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Jesus, the Greatest love. Make us Docile Instruments for Your Kingdom! _____



I found myself united to God so intensely, with a feeling of love so strong that I was almost unaware of what was happening around me.

Memoirs II, 40



1

We have known and put our faith in God's love towards ourselves. God is love and anyone who lives in love lives in God and God lives in him. *1 John 4:16*



Once again, and perhaps more than ever, I began to feel myself closely united with God: that feeling of love continued to grow in me, although in my opinion, it was not possible to increase any further. *Memoirs III, 7*



2

Love the Lord, all you devout: the Lord protects the faithful. Be strong, let your heart be bold, all you who hope in the Lord. *Psalms 31: 24*



I felt in a special way, on the one hand, the power of the Lord drawing my soul to unite itself with Him and on the other, His amiability and the force of His love against the inability of my spirit imprisoned in the body.

Memoirs III, 22



3

God's love for us was revealed when God sent into the world His only Son so that we could have life through Him. *1 John 4: 9*

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A great desire came upon me for Heaven where that union, which is not possible to realise on earth, would be perfected. It seemed as though my very soul was attempting every way to leave the prison of the body.

Memoirs III, 23



4

This is the love I mean: not our love for God, but God's love for us when He sent His Son for our salvation.

1 John 4: 10



At another time, while I was again at prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, I experienced one of those usual feelings, I had the vision of the splendour of Heaven; God Himself and our condition as pilgrims were being shown to me. *Memoirs III, 26*



5

We are to love, then, because He loved us first. Anyone who loves God must also love his brother.

1 John 4: 19,21



During prayer, I was overcome by a surge of love towards God, so strong that the soul, being imprisoned in the body, was prevented from uniting itself with Him and would have tried to release itself. *Memoirs III, 40*



6

My beloved went down to his garden, to the beds of spices. I am my Beloved's, and my Beloved is mine. He pastures his flock among the lilies. *Song of Songs 6: 2*



I was overcome by a surge of love towards God ... within me it seemed as if the soul was trying to flee from the body like a little bird, to explain it better, as though attempting to flee from the cage. *Memoirs III, 43*



7

O Lord, I mean to thank you among the peoples, your love is high as heaven, your faithfulness as the clouds.

Psalms 108: 4-5

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This view of Christ's love for men not only grieved me, for I saw that He is not loved, but it also gave me a great longing to make Him known and loved; so much so that nothing else mattered. *Memoirs III, 49*



8

This is what loving God is: keeping His commandments; and His commandments are not difficult. *1 John 5: 3*



Nothing else mattered, not even my country nor my relatives. I wished I could be reduced to dust if, in that way, I could be scattered to all parts of the world so that God would be known and loved. *Memoirs III, 50*



9

My dear people, let us love one another since love comes from God and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. *1 John 4: 7*



While assisting at Holy Mass, at the moment of Holy Communion, as soon as I had received the sacred Host, I found myself charged with strong feelings of love towards God and was moved to unite myself spiritually to Him. *Memoirs IV, 11*



10

If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him and he in God. *1 John 4: 15*



However, the effects of the calm remained, the recollection, the desire to seek God alone and to ensure that He be loved and that He be served by all. *Memoirs IV, 15*



11

As a doe longs for running streams, so my soul longs for you, my God. My soul thirsts for God, the God of life. *Psalms 42: 2-3*

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In the brief moments in which I found myself united with the Lord, I was strengthened in my resolution to suffer. It seemed to me then that God wanted me to practise in faith, Alone with God alone, which I already greatly desired. *Memoirs VI, 11*



12

But I, so great is your love, may come to your house, and before your Holy Temple bow down in reverence to you.

