

“Cooperation in the spread of the Kingdom of God...is a command incumbent on everyone who has been...called in Baptism to citizenship [in that] Kingdom.”

(**Pope Pius XII** [1939],
Encyclical *Summi Pontificatus*)

“We must return to the study, not of human eloquence [or] of empty rhetoric, but of the genuine art of proclaiming the Word of God. We must search for the principles which make for [its] simplicity, clarity, effectiveness, and authority.”

(**Pope Paul VI** [1964], Enc. *Ecclesiam suam*, Ch. III)

“Christians should think about that eternal life and not this brief one. They should remove from their hearts the desire for pleasures and riches...[remembering that] *‘the world with its concupiscence is passing away; but the one who does the will of God remains forever’* (1Jn. 2:17).”

(**Pope Clement XIII** [1758], *A quo die*, n. 11)

“Christians know that suffering cannot be eliminated, yet it can have MEANING...and in this way, it can serve as a moment of GROWTH in faith and love.”

(*POPE FRANCIS, Lumen Fidei*, n.56)

“All the Christian faithful must direct their efforts to lead a holy life and to promote the growth of the Church and its continual sanctification, according to their own condition.”

(**Code of Canon Law**, Book II, Can. 210)

“All the Christian faithful have the duty and right to work so that the divine message of salvation more and more reaches all people in every age and in every land.”

(**Code of Canon Law**, Book II, Can. 211)

“Conscious of their own responsibility, the Christian faithful are bound to follow with Christian obedience those things which the sacred pastors, inasmuch as they represent Christ, declare as teachers of the faith or establish as rulers of the Church.”

(**Code of Canon Law**, Book II, Can. 212 - §1)

“The Christian faithful have the right to receive assistance from the sacred pastors out of the spiritual goods of the Church, especially the word of God and the sacraments.”

(**Code of Canon Law**, Book II, Can. 213)

“Faith... is born and nourished with the Word [of God].”

(**II Vatican Council**, Decree *Presbyterorum Ordinis*, 4)

“What can be worse than...refusing to submit to those who are wiser? ...The people who fall into this folly are those who...do not refer to the sayings of the prophets, nor to the letters of the apostles, nor even to the authoritative words of the gospels, but to themselves. By not being pupils of the truth, they turn out to be masters of error.”

(**Council of Chalcedon**, *Letter of St. Leo the Great*, par. 2, 451 AD)

“We reflect constantly on how we may lead the erring into the way of truth and win them for God with the help of his grace. ...Nothing is more fitting for the attainment of this desire than the explanation and faithful preaching of the sacred Scriptures.”

(**Council of Vienna**, Decree *For the teaching...*, 1311-12 AD)

“Among the various things that are conducive to the salvation of the Christian people, the nourishment of God’s word is recognized to be especially necessary, since just as the body is fed with material food so the soul is fed with spiritual food...We therefore decree...that bishops are to appoint suitable men...to the office of sacred preaching, powerful in word and deed...[who] will build the people up with word and example.”

(**4th Lateran Council**, 10th Constitution, 1215 AD)

“We define that, if truly penitent people die in the love of God before they have made satisfaction for acts and omissions by worthy fruits of repentance, their souls are cleansed after death by the pains of purgatory.”

(**Council of Basel-Ferrara-Florence-Rome**, Session VI, par. 16)

“It is not only the wicked who are condemned, but also the person who is in a position to correct the wickedness of others and fails to do so.”

(cf. **2nd Council of Constantinople**, 553 AD, par. 1)

“Bishops, teaching in communion with the Roman Pontiff, are to be respected by all as witnesses to divine and Catholic truth.”

(**2nd Vatican Council**, Dogmatic Constitution *Lumen Gentium*, 25)

Never repeat gossip, and no one will reproach you. Tell nothing to friend or foe; and unless it be a sin for you, do not reveal a thing. For someone may have heard you and watched you, and in time come to hate you. Let anything you hear die within you; never fear, it will not make you burst!

(Sir 19:7-10)

“If anyone says that the just ought not, for their good works done in God, to expect and hope for an eternal recompense from God...let him be anathema.”

