

Student Notes for Unit 2

Key Understandings for This Unit

These are the key concepts you need to understand by the end of the unit:

- Divine Revelation refers to God's self-communication through which he makes known the mystery of his divine plan.
- God revealed himself in many different ways in the Bible and continues to do so today.
- Divine Inspiration is the divine assistance the Holy Spirit gave the authors of the books of the Bible so the authors could write in human words the salvation message God wanted to communicate.
- Revelation, Inspiration, and vocation are closely connected in scriptural accounts, as well as in our lives today.

Article 1: Longing for God

1. What does it mean to say that humans are religious beings?

2. Give two examples from the Scriptures that illustrate the human search for God and two examples from the lives of saints.

Article 2: God's Invitation

1. Explain in your own words how the Incarnation is an invitation from God.



Article 3: Happiness in God Alone

1. What messages do we get about happiness from our culture, especially from popular advertisements? According to most of these, what are the sources of true happiness?

2. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states that God is “our first and ultimate goal” (229). How does this relate to our happiness?

Article 4: Saint Augustine and the Four Objects of Love

In teaching about the true meaning of love, Saint Augustine proclaimed that there are four objects we should love. Name these four objects and briefly state how we should love each of them.

1.

2.

3.

4.



Article 5: The Sacred Scriptures and Natural Revelation

1. Define natural revelation.

2. Give one example of natural revelation from the Old Testament and one example from the New Testament.

Article 6: Natural Revelation and the Wisdom of the Church Fathers

1. Describe two ways the Fathers of the Church taught that God can be known through natural revelation.

Article 7: Natural Revelation and Scholastic Theology

Describe in your own words Saint Thomas Aquinas's five proofs of God's existence.

Proof 1:

Proof 2:

Proof 3:



Proof 4:

Proof 5:

Article 8: Natural Revelation: Vatican Council I to the Present

1. John Henry Cardinal Newman developed a theory asserting that a number of probable indicators point to the existence of God. None of these indicators alone can prove the existence of God, but when you consider all of them together, they make a powerful argument for God's existence. This theory is called the _____.

2. Describe what the theologian Karl Rahner meant when he used the image of a horizon to illustrate that God is Absolute Mystery.

