

was to die, he says : « I am willing to die as my God did, fastened to the cross, to shed every drop of my blood and, if need be, to die a thousand deaths. But I do not wish to die as he did in the sublime attitude of Calvary and in the attitude of command and of sovereignty, standing and with head erect. I wish my head to touch the ground and to remain prostrate until death. »

Dear reader, is your love for Our Lord Jesus Christ like unto this : ardent, generous, respectful and humble ? Supposing this adorable Master should say to you as he said one day to saint Peter : *Diligis me plus his* ; my brother, my sister or rather my child, lovest thou me ? Lovest thou me as thou mightest, as thou shouldest ? Lovest thou me as does that young girl so modest and so submissive ? As does this christian mother, so firm and so admirable in the fulfilment of her manifold duties ? As does that pious widow, *truly a widow* ? Child, lovest thou me as much as thy mother ? Mother, lovest thou me as much as thy child ? . . . What answer would you give to Jesus ?

Search your heart, listen to him ; He is not far and may you answer him as saint Peter did : « Yea, my God, I love thee ! *Tu scis, Domine, quia amo te !* »

If thou lovest me, my son, 'tis well. Piety and love hold the promises of present and future life.

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