

have not the moral courage to assert our belief before a jeering look or at the cost of some sacrifice of human respect? Outrage and violence! Alas! see these tabernacles profaned, these Hosts trodden under foot, given up to sacrilegious malefactors! Humiliations, how multiplied! The sneer of unbelief; the blasphemies of impiety; the ignorance of so many christians; the ingratitude of others, the scandalous falls of those whom Jesus loves; the ignominies of dire poverty; the culpable negligence, the habitual irreverence, the want of ceremony that greets the Eucharistic Jesus and recalls but too vividly the treatment of Caiphas, Pilate and Herod, the insulting genuflections of the governor's hall, the crown of thorns, the purple garment and the sceptre of reed: — Is not this the Passion as of old? Let then pious women approach and weep over the patient Victim of the Blessed Sacrament; let Veronica wipe His Face and relieve Him from this ignominy; let Simon take up His Cross, and let John stand with Him on Calvary; let Mary, above all, be there to sympathize and to suffer in her heart what He suffers on the Cross. The same Saviour, suffering the same torments, needs the same compassion.

#### IV.—PRAYER.

The memory of the Passion and death of the Saviour is equivalent to conversion, holiness, consolation and strength, in a word, to Salvation, but to that end this memory must be deeply impressed on the soul, deeply present in the mind, powerful enough to bind us to Jesus, and cause us to hate sin and shun its occasions.

In order that the memory of His Passion may have all the efficacy that the Saviour stores up for us in the Eucharist, let us ask of Him to produce in our soul these effects, for which it was instituted, let us ask them in the Communion we receive, in the Masses we hear, the hours of Adoration we make. We would do well to renew often these prayers, understanding their importance.

#### PRACTICE.

During the ordinary meditation, apply the circumstances of the Passion to the Eucharistic state of Our Saviour, in order to derive more benefit from it.