

Kindred Spirits Across The Centuries



Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre, Archbishop & Bishop Emeritus of Tulle,
Founder of the Society of St. Pius X.

“...notwithstanding the formal *canonical warning* sent to them by the Cardinal Prefect of the Congregation for Bishops on 17 June last, Mons. Lefebvre and the priests Bernard Fellay, Bernard Tissier de Mallerais, Richard Williamson and Alfonso de Galarreta, have incurred the grave penalty of excommunication envisaged by ecclesiastical law.

(Moto proprio *Ecclesia Dei* 2nd July 1988)



The Archbishop with the pallium (received from Pius XII): “We adhere to the Eternal Rome.”

FOOTSTEPS.....

As the struggle for Catholic Tradition continues, lest we weary of the combat, let us be heartened by the victory over the world won by those who fought the same fight before us. We might be few in number and the end might still seem beyond the horizon of our imagination, but this

Extract From A Spiritual Conference by
Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre

When Fesquet [a journalist] of *Le Monde*—he was there in the second row two or three days ago—said: “But in fact you are alone. Alone against all the bishops. What on earth can you do? What sense is there in combat of that sort?”

I answered: “What do you mean? I am not alone, I have the whole of Tradition with me. Besides, even here I am not alone. I know that many bishops privately think as we do. We have many priests with us, and there are the seminary and the seminarians and all those who come our way.

And Truth is not made by numbers: numbers do not make Truth. Even if I am alone, and even if all my seminarians leave me, even if I am abandoned by the whole of public opinion, it is all the same to me. I am attached to my catechism, attached to my Credo, attached to the Tradition which sanctified all the saints in heaven. I am not concerned about others: they do as they wish; but I want to save my soul. Public opinion I know too well: it was public opinion which condemned Our Lord after acclaiming Him a few days before. First, Palm Sunday: then, Good Friday. We know that. Public opinion is not to be trusted at all. Today it is for me, tomorrow it is against me. What matters is fidelity to our Faith. We should have that conviction and stay calm.”

(*Spiritual Conferences in Ecône, Sept 1976*)

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.....TO FOLLOW

does not matter. The only thing that matters is that we continue to profess the one, true, Catholic and apostolic faith to the end. We might find ourselves walking alone, but if we stay in their shadows, we will never go astray. God be with ye.

A Speech by the Accused, Saint Thomas More

At this point Lord Chancellor Audley broke in to dispute his argument. How could More, alone, presume to challenge so stubbornly what “all the bishops, universities, and best learned of this realm” had agreed to support?”

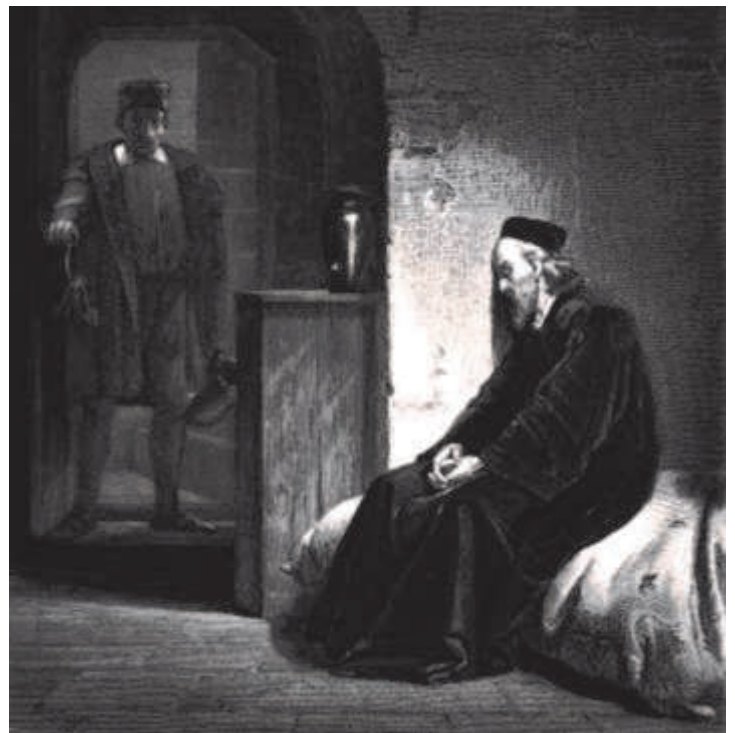
The response More now gave was one he had made several times before, but never with such rhetorical and dramatic force.

“If the number of bishops and universities should be so material as your lordship seems to think, then I see little cause, my lord, why that should make any change in my conscience. For I have no doubt that, though not in this realm, but of all those well learned bishops and virtuous men that are yet alive throughout Christendom, they are not fewer who are of my mind therein. But if I should speak of those who are already dead, of whom many are now holy saints in heaven, I am very sure it is the far greater part of them who, all the while they lived, thought in this case the way that I think now. And therefore am I not bound, my lord, to conform my conscience to the council of one realm against the General Council of Christendom.”

(The Trial of Thomas More: 1st July 1535)



*Sir Thomas More, Lord High Chancellor of England.
(Portrait by Hans Holbein the Younger)*



“Thomas More, you have been found guilty of high treason.”