

both as to this life, and the next—hence,

I resolve, fourthly, that like the holy mother St. Teresa, I shall never borrow consolation in distress from temporal objects, nor permit the same to disturb the peace and serenity of my soul, knowing that they are but the visions of a dream which deceive weak minds, and lead astray those who leave the path of an interior life.

“*May my soul die the death of the just!*”—Here is the end of my creation; if this be not attained, then better for me never to have been born than to gain a miserable eternity, to be for all eternity in the company of the damned. Awful reflection! worthy the consideration of a Christian; to die the death of the just, I know that a good life is morally speaking absolutely necessary, nor can I be so foolish as to trust my salvation to futurity, that is to a most improbable chance—hence,

I resolve, fifthly, that like the holy mother St. Teresa, I shall from this moment begin to labour for a happy death, by a sincere sorrow for past sins, and an interior life for the future.

O if an hour were given! Such, O my God, is the fruitless exclamation of many, now in hell, whose sins have not equalled mine at present, were it not for thy gratuitous mercy. And oh! my soul, will you not use those hours now as you would then wish in vain to use them? Yes, O Lord, with thy assistance, and through the powerful intercession of the holy mother St. Teresa, I hope to do so, and—hence,

I resolve, sixthly, that the fruitless wishes of the damned, shall point out to me the line of conduct which I am to follow; and oh, some of these damned souls may be cursing, at present, their sins which sent them there, and which were caused by others, perhaps by me. O what a motive to induce me to set about my salvation in earnest, and as a help to this,

I resolve, seventhly, that I shall, like St. Teresa, never omit when possible my daily particular, and general examen of conscience, and by the particular one I hope to eradicate every vice, and to implant every virtue.

Without purity of intention all my attempts at virtue and sanctity become abortive. Serious thought!—hence,

I resolve, eighthly, that I shall, like the holy mother St. Teresa, watch as much as possible the motive for which I shall perform every action, that so I may habituate myself to a pure intention in all.

“Many are called, but few are chosen.” It is not ordinary virtue that must satisfy me. Oh no; attend my soul, it is not ordinary virtue. I must endeavour to become perfect, as my heavenly Father also is perfect—hence,

I resolve, ninthly, that in order to save my soul, by following Christ, who told us, “that he is the way, the truth and the life.” I shall, like St. Teresa, endeavour to belong to that class who imitate most nearly the life of Christ.

Let us Pray.

Mercifully hear us, O God, our Saviour, that whilst we celebrate with joy the festival of blessed Teresa thy virgin, we may put in practice these resolutions of true piety, through our Lord Jesus Christ, &c. Amen.