

# LITURGY OF THE KINGDOM

## The Mystery of the Heart

### NOTES AND SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

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Today's three readings revolve around the "Mystery of the heart", but each reading approaches it and reveals it in its own way, so that they complement one another.

Saint Raoul Auclair is the one who contributed the most to making us know and understand the Mystery of the heart, not as the place of the sentiments, but as the temple of God in us. For him, the human being is made up of three material bodies proper to him, but also of a fourth element which does not belong to him, that is, the Spirit of God residing in his heart. That is what he called "*the nail of fire riveting us to God*" (*L'Homme Total...*, p. 145) and which the wise Indian here calls "*the Eye of the heart*" (an expression also used by other authors).

All those concepts are found in the first reading: "*The heart is **the sanctuary** at the center of which there is a tiny space in which the **Great Spirit** dwells.*" This is to be set in relation to what was said or written by:

- St. Paul: "*You are the temple of God and the **Spirit of God** dwells in you*" (1 Cor 3:16), and "*You are the **temple** of the living God.*" (2 Cor 6:16)
- Marie-Paule: "*The spiritual body... is the immortal soul, **the temple of the Spirit***" (*Vie d'Amour, Appendice IV*, p. 329)
- and the Lord in *The Poem of the Man-God* by Maria Valtorta: "*Man has in him a spiritual essence that comes from God and is called **spirit**.*" (cf. vol. 1, p. 701)

However, to reach the point of being able to "SEE God" (according to St. Teresa of Avila's expression), it is necessary to have a PURE heart, as the Indian chief also wrote: "*When the heart is not **pure**, the Great Spirit cannot be **seen**.*" And the Lord Himself, in the beatitudes, linked the fact of SEEING God with the fact of having a PURE heart: "*Blessed are the **pure** of heart, for they shall **see** God*" (which is not said of any other category of people of whom the Lord spoke in his sermon on the mount).

Finally, Marie-Paule, in the third reading, after having written so much on the purity of the body, the purity of the soul and the purity of the heart, told us that "***this paradise, one carries it in one's heart***",

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All this information related to the mystery of man's heart can also lead us to a better understanding of the mystery of the Sacred **Heart** of Jesus Christ and of the mystery of the Immaculate **Heart** of Mary in Marie-Paule, for those realities do not refer first of all to the love of the Lord and the Lady for us, but to their Divinity which radiates from their divine Hearts: "*Heart of Jesus, in whom dwells the fullness of the Divinity*" (litany of the Sacred Heart).

For information: Hehaka Sapa (Black Elk) was born in 1863 in the Lakota Indian tribe, and he died in 1950. In his book *Black Elk Speaks*, he recounts how, at the age of 9, he had a "great vision" which gave him a real healing power and during which he was ordered to guide his people through the many ordeals awaiting it. (However, at his death, he considered that he had not been equal to his mission.) He lived a life of tribulations, defeats and humiliations, and he left behind the memory of a man sustained by a deep and intense spiritual life. He was drawn to Christianity and even baptized in it, but he returned to the faith of his ancestors. He wrote: "*Every step taken on Earth should be like a prayer.*"