**MY SOUL PROCLAIMS THE GREATNESS OF THE LORD**

**He has helped Israel his servant, remembering his mercy**

Since the moment of creation until the reach of Paradise and the glory itself surrounding us in Heaven, everything is a gift of God’s mercy. The Lord has created us for love. He has forgiven the fault of the origins for love. For love God has descended on our earth taking us by hand and leading us to life as the Shepherd does with his sheepfold. The Psalm has this wondrous image of God. The Lord is true Shepherd of humanity: *“The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name’s sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.”* *(Psal 23 1-6).* The sheep must remain united with the shepherd without ever getting away from him.

Here is also how the Psalmist proclaims the mercy or the love of the Lord.: *“Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. Let Israel say: “His love endures forever.” Let the house of Aaron say: “His love endures forever.” Let those who fear the Lord say: “His love endures forever.” When hard pressed, I cried to the Lord; he brought me into a spacious place. The Lord is with me; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me? The Lord is with me; he is my helper. I look in triumph on my enemies. It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in humans. It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes. All the nations surrounded me, but in the name of the Lord I cut them down. They surrounded me on every side, but in the name of the Lord I cut them down. They swarmed around me like bees, but they were consumed as quickly as burning thorns; in the name of the Lord I cut them down. I was pushed back and about to fall, but the Lord helped me. The Lord is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation. Shouts of joy and victory resound in the tents of the righteous: “The Lord’s right hand has done mighty things! The Lord’s right hand is lifted high; the Lord’s right hand has done mighty things!” I will not die but live, and will proclaim what the Lord has done. The Lord has chastened me severely, but he has not given me over to death. Open for me the gates of the righteous; I will enter and give thanks to the Lord. This is the gate of the Lord through which the righteous may enter. I will give you thanks, for you answered me; you have become my salvation. The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes. The Lord has done it this very day; let us rejoice today and be glad. Lord, save us! Lord, grant us success! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. From the house of the Lord we bless you. The Lord is God, and he has made his light shine on us. With boughs in hand, join in the festal procession up to the horns of the altar. You are my God, and I will praise you; you are my God, and I will exalt you. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.” (Psal 118,1-29).*

*Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of gods. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the Lord of lords: His love endures forever. to him who alone does great wonders, His love endures forever. who by his understanding made the heavens, His love endures forever. who spread out the earth upon the waters, His love endures forever. who made the great lights— His love endures forever. the sun to govern the day, His love endures forever. the moon and stars to govern the night; His love endures forever. to him who struck down the firstborn of Egypt His love endures forever. and brought Israel out from among them His love endures forever. with a mighty hand and outstretched arm; His love endures forever. to him who divided the Red Sea[a] asunder His love endures forever. and brought Israel through the midst of it, His love endures forever. but swept Pharaoh and his army into the Red Sea; His love endures forever. to him who led his people through the wilderness; His love endures forever. to him who struck down great kings, His love endures forever. and killed mighty kings— His love endures forever. Sihon king of the Amorites His love endures forever. and Og king of Bashan— His love endures forever. and gave their land as an inheritance, His love endures forever. an inheritance to his servant Israel. His love endures forever. He remembered us in our low estate His love endures forever. and freed us from our enemies. His love endures forever. He gives food to every creature. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of heaven. His love endures forever. (Psal 136,1-26).*

In the New Testament, God’s mercy is lived to the utmost of the gift of grace, of truth, of eternal life, of the Holy Spirit, of light. The creation and every other work of God in favour of man becomes a pale image, a figure before the wondrous work surrounding us in Christ, with Christ, through Christ. It is truth. God’s mercy reaches its highest when God himself, in the Body and in the Blood of his Only Begotten Son, in the Eternal Word, who has become flesh in the womb of the Virgin Mary, makes himself our nourishment, our substance and we make ourselves his substance, for we are made participant of the own divine nature. It is such a high mystery to result unintelligible and since it is fulfilled through a way of daily simplicity, such as that of the “bread” and of the “wine”, it darkens our eyes and our own mind. If we understood the greatness and the beauty of this sacrament, fruit of the mercy of the Father and of the love of Christ until the end and of the transformative force of the Holy Spirit, we would not certainly participate to the Holy Mass and we would not approach the Eucharist as we approach and participate today. Only God’s mercy can walk with our tiredness and oppression of sin. It alone can deliver us from our habit and fragility arising from our perennial transgression of the Commandment of the Lord. It alone never fails. Man falls, is lost, gets tired, abandons the righteous way, denies his Lord, betrays Him, insults Him, sells Him, treats Him badly, he even comes to blaspheme Him, attributes any non-good thing coming either from nature or from man to Him. He accuses Him with any misdeed, unrighteousness, calamitous event, disgrace or nefarious things that history places before our eyes. And yet the Lord, no matter He is the most mistreated of universe, is never tired of loving us. Truly his charity knows no limits. He as always really able to love us and to persevere in his mercy kindness of heart.

