**FRAGMENTS OF CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY**

**(How to be good disciples of Jesus today)**

**Catanzaro 08 January 2018**

**WHEN DO YOU LOSE TRUST IN GOD?**

**Trust in God is lost, when we no longer keep the commandments, we place ourselves outside the Word, we live in sin and disobedience.**

**When we get out of obedience to the Word, we come out of the grace. With the grace we are strong. Without the grace we are very weak, we collapse.**

**When we get out of the grace, we fail even in prayer and without prayer we are always prey to temptation.**

**Without prayer we do not only fall into small transgression, we also fall into big and heavy ones. We are without any resistance.**

**Without prayer, the Holy Spirit cannot be revived. Being the Spirit our one and only strength, without him there are only defeats.**

**If we are out of the Word, not even the Mother of the Lord can be our strength. We must first return to the Word.**

**Can the Angels of God help us? They cannot help us either. We are out of the Word. They can only drive us to re-enter the Gospel.**

**Can men come to our rescue? They can tell us a good word, but if we do not immediately return to the Gospel and the word I produce little.**

**Whoever does not want to lose faith in God must always be filled with strength that comes from God. The strength that comes from God is his Holy Spirit.**

**When the Spirit fills us with all his divine power? When we dwell in the Word of Jesus, we walk from grace to grace, we enliven him.**

**How is the Spirit of God revived? Putting in action all the means of grace placed by the Lord at our disposal. Do we know these means?**

**For us they are: the Sacrament of Confession and the Eucharist, the prayer made with faith and without interruption, the Recitation of the Holy Rosary.**

**Anchors are: the spiritual direction for the holy discernment, the daily reading of the Gospel and the examination of conscience for its purification.**

**Anchors are: fidelity to the mission lived with faith, humility and communion. Obedience to every command that comes to us from the Holy Spirit.**

**The Holy Spirit can speak to us immediately, moving the heart to action, but also by a mediated way and through the ministers of the Word.**

**He can also speak to us through our brothers and sisters, asking us to do something for them or suggesting us ways and modes for our lives.**

**Who remains in the divine rules, never gets lost, never fails and never loses trust in the Lord. Who is in the Holy Spirit is always strengthened by Him.**

**The loss of trust in God immediately becomes a loss of trust in ourselves, loss of trust in forgiveness and mercy.**

**Judah lost confidence in forgiveness, despaired of salvation, fell into sin against the Holy Spirit. This happened because one is out of the Word.**

**THE LIFE OF THE MISSION IS THE HOLY SPIRIT**

**The mission is always the work of God in man. First truth. Each person is called for a part of mission, not for the whole mission.**

**And this is the second truth. Every stretch of the mission is always the Lord to determine it, choosing the person that I will have to do it.**

**The Lord calls Abraham. The mission is not accomplished in Abraham. To Abraham follows Isaac. To Isaac Jacob. Jacob follows Judah.**

**The Lord calls Moses. Moses brings the people to the gates of the promised land. Who brings the people to the Promised Land is Joshua.**

**In the Promised Land the Lord has always been the one to arouse his prophets, that is, the bearers of his Word in his people.**

**Jesus comes. Not even with him the mission of salvation reaches all the men of the earth. He remains only about thirty-three years among us.**

**He completes the objective redemption. The subjective redemption is entrusted to his Apostles. But they too end their term.**

**They transmit the Holy Spirit to others and this until the advent of the Lord's Parousia. Nobody starts and no one finishes the work of God.**

**The mandate from the Father to fulfil the mission of salvation is the Holy Spirit. When the person carrying him dies, the Spirit does not die.**

**The Spirit of the Lord continues through others his mission of salvation, in favour of every man. We all die, the Spirit of God remains.**

**The mission is the fruit of the eternal and immortal Holy Spirit. People only carry out a stretch of road, then they have to leave, abandon.**

**The Holy Spirit rests powerfully on other people and the mission continues the journey. If the Spirit were not there, there would be no mission.**

**The Holy Spirit is the truth and continuity of the mission. Since the Spirit of God is immortal, the mission of salvation will proceed in generations.**

**PERSON AND MISSION**

**There is a third truth that no one will have to forget. In the Church of God the mission is not given to one person, but to the whole Church.**