(**Council of Trent**, Session VI, Ch. XVI, 26, 1547 AD)

“The souls of those who...have been cleansed ...during their lives, once they have been stripped of their bodies, are immediately received into heaven and clearly behold God Himself as He is, One and Triune – yet one person more perfectly than another, according to the difference of their merits.”

(**Council of Basel-Ferrara-Florence-Rome**, Session VI, par. 17)

“The same Holy mother Church holds and teaches that God, the source and end of all things, can be known with certainty from the consideration of created things, by the natural power of human reason.”

(**1st Vatican Council**, Session III, II)

“Blessed is he who is sheltered [from a wicked tongue]...and has not been bound with its chains.”

(Sir 28:19)

“Do not consider their outward form, but the grace given by their ministries...You must judge [a man], not by his appearance, but by his office. Remember what he handed on to you, ponder the importance of his task, recognize what he does.”

(**St. Ambrose, Bishop**, Off. of Read. Sun. Wk. XV O.T.)

“Do not reject the One who rebukes you and encourages you, who brings fear and brings consolation, who strikes you and heals you.”

(**St. Augustine, Bishop**, Off. of Read. Sat. Wk. XXIV O.T.)

“Help every soul believe in the Scripture which says: ‘He chastises every son whom He acknowledges...’ (Heb. 12:6b) – and so one must either prepare to be chastised or renounce being accepted [as a son.]”

(St. Augustine, Bishop, Off. of Read. Sat. Wk. XXIV O.T.)

The rod and correction
give wisdom.

(Prov. 29:15)

Whoever loves a son will
chastise him often, that he may
be his joy when he grows up.

(Sir 30:1)

Favors and gifts blind the eyes;
like a muzzle over the mouth they
silence reproofs.

(Sir 20:29)

Better are those who hide their folly
than those who hide their wisdom.

(Sir 20:31)

“All that you have said you
have spoken truthfully, and
no one can deny your words.”

(Judith 8:27)

I urge those who read this book not to
be disheartened by these misfortunes,
but to consider that these punishments
were meant not for the ruin but for the
correction of our nation.

(2 Mac 6:12)

The fool spurns a father’s instruction,
but whoever heeds reproof is prudent.

(Prov. 15:5)

Like music at the time of mourning is
ill-timed talk,
but lashes and discipline are at all
times wisdom.

(Sir 22:6)

“O Lord, in distress they sought you,
they poured out a prayer
when your chastening was upon them.”

(Is 26:16)

Poverty and shame befall those
who let go of discipline,
but those who hold on to reproof
receive honor.

(Prov. 13:18)

It is better to listen
to the rebuke of the wise
than to listen to the song of fools.

(Eccles. 7:5)

Whoever hates correction
walks the sinner's path,
but whoever fears the Lord
repents in his heart.

(Sir 21:6)

The lawless turn aside warnings
and distort the law to suit their purpose.
The sensible will not neglect direction;
the proud and insolent are deterred by
no fear.

(Sir 32:17-18)

Those whom I love, I reprove
and chastise. Be earnest,
therefore, and repent.

(Rev. 3:19)

“Jealousy and discord have
ruined great cities and uprooted
mighty nations.”

(Pope St. Clement I, Off. of Read. June 30)

Work by skilled hands will earn
praise; but the people's leader is
proved wise by his words.

(Sir 9:17)

The shrewd always act
prudently.

(Prov. 13:16)

Do nothing without
deliberation; then once you
have acted, have no regrets.

(Sir 32:19)

“The sword of the tongue is
more harmful than that of iron.”

(St. Augustine, Bishop, *commentary on the
Letter of St. John*, Homily 10, 10)

The furnace tests the potter's vessels; the test
of a person is in conversation.
The fruit of a tree shows the care it has had;
so speech discloses the bent of a person's
heart. Praise no one before he speaks,
for it is then that people are tested.

(Sir 27: 5-7)

Do not fall into the grip of
your passion, lest like fire it
consume your strength.

(Sir 6:2)

Pleasant speech multiplies friends,
and gracious lips, friendly greetings. Let
those who are friendly to you be many,
but one in a thousand your confidant.

(Sir 6:5-6)

My child, from your youth choose discipline;
and when you have grey hair you will find
wisdom. As though plowing and sowing,
draw close to her; then wait for her bountiful
crops. For in cultivating her you will work but
little, and soon you will eat her fruit.

(Sir 6:18-19)