**FRAGMENTS OF CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY**

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

***Catanzaro 24 September 2018***

**EVERYTHING IS GRACE**

**Every day, God wants every instrument of his salvation to experience that in him everything is by grace. Nothing is for his strength, his skills, his science and his cleverness. Nothing is from his nature either physical or spiritual.**

**The Mother of God sings this truth in her Magnificat. The Lord has looked at the humility of his servant. Can a woman conceive in her womb the Eternal Son of the Most High? Never. It is infinitely beyond all nature.**

**Can a woman, a man operate naturally in the name and with the power of the Holy Spirit? Never. It is infinitely beyond his nature. Can a woman, a man save a single man, a single woman? Impossible.**

**Everything is grace, everything is by grace, everything is from grace. Grace is only of God and comes only from Him. It does not come from us. God always wants everything to appear in a visible way that it comes only from Him.**

**How is this possible? St. Paul tells of his thorn in the flesh. A thorn that God does not remove from him so that he is always clear and manifest that nothing comes from him, but everything is from the Lord. Everything is by grace.**

**St. Paul also says that he brings every treasure of grace and truth, every power of the Holy Spirit, in a fragile, clay vessel, always ready to break. Man works nothing in the supernatural. Instead God works everything.**

**If a person, bruised in his body, in an instant resurrects from his sickness and suffering, does the things of God with all the power of the Holy Spirit and then returns to his unspeakable suffering, certainly all is by grace.**

**When it is humanly impossible to bring an action into being, because naturally it might never be possible, then it is certain that it is by grace. It must be attributed to the Lord, to his grace and to his Holy Spirit.**

**The conversion of a heart is only the work of grace, of the Holy Spirit and of his supernatural light. Speaking to the hearts and enlightening them with the most powerful truth of Christ Jesus is the work of grace, of the Holy Spirit.**

**Carrying out a mission of salvation and redemption without ever getting tired and looking back, every day renewing our intention and asking for the gift of perseverance, is only by the grace of the Holy Spirit.**

**In the field of salvation everything happens by grace. Nothing from our nature. God only asks for our clay. He asks that we put ourselves in his Word, in his grace and in his truth. The rest is his work.**

**EVERY GRACE IS FOR HIS GLORY**

**What is the end of grace? It is only one: recognizing God as our one and only true God. Confessing his magnificence and beauty, his mercy and charity, his justice and his love for every man.**

**Singing his goodness to the sons of men forever. As long as God pours his grace into the hearts of men, it is a clear sign that his love is great. A day without grace is also a day without love.**

**This day has never existed and never will exist on earth since the first moment in which the Lord created man. Only in hell there is an absence of grace. On earth, always, every day, the grace of the Lord is poured out.**

**What is today the sadness that envelops humanity? The inability to see that everything is by the grace of the Lord, everything is a gift of his love. That the foolish and blind world does not see that all is grace, is an evident fact.**

**But it is the Christian the one that must remind this truth to every other man. It is he who must sing the wonders of the Lord starting from the beauty, harmony and communion that exists in all the elements of his creation.**

**It is always the Christian the one who has to tell the world what the Lord has done for it. Everything is from God. If he does not sing the mystery of grace, salvation, blessing and life, the world remains in blindness.**

**The Christian is the voice in the world of the glory of the Lord. But if the Christian separates himself from the Glory of God which is Christ Jesus, what glory might he tell to the world? If he denies the mystery of grace, what might he sing?**

**The Christian must not sing the glory of the Lord that was manifested in others. Instead he must sing the glory of the Lord that was manifested in his body, in his soul and in his Spirit. It is a matter of justice.**

**Every day, every Christian is obliged by righteousness to sing his Magnificat to his Lord. He might never sing it if he does not live in the Word, grace and truth. If he does not walk from faith to faith.**

**If the grace of God is buried in our hearts, we cannot sing the glory of the Lord. If we turn off the Holy Spirit in others we cannot sing the glory of the Lord. We do not live of grace.**

