

Mal 3:3 He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He will purify the sons of Levi, And purge them as gold and silver, That they may offer to the LORD An offering in righteousness.

1Pe 1:7 that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ

If you are like me from time to time, you say to the Lord, "Lord, why must I go through all of this instead of merely giving me direct instructions?" I have come to terms that in all things, our God teaches us different lessons that could only be learned through trial(s).

It is hard to bear the apparent aimlessness of hard times, and too often, we do not understand why. We must never look upon the trials of life as punishments because our Lord Himself bore all penalties. The intent is to eliminate the weeds and rubbish of our carnal natures like bonfires do in the garden. Christ regards us in the light of our eternal interests, of which He alone can judge. If you and I knew what sphere we were to fulfill in the other world, we should understand the significance of His dealings with us, being that as of now we cannot do. The Refiner has a purpose, of which those who stand beside Him are ignorant, and, therefore, they are unable to judge the process He employs. Dare to believe that Christ is working on a plan in your life! He loves you, so be patient! He would not take so much trouble unless He knew that it was worthwhile. We do not prune thorns or shrubs or plow sea-sands!" You must be capable of some unique service, which can only be done by a carefully-prepared instrument, and so Christ sits beside you as the Refiner, year after year, that you may miss nothing.

While the Fire is hot, keep conversing with the Refiner. Ponder these words: "He shall sit as a Refiner and Purifier of silver." The thought is especially suitable for those who cannot make long prayers, but they can talk to Christ as He sits beside them. Nicholas Hermann tells us that, as he could not concentrate his mind on prolonged prayer, he set up times of prayer and sought constant conversations with Christ. Speak to Him, then, amid your daily toil. He hears the unspoken prayer and catches your whispers. Talk to Christ about your trials, sorrows, and anxieties! Make Him your Confidant in your joy and happiness! Nothing makes Him so real as to talk to Him aloud about everything!

At His service, Pr. Teddy Santos