

The Life of God in the Soul of Man – Lesson 4

Henry Scougal

If true religion is the life of God in the soul of man, then the most beautiful and perfect picture of true religion we could ever have is to be found in the life of Jesus Christ. As we look to perfect _____ of Christ not only do we see the Savior that we first need but we also see the most perfect example of the divine life in the soul of man that we are called to emulate (Heb. 3:1, Rom. 8:28-29).

Faith-Faith is the _____ of the divine life. Faith is the full persuasion and belief of spiritual things. Jesus Christ's entire life was built upon faith. He believed in God and all that God had revealed and declared about Him and about all things.

In _____ of life-*"That sincere and devout affection wherewith His blessed soul did constantly burn towards His heavenly Father did express itself in an entire resignation to His will."*

In afflictions in _____-*"He endured the sharpest afflictions and extremest miseries that ever were inflicted on any mortal, without a repining thought or discontented word...He did entirely submit to that severe dispensation of Providence and willingly acquiesced in it."*

In the _____ affliction-*"He knew all along what He was to suffer and did most resolutely undergo it. It shows us the inconceivable weight and pressure that He was to bear, which, being so afflicting and contrary to nature, He could not think of without terror; yet, considering the will of God and the glory which was to redound to Him from thence, He was not only content but desirous to suffer it."*

Love to God-The chief and first branch of the divine life. Love to God is seen in the desire for _____ with God. All of Christ's life was filled with a desire for communion with the Father.

"Another instance of His love to God was His delight in conversing with Him by prayer, which made Him frequently retire from the world and with the greatest devotion and pleasure spend whole nights in that heavenly exercise, though He had no sins to confess and but few secular interests to pray for, which, alas! are almost the only things that are wont to drive us to our devotions."

Love to man-Christ's whole life was filled with love to others. He truly did love His _____ more than Himself (Philippians 2:1-11).

"For scarce anything is recorded to have been done or spoken by Him which was not designed for the good and advantage of someone or other. All his miraculous works were instances of His goodness as well as His power, and they benefited those on whom they were wrought as well as they amazed the beholders."

“What further evidence could we desire of His fervent and unbounded charity than that He willingly laid down His life even for His most bitter enemies, and, mingling His prayers with His blood, besought the Father that His death might not be laid to their charge but might become the means of eternal life to those very persons who procured it?”

Purity- Never was there one who had more _____ over his inferior appetites. The pleasures of life and the distractions of life never took His gaze off of the glory of His Father. He would perform miracles so that others might be blessed but did not do those same miracles for His own relief.

“Now, surely, if ever any person was wholly dead to all the pleasures of the natural life, it was the blessed Jesus, who seldom tasted them when they came in His way, and never stepped out of His road to seek them.”

“For never did there any appear on the stage of the world with greater advantage to have raised Himself to the highest secular felicity. He, who could bring together such a prodigious number of fishes into His disciples’ net, and, at another time, receive that tribute from a fish which He was to pay to the temple, might easily have made Himself the richest person in the world. Nay, without any money He could have maintained an army powerful enough to have jostled Caesar out of his throne...He did not frequent the courts of princes nor affect the acquaintance or converse of great ones, but, being reputed the son of a carpenter, he had fishermen and such other poor people for His companions, and lived at such a rate as suited with the meanness of that condition.”

Humility- If humility is the total _____ to the divine will, you will never find one humbler than Jesus. He was meek and lowly of heart and cared not for the empty praise from men but sought the glory of His Father.

“He never made use of His miraculous power for vanity or ostentation...His humility made Him many times enjoin the concealment of the miracle.”

“I cannot insist on all the instances of humility in His deportment towards men; His withdrawing Himself when they would have made Him a king; His subjection not only to His blessed mother, but to her husband during His younger years; and His submission to all the indignities and affronts which His rude and malicious enemies did put upon Him.”