

PERSONAL PENSÉES

We are no longer defined by the pain of our bounded past but by the joy of our unbounded future.

The more we crave the next world, the less we covet this world.

True fame lies not in cognition, but in reception; not in how many people know us, but in the invisible and multiform influence of one soul upon another. Thus, real and living fame resonates in anonymous but ineffable waves of diffusion. All authentic fame is fame with God, and in the grace of hidden impact, through mutual reception. The vast bulk of our impact will be hidden in this world, but revealed in the next.

We are shaped more by our sufferings, sorrows, and setbacks than by our successes.

God redemptively uses false narratives to both drive and draw us to our destiny.

The lens of adversity clarifies eternal truth.

Restoration requires wreckage.

We are living on borrowed time to complete unfinished business.

When we dethrone self and enthrone Christ, we move from shallowness and confusion to depth and clarity.

We are commanded to love people even when we don't like some; in the same way, we are called to love the tasks we have been given, even when we don't like some. In this way, we

receive our work with gratitude and execute it with care, skill, and excellence.

We are sojourners in the painful land of the dying in preparation for eternal bliss in the land of the living.

Getting old isn't an option; getting wise is. Anything worth pursuing will always be costly, but a realistic cost/benefit analysis reveals that we will only flourish by paying the dreadful price tag to gain wisdom.

We are called to live with eternal impact in a temporal arena.

In the mysterious interface between divine sovereignty and human responsibility, God's will is not the same as His desires. In the fearful grace of choice, we are responsible for the degree to which they are congruent.

Love abundantly, think soundly, work heartily.

Stop believing, hoping, and trusting in gods that don't exist.

Our joy must not depend on earthly outcomes — it must rest in eternal outcomes. We must never condition our joy through the lens of the temporal.

This unexpected and unprecedented situation in which we find ourselves can be leveraged for our good. Having come to know the transcendent and immanent source of all things true, good, and beautiful, we can now choose the way of interior reflection, repose, restoration, renewal, and rest. Without shabbat, there is no shalom.

It is when the externals are stripped away that we are graced with a Spirit-led appetite to embrace the eternal.

Add Jesus to your story: past, present, and future.

Leverage remorse and regret into reminders of the unbounded joy of home.

The Inspired Word reveals that the Infinite Word became the Incarnate Word to become the Indwelling Word.

We become increasingly conformed to that to which we aspire. This is why Jesus defined trust as obedient action. Choice is a reification of our aspiration.

Obedience is the portal of divine disclosure — the apprehension of God's presence (John 14:15, 21, 23).

When our egos are founded on our actions, it leads to the twin vices of insecurity and arrogance. But when our egos are derived from our identity in Christ, it leads to the twin virtues of security and humility.

I live in the pursuit of a story-driven amplification of imagination that will winsomely compel people to long for more.

Most people suffer from anemic values, sloppy thought lives, and flabby wills.

Ultimate reality is the infinite and tri-personal Spirit who transcends His creation.

Evil is an ontological parasite — it consists of disordered loves and distorted goods.

The slingshot — transmuting the greatest images of people in our past into hints of resurrected wonder (2 Corinthians 5:16-17).

I'm now leveraging past and present encounters with beauty, truth, and goodness into anticipation of marvels so ineffable that I cannot name them in this life.

An eternal perspective can teach us to transmute nostalgia for the best moments of the past into joyful anticipation of the wonders to which those moments point.

Living proleptically in the power of the age to come in this present darkness.

Age conspires with God to transfer our hope from the temporal to the eternal.

The creation of Future Memory entails three stages: (1) the anticipation and experience of the desired; (2) the memory (sometimes recurring) of the past experience; and (3) the slingshot-realization that the experience in our past was actually a pointer to a future good so great that we cannot yet name it.

Life is a tragedy in this fallen world, and it will only become a comedy in the resurrected world to come.

A Pilgrim's Perspective

1. Renovation requires wreckage
2. God redeems what He allows
3. We are not defined by the pain of our bounded past, but by the joy of our unbounded future
4. The best is yet to come