**FRAGMENTS OF CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY**

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

***Catanzaro 06 May 2019***

**THE ANGELS OF GOD**

**To believe in the Angels of God one should believe in the truth of Scripture, Revelation and Tradition, in the faith of the Church. If you lose faith in the Word of the Lord, you enter a whirlwind of philosophies, anthropologies, cosmologies, soteriologies and eschatologies of falsehood and deception.**

**There was a time in the Church when the Word of the Lord, read with the wisdom of the Holy Spirit, formed the great shepherds and these in turn formed the true flock of Christ the Lord. The Shepherds fed on the Bread of Christ and in turn fed the flock with the Bread of Christ.**

**But there is also another time when great theology was born in the Church. All Scripture was theologized. It was the era of large schools, large systems, large currents of thought. The people stayed out of this system of thought and built their own ways.**

**The people not fed by the Bread of Christ, began to move away from the Church. The great separations, the great schisms, the great heresies, the great Christian religious families were born. Why these schisms and heresies? Because the people were without the Bread of truth of Jesus the Lord.**

**In our day there is a phenomenon that acts in an almost invisible way. We want every man "God and religion of himself". Not by separating from the Church to form other churches, but by remaining in the Church but with "himself as God, as Christ Jesus, as truth and as the source of life".**

**If yesterday it was the time of personal theology, today it is the time of personal faith. If yesterday there were the great "consortiums of theology", today the consortiums of faith do not exist. Each one is for "himself God, Christ, Holy Spirit, Church, truth, grace, light, Word, justice, mercy and salvation".**

**Today everything must be personalized: Scripture, Faith, Truth, the Church, Liturgy, Morality, Asceticism and Paradise. God himself must be personalized. It is evident that because of this personalization, one is alone together. You are together but without the others. You are together, but you are not with others.**

**Obedience to the Word has become obedience to the personal thought. This, being momentary, because devoid of truth and objective structures, obliges an ever new, different obedience, in contradiction, in negation, in parallel and in statements of phantasy.**

**Being God and each of his personalized mysteries, no one is a teacher, a guide and a safe point for others. Master is the one who gives value to his thought. When the thought is changed, the master is also changed. A new legitimacy is needed. Variable alliances are always born.**

**Yesterday's enemy is today's friend. Today's friend will be tomorrow's enemy and then again the friend of the day after tomorrow. This perennial change of thought is the sign that it lacks the truth of the only True One, the justice of the only Just, the salvation of the only Saviour, Redeemer and incarnate Light.**

**Does this mean that there is no longer room for Truth, Justice, Light, Eternal Life, Salvation and Redemption? The place is there and it is the one indicated by Jesus to his Apostles: "But now, whoever has a bag let him take it, and so a saddlebag; whoever has no sword, let him sell his cloak and buy one" (Lk 22:36) .**

**Who does not have the bag of truth let him take it. Whoever does not have the sword of the Word of God, let him get it. Today is the time when whoever wants to be a missionary of Jesus must be Truth, Word, Justice and Eternal Life of Christ before every man. From the vision of Christ, faith in Christ will be born.**

**The only question the Christian will have to ask is this: Am I Truth, Word, Life, Justice, Holiness, Charity and Light of Christ for every man? Does the other see Christ through my body and my life? The real mission is born. It is lived entirely in the relationship with Christ to be Christ.**

**If the other approaches the Christian and does not see Christ in him, he is disappointed, as Job was disappointed in the dialogue with his three friends. He does not see God in their speeches: “You smear with lies, you are all doctors of nothing. It would be better if you kept completely silent: it would be an act of wisdom for you!**

**So listen to my reply and pay attention to the arguments of my lips. Maybe you wished you said the false in defense of God and spoke in his favour with deception? Maybe you wished you took sides with God and become his lawyers? Would it be good for you if he peered at you?**

**Do you think to deceive him, as a man is deceived? He will severely rebuke you if you are secretly partial. Does his majesty not frighten you and does not his terror assail you? Judgments of ash are your warnings, clay bulwarks are your bulwarks" (Cf. Job 13,1-28).**

**"My brothers are inconstant like a torrent, like the bed of streams that disappear: they are cloudy due to the thaw, they swell with the melting of the snow, but at the time of the drought they vanish and when they dry they disappear from their beds. The caravans deviate from their tracks.**

**They advance in the desert and get lost in it; The caravans of Tema look for them, the Saba wayfarers hope for them: but they are disappointed to have hoped, when they get there, they are confused. So now you are worth nothing" (cf. Job 6: 1-30). Job did not feel God in his three friends.**

