

Fifth Sunday of Easter 2020

My beloved brothers and sisters, perhaps the most famous question that has ever been asked, was asked by Pontius Pilate at the trial of the Lord Jesus: “What is Truth?” In today's world, we are constantly being mis-directed by media, politicians, the state, academia, and on and on. There are many in today's society who believe that if a lie is told often enough, it will come to be believed. So: What is the Truth?

Jesus not only gives us the answer; He is the answer: He tells us: “I am the way the Truth and the Life.” Either He is the biggest liar in human history; or, He is indeed the Truth itself. His message is Himself, and He has proven the Truth by His deeds. He is the fulfillment of all of God's promises in the Old Testament prophecies, and He Rose from the dead as He said! We have some of the artifacts of His Resurrection, and while they can be scientifically examined, they cannot be fully understood; and yet, they all point to the reality of the Resurrection, as do the Gospels themselves and even ancient sources beyond the Gospels!

The Truth that Jesus is, also points the way that we are called to follow: He is that way. His way must become our way, if we are going to enter into the mystery of His life. Jesus' claim makes a claim upon us and our lives. To know the Truth means that we can only make sense of this existence in light of His Truth. Jesus' claim is this fundamental reality: He is the eternal Word, the very Wisdom of God! Remember the Old Catechism Question and Answer: Why did God make me? It can be re-phrased: “Why do I exist? Why does everything else exist? What is the purpose of my existence and the existence of everyone and everything?”

The fundamental answer is this: God made me for His Glory. I exist as a sign of His Glory, which is His Divine Love. I exist because of His love and for His love! Everything that exists, exists to this purpose: Because God is love, He brought everyone, and everything into existence for His love! This is the secret to the entire Universe! The universe does not have to exist; in fact, existence without a purpose is absurdity, the laws that govern the Universe point to a precise reason and order for a purpose: for example: gravity governs the whole of the universe

and gives matter and energy form because gravity exists for that purpose; otherwise the whole of matter would be scattered about in dark space.

So what does this mean for us? Jesus tells us. He has created us for His purpose, because He wants us to exist in Him for all eternity in His Divine Love. He tells us the center of our Hope: I am your hope! If we follow His way, it will lead us to our eternal home that He has prepared for us. He tells us that in Him we will find meaning for our lives, joy in our struggles, strength in our weaknesses, life, even in death. He tells us that He is our light in the midst of the darkness, and He is the fulfillment of our deepest needs. St. Augustine reminds us: "Our hearts are restless until they rest in God..."; because God made us for Himself!