Psalm 5: 8

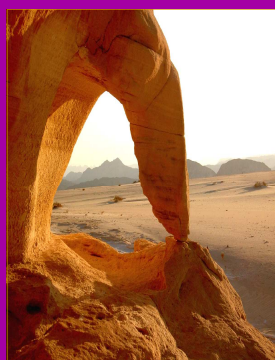


Once, feeling myself strongly united to God in prayer, I felt an irresistible urge to cast myself into the Heart of Jesus and this is what I actually did. It seemed as though I had been immersed more deeply into God than I had ever experienced in the past. *Memoirs VI, 16*



13

Israel, I will betroth you to myself forever, betroth you with integrity and justice, with tenderness and love; I will betroth you to myself with faithfulness. *Hosea 2: 21*

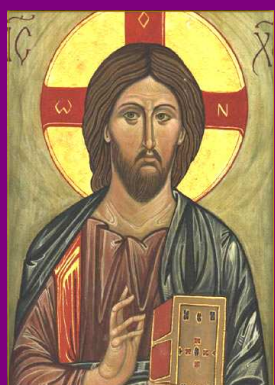


These experiences left me a very special desire to prevent offence to the Lord, I also felt a deep sorrow for any fault which I might have committed. There was a fear prompted by love, of offending Him again but I felt an ardent desire for Heaven. *Memoirs VI, 55*



14

O God, I am seeking you, my soul is thirsting for you, my flesh is longing for you, a land parched, weary and waterless. *Psalm 63: 2*



Even after I have displeased the Lord with trifles, as I often do, I am filled with a great tenderness of affection, conscious of the fact that He alone is the only object of my love and thus I am prepared for anything ... as any kind of sacrifice is naught to me. *Memoirs VII, 31*



15

O God, your love is better than life itself, my lips will recite your praise; all my life I will bless you, on my lips a song of joy. *Psalm 63: 4-6*

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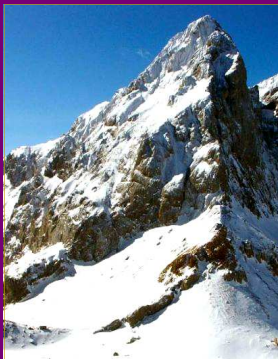
What I longed for was only to suffer, even though I still have a fear for it. I believe that when I desire it, it may not be for God's service only but more for the desire of the delight that comes from finding myself united to Him.

Memoirs VII, 54



16

O God, come and rescue me. To me, poor wretch, come quickly, God! My helper, my saviour, O Lord, come without delay! *Psalm 70: 6*

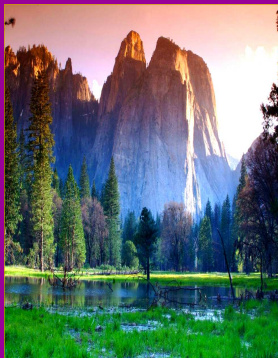


I also experienced a heavenly peace and such a deep yearning to be in Paradise, that I even wished to be struck by lightening, in order to die ... each cross appeared to be no more significant than a straw. *Memoirs VI, 17*



17

O Lord, my encircling shield, my glory, You help me hold up my head. Loudly I cry to the Lord, and He answers me from His holy mountain. *Psalm 3: 3-4*



On returning to Verona, awaiting me were many crosses related to my duties. One day, as I was praying, I experienced one of my usual transports of love. It was from here that I drew the strength to overcome every difficulty. *Memoirs VIII, 10*



18

Happy the pilgrims inspired by you, O Lord, God of all creation, with courage to make their way from height to height towards Zion. *Psalm 84: 7*



I came to understand the exquisite charity of the Heart of the Lord and afflicted after so many proof of love, on the spur of the moment I replied: "If then I am so ungrateful, which is true, will I be saved!" *Memoirs VIII, 17*



19

I thank you with all my heart, Lord my God, I glorify your name forever, your love for me has been so great, You have rescued me from the depths of Sheol.

Psalm 86: 12-13

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It seems to me that I love the Lord with great tenderness. In spite of the fact that I love Him with all my heart, when it comes to reality, my actions are inconsistent, neither do I practise humility nor am I strong in suffering.