**Here is the Christian's only concern: to make God be seen and heard through his body and his voice. Applies to us what applied to the Apostle John: What was from the beginning, what we heard, what we saw with our eyes,**

**what we contemplated and that our hands touched of the Word of life - in fact life manifested itself, we saw it and we bear witness to it and we announce you eternal life, which was with the Father and which manifested itself to us -, what we have seen and heard,**

**we also announce it to you, so that you too may be in communion with us. And our communion is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. We write these things to you so that our joy may be complete (1Jn 1: 1-4). When a man sees and listens to Christ, the Spirit will always act in him.**

**We return to the ancient rule that belonged to Christ Jesus. Whoever saw and listened to Christ saw and listened to the Father. Whoever sees and listens to the Christian sees and listens to Christ. It also applies to every minister of Christ. Whoever sees and listens to the minister of Christ must see and listen to Christ. The perfect mission.**

**THE FRUITS OF PRAYER**

**Prayer, the true prayer, is the one Christ Jesus taught us: “Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, as in heaven so on earth. Give us our daily bread, and forgive us our debts**

**as we also forgive them to our debtors, and do not abandon ourselves to temptation, but deliver us from evil (Mt 6,9-13). That prayer which does not build the kingdom of God in one's own heart and through one's heart in the hearts of other men is certainly not the true prayer.**

**The first fruit of prayer must always be the growth of the kingdom of God in the heart of the one who prays: "Hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, as in heaven so on earth". With prayer the Christian asks to be a true disciple of Christ Jesus.**

**He asks to do the will of the Father as Jesus does. He asks for this grace not only for himself, but for every other man. If the kingdom does not come in the one who prays, if the one who prays does not grow as the kingdom of God, the kingdom might never grow in other hearts for him. Everyone gives the kingdom he is.**

**But man is body, soul and spirit. For the body he asks the Father for daily bread. It is wheat bread. For the spirit he asks for the bread of the truth of Christ Jesus. For the soul he asks for the bread which is the Body and Blood of Christ. He asks for this bread not only for himself, but for every other man.**

**Always keeping as true kingdom of God is an obligation. However, often, we are not kept. We sin against the Lord. We must ask him for forgiveness. The Lord forgives us, makes us his kingdom again, on condition that we forgive those who have offended us. Forgivess for forgiveness.**

**We forgive and the Father forgives us. If we do not forgive, the Father also does not forgives us. Temptation always knocks at the door of our heart. Nobody alone, with his own strength, might defeat it. He needs all the fortitude, wisdom, science and intelligence of the Holy Spirit.**

**Not only do we ask of the Father for all strength so that we do not fall into temptation, we also ask to free us from evil. Everything in us is the work of God. But Lord gives us everything for our prayer. Prayer must be in us without any interruption, full of faith and love.**

**Each spiritual fruit is always a gift from God, but always to be conquered and produced with our prayer. Through prayer the love of the Father becomes our love, the grace of Christ becomes our grace and the truth of the Holy Spirit becomes our truth. For the prayer Our God becomes our life.**

**This is the true fruit that prayer must produce in us: to make our God live, in his mystery of unity and trinity, in our heart, in our body, in our soul and in our thoughts. Whoever sees and listens to us, must always see and listen to our God and Lord.**

**ON THE CROSS WITH JESUS**

**On the mystery of the cross and the Crucifix, Saint Paul gives us two powerful lights: “While the Jews ask for signs and the Greeks seek wisdom, we instead announce Christ crucified: scandal for the Jews and folly for the pagans; but for those who are called,**

**both Jews and Greeks, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God. In fact, what is foolishness of God is more wise than men, and what is weakness of God is stronger than men. In fact, consider your call, brothers: there are not many wise men among you, humanly speaking**

**neither many powerful, nor many noble. But what is foolish for the world, God chose it to confuse the wise; that which is weak for the world, God chose it to confuse the strong; what is ignoble and despised for the world, what is nothing, God chose it to reduce to nothing**

**the things that are, so that no one can boast in front of God. Thanks to him you are in Christ Jesus, who for us has become wisdom, justice, sanctification and redemption through the work of God, so that, as it is written, those who boast, let them boast in the Lord (1Cor 1,22-31).**

**I too, brothers, when I came among you, I did not present myself to announce the mystery of God to you with the excellence of the word or wisdom. In fact, I thought I knew nothing else among you except Jesus Christ and Christ crucified. I presented myself to you in weakness and with much fear**

