

ANGELA CENTER – Winter / Spring 2006 Program Calendar

The Validity of Literary Types
Led by Geoff Wood
4 Wednesdays, 7- 8:30 pm
March 15- April 5, 2006
Cost: \$60

We live in an age where truth must meet the measure of mankind. In other words, it must submit to the measurements, the tests we have designed for it to be accepted as valid. We observe, we sense connections, we test what we see in order to preclude our imagination's getting in the way and we finally accept as true, as a fact that the earth rotates around the sun or this medication prevents this ailment. In other words, the truth of things must venture within whatever flexible boundaries we can control. We prefer to make the truth come to us, yield to us – so as not to be deceived by wishful thinking.

But what about the truths of Scripture and literature? In all such material we are presented with real or fictional people and events which are raised to a typical level and declared to be valid assessments of human nature and human destiny. Imagined or embellished as they are, can they be held as valid unveilings of something at least as true as the truths of science – and even truer than true?

We shall look at such unveilings or revelations of human nature and destiny as they occur in Goethe's *Faust* and Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings* and possibly other works to see whether they in particular say anything about life on this planet that's as valid as the nature of things you find in a science textbook – and maybe more so. We shall also discuss how and when it was that the validity of such literature came to be doubted.

Dr. Wood has a Ph.D. in Sacred Theology from Catholic University, Washington, D.C. and a Licentiate in Sacred Scripture from Rome's Pontifical Bible University. He has taught at Catholic University, Swarthmore and Bucknell University.

Angela Center Reservation Information

Please pay the full amount when you register. For overnight programs, payment will be refunded, less a \$35 processing fee, if you cancel two weeks before the program date. No refund will be made after this date. For classes, one-day workshops and seminars, no refund will be made after the starting date.

To register, mail a check to the:

Angela Center, 535 Angela Drive
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

along with your name, mailing address, phone number(s) and the name of the class(es) or workshop(s) you want to attend.

For further information call the Angela Center between 9am-2pm, Monday through Friday at 707/ 528-8578. Work/scholarship assistance is available for most of our programs. Please call for more information.

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