

Offer your Mass and
Holy Communion tomor-
row morning for....

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....Gilbert Elliott.
Confessions and Commu-
nion in Main Church: 6:25

Basis of Fear.

Is fear of Hell, of sudden death in mortal sin, unworthy of the brave and intelligent?
Is Hell but a bugaboo for the ignorant?

Jesus Christ again and again warns His followers that if they die in their sins they will suffer eternal punishment in Hell. Listen to Him on the sin of scandal:

And if thy hand or thy foot scandalize thee, cut it off and cast it from thee.....If thy eye scandalize thee, pluck it out and cast it from thee....
..It is better for thee to go into life maimed or lame or having one eye than having two hands or two feet or two eyes to be cast into the everlasting fire of Hell. (Matthew XVIII, 8 and 9.)

Our Lord describes, in Matthew XXV, 41, the Last Judgment and the final separation of the good from the wicked, to whom He shall say: "Depart from me ye cursed into everlasting fire." Refer also to Matthew XIII, 24-30, and to Luke XIV, 18-31.

If you are intelligent enough to read, brave doubter, call Jesus Christ a fool or a liar, but do not mistake the awful meaning of His warnings!

Confidence and Fear.

Can absolute confidence in God absorb the heart that fears Him? Are Fear and Confidence unfriendly sisters between whom we must make an exclusive choice? To conceive God as angry and immediately afterwards as forgiving--does this not run the killing sword of contradiction through all piety and faith?

Fear of God is not fear of an oriental potentate of caprice and whim, whose angry eyes blaze at the slightest mis-step. In fact, the Son of God on earth was not too punctilious on mere questions of form and etiquette.

Guilty, stubborn, willful unfaithfulness--deliberate mortal sin--angers Divine Justice.

Some think that fear is motive only for beginners, that there is an exclusive highway of love, free from fear, which leads to the mounts of perfection. No such thing! The sense of fear--reasonable fear--increases daily as we climb up to God. Every day we see more clearly that sin is the great evil and consequently is the great cause for fear.

The Remedy.

And if we fear sin we are carried by the whole impulse of our aversion, to a remedy, to protecting securities. The remedy against sin, are we to seek it within ourselves? No more than fresh water is to be pailed from the midst of the salty sea. No more than we seek physical vigor independent of food and drink.

Of ourselves, without the invisible grace of God, we are powerless to resist even mortal sin for any length of time. We do not fear God so much as we fear sin and fear our own weaknesses. True religious fear does not drive us away from God, but it draws us close to Him, the Father and Physician, the single source of protection against the awful evil of sin.

Fear draws us to confession when necessary, and frequently to Mass and to Holy Communion, that we may daily take strength to live always ready to die--in the state of grace. This is the brave and intelligent man's reaction to reasonable fear.

PRAYERS: (deceased) Mrs. Helen Tuddy. Ill, aunt and friend of Don Allen; aunt of Tony Bayot (Lumni); Terrell Austin ('34) and off-campus student; Jack Reed; Norman Duke; John Siegler; Fred Widdner; Leona Widdner; Mr. Desmond Fitzgerald; 8 sp. ints.