

THE PRECIOUS BLOOD IN THE LIGHT OF FAITH

(Continuation)

III.

VIII. THE BLOOD OF JESUS IN HEAVEN IS THE TRIUMPH
AND HAPPINESS OF THE ELECT, THE TITLE OF THEIR
PRIVILEGES.

THEIR TRIUMPH : It is the garment of glory with which they are adorned, according to the testimony of the beloved Disciple. He was enraptured unto heaven and had before his eyes a multitude of saints resplendent with an incomparable brightness.

“ And one of the ancients answered, and said to me : “ Who are these that are clothed in white robes ? and “ whence are they come ?—And I said to him : My lord, “ thou knowest.—And he said to me : These are they who “ are come out of great tribulation, and *have washed their* “ *robes, and have made them white in the blood of the* “ *Lamb.*—Therefore, they are before the throne of God, “ and serve him day and night in his temple : and he, “ that sitteth on the throne, shall dwell over them. They “ shall not hunger, nor thirst any more ; neither shall the “ sun fall on them, nor any heat, for the Lamb, which is “ in the midst of the throne, shall rule them, and shall “ lead them to the fountains of the waters of life ; and God “ shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.” (Apoc. VII, “ 13 17).

THEIR BLISS AND THE TITLE OF THEIR PRIVILEGES.

“ Blessed, says Saint John, are they *that wash their* “ *robes in the blood of the Lamb* ; that they may have a “ right to the tree of life, and may enter by the gates into “ the city.” (Apoc. XXII, 14).

To live from the tree of life. To be decorated and clothed with the Precious Blood is the condition required to have the right of living from the tree of life, from that tree which gives eternal life ; and that mysterious tree itself draws from the Precious Blood both its divine pro-