" priest of the good things to come, by a greater and more
" perfect tabernacle not made with hand, that is not of
" this creation, neither by the blood of goats or calves but
" by his own blood, entered once into the Holies, having
" obtained eternal redemption." Heb. IX, 11.

From the height of the cross Jesus signalized by a
prodigy his entry into heaven through his Blood. At the
moment that he expired, the veil of the temple was torn
from the top even to the bottom ; that veil concealed ter-
rible mysteries, and under pain of death, it prohibited
rigorously the entrance of any mortal into the sanctuary,
which it separated entirely from the rest of the temple.
Such a miracle signified that the gate of heaven which
until then had been closed for every human creature was
all on a sudden wide opened when the redeeming Blood
ceased to flow ; heaven is henceforth fully conquered, the
children of Adam have now a place therein, if, according
to the words of Saint John, they desire to wash their sins in
the Blood of the Lamb.

THE TEACHING OF THE APOSTLES.

Besides what has already been quoted, the writings of
the Apostles contain upon the Precious Blood other pas-
sages most important and very remarkable ; we will pro-
duce them by referring them to the different points of doc-
trine which are exposed therein.

I.

THE BLOOD OF JESUS REDEEMS US.

" We have redemption through his blood," writes
expressly Saint Paul and in the same terms both to the
Ephesians I, 7, and to the Colossians I, 14 ; " By his own
" blood having obtained eternal redemption" (Heb. IX,
" 12). "Knowing," says Saint Peter to the first Christians,
" that you were not redeemed with corruptible things as
" gold and silver, from your vain conversation of the tra-
" dition of your fathers, but with the precious blood of
" Christ, as of a lamb unspotted and undefiled, foreknown
" indeed before the foundation of the world, but manifested
" in the last times for you." I Peter I, 18-20.

Saint John describes how that blessed redemption is
perpetuated and celebrated in the splendor of heaven.