





# Who You Are

## **1) You are made in the image and likeness of God**

A communion of 3 divine persons the Father, The Son, and the fruit of their Love, The Holy Spirit in an eternal exchange of love- giving and receiving love- Free, Sincere, Total Gift of Self

Called to love as God loves- to be a gift to one another.

**2) You (Body and Soul) are “very good”**- One Nature- body and soul profoundly united. The body reveals the soul- the whole person.

# Who You Are

**3) You are Made for Communion-** God created us for one reason to share in his own life of self-giving love and happiness forever.

Gift of the Holy Spirit- of Life and Love. Grace- Gift to love as God loves

**4) You are a Gift-** They saw in their naked bodies as male and female the call to give and receive love- to love as God loves, to be a gift.

The body has the power to express love to become a gift.

Filled with the Holy Spirit- the Gift of Love, they desired to love as God loves to be a gift to each other.

The more open to receive the life and love of God within us, the more we can love as God loves- Holiness



# HUMAN Love in the DIVINE Plans

**FATHER**

GIVER of the Gift

BRIDEGROOM

DIVINE

HUMAN

SELF GIVING LOVE

TEMPORAL

ETERNAL

ASPIRATION of LOVE

CHILD

BRIDE

Unconditional Love

Receiver of the Gift

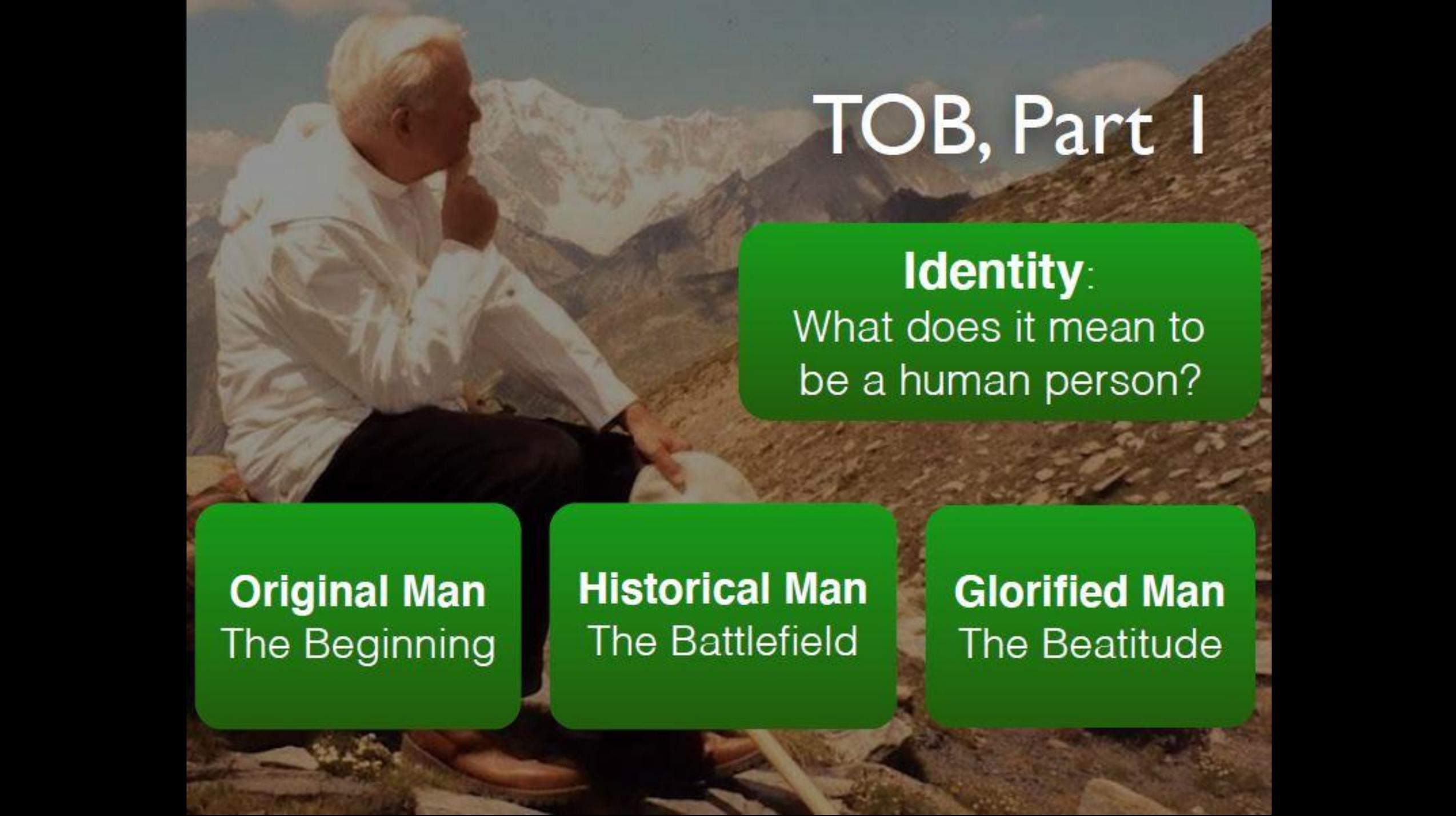
**SON**

"The visible sign of marriage transposes the eternal plan of love into the historical dimension."

Fruit of the Gift

**SPIRIT**

Click to add text



# TOB, Part I

## **Identity:**

What does it mean to be a human person?

**Original Man**  
The Beginning

**Historical Man**  
The Battlefield

**Glorified Man**  
The Beatitude

The man and his wife  
were both naked,  
yet they felt no shame.

