

# 1.1 Michelangelo's *Creation of Adam* - How does this painting reflect Catholic beliefs and teachings?

- Adam shown as a perfect man - represents the teaching in Genesis that God made everything 'good'
- It shows that Adam is dependent on God for life.
- God is powerful yet ancient - He is muscular but old
- Shows that humanity is made in the image of God
- The hands of Adam and God reaching out show that there is a loving relationship between God and man. God is transcendent - shown by God being carried by angels
- God is the creator of everything
- Humans are in close contact with God - they have a unique place in God's creation.



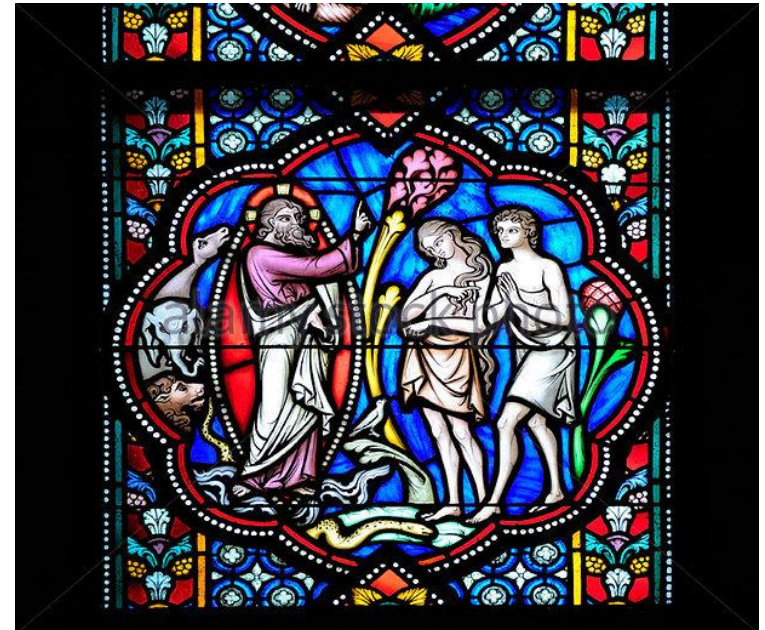
## 1.1 - How does Michelangelo's *Creation of Adam* not depict Catholic beliefs?

- The painting does not show the teaching from *Genesis 2* that God made Adam from dust and brought him to life by breathing into his nostrils
- God and man are practically the same size - this suggests man is equal to God
- Many Catholics do not agree that God is like an old man



## 1.2 Other Christian art that depicts creation - How does Jean- Baptiste Caprionnier depict creation in his stained glass window showing Adam and Eve?

- This image represents the Genesis 2 account of creation of man and woman.
- The presence of the animals behind God, while Adam and Eve stand in front of God shows humanity's importance compared to the rest of creation.
- Physical similarities between God and Adam and Eve show humans are made in the image of God.
- The way Adam and Eve are standing suggests Adam and Eve must obey God.
- The window also shows the snake and a symbolic tree between God and the humans which links to the story of the Fall in Genesis 2



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## 1.3 Creation and the nature of God in Genesis 1 - How does the story of Creation show the nature of God?

- God does not need anything other than his words to create - He is beyond physical laws. This shows he is transcendent
- God is omnipotent - his power lets him make everything exactly as he wants it.
- God is omnibenevolent - everything he makes is 'good'.



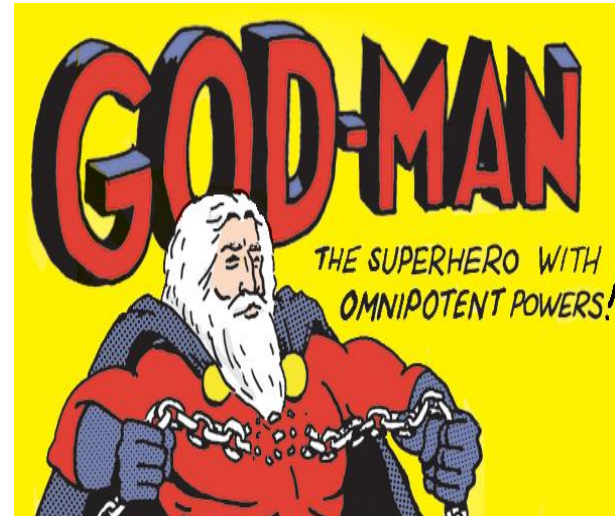
# 1.4 Creation and the nature of humans in Genesis 2 - How does the story of Creation show the nature of humans?

