

St Francis Admonition Day 17.

Of Poverty of Spirit.

“Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven” Many apply themselves to prayers and offices, and practise much abstinence and bodily mortification.

When a single word, which seems to be hurtful to their bodies or because of something being taken from them, they are scandalized and troubled. These people are not poor in spirit. Someone who is truly poor in spirit, hates themselves and loves those who strike them on the cheek.