**and trepidation. My word and my preaching were not based on persuasive speeches of wisdom, but on the manifestation of the Spirit and his power, so that your faith was not founded on human wisdom, but on the power of God (1Cor 2,1-5) .**

**So if there is any consolation in Christ, if there is any comfort, fruit of charity, if there is some communion of spirit, if there are feelings of love and compassion, make my joy full with the same feeling and with the same charity, remaining unanimous and in agreement.**

**Do nothing by rivalry or vainglory, but let each of you, with all humility, consider the others superior to himself. Let each not seek his own interest, but also that of others. Have in you the same sentiments of Christ Jesus: he, while being in the condition of God,**

**did not consider it a privilege to be like God, but emptied himself by assuming a condition of servant, becoming similar to men. By his look recognized as a man, he humbled himself by making himself obedient until death and death on the cross.**

**This is why God exalted him and gave him the name which is above every name, so that in the name of Jesus every knee bends in the heavens, on earth and underground, and every tongue proclaims: "Jesus Christ is Lord!", to the glory of God the Father (Phil 2,1-11). What then is the great vocation of the Christian?**

**Only one: that of reaching Christ in his perfection of obedience until death and death on the cross. As Christ obeyed every Word of the Father, so the Christian must obey every Word of Jesus the Lord. Perfect in obedience, to be perfect in his gift to the Father.**

**HEART FAR FROM THE LORD**

**The Christian people are reminded of what Jesus reminded scribes and Pharisees of his time with the words of Isaiah: The Lord says: «Since this people approaches me only with its mouth and honors me with its lips, while its heart is far from me**

**and the veneration it has for me is a learning of human precepts, therefore, here I am, I will continue to work wonders and prodigies with this people; the wisdom of his wise men will perish and the intelligence of his intelligent ones will be eclipsed". Woe to those who want to escape the sight of the Lord**

**to conceal their plans, to those who act in darkness, saying: «Who sees us? Who knows us? » What a perversity! Is the potter estimated to be equal to clay? Can an object say of its author: "He didn't make me"? And can a vase say of the potter: "He does not understand"?**

**Of course, a little longer and Lebanon will change into an orchard and the orchard will be considered a forest. On that day the deaf will hear the words of the book; freed from darkness and obscurity, the eyes of the blind will see. The humble will rejoice in the Lord again,**

**the poorest will rejoice in the Holy One of Israel. Because the tyrant will no longer be, the arrogant will disappear, those who plot iniquities will be eliminated, those who by word make others guilty, those who at the door tend to trap the judge and ruin the righteous for nothing.**

**Therefore, the Lord says to the house of Jacob, who redeemed Abraham: «From now on Jacob will no longer blush, his face will no longer turn pale, since seeing his children the work of my hands among them, they will sanctify mine name, they will sanctify the Saint of Jacob**

**and they will fear the God of Israel. The misguided spirits will learn wisdom, those who murmur will learn the lesson" (Is 29,13-24). These are words that attest to the blindness of the people, but they also instill hope. With God even the dry bones might live again. The present is not the future.**

**Our God is the creator of true hope in hearts. The heart of the people is far from the Lord. If they want, they can return to their God. The way to return is Christ Jesus. When you are far from God, it is a sign that you are far from Christ. It suffices to return to Christ and immediately you return to God.**

**If today we are far from Christ, it is because we are far from the Church, from his grace and from his truth. If the Church turns away from Christ, the whole world remains without Christ. the Church returns to Christ and the whole world, through Christ, for the Church, will be able to return to its God, Creator and Lord.**

**If today the world is far from God, it is a sign that the Christian is far from God. The removal of the world is proportionate to the removal of the Christian. The more the Christian moves away from Christ, the more the world moves away from God. The Christian returns to Christ and many will return to God.**

**THE BABEL TOWER**

**What Scripture tells of the Tower of Babel should not be considered marginal in Revelation. Instead, it is revealed what happens to humanity when man wants to be like God, in everything equal to Him. But man is not God. Man is only and always man.**

**The whole earth had a single language and the same words. Emigrating from the east, the men came to a plain in the Sinar region and settled there. They said to each other: "Come, let's make bricks and cook them on the fire". Brick served them as stone and bitumen as mortar.**

**Then they said: "Come, let's build a city and a tower, whose top touches the sky, and make a name for ourselves, so as not to scatter us all over the earth." But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower that the sons of men were building. The Lord said, "Behold, they are one people**

**and they all have a single language; this is the beginning of their work, and now what they plan to do will not be impossible for them. So let's go down and confuse their language, so that they no longer understand each other's language." The Lord scattered them from there all over the earth**

