Heavenwards

From whence do we come and where are we going? This is one of the most essential questions of our human existence. Jesus wants to give us the answer: “I go to the Father.” And on another occasion, Jesus expands his answer further: “I did come from the Father, and I came into the world; and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father” (John 16:28).

God the Father is the starting point and likewise the goal of one’s life, but not only for Jesus, for all of us as well: “I go to prepare a place for you. And when I have gone and have prepared a place for you, I will return and will take you with me.”

Thus we are interwoven with the destiny of Christ. From whence did we come? Like Him, in Him and with Him we have come from the Father and we have come to this world. Where are we going? In Him and with Him we are returning to the Father. This is the great aim of our life.

But, do we truly believe this? Is our life a testimony to this faith? There is the impression that even Christians believe that this earthly life is the only life and that it is definite, that there is no life in the beyond. Others live it as if it would never end, as if death would not exist.

Then, logically, they cling with their whole being to the values and the things of this world: possessions and riches, satisfactions and pleasures, powers and powerful ones – the three idols: money, pleasure and power. And nobody thinks that all of this is passing, that everything that is worldly is temporary: we cannot take any of it with us, someday we have to leave it all behind.

We are pilgrims in this world. Well, where is our definite homeland? It is in the house of the Father, it is in the heart of God. God the Father has sent us, only for a brief time, to this earth. We are all foreign pilgrims in this world. And the few years we spend here below, are years lived in a foreign land.

Questions for reflection
1. How attached am I to the goods of this world?
2. Do I place limits on my inordinate desires?
3. Do I consider myself an egotist?

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