

The Texts of the Convivium

**LET'S GIVE GOD THE CREATOR
HIS TRUE IMAGE BACK**

In its highest expression, creation is the gift of oneself. At best, it is total gift. Here the Creator makes Himself creature so that the creature itself can ascend to the supreme level of Creator. According to the saying of a great theological saint of the Christian Eastern world, God makes Himself man so that man can make himself God.

This concept of creation, that is so exquisitely mystical, so extensive, goes against a concept of creation that I would call judicial.

It would not so much be an immediate expansion of His spirit that would induce God to giving Himself to us in all His perfection and saintliness, omniscience, almightiness and supreme ability to create beauty. A God conceived in such different terms would place Himself in every single creature to make a trial of them, to play as Judge.

He would accurately note down their good and bad actions and consider them in odd or even pages of a kind of ledger.

The image that the "friends of God" had formed of their Creator, would, in this way, be even more like that of a great Accountant of good and bad actions, of prizes to be awarded and punishments to inflict.

Could there ever be anything more squalid and limited? Loving God Father and Mother should scrutinize us and look us up and down from high up in a pulpit to give us marks. This column of figures is no longer a symbolic recording of progress made and deficiencies to be made up: it is a simple maniacal operation.

We can set the creation-process against creation as an act of love and never ending gift of oneself to creatures.

God doesn't create to obtain the spectacle of creatures competing in goodness or those who defy Him in rebellion. He creates for an entirely immediate and spontaneous act, that comes from pure sentiment.

Infinite praise to God, but no more images of men who, led astray in their minds or - at least we hope - only the immature could have moulded of Him clearly deforming Him. No more God the Policeman and Inquisitor, God the Peeping Tom, God the Accountant of Sin. Let's give the Creator His true image back to Him.