



Jesus Christ, our All in all
CrossTalk's 25th Anniversary

2 - 8 Feb, 2020

Authority, part 2

**‘Woe to the rebellious children,’ says the Lord,
‘Who take counsel, but not of Me, and who devise plans,
but not of My Spirit, that they may add sin to sin’** Isaiah 30:1a

Obedience to Christ through obedience to the Church authority

- † ***‘He who does not have the Church as his mother does not have God as His Father’ St Augustine of Hippo***
- † **God has called each one of us to be part of His Body in an orderly way, that is through being an active member of my parish**
- † **The parish is where one is called to continue the work of the apostles**
- † **Just as Jesus Christ, the Lord of lords, humbly obeyed the Jewish teachings and lived according to the Jewish traditions, so I am called to do the same in my parish**
 - **Christ was circumcised although after some time, around 35 to 40 years later, the Church said circumcision is no longer mandatory**
 - **He Whom Heaven cannot contain was presented to the Temple as any first-born male**
 - **He started His ministry at around the age of 30 as prescribed by the Jewish law**

Obedience to Christ through obedience to the government authority

(Rom 13:1; Ti 3:1; 1 Pet 2:13-15)

- † ***‘Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God’ Rom 13:1-2a***
- † ***‘Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so***

with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you'
Heb 13:17

† *'Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work'* **Ti 3:1**

The pious or holy disobedience

† Peter and John were forbidden to preach the Gospel by the Sanhedrin. Their reply was, *'Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard'* **Acts 4:19b-20**

† Daniel's holy disobedience gave him victory and had a great historical effect **(Dan 6)**

➤ King Darius developed respect and honor to the God of the Jews

➤ He became tolerant of their religion and allowed for them to practice their customs

Rebellion or pious disobedience

† Rebellion is linked to pride and leads to destruction, while sainthood entails holy disobedience with love aiming to be a fisher of men

Rebellion	Pious Disobedience
† Satan rebelled against the Lord and he lost Heaven, paradise and will lose earth at Christ's second coming	† The Archangel Michael went against another angel, fought the battle putting on the armor of God
† Adam and Eve rebelled against the Lord and lost paradise	† Daniel and his friends changed the kings' hearts by their holy disobedience
† The people of Israel rebelled against their leaders, Moses and Aaron, and God pronounces <i>'Death Sentence on the Rebels'</i> (Num 14)	† The apostles obeyed the authority and had pious disobedience and brought thousands to salvation
† The crowd rebelled against Christ and had Him crucified	† Christ obeyed the authority except in sin and He resurrected

Carry the corrupted authority in prayer, correct it if possible, so that peace reigns, but do not rebel (1 Tm 2:1-2)

- † *'Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God' Rom 13:2a*
- † *'For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry' 1 Sam 15:23a*
- † *'then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment, and especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority' 2 Pt 2: 9-10a*
- † *'An evil man seeks only rebellion' Pro 17:11a*
- † Zacchaeus, a man in governmental authority, was saved when touched by the love of Christ (**Lk 19:1-10**)
- † Christ's love today is to shine through His disciples, the fishers of men, bringing back the lost and raising the spiritually dead

Conclusion

'At the origin of all disobedience is disobedience to God, and at the origin of all obedience is obedience to God' Father Cantalamessa

Bibliography

1. The Ladder of Divine Ascent, by John Climacus, (New Jersey: Paulist Press, 1982)
2. Unless otherwise noted, all Biblical passages referenced are from the New King James Version
3. Staff, ZENIT. 'Father Cantalamessa's 4th Lenten Homily 2018 - ZENIT - English.' ZENIT, March 16, 2018. <https://zenit.org/articles/father-cantalamessas-4th-lenten-homily-2018/>.

Legend

 Refers to mandatory readings

Verse to memorize

'I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness' 1 Timothy 2:1-2

In my Prayer and Faith Autobiography Book

God acts

✦ Christ, the Authority, obeyed the religious and state authorities

My reaction

✦ Am I like Daniel sure that my Lord is Almighty and All-powerful, that He is my all in all, even in obeying the subordinate authorities, as school, Church, university, work, government and any other?

✦ Am I carrying my leaders, especially the spiritually lost, in prayer?

During the coming week, let us pray expectantly

1. seeking the Lord's will to be done in Lebanon
2. for CrossTalk to find a locale
3. for David, Gisele, Habib and Karim
4. to become more of saints and less of sinners
5. to seek the Lord in every word I say, every act I do and every thought I think
6. to help in building His Kingdom by building His Church on earth
7. to deny ourselves, carry our cross and follow Him
8. to thank Him for creating us and each one around us, on His image and likeness, and choosing us to reveal His splendor
9. to all the sick
10. to all those in prison
11. to the unity of the Christians
12. to one another to be honest and not lack integrity
13. to put all that we have in the Lord's hands trusting His management
14. to all the Christians who are being persecuted, and to those who are persecuting them
15. to all families, that the Lord unites the parents together in His Name and stops all fights
16. to the situation in Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, Iraq and the whole region

During this coming week, we will lift the Armenian Catholic Church in prayer

الصلاة الربانية
أبانا الذي في السموات
ليتقدس إسمك
ليأت ملكوتك
ليتك مشيئة
كما في السماء
كذلك على الأرض
أعطنا خبزنا كفات يومنا
واغفر لنا ذنوبنا وخطايانا
كما نحن نغفر
لمن أخطأ وأساء إلينا
ولا ندخلنا في التجارب
لكن نجنا من الشرير
أمين

قانون الايمان
نؤمن بالله واحد، أب ضابط الكل، خالق السماء والأرض، كل ما يرى
وما لا يرى، ورب واحد يسوع المسيح، ابن الله الوحيد، المولود من
الأب قبل كل الدهور، إله من إله، نور من نور، إله حق من إله حق،
مولود غير مخلوق، مساو للأب في الجوهر، الذي به كان كل شيء،
الذي من أجلنا نحن البشر ومن أجل خلاصنا، نزل من السماء، وتجسد
بالروح القدس ومن مريم العذراء، وصار إنساناً، وصليب عنا على عهد
بيلاطس البنطي، وتآلم ومات وقبر وقام في اليوم الثالث كما جاء في
الكتب، وصعد إلى السماء، وجلس عن يمين الأب، وسيأتي أيضاً بمجد
عظيم، ليدين الأحياء والأموات، الذي لا فناء لملكه، وبالروح القدس،
الرب المحيي، المنبثق من الأب والابن، الذي هو مع الأب والابن،
يُسجد له ويُمجّد، الناطق بالأنبياء والرسل، وبكنيسة واحدة، جامعة،
مقدسة، رسولية، ونعترف بمعمودية واحدة لمغفرة الخطايا، ونتنظر
قيامة الأموات والحياة في الدهر الآتي.
أمين