

HOLY SCRIPTURES + NOTES OF ENCYCLICAL LETTER BY LEO XIII

“To ignore the Scripture is to ignore Christ.” *St. Jerome, the Doctor of Stridon*

If there is anything in this life which sustains a wise man and induces him to maintain his serenity amidst the tribulations and the adversities of the world, it is in the first place, I consider, the meditation and knowledge of the Scriptures. *pg. LXIV #57*

Those who are wearied and oppressed by adversities and afflictions will find true consolation and divine strength to suffer and bear with patience; that is in the Holy Gospels – Christ, the highest and greatest example of justice, charity and mercy, is present to all; and to the lacerated and trembling human race are laid open the fountains of that divine grace without which both peoples and their rulers can arrive at, establish, peace in the state and unity of heart; there in fine will learn Christ, “Who is the head of all principality and power and “Who of God is made unto us wisdom and justice and sanctification and redemption.” #58 *Blessed Margaret always chose her words from the Sacred Scriptures when speaking to others when consolation or guidance was needed by others.*

Let a priest’s speech be seasoned with Bible, for the Scripture are a trumpet that stirs us with a mighty voice and penetrates to the soul of them that believe, and nothing so strikes home as an example taken from the Bible. *pg. XL*

Xxxviii Spiritus “Divine Word” does really “contain holy teaching, teach the true faith, and lead us unfalteringly beyond the veil into the Holy of Holies.

Society of Saint Jerome – The object of this Society is to put into the hands of as many people as possible the Gospels and Acts, so that every Christian family may have them and become accustomed to reading them.

Saint Jerome begs for assiduous reading of the Bible by the faithful in general, he insists on it for those who are called to “bear the yoke of Christ” and preach His word. Always have a book in your hand and read it; learn the Psalter by heart; pray unceasingly; watch your senses lest idle thoughts creep in. [*Blessed Margaret knew them by heart and recited them frequently*]

Nepotian: Constantly read the Bible; in fact, have it always in your hands. Learn what you have got to teach. Get a firm hold of the faithful word that is according doctrine, that you may be able to exhort in sound doctrine and convince the gainsayer. ~~Xxxix~~ - #45