

Entering Jesus' Desolation  
"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"  
3<sup>rd</sup> Reflection

*My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?* (Mt 27:46, Mk 15:34)

To come to know Jesus's desolation more intimately lived in the Eucharist, let us ponder Jesus hanging on the wood of the Cross and the accounts of His death in the gospels. My heart is drawn like a magnet to Jesus's Words, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" I used to think, as many people do, that Jesus felt abandoned by His Father. Yet, that is far from the truth. Jesus's words are the first sentence of Psalm 22. He is inviting me and you into His Sacred Heart to come to know His desolation, His deepest sorrows, His deepest desires, and ultimately, to come to know His Heart so that you and I can come to know perfect Love. Jesus was living and fulfilling Psalm 22, hanging on the Cross. Jesus, having received upon His Body the sin of mankind, feels utter desolation, yet He knew He was not abandoned by Abba, but by His people, God's chosen ones, His intimate friends, and each of us, for we all, at some point in our lives, have abandoned Him.

Let us just stop, enter deep silence, and ponder what is taking place in the Sacred Heart of Jesus nailed to the Cross. He does not have the strength to pray Psalm 22 out loud, but Matthew tells us that Jesus "cried with a loud voice, my God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" He cried out these words with a loud voice. I can only imagine, as I gaze at Him in the Eucharist, that He wanted me and you to pray Psalm 22 with Him. He was drawing us to Himself so that we could come to know what He was experiencing in the interior of His Heart as He lived His time of greatest desolation. He wanted me and you to know that He was thinking of us and praying to the Father for us so that when our time of desolation would knock on the door of our hearts and lives, our faith, hope, and love would be steadfast through the graces He poured out for us through His passion, death, and resurrection.

In the Psalm, following the words, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" comes a question, "Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning? (22:1)" Jesus is not thinking of Himself, but of us, of every human being, who, when confronted with human desolation, will be tempted to feel abandoned by God, and will ask this very question. Let us pause a moment to ponder this great mystery of love. Jesus was thinking of me; He was concerned for me; He loves me so much that He wanted me to know that the Father will NEVER abandon me.

I remember years ago, in fact, at the inception of our Love Crucified community in 2008, when I met a 12-year-old boy who was dying in the hospital, and I prayed with all my heart for his healing. I honestly felt the Lord had heard the cry of my heart, united to the cry of his mother and father, and was going to heal him. Yet he passed away. The question from the first line of Psalm 22 was very much in my heart, and I felt great confusion— Why did you not heal him? Why didn't you hear the cry of the poor?— Now, 18 years later, after this experience, and 18 years learning to live gazing at Jesus as I suffer everything in my life with Him, I realize how much I

have grown in trust and abandonment to God's Will. I would say that the difference is that I have come to know, intimately, that God is truly present in my life; He lives in me and loves me beyond anything I can fathom.

- Can you also remember a time of great trial in your life, and was this question on your heart as well? Since you've begun living the *Simple Path*, what has changed in your heart? Are you now at a place in your life in which you can live deep felt desolation knowing with certainty that God has not abandoned you? If not, that is okay, just ask for a greater outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

The Lord then prays in His agony (verses 3-5), all focused on trusting the goodness of the Father:

Yet you are holy,  
enthroned on the praises of Israel.  
In you our ancestors trusted;  
they trusted, and you delivered them.  
To you they cried, and were saved;  
in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.

Our Beloved, Love crucified, in overwhelming physical, emotional, and spiritual pain, is praising Abba, trusting in Him, and declaring to the world, to each of us, that He will not be put to shame! He is thinking of each of us who will experience deep felt desolation in this life, and desires for us to know that Abba will never abandon us, for He always hears the cry of the poor.

The Lord then reveals that He is fulfilling Psalm 22 in His crucifixion, as He prayed verses 6-21. He is the new David, the new Adam, the Son of the living God. Verses 14-15 pierce my heart with love, for they reveal the extent of His love for me and you:

I am poured out like water,  
and all my bones are out of joint;  
my heart is like wax,  
it is melted within my breast;  
my strength is dried up like a potsherd,  
and my tongue cleaves to my jaws;  
thou dost lay me in the dust of death.

These words bring to my memory Jesus's words to me describing His Heart as being shredded:

*The crown of thorns you see on My head in Calvary represents the thorns that pierced My Heart during My life and continue to pierce My Heart. My Heart was tortured and shredded before I began My Calvary. I received the thorns of ingratitude, denial, indifference, apathy, hatred, rejection, solitude... Can you begin to imagine this, My daughter? The God who so loved the world was not received and, till this day, continues to be rejected by all except for a small remnant. Love is not known nor loved by the majority. 2/26/11*

Jesus feels the consuming desolation of being rejected, abandoned, and betrayed by His beloved people, whom He loves to the extreme of the Cross. We cannot read these words from the Psalm and Jesus' words to us and then continue, but we must STOP and contemplate DEEPLY. See in your imagination Jesus' Heart melted as wax, pouring Himself out for you and me, in total fatigue, so thirsty that His tongue cleaves to His jaw. See His Sacred Heart shredded before His Calvary even began. Allow His words, ***Love is not known nor loved***, to pierce your own heart.

