
ACTIVITY 2

THE STAGES
OF DIVINE
REVELATION

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BSIT-1

THE STAGES OF DIVINE REVELATION

G	In the beginning God makes himself known	N	The Covenant with Noah	A	God Chooses Abraham	I	God forms his people Israel	W	God has said everything in his Word	R	There will be no further Revelation	M	The Magisterium of the Church
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- It pleased God, in his goodness and wisdom, to reveal himself and to make known the mystery of his will. His will was that men should have access to the Father, through Christ, the Word made flesh, in the Holy Spirit, and thus become sharers in the divine nature.- God, who creates and conserves all things by his Word, provides men with constant evidence of himself in created realities.- He manifested Himself to our first parents, Adam and Eve.- He invited them to intimate communion with himself and clothed them with resplendent grace and justice.- After the fall, God buoyed them up with the hope of salvation, by promising redemption- he wishes to give eternal life to all those who seek salvation by patience in well-doing.- Even when he disobeyed you and lost your friendship you did not abandon him to the power of death.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The covenant with Noah is God's pact with Noah, his descendants and all the animals promising them that the earth shall never again be destroyed by a flood (Gen 9:9).- The rainbow is a sign of the covenant of God with Noah.- The unity of the human race was shattered by sin God at once sought to save humanity part by part.- Beginning with Noah, God splits humanity up in many nations in order to limit the pride of fallen humanity.- The covenant with Noah remains in force during the times of the Gentiles, until the universal proclamation of the Gospel at the end of times.- gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- God called Abraham from his country in order to gather together scattered humanity.- The name Abraham means "the father of a multitude of nations".- The task of the people descended from Abraham was: 1. to be the trustees of the promise made to Abraham 2. to prepare for that day when God would gather all His children into the Church.- They would be the root on to which the Gentiles would be grafted, once they came to believe.- The patriarchs, prophets and certain other Old Testament figures have been and always will be honored as saints in all the Church's liturgical traditions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- God formed His people through Moses by: 1. freeing them from slavery in Egypt 2. establishing with them the covenant of Mount Sinai 3. giving them His Law.- The covenant of Mount Sinai contains the ten commandments and is described in Ex 19-40.- He established with them the covenant of Mount Sinai and, through Moses, gave them his law so that they would recognize him and serve him as the one living and true God, the provident Father and just judge, and so that they would look for the promised Savior.- Israel is the priestly people of God, "called by the name of the LORD", and "the first to hear the word of God", the people of "elder brethren" in the faith of Abraham.- God formed His people through the prophets by modeling them in: 1. the hope of salvation 2. the expectation of a new and everlasting Covenant.- Above all, the poor and humble of the Lord will bear this hope. Such holy women as Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, Miriam, Deborah, Hannah, Judith and Esther kept alive the hope of Israel's salvation. The purest figure among them is Mary.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a 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.- he spoke everything to us at once in this sole Word - and he has no more to say.- Because what he spoke before to the prophets in parts, he has now spoken all at once by giving us the All Who is His Son.- Any person questioning God or desiring some vision or revelation would be guilty not only of foolish behavior but also of offending him, by not fixing his eyes entirely upon Christ and by living with the desire for some other novelty.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Even if Revelation is already complete, it has not been made completely explicit; it remains for Christian faith gradually to grasp its full significance over the course of the centuries.- The function of "private" revelations approved by the Church is to help men live Christ's Revelation more fully in a certain period of history.- A "private" revelation is a message to one or more faithful given in a supernatural way. It can be approved by the Church.- God has revealed himself and given himself to man. He has thus provided the definitive, superabundant answer to the questions that man asks himself about the meaning and purpose of his life.- Christian faith cannot accept "revelations" that claim to surpass or correct the Revelation of which Christ is the fulfillment, as is the case in certain non-Christian religions and also in certain recent sects which base themselves on such "revelations".	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The magisterium of the Catholic Church is the church's authority or office to give authentic interpretation of the Word of God, "whether in its written form or in the form of Tradition."- This means that the task of interpretation has been entrusted to the bishops in communion with the successor of Peter, the Bishop of Rome.- Magisterium is not superior to the Word of God, but is its servant.- It teaches only what has been handed on to it.- Mindful of Christ's words to his apostles: "He who hears you, hears me",						

4004 BC

Genesis 9:18-27

(Gen 12:1-9)

17th-6th C. BCE
BIBLICAL TIMES
(BCE - Before the Common Era)

Ministry of Jesus and founding
Early Christianity
313-476
477-799
800-1453
1454-1599
1600-1699
1700-1799
19th century
20th century
21st century

STAGES OF DIVINE REVELATION



SACRED SCRIPTURE

- The Word of God written under the inspiration of Holy Spirit
- Jesus gave the Apostles the authority to interpret the divinely inspired scripture

SACRED TRADITION

- Divine Truth preserved and transmitted through Apostolic Teaching
- Preach the Gospel to all nations

CONCLUSION

GOD REVEALS HIMSELF IN THE EVENTS OF NATURE AND HISTORY. WE LEARN OF HIM FROM THE CHANGING SEASONS, FROM THE POWER OF NATURE, FROM THE SUN, MOON, AND STARS. WE ALSO LEARN OF HIM THROUGH HISTORY, THE PARTICULAR EVENTS THAT SHAPE THE FORTUNES OF HUMAN BEINGS. HE IS THE ONE WHO GAVE TO ALL THE NATIONS THEIR BOUNDARIES AND BROUGHT ISRAEL OUT OF SLAVERY IN EGYPT TO POSSESS THE LAND OF PROMISE. IN HIS PLAN, GENERAL HISTORY BECOMES REDEMPTIVE HISTORY, THE EVENTS BY WHICH GOD ARRANGES TO REDEEM HIS PEOPLE FROM SIN BY THE COMING OF JESUS. IF WE ARE TO KNOW GOD, IT IS IMPORTANT FOR US TO SEEK KNOWLEDGE IN GOD'S OWN WAY. BIBLE HAS TOLD US NOT ONLY WHO HE IS BUT ALSO HOW WE SHOULD SEEK KNOWLEDGE OF HIM. THAT KNOWLEDGE COMES AS WE ATTEND TO HIS CREATED WORLD, NOT REPRESSING THE TRUTH IN UNRIGHTEOUSNESS, BUT ACCEPTING HIS OWN GUIDANCE, HIS SPECIAL REVELATION IN SCRIPTURE AND IN JESUS. ONLY THROUGH THESE APPOINTED MEANS CAN WE COME TO KNOW HIM AS LORD AND AS OUR SAVIOR FROM SIN.