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“Oh blessed perseverance of the donkey that turns the water-wheel”

It would not be worth giving oneself unless it were to build up a great work which is very much for God -- your own sanctity. That is why the Church when canonizing saints proclaims the heroism of their lives. (Furrow, 611)

9 January

If life's purpose were not to give glory to God, how contemptible, how hateful it would be. (The Way, 783)

Oh blessed perseverance of the donkey that turns the water-wheel! Always the same pace. Always the same circles. One day after another: everyday the same. Without that, there would be no ripeness in the fruit, nor blossom in the orchard, nor scent of flowers in the garden. Carry this thought to your interior life. (The Way, 998)

And what is the secret of perseverance? Love. Fall in Love, and you will not leave him. (The Way, 999)

Self-giving is the first step along the road of sacrifice, joy, love, union with God. And thus, a whole life is filled with a holy madness which makes us encounter happiness where human logic would only see denial, suffering, pain. (Furrow, 2)

You want to know on what our faithfulness is founded? I would say, in broad outline, that it is based on loving God, which makes us overcome all kinds of obstacles: selfishness, pride, tiredness, impatience... A man in love tramples on his own self. He is aware that even when he is loving with all his soul, he isn't yet loving enough. (The Forge, 532)

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