

of Peter and the Bishop of the Apostolic See. On the whole Church thus constituted, the promise of infallibility rested undiminished, but with this difference that it is personal with the Pope, « the pillar and foundation of the Truth, » and not personal but official with Bishops and priests, our Lord being with them as much as He was with the Apostles, so long as they are the mouthpiece of the Church, which is itself infallible, and teach in union with their head.

Mark well the words of St. Paul. The whole edifice of truth is likened to a building which rests on one pillar, as we know that pillar rests on One Rock ; take away that foundation and the pillar falls ; take away Christ, the Incarnate Truth, and the Church falls : so in like manner, take away the pillar and the whole edifice of truth falls. What is this but to say that the Church is infallible because it rests on Christ — on the promise of His perpetual presence, that « the Spirit of truth shall abide with it for ever, » and that « the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. » So that the whole edifice of revealed truth rests on the infallibility of the Pope, which makes the whole Catholic Church to be for ever « the House of God » in which He dwells, and will dwell « all days even to the end of the world. »

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A Child's Answer

« Which is worse, to tell a lie or to steal ? » asked a child of its mother. The mother, taken by surprise, replied that both were so bad that she could not tell which was the worse. « Well, » said the little one, « I've been thinking a good deal about it, and I think that it is worse to lie than to steal. If you steal a thing you can take it back unless you've eaten it, and then you can pay for it. But » — and there was a look of awe in little face — « a lie is forever. »

