

between worship and adoration. All the distinctions, so carefully laid down by Saint Thomas, between a sacramental mode of presence and one in conformity with the ordinary laws of a natural body, of time and of space, were scornfully swept aside as "scholastic speculations", and a "purer gospel" preached instead.

Yet, I have no hesitation in saying, from what it has been my privilege to know of God's "much people" in the City of Confusion, that the real heart-belief, difficult and vague of expression—tending to mysticism rather than to definition—of devout non-Catholics, in regard to this supreme manifestation of Divine Love and condescension, approaches very nearly, in essence, if not in terms, to the heart-belief of pious Catholics.¹ For under and beyond all dogmatic definitions which our faith accepts, our belief in our consciousness of the Presence of Our Lord in the Blessed Eucharist is a spiritual reality, a part of the soul's life—"My Beloved is mine, and I am His"—a consciousness not to be expressed in words. It is, if I may say so, the difference between the teaching of Saint Thomas and his *Lauda Sion*, or his *Adoro Te*; between love and reason. It is on this point, more than on any other, that devout souls, both within and without the visible communion of the Church, must surely desire to be at peace and in mutual charity and comprehension.

As the last of the misunderstandings to be taken into account, and as closely connected with the foregoing, we have that authority of the Church's ministers, commonly spoken of, among Protestants, as "priestcraft", and as "tyranny over men's consciences". Once more, we have to charge the leaders of the religious revolt in the sixteenth century with wilful falsification of Catholic teaching, with deliberate misrepresentation of a divinely-constituted authority the

¹ See, for instance, the hymn of the Presbyterian, Dr. H. Bonar, beginning, "Here, O my Lord, I see Thee face to face; Here may I touch and handle things unseen." Many other instances might be given