

Gospel when Christ Himself speaks of His Heart as the seat of His affections: 'Learn of Me for I am meek and humble of Heart' (Matt. xi. 29), and this language is in accordance with the mode of speaking which is common among men, and is most frequent in almost every Book of Holy Scripture from Genesis (vi. 6) to the Apocalypse (xvii. 17)." (1)

This doctrine is perfectly orthodox; and when revelations bearing all the marks of genuineness, like those of our Lord to Blessed Margaret Mary, come to strengthen its dogmatic basis, can we be surprised that results such as we are witnessing in the world to-day should console those who have any love for our Lord left?

If we look around us, we see what has already been accomplished by this devotion in the work of sanctification of souls, in the spread of the true faith among pagans and the renewal of fervor among the faithful. Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus makes Christian life more real; it infuses into it the spirit of Christ; it makes men try to think like Christ, speak like Him, act like Him; it makes a man feel the need of leading a more spiritual life and fills him with a desire to imitate Christ and to work to make others imitate Him.

This supposes a practical knowledge of the devotion; to be useful it must be practised. There are many who are too prone to confound the theoretical knowledge of the devotion with the practice of it. They persuade themselves that they possess the incomparable privileges of a lover of Christ our Lord, because they have made His adorable Heart the object of their study, and perhaps sympathetic admiration. This would be a strange illusion, and would resemble nearly enough that of the Jews

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(1. *Ibid.*)