X. LETTER TO MESSRS. DANIEL

This letter was addressed to two new converts from Judaism.

85

From now all you must love the life of Jesus. Empty yourself of self-love, to be filled with the holy love of Jesus.

Rennes, October 10, 1893 Vol. 1, p. 473

Praised be Jesus and Mary!

Dear Friends and Brothers in Our Lord:

[From Now on, Live the Life of Jesus]

I address this letter to both of you because you are equally dear to my heart in the charity of the new Master, or rather of the New Father who has recently adopted you. Your souls should from now on live only with the divine life of Jesus—the life He has recently communicated to you. You are no longer earthly men, but angels of God, in whom Jesus accomplishes the wonders of His divine love. That is why I don’t fear to call you my brothers and my very dear brothers, not according to the flesh and blood in Abraham, but according to the Spirit of God and in Jesus, our Sovereign Lord, who henceforth must be our only love. Let us rejoice, my most beloved brothers! We are great in God’s sight and in the sight of the angels.

We have become princes of the royal blood of our sweet, and beloved Jesus, the Sovereign Lord of Heaven and earth and of all creatures. He has begotten us on the Cross amid
X. LETTER TO MESSRS. DANIEL

sorrows and affliction, and has effected this holy generation on the day of our Baptism.

Now that you have been favored with the supreme blessing of receiving in your souls the holy and divine life of Jesus, you must manifest it also in all your conduct. It must be the subject of all your thoughts and the object of all your desires. You need two things: first, to preserve in your soul the life of Our Lord by the purity of your desires and affections. Be on your guard against letting yourself be moved by any earthly desire. Never attach yourselves to any created object, but only to Jesus, who must henceforth be all things to you. Above all, be on your guard against self-love, for from now on, the affection of your heart must no longer be directed to your own self, but to Jesus, our only Sovereign and our All.

[Empty of Self-Love, You Can Be Filled with the Love of Jesus]

Yes, my dear brothers, Jesus must be the Beloved; He must be all things to our souls. Let us therefore empty our souls of all selfish love and all improper love for creatures, so that the life of our Sovereign All may be the one and only life of our souls. If the Master wants you to love any earthly being: your friends, your children, your wives, love them as His creatures, as belonging to Him, as being exceedingly dear to Him, as objects of His affection, of His love and [as animated by] His divine life.

May your souls then expand in the delight, the peace, the joy and the holiness of the holy love of Jesus. May Jesus transform your every sentiment into the pure, chaste, and holy love which fills His own soul or rather, may He Himself be your love, your only love! Open your souls, expand them, make them as vast as the ocean, before our most sweet Jesus, in order that He may fill them to overflowing with His most holy Love.

287
I don’t know if you fully comprehend the thoughts I want to convey to you, for, when one speaks of the love of Jesus in souls, one can never fully explain one’s mind nor be perfectly understood. We see more than we are able to understand for who has ever been able to comprehend the length, the breadth, the height, the depths of the knowledge, and the immensity of the love of Jesus? But at least, give yourselves entirely to this great and incomprehensible love of Jesus. In this is contained all that is necessary to satisfy and satiate you, to make you superabound [with happiness], whatever might be the conditions or the circumstances of your lives. Jesus and His sacred Love are enough for us. Let us therefore see and love all things in Jesus and in His most holy love!

I wanted to speak to you of the way to acquire the knowledge of the life of Jesus in Himself and in souls. But I will tell you on another occasion, for this is the most powerful means of preserving and increasing this life in you.

The second thing which I wanted to explain is how to put this life into practice and how to produce and express it outwardly, not by doing extraordinary things, which we must carefully avoid, but by practicing perfect mildness, perfect humility, and other virtues, of which I shall speak another time.

I beg your pardon for my barbarous style! What can I do, who knows nothing nor desires to know anything on this earth except Jesus and His Divine Love? May He live in and reign over all creatures, as He has done in Mary, in His holy love, in which I am,

Your most poor brother and servant,

Francis Libermann, acolyte