

†††JMJ††† **Humor for today** †††JMJ†††

Detectives in Training

A policeman was interrogating 3 guys who were training to become detectives.

To test their skills in recognizing a suspect, he shows the first guys a picture for 5 seconds and then hides it. "This is your suspect, how would you recognize him?" The first guy answers, "That's easy, we'll catch him fast because he only has one eye!" The policeman says, "Well...uh...that's because the picture I showed is his side profile."

Slightly flustered by this ridiculous response, he flashes the picture for 5 seconds at the second guy and asks him, "This is your suspect, how would you recognize him?" The second guy smiles, flips his hair, and says, "Ha! He'd be too easy to catch because he only has one ear!" The policeman angrily responds, "What's the matter with you two?? Of course only one eye and one ear are showing because it's a picture of his side profile! Is that the best answer you can come up with?"

Extremely frustrated at this point, he shows the picture to the third guy and in a very testy voice asks, "This is your suspect, how would you recognize him? He quickly adds, "Think hard before giving me a stupid answer." The third guy looks at the picture intently for a moment and says, "the suspect wears contact lenses."

The policeman is surprised and speechless because he really doesn't know himself if the suspect wears contacts or not. "Well, that's an interesting answer. Wait here for a few minutes while I check his file and I'll get back to you on that." He leaves the room and goes to his office, checks the suspect's file on his computer, and comes back with a beaming smile on his face.

"Wow! I can't believe it. It's TRUE! The suspect does, in fact, wear contact lenses. Good work! How were you able to make such an astute observation?" "That's easy," the third guy replied. "He can't wear regular glasses because he only has one eye and one ear."

†††JMJ†††

A customer sent an order to a distributor for a large amount of goods totaling a great deal of money.

The distributor noticed that the previous bill hadn't been paid. The collections manager left a voice-mail for them saying, "We can't ship your new order until you pay for the last one."

The next day the collections manager received a phone call, "Please cancel the order. We can't wait that long."

†††JMJ††† **Fun Quiz on Testing Our Knowledge of the Scriptures** †††JMJ†††

What great and well recorded event took place the year that Noe's grandfather died (besides the fact that his grandfather died)?

†††JMJ††† **This is Serious** †††JMJ†††

Please go here https://jmjsite.com/14th_after_Pentecost.html for an overwhelming amount of very serious information from the sermons for the 14th Sunday after Pentecost. Here are some serious things for reflection:

Let us, then, dearly beloved Christians, attend to the salvation of our souls, and to the acquisition of riches for eternity, which never ends; for everything in this world ends, and ends very soon. Death shall come, and the dying person shall be told: *Take order with thy house; for thou shalt die, and not live.* Oh, what doleful tidings for one who is not prepared at all times for death! Farewell, O world! Farewell, O Villa! Farewell, relatives! Farewell, friends! Farewell, sports! Farewell, comedies! Farewell, banquets! Farewell, honors! All is over for me. There is no remedy; whether he will or not, he must leave all. *For when he shall die, he shall take nothing away; nor shall his glory descend with him.* In a word, they who have spent their whole life, have lost their sleep, their health, and their soul, in accumulating riches and possessions, shall take nothing with them at the hour of death: their eyes shall then be opened! But the misfortune is that worldlings are unwilling to think of death until the hour comes when they must depart from this earth to go into eternity. *At what hour you think not the Son of man will come.*

†††JMJ†††

If you wish to know how we can tell whether we really love God, listen to what I am going to say to you, and then judge for yourselves whether you have that true love. Observe that Jesus Christ himself has said to us: “Whosoever loves me, keeps my commandments, and he who does not love me, does not keep them.” It is, therefore, very easy for you to know whether or not you love God. The commandments, my friends, and the will of God, are one and the same thing. He commands and He wills that you should fulfill the duties of your state of life, conscientiously and sincerely. He commands us to believe in Him, and to be faithful to Him. The Saints, and particularly the Martyrs, proved their love of God by suffering persecution and death rather than be unfaithful to God.

†††JMJ†††

There are two essentials to a true sorrow for sin. True contrition must:

- I. *Be extended to all the mortal sins that one has committed, without a single exception; and*
- II. *It must spring from God, that is from a supernatural motive.*

He who wishes to be a true Catholic must believe all that the Catholic Church teaches. The word of God is as infallible in one article of faith as it is in another. If I refuse to believe him in one point, I cannot believe anything he says. The same may be said of one who repents of his sins. He is not sorry for any of his mortal sins, if he is not sorry for all. If I sincerely detest a single mortal sin because it closes heaven against me and exposes me to the eternal flames of hell, I must also detest every mortal sin, because they all entail the loss of heaven and the pains of hell. If I detest one mortal sin because, in committing it, I have offended God, who is so good to me, I have the same reason for detesting all mortal sins. If I detest a mortal sin because I thereby have grieved Jesus Christ, my Saviour, who has loved me so much that he suffered death for me, I have the same cause to detest all mortal sins. If I detest a mortal sin because I have thereby despised God, who is worthy of all honor and love, the same motive should impel me to hate all sin, or else my repentance is not sincere... All must be forgiven together, or else none at all.

O Christians, of what kind is *your* sorrow for sin?... if you wish to regain the grace and friendship of God in the Sacrament of Penance. Represent to yourself by faith what a great, powerful, good, merciful God you have despised by your sins; the immense loss you have caused your soul to suffer; the punishment, the eternal flames of hell, that you have merited in the next life, and then you will have reason enough to deplore your sins with true, interior sorrow.

†††JMJ†††

Be only grateful to God for the benefits received from Him, and all the other benefits that you can wish or desire will be added unto you.

God expects us to be grateful for the benefits He confers on us, His sole object therein being that He may be able to do us still more good; therefore we should offer Him our constant gratitude for even the least benefit, and give Him thanks unceasingly.

If I thank God for the good He does me, He places Himself under an obligation to me for my gratitude, and becomes, as it were, my debtor, for He binds Himself to repay me for my first act of gratitude with a fresh favor.

Nothing is more agreeable than to receive a good thing that we are eager to possess. But gratitude is the key to the inexhaustible treasury of that Lord of infinite wealth. Go with confidence and ask of Him what you wish; all you have to do is to return thanks for what He has already given you, and the new gifts and graces are already prepared for you. “Be nothing solicitous,” says St. Paul “but in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your petitions be made known to God” (Phil. 4: 6); for gratitude gives prayer its greatest efficacy.

Christians, if you wish to obtain great favors from God, thank Him for small ones. Worldly goods are the least of the benefits that God bestows on us, although He does give them to the grateful. It is to heavenly, supernatural, and eternal goods that our wishes and desires should tend; and these we shall obtain in abundance from God, if we are only grateful to Him always. The grace of persevering in the friendship of God, the grace of a happy death, oh, what a magnificent grace! Can we desire any greater gift than that on which our happiness for eternity depends, and which is of the utmost importance for us? For no man with all his good works can

merit it in the present arrangement of God's providence. And who will obtain that grace? Do you wish to know? He who during life was grateful to God. We can purchase this inestimable gift of perseverance from God so cheaply by gratitude! Let us resolve, then, to be more grateful than we have hitherto been, and never will we cease in all our actions, which shall be directed to God's honor and glory, to thank Him for all He has done for us.

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