**FRAGMENTS OF CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY**

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

***Catanzaro 17 September 2018***

**A HISTORY OF TRUTH**

**When can a person's history be said to be a history of truth? For the believer in Christ Jesus there can be only one answer. His history is of truth, if it is lived according to the Word of Christ Jesus, which is his Gospel.**

**However, the Gospel of Christ Jesus is not of the Christian, it is of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. Her history is of truth, if her Gospel is lived according to the faith of the true Church of Lord Jesus by the Christian.**

**The more one separates from the Church and her Gospel, the less history is of truth. Instead, the more we conform to the Gospel according to the faith of the Church and the more history is of truth. Church, Gospel and faith of the Church are one.**

**If one separates from the Church, he separates from her grace, he moves away from her faith and he keeps at a distance from the sacraments, certainly he might never affirm that the history of the Christian is an evangelically true history.**

**The signs come from God if the Word that invites every lost man and far from the Church to return to her, living her faith, listening to her Word and living according to her teachings, is always added to them.**

**When there is a separation between the fruits of the sign and the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church, even if the sign is true in itself, it is used in a way that is different from its purpose. From true to its origin it is transformed into false in purpose.**

**All sacraments are effective signs of grace. They are very true to the source. Then, if man turns them into something else, they always remain true in their origin, but they are made false by man in their finality.**

**What is a truer sign than the Eucharist! It is the true body and the true blood of Jesus. Yet this sacrament true to its source can be lived by the Christian in a false way, when he does not respect its end.**

**Every sign is lived in its end of truth, only if it makes of a man a true disciple of Jesus, in his one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. He is a true disciple of Jesus who becomes a true missionary of Christ the Lord.**

**THE FORGOTTEN WORD**

**In the faith of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church, everything comes from the preaching of the Word of Jesus, from the announcement of his Gospel. If the Gospel is preached, true faith is born in the hearts through the Holy Spirit.**

**If the Gospel is not proclaimed, true faith not only is not born, the one already existing in hearts is gradually lost. Faith is in everything like a plant in desert land. We give water, the plant lives, grows, produces.**

**We do not give it water the sun burns it and it dies. The same is said of faith. It is quenched with the ever alive and true Word of Christ Jesus, faith lives and grows and ripens fruits. It is not quenched, it dries and dies.**

**Now-a-days, the Word of Jesus has been forgotten. Every day we see how we no longer start from the Gospel, from the Word. Instead, we start from the thoughts and desires of men. The result is the death of faith.**

**If we want to resuscitate, give birth, increase faith in hearts, it is urgent to resume the proclamation of the Word according to the very pure truth placed in it by the Holy Spirit. But today the Word of God is reduced to a lie.**

**We have the mandate to remind the Word of Jesus whole, pure, alive, true just as it came from the heart of the Father, through the heart of Christ Jesus, under the motion and inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Pure word and pure faith.**

**Impure Word, impure faith. Word of men, dead faith. Since man always tends to forget the Word, it is urgent that it is reminded. Who must remind it? Every disciple of Jesus.**

**Who must it be reminded to? To every disciple of Jesus. Not only. It must be reminded to every other man. From the true Word, true faith, true life and true history, if it is conformed to the true Word proclaimed by the Christian.**

**THE MEDIATORS OF CHRIST JESUS**

**It is a truth that must never be forgotten. Christ Jesus is the only Mediator between the Father and the whole of humanity. The Father gives himself to man in Christ, through Christ and with Christ. Note well. Mediation is not just for Christ.**

**True mediation is for Christ, in Christ and with Christ. Christ Jesus might never be removed. If the mediation was only for Christ, having operated redemption, man could also live without him.**

**But mediation is not only for Christ, it is also in Christ and with Christ and consequently Christ is always the absolute necessary, on earth and in the heavens. There is no gift from the Father that is not for Christ, in Christ and with Christ.**

**Christ Jesus constituted the sacrament of salvation, redemption, revelation and eternal life, his body which is the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. Without his body, mediation is not an acting, it does not work.**

**Even if Christ Jesus operated Him directly, as was the case with St. Paul, the Church is always needed. One must necessarily become the body of Christ. The body of Christ must necessarily be formed.**