**Everyone in the Church receives the Holy Spirit to fulfil the mission of salvation and redemption. Each according to his charisma.**

**But also each according to his ministry, mission and task received. The gifts change, the mission does not change. The same goes for people.**

**Since it is the Holy Spirit the one who calls each person individually, the person called by the Spirit must always obey the Spirit.**

**Can a mission in which every single person is called by the Virgin Mary for the remembrance of the Word of her Son Jesus end?**

**If then each person transmits the mission - because this command has been given to him - to a thousand others, the mission might never fail.**

**A charisma and a modality of its exercise will fail, the charismas of the Holy Spirit will never fail and never the people called.**

**The History of Salvation reminds us that some people have failed in the mission entrusted to them. The Lord has always provided for others.**

**Judah has failed. Peter, as his first action of government of the Church, immediately provided that the number of the Twelve be recomposed.**

**If we read the parable of the homicidal winemaker, we will find that Jesus says: "The kingdom will be taken from you and it will be given to a people that will produce its fruits".**

**St. Paul then warns all believers in Christ to pay attention: "Whoever is standing, let him be careful not to fall". The Spirit does not depend on us.**

**That's why the mission never dies and might never die. The Holy Spirit will raise people according to his heart to do his work.**

**The called must put heart, mind, spirit, soul and body, growing from virtue to virtue and from obedience to obedience so that everything will succeed through him.**

**THE MISSION OF THE REMEMBRANCE OF THE WORD**

**The mission of remembrance the Word is not difficult, is not complex and is not impossible. It is a simple mission and everyone can live it.**

**What does this mission consist of? In three simple rules to be observed. The first rule wants the Word to be known.**

**The second rule wants it to be lived. The third rule wants it to be reminded. How do you know, live and remind?**

**It is known with the daily reading of the Gospel and with the frequent attendance of catechesis. Without contact with the Word there is no knowledge.**

**How do you live it? Putting all attention first of all to acquire God's thoughts and thinking as God thinks. It all starts with thoughts.**

**If you do not think like God thinks, everything is useless. The disciple of Jesus first of all manifests Christ the Lord with his thoughts.**

**When the thought is not that of Christ, but that of the world, there is no mission of salvation. The thought of God that guides our mind is missing.**

**Put the thoughts of Christ in the mind and in the heart, they are also immediately put on the lips. We speak with the thoughts of God and of Christ Jesus.**

**With the thoughts of Christ and the Word of Christ, the actions will also be those of Christ Jesus. They will be actions of very pure obedience to the Word.**

**To know if a person lives according to the Gospel, it is sufficient to observe how he speaks. If he does not speak according to the Gospel, he does not even think.**

**If he does not think according to the Gospel he does not even live. If he does not live according to the Gospel, there is a clear separation between life and the faith he says he has.**

**How is the Word of Jesus announced? First of all, thinking in everything according to the Word. It is the first true remembrance of the Word.**

**Then it is announced speaking with the words of Christ, even if transformed into words of a man. If we do not speak in words of Christ, there is no remembrance.**

**Finally, witnessing to each person, why we think and talk and act in a different way. I am this way because I believe in Christ the Lord.**

**I believe in Christ the Lord, because I believe in his Word. I think according to his Word, I speak according to his Word and I live according to his Word.**

**Today, the first Christian failure is not thinking according to the thoughts of God and of Christ Jesus. Not thinking, we might not ever even speak.**

**Not thinking and not speaking according to the thoughts of Christ, we might not ever even act. You live a life only of appearance. The heart is not with Christ.**

**But everything starts with the daily immersion in the Word of Jesus. The knowledge of the thought of Christ according to his Word is essential.**

**Whoever detaches himself from the Word of Jesus physically will also detach himself spiritually. Whoever does not possess it before his eyes does not possess it.**

**It is from the eyes and the ears that the Word of Jesus passes into the heart. The detachment from the eyes is detachment from the heart; it becomes detached from life.**

**THE TRUE SIGN OF FAITH: THE BELIEVER**

**All the signs of Scripture have only one purpose: Accrediting the man of God who credits God, speaking in his name.**

**The magicians of Egypt confess that in Moses the finger of God acts, that is, his Omnipotence, against which they can do nothing. They retire.**

**The widow of Sarepta confesses, after the resurrection of her son, that Elijah is true man of God and that the true word of the Lord is in him.**

