**FRAGMENTS OF CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY**

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

**Catanzaro 26 February 2018**

**THE CHANGE OF HEART**

**The Lord our God is pleased of a thing, he only likes one thing: the gift of our heart. But when is the heart given to Him? When its use is taken away from our thoughts, our feelings and our will.**

**It is taken away from us and he delivers it to his Word, to his Gospel, to his Commandments, to his Law, to the Holy Spirit, to his grace, to his truth, to his justice and to his holiness. The use of it must be his.**

**But it is not at half time, at times, at moments, at convenience and a little yes and a little no. The use must be entirely his own. When one gives something to another, the other can do what he wants with it. It's his, it's not ours anymore.**

**When we give the heart to God, the heart is his. It is no longer ours. If it is his, he can make the use he wants, according to his will. But we are asked to always give it to him pure, chaste, virgin, without stain and without gaps.**

**The heart is given to God, giving it to Christ Jesus. Only in the heart of Christ can the Holy Spirit lead it and move it. If the heart is not in the heart of Christ, it is ours and not God's. The Spirit can do nothing.**

**Today for many Christians it has become difficult to give the heart to God, because Christ Jesus is no longer to be the universal mediator between man and God. By abolishing Christ, we are without the way to make any offer to the Father.**

**That the non-Christian can reject Christ is a fact. That the Christian denies him, Christ, excluding him as his only mediator, is quite another thing. He is a Christian because he believes in Christ. But he does not believe in Christ alone.**

**He believes that the heart of Christ is the only way so that He can access to the heart of God. If he excludes Christ as the only way, there is no way of salvation and redemption for him. Christ and the Father are one in eternity.**

**If then Christ is no even announced any more, then it is a clear sign that we do not want the true salvation of man. Today, for many Christians, giving man a flat bread and some bottles of water is worth more than giving Christ Jesus.**

**But Christian folly does not end here. Having eliminated Christ as the only way, even his Word is eliminated as the way of salvation. Every other word is the way of salvation and also every other religion. Christ has no future anymore.**

**Instead of us giving the heart to God, we have deprived him of his heart which is Christ the Lord. We have become worshipers of a God without a heart, without love, without true salvation and without true redemption.**

**We are worshiping a God without God, because without the God of our true salvation and redemption. Without Christ, man is forever condemned to be a slave to sin and death. Without Christ there is no true God.**

**God has become similar to a brand of home appliances. If the Christian brand is not liked and does not give satisfaction, as you change the appliance, so you change God. The brands are all the same.**

**He is a true Christian who confesses that only the name of Christ has been given by God as the one and only way of salvation and redemption. The other ways are of the earth. They do not come from the sky. Only Jesus descended from heaven.**

**DO NOT LOOK AT ANY ONE IN THE FACE**

**It is right for everyone to ask: am I ready to renounce all friendship, every affection, every relationship, every familiarity and kinship, if these things were to prove to be an obstacle to the confession of Christ Jesus.**

**Let's reformulate the question: am I willing to deny the whole world and myself so that Christ Jesus has the first place in my heart? Or do I try to marry the world and Christ, my interests and interests of Christ?**

**From what do I recognize that Christ is at the centre of my thoughts and my choices? Is there an infallible way to go through, so that we never delude ourselves being of Christ and for Christ, while we are of ourselves and for ourselves?**

**The first way is the observance of the Commandments. Faced with every temptation that invites the violation or transgression, whoever loves Christ immediately rejects it with firmness of the Holy Spirit, remaining in the state of grace.**

**The second way is obedience to the Sermon on the Mount, without adding or taking anything away. It must be observed as it came from the heart of Christ the Lord, defending its truth before men.**

**The third way is the public defence of historical truth born of the will of Christ. This way is difficult to go through. On this path, few people set off, because it obliges to respect every charisma and ministry.**

**On this third way, many are those who slip with ruinous falls. Respect for the historical truth is not just that given by God to others, but first of all, that given by God to us. Who does not respect himself, does not respect.**

**If a priest does not at all times confess his being a priest of Christ, in Christ and through Christ, to graze the flock entrusted to him according to pure truth and grace, never might he respect others according to truth.**

**Respect for one's ministry, charisma, vocation and mission implies that there are no sins either of omission, or of words, or of thoughts and or of works. He who denies his personal responsibility does not love Christ Jesus.**

**Whoever denies or does not know or repudiates or sells cheaply or plays with his personal responsibility or who for a poor human gratitude, omits his ministry, certainly is very lacking in the love of the Crucified Lord.**

**Not even those who are incapable of any submission to the authority that Christ Jesus placed on him can say that they love Jesus the Lord. He does not love him because he does not respect the historical will of the Risen Lord.**

