

increased. Only the blood of Jesus purifies from sin; He only is the propitiation for sins; for all sins. It must be borne in mind that conversion is much more than an exterior reformation of life; it is a work of God in the soul. A drunkard for instance may cease to be such and abstain wholly from intoxicating liquors, without, for all that, being converted. A licentious person may abandon shameful passions and not be converted. One may do all sorts of good works and be unconverted. The Lord said, "*Ye must be born again,*" and that is the work of the Spirit of God in the soul; without which, reformation is but as rotten wood, covered with a fine coat of paint.

One meets also awakened souls, troubled as to their sins, who seek to appease their conscience and to turn aside the judgment they feel they have merited, by doing penance; by giving themselves to prayer, to fasting, and to good works; but in all that, they are but repeating the history of the old smuggler, they throw overboard the cargo of their sins which will not, and cannot sink. Their trouble, their labour, their sacrifices, all are useless and without merit in the eyes of God. We repeat, it is the blood of Jesus Christ which cleanses from all sin." (1 Jno. i. 7). And as the apostle Peter says: "To Him give all the prophets witness, that through His name, whosoever believeth in Him shall receive remission of sins (Acts x. 43). Yes, it is in Him that "we have redemption through His blood, the remission of sins, according to the riches of His

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