

The two mutually explain one another as the root and the trunk of the one tree of Divine revelation.

Whence it logically follows that we must look for the fundamental doctrines of the Church in the sacred deposit of the Faith intrusted to the Synagogue—i.e., not only in the Old Testament committed to her care, but in the equally Divine tradition of which She was the God-appointed infallible Custodian, up to the advent of the Christ—we mean, the Adamic, Patriarchal, Mosaic, Prophetic tradition handed down through Adam, the patriarchs, Moses and the prophets. For, the Synagogue was divinely taught to believe—even as the Church herself does believe—that if the Written Revelation, the Old Testament, is a sea of unfathomable sublimity, the unwritten Revelation known as Divine Tradition is the *indispensable* and God-given search-light that enables the Israel of God to explore the infinite depths of the Scriptural Deep. Without the light of Divine tradition the sacred Book is a sea of impenetrable obscurity; with it, it is an abyss of dazzling beauty.

The Existence of Divine Tradition in the Synagogue:

As to the existence of Divine tradition in the old Synagogue, we have the unanimous testimony of the Synagogue itself, of Our Lord and of His Church, of the Fathers, of the Old Testament, etc.

The Witness of the Synagogue:

Rabbi Moses de Kotzi, in his Great Book of Precepts, says that, without the oral explanation of the Law vouchsafed by Almighty God himself to Moses, the Law itself would be nothing but "obscurity and blindness" (Drach's Harmonie, etc., vol. 1, p. 64).

[33] The Witness of Our Lord and of the Fathers:

"Our Lord," says S. Hilary, "speaks of the *traditional* doctrine of the Synagogue when He says, 'The Scribes and the Pharisees have sitten on the chair of Moses. *All* things, therefore, whatsoever they shall *say* to you, observe and do: but according to their works do ye not.'" (Matt. 23' 2: Tract. in 2 Ps.).

S. Augustin is at one with S. Hilary (Contra Faust. XVI., 20;—De Doctr. Christ., IV., 27).

The Witness of the Old Testament:

In Deut. 12' 21, we read: "Thou shalt kill of thy herds and of thy flocks *in the manner* I have commanded thee:" (Hebrew text, Drach). Now, the sacred text does not give the prescription herein alluded to. Therefore, it was part of the unwritten and oral law. In fact, tradition alone did teach the