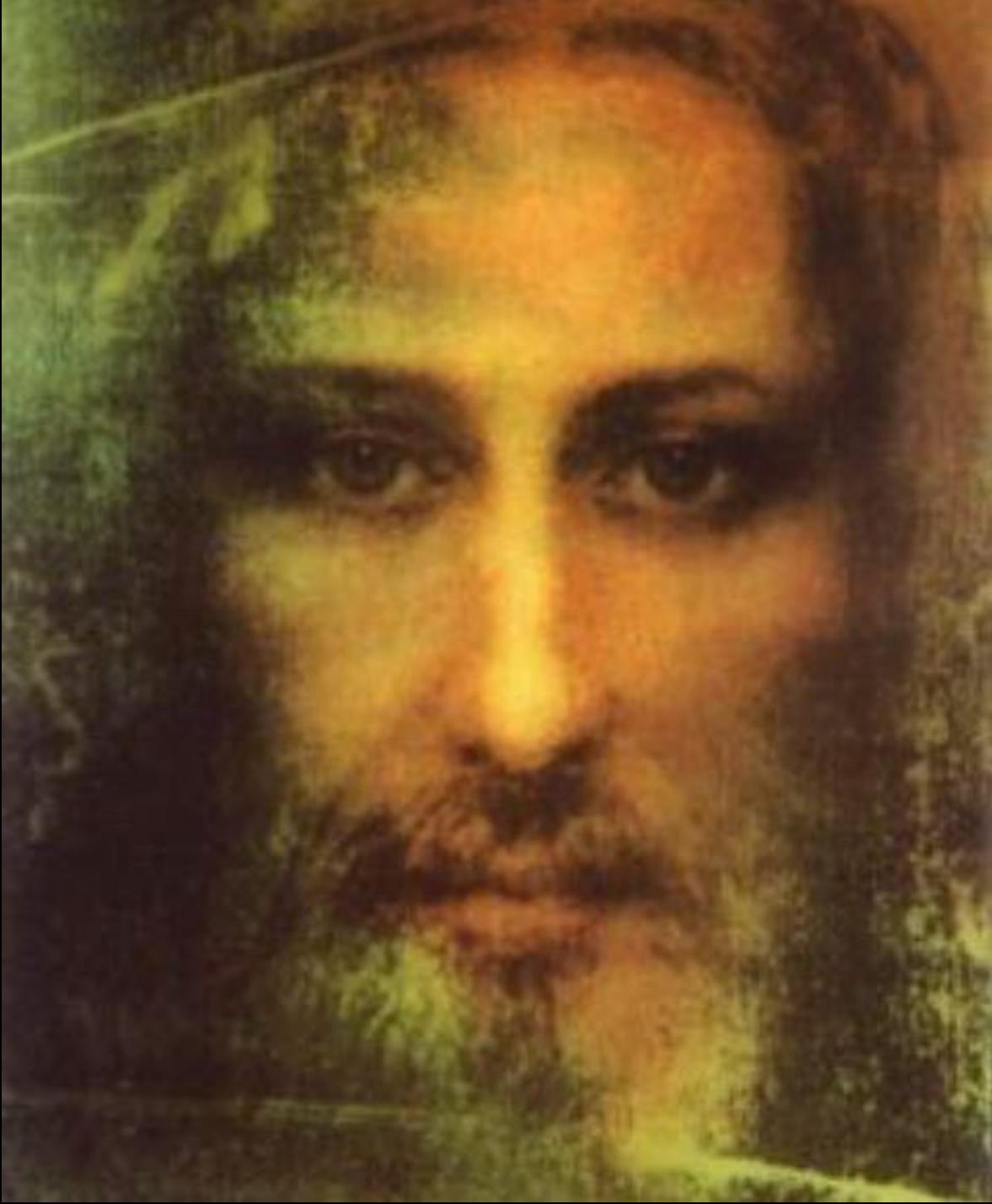
- Genesis 2:25

John Paul II explains that Adam and Eve see each other with a supernatural perspective with "the vision of the creator." (TOB, 57)

They saw each other the way God himself saw them

