

## Poor, naked and blind?

These three adjectives describing conditions we would all like to avoid are found together in the Holy Scriptures in Revelation 3:17. God therein describes a state that might be yours! He also details the remedy prescribed for all three: « *I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed ...and eye-salve (ointment) to anoint thine eyes, that thou mayest see* » (Rev. 3:18).

### Three purchases without money!

#### Gold

Firstly, buy from whom? The text says «*buy of me*». It is the Lord speaking and selling! Logically, the poor can't buy gold but faith is *more precious than gold that perishes* (1 Peter 1:7). Yes, it is possible to buy without money! The currency God recognizes is the currency of faith. By faith we can purchase, that is, participating in the ownership of a thing to become our own yet without repossessing the original owner which is God Himself. In this way, all can purchase from God whose resources never fail to bless those who believe (see Isaiah 55:1). He who believes what God says possesses what God says! Gold tried with fire is what has been merited for us by the Lord Jesus through his sacrifice on the cross, absolutely pure gold! What shall it profit a man to gain the whole world and loose his own souls? Jesus delivered his soul as an offering, a sacrifice, for sin (Isaiah 53:10) and offers the result of this to any and all who believe in Him.

#### Garment

« *all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do* » (Hebrews 4:13). Adam and Eve had covered their nakedness with fig leaves while still feeling naked before God (Genesis 3:10). Also a filthy garment reveals a contact with uncleanness - yours and mine are equally stained are they not? The Lord gives a white unsullied garment to such as purchase by faith the message of the Gospel. Do you buy that? The apostle John, under the inspiration of the Spirit of God writes: « *the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanses us from all sin* » (1 Jean 1:7). His blood was shed on the cross where Jesus *was made a curse for us* (Galatians 3:13). God clothes he who believes with his righteousness and they are *justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus* (Romans 3:24). There is no whither garment than that!

#### Ointment

...eye-salve for the eyes! According to John 9:6-7, in order for the blind man to receive sight, Jesus put mud on his eyes and commanded him to go to the pool of Siloam (meaning sent one) and wash. He went, he washed and came back seeing! Mud on the eyes suggests that the Lord must put before our eyes a view of our sins which we need to be washed and cleansed from. None other than Him is the Sent One. Come to Him and accept his cleansing and then your eyes will see that which you could not see before.

Recover sight, become rich and clothed. Jesus's message and his work on the cross have been proclaimed everywhere and has come to you. You cannot plead ignorance and even less innocence! But God in his patience, his long-suffering and his boundless mercy invites you today, perhaps one last time, to come to Him through our Lord Jesus Christ *for there is salvation none other and no other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved* (see Acts 4:12).

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