- God breathes into man - Humans share the breath and spirit of God
- God gives humans the gift of freewill - Humans can decide for themselves what they want
- God told Adam to name the animals - Humans are responsible for animals and nature.
- God formed Eve as a suitable helpmate - Humans need loving relationships



## 1.3 Creation and the nature of God in Genesis 1 - How does the story of Creation show God is omnipotent?

- He can create things ex nihilo.
- Everything he makes is 'good' - his power makes his creations just as he planned.
- God's power is shown in the effectiveness of his word - all he has to say is 'Let there be...' and it is created.



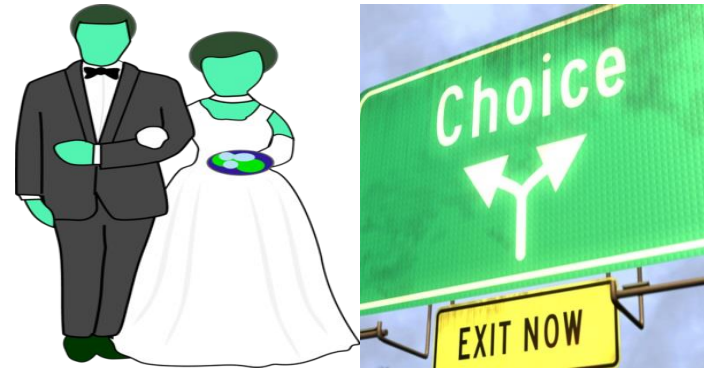
# 1.5 The significance of the creation stories for Catholics - Why are the Creation stories important for Catholics today?

- They show God is the creator of all things so this tells Catholics to always show respect to God's creation.
- It tells Catholics we are stewards so must always try to protect all parts of creation.
- We must ensure the goodness of the Earth is passed down to future generations.
- God made everything good so we should recognise ALL parts of creation as good.
- It tells us of the special status of all human beings as we are all made in the image of God.
- It tells us that we should all be respected as we are created in God's image and have his qualities of love and intelligence



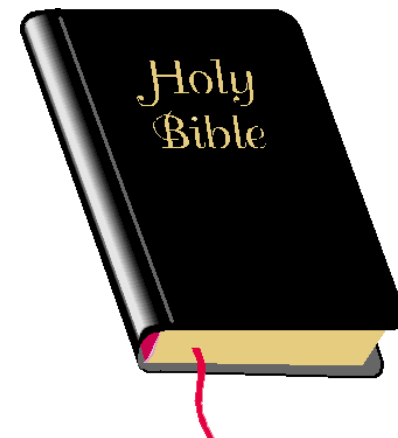
# The significance of the creation stories for Catholics - What do the creation stories teach about the dignity of human beings?

- It tells us of the special status of all human beings as we are all made in the image of God.
- It tells us that we should all be respected as we are created in God's image and have his qualities of love and intelligence
- Human relationships are important to God and the role of sex is to unite a man and woman as a way of expressing their humanity. This is a sacred act.
- God gave humans free will so the beliefs and decisions of each person should be respected.
- You must also respect your own dignity and the dignity of other people as everyone is a child of God.
- All humans must respect the sanctity of life as life is a blessed gift from God, who 'saw that it was good'. This includes from conception up until death.