- As you enter this contemplation in your time of silence before the Lord, what is taking place in your heart? What are you feeling? What emotions surface? Try to enter His desolation, which continues in the Eucharist, and just BE WITH HIM, focused on Him.

Then, in verses 22-26, Jesus makes it clear that He was praising His Father amid His desolation. Verse 22 says, "I will tell of thy name to my brethren; in the midst of the congregation, I will praise thee." And then He encourages each of us to praise Abba as one heart with Him, especially in our times of desolation:

You who fear the Lord, praise him!  
all you sons of Jacob, glorify him,  
and stand in awe of him, all you sons of Israel! (23)

The Lord from the Cross is letting me and you know that no matter how bad things can get in our lives, the Father hears our cry. He is giving us hope in the midst of our desolation.

For he has not despised or abhorred  
the affliction of the afflicted;  
and he has not hid his face from him,  
but has heard, when he cried to him. (24)

The Psalm ends with verses 27-31, in which Jesus proclaims the triumph of His passion, death, and resurrection.

All the ends of the earth shall remember  
and turn to the Lord;  
and all the families of the nations  
shall worship before him.[f]  
For dominion belongs to the Lord,  
and he rules over the nations. (27-28)

As we follow God's Path to union with Him and become one with Love crucified, has He not also told us that we are helping usher in a new era of peace for the world, in which all nations will know, adore, and love Him alive in the Eucharist?

*...The world is now being prepared for a new springtime—a time of peace in which God will be glorified by all nations. 10/15/21*

*Believe that by remaining as one heart with Me in My continuous agony of love in the Eucharist, countless souls are being saved, and My Kingdom is being established on earth. Such a simple plan from the God who loves you, and therefore, can only be received and understood by those whose hearts are pure and childlike. The world will be conquered for Christ through the meek and humble of heart. 8/17/25*

*God is granting these end times the fulfillment of the graces of My death and resurrection (to humanity) to produce for His glory the great saints of the end times, clothed in the splendor of My Mother's purity and humility. These pure holy souls, past, present, and future, at the designated time, known only by the Father, will cast into hell Satan and all his evil spirits to obtain for the world an era of peace never before known to humanity. It will be an era when My Divine Love triumphs as one heart with My Mother and the Holy Spirit triumphs as He unites mankind to know Love, and adore Me in My Eucharistic life. 12/5/25*

Just as Jesus believed with perfect faith and hope, as He hung in desolation on the Cross, in God's plan to accomplish our salvation, we, too, must also enter Jesus' desolation and live it with perfect faith, hope, and love, believing with all our hearts, no longer any doubts remaining in us, that our desolation as one with Jesus' is making all things new, is saving countless souls, and preparing the world for Jesus' Eucharistic Reign united to the Reign of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, a new Pentecost!

Our Beloved, Love crucified, is letting us know that when we enter and live in His desolation, one heart with Love crucified, we become His catalyst in the fulfillment of His passion, death, and resurrection, and this truth, lived now in the third nail of the crucifixion, fills us with great JOY. Now, as we allow ourselves to be fully crucified to Christ, we begin to live joy and desolation as one. This is the fruit of persevering through the third nail of the crucifixion!

*The Spirit accomplishes great miracles in the world through your hidden life lived as one heart with Me in My Eucharistic life. This life of pain and love lived as one heart with Me and Mary on earth is the life of unity in the Trinity. You now live solely for love; there is no longer any self-interest because you are consumed by the Spirit in God. You become, as My Body, a participant in the redemption of the world and His catalyst in the fulfillment of My death and resurrection. 11/27/25*

Jesus's sacrifice of love continues to be present in the here and now at every Mass. Jesus lives His desolation in the Eucharist, in the embrace of Abba, as one in Abba's grief, waiting, forgiving, and generous. He is alive in every consecrated Host, suffering deep-felt desolation. He is now teaching us how to live as one heart with Him in the inner chamber of His Sacred Heart, His desolation—full of gratitude and praise, surrendered in perfect trust and hope in the palm of the Father's hands as one with Love crucified, participating in and waiting for the fulfillment of His passion, death, and resurrection.

The Trinity is alive and fully present in every consecrated Host, inviting us to enter into the depth of God, of Love.

During your time of silent contemplation, pray Psalm 22 slowly as ONE HEART with Jesus. Learn from Him how to live in the inner chamber of His Sacred Heart, His desolation with Him.

- In the stillness of your heart, are you capable of experiencing real emotions/passions that are harmonious with the words of the palmists/Our Lord?
  - If not, what's causing the distraction, turbulence in your soul?
  - Peacefully surrender those obstacles to Him without shame and try again.
  - Remain in simplicity where you're able to enter into His desolation.
  - Do I find my personal identity, my purpose, and my mission in entering His desolation?
- Is my faith in participating in redemptive suffering strong enough that I experience genuine joy?