

## The Eighth Day

One of my favorite Scripture readings of the year is the reading from Genesis 1:1 – 2:4 which is read at the Easter Vigil every year. It is the first story of the creation of the world and all that is in it. It is not a scientific thesis, but indeed a story told in a way that could be understood by the people in the times it was written in. None-the-less, it delivers the truth of Creation, and who it was who did the Creating.

At each step of Creation, each 'day', God conceived that which He wanted to happen, He commanded it ('let there be ...'), **and it happened!** God then saw that what He had Created was **good**.

Six 'days' and the Creation was completed, we are told, and on the seventh day God rested, and made the seventh day, the Sabbath, holy.

As I read these passages over and over and let them enter into my being, I am in awe of the completeness of God and His creation. He has a purpose and an order to everything. The world is complete, all that is to be created is created in its totality, or so I thought.

Our son Dan was home from the Seminary for Easter these past few days and in one of our discussions he brought up the teaching of the 'eighth day'. I am always surprised about how little I actually know about what my faith has in store for me! The 'eighth day', what could that be? When in the dark, check out the Catechism!

In the Catechism (CCC 349) it is written:

*"The eighth day. But for us a new day has dawned: the day of Christ's Resurrection. The seventh day completes the **first creation**. The eighth day begins the **new creation**. Thus, the work of creation culminates in the greater work of redemption. The first creation finds its meaning and its summit in the new creation in Christ the splendor of which surpasses that of the first creation."*

This whole idea of a 'new creation' excites me because it shows me that God indeed is not done with me yet! I am still being created! Created in the image and likeness of Jesus Christ.

Wow.

How many times have I heard the Scripture referring to Jesus as the 'new Adam', the Adam of the New Creation. It didn't really sink in that there is a deeper meaning.

In Christ's Resurrection we are all newly created and we become a work in progress. Our goal is perfection, as the Father is perfect. This is a goal that we on our own will never achieve, so don't let it overwhelm you.

**Perfection is a direction.** As we travel on in our journey of being created, we struggle day by day to follow more closely the Person of Jesus Christ. It is a journey and it is a struggle, but it is God the Father through His Son Jesus Christ that is doing the creating, we need only to **allow it to happen**.

I am confident that we have a God who looks at us, at whatever stage of our journey we are in, and says 'what I have created is **very good**'.

Have a Blessed Easter Season and bask in the warmth of Gods love for us on this, the eighth day.

+peace — tom

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