

Pure Suffering

First reading

1 John 1:5-2:2

The Blood of his Son Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin.

Beloved: This is the message that we have heard from Jesus Christ and proclaim to you: God is light, and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say, "We have fellowship with him," while we continue to walk in darkness, we lie and do not act in truth. But if we walk in the light as he is in the light, then we have fellowship with one another, and the Blood of his Son Jesus cleanses us from all sin. (What does it mean to walk in the light?) If we say, "We are without sin," we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we acknowledge our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from every wrongdoing. If we say, "We have not sinned," we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My children, I am writing this to you so that you may not commit sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous one. He is expiation for our sins, and not for our sins only but for those of the whole world.

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*Embrace all the sorrows I place in your heart with perfect peace, trust, patience and love. (Path #121)*

*Be filled with My joy in believing that God has found favor with you and he delights in you... (Path #119)*

**I asked, "My Lord, how do I live this joy with so much sorrow?" and Jesus said:**

*Because your sorrows are saving souls... Your tears, united to Mary's, are watering the face of the earth with God's grace. Your sorrows in Me bring forth new life... God the Father showers grace upon the earth through the sorrows of Mary, which are one in My sorrows. Your sorrows united as one to the Mother of Sorrows brings new life upon the earth. Your joy will be found in your perfect faith in this truth. Believe and continue to save souls through your sorrows. (6/3/14) Path #119*

**Pope Benedict XVI writes concerning the words "you are clean":**

*In Mark's Gospel we see the radical transformation that Jesus brought to the concept of purity before God: it is not ritual actions that make us pure. Purity and impurity arise within man's heart and depend on the condition of his heart... How does the heart become pure? Who are the pure in heart, those who can see God... Faith cleanses the heart. It is the result of God's initiative toward man. Faith comes about because men are touched deep within by God's Spirit, who opens and purifies their hearts. Jesus says, 'You are already made clean by the word which I have spoken to you'. It is His word that penetrates them, transforms their intellect, their will, their "heart," and opens it up in such a way that it becomes a seeing heart... Jesus' word is more than a word; it is His very self. His word is truth, and it is love... In place of ritual purity, what we have now is not merely morality, but the gift of encounter with God in Jesus Christ. (Path 5-E)*

1John 2: 3-11

First reading

1 John 2:3-11

**Those who love their brother remain in the light.**

*Beloved: The way we may be sure that we know Jesus is to keep his commandments. Whoever says, "I know him," but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoever keeps his word, the love of God is truly perfected in him. **This is the way we may know that we are in union with him: whoever claims to abide in him ought to walk just as he walked.***

*Beloved, I am writing no new commandment to you but an old commandment that you had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word that you have heard. And yet I do write a new commandment to you, which holds true in him and among you, for the darkness is passing away, and the true light is already shining. **Whoever says he is in the light, yet hates his brother, is still in the darkness.** Whoever loves his brother remains in the light, and there is nothing in him to cause a fall. Whoever hates his brother is in darkness; he walks in darkness and does not know where he is going because the darkness has blinded his eyes.*

The Light of the World

Pope Benedict XVI:

*Faith, which sees the love of God revealed in the Pierced Heart of Jesus on the Cross, gives rise to love. **Love is the light**—and in the end, the only light—that can always illuminate a world grown dim and give us the courage needed to keep living and working (Path,4-G)*

**The Light of Jesus Christ Is Love that Suffers All**, Diary of a MOC 88-

*Only love radiates the light of God, for His light is Love. The light of Jesus Christ is love that suffers for all and with all: Love in pain and sorrow, Love that enters into the brokenness of humanity and receives her brokenness into Himself to heal and restore her in God. Love receives her wounds and bears them upon His Body to heal her with the balm of His tenderness in mercy. This is the Light of the world. This is Love, the Word Incarnate.*

*Receive My wounds, the sin, brokenness and oppression of your brothers and sisters, so that you can radiate My light in the darkness. This is love. The love of the world is self-seeking and self-centered, but the love of God is self-giving.*

— The Love of God Is a Consuming Fire —

**We are tempted to sit comfortably near the fire** so that we can enjoy the light and warmth without getting burned. However, Jesus' Heart is a consuming fire, which is painful to enter because it constantly burns away all our impurities;

Gospel

Luke 2:22-35

**This is the light of revelation to the Gentiles.**

*When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, just as it is written in the law of the Lord, Every male that opens the womb shall be consecrated to the Lord, and to offer the sacrifice of a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons, in accordance with the dictate in the law of the Lord.*

*Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. This man was righteous and devout, awaiting the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Christ of the Lord. He came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to perform the custom of the law in regard to him, he took him into his arms and blessed God, saying:*

*“Lord, now let your servant go in peace;  
your word has been fulfilled:  
my own eyes have seen the salvation  
which you prepared in the sight of every people,  
a light to reveal you to the nations  
and the glory of your people Israel.”*

*The child’s father and mother were amazed at what was said about him; and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, **“Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted (and you yourself a sword will pierce) so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.”***

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The Son of God is destined to suffer and so is Mary. The two pure Hearts must be pierced so that our darkness can come into the light. They suffer so that we can be made pure in the image and likeness of God. The way we know we are growing in union according to St John is that we walk just as He walked. We voluntarily also suffer with Him so that others can receive the graces to know their own darkness and SEE.

Pure suffering

What is in our hearts when we receive Sorrows?

- With the pain is there also resentment, anger, frustration? Root-pride, control
- What is at that root of my resentment? Lack of faith that my sorrows in Christ are bringing grace to my son. Lack of belief that my sorrows, tears united to Mary, God is using to bring new life to my family...
- Do our sufferings become a means to get attention? Root- attachment to be noticed, appreciated

Suffer solely with Love and for Love

-you will desire solely the Cross; you will desire the salvation of all your brothers and sisters and forget yourself; Path#12

- St. Paul links Christ's humility to His obedience "unto death on a cross" because He lives solely to please the Father. Path 2-F, p 89

- Pure love gives itself solely because of love. The love of the Trinity is pure love; therefore, the Father gives His life by giving to the world His only begotten Son. The Holy Spirit flows from this most pure love, thus igniting the hearts to suffer with Me, so that they can enter in Love. Path #29

- Who will drink from our Lord's chalice and suffer with Him solely to be ONE with Love? (Path, Before #74)

- Be love. Live solely for Love, forgetting yourself. Path #87

- My Lord how do I live solely for Love, forgetting myself?

Live to please Me. To live in the unity of the Trinity is to live gazing at the Father, through the Son, to please Him in all things. Path #87

This is the power of the Cross: souls united to Love Crucified solely to love Jesus as He has loved you. This is the love that will transform the world Path #142

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Path = book, *Simple Path to Union with God*, available from the main page of this website.