09 – Man

I Genesis Chapter One

 A Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.” So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.”

 B man is a created being

 1 created out of love

 2 not sprung from some violent act or the result of incest or rape

 C Mankind is made in the image of God

 1 We are a weak reflection of God, not the other way around

 2 We have intellect and will – we can choose good (love)

 3 we have dominion over the creation around us – we are in charge, but will have to answer for our rule

 D mankind consists of two types – male and female

 1 equal in dignity, different in form

 2 Purpose of the difference is to multiply – produce offspring

 3 Unity of life and purpose

II Genesis Chapter 2

 A … then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being.

 1 Dual nature – body and soul

 2 The body is earthly, the soul partakes of the infinite

 3 A human being is both body and soul

 a whatever happens to the body happens go the soul

 b whatever happens to the soul happens to the body

 c burial is preferred

 4 We are both physical and spiritual

 a We are not a soul inhabiting a body, a “counciousness” tied to the physical

 b we are not just another animal species, counsious only because of evolution

 B The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

 1 labor is a natural human endeavor

 2 man is created to be inventive, industrious, and creative – like God!

 C Then the Lord God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.” 19 So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. 20 The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. 21 So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. 22 And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. 23 Then the man said, “This at last is bone of my bones

and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken.”

 1 We are made for community

 2 Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. 25 And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

 3 Marriage is a natural state, a natural good

 a natural marriage is recognized by the Church as good thing

 b naturally it is composed of one man and one woman united

 c Originally there was no miscommunications in marriage - a true unity of heart and mind and body

 d Naked and not ashamed – open to each other with complete trust and frankness

 4 no animal can make uo for the need of companionship

 a animals can bring joy

 b but they cannot fullfill the inner need of humans for company and intimacy and community

III. After the fall….

 A relationships were disrupted

 B community was disrupted

 C however the fundamental goodness of mankind remains

 D the natural unity of marriage remains

 1 made for procreation

 2 made for unity

 3 makes the natural basic form of society