**Naaman the Syrian, after his recovery from leprosy in the Jordan river, proclaims that there is no other true God but the God of Israel.**

**At the Cana wedding Jesus performed the miracle of the wine and the disciples believed in him. From the sign to the true faith in the person.**

**At night Nicodemus goes to Jesus and attests to him that God is with him. Nicodemus comes to this profession of faith by observing the signs of Jesus.**

**The sign has only one purpose: accrediting the Person that bears God, that bears his Word, that speaks in the name of God and that announces the true Word of God.**

**The true sign, the sign that everyone must see, is the one that from time to time does the man of God. Man of God and sign walk together.**

**The sign attests to the presence of the true God in the man of God. God acts through the person that carries him and that is sent to bring him.**

**In this sense every disciple of Jesus, bearing Jesus, must attest with the Words and the works that Jesus is with him. The sign manifests the invisible Christ.**

**All the miracles of Jesus attest to the truth of Jesus. They are the sign that the Father is with Him. That the Father sent him. The Father is with Jesus.**

**Even the Christian must attest that Jesus is with him. He is with him for the thoughts he thinks, but he is with him for the words he says.**

**He is with him with the works he carries out, that are all works according to the Word of the Lord. Thus a Christian and the sign are one.**

**When the Christian and the sign are not one, it is a sign that Jesus is not with the Christian or he is not yet fully with him.**

**It is necessary to remedy, otherwise, if the world does not see the Christian with Christ and Christ with the Christian, it will never be open to faith in Christ.**

**As faith in the Father passed through faith in Christ, so today faith in Christ passes through faith in the disciple of Christ.**

**When is it true faith in the disciple of Christ? When the world seeing the Christian will say: truly in this man it is Christ the one that works and acts.**

**THE TRUE SIGN OF FAITH: THE LIVED GOSPEL**

**The sign that all are called to give to the world, so that it opens to faith in Christ Jesus, is the lived Gospel, the Word observed.**

**If the Christian wants the world to see him as a true man of Christ, it must see him as a true man of the Beatitudes and of the Sermon on the Mount.**

**First of all, the Christian must be the man of the faithful observance of every Commandment. They are Ten and all Ten must be observed.**

**Whoever is out of the Ten Commandments might never be seen as a man of God. He is not in the Word of God. never might he say the Word of God.**

**Only who lives the Word of God might say the Word of God. Might an adulterer ever preach conjugal fidelity? He will never be credible.**

**Might a thief ever announce the respect of the Commandment that prohibits the taking of things that are not the fruit of our sweat?**

**Might one that practices superstition surrender himself to God's Providence? Never. He is out of the true worship of God according to the First Commandment.**

**From the Commandments we must then move on to the Beatitudes, not according to personal interpretation, but according to the explanation given by Jesus.**

**Whoever lives the Discourse of the Mountain in all its Words, is a true sign that Christ Jesus is his thought, his word and his actions.**

**Jesus gives as a sign of recognition that one is his disciple by the love that believers in him will have one for the other.**

**The love of one towards others opens hearts to believe that the disciples are truly of Jesus, the Crucifix for love. From charity to faith.**

**Now it is right that everyone asks himself: am I a true sign for the faith in Christ of every other man? Do I live the Gospel according to the will of Christ Jesus?**

**If the Gospel is not lived by me according to the teaching of Jesus, I am not a sign and if I am not a sign, no faith will be born in the hearts for me.**

**Here is how the Gospel is truly reminded: living the whole Gospel according to the teaching of Lord Jesus. I live, I remind.**

**THE YOUNG WAY OF TRUE CONVERSION**

**When is a young man true way of conversion for another young man? When with his life he attests that Christ is his heart and his mind.**

**When he gives to Christ Jesus his thoughts, every desire, every aspiration and all his will. When it is Christ the one that lives in him.**

**When he attests with his body that he does not follow the passions of the earth, but possesses full dominion of himself, the true fruit of the Holy Spirit.**

**When he attests that his nature is different. It is a spiritual nature. When he reveals that the end of his life is different than any other end.**

**Generally, ends of sin and vice are often lived. His purpose is virtues and perfect obedience to every Word of Jesus the Lord.**

