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Francis: 'Fight evil through meekness, humility'

Thomas C. Fox | May. 4, 2013 NCR Today

?Let us always remain meek and humble, that we might defeat the empty promises and the hatred of the world.? This was the message of Pope Francis on Saturday morning during the homily at Mass in the chapel of the Domus Sanctae Marthae, according to Vatican radio. [1]

Humility and meekness are the weapons we have to defend ourselves from the hatred of the world. This was the focus of Pope Francis during his homily, which centered on the struggle between the love of Christ and the hatred of the prince of this world. The Lord, he said, tells us to be not afraid when the world hates us as it hated Him.

?The way of the Christians is the way of Jesus,? he said. ?If we want to be followers of Jesus, there is no other way: none other than that, which He indicated to us - and one of the consequences of this is hatred ? it is the hatred of the world, and also the prince of this world. The world would love that which belongs to it. [But Jesus tells us], ?I have chosen you, from the world?: it was precisely He, who rescued us from the world, who chose us - pure grace! With His death, His resurrection, He redeemed us from the power of the world, from the power of the devil, from the power of the prince of this world. The origin of the hate [we experience], then is this: that we are saved. It is that prince who does not want that we should have been saved, who hates.?

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[1] http://en.radiovaticana.va/news/2013/05/04/pope_francis_at_mass:_fighting_evil_with_meekness_and_humility_/en1-689083