

Create a Symbolic Sculpture | The Heaven of the Silver Age

People who lived at the time of the Ancient Church learned to think about things in heaven when they saw something here on earth. For example, when they saw the sun, they thought of the Lord. When they saw clean water they thought of the Lord's truth. Whenever they saw an animal, a tree, a mountain or a river, or the sun, moon, or stars they thought of something that had to do with the Lord or heaven.

The people of the Ancient Church sometimes made statues of animals and people to keep in their homes or temples to help them think more about true ideas from the Lord.

Think of your favorite animal or think about one of the statues from our story when Swedenborg visited the heaven of the Silver Age. Create a silver sculpture and place it near your copy of the Word.

Materials

silver modeling clay *or* water-based clay in any color
optional: silver spray paint, or glue and silver glitter

Directions

1. Create a sculpture to represent a spiritual idea, for example:
 - horse (understanding of the Word)
 - lamb or sheep (innocence—willingness to follow the Lord)
 - lion (power of the Lord's love fighting through us from the Word)
 - bird (thoughts)
 - fish (facts)
 - grapes (wine = spiritual intelligence)
 - fruit (useful acts)
2. If you have used a clay that is not silver, allow the sculpture to dry and harden and then use spray paint to make it silver, or spread glue on the sculpture and cover it with silver glitter. Allow to dry.