

GOSPEL PEARLS

The spiritual life

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Jesus also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you say at once, 'A shower is coming.' And so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat,' and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time? And why do you not judge for yourselves what is right? As you go with your accuser before the magistrate, make an effort to settle with him on the way, lest he drag you to the judge, and the judge hand you over to the officer, and the officer put you in prison. I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the very last penny." (Luke 12: 54-59)

With the indispensable help of Grace received from the sacraments, Christians must understand the signs that God sends them. They must understand them in order to direct their lives according to the times in which they live. Therefore, the best thing for Christians to do is to concentrate on their spiritual lives and by asking God to purify them. For it is only when we are at peace with God that will we be able to overcome any

trials and persecutions. How long has it been since you visited with your spiritual director and talked about your specific situation?