**Who for friendship or some personal interest omits to defend the historical truth of Christ the Lord or even his evangelical truth, certainly does not love Christ Jesus. He preferred man to his Lord and God.**

**When for friendship with men, the Gospel or the revealed truth is altered, then it is a sign that Christ is not loved. Who loves Christ respects the Gospel in all its prescriptions. Not only does he respect it, he also defends it.**

**There are many ways through which the Lord Jesus is not loved. It suffices that we are governed by a vice and love for Christ is always placed in the background. First the cultivation of the vice, then Jesus.**

**But a half-conquered virtue is also sufficient to testify that our love for Jesus is not yet perfect. Our vocation demands, asks, pretends and requires perfect love, of martyrdom and of denial.**

**THE HOLY ROSARY A POWERFUL WEAPON**

**Who wants to strive for perfection and to show the profundity of the love of Christ that moves his heart, his mind and his strength, must nourish a very pure love for the Mother of God and our Heavenly Mother.**

**The pure love for the Mother of God must be realized as a very strong desire to imitate her virtues. The first of the virtues to be coveted and desired as a garment of one's soul is humility.**

**Humility is a daughter of the virtue of faith. Without true faith never might there be true humility. The tree is missing, never might there be its fruits. Faith is a theological virtue through which we confess the purest truth of God.**

**Who is God? He is the Creator and the Lord of our life and of every life. If God created me, why did He create me? Faith is with regard to the true end of life. If he created me, how did you create me, how did you make me?**

**Humility is respecting the end of the personal life. It is also to make use for the attainment of the end of the means of nature and grace, of truth in the Holy Spirit, with which the Creator has formed body, soul and spirit.**

**All this happens in perfect obedience to the Word that the Lord always makes resound in the ear of man, so that working according to its teaching, man can reach the end of his being.**

**Without true faith in God never might there be true humility. Man does not know the true end of his existence. He does not know the means put at his disposal. He is devoid of the true Word that commands him the way to follow.**

**Obedience to the end, according to the means, in listening to the Word is obligatory for those who want to imitate the Virgin Mary, in her humility. Without obedience to end and means according to the Word one is proud.**

**An example is enough. The presbyter in the Church of God has a goal to achieve: forming the flock of Christ nourishing it of truth and grace, listening to the heart of Christ in every moment of his existence.**

**But this is not enough to be humble. Faith towards others is also needed. Every other man was created by God with a goal to be pursued and with means to be used, he too perennially listening to the Word.**

**The humble always sees the other with the eyes of Christ, in the Holy Spirit, and serves him with the heart of Christ, in the Holy Spirit, according to the command or the Word of Christ Jesus. The humble is always and only a servant of Christ.**

**When the other is seen neither in his end, nor in his means, nor in his obedience to Christ in service to me or to others, then he is no longer humble. Pride has conquered soul, mind and spirit.**

**When we are separated from true communion, because we want to be autarchic, without any relationship of obedience to Christ, that he manifests us through others, there is no true humility.**

**When there is no true humility, never might one be from the Holy Spirit. One is always from the flesh. We do not act by motion from the other, but we are following the impulses and motions of our heart rebelling against the truth.**

**How is pride overcome and how can the virtue of humility be conquered? Through the request without interruption to the Virgin Mary. The Holy Rosary is a very powerful weapon to eradicate pride and every other vice.**

**The Rosary must not be recited with the lips, but with the heart. Surely one does not recite it with the heart, when there is every foolishness and insipidity in it that are the fruit of sin in us. The Holy Rosary must be recited in the grace of God.**

**First heart, mind, thoughts, desires, aspirations and feelings are purified from all that does not belong to charity and then we can start the recitation of the Holy Rosary. Being recited in impurity, it does not produce fruit.**

**When we will have conquered the virtue of humility, then we can say to imitate Christ Jesus, who is the meek and humble of heart. In humility the heart finds peace and the thoughts are calmed and soothed. Pride is death.**

**ONE KILLS EVEN WITH THE MOUTH**

**The government of the word is necessary to man. For one word the other is invited to evil and for a word he is led to the good. For a word you kill him. For a word you resurrect him. The word gives life and death.**

**For a word sin entered the world and for a word we are all under the slavery of death. For a word we can cause damage that can no longer be repaired. The word is the fruit of the heart, uttered with the mouth.**

**Jesus reveals that the bad man cannot say good words. It also applies to the contrary. The good man cannot say bad words. The heart produces according to its nature. If it is bad, it will say bad words.**

**Who wants to say good words must change the heart. He must convert it. St. James reveals that the bad heart is connected with the gehenna of fire. It draws from the heart of Satan the evil to be poured into the world.**

