them to believe so more and more, by holding you against My chest at supper this evening, dipping in the dish My own bread for you and offering it to you as to a favorite, and you will be the first to whom I will give the cup, after giving thanks to God You will be the king of the banquet, Judas. And you will really be so. You will be the Bride of the groom, oh soul that I love, if you become clean and free, depositing your dust in My purifying lap.

"Are you not going to speak to tell Me your grief?"

"O Master, You have spoken so kindly to me... of my mother... of home... of Your love... A moment of weakness... I am so tired!... And I thought that You had not loved me thus for some time..." Jesus replies:

"*No, Judas. It is not so.* Only one thing of what you said is true, and that is that you are tired. But you are not tired of the road, of dust, of the sun, of mud, of crowds. *You are tired of yourself.* Your soul is tired of your body and of your mind. So tired that it will end extinguished by deadly tiredness. Poor soul, which is aware of My love for you and reproaches you for tearing it away from My love! Poor soul, which reproaches you in vain — as in vain I caress you — for acting underhandedly with your Master.

COME TO ME IN PRAYER

"But it is not you who acts. It is he who hates you and Me. That is why I said to you; 'Do not remain alone.' Now, listen. You know that I spend most of My nights in prayer. If one day you should feel the courage of being a man and you wanted to be Mine, come to Me when your companions are sleeping. Stars, flowers, birds are good wise witnesses. And they are discreet and compassionate. They are struck with horror at the crime committed in their presence, but they do not utter any word to say to men: 'This man is the Cain of his brother.' Have you understood, Judas?"

"Yes, Master, I have. But believe Me: I am only tired and deeply moved. I love You with all my heart and..."

"All right. That is enough."

"Will You give me a kiss, Master?"

"Yes, Judas. I will give you a kiss now and many in the future ... "

Jesus draws a heavy sigh, with grief. But He kisses Judas on the cheek. He then takes his head between the palms of His hands, and holding it tight, in front of Himself, only a few inches from His face, gazes at him, scrutinizes him, pierces him with His magnetic eyes. And Judas, a wretched miserable man, does not turn a hair. He seemingly remains impassive while being examined.

He only grows wan and closes his eyes for a moment. And Jesus kisses his closed eyelids, his lips and then his heart, bending His head to look for the heart of His disciple... and He says: "There you are: to dispel haze, to make you feel Jesus' kindness and fortify your heart." He then lets him go and directs His steps towards the house, followed by Judas.

+ + +

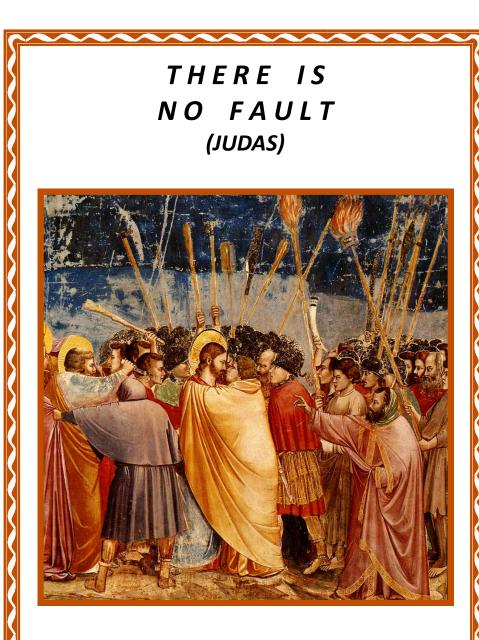
But did Judas *really* follow Christ? Do you? Jesus told him what to do. The same advice applies to us and can save our souls. CONFESS!! PRAY!! MAKE NIGHT VIGILS!!

Or would you rather be like Judas and do your own thing? "Poor soul" Jesus called him. "Poor soul" is the name of many in the world right now.

Poor soul... join your heart to His, accept your cross, offer it to Him, live with and for Him and then *be filled with His peace and joy*.

For as Jesus said to Judas (and to us), "Why are you not elated by this sublime inheritance, *which one achieves through renunciation, but which knows no decline?"*

Each person chooses his own way. Judas chose his. Think about your choice and the fruits of it which are eternal. +++



...Confess! Pray! Make Night Vigils! or Would you rather be like Judas and do your own thing? "Poor soul" Jesus called him.

"Poor soul" is the name of many in the world right now.

THERE IS NO FAULT

He could have become a great Saint, even one of the very greatest; he could have become... St. Judas. What a destiny he could have had, and so can you and I! But lack of hope and trust, and despair were his ruin.

The reason for this article is because people indicate much grief in thinking of their past life as being so bad that they are unable to be forgiven. They can't seem to believe that God *wants to forgive them,* and they find it difficult to forgive themselves. They forget God's great mercy, that Jesus paid for our sins, and that *a great sinner has the potential of becoming a great saint.*

Below is an indication of love and a message of hope taken from *The Poem of the Man-God*, Vol. 3, pp. 762-765. "Come" says Jesus. "Have you given the money to the poor?"

