

Saint Pope Gregory The Great (~540 - 604 AD)



https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=54

A devotion, "Made New by Penance and Love"
by Saint Pope Gregory The Great

"Our Lord and Redeemer entered the world and gave the world New Teachings. He offered contrast of His New Way of life to our old one, which was nurtured by our vices.

What did our old and carnal nature know how to do, except to hang onto its own belongings, to seize if it could what belonged to someone else, and to covet what it could not seize?

Our Physician brought from Heaven remedies for every single moral fault. The medical art cures fevers with cold compresses, and chills by applying heat.

Similarly, JESUS prescribed qualities contrary to our sins: self-restraint to the undisciplined, generosity to the stingy, gentleness to the irritable, and humility to the proud. Let us listen to CHRIST's Words: "Those who would come after Me must renounce themselves."

[MATTHEW 16:24]

He tells us that we must renounce ourselves. Some may not find it difficult to abandon their possessions, but it is extremely difficult for us to abandon ourselves. Renouncing what we have is not so much; renouncing what we are amounts to a great deal. Let us see how Paul, who said "it is no longer I who live," [GALATIANS 2:20]

renounced himself: the cruel persecutor was destroyed and the holy Preacher began to live. But how was Paul, who said that he was no longer living, able to proclaim The Message of Truth? Immediately after saying "it is no longer I who live," he added "but CHRIST lives in me."

[GALATIANS 2:20]

In his essential being, he was not dead, since he was spiritually alive in CHRIST. Paul is saying just what CHRIST said: "Those who would come after Me must renounce themselves." [MATTHEW 16:24]

We cannot go beyond ourselves if we do not know how to sacrifice ourselves. We transplant seedlings to help them grow, and so we can say that we uproot them in order to make them increase.

Seeds disappear when we put them in the earth, and then spring up to renew their kind; it seems as if what they were is being lost, but that is how they receive the ability to become what they were not." **

MATTHEW 16:24-27

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s7BB6kArmol>

24 Then said JESUS unto His disciples, If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.

25 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for My Sake shall find it.

26 For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

27 For The Son of Man shall come in The Glory of His Father with His angels; and then He shall reward every man according to his works.

GALATIANS 2:19-20

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZSeAYKG-8Ko&list=RDs7BB6kArmol&index=17>

19 For I through The Law am dead.. [in] The Law, that I might live unto GOD.

20 I am crucified with CHRIST: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but CHRIST liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by The Faith of The Son of GOD, who loved me, and gave Himself for me.

Snapshot of Saint Pope Gregory The Great

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HWvSdidzRcA&list=PL58g24NgWP IzvBk2IQVES_xC4WTm6-CDI

"From a noble family, Gregory was born as barbarian tribes assaulted Rome. After a distinguished career in civil service, Gregory renounced all and entered the monastery. He was elected Pope in 590.

Gregory's levelheaded and profoundly prayerful approach maintained the peace and won souls for CHRIST from among the invading tribes.

Through "The Dialogues," accounts of the heroism of the Saints, and his many letters, he guided and formed his flock. "Study, I beg you, and each day meditate on The Words of your Creator," he wrote. "Learn The Heart of GOD in The Words of GOD, so that you long more ardently for Eternity..." *

*Robert Baral*made new by Penance & Love*St Pope Gregory The Great*9/03/2021 AD*p 4*

*["Saint Gregory The Great." The Magnificat, 9/03/2021. Memorial, p 42-43.]

**["Made New by Penance and Love." Saint Pope Gregory The Great. The Magnificat, 9/03/2021. Meditation of the Day, p 46-47.]