

THE PRESENCE OF JESUS TO US IS SACRAMENT

SESSION TWO

Session Two: The better to appreciate the relationship between God and ourselves, our youth will have an appreciation of who God is and to what degree we depend upon God as humans.

TIME As human beings, we are creatures of time. Time may be defined as:

The Measure of Created Motion According to a "before" and an "after

- The earth revolves on its axis once. This duration we call a day. 7 of these are a week (Based on the seven days of creation). 52 weeks are a year. 10 years a decade 100 a century, a thousand – a millennium.
- Time is the measure of created motion according to a before or after. There is no instant replay in time.
- However, God created that which moves to make time.
- Therefore while eternity for human beings eternity is endless successive Time, Eternity for God is total and simultaneous possession of unending life.

Implications of this are profound:

- Everything that we experience moment by moment by moment, God has present to Himself in one ETERNAL NOW. God knows the whole of my life – start to finish
- God – knowing me and my life in its totality from all eternity, looked at the whole of it, liked what He saw, and decided to call me into being. Each of us can say, then, and know it is true, that God knowing my strengths and weaknesses, my life from beginning to end - God gave me the gift of life.
- I know for certain then: I AM LOVED WITH AN EVERLASTING LOVE.
- Again, creation is not a date on an ancient calendar – an event of the past.
- Creation is an on-going process.
- Just as the glass I am holding will remain aloft as long as I hold it in my hand – were I to let go for a fraction of a second – it would tumble to the ground; so too my being will stay in existence only for so long as God sustains me in being. Were God to "let go" for an instant, I would fall back into nothingness.

The Scriptures say this very profoundly:

"In God, we live, and move, and have our being." (Acts 17:28)

"A thousand years in your sight are as yesterday which is "past." (Psalm 90, vs. 4)

GOD & TIME In becoming one of us – for all of us – the Eternal God had to Somehow work His presence into a human life time's length and then come up with a way to be present thereafter.

- THE HUMAN LIFE TIME PROBLEM, the eternal God by "squeezing" into time at a particular point, in a particular place, to a particular nation, family, time and way.
- Jesus was born of Mary in 4 BC and came into our world for a period of some thirty years, preached the last three, was crucified, died, buried and rose again.
- THE WAY TO BE PRESENT THEREAFTER, Jesus solved by creating a community to continue His Presence till the end of time as SACRAMENT – that is "Sign of God's Presence and Action in our world."

Using the creative power given us, as members of the Community Jesus founded we are called to put meaning into our lives individually and as a group walking to the beat of a different drummer, we are formed by the legacy that sees life as Gift of the God become one of us, who modeled how it is to be lived for others, told us it is to last forever.

So doing, we will say to all the world – the God who speaks to you in the depths of your hearts of His care and love for you should indeed be taken seriously in ways that seem most apt for you.

And so doing, the Presence of God continues sacramentally in the world and commands respect for the God who made us all.