**When he manifests that he is in the world, but does not follow the world, because he is all committed to building the kingdom of God in his life.**

**Life is the true path of conversion. If life does not change, the Word does not change. The world hears us, but it hears itself and remains itself.**

**CALLED TO TRUE CONVERSION**

**Our call is to true conversion. From conversion we can ask everything to the Virgin and for her to Christ Jesus.**

**If we remain in sin, in vice, in the insensitivity to her call of love, the Mother can only pray to God for our conversion.**

**With her help, her prayer will be converted and then our prayer will be answered and the glory of the Lord will flood our land.**

**SHORT FINAL CONSIDERATIONS**

**The true Christian mission is the remembrance of the Word of Jesus. Saint Paul reveals it with divine truth and light: Faith is born of preaching. Preaching takes place by making the Word of Christ the Lord echo. The Word is not reminded mounting stages on every square and shouting it to those who pass by on the street. It must first be transformed into our life and then as our Word be given to the whole world. The transformation into our flesh and blood, because only in this way is it covered with credibility, with the Holy Spirit, with the strength of conversion and salvation. If it does not become our flesh and our life, it will never produce a single fruit of conversion. But we will not even proclaim it. We will say our words, certainly not the Gospel of Jesus the Lord. The Gospel is announced from the heart not from the book.**

***The mission of remembrance of the Word is not difficult, is not complex and is not impossible. It is a simple mission and everyone can live it. What does this mission consist of? In three simple rules to be observed. The first rule wants the Word to be known. The second rule wants it to be lived. The third rule wants it to be reminded. How do you know, live and remind it? It is known with the daily reading of the Gospel and with the frequent attendance of catechesis. Without contact with the Word there is no knowledge. How do you live it? Putting every attention first of all to acquire God's thoughts and thinking as God thinks. It all starts with thoughts. If you do not think like God thinks, everything is useless. The disciple of Jesus first manifests Christ the Lord with his thoughts. When the thought is not that of Christ, but that of the world, there is no mission of salvation. The thought of God that guides our mind is missing. Having put the thoughts of Christ in the mind and in the heart, they are also immediately put on the lips. We speak with the thoughts of God and of Christ Jesus. With the thoughts of Christ and the Word of Christ, the actions will also be those of Christ Jesus. They will be actions of very pure obedience to the Word. To know if a person lives according to the Gospel, it is sufficient to observe how he speaks. If he does not speak according to the Gospel, he does not even think.***

***If he does not think according to the Gospel he does not even live. If he does not live according to the Gospel, there is a clear separation between life and the faith he says he has. How is the Word of Jesus announced? First of all, thinking in all things according to the Word. It is the first true remembrance of the Word. Then it is announced by speaking with the words of Christ, even if transformed into words of a man. If we do not speak with the words of Christ, there is no remembrance. Finally, witnessing to each person, why we think and talk and act in a different way. I am so because I believe in Christ the Lord. I believe in Christ the Lord, because I believe in his Word. I think according to his Word, I speak according to his Word, I live according to his Word. Today, the first Christian failure is not thinking according to the thoughts of God and of Christ Jesus. Not thinking, we might never speak. Not thinking and not speaking according to the thoughts of Christ, we might not even act. You live a life only of appearance. The heart is not with Christ. But everything starts with the daily immersion in the Word of Jesus. The knowledge of the thought of Christ according to his Word is essential. Whoever detaches himself from the Word of Jesus physically will also detach himself spiritually. Whoever does not possess it before his eyes does not possess it. It is from the eyes and the ears that the Word of Jesus passes into the heart. The detachment from the eyes is detachment from the heart and becomes detached from life.***

**When the disciple of Jesus believes in the Word, making it become his flesh and his blood, the world will be flooded with a river of conversion and salvation. Christ Jesus has placed the redemption of humanity in our Word, in our remembrance of it. We show the truth of the Word, man will believe in it, will be converted and will be saved. We must ask the Mother of God for this grace without ever getting tired: may she obtain for us the gift of a very pure faith in the Word, faith for a perfect understanding, faith to conform life to what it says, faith to proclaim it with conviction of the Holy Spirit, so that everyone can listen to it and everyone can be converted. To the angels and saints we ask that when they see our weariness in faith, they immediately obtain for us from the Spirit all vigour to persevere in the light and gift to the end.**