

NOTES - A "tattoo" of the soul. Starting from the virtues again

There is a mother called "Wisdom". Mother Wisdom is a gift of the Holy Spirit. Do you remember? "Jesus grew in age, wisdom and grace". Jesus is our model to follow, to imitate; he is our point of reference, the polar star. If Jesus "grew" in wisdom, he grew in the Holy Spirit and grew in virtues. He had them all and grew in their perfection; we must acquire them in order to resemble him, to love like him, to carry out that mission of salvation in the family, at school, at work, in the parish and with our friends, like him.

Now everyone of us has a heart. The heart is one, so one trait can manage to inhabit it: either virtue or vice. A heart inhabited by vice makes Mother Wisdom, the Holy Spirit and therefore all virtues turn away. If we want to become true Christians first we must "dismiss" from our heart, from our soul, vices and sins that are found in them and then "assume" each virtue one at a time.

"Virtue is like a tattoo of the soul."

Movimento Apostolico

Non-profit Apostolic Movement Weekly.
Free distribution. Publisher: Apostolic Movement
Responsible Director: Costantino Di Bruno.

With ecclesiastical approval of the
Archbishopric Curia of Catanzaro-Squillace.

Authorization no. 75 of 8-2-1990 of the Court of Lamezia Terme.
Directorate, Editorial, Administration: Via B.Musolino, 23/E, Catanzaro.

Internet: www.movimentoapostolico.it
e-mail: info@movimentoapostolico.it

Printed by the press office of the Apostolic Movement

The Holy Spirit is the tattoo artist"

Virtue is like a "tattoo" of the soul !! The Holy Spirit is the "tattoo artist". So each of us must gradually, in time, let himself be "drawn", "engraved", "coloured" the soul, by the Spirit of the Lord, of these distinctive characters tattoos, which are the virtues.

I am giving an example. Saint Francis of Paula let his soul be "tattooed" by the Holy Spirit with the virtue of charity and charity has become his hallmark!

"Let's start from the virtues to make ourselves beautiful inwardly"

Let's start from the virtues to make ourselves and our soul beautiful inwardly and making the world and the Church, beautiful will be a natural consequence of that. This is how St. Paul indicated the road to the Philippians: "In conclusion, brothers, all that is true, noble, just, pure, lovable and honoured, what is virtue and deserves praise, let all these be the object of your thoughts". I am adding: if all these will be the object of our thoughts, then they will be of our talk and our actions.

So, are you ready to let your heart and soul be tattooed by the Holy Spirit? Are you ready to discover what your hallmark is?

Father Antonio Severino

Proclaim the Gospel to every creature

The mission of the Apostles is simple in its contents. Humanly impossible in its modalities. It is not the work of the flesh, but of Christ and of the Holy Spirit. It is the work of Lord Jesus, because the disciple must bring him, his Christ, in his heart, his soul and his thoughts. Christ wants to love with the heart of the disciple, to manifest himself through his soul, to speak through his mouth, to see with his eyes, to hear with his ears, to touch with his hands and to walk with his feet. This implies, requires, demands a perfect conformation of the disciple with his Master, a conformation that is never complete, but always to be completed. It is obtained through the most perfect obedience to the Commandments and the Beatitudes. It is the work of the Holy Spirit, because it is He who must convert hearts, becoming in them motion and conduction until reaching full maturity in Christ.

When there is a decline in Christ and the Spirit of God in the Apostle of the Lord, there is immediately a decline in the mission of evangelization, proclamation and remembrance of the Word. If Christ and the Spirit disappear from the heart of the Apostle, even the Word of God disappears from his heart and the human word takes its place. It is then that the paths of Christ are abandoned, which are ways of the Word, grace, truth, eternal life, conversion and we are handed over to the human ways. One leaves the path of the Church and takes the paths of men. With which results? No true salvation is produced. The Word of Jesus is missing because

Jesus is missing. The Holy Spirit is missing because Christ is lacking in the heart of the disciple. Christ, the Word and the Holy Spirit are indivisible. There is Christ in the fullness of truth, there is the Word and the Holy Spirit. There is no Christ, there is neither the Word nor the Holy Spirit. Just as Christ and the Father are one, so also the disciple and Christ must be one. As Christ is generated by the Father, lives in the Father for the Father, so the disciple is generated by Christ, lives in Christ, through Christ and with Christ. As Jesus is in the Father in the communion of the Holy Spirit, so the disciple must be in Christ in the communion of the Holy Spirit.

All the limits of the preaching of the Gospel are the fruit of an evident detachment of the disciple from Christ the Lord. It is urgent that the relationship of life be re-established between Christ and the disciple and this cannot happen except in the abode of the disciple in the Word. By dwelling in the Word for full and perfect fulfilment even of the smallest precepts, the Father, Christ Jesus and the Holy Spirit will come and take up residence in the disciple and he will be able to manifest to the world the love of the Father, the grace of Christ Jesus and the communion of Holy Spirit. He might announce the Word according to the its divine modalities and for sure many fruits will be produced. Mother of God, ensure that every disciple of Jesus conforms to his Master and Lord and lets himself be wholly moved by the Holy Spirit. If he carries the Spirit and the Spirit brings him, salvation is accomplished.

