

## GREAT QUOTATIONS ARE SOUL-FOOD

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As I approach, soon, the 50th anniversary of my ordination to the Christian ministry, I'm sorting over in mindful prayer what specifically I've done that has incontestably fed souls. Nothing rises higher than great quotations, biblical & extrabiblical. I'll spare you stories, instances; but I'll not spare you from looking at the following, which is among the greatest. It's from the most influential Christian thinker of Europe's Middle Ages, Thomas Aquinas (my adaptation from the beginning of MY WAY OF LIFE (adaptation of W.Farrell & M.J. Healy, Confraternity of the Precious Blood, 1952)).

THE PATH

THAT STRETCHES BEFORE OUR FEET

IS A CHALLENGE TO OUR HEARTS

LONG BEFORE IT TESTS THE STRENGTH OF OUR LEGS.

OUR DESTINY IS TO RUN TO THE EDGE OF THE WORLD AND BEYOND,  
OFF INTO THE DARKNESS:

SURE IN SPITE OF ALL OUR BLINDNESS,

SECURE IN SPITE OF ALL OUR HELPLESSNESS,

STRONG IN SPITE OF ALL OUR WEAKNESS,

JOYFULLY IN LOVE IN SPITE OF  
ALL THE PRESSURES ON OUR HEARTS.

IN THAT DARKNESS BEYOND THE WORLD  
WE CAN BEGIN TO KNOW THE WORLD AND OURSELVES.

WE CAN BEGIN TO UNDERSTAND THAT

WE WERE NOT MADE TO PACE OUT OUR LIVES  
BEHIND PRISON WALLS

BUT TO WALK

INTO THE ARMS OF GOD.