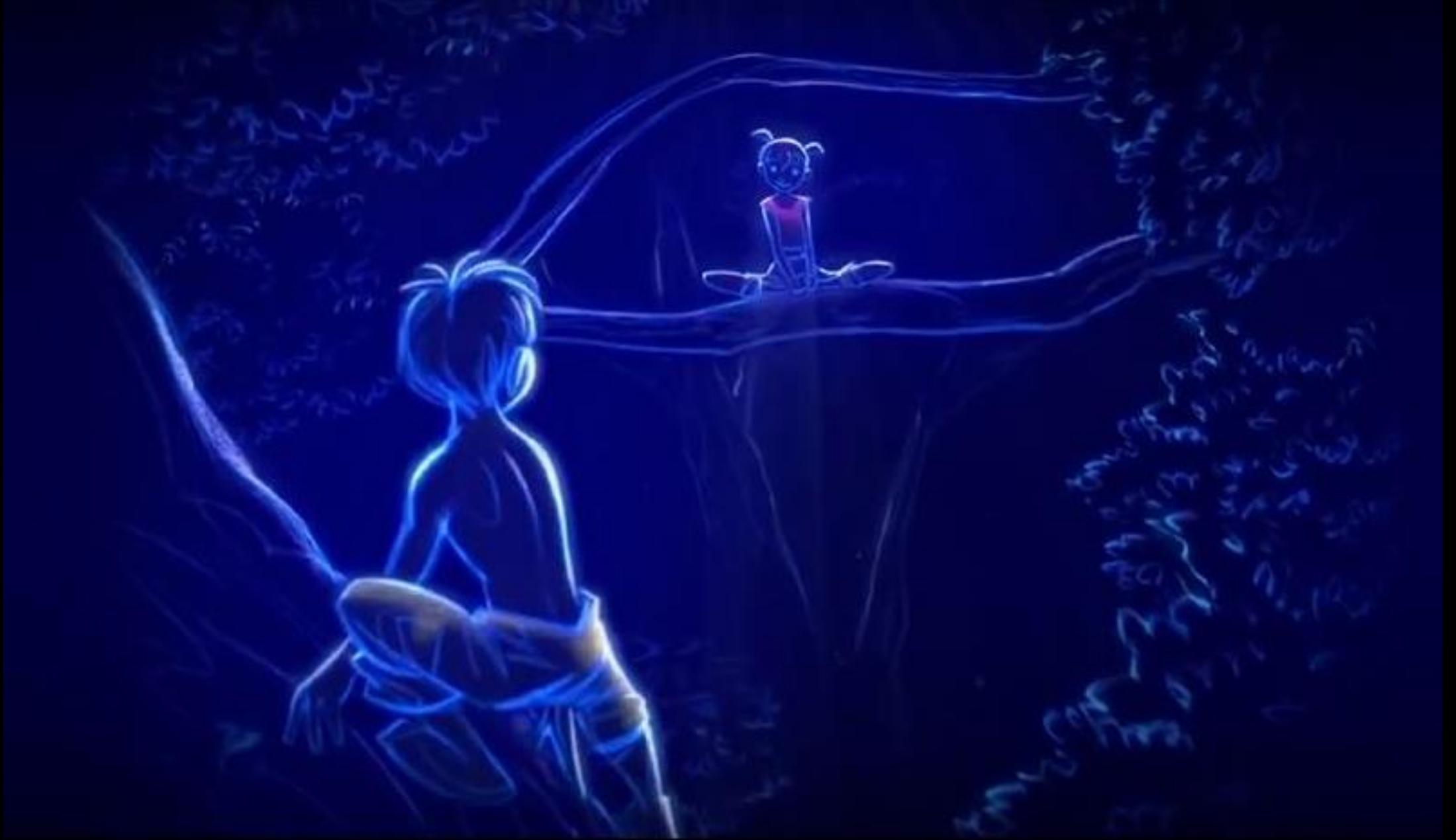
“They see and know each other, in fact, with all the peace of the interior gaze, which creates precisely the fullness of the intimacy of persons”  
(TOB 13:1)

