

with the other, or pretending that it is possible to find them at variance. In presence of all those false doctrines which were rapidly spreading with great prejudice to souls, the Holy Assembly of the Vatican, assisted by the spirit of God, has formally repudiated them as contrary to revealed doctrine, it has anathematized the men who propagate and defend those pernicious errors, which, disguised under high sounding names, distil deadly poison. They are *the ravening wolves*, mentioned by Holy Writ, that *spare not the flock*; they are *the men speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them*; therefore watch, may we add with the Apostle, *keeping in memory that we have not ceased with tears to admonish every one of you. And now we commend you to God and to the word of His grace, who is able to build up the edifice of your sanctification, and to give you an inheritance among all the sanctified.* (Acts XX, 28-33)

Let us give our full adhesion to the decrees of the Vatican Council, let us keep ourselves closely attached to the Apostolic See, to the supreme Pontiff, heir to the prerogatives of the Apostle Peter; by that means, we shall remain firm and immoveable in the true faith. There alone is found the infallible authority legitimately instituted by Jesus-Christ to direct men in the way of truth.

Jesus-Christ having given to His Church and to those whom He appointed to govern her all power in things relating to salvation, it would be an error to imagine that the decisions and definitions of the Supreme Pontiffs and of the Councils require the consent of the civil authorities to bind the faithful. It would likewise be an error to believe that the promulgation of such decisions and definitions by a bishop in his diocese be necessary to bind the faithful entrusted to his care. As soon as it is certainly known that they have been decreed by competent authority, and promulgated at Rome according to the holy canons, every catholic is bound to submit to them with mind and heart.

Therefore, O. D. B. B., if we this day briefly lay before you the principal decisions of the Holy Council of the Vatican, it is, above all, to protest of our respect and submission to those oracles of the Holy Ghost, and to engage you ever to consider them as luminaries intended to direct your course.