

greatness of Jesus, His mysteries, His teachings, His precepts, and their practice, by His admirable example. But this is not all. To arrive at a perfect knowledge of them, the Divine Master must Himself be our Teacher. We must listen to the lessons He Himself gives to well-disposed souls. And it is in the Eucharist that Jesus instructs His children. Thither should the soul desirous of learning the nature and qualities of the Saviour turn her steps ; there in all sincerity should she put to Him Pilate's question : "*Whence art Thou ?*" Reveal Thyself to me in all Thy greatness.

Will Jesus respond, or will He keep silence as He did before Pilate ? We may declare that He will act according to the dispositions of the soul that questions Him.

Now, the first qualification necessary for a soul to hear Jesus, is *humility*. Jesus did not answer Pilate, because the question came from a proud and haughty heart, as is evident from the lofty words of the Procurator.

*Purity* is the second condition for hearing the teaching of the Divine Master. "*The sensual man,*" says Saint Paul, *perceiveth not these things that are of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him.*" Only the pure heart can see God, by faith on earth, and then by perfect vision in heaven. Pilate was not in these conditions. His heart was not upright. His desire of knowing the origin of the Accused, sprang not from a pure love of truth and justice, but from fear of the chastisements of the gods. He had refused to listen to Jesus when He wished to instruct him and he had turned his back on the Divine Master uttering the word of truth. His dispositions have not changed. Pilate is still at heart the earthly man, indifferent to the things of heaven. And so Jesus refused to give him the information that he demanded.

Give me, O Divine Saviour, perfect uprightness and purity of heart ! Grant that I may labor constantly to purify my intentions and affections, and that I may have only one desire, that of knowing Thee in order to imitate Thee.

RESOLUTION. Unite hourly with Mary, and with Jesus renewing in a mystical manner His immolation of the Cross upon some altar on earth. Communicate spiritually in the Divine Victim. Make at every hour of the day an act of humility to dispose your soul to hear Jesus in your Communion of the morrow.