DEFENDING AND CONFIRMING OUR FAITH

Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope (1 Peter 3:15).

Adam and Eve, A Myth?

Cardinal George Pell, the highest ranking clergy in Australia said Adam and Eve did not exist.

(Source: http://au.news.yahoo.com/a/-/newshome/13381016/pell-says-adam-and-eve-didnt-exist/ April 10, 2012).

Quote

Pell says Adam and Eve didn't exist

In comments that may shock some staunch Catholics, Cardinal George Pell has described the biblical story of Adam and Eve as a myth.

He appeared alongside renowned evolutionary biologist and atheist, Professor Richard Dawkins, on the ABC's Q&A program last night.

Cardinal Pell said the existence of Adam and Eve was not a matter of science but rather a mythological account.

"It's a very sophisticated mythology to try to explain the evil and the suffering in the world," he said.

"It's a religious story told for religious purposes."

According to Genesis, God created Adam and Eve as the first man and woman and all people are descended from them.

Cardinal Pell's explosive comments came after he was questioned about evolution.

He said it was impossible to say when there was a first human.

It is widely accepted in the scientific community that life on Earth has evolved over about four billion years. Unquote

Sad to say, this is an attack on our Catholic faith by one of our Church's own. To say Adam and Eve did not exist is to say there is no Original Sin. To say there is no Original Sin, is to have no explanation of how sin came into the world. To say there is after all no sin is to say there is no need of a saviour.

What does the Bible say?

The Lord God formed man out of the clay of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life, and so man became a living being (Genesis 2:7).

So the Lord God cast a deep sleep on the man, and while he was asleep, He took out one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. The Lord God then built up into a woman the rib that He had taken from the man (Genesis 2:22).

Also read Romans 5:12-19. It explains how sin came into the world.

What does God say of Scripture:

Heaven and earth will pass away but my words will never pass away. (Luke 21:33).

What does the teaching and the Catechism of the Catholic Church say?

The Church, interpreting the symbolism of biblical language in an authentic way in the light of the New Testament and Tradition, teaches that <u>our first parents</u>, <u>Adam and Eve</u>, were constituted in an original 'state of holiness and justice'. This grace of original holiness was 'to share in...divine life.' (cf. CCC375)

We have absolute clarity regarding the truth of Adam and Eve taken from Humani Generis (1950). This is an encyclical which is the highest ranking document stating that we must adhere to monogenism:

3897. When there is a question of another conjectural opinion, namely, of polygenism so-called, then the sons of the Church in no way enjoy such freedom. For the faithful in Christ cannot accept this view, which holds that either after Adam there existed men on this earth, who did not receive their origin by natural generation from him, the first parent of all; or that Adam signifies some kind of multitude of first parents; for it is by no means apparent how such an opinion can be reconciled with what the sources of revealed truth and the acts of the Magisterium of the Church teaches about original sin, which proceeds from a sin truly committed by one Adam, and which is transmitted to all by generation, and exists in each one as his own [cf. *Rom* 5:12-19; Concilium Tridentinum, Sessio V, canones 1-4]..

What does our Blessed Mother Mary say?

Source: To the Priests, Our Lady's Beloved Sons, The Marian Movement of Priest Extract: from message #476 – Your Priestly Fidelity (dated September 8, 1992, Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

Quote

Be faithful to the ministry of the Word

How numerous today are those priests who become victims of many errors. These errors are taught, disseminated and propagated under the form of new cultural interpretations of the truth. And thus, they are easily accepted, and they lead a great number of my children away from the true faith.

Yours are the times foretold by Holy Scripture. There are arising today many false teachers, who are teaching fables and leading the faithful away from the truth of the Gospel.

You must always preach the Gospel of Jesus with courage and in its full literal sense. In this way you remain in true faith and you help the little remnant to remain firm in the security of the faith, in these times of universal apostasy. *Unquote*

<u>Prayer</u>

Jesus, You are the Way, the Truth and the Life. We are living in times of great apostasy. Open our eyes to see the truth with clarity. Help us not accept any falsehoods that offend God but are presented to us as truth. Help us treasure our faith and always have the courage to rise and defend it when it is under attack. Mary, Protectress of our Faith, pray for us. Amen.