## 1.6 The origins and structure of the Bible - What is the Bible and what does it include?

- The word Bible comes from the Greek word 'biblios' which means 'book', and the Bible is made up of many small books.
- The Bible contains stories, prayers, poetry, prophecies, history and advice about how to live.
- It is divided into the Old Testament and the New Testament.



# 1.6 The origins and structure of the Bible - Does the Old Testament include anything that Christians need?

- The Old Testament contains:
- The **Law** (Torah) - the first 5 books which show how the Jews became the people of God. The Law includes God's guidance for how he wanted the Jews to live (e.g Ten Commandments).
- The **history books** - these show how God guided his people and how they sometimes didn't listen. These stories help later generations avoid the same mistakes.
- The **wisdom books** - including prayers, psalms, books of advice and poems, which show people how to use God-given talents to do what is right and stay close to God.
- The **prophets** - containing the words of inspired figures who were sent by God to teach people about how God is active in the world, and to challenge people to stay faithful to God.



# 1.6 The origins and structure of the Bible - What is the content of the New Testament?

- The New Testament is based on the life and teachings of Jesus and the apostles. It can be divided into four sections:
- The Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John), which record the actions and teachings of Jesus.
- The Acts of the Apostles (a continuation of the Gospel of Luke), which tells of some of the events of the early Church up to about 60 CE.
- The Epistles (letters) which show Christians how to live by Jesus' teachings and what it means to be a Christian.
- The Book of Revelation, an apocalyptic book written by John, featuring his own mystical visions which some Christians believe describe the end of the world.



## 1.7 Inspiration and the Bible as the word of God – What does it mean to say the Bible is the 'word of God?'

- Through the Bible God speaks to his people so the Bible is called 'the word of God'.
- This is not a voice that we can hear, but the holy spirit inspiring us to accept God's message and to share it with other people.
- The holy spirit is sent by God to guide us. This is called inspiration. The writers of the people were guided by God in this way.
- The words of the Bible help us to learn from God and listen to him and follow his wishes today.

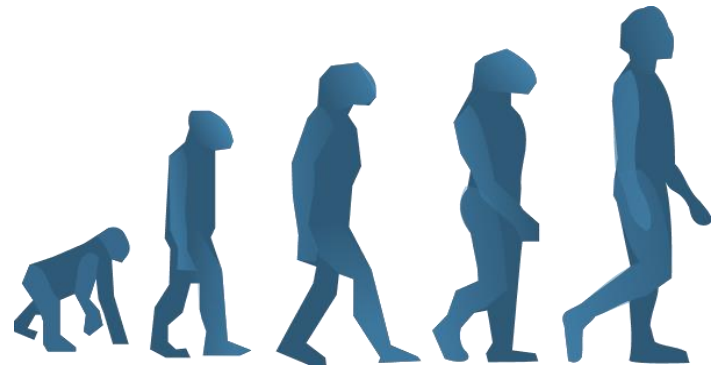


- The prophets - The prophets were inspired to see God's work in a special way. They encouraged people to stay faithful to God as they passed on his word.
- The Gospels - Jesus is the word of God made flesh. In Jesus, God speaks directly to all people. The Gospels present the teachings and actions of Jesus so are the word of God in a very special way.
- The Epistles (or letters) are the writings of the apostles, the early witnesses to Jesus' life. They were written to help apply Jesus' teachings in their every day lives. They were filled with the holy spirit and inspired to preach and teach God's word.

# 1.8 Interpreting the Genesis Creation stories

## How do Catholics interpret the stories of Creation in Genesis?

- Catholics accept Genesis 1 and 2 as myths rather than fact.
- They believe that God was needed to make the world – he caused the Big Bang and put evolution into place.
- Both Genesis 1 and 2 tell us that;
  1. God made everything.
  2. Everything that God made was good.
  3. Humans are the high point of God's creation.
- Catholics believe that Genesis 1 and 2 were written to help the people at the time they were written to understand why we are here.



