

# “WHEN THE GENERAL DESPAIR WILL HAVE COME”

I heard on talk radio the other day a conversation about the decline of Western culture in Europe. This secular journalist reporting from Istanbul noted that as Christianity is disappearing in Europe, there is no other ideology to replace it, and that other secular ideologies didn't work in the past, ie. Communism, Nazism, Marxism, Fascism, Socialism, and now secularism, etc.... She didn't advocate religion as the solution, which for 2000 years sustained Europe, albeit not perfectly because there is always the "human factor". She was asked by the talk shows' host if she saw any hope? She said she didn't want to say it was hopeless but that she didn't see any hopeful signs. That, to me, means for this particular secularist there wasn't any hopeful solution. In the course of her commentaries she spoke of a "general despair". This "general despair" is mentioned by Our Lady in the Marian Movement of Priests. She stated on February 2, 1994 that... "(I want to) give to all the gift of my trust, above all when the days of the great desolation and of a general despair will have come." And again when she speaks about Fatima as an "apocalyptic message" on May 13, 1994, she says that "humanity has again become pagan...and that only in her Immaculate Heart will you find refuge in the moment of the chastisement, comfort in the hour of suffering, relief in the midst of unspeakable afflictions, light in the days of densest darkness, refreshment amidst the flames of the fire which consumes, confidence and hope in a now general despair." Finally, in a message of May 13, 1991, Our Lady spoke again of Fatima and how John Paul II was the Pope of her "Secret", and that "when this Pope will have completed the task which Jesus has entrusted to him and I will come down from heaven to receive his sacrifice, all of you will be cloaked in a dense darkness of apostasy, which will then have become general."

Perhaps we are beginning to see the signs of the general despair for the world. However we need to know, for those who do not want to yield to this despair, Our Lady has given us the refuge of her Immaculate Heart to keep us encouraged and at peace, always close to her Son Jesus in the fullness of the Truth that can only fully be found in His Holy Catholic Church, in which

resides the only ultimate answers for world security and peace. It is Jesus Christ (God) who holds all life together and when we turn our faces from Him persistently, then the individual, familial and societal breakdowns occurring with no other foundations to rely upon, will lead to an eventual “general despair”. Let us return to Him! And in the meantime as we wait for the conversion and purification of the world let us find refuge in His Mother’s Heart, whom He has given to us, as we prepare for the consequences now upon us as a result of our own folly and unfaithfulness.