

ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΙΚΟΣ ΠΛΗΡΩΜΑΤΟΣ  
Apostolic Church of the Pleroma

*Delivered by Tau Bruno II  
to the Parish of St. Ambelain  
on Sunday, November 8, 2015*

YEAR B - PROPER 27

Greetings brethren, today our readings for Proper 27 contain much that is common to Gnostic philosophy. I want to focus mainly on the concept that this world reflects, or imitates, that of the above.

This should not seem like an alien concept. The reason the divine Sophia created the demiurge, the creator of this world, is because she contained the creative need that God the Father has. The demiurge inherited this same need. This same characteristic has even descended as far as humanity. It is the reason why we procreate, attempt to paint masterpieces, and even build monuments and nations. It is an unconscious, inherited need which is imbued within us from the Father Himself.

The problem is, only the Father can truly create. Anything created without the Father is only an imitation, thus not perfect. This is where the divine Sophia first erred. When she had witnessed all that the Father had done in his infinite perfection, like the Father she desired to create herself. Everything that had thus far come into being had only done so with the help of the Father. This meant that all was perfectly made, beautiful to behold. Sophia, desiring to create such beauty, generated from herself a child, the Demiurge; but without the Father's help, this was not a perfect creation. When you compare anything which is imperfect with that of ultimate perfection, it will appear naturally deformed, terrible to look upon. Sophia, seeing this, next erred by shutting this deformed child away from the rest of perfection. This child, initially unaware of his own imperfections, did what came natural to him: he created.

By this time the perversion had descended far below the perfection of the Father. As our scripture states, "They have imitated it, ...mocked the freedom and purity of the perfect assembly." "For the law is but a shadow of the Good that is to come; and not the true form of those things..." For us, the god of this world appears all-powerful and beautiful in his viscious creativeness. But the evils and imperfections of this world prove him not to be the True God.

To rectify this imperfect creation, the Father tasked Sophia with giving Man the divine Spark, which only He can grant. This caused us to truly live, giving us the opportunity to ascend past this perverted existence and become reunited with the original Principle: the One True God. To help enliven that Spark, Christ, the true celestial Son of God, was sent to guide us home. To do this he came under the guise of this world. Because to save man he had to become man, he had to die to this world to reveal the eternal life which is available to us. I leave you to meditate on the final words of our second reading: "We have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once and for all."