"Yes, Master, we have."

"To the last coin? Remember that what is given to us is not for us, but it is to be given in Charity. We are poor and we live on the mercy of other people. *Miserable is the apostle who exploits his mission for human ends!*"

"And if one day we are without bread and we are accused of infringing the Law because we imitate sparrows, eating grains of corn as they do, what shall we do?"

"Have you ever lacked anything, Judas? Anything essential since you have been with Me? Have you ever fallen exhausted along the road?"

"No, Master."

"When I said to you: "Come" did I promise you comfort and riches? And speaking to those who listen to Me, have I ever said that I will give "My disciples" profit on the Earth?"

"No, Master."

"Well, Judas? Why have you changed so much? Do you not know, do you not realize that your dissatisfaction and your indifference grieve Me? Do you not see that your discontent affects also your brothers? Why Judas, My friend, are you forsaking Me now, whereas you have been called to so great a destiny, and you came to My love and to My light with so much enthusiasm?"

"Master, I am not forsaking You. I am the one who takes most care of You, of Your interests, of Your success. I would like to see You triumph everywhere, believe me."

"I know. You want that in a human way. It is a great thing. But I do not want that, Judas, My friend... I have come for something by far greater than a human triumph and a human kingdom... I have not come to give My friends the crumbs of a human triumph. But I have come to give you a great, substantial, abundant reward, a reward that is no longer a reward, as it is so complete: it is participation in My eternal Kingdom, it is union in the rights of the children of God... Oh! Judas! *Why are you not elated by this sublime inheritance, which one achieves through renunciation, but which knows no decline*?

"Come closer to Me Judas. See? We are alone. The others have understood that I wanted to speak to you, the dispenser of My... riches, of the alms that the Son of Man, the Son of God receives to give them, in the name of God and of Man, to man. And they have withdrawn into the house. We are alone, Judas, in this sweet hour of the evening, when our hearts fly to our remote homes, to our mothers, who certainly

think of us, while preparing their solitary supper, and they caress with their hands the place where we used to sit before this hour of God, when His Most Holy Will took us to make Him loved in spirit and truth.

MOTHER AND CO-REDEEMER

"Our mothers! Mine, so holy and pure, Who is so fond of you all and prays for you, the friends of Her Jesus... Mine, Who has but this peace, in the anxiety of Her Maternity of Mother of the Christ: to know that I am surrounded by your *love*... Do not disappoint, do not injure that heart of a Mother, My dear friends. Do not break it through any evil action of yours!

"Your mother Judas. Your mother, who the last time we passed through Kerioth could not stop blessing Me and wanted to kiss My feet, because she is happy that her Judas is the Light of God, and she used to say to Me: "Oh! Master! Make my Judas holy! What does the heart of a mother seek, but the welfare of her child? And which welfare is better than the eternal Good?" And which welfare, Judas, is there greater than the one to which I want to lead you all and which one reaches following My Way?

"Your mother is a holy woman, Judas. A true daughter of Israel. I did not allow her to kiss My feet. Because you are My friends, and because in each of your mothers, in every good mother, I see Mine, Judas. And I would like you to see in your mothers Mine, with Her *tremendous destiny of Co-Redeemer*. And I would like you not to wish to kill Her because... because you would feel that you were killing your own.

NO REMORSE...

"Judas, do not weep. Why weep? If you feel no remorse in your heart with regard to your mother or Mine, why shed those tears? Come here, rest your head on My shoulder and tell your Friend your anxiety. Have you done wrong? Do you feel you are about to do wrong? Oh! Do not remain alone! Defeat Satan with the help of Him who loves you. I am Jesus, Judas, I am the Jesus Who cures diseases and expels demons. I am the Jesus Who saves... and Who loves you so much, that He worries at seeing you so enfeebled. I am the Jesus Who teaches to forgive seventy times seven.

"But I, personally, forgive you not seventy, but seven hundred, seven thousand times... and *there is no fault, Judas, there is no fault, Judas, there is no fault, Judas, that I do not forgive, that I do not forgive, if the repentant culprit says to Me: "Jesus, I have sinned." Even less: if he only says: "Jesus!" And even less: if he only looks at Me imploringly. And the first faults that I forgive, do you know, My friend, whom I forgive them? <i>The most guilty and the most repentant.* And do you know which are the very first ones that I forgive? *Those committed against Me.*

NO CONFESSION??

"Judas?... Can you not find one word to reply to your Master?.. Is your anguish so severe that it makes words die on your lips? Are you afraid that I may denounce you? Be not afraid! I have been longing for such a long time to speak to you thus, holding you on My heart, like twins in a cradle, born of the same mother, almost one flesh only, two babies who have sucked in turn the same warm pap, each savoring his brother's saliva together with his mother's sweet milk, I now have you and I will not let you go away until you tell Me that I have cured you. *Be not afraid*, *Judas. I want your confession*.

But your companions will think that this is a friendly conversation, because after it our faces will beam so much with reciprocal peace and love. And I will get