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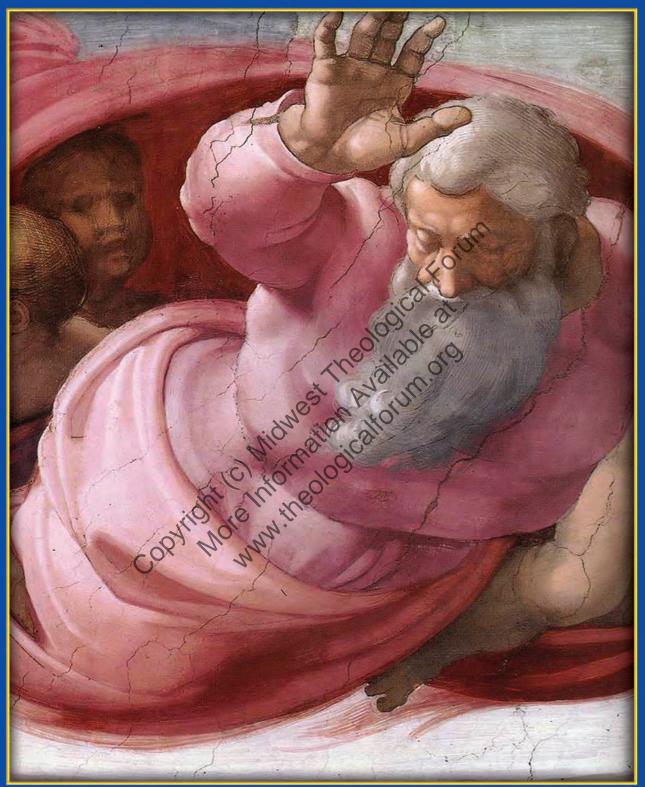
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The Church

CHAPTER 1



God Prepares the Way for His Church in the Old Testament

Beginning with Adam and Eve, God gradually unfolded his plan of salvation to the world.

CHAPTER PLANNING GUIDE

LESSON	OBJECTIVES	OPENING & CLOSING ACTIVITIES	GUIDED EXERCISES	HOMEWORK
Introductory Lesson	Learning Experience Course goals and instructional procedures			 Reading Read Chapter 1 through Creation Is Made for Man (pp. 2–5) We Were Made for Communion with God (pp. 5–6)
Man's Vocation from the Beginning (pp.2–6)	 Learning Experience The Church as present in creation from the beginning God's creative act Man's vocation 	Anticipatory Set Partner Work: Extraordinary claims by the Church? (p. 3) Closure Paragraph summary on man as pinnacle of God's creation (p. 5) Alternative Assessment Free Write on man as the image of God (p. 5) Anticipatory Set Opening (Prayer /	 Free Write The question the student knows the most about (p.2) Graphic Organizer The perfect structure of creation in Genesis (p. 4) Parmet Work Bullet-point summary of "image of God" (p. 5) Hull 	 Textbook Study Questions 1–4 (p. 32) Workbook Questions 1–7, 28 Reading God Prepares His People for the Church (p. 6) Sidebar: The Saints: St. Irenæus of Lyons (p. 7) The Covenant of Creation (p.8) Adam's Disobedience (pp.8–9) A Plan for Restoration (p.9–10)
The Covenants with Adam and Noah (pp. 6–10)	 Learning Experience God's covenants in the history of salvation The covenant with Adam Original Sin and the <i>Protoevangelium</i> The covenant with Noah 	Anticipatory Set Dening (Prayer / Discussion: The second creation account (p. 6) Closure Paragraph summary of God's covenant with Adam and its outcome (p. 9) Alternative Assessment Class Discussion on why God created man (p. 9)	 Focused Reading St. Irenæus on covenants (p. 7) Think/Pair/Share Whether history confirms Genesis on man's dominion (p. 6) Christ and the Genesis serpent (p. 9) 	Textbook Study Questions S-10 (p. 32) Workbook Questions 8-11 Reading God Calls Abram (pp. 10-11) Abraham, Our Father in Faith (pp. 11-12) Abraham's Obedience (p. 12) A Blessing for All Nations (pp. 13-14)



Holy Trinity (detail) by Balen. The Church founded by Christ is known as the Family of God, the People of God, the Mystical Body of Christ, the Kingdom of Heaven, the Temple of the Holy Spirit, the Bride of Christ, the Sacramer of Salvation, and by many more names, each of which illuminates specific aspects of the Church's nature.