**In the body of Christ, each according to the received sacrament, the mission that has been conferred to him, the gifts of the Holy Spirit with which he has been enriched, always as the body and never as an individual is a mediator of salvation.**

**The Pope is mediator as Pope, the Bishop as Bishop, the Presbyter as Presbyter, the Deacon as Deacon, the Confirmed as Confirmed, the Baptized as Baptist, the Prophet as Prophet. Always as the body.**

**As a body it means that everyone necessarily needs the other to be true mediator of salvation, redemption, proclamation and eternal life. No one alone is the body of Christ and no one fulfils its mission.**

**Without his body Jesus cannot live the mission of salvation. The one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church is a necessary instrument. As Christ is to the Father, so the body of the Church is to Christ.**

**When the disciple of Jesus understands that his mission is necessary to the body of Christ, then he will make every effort to live the mystery bestowed upon him according to the gifts of the Holy Spirit.**

**Today, we are witnessing every dismantling of the true mission of the announcement of the Word and of true prophecy. We are all turning into false prophets. It happens because the Word of God has been forgotten.**

**When the Word of God is forgotten inevitably the place is taken by the word of men. But the word of men is not neutral in relation to the Word of God, instead it is the destroyer of the Word of Christ Jesus.**

**It is a very serious damage inflicted on the body of Christ when the Word is forgotten. Its place is taken by the word of man and with it we want to govern the body of Christ, the Church of the living God.**

**This is what is happening in our day. Unfortunately it happens that even those who are called to remind the Word of Jesus in its purity and truth, today risk of becoming announcers of human words.**

**When this happens, the damage is enormous. The world and the prince of the world have sucked into their orbit those who before were announcers of the true Word. First incalculable damage.**

**The second damage is the confusion that is created especially in those who were previously accustomed to listening to the true Word. These because of the confusion, turn away from the true Word and follow the false.**

**It can be remedied in some way to these damages of destruction and death. There is only one way. That those who believe in the true Word persevere to the end in their mission and always give the world the true Word.**

**DARKNESS AGAINST LIGHT**

**When a true history of salvation and redemption begins, as true Church, true body of Christ, true disciple of the Lord, with a history of evangelical truth, then darkness immediately shows all its power.**

**Persecution because of the Gospel and of Christ Jesus attests to two truths. The history we are living is true history. If it were false, Satan would give us a hand. Satan always helps those who are instruments of falsehood.**

**The second truth reveals to us that our faith to be true must undergo every trial and every temptation. Jesus was subjected to temptation, every believer in him will be subjected. Faith must be tested.**

**A faith not subjected to harsh trials is not a true faith. The trial serves to testify to our loyalty to the Lord, but also to measure our strength. How much do we love Jesus? We love him if we persevere until the end.**

**The trial allows us to know our real spiritual state, our fragility, our conquests, our growth, but also our death. Whoever wants, can put every remedy so that his faith grows in fortitude.**

**The trial f does not come from those who are far away. It always comes from those who are close. The enemies of man are those in his house, in his city, in his own faith and in his own community.**

**The enemies of the man of faith are all those who are not people of faith. When one is not in the light, he is in darkness. If one is in darkness he can convert himself to light, can be indifferent and he can fight it.**

**When the heart is under the rule of the prince of the world, there will always be fighting against the children of light. The children of light are asked to persevere until the end, even at the cost of their lives and their blood.**

**It is not enough to begin the journey behind Jesus to be eternally of Jesus. We begin with Jesus. We are of Jesus. We detach ourselves from Jesus and we are no longer of Jesus. We are of him to whom we belong day by day.**

**If one is abandoned to sin, he is of the sin. If he is handed over to vice, he is of the vice. He embraces the thought of the world he is of the world. Whoever wants to be of Christ Jesus for eternity must die as a disciple of Jesus.**

**We die as disciples of Jesus, if we persevere in his Gospel until the end. We live as Christians, we die as Christians, we are with Christ in his eternal light. We die as enemies of Christ, we are of eternal darkness.**