They see into each other  
(intimacy = in-to-me-see)



"The deepest desire  
of the human heart  
is to see another  
and be seen by that  
other's loving look."

-St. Augustine



[Video](#)



3 choices

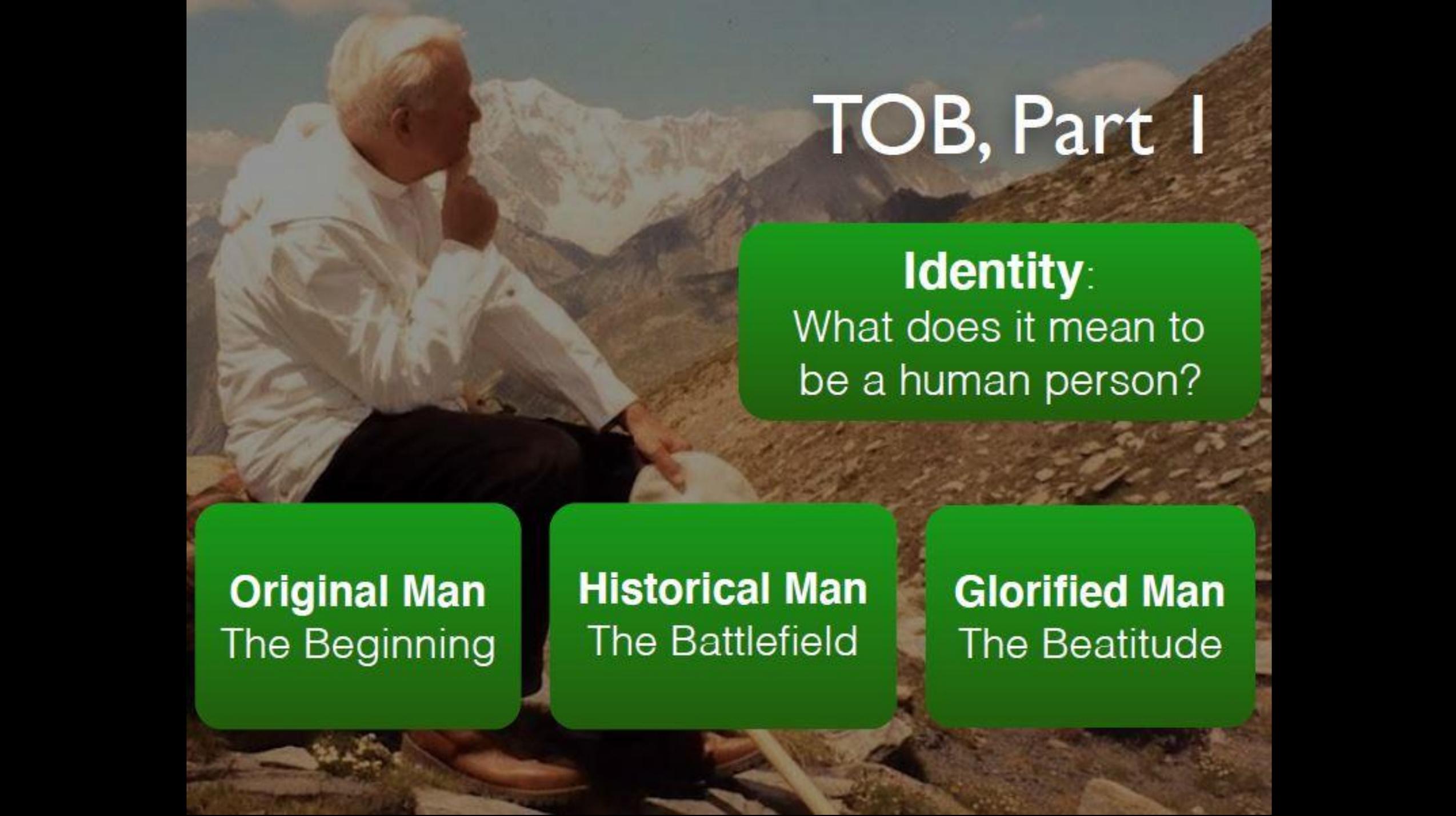


“You have made us for yourself, O Lord,  
and our heart is restless until it rests in You.”

