

the Apostles in their council of Jerusalem, "It hath seemed good to the Holy Ghost and to us": He has judged with us, and we have judged with Him. Their sentences will be the sentences of Jesus Christ, their decrees, the decrees of Jesus Christ: their definitions will be the definitions of the Holy Ghost, their judgments the judgments of the Holy Ghost.

All the definitions and all the judgments of this Council will therefore be infallible; all its sentences and all its decrees without appeal. That which it will have approved and decreed shall be approved and sanctioned by God Himself: that which it will have condemned and reproved shall be likewise condemned and reproved by God. That which it will have loosed upon earth, shall be loosed in heaven; and that which it will have bound here below, shall be bound also in heaven. Its judgments, its definitions and its decrees will apply to all men, and will oblige them all. For all are subject to the sovereign authority of God and of his divine Son Jesus-Christ Our Saviour: and those decrees Jesus-Christ will have enacted conjointly with the Fathers of the Council: and those judgments and those definitions the Holy Ghost will have pronounced by their lips. He who hears them will hear Jesus-Christ: he who hearkens to them will hearken to Jesus-Christ: he who rejects them will therefore reject Jesus-Christ: he who despises them will therefore despise Jesus-Christ, and God the Father who has sent him into this world, and the Holy Ghost who is one and the same God with the Father and the Son, and by whose inspiration all will have been regulated, judged and defined in the Council.

Happy therefore, happy all those who shall lend an attentive and a docile ear to the teachings of this great Council; who shall receive them with faith, and observe them with fidelity! They will find therein truth, justice and eternal life. Happy the nations who shall listen to, and embrace, them: they will see the light, they will be enlightened, they will know what can heal and save them, they will adhere to them, and live. But woe to the men, woe to the nations who shall refuse to listen and to submit to them: they shall dwell in the darkness of death and they shall perish.

As for you, D. B. B., rejoice at seeing the moment at hand when the Council will begin its labors. Christians, Children of the Church, bless the Lord of Mercy for that He vouchsafes to be Himself your preceptor, and to teach you all truth by the lips of his ministers, whom he has given you as pastors. What happiness! *Beatus quem tu erudieris, Domine, et de lege tua docueris eum.* "Yes, Lord, blessed is the man whom thou shalt instruct: and shalt teach him