

movement denominated life. When the circulation stops, the heart no longer pulsates, the body is no longer the soul's organ, earthly existence is over. "The Blood is for the soul." Deut. XII, 23.

The principle of Our Lord's human life was therefore in His Blood. Formed by the Holy Ghost from the substance of the purest of virgins, by coursing through His members It gave them those various movements by which He operated the most sublime actions. By It He raised His Hands to bless and heal, made His apostolic journeys, articulated words of instruction and consolation, and through It His Heart throbbed with pulsations of love for mankind.

To adore this Blood is then to worship the principle of Our Lord's life and actions.

It was shed for us. Guilty man was condemned to death. His blood should have been poured out. But God, the Author of human life, would not have it so. He decreed instead that victims should be immolated, to attest that blood was due to His justice and was necessary for the expiation of sin.

The blood of animals could never of itself propitiate divine wrath. The anger of God demanded the blood of a God.

Jesus Christ assumed a body only to immolate it for us. The Blood Which animated it was to be shed for the glory of His Father and the salvation of men. How does He shed It ?

Eight days after birth when He submits to the Mosaic rite of Circumcision.

In the Garden of Olives, His Blood flows in the form of abundant sweat, pressed out by the weight of our crimes and the horror they inspire.

In the Scourging, profuse streams of Blood run down His lacerated body in expiation of our sensuality.

Thorns are buried in His head. Blood oozes from these fresh wounds, trickles down His brow and over His august face to wash away the stains of our pride.

When carrying His heavy cross along the Way of sorrows leading to Calvary.

On the Cross the nails piercing His Hands and feet