

Bible Basics for Catholics

Hostess Answer Key



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Chapter 1: Setting the Son in the Garden

Review Questions

1. How is God's creation like the tabernacle and the temple?

P. 20: the language of creation resembles the language of Moses building the Tabernacle in the wilderness. (Compare Gen 2:1-2 with Exodus 39:32,42-43.)

P. 20: Some Scriptures speak of the creation as a temple (Ps.78:69; Ps 148)

P.20: In other ancient writings from about the same period time as Genesis, it is clear that people considered the whole universe a kind of temple for worship of God (or Gods). It was a common idea in ancient times.

Additional notes:

2. Why is it important to understand Adam's roles as first born Son, Priest, King, Prophet, and Bridegroom?

Son(Daughter) P. 26. All of us are called to be sons or daughters of God, and therefore Kings (Queens), priests, prophets and bridegrooms(brides).

For further reference: see Catechism of the Catholic church paragraph 901-913.

Priest: P. 27-28. A natural priesthood flows from our status as children of God. A priest makes sacrifices to God. The sacrifice each one of us Christians offers is our own life.

We also offer a priestly self-sacrifice at every Mass - when the bread and wine are brought forward and blessed by the priest to become the Body and Blood of Jesus. The unblessed bread and wine represent the entire lives of the laypeople, or "common" priests. The "ministerial" priest then takes that bread and wine - our very lives - and calls down the Holy Spirit so that it becomes for us the Body and Blood of Jesus. Our lives are united to Christ, our many small sacrifices to his great Sacrifice.

King: p. 26. Like Adam, we are to become Kings. The kind of kingship Jesus wants us to have is kingship over ourselves, over sin and over Satan. No one even starts to be a real King unless he can rule himself. Jesus came to give us that power and authority to become kings over ourselves and then extend that reign over our homes, our jobs, and our families.

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Review Question 2 Continued

Prophet: P. 28. God calls us (through Baptism) to be prophets, that is to speak God's word to the world. Every time we share God's truth with our children, spouse, friend, co-worker, stranger on the bus, we are fulfilling our prophetic calling.

Bridegroom (Bride) P. 28-29. Like Adam, we are intended for relationship with another person, or perhaps FOR another Person. It's not that each one of us is called to marriage in this life. Each one of us is called to "nuptiality", a theological term for the real meaning behind marriage. Each one of us is intended for a relationship with another person, so intimate that the bible uses the language of marriage. That relationship is with Christ. A marriage between Christian spouses gives us a glimpse of what awaits us in heaven. Our relationship with Christ in heaven will be much more blessed than even the best marriage on earth (1 Cor 2:9). Not only that, but this relationship begins NOW. If we let go of our sins, we begin to taste the sweetness of that communion with Jesus already in this life.

Additional notes:

3. Describe the features of Eden that marked it as the “original sanctuary”.

P. 29-32:

- A mountain (highest point on earth)
- a river (important in many parts of Scripture)
- precious stones and gold (Genesis 2:11-12)
- presence of tree: Tree of Life and Tree of knowledge of Good and Evil
- Angel (Cherubim)
- Adam and Eve

Ancient readers knew that Eden was the model for temple building. Many temples throughout the ancient world were built and decorated to look like the original divine garden.

Additional notes:

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Chapter One Discussion Questions

1. What is something you learned about the “meaning of life”?
 2. How can a deeper understanding about who you are called to be impact your daily life?
 3. What things in nature bring to mind the presence of God for you?

Additional Notes:

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Chapter 2

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Chapter 2: Washing Up and Starting Over

Review Questions

1. Why is it significant that God himself clothed Adam and Eve after the fall?

It shows God's mercy: He is a loving God in addition to one who requires an accounting for sin.

What is significant about the way he clothed them?

P. 35-36.

Animal skins have to come from somewhere. You can't get skins without killing an animal, which points out an interesting aspect of the story. God told Adam and Eve that they would die when they ate the fruit. But they don't die. Something else dies in their place, and they are clothed in the skin of the dead animal. We don't know what animal or animals died and gave its skin to Adam and Eve.

But it's often thought to be a lamb, based on biblical imagery. There is a foreshadowing going on here. When he clothed Adam and Eve in the skin of the dead lamb, God is pointing forward to what will have to happen for Adam and Eve's disobedience to be completely fixed. A different Lamb of God is going to have to die to take away the sins of the world and clothe humans in His righteousness.

Additional notes:

2. Why is polygamy outside of God's plan?

P. 37.

These "notorious" descendants of these polygamous relationships seem to offend God, and the reason may have a common sense explanation. Polygamous fathers have too many sons to properly parent. Wild fatherless sons grow up to be a danger to other people and lead a society into chaos. Such chaos is described in Genesis 6: 5: "the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually."

Additional notes:

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3. How is the Noahic covenant a renewal of the Adamic covenant?

What is the significance of this Covenant?

P. 40

Earlier in Genesis 9, God spoke to Noah and his sons using words we have heard before:

And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them, space be fruitful and multiply, and fill the Earth. The fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth, and upon every bird of the air, and upon everything that creeps on the ground and all the fish of the sea semicolon into your hand they are delivered. Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you semicolon and as I gave you the green plants, I give you everything... And you, be fruitful and multiply, bringing forth abundantly on the earth and multiply in it." Genesis 9:1-7

All this language recalls Genesis 1 and God's original covenant relationship with Adam. So we can say that this covenant with Noah is, in a sense, a renewal of the covenant with Adam. Only things are not quite as good anymore: for example, now there is a fear between man and animals. Despite the imperfections the covenant with Noah brings us hope. Although the world is not perfect, humanity (Noah and his family) is back in a relationship with God. The flood is a recreation, and Noah, the new Adam.

Additional notes:

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Chapter Two Discussion Questions

1. When in the garden with Adam and eve, the snake cast doubt on the trustworthiness of God. Can you think of any doubts or lies the enemy is presenting to you about the Father's love for you and his desire for you to flourish?

2.What are your observations on today's breaking away from God's plan for marriage and it's effect on society?

Additional notes: