



Jesus The Lord Our Saviour

March 2014

(Not For Sale)



"MY FLESH IS TRUE FOOD AND MY BLOOD IS TRUE DRINK."

(John 6:55)

GOD BLESS YOU



Jesus The Lord Our Saviour

Blessings of God be yours...

" I will sing of loyalty and of justice; to you, O LORD, I will sing. I will study the way that is blameless. When shall I attain it? I will walk with integrity of heart within my house;" (Psalm 101:1,2)

Father God! O Holy One! I praise You. Father God! O Omnipotent One ! I exalt You. Father God who are the Source of all Love! I praise and exalt You on High.

O Loving Father, I think of You morning and evening, during the day and night and long for You. I wish to see You alone in your Holy Presence.

I lead a diligent life. I live carefully watchful never to commit any sin and to lead an upright life. I shun all the thoughts and imaginations that might cause blemish to my soul.

I beg You that at all times my thinking and my words may be sweet and that I may always remain holy.

Father God! Show me the way. Father God! Pour out Your Holy Spirit who would show me the way to holiness. I plead with You to pour out Your Spirit of Holiness! Your Spirit of Truth and Your Spirit of Love!

O Good Holy Spirit God! Come down upon me. Teach me. Speak what is Truth and Holy in my heart. Envelop me completely and be seated in the throne of my heart. This is how I wish to see God. I want to live one with and united in Him. Banish and remove far from my heart, completely, all that is evil. My body and my heart is all Yours.

O God! O Holy Spirit God! Lead me on. As I live with a clean and holy heart, O God , envelop me . Come and make a dwelling with me in my home. May my heart rejoice in Your Presence. May Your Presence touch every one I meet as rays through my prayer, my thoughts, , my speech and my breath. O Holy Spirit God! May Your Immense love and Your Great power shine forth on me!

Thank You father God. Bless me, those who are with me, my family, and those dearest to my heart. Be always close to us. AMEN.

Fr. V. Ignatius. S.J.

Beloved in Christ...

" Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." (Matthew 5:8)

Beloved In Christ! We all long to see God! The teaching of Our LORD Jesus: "Purity of heart. This is the characteristic which is unique for God." Jesus thus teaches us to praise God. " Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name." (Matthew 6:9)

When some one is running short of blood, and if it has to be transfused from some one else, then they would seek some one with the same blood group and give it. If some one has B +, then they would transmit blood that is compatible with that group. They would test that. So too is it even to see God. Only when our eyes are in compatible relationship with God, can we see Him. For another person's blood to get infused into the body there should be some compatibility. Otherwise the new blood will not mingle in the blood stream. Do we mix a bull's blood with that of human beings? It would be incompatible!

Do you see the wall that is in front of your eyes? Look at it a little intently. Just touch and pat it. Does the wall look at you? Does it touch you? How ever long you might stare at the wall, the wall would never look back at you. There is a tremendous difference between the power vested in your eyes and for a lifeless thing like the stone wall. The stone wall does not possess the quality to agree with that of your eyes. Although God continually sees the human beings, human eyes are never able to see God!

The trait necessary to see God is holiness! When we attain this quality of holiness, we would be able to see God. When the human life and his soul is able to obtain this trait called holiness, then we can see God. Besides that, unless God Himself grants this trait we cannot obtain it. If our mind longs for it and if our heart searches it, then God Himself will grant it to us.

Blessed are the pure in heart; for they shall see God. I wish you Joy!

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HOLINESS AND HUMILITY

We as Christians believe that Jesus Christ Our LORD remained as God and came to visit this world. The basic belief of Christianity is that after this life on this earth, there is life after in heaven. Our basic belief is that whatever be our name and fame on this earth, yet our spiritual life should lay a strong foundation for our eternal life in heaven.

“ Those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will save it. What does it profit them if they gain the whole world, but lose or forfeit themselves?” (Luke 9:24-25)

Some of the basic characteristics for our spiritual growth:

Our spiritual life is supposed to continue even after our death. What ever our life on this earth, will determine our everlasting and eternal life. We learn about the kind of spiritual life we should lead, from the teachings of Our LORD Jesus. Holiness and humility should be the hallmark of our spiritual growth.

Holiness: If we think of the virtue of holiness, we shall keep the Words of Our LORD Jesus in our heart and meditate upon it.

“Blessed are the pure in heart; for they shall see God.” (Matthew 5:8) Human beings have the natural desire to see God. This is the sole reason why we go to the places of worship. How ever many benefits we receive in life, yet there is this basic longing in human beings to see God. The very reason we live on this earth, is to seek, search and reach God alone!

Both the rich and the poor work incessantly to reach God. Our LORD explains through a parable, that a life not reachable to God as being a mere waste.

