

**THE SOLDIER'S
COMPANION TO THE
SPIRITUAL EXERCISES**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649439157

The Soldier's Companion to the Spiritual Exercises by J. Redman

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

J. REDMAN

**THE SOLDIER'S
COMPANION TO THE
SPIRITUAL EXERCISES**

THE
SOLDIER'S
COMPANION
TO THE
Spiritual Exercises.

Compiled by the Rev. J. Redman, D.D.

—
SECOND EDITION
—

LONDON: BURNS AND OATES.

—
1882.

138. i. 690.

THIS little book was originally compiled for a Mission given to Catholic Soldiers in Woolwich by the Rev. the Lord Archibald Douglas and the Compiler. It met with a true welcome from the men into whose hands it first fell, and by them it has been carried in their knapsacks to the furthest limits of our Empire. They prized it at a double value, first for its own sake, and then for its association with a happy time and a great grace.

May this second edition travel as far as its predecessor, and prove a Soldier's Companion, not only at the Spiritual Exercises, but also in tents pitched beneath other skies, recalling the words of God's Messenger, and the sweet strains of music, in which the voices of brave men mingled, while the Great Captain of our Salvation, in His Holy Sacrament, was surrounded by His faithful Catholic Soldier Sons.

J. R.

TO
THE SOLDIER
WHO,
HOLDING THE TRUE FAITH
OF THE
CATHOLIC CHURCH,
IN HIS HEART
STRIVES,
HOWEVER BESET BY TEMPTATION,
TO MODEL HIS DAILY LIFE
ACCORDING TO ITS RULE:
AND EXHIBITS,
BY A HOLY LIFE,
IN THE MIDST OF SURROUNDING SIN,
THE BEAUTY AND POWER
OF THAT FAITH;
THIS LITTLE BOOK
IS
WITH MUCH RESPECT
AND DEEP AFFECTION
DEDICATED.

PART I.

To the Catholic Soldier.

To the Catholic Soldier.

MY DEAR SON IN CHRIST,—

The occasion which puts this little book into your hands is for you an opportunity of grace and favour from God.

Do not let the opportunity slip.

You are a Catholic. You belong to the true Church and hold in your heart the True Faith of our dearest Lord. You are one of His own. He knows you, cares for you, seeks after you when you go astray, and would fain have you to be His for this life and the life to come.

You have no difficulty in believing His word, because from your infancy the Holy Faith has been planted in your heart. You learnt it perhaps on your mother's knee long years ago when she taught you to make the Sign of the Cross; and utter with your infant tongue the first prayers you ever said.

That mother took care that you were washed with the pure waters of Holy Baptism, and your

young soul was then as pure as a lily, and the abode of the Holy Trinity. Your Guardian Angel was with you, and no stain of sin had polluted your immortal soul.

You grew older : and growing up in the Faith and under the fostering care of the Catholic Church, you learnt more and more of God our Lord, and of Mary His most Holy Mother. All was peace and joy in those old days, because your soul was united to God.

The day came when you made your First Communion. You knelt at God's Altar, and your ever loving Lord came to you, and your young innocent heart became His Tabernacle. He left His Tabernacle on the Altar to be with you His living Tabernacle. You and Jesus your Lord were friends of one heart and one will.

Tell me :—Were not those the days of your truest happiness ?

You were Confirmed. You remember to this day the holy Bishop who anointed you with the holy Chrism, and made the Sign of the Cross with his consecrated hand on your forehead. He marked you for God. The mark and seal of that holy Sacrament of Confirmation is in your soul at this moment. It can never be erased. For all eternity it will be there,

claiming you for God, even though you may have deserted Him. You became in your Confirmation a Soldier of our Noble Captain, Jesus Christ, and you undertook a manly fight. Three enemies you undertook to fight and conquer — the World, the Flesh, and the Devil.

And the Crown of Victory was to be yours if you would but play the man, and do the manly part.

Have you fought and won, or have you given in and suffered defeat?

Is your heart at peace now because your Lord is still your Love, or has the enemy robbed Him of your heart, and you of your greatest treasure?

When you enter the Church in full uniform at the Sunday Mass, are you in Review Order *within*, in your inmost soul, in your heart of hearts? Or is it true that outwardly you are perfect to meet the scrutiny of the officer who scans your external appearance, while inwardly you dare not meet the searching eye of our Lord, Who reads your inmost soul?

If the latter be your state, the time has now come for you *to be up and doing*.

It may be that years of sin have passed over