

As a Prisoner, I Hope to See You

by Ignatius of Antioch

Ignatius expresses his hope to see the church while in prison, but is concerned that their love may not be genuine, and that he needs their support to attain a deeper spiritual connection with God.

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 16:13

Topics: "Persevering Faith", "Spiritual Growth"

Description

Ignatius of Antioch expresses his gratitude for the privilege of seeing the faces of the congregation through prayer, hoping to visit them as a prisoner in Christ Jesus. He acknowledges the importance of clinging to his faith without hindrance until the end, fearing that excessive love from the congregation might hinder his spiritual journey. Ignatius recognizes the power of God's will and the challenges he faces in attaining closeness to God, urging the congregation to support him without being swayed by mere human affections.

Transcript

Through prayer to God I have obtained the privilege of seeing your most worthy faces, even as I earnestly begged might be granted me; for as a prisoner in Christ Jesus I hope to salute you, if indeed it be the will [of God] that I be thought worthy of attaining unto the end.

For the beginning has been well ordered, if I may obtain grace to cling to my lot without hindrance unto the end. For I am afraid of your love, lest it should do me an injury. For it is easy for you to accomplish what you please; but it is difficult for me to attain to God, if ye do not spare me, under the pretence of carnal affection.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/ignatius-of-antioch/as-a-prisoner-i-hope-to-see-you/>

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