# 1.9 Natural Law and Catholic attitudes towards Science - Why is Natural Law important to Catholics?

- God made everything good. Humans are part of this beautiful, good creation.
- Humans are fulfilled by living as God wants us to, by living harmoniously with God, other people and all of creation. This fulfilment happens by following natural law.
- Natural law is 'to do good and avoid evil'. Catholics believe this applies to humans because they are created in the image and likeness of God.
- Humans have an instinctive knowledge to be good because each person is made by God.
- As all life comes from God, every life expresses God's love and is holy. This is called the 'sanctity of life'.
- All humans have a duty to respect the sanctity of life from conception to its natural end.



## 1.9 Natural Law and Catholic attitudes towards Science

- Explain why the Catholic Church values the role of science and scientific research

- During the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965), the Magisterium stressed the need for science and religion to support each other.
- Scientists should use the God's gift of knowledge and their talents to help us understand God's creation.
- Science explains the *how* of things and religion explains the *why*.



# 1.10 Caring for the Environment - Why is it important for Catholics to protect the environment?

- The whole of God's creation is holy as it comes from God.
- The Greatest Commandment is to love God and neighbour as yourself so we should respect the world as it belongs to God, and we should protect it for future generations.
- Pope Francis has said 'every creature has its own value and significance' - all of creation is part of God's loving plan (*Laudato Si*)



## 1.10 Caring for the Environment - How do Catholics care for the environment?

- Solar panels are used to power the Vatican
- Cafod raise awareness of how to reduce pollution and global warming
- They try to limit the use of natural resources so they can be used by future generations.



## 1.11 The meaning of stewardship - What is meant by the concept of 'stewardship'?

- God told humans to rule over and protect his creation - 'The Lord God took the man and placed him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it' (Genesis).
- We must find ways to protect God's world. Pope Francis has said 'A fragile world, entrusted by God to human care, challenges us to devise intelligent ways of directing, developing and limiting our power.' (*Laudato Si*)
- Christians must accept **interdependence** with the rest of creation if they are to make meaningful efforts not only to change their own attitudes and actions, but to inspire other people to contribute to protecting the world as well.



# 1.11 The meaning of stewardship - Give examples of how Catholics can be good stewards at local, national and global levels.

At a **local** level, Catholics can:

- Try to reduce the amount of unnecessary rubbish they produce in their homes
- recycle more waste
- Use public transport, or walk or cycle more often
- Take part in local environmental campaigns or projects.

At a **national** level, Catholics can:

- Put pressure on politicians to support laws that protect the environment and endangered species
- Support and buy products from environment- friendly businesses
- Put pressure on companies to ensure that environment-friendly policies are followed, such as replanting trees whenever they are cut down to make products.

At a **global** level, Catholics can:

- Put pressure on governments to support and implement the policies accepted at meetings such as Rio +20
- Boycott or help to expose multinational companies that threaten the environment through their drive to make a profit.



# 1.12 CAFOD and sustainability – Why is sustainability so important?

Sustainability is the ability of the whole world to carry on working in the right balance.

It is hoped that by working for sustainability we can:

- Reverse some of the damage that has already been done to the environment
- Reduce poverty, by allowing people to live in a more balanced way so everyone can share in what nature provides
- Reduce tension in the world as there is less need to fight over resources, which leads to a greater sense of security.

THE GLOBAL GOALS  
For Sustainable Development



# 1.12 CAFOD and sustainability -How does CAFOD support sustainable projects?

- They encourage people in England and Wales to live more simply so that natural resources are not used up so quickly
- Supporting and setting up projects which recognise that humans, resources and the environment are all important and interrelated; CAFOD helps all of its partners to ensure that their projects protect the environment.
- Working with other international organisations to ensure that sustainability is one of the leading approaches to national and international politics and trade.
- Helping to found the beyond 2015 campaign, which supported the creation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals in 2015; these seek to protect the environment and protect people's quality of life by 2030, partly through the use of sustainable projects around the world.
- Working with groups like MONLAR in Sri Lanka, which helps farmers to use sustainable techniques that are economical yet effective (such as the use of natural fertilizers).



...what next?