

life already in ruins, already over?" No, GOD has merely given them a shorter road to the eternal gate. The great thing about it: All have forgiven their tormentors.

What about us? How hard do many people find it to forgive those who have hurt or even done them harm. How clear does it say in the Lord's Prayer: „Forgive us our debts, as also we forgive our debtors.“ GOD can only forgive us if also we forgive. So many people complain that GOD does not hear their prayers. First forgive your spouse, your colleague, your employer, your neighbour, etc.

United with the benediction of the Apostle st James the Less, who was a relative of JESUS and an Apostle of prayer and severity:

Sermon of 5 June 2005 – Feast of the Apostle st James the Less



Schwert-Bischof
JESU CHRISTI

**Be blessed by GOD TRINITY,
the + FATHER and the + SON
and the + HOLY GHOST. Amen!**

Schwert-Bischof
JESU CHRISTI
sb.



Sermon

of the *Sword-Bishop*

The Big Gate – There the Decision Is Made

My beloved, we are fighting a battle and everybody must make up his mind. Today nobody is left alone by the Evil One, unless he is absolutely lukewarm or up to his neck in sin. Make up your mind: Do you wish to please GOD or the Evil One? There is no middle course. GOD is the calming influence, He is peace, strength. Satan is the chaos-bringer, who is rummaging and poking around in you and who breathes into your brain – never into your heart. Now let everybody think twice and in all seriousness: „What do I want? Heaven or hell?“ – Because I am on the road to my destination. I must ask myself in these struggles: „What will it gain me in future?“

Some day I will come towards a big gate. There the decision is made. It is not I any more who then decides, no one will decide with regard to himself any more. GOD, who made us, will decide. He will see whether what He has created will still be of any use. If not – away with it! Not because GOD says: „I do not like you any more“, but because man in his life has decided on where he wants to go. It was you with your own free will who decided.

We Are on Our Way to Eternal Life

In actual fact we do not live now. It is in eternity that we will truly live. What path do we take? The sweet one that suits our purposes, that just makes fun (like the consumption of fast food), that runs counter to GOD's laws – or the path that pleases GOD? Now I do have to ask myself: What road will lead me safely into Heaven – or into ruin? The Evil One knows exactly the human passions. He knows the weaknesses of every one. Mine, too, otherwise I would not be able to talk about it. I must struggle, too. Even JESUS made His decision while fighting.

The Evil One Prowls Around like a Roaring Lion

looking for someone to devour. I tell you, life is not all giving up. You cannot be fasting all the time. Life need not be joyless. If it is, then it is the wrong path! Is your life burdensome, hard, tried by sorrows or suffering, still it must not be a dreary life. Bear it as you think proper. Bear it in imitation of JESUS CHRIST, then you will live to see a lot of joys, and moreover have the strength to pass these joys on to others. Be well aware that the devil will smooth-talk you into believing things that seem sensible and convincing to you. He who is talking to you is a formidable angel and not a dwarf. With insiders and top-flight people he reaches a lot by using primitiveness, with plain people, however, by using intelligent sentences.

With Fragrant, yet Poisonous Little Flowers the Evil One Comes

Dissatisfaction at work, dissatisfaction with the partner, with one's way of life, discontent in many, many things ... Old people complain: „If only we would not have been young in former years, but if we were today, then we would be able to experience a lot, which we did not venture to do then.“ They envy the young. The misleading in word and deed is powerful, so finely spun. At first in small, almost trifling things until the soul is caught in the net. The Evil One lets sweet nectar trickle into the soul until she is benumbed. Yes, he comes with little fragrant flowers or with an enticing deadly nightshade. Observe a carnivorous plant. It lures the insects with its fragrance. If they land on the delicate leaves, then the trap snaps shut. If man is caught in the devil's net, then his common sense, his sound faculty of feeling and acting are being corrupted, and what the Evil One spits out afterwards is the mere skeleton. After that man knows no bounds any more. The soul is shipwrecked. She is thrown onto a lonely island and cannot find her way back. Thousands of millions of people fare thus – spat out.

Every man that sins is a joy to the Evil One and gives him a share in his power – he is his blood donor. It is very hard to put such a person back on the straight and narrow. It takes indeed the hour of grace.

One Has to Deserve Heaven

Everybody has to carry his own cross. Many, though innocent, are all their lives in exile or in prison. Let us look at America: Many are innocently on

death row, largely black people. All would have good reason to doubt and to despair. They are all people who are in a place where they are not happy. GOD holds out the cross to them so that they may put their great suffering on it and be able to offer it up with Him. Almost anyone has something he is not happy about. That could perhaps be in his choice of career, at work, etc. Anyone has something he is displeased with, which he would like to see changed. I also wish I were a saint. I can only call out to you: Give it to GOD! What then are these few years compared to blissful eternity! It is more than you can dream of.

It does not matter whether you are born into a royal dynasty or in some prison or other or born of a girl who lives under a bridge. It is your life. GOD gave you the soul. Remember one thing, though: You are on the road to the big gate of eternity. There your life will really begin. Maybe you have had on your way to eternity many wishes which have not been fulfilled for you. Whatever material and worldly things you have wished for on earth, you will no longer need them in eternity. Heaven has other values. With the speed of thought, like the Angels, you can be transported to a different place. All your wishes will come true to such a blissful, unimaginable degree. You will to all eternity not be able to enjoy to the full the delights and the bliss which GOD will continue preparing for you. Well then, you can choose between this happiness – the mere thought of which should carry you through life – or unhappiness, which you prepare for yourself with your own free will and knowledge during these few years of your earthly life.

So, what more do you want? See to it that the citizens of Heaven come to meet you when your last hour has struck. They will thank you that you stood up for the honour of GOD and in doing so have saved souls. Make sure that no people are lost while you have a share in the blame having done too little for them. Men's salvation – the salvation of souls must be a matter near to your heart!

What Has Happened to the Martyrs?

They are praised, they are exalted and they are invoked as intercessors. Very many young people from poor families and others from wealthy families with great riches decided in favour of CHRIST – even to the giving of their lives under horrible torture. They could also have said: „What? My
