

# The Linacre Quarterly

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Volume 54 | Number 2

Article 2

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May 1987

## Message from the Spiritual Advisor: From the Beginning: Evil

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### Recommended Citation

Lorenzetti, Dino J. (1987) "Message from the Spiritual Advisor: From the Beginning: Evil," *The Linacre Quarterly*: Vol. 54 : No. 2 , Article 2.

Available at: <http://epublications.marquette.edu/lnq/vol54/iss2/2>

## Message from the Spiritual Advisor



### *From the Beginning: Evil*

Before our first parents committed original sin, the tempter, the prince of devils, had already fallen from the grace of God and scored his victory on the goodness of God's love. This has been described in the Book of Genesis where God made the environment and then the first couple during His six days of creation. It was from these earliest days that the subject of evil has tormented humankind.

Pragmatism teaches us to discard, reject or destroy all that is no longer useful. Tragically, this philosophy of life has gone far beyond such things as furniture and appliances. It has invaded the very realm of the divine by destroying the gifts of God which He designed for His loving relationship with man.

Through scientific experimentation, love is totally absent from the act of procreation as children are "made" in a dish. With the killing of unwanted babies in their mother's womb, God's goodness is frustrated, and evil is perpetuated!

In the parables given to us by Jesus, there is a gap of time to be considered from the moment of planting the seed and its harvest. That time is for the minerals in the soil, the sunshine and rain to do their work through God's intervention so that the seed will grow and bear fruit. St. Paul (1C 3-6) states it this way: "I have planted, Apollo watered, but God has given the growth."

The pragmatic way is doing it *my* way. The Christian's way is calling on God for His intervention, realizing that His gifts of grace are more than important; they are essential.

In witnessing His Gospel, which is contrary to the allurements of the world, the flesh and the devil, a Eucharistic physician is infused with the blood of Christ. So as Jesus overcame the prince of d(evil)s, so, too, the person of faith, united with Him, may do the same. St. Paul states: "Do you know that we shall judge the angels?" (1C 6-3).

Devotees of the Blessed Virgin, Queen of Angels, recognize that she has supremacy over all spirits, even over those who have fallen from on high and "roam the world seeking the ruination of souls". Being confident of her protection, no one need be afraid, but rather uplifted with the prayer taught by the Church that "it has never been known that anyone who invoked your help was left unaided".

In the Communion rite of every Mass, these words are repeated with fervor to our heavenly Father: "Deliver us, Lord, from every evil and grant us peace in our day. In your mercy, keep us free from sin and protect us from all anxiety as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ".

Pitiful are those pragmatists when their lives seem "useless", while the faithful are blessed who await the coming of the Savior, believe in His victory over evil, and rejoice in His promise of eternal life.

— Msgr. Dino J. Lorenzetti

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