Memoirs VIII, 25



20

Lord God, you who are always merciful and always tender hearted, slow to anger, always loving, always loyal. Give me your strength. *Psalm 86: 15*



There is only one thing I perceive, for both my interior and exterior life. It seems to me I have reached the point where God has so many times indicated that He wants me: alone, with Him alone. *Memoirs IX, 34*



21

I will celebrate your love forever, O Lord, age after age my words will proclaim your faithfulness; for I claim that love is built to last forever. *Psalm 89: 1-2*

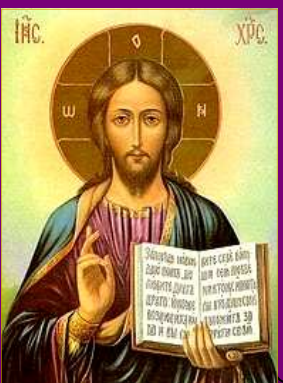


God presented Himself to me not in the mind but in the usual way as it happens in prayer, that is, as in Heaven. Wherever I turned, wherever I looked I would find nothing but God. *Memoirs XI, 27-28*



22

I give always thanks to your name, O Lord, for your love and faithfulness; your promise is even greater than your fame. *Psalm 138:2*



It is obvious to me that I am again called to seek GOD ALONE, despite my ingratitude and infidelity. I became very distressed about some matters. Humanly speaking, there was some justified motives for this. *Memoirs XI, 31*



23

My song is about kindness and justice; O Lord, I sing to You. I mean to make good progress, as the blameless do: when will You come to me? *Psalm 101: 1-2*

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I had given myself to God and it seemed that my heart was not mine to dispose of. It was perhaps that morning during prayer that this thought came to me. Since I cannot any longer love Him myself, I would love Jesus with the heart of Jesus. *Memoirs XIII, 10*



24

I am my Beloved's, and his desire is for me ... the rarest fruits I have stored them for you, my Beloved.

Song of Songs 7: 14



My love increased and gathered strength as I was prompted to call Him "My dear Spouse". Another time, in prayer, I thought I heard Him call me "My dear spouse" but I might have imagined it. *Memoirs XIII, 12*



25

I will betroth you to myself with faithfulness, and you will come to know the Lord. When that day comes, the Lord will bless His people. *Hosea 2: 22*



I was comforted by alternating thoughts of Heaven and the brevity of life and what joy for me it was in the evening to realise that another day had gone, as long as I had lived it well! *Memoirs VI, 12*



26

I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for He has clothed me in the garments of salvation, He has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity. *Isaiah 61: 10*



I do not remember whether it was in the usual manner or because of a meditation, though I believe it was the former, I was illuminated on the infinite love of Jesus in the institution of the Blessed Sacrament. *Memoirs XV, 62*



27

You prepare a table before me under the eyes of my enemies and you anoint my head with oil. Goodness and kindness pursue me every day of my life. *Psalms 23: 5-6*

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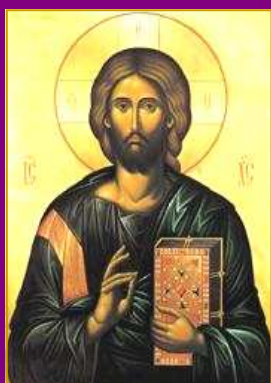
I felt a sentiment infused by God and because of it, there awakened in me the usual feeling of love. With great sincerity, affection and with readiness of heart, I accepted to endure any kind of suffering, in fact, I almost desired it.

Memoirs XV, 73



28

It is the Lord, God of Israel, who is speaking, "I am going to lure her and lead her out into the wilderness and speak to her heart". *Hosea 2: 16*

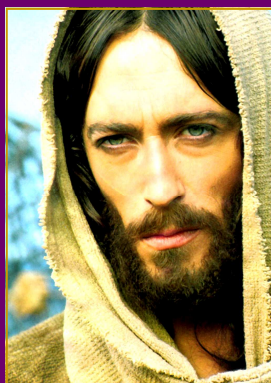


Whenever I read something about the love of God I felt great tenderness in my heart. One day, after Communion, I was so closely united to God that I thought that nothing could separate me from Him. *Memoirs X, 51*



29

Who will separate us from Christ's love? Perhaps trials, worries, persecution ... trials through which we triumph, by the power of Him who loved us. *Romans 8: 35*



He made me understand that He wanted to be for me the Absolute One and that I should not rely on anybody else but to seek Him alone, loving and wanting no other but Him. *Memoirs IX, 10*



30

"I hear my Beloved, see how He comes! Come then, my love, my lovely one, come." "I sought Him whom my heart loves." *Song of Songs 2: 8-3, 1*



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