**Everyone is asked to choose with whom he wants to be in eternity: whether with light or with darkness. Who wants to be of eternal light, must walk behind Jesus from light to light, from truth to truth and from faith to faith.**

**THE HARDENED HEART**

**When is the heart hardened? When it is governed by sin, when ite lives immersed in vices, when it is out of the Gospel, when it abandons the ways of grace and truth and when it is governed by the thoughts of the world.**

**When the heart is hardened, it cannot understand the things of God. The things of the Lord can only be understood if the Holy Spirit dwells in our hearts, or if we let the Spirit to come in and live there.**

**If we prevent the Spirit of the Lord from entering it, we will always be led by the flesh and we will produce fruits of flesh. What is one of the fruits of the flesh? Opposition and contrast with the divine will.**

**Whoever does not want to oppose or resist the Holy Spirit must bring his life into the Law of God. Every supernatural manifestation of our God is always all aimed at the observance of his Word.**

**He fights the Word who is without the Word. He persists obstinately opposing the Law who is without the Law. Those who live outside the Gospel are opposed to the preaching of the Gospel. He does not know the true God who is without the true God.**

**How does one go about knowing the true Christ who lives without the true Christ? When the true Christ is preached to him there are two, rather three ways that open up: conversion to the true Christ, indifference and opposition and combat.**

**When there is conversion, man attests to his willingness to embrace the path of truth and life. When there is indifference, man reveals himself unable to enter the light. It lacks a lot of grace.**

**On the contrary, when there is opposition, contrast, combat and will of destroying the work of God, then it is a sign that the heart is all of the prince of this world and of evil. Only Satan wants to destroy Christ Jesus.**

**We are handed over to Satan when we overcome the limit of evil. When we fall into the sin against the Holy Spirit. When our nature turns into an evil and malignant nature. It is the end of salvation.**

**THE LORD WATCHES OVER HIS WORKS**

**The disciple of Jesus lives of a divine and infallible certainty. Every Word that has come out of the mouth of God will be fulfilled, not because man is capable of giving it fulfilment, but because the Lord watches over it day and night.**

**It is worth remembering what Jesus says: Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass. What Jesus says is always fulfilled. Never has one single Word of his fallen empty. Here is what the Lord says to Jeremiah.**

**This word of the Lord was addressed to me: "What do you see, Jeremiah?" I replied: «I see an almond branch». The Lord added: "You have seen well, because I watch over my word to make it happen" (Jer 1: 11-12).**

**The almond is called "the vigilant" because in the new year it is the first that blooms. It is as if it were watching over to tell the other trees that time to wake up from sleep and resume life, is coming.**

**The Lord is the Vigilant because He always watches over His Word so that it reaches full maturity. What He says He also has the power to fulfil it. Never has any Word of God failed in its fulfilment.**

**Even centuries sometimes can pass. From Abraham to Jesus about a thousand and eight hundred years have gone by. The Word has been accomplished. A thousand others have passed from David to Christ. The Word has been accomplished. Every Word is fulfilled.**

**From the first Word of God said to the serpent in the Garden of Eden until the end of the world years have passed and will pass away. But in the end the two kingdoms, that of God and that of Satan, will be divided forever.**

**If the Lord says that in time they will believe, He will watch over this Word so that it may come to completion. When this Word has been fulfilled, then everyone will cry out to the truth of the sign given by God.**

**When were the Words of Jesus turned all true? The day that the Word which announced His Resurrection on the third day was fulfilled. On the cross Jesus is the defeated by the world. He rises and is the victorious.**

**FROM THE MYSTERY FOR THE MYSTERY**

**Why does the mystery enter with power in our lives? Because the man that comes from the mystery may return to it. Man comes from the mystery of God. Sin tears him from his mystery. God comes to bring him back into it.**

**How is man brought back into the mystery? He came out of the mystery of God through disobedience to his word. From the mystery of life he entered the mystery of death. For obedience to the Word, he returns to life.**

**When the mystery of life is not proclaimed, so that we return to it according to the ways established by God - and today the ways are those of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church - never can we say we are instruments of God.**

**We can also be instruments for sacramental constitution - every sacrament constitutes us instruments of the mystery of God - but we are not instruments for the exercise according to the mystery of our ministry of life.**

