

Name: _____

Date: _____

God Saves, Chapter 1: The Beginning of Creation and Man's Fall from Grace

Study Guide

Directions: Read through the chapter and fill in the missing information. All the questions run sequential to the chapter. If a true/false statement is false, correct it. Enter the missing word(s) for the fill-in-the-blank questions.

Introduction: Creation and the Creator

1. Briefly note eight beliefs and attributes of God held by Catholics that are explained in the introduction of this chapter.

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2. The question "Who _____ God?" is irrelevant because God is _____ in that he exists outside of time and _____, with no beginning and no end. For God, creation and _____ history is likewise all happening _____. Similarly, the question "What did God do _____ creation?" is meaningless because there was no time and space until he _____ it.
3. True or False? St. Thomas Aquinas and modern science agree that the beginning of space and time must have started at the beginning of the physical universe.
4. Before God created _____, he knew us and loved _____. Our purpose is connected to giving _____ to God. He created us to obey him

- 12.** True or False? St. Augustine maintained that the Blessed Trinity is reflected in our human ingenuity as well as within our desires.
- 13.** True or False? In the very first words of John's Gospel, we can learn three important lessons: the eternal God gave a beginning to all that exists outside of himself, God alone is the Creator, and everything that exists depends on God.
- 14.** What truths do the inspired authors of the creation accounts in the Bible communicate through the creation stories found in Genesis?
- 15.** True or False? The authors of the creation accounts use historical and literal language to communicate religious truths.
- 16.** True or False? The authors of the Book of Genesis were primarily concerned with presenting the meaning of God's creation and not with giving a scientific explanation.
- 17.** Summarize three religious truths we learn from the accounts of creation in Genesis.
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- 18.** True or False? Of all God's creatures, only humans enjoy a divine filiation, meaning we are created in God's image and likeness and are consequently his sons and daughters.
- 19.** What is one of the most important lessons from the Genesis creation accounts?

Section 2: Human Beings Are the Summit of God's Creation

- 20.** True or False? The Big Bang theory demonstrates that the universe has a beginning and agrees with what the Church teaches about creation.
- 21.** Though many _____ are concerned about Darwinism, the Catholic Church holds that if _____ selection is scientifically accurate, then this is the way God chooses to _____. Consequently, the Church does not _____ research and study of the _____ of living species. However, she does have serious concerns about _____ Darwinism.
- 22.** True or False? While science can estimate that the first humans appeared on earth between 50,000 to 200,000 years ago, the study of the Big Bang can neither prove nor disprove the existence of Adam and Eve.
- 23.** True or False? While humans may have evolved from an ape-like species, we are also completely unique in that we are animated with the gift of a soul.
- 24.** The soul does not come from any _____ material. The soul does not _____, is not a product of _____, and is not produced by our parents. Rather, the soul is _____ and the Church clearly teaches that "human life must be _____ and protected absolutely from _____." The soul does not perish at the moment of _____ and will be _____ with the body at the final Resurrection.
- 25.** Explain what it means to say that humans are the summit of God's creation.
- 26.** True or False? Two of the most important religious lessons that can be discerned from the creation stories are these: we are created in God's image and we are created male and female.
- 27.** Read the section on *The Equal Dignity of Men and Women* and circle True or False appropriately based on your understanding of this section.
- 27a** True False St. Edith Stein insisted that maleness and femaleness are grounded in the very soul of each person, not simple biological makeups.

- 27b** True False Objective facts about gender identity should be carefully linked to the societal definition of equality.
- 27c** True False Pope Francis insisted that we must do much more to strengthen the reciprocity between men and women.
- 27d** True False Because God is immaterial, there is no gender, male or female, in Jesus.
- 27e** True False Men and women are different in many and important ways.
- 27f** True False St. Edith Stein maintained that the holier and more Christ-centered men become, the more they will exhibit masculine gifts.
- 27g** True False St. Edith Stein maintained that the holier and more Christ-centered women become, the more they will exhibit feminine gifts.
- 27h** True False While most references to God use the pronoun “he” in Scripture, liturgy, and prayer, there are exceptions.

28. Explain how complementarity of the sexes leads to fruitfulness.

Section 3: *The Fall of Man*

29. Explain the difference between original holiness and original justice.

30. A _____ is a two-sided agreement. In the Book of _____, we read about God’s covenant with Adam and Eve. The _____ of God’s covenant and his creation are described through a _____ of literary forms and solemn _____. While God _____ his part of the covenant, Adam and Eve had to keep their parts of the agreement for it to be _____.

31. God made Adam and Eve _____: to love God or _____ God, to put God first or put themselves _____. Thus warned, they were _____ to evil and fell for the lie of Satan. In this sin, they expressed the desire to “_____” but without God’s help. Their foremost sin was _____ God and preferring

themselves to God; choosing a _____ life rather than a God-centered life.

32. List four of the consequences of the sin of Adam and Eve.

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33. True or False? Original Sin is a mystery we cannot fully understand but we can say it is “contracted” rather than “committed.”

34. True or False? We can see how Original Sin is transmitted in the ways selflessness guides our actions, the same sin that was at the root of Adam and Eve’s offense.

35. In light of the information on Original Sin in this section, circle True or False appropriately based on your understanding.

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| 35a | True | False | Jesus Christ is the definitive model of selflessness and he shared with us how to live selflessly. |
| 35b | True | False | Pelagianism mistakenly taught that people could not live morally without God’s help. |
| 35c | True | False | Martin Luther and John Calvin taught that human freedom was so radically destroyed by Original Sin that it was impossible for humans to overcome it. |
| 35d | True | False | Every person since Adam and Eve has been born into sinful humanity; transmitted by each generation. |
| 35e | True | False | The Council of Trent agreed with the first Protestant teachers and declared that humans could grow in holiness through grace. |
| 35f | True | False | The First Letter of Peter asserts that the whole world is under the power of the evil one. |
| 35g | True | False | St Augustine, in disagreeing with Pelagianism, taught that Original Sin only affected one’s descendants to the degree that it set a bad example for them. |

36. Summarize the consequences humans have experience because of Original Sin.

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Section 4: *God Make Humans Male and Female*

37. True or False? In the first account of creation, God creates male and female separately.

38. In the second creation account man is formed from _____. He is created alone, except for God who was his _____. He has dominion over the _____ in Eden. The _____ is formed from the rib of the man and they enter a _____ relationship that mirrors God's own _____ with them. Further, the account of creation stresses the _____ and equality of men and women.

39. Explain four truths that can be gleaned from the second story of creation.

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40. According to Genesis, the _____ between man and woman become an expression of God's _____ communion of love between the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, when man and woman "_____." However, _____ disrupted the relationship between men

and women causing the _____ for them to seek partners for their own _____ and use.

- 41.** _____ means the successful integration of sexuality within the person and thus the _____ unity of man in his bodily and _____ being. All people, regardless if they are _____, vowed religious, or married, are called to the _____ of chastity. Offenses against chastity include _____, fornication, pornography, prostitution, rape, and _____ acts.