"You were within and I was without"

- St. Augustine

“The desire for God is written in the human heart...Only in God will he find the truth and happiness he never stops searching for” (CCC27)



# TOB, Part I

## **Identity:**

What does it mean to be a human person?

**Original Man**  
The Beginning

**Historical Man**  
The Battlefield

**Glorified Man**  
The Beatitude

## Satan Casts Doubt on the Gift

“Did God actually say You shall not eat of any tree in the garden? You will not surely die [if you eat from the forbidden tree]. For God knows that when you eat of it, your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.  
(Genesis 3:4-5)

original sin is the questioning of the gift



God commanded man and woman,

“You may surely 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 surely die.” (Gen. 2:16-17)

He aims to attack "at the very heart of that unity that had, from the 'beginning,' been formed by man and woman, created and called to become 'oneflesh'

TOB 20:1

Attack on Marriage and the Family

# The Primordial Attack

“...We know from Revelation, in human history the "rays of fatherhood" meet a first resistance in the obscure but real fact of original sin. This is truly the key for interpreting reality...

Original sin attempts, then, to abolish fatherhood, destroying its rays which permeate the created world, placing in doubt the truth about God who is Love...”

- St. John Paul II, Crossing the Threshold of Hope

# THE RETURN OF THE PRODIGAL SON



*A Story of Homecoming*

HENRI J. M. NOUWEN

AUTHOR OF *WOUNDED HEALER*

“...The real sin is to deny God's first love for me, to ignore my original goodness...”

Without claiming that first love and that original goodness for myself, I lose touch with my true self...

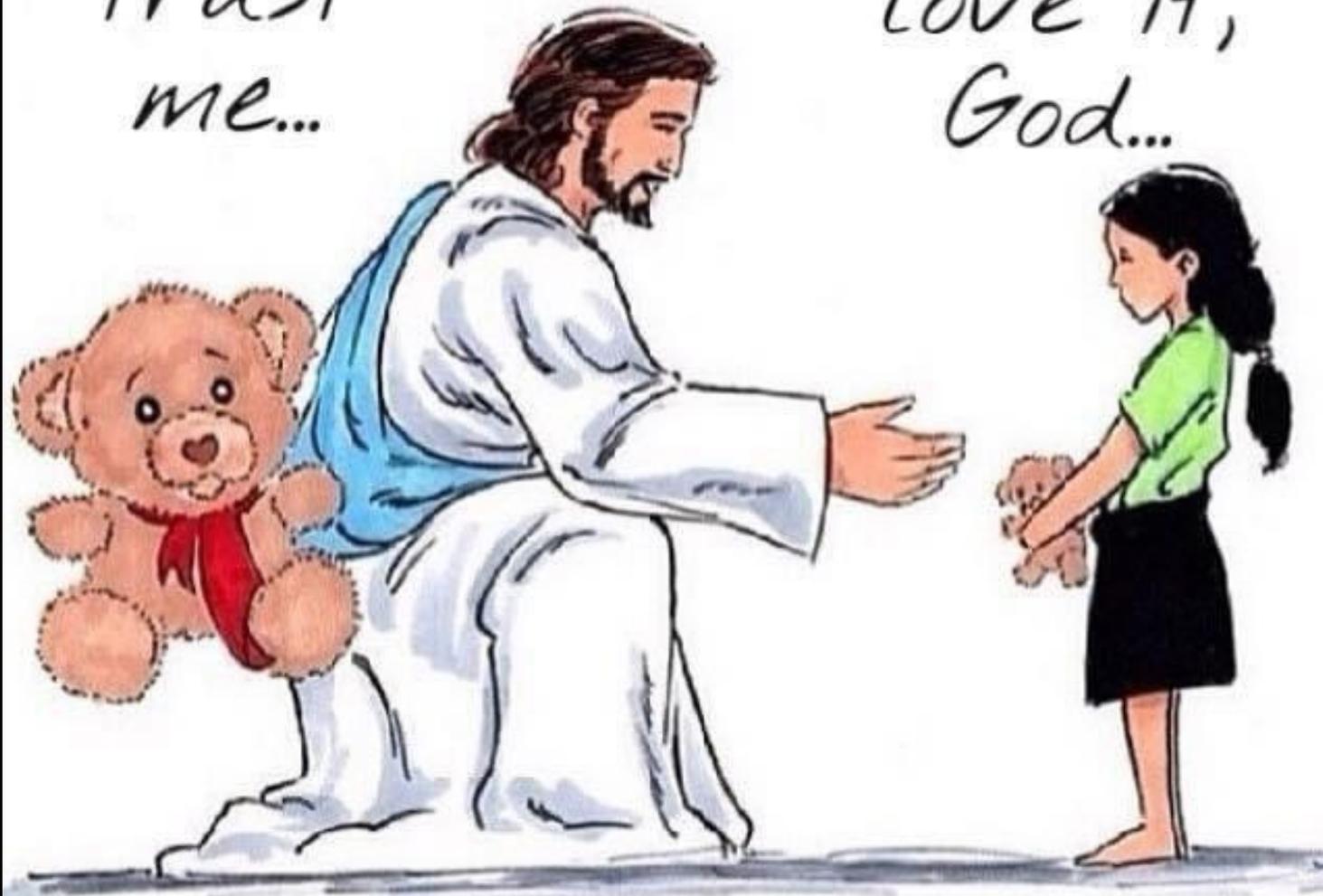
I would “embark on the destructive search among the wrong people and in the wrong places for what can only be found in the house of my Father.”