Like the dual nature of Christ himself—true God and true man—the Church has two distinct nature of the Specific difference of the Church is a divine institution. As a community, into which individuals are incorporated through Baptism, the Church also has a human dimension. In order to better understand the nature of the Church, therefore, we need to go back to the very beginning of the human story of see have of prepared his people for the coming of Christ and the establishment of his Church. IN THIS CHAPTER, WE WILL ADDRESS SEVERA OUESTIONS: Why were we created? How did God prepare his people for the Church? How was the Church foreshadowed in the Old Testament? What is the meaning of *covenant*? What covenants did God establish with the bradites? What were the primary feature of the Ord Testament covenant, and

- + What were the primary features of the ord Testamen Covenant, and how did these features point the w he New Covenant?

Chapter One 3

FORUM

FOCUS QUESTIONS

What are some of the names of the Church?

The Family of God, the People of God, the Mystical Body of Christ, the Kingdom of Heaven, the Temple of the Holy Spirit, the Bride of Christ, and the Sacrament of Salvation.

What makes the Church entirely Christ-centered?

Apart from her communion in Christ and her intimate sharing in the Divine Life of the Blessed Trinity, the Church has no life.

What are the two natures of the Church?

The Church is a divine institution as the Mystical Body of Christ. She is also a human institution, incorporating men into herself through Baptism.

Man's Vocation from the Beginning (pp. 2-6)

LESSON OBJECTIVES

- The Church as present in creation from the beginning
- God's creative act
- Man's vocation

BASIC QUESTIONS

- Why do we go back to God's creative act to understand the Church?
- What does the creation account. in Genesis tell us about creation and man's place in it?
- Ukhat is man's original vocation in relationship to God?

KEY IDEAS

- Because God had the Church in mind from all eternity and gradually unfolded her meaning, it is necessary to study God's plan for creation from the beginning.
- God created the universe as a perfect work with man as its pinnacle, creating him in God's own image.
- Man's primeval vocation is communion with God in a filial relationship.

ANTICIPATORY SET

Have the students work with a partner to identify some of the seemingly extraordinary claims that Christians make for the Church, based on CCC 760.

- God created the world for the sake of the Church.
- The Church is the goal of all things.
- The Church is the salvation of all men

FOCUS QUESTIONS

- How did God bring creation into being? By the power of his Word.
- □ In Sacred Scripture, what does the number three connote?

Perfection or completeness.

Uky does the creation story divide the act of creation into two corresponding three-day periods?

It is a way of saying that the act of creation was complete and perfect.

Ukhat forms are created on the first three days?

(1) day and night, (2) sky and sea, and (3) dry land and plants.

What rules over day and night?

The sun and moon.

Ukhat rules over sky and sea?

Birds and fish.

Ukat rules over dry land and plants?

Animals and man.

What rules over everything in creation? Man.



God Creating the Sun, the Moon and the Stars by Brue Greated in communion with him. Adam and Eve would enjoy an intimate friendship with God adise that he had created for them.

CREATION IS MADE FOR MAN

In the beginning God created the heavens anothe earth. (Gn 1:1)

These opening verses from the Boo Genesis Gate God's great work of creation. We see that the universe was formless and void in Beginnic, that God brought all creation into being by the power of his Word.

a divided ha two corresponding groups of three days. Throughout Scripture, The six days that follow Tection Completeness. Here, the Sacred Author uses the number the number three is use three to signify the perfection s creation.

shape to the world, overcoming its formlessness and creating the In the first set of t d gay forms that we

od com Dight and separated it from the darkness, calling one "day" hight " (os 1: 3-5) nd day (he separated the waters, forming the "sky" and the "sea." (Gn 1: 6-8)

created "dry land" and gave life to the "plants and vegetation."

eoof three days, God filled the world with the life that will rule over the forms that he

the fourth day, God created the "sun and moon" to rule over the "day and night." (Gn 1:14-19)

On the fifth day, he called forth "birds and fish" to rule over "sky and sea." (Gn 1: 20-23) On the sixth day, he created "animals" to rule over the "dry land." (Gn 1:24-25)

4 Chapter One

viic

GRAPHIC ORGANIZER

Have the students complete the following table to better see the structure of the creation story in Genesis.

