

I may find thee the peace of my soul and the treasure of my heart.

7. How great is the multitude of thy sweetness which thou hast hidden for those that fear thee. Ps. 30. Thou wilt hide them in the hiding place of thy countenance, from the trouble of men. And where is that hiding place of thy face, but in the sacrament of thy goodness?—Blessed are the meek, for they shall possess this land by obeying his word.

8. But we all, beholding the glory of the Lord with open face, are transformed into the same image from glory to glory, as by the spirit of the Lord. 2 Cor. iii. 18. O happy souls who are caught up to this third heaven, where is Christ and Paradise, and where he shows every good to those who do his word. Shall not my soul be subject to God? Ps.

9. If you shall hear me, you shall eat of the good things of the land. Isaiah i. O Lord Jesus: thou hast done even more, for we also eat of the good things of heaven, and we daily eat of thee, the bread of heaven. Ah! that at least, we would hear thee, and walk uprightly in thy commandments!

10. Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of man, you shall not have life in you. John vi. Ah! how truly was it said: my heart is withered because I forgot to eat my bread, Ps. 101, the true bread of life, of eternal life, of his life who possesses all good, and knows no end!

11. To my hearing thou wilt afford joy and gladness, and the bones that are humbled shall rejoice. Ps. 50. But with what joy!

O Jesus, sweetness of hearts:

Living fountain, Light of minds:

Exceeding every joy,

And every desire!

S. Bernard.

12. Put me as a seal upon thy heart, as a seal upon thy arm: for love is strong as death. Cant. viii. O most powerful God of Israel who would dare to do so, if thou didst not command it! O what a command! that thou shouldst order us to place thy body upon our heart, that our whole being may be signed with thy seal, that is, with thyself!

13. Put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ. Rom. xiii. O great consolation! to be clothed not with the sun, but with God. Great consolation! that Christ also should in turn be clothed with us, and should cover himself with our heart, when we partake of him which is greater, that God dwells in us, or that we dwell more, and have our being in him?

14. I am the Lord Almighty. Walk before me and be perfect. Genes. xvii. Enoch and Elias did this. Enoch walked with God. Gen. v. So did Elias. He liveth, saith the Lord, in whose sight I stand. How much more truly can I say that I walk with God, whereas he is in my heart. Is not this entering into the joy of the Lord?

15. Come to me all you that labour and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. Matt. xi.—And do thou, O Lord, my blissful life, grant that I may confess my misery to thee, from the time that I fled from the unity of thy goodness, and I acquired a laborious abundance and a plentiful want. S. Aug. Sol. xiii.

16. How many hired servants of my father's

house abound with bread, and I here perish with hunger! Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee. I am not now worthy to be called thy son. Luke xv.

17. Kill quickly the fatted calf. I must rejoice and make merry, because this my son was dead, and is come to life again, was lost and is found. Luke xv. O joy above all worldly joy! to rejoice with God, to banquet with Christ, to feed on God, and to be fattened with the sacraments! Tertul.

18. No one can come to me, unless the Father who sent me, has drawn him. John xv.—Draw us, that, and let us run after the odour of thy ointments. For thou hast created us for thyself, and our hearts are restless, till they repose in thee! Draw us, therefore, and even force our rebellious wills to enter. S. Aug.—Conf. i.

19. Will you also go away? Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life. John vi. To whom shall we go? Thou art the way: who will lead us but thee? Thou art truth: and who will teach us except thee? Thou art the life: who will feed such wretched creatures, but thee? Thou art our shepherd? who else will guide us? Thou art all goodness. To whom then shall we go, if thou banquish us from thy face? Should we not in such a case say with Cain. Behold, thou castest me forth. I shall therefore be a wanderer, and a vagabond, and every one that finds me, will kill me. S. Chr.

20. If any man thirst, let him come to me and drink; and it shall be in him a fountain of water springing up to life eternal. John vi. O will any one give me to drink out of the cistern that is near Bethlehem. O eternal fountain!—O fountain of all sweetness! O fountain that springest up to eternal life! when shall we drink of thee? When wilt thou satiate us with the torrents of thy delight, and inebriate us with the plenty of thy house?

21. Give me my son, or I shall die. Gen. xxx. Father of mercies! my soul has thirsted after the strong, and living God, thy only son. Give him to me, or I shall die. For how can I live without the life of my soul?

22. May thy holy word O Lord be my share of delight. Give me what I love, for I love thee, my God; and this thou hast given me. Through him I beseech thee who sitest at thy right hand, give us him in whom all thy treasures are hidden.—My heart and my wretched exile pants after him alone. S. Aug. Sol. ii.

23. Arise, be enlightened O Jerusalem! for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and a mist the people. But upon thee the Lord shall arise, and his glory shall be seen in thee. Isa. lx. And do thou O Lord, my light, enlighten my eyes, that in thy light I may see light, and that darkness may not come upon me, that I may not fall into the snares of this miserable life. Sol. [Remainder next week.]

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