

lapse of centuries. Through her, all the labors of our Saviour, during His mortal career, are ever enduring; and it may be said in a real sense, that she is the permanent incarnation among mankind of the Son of God.

None but the most ignorant or worldly-minded Catholic would hesitate to admit that she is the one institution among men which should challenge our unbounded admiration; that she was foretold by the prophets as a glorious Jerusalem, reserved for the latter days, whose site was to be prepared on the mountain tops, who was to be exalted above the hills, into whose bosom all nations, hailing her as the house of the God of Jacob, were to flow, there to be taught authoritatively the ways of the Lord.\*

It was to her, the continuation and divinely transformed substitute of the Jewish Church, that the inspired words were addressed: "Give praise, O thou barren, that bearest not; sing forth praise.. Enlarge the place of thy tent, and stretch out the skins of thy tabernacles, spare not; lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes. For thou shalt pass on to the right hand and to the left: and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles, and shall inhabit the desolate cities. For He that made thee shall rule over thee, the Lord of hosts is His name; and thy Redeemer, the holy One of Israel, shall be called the God of all the earth.. This thing is to me as in the days of Noe, to whom I swore that I would no more bring in the waters of Noe upon the earth; so have I sworn not to be angry with thee and not to rebuke thee.. O poor little one, tossed with tempest, without all comfort, behold I will lay thy stones in order, and will lay thy foundations with sapphires. And I will make thy bulwarks of jasper, and thy gates of

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\* Isaias II, 2-4; Micheas IV, 1-3.