

Pray Rather That I May Attain to Martyrdom

by Ignatius of Antioch

Ignatius of Antioch emphasizes the importance of living according to God's power and not just persuasion in order to be a true Christian.

Scripture: John 15:19, 1 Corinthians 2:4, 2 Corinthians 4:18, 1 John 3:13

Topics: "Christian Living", "Spiritual Strength"

Description

Ignatius of Antioch emphasizes the importance of living out one's faith, urging believers to not only speak about Christianity but to truly embody it in their actions. He requests prayers for strength, both inward and outward, to authentically live as a Christian and be faithful to God. Ignatius highlights the distinction between the temporary nature of visible things and the eternal nature of unseen spiritual realities.

Transcript

Ye have never envied any one; ye have taught others. Now I desire that those things may be confirmed [by your conduct], which in your instructions ye enjoin [on others]. Only request in my behalf both inward and outward strength, that I may not only speak, but [truly] will, so that I may not merely be called a Christian, but really found to be one. For if I be truly found [a Christian], I may also be called one, and be then deemed faithful, when I shall no longer appear to the world. Nothing visible is eternal. "For the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

The Christian is not the result of persuasion, but of power. When he is hated by the world, he is beloved of God.

For says [the Scripture], "If ye were of this world, the world would love its own; but now ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of it: continue in fellowship with me."

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/ignatius-of-antioch/pray-rather-that-i-may-attain-to-martyrdom/>

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