



WINNOWING FAN

The Spiritual Life according to the Fathers and Saints of the Catholic Church in preparation for Christ's Second Coming.

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THE TRUE MARKS ARE INSEPARABLE FROM THE TRUE CHURCH (4)

St. Paul mentions two communities; the Corinthians and the Galatians. Both, seemingly, held heresies. The Corinthians taught that there is no resurrection while the Galatians believed that they had to keep the law of Moses together with the Gospels.

St. Bellarmine holds that though the two communities mentioned had erroneous doctrines, they still made up the Church because of their proper disposition. The Corinthians and Galatians were true churches compared to other communities who had perfect knowledge of doctrine but had no intention of putting them into practice.

Again, what made the Corinthians and Galatians true churches? First, that they knew some of the doctrines though they had erroneous doctrines. But the second

is what saved them; i.e. they were ready to obey all the commands of Christ the moment they received knowledge of those teachings. Referring to the first; they had imperfect knowledge. But secondly, they had charity. It is Faith with Charity that makes us Catholics; it is what saves us.

If a community does not have complete knowledge of the teachings of Christ and they do not have any intention to obey the difficult commands of Christ, then they are not in the Church.

The Protestants, especially the Calvinists, look at Scriptures as more important than the Church. Remember, the Church comes before Scriptures. It was the Church who decided which books will be considered as part of Sacred Scriptures. Every time there are clarifications in matters of morals

and doctrine, it is always referred to the Church and not to Scriptures. Then the Church points to Scriptures for the clarification.

The Church is earlier and more known than Scriptures. The Church was before Scriptures and the Scriptures was given by God to the Church. Then the Church hands it down to others and explains it.

When St. Augustine proved that the baptism of heretics was valid, he did not prove it from Scriptures but because the Church had always held it as valid. Though the four visible signs and the 15 Marks of the true Church are taken from Scriptures, the world accept these because these are the signs accepted by the ancient Church.

Scriptures depend on the Church and not the other way around. So be careful that we do not invent visible signs or Marks of the true Church that are not based on the teachings of the ancient Church.

There are many teachings of Jesus Christ that both Catholics and Protestants have which the latter claim to be signs that theirs is the true Church. But most of these signs are not visible signs that can be used to check on the Catholicity of a group. The Catholic Church has only one set of visible signs by which it

can show its being the true Church of Christ.



Evil clings to our nature like rust to iron, or dirt to the body. But as rust is not produced by the iron-worker nor dirt by the parent, so also evil is not produced by God. He gave man conscience and reason to avoid all evil, knowing that it is harmful and prepares torment for him. So pay strict attention and when you meet some man possessed by power and wealth, be in no way beguiled by the demon to pander to him. But let death immediately stand before your eyes; and you will never desire anything bad or worldly.

St. Anthony the Great

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The *Winnowing Fan* hopes "...to do what little it could to solve the evils that beset the Church."

St. Teresa of Avila

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CONFUSION IN THE CHURCH.

Confusion is expected to occur around the Church. The confusion will be outside and around the Catholic Church and not within the Church. Those who truly have the theological virtue of Faith cannot be confused; only those without Faith can be confused. In fact, it is God's chastisement for those without Faith. They will be confused.

The confusion is caused first, by the fact that souls do not know the teachings of Christ. Secondly, those who are supposed to teach are not teaching the right truths. Thirdly, errors are taught instead and are imposed on everyone by those meant to teach the truths.

This is not strange. It has been prophesied by Christ, Himself, during the Liturgy of the Lenten Season. During Holy week, none of the priests and the Pharisees were teaching the truths. In fact, they were going to crucify the Truth.

This is further shown in the darkness on Good Friday when the Truth was dying on the Cross. Here we have an atmosphere where the truth is nowhere to be learned. It was prophesied by Christ and it is happening right now.

This is occurring in an atmosphere where there is an explosion of knowledge in the world. Yet no one knows the truth. Because Catholic truths are supernatural; while the common human interests are mere natural truths.

The second reason for the confusion is that those who are supposed to teach the truths do not know the truths. Again, Holy Week shows this state of affairs. During Holy Week, no Pharisees, who were the bishops and priests during that time was teaching the truths; they were persecuting the Truth. In fact they were crucifying the Truth.

And the very Apostles of the Truth were silent and cowardly hiding.

Today, the bishops and priests will not be silent because they will be the ones teaching the errors, like: There is no hell. And they will not be hiding because they will be the ones persecuting the true followers of Christ.

Those who have sinned must not despair. Let that never be. For we are condemned not for the multitude of evils but because we do not want to repent and learn the miracles of Christ.

St. Mark the Ascetic

RESOLVING THE CONFUSION.

Christ expected this confusion to take place. After all He knows that there is a devil who will try to destroy His Church and drag souls to hell. And what better way to send souls to hell than confusing them.

So even before the devils became devils, God established His Divine Providence in which He would provide mankind with Scriptures made up of the Old and New Testament. And God would provide mankind with holy bishops, referred to as the Fathers and Doctors of the Church who would interpret Scriptures.

Scriptures contain supernatural knowledge that cannot be taught by men. This cannot be learned in seminaries and schools of theology, although these schools will give the impression that they can teach these truths.

This erroneous belief that supernatural theology can be learned from seminaries and schools of theology will be one of the main reasons why the Church will be in darkness as on Good Friday..... because there will be no Catholic knowledge these days.



THE CHURCH PERSECUTING THE CHURCH.

During Holy Week the Church established by God in the Old Testament was the one persecuting the Church of the New Testament. That is what will happen today; and this is foretold by Christ Himself before His passion. Christ prophesied that what was soon to happen in Jerusalem is what will happen at the End Times.

Good Friday is the 6th day of the week. It is the day before Saturday, the Sabbath. And the Sabbath is the end of the world. This eschatological concept was introduced by St. Bonaventure; and many of the Fathers of the Church had thoroughly studied this concept in an attempt to learn how close the End Time would be.

The priestly thesis of Fr. Joseph Ratzinger was on this concept. The idea thrilled him. He was not able to make the needed conclusion to the thesis so that he wanted to continue studying this concept. But he was prevented to do so because he was elected Pope.

Now that he is Pope Emeritus he must have made the final conclusion to the treatise.

