

3 – The Bible

The story of salvation, which we profess in the Creed, is The Greatest Story Ever Told.

That great story assures us that there is a purpose to life and a reason for our own lives.

It tells us that we aren't merely spectators to the passage of time.

From the beginning of history when our first parents rebelled against God, through the Death and Resurrection of his Son, Jesus, God has been writing his plan of salvation.

We each have God-given roles to play in that story and if we refuse God's loving invitation, the entire world is poorer.

The reality is that God's story of love isn't complete without each one of us.

The Story of Creation has 3 main parts

Creation

The fall

Redemption

CREATION

God, who is infinitely perfect and happy in himself, freely created man to make him share his own goodness and love

CREATION

God is the Creator of heaven and earth

Meaning he created all things that are seen and those unseen

Seen – the material world, universe, galaxies, the world, animals and plants, and human beings.

Unseen – Angels and the human soul

God made all things from nothing.

CREATION

Genesis 1:26-27

Then 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.**

CREATION

Human beings are creatures composed of body and soul, made to the image and likeness of God.

God's greatest powers are to *know* and to *love*. He has these powers without limit. He gave us a share in these great powers.

How else are we made in the image and likeness of God?

CREATION

Originally, we were united with God (on the vertical level)
and experienced harmony within the human family (on the horizontal level).
Humanity was the united family of God reflecting the unity of God
himself

THE FALL

Genesis 2:16-17

And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

THE FALL

Genesis 2:16-17

"Did God say, `You shall not eat of any tree of the garden'?"

And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden; but God said, `You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'"

But 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."

THE FALL

Man and woman sinned, disobeying God and refusing to give themselves in love

THE FALL

This sin broke our relationship with God and broke the harmony between man and woman.

Because of the Sin of Adam and Eve we come into the world without grace.

This is called original sin.

Through baptism we are filled with grace and God's divine life, but we still have to work to get rid of our selfishness.

This Original Sin also brought death into the world and wounded our human nature, leaving us with an inclination toward sin, called concupiscence,

Adam and Eve misused the powers God gave them. They loved themselves more than God. They wanted to have the power and knowledge that God has.

Isn't the desire to be like God the root of all sin?

Original sin

Actual sin

Actual sin is any willful thought, desire, word, action or omission forbidden by the law of God.

Mortal Sin

Grievous offense which takes away the life of the soul

Venial Sin

Less serious offence and wounds our relationship with God

REDEMPTION

God sent his Son Jesus Christ to die for our sins,
offering on our behalf the perfect gift of love
that restores us to the Father, and to send the Holy Spirit to fill us with
his very life

REDEMPTION

God did not abandon man after Adam and Eve fell into sin.

Genesis 3:15

“I will put enmity between you and the woman and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head and you shall bruise His heel”

This coming Seed that will crush the head of Satan was promised by God. From this point on, we see in Scripture and understand our true need for the Messiah, Jesus Christ.

Image of Mary

REDEMPTION

Jesus became incarnate, in the flesh, entering His creation
to show us how to love

He shows us how to much He loved His father so that we would love
the Father that way too.

Jesus died for our sins

Jesus rose from the dead so that we might rise

REDEMPTION

The Cross is our Tree of Life

After the fall, Adam and Eve were cast out of the Garden of Eden, and lost access not just to the tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, but to the Tree of Life.

Jesus has made the Cross a new Tree of Life so that we can get back again the life of grace that Adam and Eve lost for us by refusing the first Tree of Life.

REDEMPTION

Christ rose from the dead, glorious and immortal, on Easter Sunday, the third day after His death.

Christ ascended, body and soul, into heaven.

Jesus established the universal “Catholic” Church to gather the broken family of man into the united family of God

The Catholic Church passes on the teachings of Christ and, through the sacraments, dispenses the graces he won for us on the Cross to enable us to live like Christ on earth and with him forever in Heaven

