

Understanding Everyone's Story (a.k.a. Salvation History)

In Light of John Paul II's *Theology of the Body*

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Into the Deep
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HERE is the ULTIMATE VICTORY

Total **BODY-SOUL** mystical **UNION** of LOVE with God & the entire **CommUNION** of Saints for **LIFE-eternal** in Heaven (!!!)

It's our choice:

to be **UNITED** to God or be forever **DIVIDED**. Remember: **BODY & SOUL** are **reUNITED** at the end of time but you choose to be with Him or not (your actions express your heart).

HAPPINESS

(or tragedy)

EVER AFTER

It's all in the story

It is *good* that

YOU ARE HERE

(along with everyone else)

HERE is the ONGOING BATTLE to CHOOSE LOVE over SIN

BODY-SOUL strength & **LIFE-giving UNION** with God & others is constantly offered through:

- + spouses, family, friends & **commUNITY**
- + the founding of **ONE** (meant to be unified) Church
- + the **BODY-SOUL** effectiveness of the 7 Sacraments
- + the **gifts** of the Holy Spirit
- + prayer (**commUNICation** with God from the heart)

THE RESCUE

HERE the HERO SAVES HIS BRIDE FROM DEATH

Jesus suffers in **BODY & SOUL** to atone for our **physical & spiritual sins**. Our **whole person** is redeemed by God's total **gift of self**:

LOVE is poured out on the cross to heal all forms of **DIVISION**, making **UNION** with God (**LIFE** in Heaven) possible again!

HERE the ENEMY ATTEMPTS to DIVIDE US FROM GOD

Original sin results when doubt is cast upon **LOVE** (God): Adam & Eve choose their own way over God's **gift**.

This **DIVISION** from **LIFE-giving LOVE** (i.e. **death**) affects us all.

We struggle in **BODY & SOUL** with disabilities, disease, disorders, vices, etc.

The serpent is still subtle & we wander, but we are **not defined by our sins or flaws**. We never stop yearning for God (nor He for us).

THE FALL

HERE the LOVE STORY BEGINS

LOVE is poured out to create the **gift** of this world & to **give us LIFE**.

God creates us as images of the Trinity:

- "very **good**", with great dignity
- as unrepeatable **gifts**
- as a **UNITY** of **BODY & SOUL**
- as **persons**: with intellect & free will (conscious self-determination)
- as male & female: **givers & receivers** of **LIFE-giving LOVE**

"IN THE BEGINNING..."

FOR ALL ETERNITY:

~ Father, Son & Holy Spirit ~
a **UNION** of Persons &
an eternal exchange of
LIFE-giving LOVE
(CCC 221)

GOD IS LOVE.