

7th Grade – Confirmation First Year

Sacrament of Confirmation – The Didache Series

Lesson Plan Week 3 - 9/25/2022

Topic: Continue Chapter One and Understanding How We Know God Exists

Review of last week: Law of Non-contradiction, Objective and Relative Truth, Attributes of God, Intro to arguing God's existence, Argument from Design

Chapter 1 (continued) – God Reveals Himself to Man

Understanding God's Existence

- God's Attributes: eternal, all-powerful, all-knowing, omni-present, unchanging
- Faith and reason are complimentary
- Arguments for God's existence: desire, beauty, efficient cause, design

The Design Argument - Why do we perceive disorder as a problem?

'Chance' is not credible. What is 'Chance' if there is no such thing as order?

The Argument from Efficient Cause

1. There are ordered series of efficient causes (the reason something exists)
 - a. We perceive that there are effects
 - b. Nothing can be the efficient cause of itself
 - c. Therefore, the effects have efficient causes
Ex: Train reaction
2. An ordered series of efficient causes cannot have an infinite regress
 - a. In ordered series of causes, there are first, intermediate, and ultimate causes
 - b. If a cause is removed, so is its effect
 - c. Therefore, if there were no first cause, there would be no intermediate or ultimate causes
 - d. If there were an infinite regress, there would be no first cause
 - e. There are intermediate and ultimate causes
3. Therefore, there is a first cause.

CCC 338. *Nothing exists that does not owe its existence to God the Creator*

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The Argument from Motion

1. Things move (any type of change)
2. Since nothing moves itself, everything that is moved must be moved by another
3. If that which causes the motion is itself being moved, then it must be moved by another
4. This process cannot go on to infinity
5. Therefore, there must exist a first unmoved mover, which all people call God.

The Argument from Desire

1. Every natural, innate desire in us corresponds to some real object that can satisfy that desire. the existence of natural desires does, in every discoverable case, mean that the objects desired exist. *
2. But there exists in us a desire which nothing in time, nothing on earth, no creature can satisfy.
3. Therefore there must exist something more than time, earth, and creatures, which can satisfy this desire.
4. This something is what people call "God" and "life with God forever."

Supernatural Revelation

The results of Original Sin (disordered nature, loss of holiness, subject to death, presence of sin, born with the stain of original sin

Revealed over time, starting with Adam and Eve, then through the prophets, and through His Son

Christ, the Son of God made man, is the Father's one, perfect and unsurpassable Word. In him he has said everything there will be no other word than this one. (CCC65)

The Deposit of Faith: Scripture and Tradition

- Where did the bible come from?
- Road to Emmaus (Luke 24), Great Commission (Matthew 28)
- Scripture is a product of tradition and tradition is necessary to properly interpret scripture
- The Papacy (Matthew 16)
- Interpretation example *I did not say you stole money.*