



## -: Jesus in the Tabernacle :-

### Our Hope, Our Confidence.

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THE apostles were naturally weak and timid. They were little according to the world, without power or honor ; for God "chooses the weak things of this world to confound the strong," and hence, in His communications with them, their divine Master often said : " Fear nothing ; confide in Me ! "

These words should inspire us also with hope and confidence in Jesus. Not to His apostles only, but to all Christians Our Lord says : " Fear not ; I am with you." What could be a more unshaken support, a stronger assurance of safety amid the dangers by which we are surrounded, the trials to which we are exposed, than this pledge of His love, this promise of His abiding presence among us ? The honor, the wealth, the pleasures of the world cannot be trusted. They are deceitful — "vanity of vanities, all is vanity." But how about my friends ? If they are weak, they cannot assist me ; if they are powerful, they forget me : one is terrified at the difficulty of serving me ; another is torn from me by death and in the end I find not one who can say to me : " Fear not ; rely on me."

Jesus Christ on the contrary, addresses to all this consoling promise and He keeps the word He has pledged. " Fear not," He says to the sinner ; " it is I ; " I who am the Lamb of God, immolated on Calvary to blot out thy sins ; I, Whose heart sighed for thee ; I, Whose eyes wept over thee ; I, Whose feet are weary, running after thee ; I, Whose hands are stretched out to thee ; I, Whose blood has flowed for thee. " It is I ; fear not." " Fear not," He says to the timid and doubtful soul, " it