

“HE WENT ABOUT DOING GOOD”

Jacques-François Dujarié

**Prayer of Readings and
Reflection**

Lord, open my lips. Glory to...

Ant. “Faithfully examine your obligations so you may derive more fruit than in preceding years.” (CL-1825)

Psalm 119:57-64; 65-72; 105-112 – *Delight in the law of the Lord*

I

I have said, O God, that my lot is to keep your words.
I entreat you with all my heart:
have pity on me according to your promise.

I thought about my ways
And turned my steps to your decrees
I was prompt and hastened to keep your commands.

Though the snares of the wicked are twined about me,
I have not forgotten your law.
At midnight I rise to give you thanks
Because of your just ordinances.

I am the friend of all who fear you
And keep your precepts.
Of your kindness, O God, the earth is full.
Teach me your statutes.

Ant. 2 “True obedience is not merely obedience in action, but also obedience in mind and heart.” (*Rules of Conduct*)

II

You have done good to your servant, O God,
According to your word.
Teach me wisdom and knowledge,
For I trust in your commands

Before I was tried, I went astray,
but now I hold to your promise.
You are good and gracious.
Teach me your law.

Though the proud spread lies about me,
with all my heart I will observe your precepts.
Their heart has become callous and unfeeling.
As for me, your law is my delight.

It is good for me to be afflicted,
that I may learn your decrees.
Your law is more precious to me
than thousands of gold and silver pieces.

Ant. 3 – “I have some confidence that the little I have been able to achieve for the glory of God and the salvation of souls would count for something in the order to purify me in the eyes of God and to assure me the eternal crown of glory.” (*Letter*)

III

Your word is a lamp for my steps, a light to my path.
I resolve and have taken an oath
to follow your just decrees.

I am sorely afflicted.

Give me life according to your word.

Accept the willing praise of my mouth, O God,
and teach me your decrees.
Though I constantly take my life in my hands,
I will not forget your law.

The wicked have laid a snare for me,
but from your precepts I have not wandered.

Your decrees are my inheritance forever;
they are the joy of my heart.
My heart is set on keeping your statutes to the end.

Psalm Prayer: Lord God, your ways are filled with life and light, your law is the pathway to salvation. Teach us to delight in that law and to walk in those ways as a testimony of our love for you, through Jesus Christ in whose name we pray.

Reading 1 *Philippians 2:2-18*

Dear friends, as you always obeyed me when I was with you, it is even more important that you obey me now while I am away from you. Keep on working with fear and trembling to complete your salvation, because God is always at work in you to make you willing and able to obey the Lord's own purpose.

Do everything without complaining or arguing, so you may be innocent and pure as God's perfect children, who live in a world of corrupt and sinful people. You must shine among them like stars lighting up the sky, as you offer them the message of life. If you do so, I shall have reason to be proud of you on the Day of Christ, because it will show that all my effort and work have not been wasted.

Perhaps my life blood is to be poured out like an offering on the sacrifice that your faith offer to God. If that is so, I am glad and share my joy with you all. In the same way, you too must be glad and share your joy with me.

Response: *Deuteronomy 30:6, 9*

The Lord your God will give you and your descendants, obedient hearts, so you will love God with all your heart.

- *The Lord your God will give you and your descendants, obedient hearts, so you will love God with all your heart.*

The Lord will make you prosperous in all that you do;

- *so you will love God with all your heart.*

God will be as glad to make you prosperous even as your ancestors were made prosperous.

- *The Lord your God will give you and your descendants, obedient hearts, so you will love God with all your heart.*

Reading 2 Jacques-François Dujarié, excerpt from *Last Will and Testament*

In order to urge the inhabitants of Ruillé to pray to God for the response of my soul, I beg them not to forget that since May 27, 1803, the day of my installation as their pastor, I have sought only to contribute to the glory of God and their salvation. May they remember the generosity with which I have exercised my ministry among them and that at all times I gave no thought to myself or to my own interests in order to think of theirs, in a word, that I have lived only for them. If, unfortunately for myself, I have not done enough for their sanctification, if I have not worked for the glory of God with sufficiently pure intentions, if I have scandalized even the least among them, then I humble myself most sincerely before God and, with a heart broken with sorrow, I ask God not to look upon my sins but upon the multitude of divine mercies. I expect confidently from the devotion and charity of the inhabitants of Ruillé, that they will obtain for me this grace from the God of all mercy and all goodness, into whose hands I commit my soul....If in looking forward to the infinite mercy of God, I have the happiness of being numbered with the chosen, more than ever shall I beg the mercies and graces of the Lord for the eternal happiness of all the inhabitants of Ruillé, so we may all sing hymns of praise in the heavenly Jerusalem.”

Response: *2 Kings 18: 6-7*

He was faithful to the Lord and never disobeyed God.

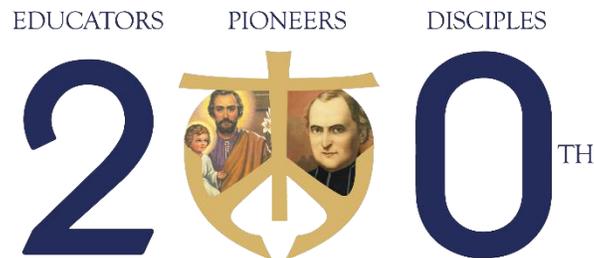
- *He was faithful to the Lord and never disobeyed God.*

He carefully kept all of the commandments of the Lord,
- *and never disobeyed God.*

So the Lord was with him and he was successful in everything he did.
- *He was faithful to the Lord and never disobeyed God.*

Prayer

Jesus, you have said: “Let the little children come to me.” You have inspired me with the desire to bring them to you. Be pleased to bless my vocation, assist me in my work and to clothe me with the spirit of strength, charity, and humility. May nothing turn me aside from your service. May I fulfill with zeal the duties to which I have committed myself and may I be among those to whom you have promised eternal life because of their fidelity to the end. Amen. (*Prayer for the Brothers of St. Joseph*)



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