

Narratio

Introduction to Sacred Scripture

One Story

- I. God has been unfolding a story from before creation, a story of love fulfilled in Jesus
- II. The purpose of the Narratio is to see how all Scripture points to and is completed in Jesus Christ
- III. The story reveals not just who Christ is, but who we are
- IV. Why begin with the story?
 - a. Understanding the story precedes understanding the doctrines it reveals
 - b. The Church has been given insights into how the parts of the story connect
- V. **Matthew 5:17** “Do not think that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfill them.”
 - a. Jesus is the convergence point of the whole biblical narrative
 - b. Once it is clear Jesus is the key, Scripture opens up as a unified whole
 - c. The Old Testament is a preparation and anticipation
 - d. The New Testament is a fulfillment, not a mere continuation
- VI. **Origen of Alexandria, Homilies on Joshua, 9.8** Jesus reads the law to us when he reveals the mysteries of the law. For we who belong to the Catholic Church do not reject the Law of Moses, we embrace it, on the condition that Jesus read it to us. For we are not able to understand the law rightly if Jesus does not read it to us, for when he reads it to us we grasp his mind and meaning.

Road to Emmaus

- I. Two disciples of Jesus are discouraged and travelling away from Jerusalem to Emmaus and are joined by the unrecognized risen Christ
- II. **Luke 24:25-27** “O foolish men, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?” And beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.
 - a. The disciples only recognize Jesus in the Eucharist (the breaking of the bread)
- III. Table discussion
 - a. Has there been a moment when something about your faith finally clicked? When something someone else said helped you understand something you had never understood before?
- IV. Jesus appears to the gathered disciples
 - a. **Luke 24:44** “These are my words which I spoke to you, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and the psalms must be fulfilled.”
 - b. Jesus reminds them of what they should already know, what he had already taught them

- c. **Hugh of St. Victor, De arca Noe morali, 2.7** All of Divine Scripture is one book, and that one book is Christ, because all of Divine Scripture speaks of Christ, and all of Divine Scripture is fulfilled in Christ.

Typology

- I. The study of types – where Old Testament people and events prefigure New Testament realities
- II. The Law and the Prophets are ordered toward and fulfilled in the New Covenant
 - a. **Colossians 2:16-17** Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. These are only a shadow of what is to come; but the substance belongs to Christ.
 - b. The Old Testament witness is a shadow of Christ and his Church