Day	Creation of Forms	Day	Creation of Life to Rule over Forms
1	Created light and separated day and night	4	Created the sun and moon to rule over the day and night
2	Separated the waters, creating sky and sea	5	Created birds and fish to rule over the sky and sea
3	Created dry land and gave life to plants	6	Created animals and man to rule over the dry land and plants

God Prepares the Way 4 for His Church

By dividing the act of creation into these two corresponding groups of three-day periods, the creation story is telling us that the act of creation was complete and perfect. However, at this point in Scripture, the purpose of God's creation had not yet been revealed. Finally, God added one last creature to his new world.

God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. (Gn 1:26-27)

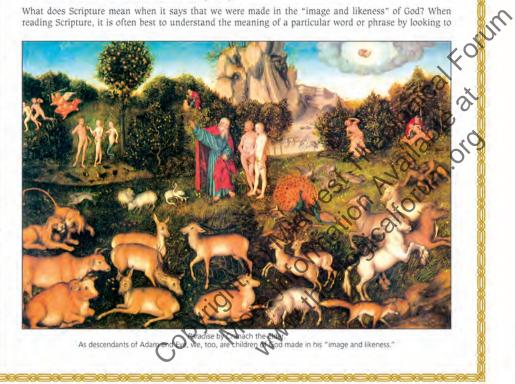
By creating Adam and Eve, and placing them over his creation, God was not only creating caretakers or stewards for his new world. Instead, God made man and woman in his "own image," endowing them with the ability to understand, to make choices, and to love. Created in communion with him, Adam and Eve would enjoy an intimate friendship with God in the paradise that he had created for them. The world had been created for mankind, and mankind had been created for God.

The imago Dei consists in man's fundamental orientation to God, which is the basis of human dignity and of the inalienable rights of the human person. Because every human being is an Image of God, he cannot be made subservient to any this-worldly system or finality. His sovereignty within the cosmos, his capacity for social existence, and his knowledge and love of the Creator-all are rooted in man's being made in the image of God.7

WE WERE MADE FOR COMMUNION WITH GOD

God, infinitely perfect and blessed in himself, in a plan of sheer goodness freely created man to make him share in his own blessed life. (CCC 1)

What does Scripture mean when it says that we were made in the "image and likeness" of God? When reading Scripture, it is often best to understand the meaning of a particular word or phrase by looking to



Chapter One 5

FOCUS QUESTIONS

- According to CCC 1, why did God create man? To make him share in God's own blessed life.
- What does "image and likeness" mean when it is used in relation to Seth? Seth received his nature from Adam his father.
- U What does this tell us "image and likeness" means in relation to Adam? Adam received his nature from God. Unlike the rest of creation, Adam was a beloved son of the Father.

GUIDED EXERCISE

Have the students work with a **partner** to create a bullet-point list of ideas that "created in the image of God" means.

- The ability to understand, to make choices, and to love.
- Intimate friendship with God.
- Created for God.
- Fundamental orientation to God, which is the basis of human dignity and of the inalienable rights of the human person.
- Non-subservience to any worldly system or finality.
- Sovereignty within the cosmos, capacity for social existence, and knowledge and love of the Creator.

CLOSURE

Have the students write a **paragraph** explaining how man is the pinnacle of God's creative act, according to Genesis.

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT

- □ Study Questions 1–4 (p. 32)
- □ Workbook Questions 1–7, 28
- Read "God Prepares His People for the Church" through "A Plan for Restoration" (pp. 6–10)

ALTERNATIVE ASSESSMENT

Have the students choose one of the bullet-points from the guided exercise (p.5) on man's creation in the image of God and **free write** for a few minutes on it, going deeper into the meaning of that idea.

Briefly share results.