

**“After death, we’ll give an account of our duties of state”**

*“For now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees. Every tree therefore that brings not forth good fruit shall be cut down and cast into the fire.*

*“And the people asked him, saying: What then shall we do? And he answering, said to them: He that has two coats, let him give to him that has none; and he that has meat, let him do in like manner.*

*“And the publicans also came to be baptized, and said to him: Master, what shall we do?*

*“But he said to them: Do nothing more than that which is appointed you.*

*“And the soldiers also asked him, saying: And what shall we do? And he said to them: Do violence to no man; neither calumniate any man; and be content with your pay.” (Luke 3, 9-14)*

Indeed, the principal issue and element factor is that in the ills of our modern times is that most of men have forgotten God. The failings of the human consciences, deprived from divine dimension, have been a determining factor in all the major crimes of the modern world, no matter what walk of the life we are occupied or engaged with time, business, or religious conscience.

No matter how formidably wars are exploding and overturning cities and beliefs, no matter what successes it attains in seizing territories within or without each nation... it is doomed never to vanquish Christian Civilization, founded by Evangelization transmitted through generations until now. Of course, the New Evangelization is misreading Catholic Church Tradition, when proclaiming a new interpretation [hermeneutic of continuity] for persons, families and countries in today's process of De-Christianization.

The pitifully desponding attitude of Western countries engaged by the spirit of war, afflicting Eastern nations, has sunk in a large measure, due to the fatal error of believing that the only issue is that of nuclear weapons... whereas in reality the defense of peace reposes chiefly on stout hearts and steadfast men, not deprived of divine dimensions. Catholic Church is needed for such dimension because His Founder is a divine Person – Jesus Christ.

All the attempts to find a way out of the plight of today's problematic Modern World are fruitless without repentant return to our human being in conscience and understanding towards the Blessed Lord, Creator of the world, Who sent Jesus Christ unto the world to redeem it by His Blood shed on the Holocaust of the Calvary.

What shall we do? This question comes to many of us, not only once but very many times. We are some times overwhelmed thinking about it, and spinning in circles. Moreover, God wants us to collaborate with Him in the work of eternal salvation. No one but God has the power to health in sickness, and to give that peace to our convulsive world and Church. He wants us to believe Him, to ask Him for His love and pardon.

This is exactly what people were asking to Saint John the Baptist. He answered to believers in the Messiah in giving them the precept of charity and poverty – it is better to give than to receive.

To the publicans, he gave a wonderful advise ***“do nothing more than that which is appointed.”*** That means, to do our duty of state. It is difficult to be faithfully practicing our duties, to keep up in our obligations and straight in our intentions. Actually, it is according to Our Lady's words to Lucy, when she asked to Her what penance should we do.

To the soldiers, he was concrete in guidance *“do violence to no man; neither calumniate any man, and content with your pay.”* As we know, several times a war is deceitful because there hardly is a right reason for engaging war against nations. It has been power or ambition some reasons of waging a war. Calumny is frequently between conflicts. Nations are not exempt of detraction and envy. Factors of instigation from ambitious men thirsty of material pleasures are at work, but there is an ultimate calumny waged against God. There is not more belligerent attitude than fighting for religious beliefs. The more antagonistic they are, the more insidious war will be.

*“The cause of all evils – says Saint John Chrysostom- lies in the fact that we consider as alien the things that concern our own body. No one is fulfilling his own duty if he ignores his neighbor's salvation. If you dare to contend that you have nothing in common with your fellow member; if you think you have nothing in common*

*with your brother, then neither have you Christ as your Head.”*

What –then- shall we do? It is known that the divine Will is expressed in the Commandments of God and in the precepts of the Church. Yet, it is manifested in a more concrete and detailed way in the duties of state and the various circumstances in our daily life. These duties of state determine particularly how we must act in our daily affairs as to be always in conformity with the divine will, not only as an individual person but also as a particular nation. For instance, for someone his duties are those required by his family life, profession or occupation, including social activities, even as a good citizenship. In the case of a priest, his duties are those of keeping his priestly obligations including the care of souls.

God’s will thus conveys with those circumstances of our life, whether important or not, to the smallest detail (health or sickness, poverty or wealth, desolation or consolation, success or failure, misfortunes or struggles) so that divine dimension will be present in our deeds, words, and intentions. And from time to time, the Blessed Lord will ask us to fulfill special endeavors towards a specific neighbor.

However, Modern “theology” cannot deny the transcendent goal of human existence, but it lets it fade away before the up-to-date technological development, without resolving the puzzling effect of the materialistic life mastering human being: Modern man cannot function without being plugged in electronics and in cybernetic life. Within such frame of life, modern culture undergoes a disjunction between material and spiritual issues. Materialistic life outstrips the spiritual, leaving it behind. Its point-of-view regards to technology as basic social interaction (network) builds upon an ever-increasing knowledge of the material world, with its health technological discoveries, and cybernetic weapons of instant wars between nations provoking a constant psychological warfare in today’s society.

In true, the crucial distinction is rather between a culture that aims at the perfecting of human nature, and the culture that targets the perfecting of human person. Rejecting the supernatural end of mankind, its driven force drills in progressing human action, constantly changing and adapting to modern social developments, not only for individuals or families but also for governments and religious groups, including the whole Catholic Church.

After Vatican II Council, the post-conciliar church has a tendency to include all the values of Humanism within the teaching and moral of the Christian Gospel. Frequent use is made of some expressions like, “human and Christian values,” “the Church has man as its center,” “religion makes man more truly man,” “New Evangelization in the context of the modern man and society,” and so forth... those expressions demand to the Church its opening assistance to the world, and its attempts to put itself at the head of human progress. Therefore, modern men are in trouble. Here is a problem – Christianity wants to give rise to a new world that is more just and more human, which hardly keeps the spirit of Jesus Christ.

As a matter of fact, the New Evangelization is in demand of a new leadership of churchmen, being set upon that hard ground, which the post-conciliar evolution installed in teaching and morals, even in its liturgy. She talks about a new world, and a free society preaching about immigration of particular religions to other countries, in order to push people towards a unified worldwide society – New World Order. In fact, the Catholic Church is regressing! It is seemly returning to the Old Testament’s spirit in a sort of religious practices and political interventions of the ancient law, inculcating a “Christ,” which is not Jesus-Christ, the Son of God.

Consequently, let us remember what Our Lady of Fatima told to Lucy: *“Pray and do penance.”* And then, Lucy asked her what penance shall we do? “The best penance is to keep and perform the duties of your state of life.” So, single people, be honest in word, thought and deed, not only in Faith and Charity but also in Continence and Purity. So, married couple, be faithful to your marriage vows to all the extents of your house-hold, including dining-room and bed-room.

Therefore, our duty of this life is to save our soul. Hence, the excellence of the evangelical counsels represent the sacrifice on earth in seeking the Kingdom of God, as it is in heaven, in private and public domain.

Viva Cristo Rey!

Father Zendejas