

out of his life, ~~xxxxxxx~~ and goes to the ascetic extreme is far to be preferred. But I do not think that it is necessary that ~~we~~ we go to that extreme/ I do not think ~~xxxxxx~~ <sup>that the</sup> fact that God does not want us to be proud of personal adornment means that we should go around looking frousy or bringing disrespect among other ~~pepe xxxxxx~~ people upon the faith for which we stand. I think that the Lord wants us to take a middle position on these things. Doing that which is honoring to His name, but not letting earhtly things become something that becomes primary and ~~a~~ vital to us. Well, the same thing is true about all these phases of life, which the wordly person carries to an extreme/ There is, in relation to most of them, there is an answer to a natural human need. And many of these natural human needs, if you crush them out altogether, they grow in your imagination until they become tremendous and they can upset you. And they can be very harmful to you, and some of these monks, they way they would ~~xxx~~ roll in the thorns and thistles in order to crush out sensual desires from them is certainly far to be preferred to the debauched people of the day who were going to the other extreme.

But in living a normal life, and giving all phases of life their proper place, and ~~a~~ nothing more than their proper place, I feel that God is more greatly honored by either extreme. Now Jerome and many of the men of that day, their admiration of St. Anthony and those who gave up all such things of life in order to go ut into the desert and contemplate God, and to cut their food and to cut their ~~xxx~~ satisfaction of physical appetites ~~xxxxx~~ down to an extreme minimum, and of some appetites nothing at all, in their admiration of ~~xxxxxxx~~ that I think they went to an extreme, which has brought much that is harmful into the Christian church since. But I think the ~~xx~~ extreme that they went to is far to be preferred to the opposite extreme into which alas many a Christian today, even Christians with a good testimony, fall on certain points. But we are ntoicing how Jerome went to an extreme in this, that though he attracted many of these people to him, he aroused a very great dislike on the part of others, of some good peop;le, and then he also aroused, of course, the hatred of those who were really worldly. ~~x~~