**Only those who let themselves be governed every day by the power of grace might sing the glory of the Lord that was manifested in his life every day. Glory seen and glory sung. The visible and never invisible glory is sung.**

**Jesus said it: Let them see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. If the works are not seen, we may also sing the glory of the Lord. It is for a liturgical song. It is not the song of life.**

**EVERY INSTRUMENT IS FOR THE GLORY OF GOD**

**Is it right to ask ourselves who are the instruments that must sing the glory of the Lord? All beings created by him. First of all are the Angels. Lucifer has rebelled. He took all glory from God. He rebelled.**

**He wanted to be like God. To be confessed as God. He dragged with him a third of Angels and with him they were plunged into eternal fire. Inanimate beings give glory carrying out their ministry of nature.**

**Animals also give glory to the majesty of God and sing his wisdom. Man too was created to give glory to God. How does man give glory to God? Listening to his voice and obeying it.**

**In obedience, man recognizes God as his true God and gives him glory. This is the glory that He wants: being recognized, confessed, praised, celebrated and hailed as Creator, Lord and God of the universe.**

**If man escapes obedience, he denies God as his Creator and Lord. He denies him all glory and honour. God is confessed as true God and Lord only for obedience to his Word, to his Gospel and to the Law.**

**The Christian glorifies and praises the Lord only if he lives in Christ, with Christ and through Christ, obeying his every command and desire. If the Christian detaches himself from Christ the Lord, never might he give glory to the Lord.**

**Why might he not give glory to the Lord? Because Christ the Lord, before creation by eternal generation and in creation with his Incarnation is the glory of the Father. There is no greater glory.**

**Christ Jesus is the divine and human glory, in eternity and in time. If the Christian does not confess, does not recognize, does not become glory of the glory of God in Christ Jesus, never might he give glory to God. He lacks the way.**

**Today almost all the disciples of Jesus can no longer give glory to their Lord and God. They have deprived him of his glory, they have declared Christ Jesus no longer necessary to go to God and God to us.**

**God is without his true glory in which every other glory can be raised. Either we put Jesus at the centre of our heart, or we might never raise to God the glory that is due to him in his glory which is Christ Jesus.**

**It is urgent that all the disciples of Jesus become aware of this truth and stop selling Jesus Christ off to the pagan world. Christ Jesus is the glory of the Father and only in Him can true glory be raised.**

**THE ANGELS SING THE GLORY OF THE LORD**

**How do the angels sing the glory of the Lord? First of all, recognizing him as the one, only and true God and Lord of their life. How do they recognize him? Obeying his every command, order and voice.**

**Thus in the Book of Isaiah: In the year that King Ozia died, I saw the Lord seated on a high and elevated throne; the edges of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were above him; each had six wings.**

**He covered his face with two, covered his feet with two and flew with two. They proclaimed one to the other, saying: "Holy, holy, holy, the Lord of hosts! The whole earth is full of his glory".**

**The door jambs vibrated with the sound of that voice, while the temple was filled with smoke. And I said, "Alas! I am lost, because I am a man with impure lips. Isaiah knows the condition of his people.**

**And I live in the midst of a people with unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the king, the Lord of hosts." Then one of the seraphs flew towards me. The order is given by the Lord. Nothing is done without his will.**

**He was holding a burning coal he had taken with the springs from the altar. He touched my mouth and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips, therefore your guilt has disappeared and your sin is atoned."**

**Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying: "Whom shall I send and who shall go for us?" And I answered: "Here I am, send me!" (Is 6: 1-8). From this moment Isaiah is also transformed into an instrument to sing the glory of the Lord.**

**How do the angels sing the glory of the Lord in the Gospels? First by putting themselves at the service of Jesus: from before conception until the day of his glorious ascension. Then at the service of the Body of Christ.**

**Today they give glory to God by serving the people of God just as they have served Jesus the Lord. Among us they serve the glory of God by transmitting through the human voice the celestial melody of heaven, their song of praise.**