- Fr. Henri Nouwen, *The Return of the Prodigal Son*



Just  
trust  
me...

But I  
love it,  
God...





Keep Me a Child

[Video](#)

# Sin Breaks Relationships

Man and God

Man and Self

Man and Woman

Man and Creation

“Then the eyes of both were opened and they knew that they were naked and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves aprons. I was afraid because I was naked and I hid myself.”

Genesis 3:7, 10

# Sin Breaks Relationships

Man and God

Man and Self

Man and Woman

Man and Creation

"Man's "aching desire for [the Infinite is] like a signature imprinted with fire in his soul and body by the Creator himself...the heart's thirst and the bodies longing...cannot be eliminated

Thus man unknowingly stretches out in search of the Infinite, but in misguided directions: in drugs and sexuality lived in a disordered manner, in all encompassing technologies, in success at any cost, and even in deceptive forms of religiosity. Even the good things that God has created as paths that lead to him, often run the risk of being absolutized and thus become idols that replace the creator."

(Benedict XVI, Aug 10, 2012)

"To the woman, God said. In pain you shall bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall dominate you. "

(Genesis 3:16)

The “man ought to have been from the beginning, the guardian of the reciprocity of the gift and of its true balance, although maintaining the balance of the gift seems to be something entrusted to both , the man has a special responsibility, as if it depended more on him whether the balance is kept or violated, or even if it has already been violated. reestablished.” (TOB 33: 2)

## New Command

He gives us a new commandment,

“That you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command.”

( John 15:12)

“Redemption of the body ... is the redemption of man. At the same time it is the redemption of the world...(TOB 86.2)

“This is, in fact, the perspective of the whole Gospel, of the whole teaching, even more, of the whole mission of Christ.” (TOB 49: 3)



“You have heard that it was said,  
‘you shall not commit adultery.’

But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman lustfully  
has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

(Mt 5:27-28)

"We must not be discouraged by the difficulty or the obstacles that come from sin. In this regard, we must not forget that that dynamism of desire is always open to redemption. We all, moreover, need to set out on the path of purification and healing of desire. We are pilgrims. Heading for the heavenly homeland, the pilgrimage of Eros[passion] is not then about suffocating the longing that dwells in the heart of man, but about freeing it so that it, so that it can reach its true height."  
(Benedict XV I November 7, 2012.)

The heritage of our hearts “is deeper than the sinfulness inherited.”

Christ words “re-activate that deepest inheritance and give it real power in human life.”

(TOB 43: 7).