**An instrument that is in death can never become an instrument of life. He will exercise his ministry for death and not for life. We are from the mystery through the mystery. We must remain in the mystery through the mystery.**

**THE VALUE OF SIGNS**

**What is the true value of signs? Signs are a help offered us by our Lord so that we believe in his Word of eternal life. If you do not pass to the Word, the sign is useless. It does not become of saving value.**

**The sign is given to believe in the truth of the Word of the one who carries it. The sign accredits the person. The accredited person is seen as an instrument of the true Word of God. Conversion is to the Word.**

**If there is no conversion to the Word, the sign from an instrument of life becomes an instrument of condemnation for us. It is always a grace that the Lord lavishes on us and every grace that is received we are responsible for eternity.**

**FROM THE SIGN TO THE SACRAMENTS**

**When do we know that we really believe in the Word? When we live the Word according to the truth of the Word. When we pass to a proper sacramental life. When do you live a proper sacramental life?**

**When the sacraments are lived by us according to their true meaning of conformation to Christ Jesus. If baptism makes me a true adoptive child of God, I must live as a true child of God and so the same applies to every other.**

**If the sacrament of the Order configures me to Christ the Shepherd and Master of his flock, if I, a priest, do not live as a true Shepherd and Master, my faith in the Word is false. But also the received sacrament is vain for me.**

**SHORT FINAL CONSIDERATIONS**

**It is right that a truth is announced with firmness of the Holy Spirit. Jesus is the only Mediator between God and humanity. It is the eternal truth. Without Christ there is no communion between God and his creation. Everything is for Christ, in Christ and with Christ. Being the Christian body of Christ, he is the mediator between Christ and humanity, between Christ and his creation. If the Christian does not live in Christ, with Christ, for Christ and like Christ, his ministry, the world is without salvation.**

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***The body of Christ must necessarily be formed. In the body of Christ, each according to the received sacrament, the mission that has been conferred to him, the gifts of the Holy Spirit with which he has been enriched, always as the body and never as an individual is the mediator of salvation. The Pope is a mediator as Pope, the Bishop as Bishop, the Presbyter as Presbyter, the Deacon as Deacon, the Confirmed as Confirmed, the Baptized as Baptized and the Prophet as Prophet. Always as the body. As the body means that everyone necessarily needs the other to be true mediator of salvation, redemption, proclamation and eternal life. No one alone is the body of Christ and no one fulfils its mission. Without his body Jesus cannot live the mission of salvation. The one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church is a necessary instrument. As Christ is to the Father, so the body of the Church is to Christ. When the disciple of Jesus understands that his mission is necessary to the body of Christ, then he will make every effort to live the mystery bestowed upon him according to the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Today we are witnessing every dismantling of the true mission of the announcement of the Word and of true prophecy. We are all turning into false prophets. It happens because the Word of God has been forgotten. When the Word of God is forgotten inevitably the place is taken by the word of men. But the word of men is not neutral in relation to the Word of God, it is instead a destroyer of the Word of Christ Jesus. It is a very serious damage that is inflicted on the body of Christ when the Word is forgotten.***

***Its place is taken by the word of man and with it we want to govern the body of Christ, the Church of the living God. This is what is happening in our days. Unfortunately it happens that even those who are called to remind the Word of Jesus in its purity and truth, today we risk of becoming town criers of human words. When this happens, the damage is enormous. The world and the prince of the world have sucked into their orbit those who before were announcers of the true Word. First incalculable damage. The second damage is the confusion that is created especially in those who were previously accustomed to listening to the true Word. Because of the confusion, these turn away from the true Word and follow the false. These damages of destruction and death can be remedied in some way. There is only one way. That those who believe in the true Word persevere to the end in their mission and always give the world the true Word.***

**Mother of God, convince us with conviction of the Holy Spirit that the work of the Christian is essential, necessary, indispensable and absolute for the salvation of humanity. If the Christian does not live his truth as the Body of Christ, the world remains without true salvation. Angel and Saints, ensure that the Christian never forgets his truth of being the body of Christ.**