

beloved brethren, I beg of you to remember that of its very nature the rule of faith requires certain indispensable conditions. First of all, it must at all times have been of easy access to every one; for as every scil which draws the breath of life has a right to salvation, it also has a right to the knowledge of what leads thereunto, as well as the solemn duty of believing what the Saviour has taught. In the second place, the rule of faith must be infallible—that is to say, the means our Lord has left us to learn what he has taught—must be such that if any one makes use of it, he will, without fear of mistake or error, be brought to the knowledge of Christ's teaching. With these truths before his mind, if any one reads history without bias or prejudice it must strike him forcibly that the Bible only, never was the rule of faith, beginning from the time of Christ, down to the so-called Reformation of the sixteenth century.

In the first place, dearly beloved brethren; it was not the intention of our Divine Saviour, to entrust to a written document the mission of converting the world. He always and everywhere taught by word of mouth, nor does he lay a special or formal command upon his Apostles to write out His doctrine for man. This is a question of fact to be resolved by the Bible itself since those who are not Catholics repel every other testimony. Listen to the farewell words of the Divine Master to his Apostles—Matt xxxviii, 19, 20: "Going therefore teach ye all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I command you: and behold I am with you all days even to the consummation of the world." To these same Apostles whom Jesus here orders to preach and baptize until the end of time he had previously said, Matt. xviii, 18: "Verily I say to you whatsoever you shall bind upon earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatsoever ye shall loose upon earth shall be loosed in heaven." The evening before his death he addressed them in the words of my text—John xiv, 26; "But the Paraclete the Holy Ghost, whom My Father shall send in my name he will teach you all things, and bring all things to your mind whatsoever I shall have said to you."

\* \* \* "The spirit of truth, who proceedeth from the Father, he shall give testimony of me; and ye shall give