

ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΙΚΟΣ ΠΛΗΡΩΜΑΤΟΣ  
Apostolic Church of the Pleroma

*Delivered by Tau Bruno  
to the Parish of St. Ambelain  
on Sunday, November 1, 2015*

YEAR B - ALL SAINTS

Greetings brothers. I am pleased to be delivering today's homily & the homilies for the next few weeks, wrapping up our liturgical year. Oft times we are accused of being overly focused on death. This is not true. The truth is, we are focused on living. We don't look towards death, but for a transcending life. We have been separated from our true home, forced to live on some primitive island, only allowed to bring our tiem with us. Our world is truly parodied by such shows as Naked and Afraid, or Survivor Man. In the show Dual Survivors, the goal of the survivors is to escape some wilderness, the reward being the comfort of civilization. But this is a false, illusory reward. Even in civilization they must struggle to survive, struggle to avoid death. Most Christians are under this same illusion. They believe that once they escape this world, this fantastical reward called heaven awaits them.

Let us look at our Second Reading: "I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and the sea is no longer." Now this passage is only clear if you are knowledgeable of Gnsotic doctrine. We believe this world to be an imperfect creation by an imperfect creator. The heaven that this creator promises, like the earth, is imperfect and not eternal. This does not mean that the One True God does not create. Because all things are within Him, the need to create, or more accurately emanate, is a potentiality within God, which becomes a kinetic force simply by its antecedent existence. With the creation of this imperfect world, the beginning of the end was triggered. The best example of this process is described by the way we breathe. For every breath you exhale, an inhalation is performed. We picture the emanation of God in much the same way. First comes an outpouring of force, an emanation of the pure, creative essence of the Father. However, eventually an inbreathing must occur, whether because time has expired, or a perversion has occurred.

Now like those survivors mentioned earlier, we too have been placed here with only one tool. This tool is the eternal Spirit, gifted us from on high. It is like a knife, cutting away the veil which separates us from the new heaven. Perhaps it is a piece of flint, lighting our way through the abyss. Or mayhaps it is a shelter, keeping us safe from the elements. Truly I tell you, it is an all-purpose tool. It does all of the things just mentioned, and more. It will see you through the wilderness, back to civilization, and beyond to a new heaven and a new earth. For as our scripture tells us, "Look, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them and will be their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and eath will be no longer, nor grief, nor crying, nor pain will be any longer, because the first things passed away."

(Pause for a moment of silent contemplation.)