**and they stopped building the city. This is why it was called Babel, because there the Lord confused the language of all the earth and from there the Lord scattered them all over the earth (Gen 11.1-9). Today the Tower of Babel is even higher. Man wanted and wants not to be like God, next to God.**

**He wants to be God in place of God. He wants to be Christ in place of Christ. He wants to be light, truth and life, in place of the Holy Spirit. His thinking is the absolute. Since every man is sick with this disease of death, he is leading the whole earth and not just humanity to death.**

**The Tower of Babel is wherever there is man. Everything is becoming the result of this very high tower: Anthropology, philosophy, science, theology and morality are by now the result of this man who lives in the City of Babel. Even the Word of the Lord and consequently the faith that comes from it suffers.**

**The word of man has taken the place of the Word of God. The will of man has replaced the will of God. We all read the same Scripture. But each one skillfully transforms it with his thoughts. This also applies to truth and faith. Faith is the thought of the individual man.**

**If we do not put on great humility, if we do not recognize that we are only men, if we do not confess that we are falsehood and lies, if we do not cry that foolishness has consumed and consumes us, never can we return under the powerful light of truth of our God.**

**Confessing the personal sin means this: recognizing oneself as men and not God. As long as we think of ourselves as God, we will always be consumed by falsehood and we will not understand each other. Man understands himself only in truth, becoming himself truth. Man becomes truth only in the Truth which is Christ Jesus.**

**Why is the Christian also building the Tower of Babel today? Because he separated from the will given to him. He moved away from the principles of truth and right faith. Towers of Babel are always built when the Minister of the Word omits the formation of consciences according to truth.**

**Towers of Babel are always built when Christians turn away from the teachings of the Apostles and rise to masters of truth and justice according to God. Today the Tower of Babel has reached dimensions so high as to be frightening. Everyone wants to be what he cannot be.**

**It is sufficient for a minister of the Word to teach from his heart and not from the heart of Christ Jesus and it is the Tower of Babel. My people perishes for lack of knowledge. When the faithful is separated from the minister of the Word, he always builds great towers of Babel too.**

**If the minister of the Word and the Christian do not want to build Towers of Babel, each one must remain in the ministry that has been assigned to him and carry it out from the heart of Christ Jesus. When one leaves the heart of Christ, Towers of Babel are built from his will and from his order.**

**PROMISE TO JESUS ​​AND MARY**

**What promise must we make to Jesus? That we want to obey every Word of his, but not the one read by our heart and interpreted by our mind. But read in the Holy Spirit, interpreted with his eternal light, lived with the Spirit of fortitude, of the fear of the Lord and of piety.**

**We must promise him that we will dedicate ourselves to the remembrance of his Word according to his rules and not ours, his will and not ours, following his thoughts and not ours. This is a promise that must be repeated and renewed day by day, indeed moment by moment.**

**What promise must we make to the Virgin Mary? That we make our own the desire for salvation and redemption for the whole world. She wants us to remind the world of the Word of her Son Jesus. We promise her that from today on, we will dedicate ourselves to the realization of this desire of hers.**

**We promise her that we will not let ourselves be either seduced and or tempted by our thoughts of glory, success and acclamation from men. We only want the glory she will give us tomorrow in the holy heavens. Today we want to spend our life, placing it all in the realization of her desire for love.**

**TRUE ESCATOLOGY**

**True eschatology must always be separated from false eschatology. True eschatology is that revealed by the Word of God and of Christ Jesus. Every other eschatology is false. It substantially contradicts the Word of the Lord. False eschatology is the one that teaches reincarnation.**

**You are born only once. You only die once. Any eschatology that teaches that tomorrow everyone will be welcomed into Paradise is false. The revealed Word teaches that the way to Paradise is narrow and constricted and it is the way of obedience to the Gospel of Christ Jesus. No other way is known.**

**Any eschatology that gives the eternal prize to all those who commit acts of terrorism or other crime is false. From the terror inflicted on men we pass to the eternal terror inflicted on us who practice evil. Any harm done to brothers is harm done to God. It is not blessed.**

**True anthropology is death, judgment, hell and paradise. If you exclude hell it is false eschatology. Exclusion of judgment is also false eschatology. The after of a man is always the result of the before. Light generates eternal light. Darkness generates eternal darkness. Falsehood gives falsehood.**

**FREEDOM FOR THE GOSPEL**

**When choosing Christ Jesus, you must have only one desire: to be pleasing to him. When are you pleasing to him? When we do his will, we obey his Word and we fulfill the mission that has been entrusted to us. Everything else acts only as temptation. Whoever chooses Jesus must be only from him.**

