



THE SPIRITUAL NEEDS:

A collection of quotes about what “spirituality” means to whom:

Rev Aidan Platten, while chaplain to the Bishop of Gloucester:

‘karen matthews trial has revealed once again a world where a hidden “under class” lives in a kind of hopelessness that is certainly poverty of the spirit and often poverty in material things also. ... lord jesus christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.’



WESTMINSTER
Chronicle

New vicar has passion for cars

Jan 17, 11 12:05 PM [in News](#)

A self-confessed petrol head has become the new vicar at a St John's Wood church. ... His father, Stephen Platten, is the current Bishop of Wakefield. ... Mr Platten, who has moved to the church's vicarage with his wife and two daughters, will devote his spare time to his passion for cars.

Deuteronomy 15 (New International Version, ©2010)

The Year for Canceling Debts



¹ At the end of every seven years you must cancel debts. ² This is how it is to be done: Every creditor shall cancel any loan they have made to a fellow Israelite. They shall not require payment from anyone among their own people, because the LORD's time for canceling debts has been proclaimed. ³ You may require payment from a foreigner, but you must cancel any debt your fellow Israelite owes you. ⁴ However, there need be no poor people among you, for in the land the LORD your God is giving you to possess as your inheritance, he will richly bless you, ⁵ if only you fully obey the LORD your God and are careful to follow all these commands I am giving you today. ⁶ For the LORD your God will bless you as he has promised, and you will lend to many nations but will borrow from none. You will rule over many nations but none will rule over you.

⁷ If anyone is poor among your fellow Israelites in any of the towns of the land the LORD your God is giving you, do not be hardhearted or tightfisted toward them. ⁸ Rather, be openhanded and freely lend them whatever they need. ⁹ Be careful not to harbor this wicked thought: "The seventh year, the year for canceling debts, is near," so that you do not show ill will toward the needy among your fellow Israelites and give them nothing. They may then appeal to the LORD against you, and you will be found guilty of sin. ¹⁰ Give generously to them and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this the LORD your God will bless you in all your work and in everything you put your hand to. ¹¹ There will always be poor people in the land. Therefore I command you to be openhanded toward your fellow Israelites who are poor and needy in your land.

More from the Bible:

If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. *John 15:6*



If two witnesses, considered of good repute by the inquisitors, agreed in accusing the prisoner his fate was at once sealed, whether he confessed or not, he was at once declared a heretic.

Trial by the Inquisition did not mean an examination to find out if someone was a heretic. If two secret witnesses said that anyone was, they were, and all the “third degree” and torture was merely to make them confess that they were and abjure their heresy.

The goods of anyone imprisoned for life, or condemned to death were confiscated. Confiscation was of supreme importance for the economics of the Inquisition — it was financed out of confiscated property, so it had a built in reason for conviction. It was a strong motive for using torture to make people confess. Even the dead could be accused of heresy. The grave was no protection from having property confiscated. Corpses were dug up, and dead men and women were convicted of heresy. This allowed the inquisitors to take the property of the heirs of the dead heretics.

Mike Magee, *Medieval Roman Inquisition*, 2010

Department of Spiritual Care (Chaplaincy) at the Gloucester Royal Hospital

When your hospital admission is being arranged you should be asked for your religion These questions should also be checked with you on admission to the hospital ward. However, these questions are simply a legal requirement ...

A Christian chaplain is available... Roman Catholic Priests can be contacted on request and we can also contact representatives for most of the main faith groups on your behalf.

The Spiritual Care Team is available ... We are always willing to pray with you and to arrange any spiritual, pastoral or religious care appropriate to your needs. As part of this care we regularly offer Holy Communion and prayer on the wards for members of the Christian tradition.



The Cathar understanding about what “spirituality” means:

True spirituality is incompatible with dogma of religions.

While spirituality liberates the mind, teaches self-respect, and encourages to take responsibility for own actions, dogma makes the person to feel small, dependent, and susceptible to submit own will, and sometimes even own conscience, to status and power. Dogma builds on the division between humans and God. True spirituality brings the person to God.

Genuine spirituality liberates from fear, and it is incompatible with superstition or black magic. If directed at others, fear, superstition, and black magic are forms of abuse. ... Abuse of others does not represent power. It is a sign of ignorance. Conscious abuse of others is a form of self-destruction.

The Cathars were a genuine group of Christians who became subject to genocide in the 13th century. Whole nations can be set aside, but Truth cannot be eliminated. If silenced, it will return with force.

The Cathars believe that Christ came into this world to give an example of how to live.

“Only those who so live, should call themselves Christians.”

Corascendea, *Cathar Parfaite, “Pure Spirituality”*, 2012