Father Costantino Di Bruno

«TRUTH WILL MAKE YOU FREE (JN 8,32). FAKE NEWS AND PEACE JOURNALISM»

THE MESSAGE OF POPE FRANCIS FOR THE 52ND WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY

The Message of Pope Francis for the 52nd World Communications Day is precious and very current and has as its theme: "Truth will make you free (Jn 8:32). Fake news and peace journalism». An annual day, bespoke by the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council, which is celebrated on the Sunday preceding Pentecost.

For several years we have been witnessing an ever-new scenario of the digital "revolution", characterized by an information overload. It is estimated that in just 60 seconds 3 million contents are published on Facebook, 430 thousand tweets, 2 million and 315 thousand searches are completed on Google, 150 million emails and 44 million messages sent on WhatsApp and 2 million and 700 thousand videos displayed on YouTube.

For the Holy Father "in the project of God, human communication is an essential modality for living communion". "The human being, image and likeness of the Creator - the Pontiff writes, is capable of expressing and sharing the true, the good and the beautiful. He is able to tell his own experience and the world, and thus build the memory and understanding of events. But, if man follows his own proud egoism, he can also make a distorted use of the faculty of communicating... The alteration of truth is the typical symptom of this distortion, both on the individual and on the collective level. On the contrary, in fidelity to the logic of God, communication becomes a place to express one's responsibility in the search for truth and in the construction of good".

The Pope highlights how "today, in a context of ever faster communication and within a digital system, we are witnessing the phenomenon of "false news", the so-called fake news: it invites us to reflect and has sugge-

sted that we dedicate this message to the theme of truth".

The invitation of Pope Francis is to "promote a journalism of peace". "Not understanding - the Pontiff explains - with this expression a 'make believe good' journalism, which denies the existence of serious problems and takes on saccharine tones. On the contrary, I mean a journalism without pretence, hostile to falsehoods, to slogans and to booming declarations".

It is the Pope himself who recognizes the difficult task of the communication operators: "Fake news often become viral, that is, they spread quickly and hard to avoid, not because of the logic of sharing that characterizes social media, but rather for the their grip on the insatiable craving that easily turns on in the human being".

Francis identifies a key to understanding in order to prevent and identify the mechanisms of disinformation, speaking of "logic of the snake": one who "became the creator of the 'first fake news' (see Gen 3,1-15), which led to the tragic consequences of sin, which then took place in the first fratricide (see Gen 4) and in other innumerable forms of evil against God, neighbour, society and creation". For the Pope, the strategy of this "skilled 'father of lies" (Jn 8:44) is precisely mimesis, a creeping and dangerous seduction that makes its way into the heart of man with false and enticing arguments". Faced with the "virus of falsity", which emerges too often in social networks, the most radical antidote for the Pope "is to let be purified by the truth" with an analysis of the data and a careful check of the sources.

A message that encourages everyone to re-discover the sense of God's fear, through an upright conscience capable of promoting the common good.g.s.

The
Lord's Day
ROMAN RITE

GO INTO THE WHOLE WORLD
(ASCENSION OF THE LORD YEAR B)

TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH
(Acts 1,1-11)

The disciples must be witnesses of Jesus to the ends of the earth, that is, in front of every man, for the entire duration of history. They will have to continue, by expressing it through their word and their works, the mission of Christ. Jesus manifested the whole mystery of salvation and redemption of the Father. The disciples will have to show that Christ really saved and redeemed them. This is why it is not enough to announce the Gospel. It is necessary that they concretely show in their lives the fruits of the transformation of the Word of Jesus in their body, in their soul and in their spirit. If transformation is not offered in a visible and evident way, the other will think that the announced Word is only a word, without any fruit in the personal life. If the Word has not produced any fruit in the disciple that announces it, might it produce it in those who receive it? Without visible fruits, the Word will be considered useless and vain. It will never be believed.

THE EXTENT OF THE FULL STATURE
OF CHRIST (Eph 4,1-13)

Saint Paul asks the disciples of Jesus to be in the midst of the world a manifestation of the most pure unity that reigns in the God in whom they believe. Father and Son and Holy Spirit are three persons who exist in one nature. They live in eternal communion. Even the disciples of Jesus are a multitude of people, but all subsisting in one body: the body of Christ the Lord. In this body they must live in perfect communion in faith, in truth, in hope, in charity and in love. They must manifest to the world all

the beauty of the body of Christ. For this the participation of each disciple is necessary. How? Living the fullest obedience to the Word, moving away from the transgression of the Commandments, eradicating every vice from the personal body and soul, placing every attention to the observance of even the smallest precepts of the Law.

THEY WENT FORTH AND PREACHED
EVERYWHERE (Mk 16: 15-2)

If the Church is detached, separates and moves away from the evangelizing mission, if she fails to preach the Gospel, she can be compared to a terminal sick kept alive by machines. The machines are all the works that are done, but that are not the fruit of the Gospel sown in the hearts. If the Gospel is not sown, there is no life for the Church, because she regenerates, renews herself, grows and increases in new children precisely from the preaching of the Gospel. The Word of God is silent, fruits of non-word are produced. If the Word is not sown, the Church enters a deep coma. Apparently the machines of the works seem to keep her alive, instead they are the ones that are the cause of her death. It is an eternal truth. The Church lives by sowing the Word. A community lives, sowing the Gospel. The Word is the only one that generates and regenerates the life of the body of Christ. We stop sowing the Gospel, we enter an unstoppable death process. If today many are witnessing this process, they must know that it is the fruit of the non-sowing of the Word.

by the theologian

Father Costantino Di Brunó