

reasonable ones; your enemies are those who have "become fools," by esteeming themselves wise."

But even those who believe in Revelation, unless they "consider in heart," will lose little by little their understanding of God's word. How else can we account for the indifference manifested by many to the teachings of God's Law? How else explain the revolt against the Church? "One fold, and one Shepherd," "one Kingdom," "one Faith, one Baptism," is what Christ instituted. That Spiritual Kingdom of his Church was to last forever, and he was to remain with it. It could not change, for he was indwelling in it; its teachings being true they must exclude everything not conformable with them. And yet, in spite of this, men rebelled against its teachings, and proclaimed that they had found Religious freedom, because they could embrace every form of error, and change to-morrow the opinions they held to-day. This is slavery not freedom; for the truth alone makes us free.

The Apostle (I. Cor. VI—9,10) enumerates a long list of those who will be excluded from the Kingdom of God. And our dear Lord (Math. XXV.) gives a lengthy account of the final Judgment, and ends by telling us that the wicked "shall go into everlasting punishment; but the just into life everlasting." Reason, as well, tells us that different lots must await the good and the impious. Notwithstanding this, a doctrine pleasing to men of easy morality is preached. Men who, perhaps, never in their lives dried the tears of the afflicted,—who never spoke a kind word to the helpless,—who never checked their lusts to spare the miseries of others, dare to invoke the mercy of God as a plea for not condemning them for their unatoned sins. God is just as well as merciful; his mercy reigns on earth; his justice sits on a tribunal in Heaven. He did not make man to condemn him; he made him for Heaven; but because many will use their free will to disobey God, and will appear before him in their sin, they bring on their own condemnation which God lovingly tried to avert. No man who leads a pure life disbelieves in God, or in his justice. Who are those who "wrest to their own perdition" the scripture, and change "the truth of God into a lie," teaching in opposition to Christ and his Apostle that no sin will exclude from Heaven? Are they the holy ones of God, men who deny themselves and take up the Cross? Were they Apostles? Martyrs? Men who go about doing good? Oh no! They are chiefly those who would benefit by having God shorn of his justice.

Our Holy Church, Dearly Beloved, knowing, in her wisdom, that many perish because they do not consider in heart,