**Do the Angels also want to give glory to God through our lives? How? Helping us so that our life becomes the life of Christ in the world. If we do not become Christ's life on earth, they are saddened.**

**Because of us, their mission fails. They do everything so that their presence is not in vain in our life. But our goodwill, our commitment and our perseverance are also needed.**

**None of us must make the work of the Angels vain in their service for our greatest sanctification. Every missed sanctification is a sign that we have rendered their supernatural service useless.**

**THE LORD IS JEALOUS OF HIS GLORY**

**The glory of God is Christ and this Crucified. Not only is Crucified Jesus the glory of the Father, no other glory can be raised to the Lord except through Christ, in Christ and through Christ. This is our doxology.**

**For Christ, with Christ and in Christ, to you God the Father Almighty, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory forever and ever. God is Jealous of his Son, of his Crucifix, of his Beloved Crucifix.**

**He has established from eternity for eternity that nothing comes from him to man except for his Eternal Glory. But also that nothing from the earth, from creation, from men and from angels goes up to him except through Christ.**

**If we deny Christ Crucified, we do not confess him as the one and only glory of God, we work to obscure this Incarnate and Crucified Eternal Glory or to deprive Jesus of his essence, God is not with us.**

**All theology, soteriology, ecclesiology, pastoral care, morality that partly or totally excludes Christ Jesus, the Crucified who is the Risen One, the Eternal Son of the Father who is also the Eternal Incarnate Son, is foolish.**

**God is jealous of his glory. Who destroys, blurs, smears, dirties, soils, makes vain the true and only glory of God, destroys, blurs, smears, dirties, soils and makes his life vain for eternity.**

**Jesus was divinely clear with us: Who will recognize my glory before men, I will welcome him in my eternal glory. Who does not recognize it will not even be recognized by me. He will die of eternal ignominy.**

**Today, some more some less, we are all playing to demolish the Glory of God, which is Christ Jesus. A God without his Glory has never existed and will never exist. Whoever demolishes Christ crucified is only a maker of idols.**

**He will also necessarily be an idolater. Where do you realize that he is an idolater and an idol maker from? From his detachment from the Word of Jesus, which is the most pure Word of the Father given to us for our salvation.**

**Who is without the Glory of God, the Crucified and Risen Christ, is also without the Word of God, which is the Word of the Crucified and the Risen Christ. He is also without the Holy Spirit. He is also without and against his true Church.**

**THE END OF EVERYTHING: GIVING GLORY TO GOD**

**What St. Paul teaches: Whatever you do, do it for the glory of God. For Christians doing everything for the glory of God means doing it in Christ, for Christ and with Christ, in obedience to his Word, to his Gospel.**

**Nothing can be done for the glory of God, if we exclude Christ Jesus, who is the eternal Glory of the Father. Everything is done for the glory of God, if everything is done for the glory of Christ. Everything is done for the glory of Christ, if everything is done in Christ.**

**Without Christ, nothing can a Christian do for the glory of God, because he is devoid of the Glory of God that is Lord Jesus. It is a monstrous falseness and diabolical lie affirming that one can go to God without Christ Jesus.**

**WHO GIVES GLORY TO THE LORD**

**Who gives glory to the Lord? Whoever is converted to Christ, to his Word and to his Gospel. Who is the only way to give glory to the Lord. He is the only Bridge, the only stair that unites heaven and earth, God and man.**

**Whoever destroys the Bridge does not give glory to God. Does not who hide the Bridge give glory to God? Whoever indicates different bridges does not give glory to God. He gives glory to God who confesses the glory of Christ Jesus, the true glory of the Father.**

**HOW GLORY IS GIVEN TO THE LORD**

**The Lord is given glory in only one way: by accepting his will. What is the will of the Lord? That we listen to the Word of Christ and go to Him in Christ, with Christ and through Christ. No glory without Christ.**

**If the Christian does not place Christ at the centre of his heart and from his heart and through his heart, under the motion of the Holy Spirit, he does not work for Christ to be in any other heart. He does not work for the glory of God.**