God remembers his mercy including us in his love, making us participant of his charity, clothing us with his patience, strengthening us with his piety, for He wants us to be of Him and to show mercy, piety, charity, compassion, patience, benignity, great love. After all, this is our vocation: revealing, through our concrete life, how great and high, profound and abyssal his divine charity for people is. Jesus showed this mercy in all its divine and human, eternal and earthily strength. Every man who met Jesus experienced how much force of transformation was in his mercy: blind men, lepers, mute, deaf, paralytic, sinners, hungry, lonely, misunderstood, abandoned, laboured, tired, miserable, everyone was enriched by his mercy. Now we, disciples and body of Christ Jesus, must do for humanity what Christ the Lord has done. Thus even today God reveals and shows how great his mercy and his piety is. He reveals it and remembers it and He lives it through the great mercy of the Christian that must be conform in all to the mercy of Jesus the Lord.

Now, so that one does not have an erroneous idea of God’s mercy, it is necessary to highlight an eternal and immortal truth. God gives his mercy. He gives it giving Christ Jesus. How does Christ Jesus become source and spring of mercy for the entire human genre? Through his obedience to his Father until death and to a death on the cross. Through this obedience Jesus becomes source, spring, river that can enliven the entire world. After his glorious ascension to heaven, his body, all the members of his body are river, source, spring of his mercy. How does each member of his body become river, source, spring of mercy? Through his obedience to each Word of Christ Jesus, always as his body, though, always in Him, with Him, through Him. If the Christian departs from the full obedience to the Word of the Gospel according to the most pure truth of the Holy Spirit, he immediately becomes source, spring, river with no water. There will never be true life on earth through him. Likewise, if he departs from the body of Christ and from his grace, truth, light, eternal life, he immediately stops being source, spring, river of mercy. Obedience is always in Christ.

Here is what is happening nowadays, instead. During our time, the world of the disciples of Jesus, abolishing and abrogating, eluding and denying the entire Word of the Gospel, has first created its God that is totally different from the God who has revealed himself in the Sacred Pages of the Scripture. The God of the Christians is a God entirely mercy, entirely forgiveness, entirely compassion. He is a God with a mercy with no obedience to his Word. He is a God who asks for no conversion to Christ and to his Gospel. He is a God who, in the moment of our entering into eternity, knows one only gate: that leading in his eternal dwelling. The other gate, that opening the eternal perdition no longer exist. So far it is a common thought that there is no darkness, neither on earth nor after death. There is n perdition neither during life nor after having left this world. By now only the eternal life exists and we are all accepted in it by the great mercy of our God. We forget to refer a little detail: this God who is entirely mercy, piety, forgiveness, acceptance is the God we have built. The God built by us on the measure of our sin. Since we want to persevere in sin, then we need the God for whom sin no longer exists. Being the God we have built false, everything that is attributed to this God is falsity. Instead, Jesus does not speak from the faith in a God He has built. He speaks from the most pure truth of his Father who is the Lord of heaven and earth, who is righteousness and mercy, forgiveness but also eternal judgement over each action of people. Here is why He has warned us so that we strive to reach the eternal kingdom. We might not reach it. Jesus says to us that many are those who will never reach it and will end up into darkness and eternal perdition. Without obedience to his Word and without conversion to the Gospel, there is no mercy for us. We lack the necessary condition, absolute and indispensable necessity. Instead, whoever believes in his Word, in his Gospel with steady, immediate and perennial obedience might start a truth path of conversion and of faith and might thus be clothed with all the mercy of the Father our Lord Jesus Christ. Whoever does not believe and does not obey the Gospel will persevere to his way of sin and will be lost. May the Mother of God and our Mother obtain for us a most pure faith in every Word of her Son. We will be instruments of mercy.

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