**The words of criticism, murmuring, judgment, condemnation, disapproval and insult of men must not interest us. Our life is no longer ours, but of Christ Jesus. If it is his, it is also his when men speak badly, lying. Nothing must prevent from obeying Christ Jesus.**

**PRAYING WITH FAITH**

**Prayer is done with faith when living according to faith. We live according to faith, when we are obedient to the Gospel, to the Word, to the truth and to the Holy Spirit. If one is out of obedience to the Gospel, prayer might never be done with faith. The heart is without faith and without truth.**

**Never might a heart without faith, a life without faith pray with faith. In this case, prayer is only done with the lips, the heart is far from the Lord, because it is not in the Word of God. It is not in obedience to the Commandments. We enter into obedience to the law, we pray in faith.**

**Faith is not believing that the Lord listens to us. Faith is believing that everything is from obedience to his Word. We pray to ask for obedience to the Word of the Lord and the Lord himself will give us what has been announced by his Word. The Word lived is the Word that produces every fruit.**

**BRIEF FINAL CONSIDERATIONS**

**The truth of prayer is the truth of the Christian. The truth of the Christian is the truth of his prayer. If the Christian wants to give truth to his prayer, he himself is obliged to become true. When is the Christian true? When he places his home in the Word of Christ the Lord.**

**Prayer, true prayer, is what Christ Jesus taught us: “Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, as in heaven so on earth. Give us our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we also forgive our debtors, and do not abandon us to temptation, but deliver us from evil (Mt 6,9-13). That prayer which does not build the kingdom of God in one's own heart and through his heart in the hearts of other men is certainly not a true prayer.**

**The first fruit of prayer must always be the growth of the kingdom of God in the heart of the one who prays: "Hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, as in heaven so on earth". With prayer the Christian asks to be a true disciple of Christ Jesus. He asks to do the will of the Father as Jesus does it. He asks for this grace not only for himself, but for every other man. If the kingdom does not come in the one who prays, if the one who prays does not grow as the kingdom of God, the kingdom might never grow in other hearts for him. Everyone gives the kingdom he is. But man is body, soul and spirit. For the body he asks the Father for daily bread. It is wheat bread. For the spirit he asks for the bread of the truth of Christ Jesus.**

**For the soul he asks for the bread which is the Body and Blood of Christ. He asks for this bread not only for himself, but for every other man. Always keeping true kingdom of God is an obligation. Often, however, he is not preserved. He sins against the Lord. He must beg him for forgiveness. The Lord forgives us, makes us his kingdom again, on condition that we forgive those who have offended us. Forgiveness for forgiveness. We forgive and the Father forgives us. If we do not forgive, the Father also does not forgive us. Temptation always knocks at the door of our heart. Nobody alone, with his own strength, might defeat it. He needs all the fortitude, wisdom, science and intelligence of the Holy Spirit. Not only do we ask the Father for all strength so that we do not fall into temptation, we also ask him to free us from evil. Everything in us is the work of God.**

**But the Lord gives us everything for our prayer. Prayer must be without any interruption in us, full of faith and love. Each spiritual fruit is always a gift from God, but always one to be conquered and produced with our prayer. Through prayer, the love of the Father becomes our love, the grace of Christ becomes our grace and the truth of the Holy Spirit becomes our truth. Through the prayer Our God becomes our life. This is the true fruit that prayer must produce in us: making our God live, in his mystery of unity and trinity, in our heart, in our body, in our soul and in our thoughts.**

**Whoever sees and listens to us must always see and listen to our God and Lord. Prayer is done with faith when living according to faith. We live according to faith, when we are obedient to the Gospel, to the Word, to the truth and to the Holy Spirit. If one is out of obedience to the Gospel, never might prayer be done with faith. The heart is without faith and without truth. Never might a heart without faith, a life without faith pray with faith. In this case the prayer is only done with the lips. The heart is far from the Lord, because it is not in the Word of God. It is not in obedience to the Commandments. We enter into obedience to the law and we pray in faith. Faith is not believing that the Lord listens to us. Faith is believing that everything is from obedience to his Word. We pray to ask for obedience to the Word of the Lord and the Lord will give us what has been announced by his Word.**

**The Word lived is the Word that produces every fruit. Virgin Mary, Mother of the Redemption, ensure that our life is carried entirely in the Word of Jesus. Angels and Saints help us to always enter and remain in the Word of the Lord.**