**If the Christian does not become the glory of Christ, as Christ is the glory of the Father, no glory is given to Christ and no glory will be given to the Father. When is the Christian the glory of Christ? When he lives for Christ and in him.**

**SHORT FINAL CONSIDERATIONS**

**Today it is necessary that Christ Jesus, the Crucified and the Risen, the Lord and the Judge of the living and the dead, is recognized in his true glory. Whoever has to make him be recognized is every one of his disciples. This is why it is obligatory for us to make a serious examination of conscience.**

**Is my life at the service of the glory of God, which is Christ Jesus, or is it at the service of my ephemeral, ineffective and vain glory, without fruits of eternal life? Do I do everything so that Jesus is known, heard, obeyed, loved and served? Do I know that only by growing in obedience to His Word I can live in Him, with Him and through Him, showing that He alone is the Lord of my life? If the Christian is not the glory of Christ in the world, no one might confess that Jesus is the divine and human Glory of his Father. Everything is from the Christian today, tomorrow and always. But today the Christian is strongly omissive.**

***The glory of God is Christ and this Crucified. Jesus Crucified is not only the glory of the Father, no other glory can be raised to the Lord except through Christ, in Christ and for Christ. This is our doxology. For Christ, with Christ and in Christ, to you God the Father Almighty, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory forever and ever. God is Jealous of his Son, of his Crucifix, of his Beloved Crucifix.***

***From eternity and for eternity He has established that nothing comes from him to man except for his Eternal Glory. But also that nothing from the earth, from creation, from men and from angels goes up to him except for Christ. If we deny Christ Crucified, we do not confess him as the one and only glory of God, we work to obscure this Incarnate and Crucified Eternal Glory or to deprive Jesus of his essence, God is not with us.***

***All theology, soteriology, ecclesiology, pastoral care, morality that partly or totally excludes Christ Jesus, the Crucified who is the Risen One, the Eternal Son of the Father who is also the Eternal Incarnate Son, is foolish. God is jealous of his glory. Who destroys, blurs, smears, dirties, soils, makes vain the true and only glory of God, destroys, blurs, dirties, smears, soils and makes his life vain for eternity.***

***Jesus was divinely clear with us: Who will recognize my glory before men, I will welcome him in my eternal glory. Who does not recognize it will not even be recognized by me. He will die of eternal ignominy. Today, some more some less, we are all playing to demolish the Glory of God, which is Christ Jesus. A God without his Glory has never existed and will never exist. Whoever demolishes Christ crucified is only a maker of idols.***

***He will also necessarily be an idolater. Where do you realize that he is an idolater and an idol maker from? From his detachment from the Word of Jesus, which is the most pure Word of the Father given to us for our salvation. Who is without the Glory of God, the Crucified and Risen Christ, is also without the Word of God, which is the Word of the Crucified and the Risen Christ. He is also without the Holy Spirit. He is also without and against his true Church.***

***What St. Paul teaches: Whatever you do, do it for the glory of God. Doing everything for the glory of God for Christians means doing it in Christ, for Christ and with Christ, in obedience to his Word, to his Gospel. Nothing can be done for the glory of God, if we exclude Christ Jesus, who is the eternal Glory of the Father.***

***Everything is done for the glory of God, if everything is done for the glory of Christ. Everything is done for the glory of Christ, if everything is done in Christ. Without Christ, nothing can a Christian do for the glory of God, because he is devoid of the Glory of God that is Lord Jesus. It is a monstrous falseness and diabolical lie to affirm that one can go to God without Christ Jesus.***

**May the Virgin Mary, the Mother of the Redemption, the Mother of the Crucified who is the Risen, the Mother of the Eternal Glory of the Father, the Mother who consecrated all her life at the service of the glory of the Son, help us so that we too become servants like her at the exclusive service of the glory of her Son Jesus Christ our Lord. May Angels and Saints watch over us so that we never get tired of working so that to Christ Jesus for our life the greatest glory goes up. Glorifying Christ, we glorify the Father forever.**