Necessity of God's Miracles and Punishments

May 13, 2005 Christ is truly ascended into heaven, Alleluia! Come, Holy Ghost!

Dear brothers in Christ,

Praised be Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, now and forever!

The brothers in Truth or Consequences, New Mexico, send their greetings and prayers your way. We hope you are having a most blessed and holy Easter Season (which ends on Trinity Sunday). I hope you remembered to pray the long form Exorcism Prayer this past weekend since it was the first weekend of the month. If you did not remember, please pray it sometime this week. Also, the Novena to the Holy Spirit started last Friday. If you did not start it, please do so now.

Dear brothers, we are all called by God to be good Catholics and thus to do great things for the glory of God and the salvation of souls, just as Jesus called the apostles and disciples (men, women, children, the young, and the old) to do:

"And you shall know that I am in the midst of Israel [Catholics]: and I am the Lord your God [the God of the Catholic Church], and there is none besides: and my people shall not be confounded for ever. And it shall come to pass after this, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy: your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. Moreover upon my servants and handmaids in those days I will pour forth my spirit. And I will shew wonders... And it shall come to pass, that every one that shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved: for in mount Sion, and in Jerusalem [The Catholic Church] shall be salvation, as the Lord hath said, and in the residue whom the Lord shall call [the few good Catholics, Mary's Little Remnant]."(Joel 2: 27-32)

"These signs shall follow them that believe: In my name they shall cast out devils: they shall speak with new tongues. They shall take up serpents; and if they shall drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them: they shall lay their hands upon the sick, and they shall recover." (Mk. 16:17-18)

If we are good Catholics as the saints were, God will work great wonders and miracles through all of us to give Him glory and to save souls. (See: Luke 10:1-20) Without God going before us with His grace and aid to help convert souls and without His signs and wonders to get the attention of the world and to confirm us, we will never be able to convert the masses. If we do not believe we need God's grace, power, and miracles, then we are not true Catholics, but faithless wretches. We can have all of the truth and faith that is possible for a man to have, but without God going before us with His grace and power, we cannot convert anyone.

Good Catholics do not seek signs and wonders for their own glory, pride, and vanity, as do charismatic sign-and-wonder seekers. Good Catholics want miracles for the glory of God and the salvation of souls. God works miracles, which include His punishing of obstinate evildoers, to give Himself glory and to get the attention of people so they will

learn about the Catholic faith, become Catholic, live a good Catholic life, and thus attain salvation.

The signs and wonders that God works through good Catholics are not accepted by bad-willed men because bad-willed men do not like or want to live the message that the good Catholics preach and teach. This is to be expected, for bad-willed men did not believe or obey Jesus even after the many miracles He performed. "Whereas he had done so many miracles before them, they believed not in him." (Jn. 12:37) But God's miracles are not for ultimately bad-willed men; that is, those who will die as non-Catholics or bad Catholics and thus inherit eternal damnation. God's miracles are for the conversion of ultimately good-willed men; that is, those who will die as good Catholics and thus inherit eternal salvation. The only miracles that affect bad-willed men are those in which God punishes or destroys them as He did to the Egyptians that had opposed Moses, God's faithful servant. Fight against God as they will, bad-willed men shall surely know and feel the Catholic God's wrath in this world and in the next for all eternity if they do not repent and convert. That, dear brothers, is also a miracle: God's punishment and destruction of evildoers that protects His sheep and purifies the world.

No matter how many bad-willed men oppose us, they cannot take away one bit from our great joy that comes from God when He hears and answers our prayers and goes before us; nor can they take away from our great joy upon the conversion of just one soul. "I say to you, that even so there shall be joy in heaven upon one sinner that doth penance, more than upon ninety-nine just who need not penance." (Lk. 15:7) Even if the whole world opposes us, this cannot take away one bit from our great joy in serving the one true God, the God of the Holy Catholic Church. If God is with us, who can be against us! Our true home is in heaven with God, Mary, Joseph, the other saints, and the angels. No thing or no one was able to take away the great peace and joy felt by saints even when they were being tortured to death as martyrs.

Dearly beloved brothers, like the apostles and disciples after our Lord's ascension into heaven, we are now waiting in the upper room for the time when God will turn His favor again toward the human race and begin to gather many souls into the Catholic Church at the direction of Mary's Little Remnant by the power of God the Holy Ghost. This is a time for us to perfect ourselves so that God can use us. This is a time to learn the faith so we can teach it to others. This is a time to live a good Catholic life so we can teach others to do the same, not only by our words but also by our example. If we are bad Catholics and do not amend our ways and become good Catholics, God will reject us and cast us off. Oh, what a tremendous opportunity to become great saints we would then have lost, and what a great eternal punishment would await us! "Unto whomsoever much is given, of him much shall be required: and to whom they have committed much, of him they will demand the more." (Lk. 12:48) No greater gift can be given to men than the Catholic faith; therefore, God expects and demands the most from Catholics. That is why the deepest pits in hell are reserved for bad and fallen-away Catholics.

The only thing that can be against us if God is with us is our own self. No amount of attacks by devils or evil men can cause us to lose God's favor, for God's grace and help are sufficient to keep us in the way of salvation no matter how many enemies attack our immortal souls. "God is faithful, who will strengthen and keep you from evil." (2 Thess. 3:3) "The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly from temptation." (2 Pt. 2:9)

Therefore, our only real enemy is our own self. If we do not cooperate with God's grace and obey all of His commandments, God will not be with us but against us and deliver us into the hands of devils and evil men who will succeed in corrupting our souls. Dear brothers, we must allow God to burn off our dross (sins and faults) in the fire of tribulation so that we may become perfect enough for God to use and, most importantly, so that we do not go to hell.

Even when we are perfected enough for God to use, we must still wait on the Lord with patience. "Wait on God with patience: join thyself to God, and endure, that thy life may be increased in the latter end." (Eclcus. 2:3) "On the good ground are they who in a good and perfect heart, hearing the word, keep it and bring forth fruit in patience. …In your patience you shall possess your souls." (Lk. 8:15; 21:19) Only God knows the best time for everything; only God knows the best way to do things. God trains us to do things in His time and in His way and not in our time and in our way. "Work your work before the time, and he will give you your reward in his time." (Eclcus. 51:38)

We can have confidence that we are good Catholics if we hold and profess the full deposit of the Catholic faith and obey all of God's commandments and thus live as good Catholics. If we put anything or anyone above God, we cannot be good Catholics. Better for you to lose all temporal things than to lose God. Many brothers became bad or fallenaway Catholics because they loved the world (things or persons) more than they loved God. God only promises the reward of eternal life to those who finish the race, to those who endure unto the end of their life. "He that shall endure unto the end, he shall be saved." (Mk. 13:13) (See my book How to Be a Good Catholic.)

May our Risen and Ascended Lord Jesus Christ, through our dear and holy Mother Mary, grant you all an abundance of grace, comfort, and protection in your many trials and tribulations.

Come, Holy Ghost!

Your loving brother in Christ,

Richard Joseph Michael Ibranyi To Jesus through Mary Soli Deo Gloria

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