

Men and Women are from Eden
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Introduction

1. *The Universal Desire for Human Love*
 - a. “Man cannot live without love. He remains a being incomprehensible that is incomprehensible for himself, his life is senseless, if love is not revealed to him, if he does not encounter love, if he does not experience it and make it his own, if he does not participate intimately in it.” (*Redemptor Hominis*, 25)
2. To understand who we are, we must *go back to the beginning: Theology of the Body*
3. Background to this teaching
 - a. English Critical Edition: *Man and Woman He Created Them: A Theology of the Body* (Translated and Edited by Michael Waldstein, Pauline, 2006).
 - b. Further Resources: See p. 119 of Healy’s Book
 - b. Virtually unknown today (although this is changing!)
 - i. Not light reading; difficult “circular” reflections
 - ii. Attitude of dissent throughout 1980’s and 1990’s
4. Vatican II and the *Theology of the Body*:
 - i. *Gaudium et Spes*, 22: “The truth is that only in the mystery of the **incarnate Word** does the mystery of man take on light. For Adam, the first man, was a figure of Him Who was to come, namely Christ the Lord. Christ, the final Adam, by the revelation of the mystery of the **Father and His love**, fully reveals man to man himself and makes his supreme calling clear.”
 - ii. *Gaudium et Spes*, 24: Indeed, the Lord Jesus, when He prayed to the Father, "that all may be one. . . as we are one" (John 17:21-22) opened up vistas closed to human reason, for He implied a **certain likeness** between the union of the divine Persons, and the unity of God's sons in truth and charity. This likeness reveals that man, who is the only creature on earth which God willed for itself, **cannot fully find himself** except through a **sincere gift of himself**.

Chapter One: Back to the Beginning

1. The Pharisees Question Jesus on Divorce (Mt. 19:3-9)
 - a. Only by understanding the original plan, can we find the answers to our own questions about sex and marriage
 - b. We have not only lost the plan; Christ also restored it
2. The Sadducees and the Law of Levirate (Mt. 22:23-33)
 - a. Jesus points to the resurrection of the body

- b. We cannot discuss marriage, family, vocation, sexuality without reference to the eschaton
- 3. Four Stages: The Beginning; Fallen Humanity; Redeemed Humanity; Glorified Humanity
- 4. Major Themes
 - a. Creation: Gn. 1:26-27
 - i. Man is in the image of God
 - ii. *Person*: Free-will (self-determination) and Intellect (self-awareness)
 - b. Creation: Gn. 1:26-27
 - i. We are the image of God as *male and female* in our *complementarity!*
 - c. The Body
 - i. Dualism
 - ii. Hedonism
 - iii. Both views fail to realize the body is a *sacrament*
 - d. Communion of Persons
 - i. Adam realized that male and female were created for relationship
 - e. Trinitarian Dimensions of Love and Image of God
 - f. Phenomenological Personalism: (*that's a mouthful!*)
 - i. Attempt to take into account human experience and objective truth
 - ii. The truth about humanity is available to all through their own deep experience