THE COST OF TRUTH

"In all things taking the shield of faith, wherewith you may be able to extinguish all the fiery darts of the most wicked one."

(Ephesians)

To us, the children of the late twentieth century and the early days of the twenty-first century, the great Apostle would give the same solemn charge. From the liberal modernists on the left and the conservative radicals on the right there are those in these days of near total religious and moral decadence and collapse who work constantly with a clear agenda, trying always to undo all that Jesus Christ has done. They deny whatever in His Life they cannot understand or do not wish to live with. They teach that such facts as Christ's Glorious Resurrection and Admirable Ascension could not have happened, that Scripture is fable. Worse yet, there are those who profess to work within the realms of the true Catholic Faith, but who, by clever interpolations, distort right reason and theological truths, thereby giving a false ring to the omnipotence and divine character of Almighty God. With bitter zeal – in most cases – such ones prowl about spreading garbled, unorthodox messages which serve only to add further confusion to the few souls who yet remain stalwart defenders of the weakened but forever holy City of God. It is very wrong and very cruel for anyone to thus rob and deprive us and our children of any elements of our authentic Catholic spiritual life. It is wrong for anyone to injure in any way our faith in Him Who died to save us from sin and hell! We must not listen to such teachings. When anybody at all in any way attempts to shake our faith in Jesus Christ, then must we, without fear, rise up with the shield of faith: "I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth, and in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord."

The warning of St. Paul in his second Epistle to Timothy rings out with clarion tones: "For there shall be a time when they will heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears, and will indeed turn away their hearing from the truth, but will be turned unto fables."

With every bit of strength in us we must continuously cling to Jesus Christ. We must let no one, whether pope, bishop, priest, religious superior, family member, relative, friend, employer, leader, business associate, or whoever, separate us from Him – destroy our faith. We must not let anything whatever, whether money, power, prestige, business affairs, or social standing separate us from Him. He alone, by His Precious Blood, can wash away our sins. He alone can give us help, comfort, and consolation when we are poor, sick, desolate, or lonely. He alone can give us courage and assurance in the hour of trial.