

Sister Josefa Menendez

Part 2

1890 - 1923

PURGATORY

The life of Sister Josefa Menendez was entirely devoted to God. She received from Jesus a message to make known to all people. In her Diary she noted on April 13, 1923 that a soul of Purgatory had asked her a few weeks earlier for some supplications to be liberated from punishment. Appearing again to Josefa, the soul told her: "I come in the name of the One who is the Eternal Beatitude, the Only object of our love, to encourage you to continue in the suffering, the path that His goodness traces for your good and the one of many other souls. One day you will contemplate the wonders of the love that He reserves not in time but in eternity, to the souls more loved by Him. Then you shall comprehend the fruits of suffering and will taste such a happiness that the soul could not sustain down here. Courage! You will soon find peace again, the redemptive work is not realized except through suffering, but suffering purifies and strengthens the soul enriching it of merits in the eyes of God."

Many souls were going to Sister Josefa to ask her to intercede on their behalf to be liberated as soon as possible. Some dialogues with the souls were recounted: "I am here due to the infinite goodness of God, because an excessive pride had brought me to the brink of hell. I kept many people under my feet: now I would throw myself to the feet of the last of the poor! Have compassion for me, do some acts of humility to repair my pride. In this way you would be able to liberate me from this abyss."

Another soul confessed to her:

"I spent seven years in mortal sin –

another one confessed – and I was sick for three years. I always refused to go to confession. I had prepared hell for me and I would have fallen there if your sufferings of today did not obtain for me the strength to come back to grace. I am now in Purgatory and I beg you, since you were able to save me: liberate me from this very gloomy prison!" And again she received the secret of another soul: "I am in Purgatory due to my infidelity, not having wanted to respond to the call of God. For twelve years I have resisted the vocation and I have lived in a great danger of getting lost, because I had embraced sin to stifle the remorse. Thanks to the divine goodness who has graciously accepted to make use of your sufferings, I had the courage to return to God... and now do me the favor to liberate me from here!" A soul who was about to leave Purgatory to ascend to Heaven told her: "Offer for us the Blood of Jesus. What would become of us if there was no one to lift us up?" An inquiry was done of every name revealed by the souls and it was concluded that indeed the date and place of death coincided with what Sister Josefa said.

Sister Josefa had never visited Purgatory, but many souls appeared to her to ask for prayers or to thank her, because thanks to her sufferings, they had escaped hell.

These souls revealed to Sister Josefa the reason for their stay in Purgatory.

In her diary in the month of April 1922 Josefa noted some dialogues she had with the souls of Purgatory: "I have been



in Purgatory a little less than an hour and a half to expiate some lack of trust in God. It is true that I have always loved Him greatly but with some fear."

– "I am in Purgatory because I failed to treat the souls that Jesus entrusted to me with the care that they deserved..."

– "My Purgatory will be long because I have not accepted the will of God, nor made with sufficient submission the sacrifice of my life during my illness."

– "I am here due to the infinite goodness of God, an excessive pride had brought me to the brink of hell, I kept many people under me, now I would throw myself to the feet of the poorest among the poor."

– "I had a vocation and I lost it through a bad book..."

– "My youth was filled with vanity..."

– "I must expiate a poorly repressed passion..."

– "I thought of myself as powerful and was controlled by ambition..."

