

## Outline of Fr. Patrick Winslow's Lecture on Lesson 18

- I. **Pastoral Points:** God gives us supernatural gifts/virtues of faith, hope and love. Here Jesus shows their necessity in the Christian life and how they will be at work as we live in the Holy Spirit after He departs.

### A. Hope

- i. (Read Jn 14:1-4 aloud.) This passage shows how the gift of faith is a springboard from which one leaps into the gift of hope. Jesus is teaching us about hope.
  1. In a sense, Jesus is saying that they will not survive what is about to take place without it.
    - a. The same applies to us now. None could survive the Christian challenge without the gift of hope.
    - b. It is not possible to live the Christian life without hope.
- ii. Let us begin first by analyzing *our* experience of Christian hope and then apply it to what Jesus is saying at this moment in John's gospel.
  1. Normally not advocated this order of analysis.
  2. What is hope?
    - a. There are many misconceptions. Hope is not wishful thinking. It is something more. It is supernatural.
    - b. There are three supernatural gifts (faith, *hope* & love)
      - i. Hope, therefore, is from God. It is divine in origin.
      - ii. This first came to my attention when I was a seminarian, a priest friend challenged me, this began a long (years long) source of reflection.
    - c. I recall attending Mass at a religious house in Washington, D.C.
      - i. This priest was not saying Mass properly
        1. I was first moved to frustration and anger.
        2. I began to think of the future - all of us standing before God - this priest before God.
          - a. Via my faith, I imported the future into the present.
          - b. It became the lens/medium through which I now viewed the present.
        3. My reaction changed.
          - a. I was no longer angry.
          - b. I was moved to sorrow and desirous of helping.
          - c. I was moved to charity for the one who was transgressing.
  - iii. Listen to Jesus in this Gospel passage.
    1. He implores them to believe.
      - a. "Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me." v11
    2. Based upon this faith, He imports the future.

- a. “And when I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.” v3
- 3. Thus, giving them the gift of hope necessary to all Christians
  - a. They will need the gift of hope if they are to survive the trial that lay before them.
  - b. The peace He imparts at this moment (the calm before the storm) rests upon this gift of hope He is now giving them.

**B. Faith.**

- i. (Read Vs. 22-23 aloud.) Jesus is talking about loving Him when He is not there (for He is leaving). This means they must love Him when He will no longer be seen. The man who loves Him must first believe in Him. Thus it is faith that will enable one to see that Jesus will have made His home with him and remains with him.
  - 1. The eyes of faith enable us to see the invisible, the unseen.
    - a. Catholics deal with the invisible all the time.
      - i. Marriages/Annulments.
      - ii. Valid baptism formulas
    - b. This is part of the ordinary power of this extraordinary gift of faith . to see the unseen.
- ii. Apply this power of faith (to see the unseen) to Christ’s Presence and we can see Him.
  - 1. We see Him present in the Church as He guides and protects it.
  - 2. We see His enduring presence most especially in the Holy Eucharist.
    - a. (Read quote from Mother Theresa regarding adoration of the Blessed Sacrament) .I make a Holy hour each day in the presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. All my sisters of the Missionaries of Charity make a daily holy hour, as well, because we find that through our daily holy hour our love for Jesus becomes more intimate, our love for each other more understanding, and our love for the poor more compassionate..

**C. Love**

- i. Peppered throughout this passage is love.
- ii. Love is the origin of faith and hope. Love is the fulfillment of faith and hope.