

Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish
Religious Education Office
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Lesson nr. 1 – Tuesday, September 29, 2020.

1. Basic review of the study of Sacred Scripture.

A) BIBLE: Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth

- a) Bible as a Revelation of God's Message to Humanity
- b) Love Letter from God
- c) Historicity of the Bible
- d) Major Divisions
- e) OT – 46 Books and the NT – 27 Books

B) Study of Types in the Bible

- a) Type or a TYPOLOGY in the BIBLICAL STUDIES
- b) A Person or an Event in the Old Testament that FORESHADOWS (PRE – FIGURES JESUS) in the NEW TESTAMENT

C) BIBLE as a SALVATION HISTORY

- a) RELIGIOUS HISTORY vs. NATURAL HISTORY

D) How to read the BIBLE

- a) 7 MAJOR COVENANTS in the BIBLE
- b) EXODUS as a CENTRAL PART of the OT

E) Ancient Translations of the BIBLE

- a) TORAH (PENTATEUCH)
- b) SEPTUAGINT
- c) VULGATE

B , more specifically OT..... is a R..... I (E)
..... of P.....H....., of A..... H..... and of
H..... T.....

- Jesus Christ did not come to abolish the Old Testament; He came to fulfill it.

2. Kingdom of God proposed in the Sacred Scripture versus our understanding of a Kingdom.

- A) The Kingdom of God proposed by Jesus Christ is radically different than the communities, towns, cities and countries we live in; as such the Kingdom of God is a Kingdom of PEACE, JUSTICE and LOVE.
- B) Challenges in PROMOTING, ESTABLISHING AND LIVING the Kingdom of God on EARTH:
 - a) Pressure of Culture, peer pressure, greed, jealousy,
 - b) Personal struggle – a life of VIRTUE or a VICE – (we will talk about that more during lesson nr. 5 - Handout nr 1 for Lesson nr 5.)
 - c) Jesus gives me COURAGE to stand for what is right.
- C) Kingdom of God not yet complete – how can we work for the kingdom?
 - a) Importance of prayer – Lord's Prayer
 - b) Sharing our faith with others – helping, standing up for, praying for those in need
- D) Living for the Kingdom of God – FUNDAMENTAL OPTION FOR CHRIST – Examples of past/contemporary SAINTS
 - a) What Catholics believe in: work for JUSTICE; share Good News about God's Kingdom; Rely on God
 - b) Examples of SS. Francis and POPE JOHN PAUL II
 - c) Solidarity as a VIRTUE and as a way of LIFE
- E) Homework – Please, describe in couple of paragraphs why in our WESTERN CATHOLIC CULTURE we are called a PERSON? What it means to be a PERSON? What makes you a PERSON?