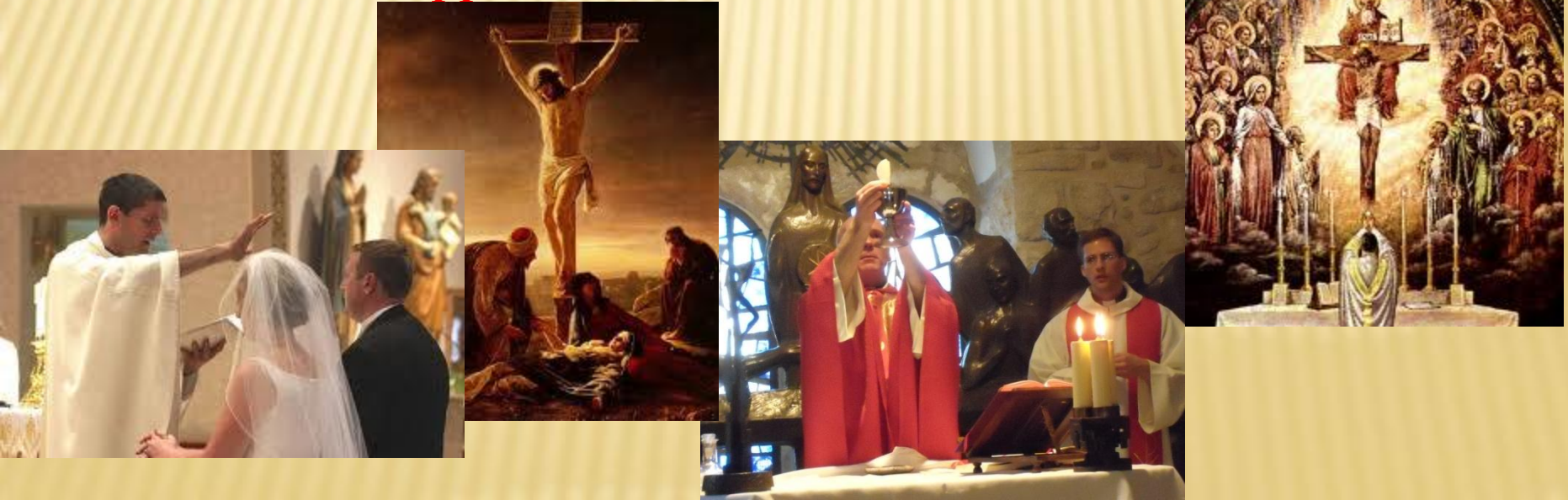
- ✘ Mt 19:11-12 “...there are others who made themselves eunuchs for the kingdom of heaven. Let anyone understand this who can.”
- ✘ Virginity/Celibacy for the Kingdom & Spousal meaning of the Body
- ✘ “...**Christ’s words in Mt 19:11-12 show accordingly that this, ‘for,’ which has been present ‘from the beginning’ at the basis of marriage, can also stand at the basis of continence ‘for’ the kingdom of heaven!...** to renounce freely such a gift of self to another person, in order that by choosing continence ‘for the kingdom of heaven’ he may give himself totally to Christ....the love that commits man for his whole life...”(TOB 80:6)
- ✘ I Cor 7:32 “...The unmarried man is anxious about the affairs of the Lord, how to please the Lord...”





# THE SACRAMENT-COVENANT AND GRACE

- ✘ Eph 5:21-33 “...For this reason a man will leave his father and his mother and unite with his wife, and the two will form one flesh. **This mystery is great; I say this with reference to Christ and the Church.**”
- ✘ “...marriage...emerges from the mystery of God’s eternal love for man and humanity: from the salvific mystery that Christ’s spousal love fulfills in time for the Church.”(TOB 90:4)
- ✘ “**Christian spouses are therefore the permanent reminder to the Church of what happened on the cross.**” (FC 48/49)



# “FOR..BOTH MARRIAGE AND CONTINENCE...”

(FURTHER STUDY ON EPH 5 AS THE FOUNDATION FOR BOTH CELIBACY FOR THE KINGDOM AND SACRAMENTAL MARRIAGE)





# DIMENSIONS OF THE SIGN

- ✘ I Cor. 6:20. “Glorify God in your bodies!”
- ✘ Language of the Body in Truth- Freedom
- ✘ Body as sacrament: potential to reveal God!
- ✘ Spousal meaning of the body
- ✘ **Sign of Marriage Vows & Prophetism of the Body:**  
“...rereading the perennial ‘language of the body,’ form a sign, an unrepeatable sign, which also has a future-orientation meaning, ‘all the days of my life,’ that is, until death. This is the visible and efficacious sign of the covenant with God in Christ, that is, of grace, which is to become their portion in this sign as ‘their own gift’...”(534)

# WHAT IS SACRAMENT AND WHAT IS LANGUAGE OF THE BODY & LANGUAGE OF LITURGY

- ✘ Song of Songs: “My sister, my bride.”-Woman, garden enclosed-Master of her own Mystery.
- ✘ Tobias’ way and prayer
- ✘ Language of body in truth
- ✘ Woman’s body compared to man’s body: parts enclosed vs. parts outside...





# LAW OF LIFE-HUMANE VITAE



- ✗ Natural Order of creation and of the person not to be violated
- ✗ Sexual act: Life and Love
- ✗ Wholeness of person not parts.
- ✗ Does contraception in marriage live the vows: total, free, faithful, fruitful?
- ✗ Love vs. Use
- ✗ Manipulation of God's creation vs. obedience and fulfillment of his design.
- ✗ Sexual act mean? Fulfillment of wedding vow?
- ✗ Ex. Nature of eating food & why sinful to abuse this
- ✗ In vitro, sterilization, etc.
- ✗ All is gift; we receive all and don't have "rights" to all things.
- ✗ Not parts that can be manipulated- we are whole and need to live and be treated as such.
- ✗ Always keeping in mind that we are meant to be living images of God in everything we do.
- ✗ I Cor. 6:20. "Glorify God in your bodies!"

# THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

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- ✘ You are your body; what you do really matters not only in this life but has implications for eternity. (Are we living the path to eternity?)
- ✘ We are not the sum total of our “parts” but we are whole persons that can’t be seen as parts to be manipulated or used.”



# THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

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- ✘ “Trinitarian Love is the reason why we long for communion. It is the reason why we want to be near to the ones we love, why we want our families to be happy and when we are left out or ignored, why it hurts. We are made in family and for family. We are made in self-giving love and for self-giving love. This reality of authentic love is why the cheap counterfeit will never satisfy. No matter what the world says- endless lustful encounters will never satisfy, they will only destroy. Money, power, and fame will never fill that which the heart truly longs...”Sr. Miriam James Heidland