**In love, the word possesses the same omnipotence of its Creator and Lord. With a word he creates life, with a word he destroys it. This makes us understand that the apostolate can be natural or artificial.**

**Only that apostolate is natural in which the word of preaching or announcing is drawn from the heart of Christ with whom we form one heart. Every other apostolate is artificial. We say word not ours.**

**If the true apostle of Jesus speaks from the heart of Jesus, he produces life around him. Instead, if he speaks from the heart of Satan, he produces death. When he speaks from the heart of Christ, he brings peace. From the heart of Satan he brings only war.**

**The word always reveals the heart. One can be so hypocritical as to say artificial and studied words, but the smell of fiction is felt in them. These are words that do not change life, because the heart of Christ is missing.**

**The disciple of Jesus cannot have words except of Christ, but for Christ he can have no other heart but the heart of Christ. Heart of Christ and words of Christ. Heart of Satan and words of Satan.**

**YOU WILL ALWAYS HAVE THE POOR WITH YOU**

**By absurdity, the world could be composed of only rich people. There is a divine obligation that looms over every person. Taking from God's creation only what is necessary to him. The rest is not his.**

**The necessary is not established by vice, by sin, by greed, by avarice and by concupiscence, but by the virtues lived at the height of their perfection. Virtue is the measure of our necessary.**

**Who lives in vice is always unjust. He takes what does not belong to him. The virtuous man is always just, he uses the things of this world according to the virtues that are the habit of his heart, mind, body and soul.**

**Who wants to serve the poor according to the Divine law, must use for himself only what is required by his virtues. Everything else belongs to God, it must be left to God. It is left to God by giving it to the poor. It is the eternal divine law.**

**Every vice that is cultivated is a theft perpetrated against God. We uses of his creation that which does not belong to us and has not been given to us. Since vices have an insatiable hunger, who possesses them might never be just.**

**It is the law of eternal justice. The goods of the earth, every personal gift, every charisma and every ministry, everything must be used according to the will of God. The eternal law can be observed only by virtue.**

**From a vice one is already in injustice, because it takes away from God what belongs to God and to every other gift the purpose for which the gift was made. This is the vice: directing every good of God to evil, rather than to the purest and most holy good.**

**VAIN PRESENCE**

**When is our presence vain? When we do not bring the Holy Spirit where we go. When we do not put into practice what God has said to us through his Word. When we do not give fruits to grace.**

**We listen to the Gospel. We do not put it into practice. A vain listening. We receive the Eucharist. We do not produce fruits of love. Vain reception. We are Church, we do not build the Church, a vain missionary work.**

**IN THE GRACE OF THE LORD**

**We are in the grace of the Lord, when we live in the Commandments. Perfect observance of the law of the Lord is like good soil for good seed. It produces a lot of fruit. Grace produces in the Law.**

**When we are in vices, grace is stifled. Even if we enter the Commandments for a few moments, then our vices will always govern us. Venial sins slow down the growth of grace.**

**With venial sins, grace is like a bonsai. It remains always stunted, unable to produce any fruit of truth, justice, charity and faith. It is urgent to become aware that sin and grace cannot coexist in us.**

**NECESSARY UPDATE**

**The updated is the path of man with the science of God and men. Today God must be known in fullness of truth. Today man must be served in fullness of divine and human truth. Today is the time of the Christian.**

**THE BEAUTY OF THE GOSPEL**

*The Gospel is beautiful. Love it. Read it. Instruct yourself and put it into practice.*

**There is no more pure and holy word then the Gospel either on earth or in the heavens. If something more beautiful existed, Jesus would have revealed it. The Gospel declares either imperfect, or not true, or useless and or bad all other words.**

**SINGING AND PRAYER**

**Singing is prayer. Prayer is the singing of the heart that blesses, praises, thanks and exalts the Lord for the wonders that he works for the salvation of his children. With faith we see and do the works of God.**

**With the singing we celebrate the magnificence of our God that works in us, beside us and for us wonderful things for our and for the world salvation. True faith always becomes true prayer. False faith false prayer.**

**SHORT FINAL CONSIDERATIONS**

**Imitating the Virgin Mary, we must and can. But where do you start from? One has to start and finish with the imitation of the virtue that in her is the mother of every other virtue: her humility. In humility God is God and every other person is seen, loved, served, revered and respected with the eyes of God. Without humility, God and his every creature, are seen with the eyes of sin.**

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**May the Mother of Jesus obtain us from Christ Jesus, her Son and our Lord, to send upon us the Holy Spirit of God, so that He is the one to create the virtue of humility day by day in our hearts. May the Angels and Saints, watch over us so that we can grow in this virtue.**