

sin there is an infinite distance, an invincible contradiction, an absolute opposition. Sin is the great enemy of God and man, it has filled Heaven with mourning, hell with wailings and lamentations, and the earth with untold miseries and calamities. It has brought pestilence, famine, sorrow and death into the world. It has caused all the afflictions that have fallen on mankind, all the sighs that have ever been heaved from the human bosom, all the tears that have ever fallen from the eyes of men, it has wrung tears even from the sacred eyes of Jesus himself, for if He wept over the grave of Lazarus and over the city of Jerusalem, it was because they symbolized souls ruined and lost by sin. It was sin which nailed Jesus to the cross and put Him to an ignominious death. And so enormous is sin in its intrinsic malice, and so injurious to God, that St. Paul does not hesitate to say that they who commit it "crucify again the Son of God and make a mockery of Him." (Hebrews, 6, vi). Since,