

#4
F-41

On October 10, 1492, Columbus was on the edge of despair. The men were on the verge of mutiny; the other two captains extracted a promise from him that they would turn back if they did not sight land in two days. Columbus was convinced that God had called them to this mission. On October 12, 1492, the day they were to give up, the lookout aboard the Santa Maria cried out, "Tierra! Tierra!" An exhausted Columbus was barely able to make out the low silhouette in the darkness. He named the island *San Salvador*, Holy Saviour, and would later write:

"I am a most unworthy sinner, but I have cried out to the Lord for grace and mercy, and they have covered me completely. I have found the sweetest consolation since I made it my whole purpose to enjoy His marvelous presence....No one should fear to undertake any task in the name of our Saviour, if it is just, and if the intention is purely for His holy service.

My hope in the One who created us all sustains me: He is an ever present help in trouble....When I am extremely depressed, He raised me with His right hand, saying, 'O man of little faith, get up, it is I; do not be afraid.'"