

Lesson 7

Please read paragraphs 355-421 and then answer the following questions:

1. What are some of the characteristics which distinguish man from all other earthly creatures? (#'s 355-361) In what ways do people in our society today fail to uphold the uniqueness and the dignity of the human person?
2. Why would the Church consider racism a sin? (Base your answer on what is said in #'s 360-361.)
3. Some say that Christians consider the human body to be evil or "dirty". Usually this is said in relation to Church teaching on human sexuality. But what actually is the Church's understanding of the human body? (#'s 362-364)
4. Our society today pits men and women against one another in a struggle for power and domination. Why is this wrong, from a Catholic perspective? What is God's will concerning interpersonal relationships between men and women? (#'s 369-373)
5. How does our own everyday experience as human beings "verify" the doctrine of original sin? (See #'s 374-379; then look at #400.)
6. Read # 387. What are some of the more common ways that people try to "explain away" their sins?
7. If the angels were all created by God, and everything God created was "good", where did Satan come from? (# 391)
8. What is the difference between the sin of the fallen angels and the serious sins that people commit during their lives on this earth? (#'s 392-393)
9. In the movies, God and Satan are often portrayed as opposite forces of equal power. Why is this perspective wrong? (# 395)
10. How would you define "*original sin*"? (# 404)
11. Which has a more pessimistic view of the present condition of human nature, Catholicism or Protestantism? (#'s 405-406)
12. In # 407 we are told that "*ignorance of the fact that man has a wounded nature inclined to evil gives rise to serious errors in the areas of education, politics, social action, and morals.*" Where do you see this truth verified?
13. What is the "*protoevangelium*"? (#410) Where is this text in Scripture?