

**Why Were You Born?**  
**Class 8: Creation – Part 1 – Class Handout**  
*“In the Beginning: Creation, Intelligence, and the Dignity of Man”*

**I. The Foundation We Must Never Forget**

**Who made us?**

God made us.

**Why did God make us?**

To know Him, love Him, and serve Him in this world, and to be happy with Him forever in the next.

**How are we to do this?**

With all our heart, all our soul, all our mind, and all our strength.

These truths are simple but forgetting them is the beginning of spiritual collapse.

**II. Why Creation Must Be Revisited Today**

Since the 19th century, many have adopted not just biological evolution, but a materialistic worldview that assumes:

- Matter is primary
- Consciousness is secondary
- Design is an illusion
- Providence is unnecessary

This lens often reshapes how Scripture is interpreted.

St. Paul warned:

*“For there shall be a time, when they will not endure sound doctrine...”*

2 Timothy 4:3

We live in an age of immense technological intelligence — yet deep confusion about:

- What man is
- What truth is
- What freedom is
- What the soul is

We have mastered matter while neglecting metaphysics.

### **III. What Is Metaphysics and Why It Matters**

Metaphysics studies reality at its deepest level. It asks:

- What does it mean to exist?
- What is being?
- What is cause?
- What is the soul?
- Does God exist?

Science studies mechanisms.

Metaphysics studies meaning and being.

Without metaphysics, Scripture becomes myth and man becomes biology.

### **IV. The Spiritual Dimension of Creation**

Creation is not merely material. It is hierarchical:

1. God
2. Angelic choirs
3. The material universe
4. Man bridge between spirit and matter

Scripture is clear:

*“For our wrestling is not against flesh and blood; but against principalities and powers...”*  
Ephesians 6:12

The angelic world is real.

The rebellion of the fallen angels is real.

Creation unfolds within a spiritual history.

If the spiritual realm is denied, Genesis becomes reduced to metaphor.

### **V. What the Church Actually Teaches**

The Church has never opposed legitimate science.

She opposes scientism the belief that science is the only source of truth.

The Church definitively teaches:

- ✓ God is Creator of all things visible and invisible
- ✓ The human soul is created immediately by God (CCC 366)

- ✓ Adam and Eve were real historical persons
- ✓ All humanity descends from them
- ✓ The Fall is a real historical event

The Catechism states:

*“The Church teaches that every spiritual soul is created immediately by God.”*  
CCC 366

Matter cannot produce an immaterial soul.

As St. Thomas Aquinas teaches:

*“An immaterial effect requires an immaterial cause.”*

Even if biological processes are discussed, the soul is not the product of matter.

## **VI. Where the Real Battle Lies: The Soul**

The deepest issue is not fossils it is anthropology.

If man is merely a highly organized animal:

- Morality becomes adaptive behavior
- Sin becomes dysfunction
- Salvation becomes therapy
- Human dignity becomes conditional

But Genesis declares:

*“And the Lord God formed man of the slime of the earth: and breathed into his face the breath of life; and man became a living soul.”*

Genesis 2:7

Man is both:

- Material (formed from the earth)
- Spiritual (animated by God’s breath)

You are not an accident.

You are willed into existence and sustained by God at every moment.

## **VII. The Philosophical Limits of Pure Materialism**

Serious philosophical questions remain unanswered by materialism:

1. The origin of life from non-life

2. The origin of consciousness
3. The origin of moral obligation
4. The origin of the immaterial soul

Science describes processes.

Metaphysics explains existence.

When Genesis is treated as “mere myth,” something subtle occurs:

- Adam becomes symbolic
- The Fall becomes symbolic
- Original sin becomes symbolic
- Redemption becomes psychological

Eventually, even the Resurrection becomes symbolic.

Pope St. Pius X warned that modernism dissolves doctrine by dissolving its foundations.

### **VIII. What the Church Allows (Balanced Understanding)**

The Church does not require belief in six 24-hour days.

St. Augustine taught:

- Creation is real and historical.
- The “days” may represent logical rather than strictly temporal order.
- God created causal principles that unfold in time.

The Catholic position avoids:

- Crude literalism
- Materialistic reductionism

It affirms:

- God is Primary Cause
- Nature unfolds through secondary causes

This preserves both reason and revelation.

## **IX. Why This Matters for You**

If man is created:

- Your life has meaning
- Your suffering has meaning
- Your soul has infinite worth
- Your destiny is eternal

If man is an accident:

- Meaning is subjective
- Morality is adaptive
- Dignity is conditional

Christianity proclaims:

You are not climbing upward from animals.

You are called upward toward Heaven.

### **Conclusion**

*“In the beginning, God created...”*

This is not a scientific embarrassment.

It is a metaphysical proclamation.

You were:

- Willed into existence
- Created in God’s image
- Given a rational soul
- Ordered toward eternal union with Him

Remember who made you.

Remember why you were made.

And live accordingly.