“Read the story of “Lazarus and the poor man” . (Luke 16:19-31)

A rich man led a rich and luxurious life. He dressed himself in costly clothing and enjoyed feasting and drinking, there was a poor man called Lazar very close to his house. He was filled with sores and lay sick. There was none to care for him and was dying from hunger. Dogs came and licked his wounds. A day came when both of them died. The poor man received a place in heaven. “The poor man also died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham.” But the rich man was tortured in hell. At that time he called out to father Abraham in agonizing groans. He sought the help of Abraham. But Abraham refused to help him. Abraham replied saying that it was impossible to cross the chasm between hell and heaven.

The rich man was greatly troubled. A life bereft of God.

Human beings should never lose God. That was why Our LORD preached thus: “ Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.” (Matthew 5:48)

There can be no other role models to “Holiness” or “Perfection” other than God Himself. We say that parents should be the role models to their children, teachers to the students. This means that one is worthy of being quoted as an example for the other.

We can emulate God alone for holiness and perfection. Is it possible for us to be like God/If we have to be united with Him, then the virtue of purity is very essential. If we are impure then we cannot get along with God.

Not that we are equal to God. We should be worthy to be united in Godliness. If we were to take an ordinary life, if he/she searches for a job, then we examine whether he/she is qualified. When an individual seeks employment in a school, college or a business enterprise, then his qualification and certificates are needed. It is only with these , that the individual can apply for a job.

What is the requisite for us to gain a place in heaven, to live eternally with God?

“ Pursue peace with every one, and the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no root of bitterness springs up and causes trouble, and through it many become defiled.” (Hebrews 12:14-15)

The very nature of God is holiness! Our LORD Himself has mentioned this. “ Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name!” (Matthew 6:9)

The very Name of God is “ the Holy One”. In the vision that prophet Isaiah saw, “ The LORD was sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. The Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings. The seraphims were even scared to see the face of God, so with two they covered their faces. Knowing that they were unworthy to stand in the Presence of God, with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew ever ready to carry out the tasks assigned by God.

And one called to another and said, “ Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.” The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called. (Isaiah 6:3)

The nature that transforms us to be eligible to be united as one with the Holy God, and to stand in His Presence, is purity. Who on this earth can give us this nature of being pure? Who other than God cleanse and make us pure? Only God can transform us into His own Image.

“ God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them.” (Genesis 1: 27)

The Holy God wished that the human beings who He had created should be as pure as He is.

“ The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love.(Ephesians 1:4)

The continuous intercession that St. Paul did, exhorting the Christians reminds us of this.

“ May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will

do this." (I Thessalonians 5:23-24)

With what attitude should we as human beings come before God, "humility" is the attitude that denotes that we should bow down in adoration before God.

When the attendants or the common people came before the king, they bowed in respect towards him. In India we still practice the habit of prostrating before God in adoration in the places of worship. When we adore God with the thought that we human beings are nothing before God Almighty, we humble ourselves , we raise our thoughts about the greatness and magnitude of God and this is what is humility. God is great! This is the attitude that comes with the thought that we are mere dust in His Presence. This is the nature that is reflected when we feel and realise that God is big! He is Omnipotent! That we human beings survive and live only because of His goodness and mercy! This is called, humility. It is expedient that we possess this virtue of " humility" to adore God. There is none equal to God.

The opposite of the virtue of humility is pride or arrogance.

The reason for the head of the angels Lucifer and his friends' fall and being shunned away from the Presence of God was arrogance.

The Arch angel Michael fought against satan and declares that 'Who is like the LORD?' (Revelation 12:7) (Daniel 10:13, Daniel 12:1)

The very embodiment of humility is Our LORD Jesus Christ. "Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." (Matthew 11:29)

An act of great example and a deed that which stunned every one , was Jesus washing the feet of His apostles. (John 13:1-17) Jesus washed the feet of His apostles and wiped them, during His Last Supper.

" So if I , your Lord and Teacher , have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example , that you also should do as I have done to you." (John 13:14-15)

As St. Paul describes the mind set of Jesus, this is what he has to advice, " Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,...emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness....he humbled himself." (Philippians 2:5-8)

This mind set possessed by Jesus will strengthen the Christian life. May the selfless humility that Jesus possessed, be a jewel for us.

Holiness gives fullness to the Christian life. Humility gives beauty like a jewel. And where these two are found, love remains steadfast.

" Let mutual love continue." (Hebrews 13:1)

" Dear children, for you to be able to be my apostles and to be able to help all those who are in darkness, to come to know the light of the love of my Son, you must have pure and humble hearts."(Mother Mary of Medjugorje- January 2nd 2014)

Fr. V. Ignatius. S.J.