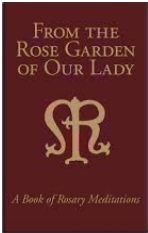


Meditation on the mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary



The Second Sorrowful Mystery

The Scourging of Jesus



Method of meditation

To do a good meditation we ought to use the main three faculties of our soul: memory, intelligence, and will. This is a brief explanation of how to meditate:

- 1) **Memory:** firstly, I try to remember some principles, great realities of our faith or events of Our Lord's life and bring them into my mind so that they may be meditated upon.
- 2) **Intelligence (knowledge of God):** secondly, I consider these thoughts and try to understand their meaning and the consequences which are attached to them.
- 3) **Will (love of God):** finally, after a while of consideration, I produce some acts of will in order to apply concretely what I have drawn from my meditation into my own life and I ask God to help me to do so.

With this support, this method can be done like this:

- 1) **Memory:** read slowly the **extract from the Gospel and the Imitation of Christ** (page 2).
- 2) **Intelligence:** read and think longer about the **first series of considerations** (page 3).
- 3) **Will:** read the **second series of considerations** which apply in a more practical way the message of the Gospel (page 4).

End by reading the last consideration which should lead us to make **a real resolution** to apply the examples of this mystery of the rosary in our own life (page 4).

As part of the 1st Saturdays devotions, let us do this **meditation in spirit of reparation** in order to console Our Lady against the outrages committed towards her Immaculate Heart.

1. Gospel Text

Pilate therefore went into the hall again and called Jesus and said to Him: “Art thou the king of the Jews?”

Jesus answered: “Sayest thou this thing of thyself or have others told it thee of me?”

Pilate answered: “Am I a Jew? Thy own nation and the chief priests have delivered thee up to me: what hast thou done?”

Jesus answered: “My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would certainly strive that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now my kingdom is not from hence.”

Pilate therefore said to Him: “Art thou a king then?” Jesus answered: “Thou sayest that I am a king. For this was I born and for this I came into the world; that I should give testimony of the truth. Everyone that is of the truth, heareth my voice.”

Pilate said to Him: “What is truth?”

And when he had said this, he went out again to the Jews and saith to them: “I find no cause in Him. But you have a custom that I should release one unto you at the pasch: will you therefore that I release unto you the king of the Jews?”

Then cried they all again: “Not this man but Barabbas.” Now Barabbas was a robber.

Then therefore Pilate took Jesus and scourged Him” (John 18:33-40 & 19:1).

2. The Imitation of Christ

Whenever a man desireth anything inordinately straightway he is disquieted within himself.

The man who is not yet perfectly dead to self, is soon tempted and overcome in little and paltry things. And if he has pursued his inclination, forthwith he is burdened with remorse of conscience for having gone after his passion, which helpeth him not at all in obtaining the peace he looked for.

It is by resisting the passions therefore, and not by serving them, that true peace of heart is to be found. Peace therefore is not in the heart of the carnal man nor in the man who is devoted to outward things, but in the fervent and spiritual man (from Book I, Chapter 6).

3. Considerations

1st series

1. The soldiers snatch the garments from His body and bind Him to the column of the flagellation.
2. Behold how the executioners carry out their bloody work on Jesus!
3. How torn and mangled is the body of Jesus after the scourging!
“From the soles of His feet to the crown of His head, there is no soundness in Him.”
4. How much more wretched and disconsolate than ever is His soul, the noblest and most sensitive of all the souls of men.
5. O what a sword of sorrow pierces the heart of the onlooking Mother! Every stroke of the scourge inflicts on her an answering pain.

2nd series

6. The Divine Holiness stands before a human court,—the Eternal King before the dust of earth. Although the innocence of Jesus is known and recognised, yet He is cruelly condemned to be scourged. Let this unjust sentence serve as a rebuke to me when I consider myself wronged
7. O endless patience of Jesus! Not a single word of complaint escapes Thy lips! O Jesus, make me patient and resigned like Thee!
8. My softness found a stern retribution at the column of the flagellation. From this day on, I must faithfully practise acts of renunciation and of mortification. Else I am no true disciple of the Master.
9. O self-sacrificing Jesus! No suffering is too great for Thee, where there is question of my soul's salvation. Grant that I may use violence on myself to gain possession of Thy heavenly Kingdom!

Resolution

10. My resolution: Tough hands and hard hearts have accomplished this unheard of spectacle—the scourging of the Son of God. From now on my hands shall be active only in charitable works, my heart filled only with love for my fellowmen.