

QUES.—Why are virgins called the first fruits?

ANS.—Because “they are the inheritance properly consecrated to God,” said a holy father.

QUES.—What says St. Augustine on this subject?

ANS.—“Take care not to lose the gift of virginity; for if once lost it cannot be recovered.”

QUES.—What says St. Methodius on this subject?

ANS.—He says, “Virginity is a great and glorious virtue, and the fairest flower of the Church of God.”

QUES.—What does St. Cyprian say?

ANS.—He says, “Virgins are the fairest flowers of the Christian Church; The fairest ornaments of the spiritual life; the surest and most lasting proof of honor and virtue; the surest resemblance of the sanctity of God, and the family or church of Christ.”

QUES.—What does St. Chrysostome say?

ANS.—“Virginity makes mortals resemble and equal the Angels themselves.”

QUES.—What does St. Cyprian say, relative to the advantages of virginity?