

QUES.—And must we love God above all things?

ANS.—Yes, if any one love not our Lord Jesus Christ, says St. Paul, let him be anathema.

QUES.—And how can a very poor man have charity when he has no alms to give poor people?

ANS.—All virtue consists more in the will than in the deed, therefore having the will to give alms is charity, and so of all other virtues.

QUES.—But allow me to ask a few more questions on these three first and fundamental virtues, and how are these to be acquired?

ANS.—By fervent and humble prayer, and by a life conformable to the spirit and gospel of Jesus Christ.

QUES.—When are our prayers fervent and humble?

ANS.—When we earnestly wish for what we ask, and ask it with simplicity in the name of Jesus Christ.

QUES.—Can I have these three necessary virtues without any reference to God?

ANS.—No, no; we are poor destitute miserable creatures, and as St. Paul says, we cannot think a thought or speak a word without the help of God, much less these three great leading virtues on which our salvation depends.