

St. Pochomius Quotes: On Love of Neighbor

Angel: “Go forth, and collect together the less perfect young men, and dwell and be with them.”

If you see a man pure and humble, that is a great vision. For what is greater than such a vision, to see the invisible God in a visible man, the temple of God.

Order is a good thing, although the perfect man is not stumbled even amidst disorder.

Self-effacing members of a community are far superior to those who live as anchorites.

If we do good to a bad man he comes thereby to have a perception of the good. This is God’s love, to take pains for each other.

We must minister to the race of men in order to reconcile them to God.

It is patience that reveals every grace to you, and it is through patience that the saints received all that was promised to them.

Shun the praise of men and love the one who, in the fear of the Lord, reprimands you.

When a thought oppresses you, do not be downhearted, but put up with it in courage, saying, 'They swarmed around me closer and closer, but I drove them back in the name of the Lord' (Ps. 118:11).

Be ever more obedient to God and He will save you.

We are assailed by the temptation of the love of money. The desire to acquire riches is the bait of the fishers hook by greed, by trafficking, by violence, by ruse or by excessive manual work that deprives you of leisure for the service of God.

Take as an example the wisdom of Joseph and his submission. Do battle in chastity and service until you make yourself a king (cf. Gen. 41).

Shun the satisfactions of this age, so as to be happy in the age to come. Do not be negligent, letting the days pass by till unexpectedly they come looking for you and you arrive at the straits of your anguish and the ‘horror-faces’ surround you and drag you off violently to their dark place of terror and anguish.

Do not be sad when you are cursed by men; be sad and sigh when you sin — this is the true curse — and when you go away bearing the sores of your sins.

If you have hit your brother, you will be handed over to pitiless angels and you will be chastised in torments of fire for all eternity.”

If an impure thought enters your mind, be it hatred or wickedness, jealousy, envy, contempt for your brother, or human vainglory, remember at once and say, 'If I consent to any one of those things, I shall not see the Lord.