Love and Life according to the Gospel are possible only as a result of a gift of God who heals, restores, and transforms the human heart by his grace. Living the Gospel then is a possibility opened to man exclusively by grace, by the gift of God, by his love.

(VS 23,24)

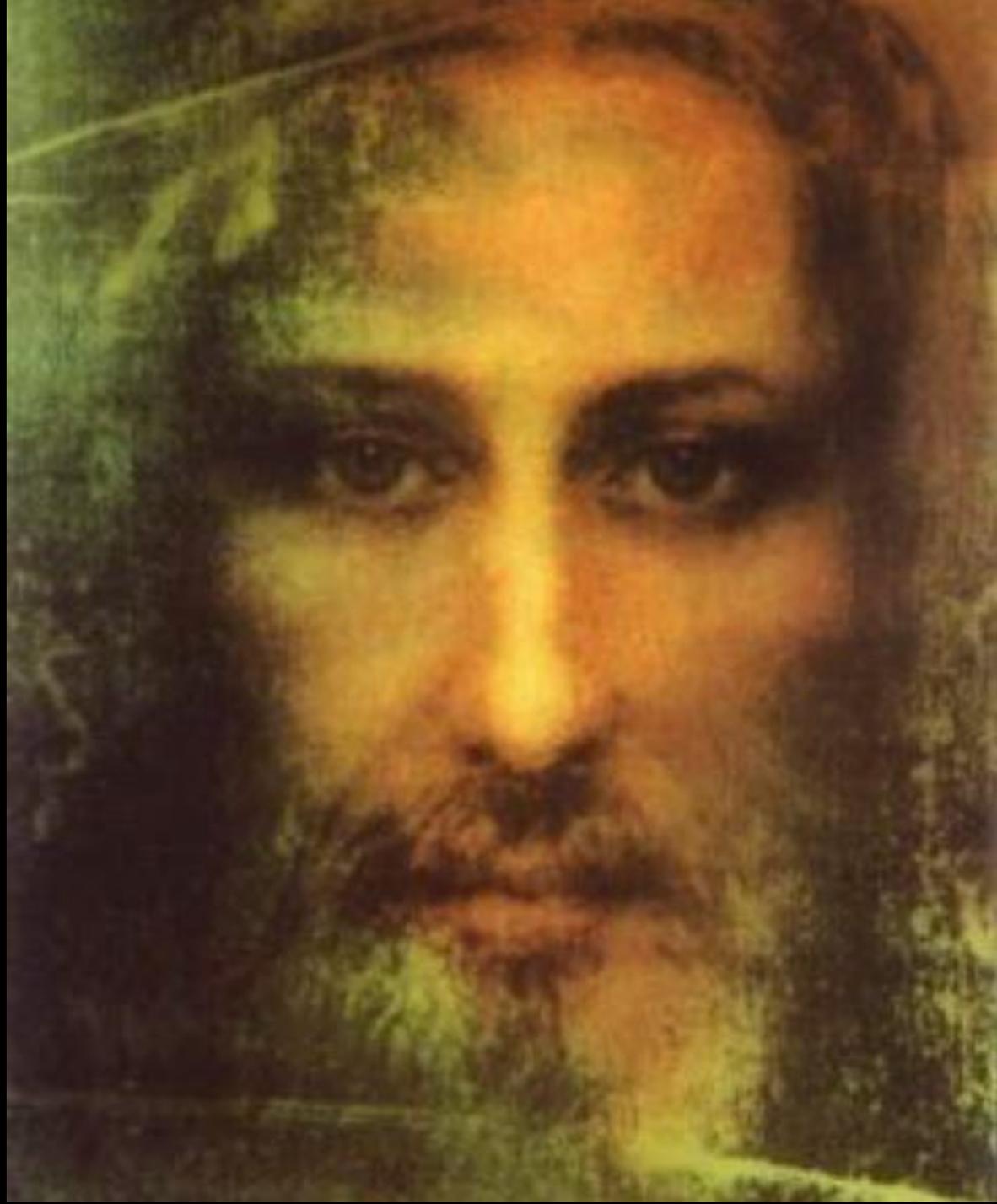


[Video](#)



I will give you a new heart,  
and a new spirit I will put within you.  
I will remove the heart of stone from  
your flesh and  
give you a heart of flesh.  
Ezekiel 36:26







[Song- " Restless" by Audrey Assad](#)